

WPB August 31-  
September 4



# The **Weekly** Policy Bulletin

## Question of the Week Results

Saskatchewan Association of Resource Recovery Corp. (SARRC) recycles used oil, used oil filters, used antifreeze and used oil, antifreeze and Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) containers. The COVID-19 pandemic has altered some operations. To date, collectors are still picking up large quantities of product, however, the situation with public drop-off locations has been less predictable.

Are you experiencing any challenges in regard to recycling used oil, used oil filters, used antifreeze and used oil, antifreeze and Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) containers?

**Yes - 17%**

**No - 83%**

## Reminders

### Saskatchewan Municipal Awards Nominations



A very important deadline is coming up; don't miss your chance to recognize your municipality for going the extra mile.

The ***Saskatchewan Municipal Awards (SMAs)*** are a great way to celebrate the successes, innovations, and excellence in your municipality.

Nominations close **September 4.**

[Submit your Nomination](#)

## Information

Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Towards Parity



The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Toward Parity working group recently announced the roll out of the *Run, Win, Lead: Toward Parity in Municipal Politics Framework* initiative. The official launch of the framework was August 31st. SARM supports this initiative by participating on the working group.

The Toward Parity Framework provides a sector-wide vision on the challenges and the opportunities that individuals, local government, communities, stakeholders, and regional bodies can adapt and implement to increase the participation of women.

Consultation stakeholders included the general public, local councils, including local elected officials, provincial and territorial associations and national associations. Through discussions with stakeholders, trends and groupings of the challenges and roadblocks to parity began to emerge, leading to the categorization of challenges into four pillars of intervention: (i) improved access to information; (ii) enhanced inclusion; (iii) increased support; and (iv) improved governance structures.

Consultation participants prioritized three key actions: (i) mentorship and encouragement; (ii) breakdown of informal networking and decision-making; and (iii) improved access and sharing of tools. While three main challenges emerged, many of the issues are interconnected and solutions will need to be as diverse as the communities they are intended to support. The prioritization of challenges is focused on feasibility and opportunities.

In September 2020 the Towards Parity working group will be sharing resources including:

- Best practices that stakeholders can consider, adapt or undertake at the local government level.
- Webinars to share with FCM members.
- A knowledge hub with tools to implement the framework and best practices will be launched.

[Access Framework](#)



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OF CANADIAN  
MUNICIPALITIES

FÉDÉRATION  
CANADIENNE DES  
MUNICIPALITÉS

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## Western Canadian Municipal Associations (WCMA) Meeting

Last week, the WCMA met virtually and in-person in Winnipeg. Delegates from municipal associations from Manitoba (Association of Manitoba Municipalities – AMM), Saskatchewan (SARM, Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association –



SUMA) and Alberta (Rural Municipalities of Alberta – RMA, Alberta Urban Municipalities Association – AUMA) and for the first time, British Columbia (Union of British Columbia Municipalities) met to discuss issues that effect all western municipalities both rural and urban.

News Release

## Resources

### The Provincial Disaster Assistance Program



The Provincial Disaster Assistance Program (PDAP) is available for residents, small businesses, agricultural operations, First Nations, non-profit organizations and communities to help provide assistance to recover from natural disasters. Disasters can include flooding, tornadoes, plow winds and other natural disasters.

Within one month after the disaster occurs, the local government authority, First Nation or Park authority must submit a request for PDAP support.

More information on PDAP and an updated list of eligible communities is available below.

Eligible Communities

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### Energy Efficiency for Buildings – ISO 50001 Energy Management System

Funding is available to help commercial and institutional building owners and operators implement the ISO 50001 energy management system standard. Organizations that have implemented ISO 50001 save energy and money, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

There are two types of eligible recipients:

1. Direct recipients: Commercial and institutional buildings owners and operators, including Indigenous organizations, that want to implement ISO 50001 in their buildings.
2. Initial recipients: Municipal/provincial/territorial governments and agencies, utilities, industry associations and registered non-profit organizations that implement programs that redistribute the funds to direct/ultimate recipients to undertake eligible project activities.

