Planning for a Brighter Future: Municipalities Working Together

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Saskatchewan at a Glance

- Total population of 1,045,622
- 651,900 square km – total area
- 296 rural and 464 urban and northern municipalities
- Increasing and Ageing Population
- Increasing Urbanization
- Extraordinary Development
- Increasing Social Demands
- Ageing Infrastructure
- Escalating Costs and changing Regulatory Requirements

Current Local Capacity

- 625 administrators for over 790 municipalities
- 137 municipalities with under 100 in population
- 60% of all municipalities have zoning bylaws with less than 36% with Official Community Plans

Source: *Regional Planning*, a presentation by Municipal Affairs and the Municipal Capacity Development Program.
Municipal Capacity Development Program (MCDP)

- Assist municipalities in building capacity for planning;
- further the adoption of inter-municipal growth management plans to attract and effectively manage economic growth and development;
- foster long term working relationships amongst municipalities, including First Nations and Métis communities, to enhance communication and collaboration across the province; and,
- promote cooperation among urban, rural and northern municipalities to deliver more accessible and cost effective services.
MCDP Services

The program focuses on four key areas for service delivery to build local capacity:

1. **Facilitation** - promote open communication and collaboration amongst urban, rural, and northern municipalities and other applicable stakeholders.

2. **Education** – develop and partner to deliver a number of workshops and information sessions on issues such as regional planning and preparing funding proposals.

3. **Training** - build skill at the local level to implement sustainable planning strategies.

4. **Research** – conduct topic specific research and communicate findings to Saskatchewan municipalities.
Inter-municipal Cooperation at it’s Finest

- 28 inter-municipal groups established
- Encompass 200+ Rural, Urban, First Nation and Métis communities
- Range in size from 2 to 44 municipalities/communities
- 100+ inter-municipal projects initiated
Municipal Success Stories

- North of the Divide Community Association (NODCA)
- Twin Lakes Community Planning Association (TLCPA)
- WaterWolf
- Mid-Sask. Municipal Alliance (MSMA)
North of the Divide Community Association (NODCA)

• Formed in 2010 to develop a regional body to provide services to participating municipalities.

• Formalized their commitment to shared objectives by signing an MOU in September 2010.

• Currently working to create a district plan, develop a regional bylaw enforcement strategy and emergency measures.

• Future plans to develop a regional service agency to provide bylaw enforcement, administration, planning assistance and educating participating communities in the region.
Twin Lakes Community Planning Association (TLCPA)

• Comprised of 7 municipalities
• Created and adopted a Memorandum of Understanding (Oct. 2009)
• Developed a Community Action Plan which focusing on:
  
  1. maintaining and expanding shared community services and to identify opportunities; and,
  2. undertake land use planning and uniform standards to support transportation and economic development and provide a foundation for service agreements
WaterWolf

“We are the centerpiece for regional planning services, geographic information services (GIS), website creation, hosting and management, GPS data gathering and management to improve municipal planning, and a place to grow ideas for our economic future” - www.WaterWolf.org

- Advisory Planning Commission
- Comprised of 44 local governments
- Developed a Regional Growth Management Strategy
- Collaborated on the Lake Diefenbaker Tourism Area Destination Plan

Mid Sask. Municipal Alliance (MSMA)

“We are a progressive group of small and large communities in a rural setting committed to working together as a regional collective for the long term betterment of the area. Our richness in agriculture, potash and manufacturing creates a strong economy for the region and the province. The area supports a variety and abundance of wildlife and numerous tourist sites and opportunities. Our region contains cooperative and ambitious community spirits that create a unique quality of life for everyone.”

- Comprised of 11 municipalities
- Focused on issues dealing with housing, healthcare, education, infrastructure and major developments
- Signed an MOU in 2010
- Working together to develop a regional plan for the area
Reaching All Communities: MCDP

- Workshop development and delivery
- Resource development
- Website - www.municipalcapacity.ca
- Interconnections: Sustaining Saskatchewan’s Future
- My Community Online Forum
- Guide to Municipal Cooperation
- Guide to Comprehensive Asset Mapping
For further information about the MCDP or information contained in this presentation, please contact via email at municipalcapacity@sarm.ca or visit our website - www.municipalcapacity.ca