# "Building Sustainable Communities in Saskatchewan"

Municipal Capacity Development
Program (MCDP)













Canada

## Program History

- Launched in March of 2006
- Roots are based on the outcomes of the Clearing the Path Initiative (CTP)
- Developed out of a partnership between *SARM*, *SUMA*, the *New North* and the *Ministry of Municipal Affairs*
- Program funded by Federal/Provincial Agreement – Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (MRIF) and the Federal Gas Tax
- Staffing and Management



### **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.



## Benefits of Inter-municipal Cooperation

- Sharing Knowledge
- Enhanced Service Delivery
- Consistency
- Increased Quality of Life
- Strengthen Region
- Plan for Growth



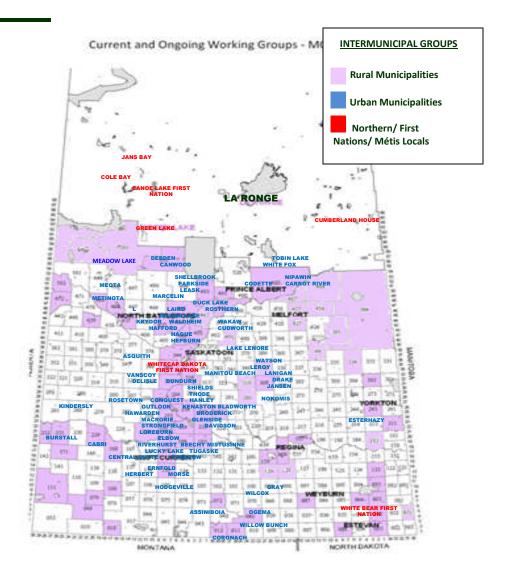
## Ways to Cooperate Regionally

- Water treatment, transmission and distribution
- Sanitary sewage collection, transmission and treatment
- Solid waste management
- Garbage collection and or recycling
- Land use planning
- Road maintenance
- Infrastructure management
- Bylaw enforcement
- Administrations/governance
- Affordable and seniors housing
- Permits and inspections
- Fire and emergency services
- Etc....



### Inter-municipal Cooperation at its Finest

- 33 inter-municipal groups established
- Encompass 240+ Rural, Urban, First Nation and Métis communities
- Range in size from 2 to 44
   municipalities/communities
- 100+ inter-municipal projects initiated





### Tangible Outputs Municipalities Receive:

- District Development Appeals Board
- Planning Districts
- Memorandum of Understanding
- Communication Action Plans/Strategic Plans
- Socio-economic profiles
- Shared resources i.e. bylaw enforcement
- Terms of Reference
- Intermunicipal Agreements
- Request for Proposal
- Topic Specific Research
- Etc.

## What we've been doing: Municipal Success Stories

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

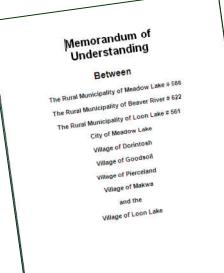
## North of the Divide Community Association (NODCA)

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

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

an MOU in September 2010.



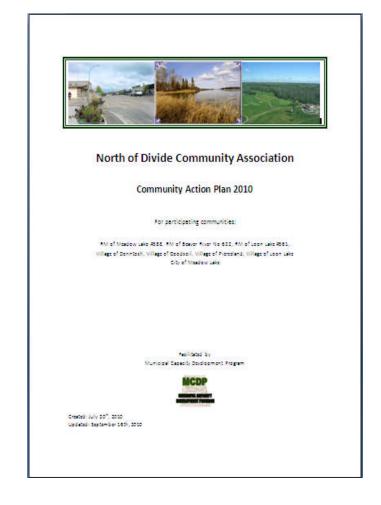






## North of the Divide Community Association (NODCA)

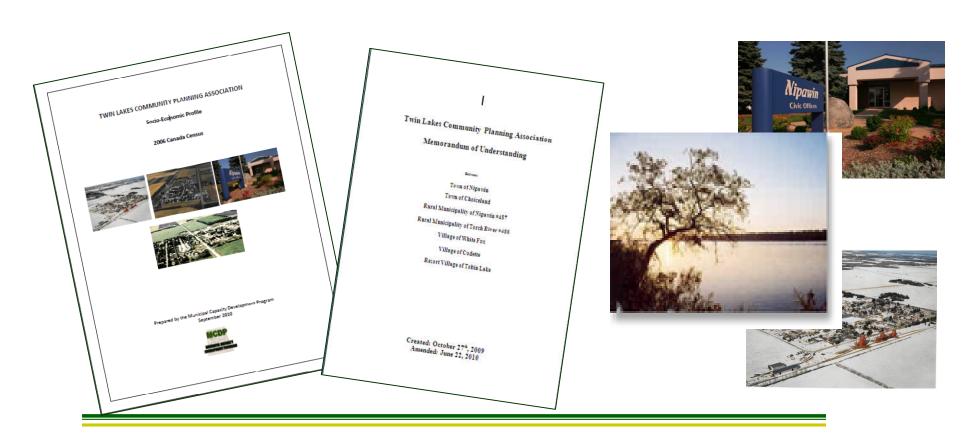
- •Future plans to develop a regional service agency to provide bylaw enforcement, administration, planning assistance and educating participating communities in the region.
- •Currently working to create a district plan, develop a regional bylaw enforcement strategy and emergency measures.