The funding will be used to reimburse eligible project costs as follows:

- Eligible for-profit organizations may receive up to 60% of eligible costs
- Eligible not-for-profit organizations may receive up to 75% of eligible costs

- Maximum of \$40,000 per facility
- The maximum contribution to an organization or group of affiliates is \$200,000 per fiscal year (April 1 to March 31).

Eligible project expenditures include salaries and benefits, professional, scientific and technical fees specific to the energy management system, fees for data collection, benchmarking and analysis services, metering equipment, as well as other expenditures directly related to the project.

For more information, refer to Financial assistance for commercial and institutional buildings.

To find out more there will be a webinar available starting **September 9, 2020.**

[Learn More](#)

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7 - 11





# The Weekly Policy Bulletin

## Question of the Week

Has your RM experienced effects on existing municipal infrastructure as a result of large provincial/federal infrastructure projects (bridge/culvert replacements) undertaken upstream or downstream?

Yes

Select

No

Select

If yes, were you consulted on the potential effects prior to the project beginning?

Yes

Select

No

Select

## Reminders

### Organized Hamlets – AGMs

A letter from Government Relations Minister Lori Carr with information regarding the organized hamlet portion of the Municipal Revenue Sharing (MRS) grant was sent to rural municipalities that contain organized hamlets. If you haven't already, we would encourage you to share the information in the letter with the organized hamlets in your RM.

Further information about municipal and organized hamlet responsibilities may be obtained by contacting a municipal advisor at Government Relations at 306-787-2680 or [muninfo@gov.sk.ca](mailto:muninfo@gov.sk.ca)

[View Minister's Letter](#)



## Nominations – 2020 Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal



The Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal was established in 1995 as a means to formally recognize the selfless devotion of the province's volunteers, and as a way to present role models to Saskatchewan citizens. Nominees must be a current or former long-term resident of Saskatchewan. Any individual or group can submit a nomination, but nominations are not accepted for organizations. This year nominations can be submitted completely online. The deadline to receive nominations is **October 18, 2020**.

[Submit your Nomination](#)

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## Employment Standards Division – Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety

Beginning in November 2020, the Employment Standards Division of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety will offer a series of free webinars on various employment standards topics.

Please visit the training page on [saskatchewan.ca](https://saskatchewan.ca) to register for a webinar or to view a recording of a previous webinar.

[Visit Training Page](#)

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## Bill 194, The Miscellaneous Municipal Statutes Amendment Act, 2019 Receives Royal Assent

On July 3, 2020 Bill 194, *The Miscellaneous Municipal Statutes Amendment Act, 2019* received Royal Assent. SARM continues to be in contact with the Ministry of Government Relations on the amendments to ensure that RMs will receive more information and guidance from the ministry outlining the changes and what they mean for Rural Municipalities.

With the announcement of the amendments some questions have been brought to SARM's attention. One such question was regarding an amendment under Section 111 (2) (3) which states, "The administrator is responsible for the hiring,



suspension and dismissal of all employees of the municipality, unless otherwise provided by council.” The amendment still allows a council to establish an alternative policy and remain involved in the hiring, suspension, and dismissal of employees other than the administrator should they choose to do so.

The SARM policy staff continue to consult with the ministry. As information becomes available it will be shared with the membership.

## Resources

### Farm Stress Line

A reminder that during this busy time, the Farm Stress Line is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Calls are answered by Mobile Crisis Services, a non-profit, community based agency. The Farm Stress Line can help by providing support for farmers and ranchers who are managing farm difficulties.



Toll Free: 1-800-667-4442

[Learn More](#)

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### FCM Webinar: Apply for a Community Efficiency Financing study grant

Launching a home upgrade financing program can help residents improve the energy performance of their homes, while creating local jobs and making communities more resilient.

