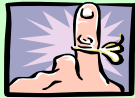




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Municipal Relations Division
welcomes your feedback on
Municipalities Today.

Contact us by **phone:**

(306) 787-4340

or **email:** muninfo@gr.gov.sk.ca

Gordon Barnhart sworn in as new Lieutenant Governor

The Legislative Building is a place Dr. Gordon Barnhart knows well, having written several books about it and spending two decades there as Clerk of the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly.

On August 1, the acclaimed historian returned to the Legislative Building to make a little history himself, as he was installed as the province's 20th Lieutenant Governor.

Dr. Barnhart was installed by the Honourable E.D. Bayda, Chief Justice of Saskatchewan, and welcomed by several dignitaries. A military ceremony followed, which included the new Lieutenant Governor inspecting the Guard of Honour from Joint Task Force West, and a 15-gun salute. The day's formal events included a tea hosted by the Speaker. That evening, His Honour was invested in the Saskatchewan Order of Merit.

On April 28, when Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced that Dr. Barnhart would succeed Dr. Lynda Haverstock as Saskatchewan's representative of the Queen, it was noted that the incoming Lieutenant Governor possessed a

set of qualifications that make him an ideal choice. In addition to the time His Honour spent as Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, he also served as a Clerk of the Senate and authored numerous books on various aspects of Saskatchewan's history. His expertise on democracy and governance has been shared with parliamentarians and civil servants as far away as Vietnam, South Africa, Russia and Indonesia.

Annual Report

The Government Relations 2005-2006 Annual Report is now available on line at:

<http://www.gr.gov.sk.ca/publications.htm>

New energy conservation resource for municipalities

Municipalities interested in reducing energy costs should check out the new Municipal Energy Conservation website at <http://municipalities.oec.ca/>.

The website is run by Saskatchewan Office of Energy Conservation and supports the Saskatchewan Municipal Energy Efficiency Initiative, which is jointly promoted by SARM,

SUMA and Saskatchewan
Property Management.

The site provides municipalities with information on cost-effective, energy saving opportunities and potential resource options. It also provides useful tools, such as reports tailored to the operation of individual municipalities visited by Office of Energy Conservation, and an energy cost tracking mechanism.

All rural and urban municipalities in Saskatchewan can access the system by registering at the website.

New website

Municipal Relations Division launched its newly redesigned webpage on June 29.

The site has an updated look and easier navigation to better serve you, the user. If you haven't seen it yet, we invite you to check it out at www.municipal.gov.sk.ca.

Feedback from our web users is crucial in helping us make improvements that work best for you. We're committed to keeping the website relevant, current and user-friendly. Please let us know what you think about the redesign, particularly if you have ideas on how we can improve it.

Questions or comments on the new site can be emailed to our webmaster at muninfo@gr.gov.sk.ca

Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund Intake 2 Information Now Available

Application information about Intake 2 of the MRIF program was mailed to urban and rural municipalities by July 31, 2006.

The Step-by-Step Application Guide is now available on the Government Relations website at <http://www.municipal.gov.sk.ca/mrd/prosimsi.shtml>.

Applications will be accepted between August 1 and September 29, 2006.

Subdivision fee structure changes

The subdivision fee structure was amended in 2005 with the adoption of *Phase 1 of The Planning and Development Act, 1983*.

The examination fee is now \$100 for each new parcel to be created. This is non-refundable, even if the applicant reduces the number of parcels before the subdivision is approved or the application is withdrawn. Prior to the amendment, a flat rate of \$150 was charged even if no Certificate of Approval was issued.

The fee for issuing the Certificate of Approval is \$150, which covers all of the lots approved; it is not charged per parcel.

A new provision was also added: applicants must pay any fees charged to the Government in connection with the review and approval of the proposed subdivision, and any interests registered or discharged by the approving authority.

Further clarification of fee structure changes is available at <http://www.municipal.gov.sk.ca/publications/pdf/cpb/subdivision/subappfee05.pdf> or call the Community Planning office at 306-787-2725 or 306-933-6937.

Tax enforcement workshop

The Advisory Services Unit in cooperation with the Rural Municipal Administrators' Association of Saskatchewan (RMAA) and Urban Municipal Administrators' Association (UMAAS) will be conducting a series of one-day Tax Enforcement Workshops this fall for urban, rural and northern administrators.

Staff from Advisory Services Unit, Information Services Corporation (ISC), Provincial Mediation Board, and Public Legal Education Association of Saskatchewan (PLEA) will be the facilitators for the workshops.

For more information please visit <http://www.municipal.gov.sk.ca/div/munadvisory/workshops.html>

[Click here for information regarding Local Government Election Workshops.](#)