



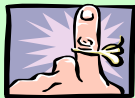
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- [Municipal Leadership Development Program Calendar](#)

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(306) 787-4340 or **email:**

muninfo@gr.gov.sk.ca

Thirty-one communities receive infrastructure funding

On March 27, more than \$26 million in funding was announced for 31 infrastructure projects across the province. The Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan are investing \$3.9 million each through the Canada-Saskatchewan Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (MRIF). Participating municipalities will provide the remaining \$18.2 million.

The funding was announced by the Honourable Carol Skelton, Minister of National Revenue and Minister of Western Economic Diversification, and Saskatchewan Government Relations Minister Harry Van Mulligen.

Further details available in the full [News Release](#).

Planning and Development Act Review

The review of *The Planning and Development Act, 1983* continues to progress with alternating monthly stakeholder meetings in Regina and Saskatoon. We are pleased that attendance includes representation from many diverse groups that have an interest in community and land use planning. Government Relations is planning a number of open houses throughout the province to

be held tentatively in late May and early June; locations will be announced. You are also welcome to view meeting presentations, discussion papers, and meeting summaries at: <http://www.municipal.gov.sk.ca/mrd/cpb/ongoingreview0506.shtml>. Please feel free to submit your comments to Government Relations directly (contact information can be found on our website), or contact your SARM, SUMA, RMAAS, or UMAAS Act Review representative.

SARM convention highlights

The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) held its 101st convention from Monday March 6 to Thursday March 9, 2006, in Regina. With over 1000 registrants, and 110 booths at the Trade Show, the 2006 SARM Annual Convention was a great success.

Rob Greenwood, Director of the Leslie Harris Centre of Regional Policy and Development at the Memorial University of Newfoundland, delivered the keynote address on Tuesday. His presentation focused on the critical role municipalities play in development. He emphasized the need for municipalities to work together as well as the need for structural changes to shift more power towards the municipal sector.

Throughout the convention, delegates expressed pleasure with the Premier's announcement on Friday, March 3, that the Province will inject \$52.8 Million to help reduce the education tax on agricultural land.

The minds of many delegates were clearly focused on the continuing reality of negative net farm income in Saskatchewan. SARM's outgoing President, Neal Hardy, reiterated the importance of all farm organizations working together and speaking as one voice.

On Thursday March 9, 2006, delegates elected Vice-President David Marit, to serve as the next SARM President. In addition to President Marit's election, delegates also selected Jim Hallick to serve as Vice-President. The SARM Board of Directors for the upcoming year will include: Don Taylor representing Division 1; Ray Orb representing Division 2; Doug Steele representing Division 3; Harvey Malanowich representing Division 4; Murray Purcell representing Division 5; Debra Gronning representing Division 6; and ex-officio member Kevin Ritchie, President of the Rural Municipal Administrators' Association.

A special thank you to those municipalities that took the time during the SARM convention to stop by Government Relations' booth in the Trade Show and update your Municipal Directory

information. Municipalities may update their information any time by visiting Government Relations' Web site at <http://www.municipal.gov.sk.ca>.

Advisory northern planning commission established

On January 31, 2006, the Minister of Government Relations approved an Advisory Northern Planning Commission (ANPC) for the Lac La Ronge area. This is the first such commission established in Northern Saskatchewan, and is an initiative of Government Relations and Saskatchewan Environment to enable local involvement in land use issues in the North.

Commission members are made up of representatives from the Lac La Ronge Indian Band, the Town of La Ronge, the Northern Village of Air Ronge and members at large from the surrounding developed areas. The ANPC will be responsible for land use issues in areas surrounding northern communities with input into use and development of surrounding lands. The ANPC will also oversee the preparation and implementation of a Development Plan and Development Controls in each of the individual developed areas within the planning area. First of its kind, the ANPC will be breaking new ground and expects to face many exciting challenges along the way.

The local community eagerly supports the implementation of the ANPC with Government Relations fielding many questions regarding its establishment and responsibilities. The ANPC will act as a pilot project for future commissions with individuals requesting to attend and observe the meetings.

For specific questions and/or further information regarding the ANPC, please contact Northern Municipal Services Branch, Government Relations at 1-800-663-1555.

New advanced local government certificate at University of Regina

Municipalities in Saskatchewan are working to recruit and retain new and qualified municipal administrators as they face an increasing number of retirements. The demand for new administrators has, not surprisingly, coincided with the need for additional post-secondary training opportunities as new administrators enter the occupation with varied academic and professional backgrounds. Since 1966, the University of Regina's Certificate in Local Government Authority (CLGA) has provided training for municipal administrators. While the CLGA remains the foundational step for those entering the profession, the University of Regina is pleased to introduce the new Advanced Certificate in Local Government

Authority (ACLGA) to meet the need for advanced education and training for municipal administrators and local government officials.

The Advanced Certificate in Local Government Authority is a 30-credit hour program (one full year of post-secondary study). Its flexible curriculum is designed to encourage students to explore areas of study directly related to their professional development as municipal administrators, councillors or other local government officials.

All four correspondence courses taken in the CLGA can be used towards completion of the ACLGA core requirements. For students who live outside Regina, many courses in the ACLGA are offered at Regional Colleges, through online/televised delivery, or through Weekend University and Summer University in intensive formats.

The ACLGA program has been designed to encourage direct application of its courses towards an undergraduate Arts degree program at the University of Regina. Administrators who already hold a degree – from the University of Regina or elsewhere -- may be eligible to use some of their degree courses towards completion of the ACLGA.

The University of Regina invites all CLGA alumni, current municipal administrators and other local government officials

to consider the Advanced Certificate in Local Government Authority as the next step in their professional development. Applications for admission to the ACLGA will be accepted starting May 1, 2006.

For more information about the program, please contact:
LGA Coordinator, Credit Studies Division
Centre for Continuing Education,
University of Regina
Ph: 306-585-5807
Email: lga@uregina.ca
Website:
www.uregina.ca/cce/creditstudies

Notices:

Tax inquiries

Education Property Tax inquiries should be directed to Saskatchewan Learning, Education Finance and Legislative Services. You may contact the department by email at EFLSInquiries@sasked.gov.sk.ca, or telephone (306) 787-3341. Your inquiry will then be forwarded to the appropriate branch staff for response.

Submission of waterworks information

As required under *The Municipal Regulations, The Cities Regulations and the Northern Municipalities Public Reporting on Municipal Waterworks Regulations*, a copy of the waterworks information provided to the consumers must be submitted to the Minister. This

copy should be directed to Saskatchewan Government Relations, Policy Development Branch, 1855 Victoria Avenue, 15th floor, Room 1540, Regina, Saskatchewan, S4P 3T2.

Give yourself a pat on the back...

Has your municipality recently done something of which you are proud? Have you done something new that has improved your municipal organization or your community? If so, Municipalities Today wants to hear about it.

Send information about your story to [Government Relations](#) and make sure you tell us your name and which municipality you're talking about. Someone will follow up with you to get more information. With your consent, your municipality's story may end up being featured in an edition of Municipalities Today.

We look forward to hearing from you!