Join FCMs webinar on Tuesday, September 15 at 1:30 p.m. ET to learn tips from our advisors on applying for a study grant from GMF's newest funding initiative – **Community Efficiency Financing (CEF)**. Learn how CEF can support your community's local financing program and find out what you need to successfully submit an application.

*Bonus : Live Q&A session with GMF funding advisors*

Attend a virtual session on September 30th at 1:30 p.m. to chat directly with advisors about your specific application questions and how to prepare the best possible submission.

[Learn More & Register](#)



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14-18



# The **Weekly** Policy Bulletin

September 15, 2020

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## Question of the Week Results

Has your RM experienced effects on existing municipal infrastructure as a result of large provincial/federal infrastructure projects (bridge/culvert replacements) undertaken upstream or downstream?

**Yes - 14%**

**No - 86%**

If yes, were you consulted on the potential effects prior to the project beginning?

**Yes - 50%**

**No - 50%**

## Reminders

### The Building Standards and Licensing Workshop 'Understanding the Objective Based Code' Webinar

This workshop has been formatted in video and available as an on-demand virtual workshop to enhance accessibility for continuing education with building standards. This virtual workshop will be available for viewing until October 9th, 2020.

The intent of this workshop is to provide code users and industry the fundamental concepts for the objective based codes. In turn, providing a better understanding of application, limitations and alternative solutions to the National Building Code of Canada (NBC) specific to Saskatchewan.

[Learn More](#)

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# SARM 2020 Rural Municipal Elections Real-Time Online Reporting

Please be on the lookout for an email containing your username and password for [SARM's real-time online reporting website](#). This email will be sent out via Mailchimp this afternoon. Please note that these credentials are different from your SARM Members Only login.

Once you've received your new username and password, you can log in [here](#)

## Information

### FCM Voter Registration Deadline Extended

The deadline is now September 18 at 11:59pm ET

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, this is FCM's first-ever virtual election and AGM. You are eligible to participate in this democratic process because you sit on an FCM member municipality council. Registration is free and takes less than five minutes to complete. If you don't register, you can't vote.

These are the key dates in FCM's election process:

Voter registration: Closes September 18

Table Officer candidate speech webinars: September 17 (with a Q&A) and September 28

Table Officer election: September 28-30

Director candidate speech webinar: October 5

Director election: October 5-7

AGM: October 15

This democratic process is a chance to make your voice heard at a national level.

Watch the FCM website for more information. If you have any questions, connect at [elections@fcm.ca](mailto:elections@fcm.ca)

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### WLPIP Rebate Extension

The Western Livestock Price Insurance Program (WLPIP) rebate will be extended to December 31, 2020. The WLPIP rebate was implemented by the Government of Saskatchewan in response to increased market volatility related to COVID-19.

Additional information on the Saskatchewan WLPIP Premium Rebate can be found on the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC)

[Visit SCIC Website](#)

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# Canada's 18<sup>th</sup> Rail Safety Week runs September 21 - 27, 2020

Canadian Pacific (CP) has created [resources to promote rail safety](#) in your community during Canada's 18th Rail Safety Week, which runs September 21 - 27, 2020.

Municipalities can participate in the following ways including reviewing and promoting rail safety using a new [toolkit](#) developed by CP specifically for municipalities. In the coming months, it will be updated with videos.

More resources on rail safety are also available at [Operation Lifesaver](#)

## Resources

### Updated Clubroot Bylaw and Policy Template for RMs

SARM, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture and your SARM Plant Health Officers worked together and made some amendments to the Clubroot Sample Bylaw and Policy or your use as a template. Please find them [here](#)

Please note: If your RM already has a clubroot bylaw/policy please don't feel you need to change it, just keep this revised template in mind next time you do update it.

Currently the distribution of clubroot in Saskatchewan is limited, which puts us in a good situation to get ahead of the disease and take action to limit the spread and severity of clubroot. Everyone has a role in minimizing the impact of clubroot in Saskatchewan. To be successful, it is important that we work together and take a consistent, science-based and proactive approach to clubroot management.