## Twin Lakes Community Planning Association (TLCPA)

•Created and adopted a Memorandum of Understanding (Oct. 2009)



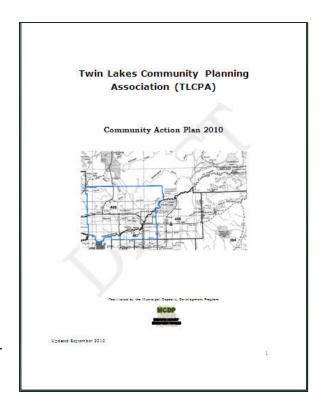


## Twin Lakes Community Planning Association (TLCPA)

- •Developed a Community Action Plan which focuses on:
- maintaining and expanding shared community services and to identify opportunities; and,
   undertake land use planning and uniform standards to support transportation and economic development and provide a foundation for service agreements

"I really believe that regional co-operation and planning is the answer for urban and rural municipalities. We have far more similarities than differences yet we have our own identities. The support and guidance provided by the staff with the Municipal Capacity Development Program has been a god-send in our progress to date."

- Hugh Macdonald, Chair, TLCPA





## 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."





## Mid Sask. Municipal Alliance (MSMA)



MID SASK. MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

2010







## Additional Working Groups...

- Wakaw Lake Stewardship Group
- Wilcox Strategic Planning Committee
- Twin Rivers
- **55-40**
- Waterwolf

"The Wakaw Lake Stewardship Group has been helped immensely by MCDP. We are grateful for the services offered through the program, with the knowledge of the MCDP development officers, and the resources which are available to the Wakaw Lake Stewardship Group. Through the services offered by MCDP, smaller municipalities, (where often, there are no development officers,) are given advice and assistance to those municipalities who are interested in working together towards a common goal. It has given us an opportunity to experience inter-municipal co-operation, and in the future, hopefully experience growth and economic development."-WLSG

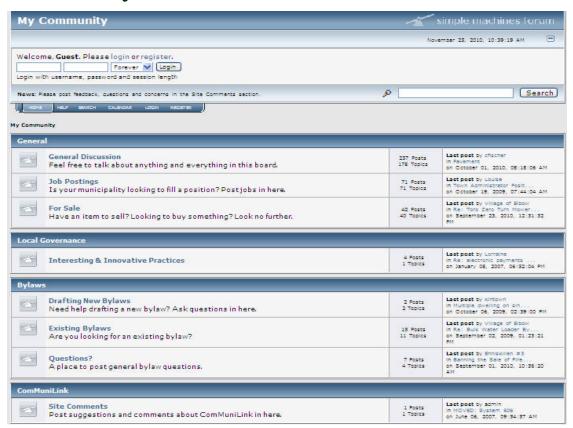


- Workshop development and delivery
- Resource development
- Website -

www.municipalcapacity.ca



### My Community Online Forum





### Interconnections:

Sustaining Saskatchewan's Future



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

### Inemal

### 2 Question and Answer

- 3 Suntainable Facts
- 4 Community Best Practice: Town of
- 5 RCE Saskstchewan
- 6 Conservation Oriented Water Pricing-The Debate
- 7 Training and Conference Opportunities
- 8 Grant and Funding Opportunities
- 9 Sustainable Web

"We must all work together in order to save the environment and the world that we live in from further change".

-Dave Foreman

### Welcome to Interconnections!

Saskatchewan is abuzz with networking possibilities! Whatever is the cause of it, whether the hum of conversation from a local civic centre or the effects of some strongly brewed coffee, one cannot dispute the buzz is growing. In fact, both conversation and coffee are two fundamentally integral aspects of networking in Saskatchewan!

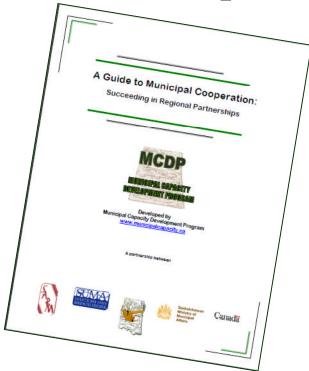
Across the province you can find numerous individuals, groups, agencies, and organizations, all with great ideas, information and processes who want to connect with you. In the past several months, the Minuicipal Capacity Development Program has been both co-hosting and participating in a wide variety of information sessions, workshops, conferences, and seminars; these events have revealed the strengths and supports available for small communities, both rural and urban, across the province. What network is your community plugged in to?

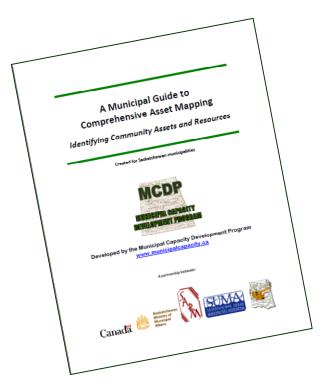
In Saskatchewan, there are year-round opportunities to meet and chat with neighboring communities with similar issues; to learn ways of implementing novel solutions to old problems; and harvest seeds of ideas to plant in your own manicipality. For the most part, these organized gatherings are inexpensive for a full day's events (and lunches usually include some fantastic local fare). The hardest thing to come by for a busy municipality is time, however, if you make the time to get engaged, the value returned to your community in network building is immense! Just sending one representative from your council (the more extroverted, the better) is enough to open the floodgates.

Communities across the province are taking creative and innovative steps to solve long-term issues, making economic strides, implementing sustainable ideas, and looking out at the broader picture. Where can you find them? Their members are often sitting next to you at mid-term convention, at a regional planning workshop, or a trade show.



- Guide to Municipal Cooperation
- Guide to Comprehensive Asset Mapping







For further information about the MCDP please contact <u>municipalcapacity@sarm.ca</u> or visit our website -<u>www.municipalcapacity.ca</u>