### **Rural Municipalities (RMs) have authority of managing clubroot under *The Pest Control Act*:**

In 2009, a resolution regarding clubroot was passed at the SARM Midterm Convention asking that SARM lobby the province to have clubroot named a pest under *The Pest Control Act* in Saskatchewan and to have government develop a provincial clubroot management plan with best practices for the prevention and management of clubroot. Clubroot was declared a pest in Saskatchewan in 2009 giving RMs powers under *The Pest Control Act* for clubroot management and prevention. These powers include:

- The appointment of Pest Control Officers (PCO) to enforce, enter land, perform inspections, collect specimens or issue orders to any person;
- The authority to pass bylaws to prevent, control or destroy clubroot; and
- The ability to require individuals to take actions to control or destroy clubroot on the land they own, occupy or control.

The Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture and SARM have worked together to



draft a sample clubroot bylaw and policy that can be used by RMs as a template.

## A farmer-driven approach to clubroot is recommended:

This approach to clubroot management encourages the producer to take an active role in the management of any clubroot confirmed on their farm. The producer will have the opportunity to work with a Professional Agrologist to develop a science-based management plan for their farm. If this management plan meets a minimum set of science-based standards it will become the formal agreement between the landowner and/or producer and the PCO.

Both the clubroot bylaw and policy reflect a farmer-driven approach to clubroot regulation and refer to the Saskatchewan Clubroot Management Plan (attached) as a guide for strategies that can be used for clubroot management and prevention. The sample bylaw, when implemented, will require the landowner or producer to inform the RM when clubroot has been confirmed.

If you have any questions about the farmer-driven approach to clubroot regulation or require assistance implementing clubroot bylaws, policies, appointing a Pest Control Officer, etc. please contact SARM's Plant Health Officer in your Division.

[SARM's Plant Health Officers](#)

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## New Asset Management Activities

In an effort to accommodate the evolving needs of municipalities across Canada, **FCM's Municipal Asset Management Program (MAMP)** partner organizations are offering a number of online training activities to help your community strengthen its asset management approach.

Sign up for a course, webinar or workshop today to find best practices and tailored advice on how to meet your region's needs.

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WPB September  
21-25





# The Weekly Policy Bulletin

September 22, 2020

## Question of the Week

On September 17<sup>th</sup> Transport Canada announced further funding under the **Rail Safety Improvement Program (RSIP)**. Information sessions/webinars on the RSIP and Grade Crossings Regulations have taken place in February and June of this year.

Have you had the opportunity to attend one of the previous sessions?

Yes

Select

No

Select

Would you be interested in attending one in fall 2020?

Yes

Select

No

Select

## Reminders

### FCM: Sustainable Communities Conference

Date: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 – Thursday, October 22, 2020

Location: Virtual event

Go online for FCM's Sustainable Communities Conference, Canada's leading sustainability event for municipal leaders and practitioners.

From October 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> the Sustainable Communities Conference will bring together world-leading experts and Canada's most dedicated local practitioners for in-depth conversations and learning sessions, all with a mission to help cities



and communities across the country be more sustainable for the people we serve.

*Your virtual conference registration includes:*

- Access to all scheduled educational programming
- Access to the exhibitors and sponsors
- Access to all scheduled networking events
- Access to on-demand educational programming during and post-conference

[Learn More & Register](#)

## Information

### Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Testing

The Ministry of Environment offers free voluntary CWD testing for hunters.

In order to obtain more reliable information about the presence of the disease in certain areas of the province, hunters are strongly urged to have mule deer and white-tailed deer from wildlife management zones 2W, 9, 10, 35 and 37, 50 and 55 tested for CWD.

Hunters anywhere in the province are able to test deer, elk, moose and caribou for CWD in order to help provide critical information on the presence and distribution of the disease in these species.

Fresh or frozen heads can be dropped off at a Ministry of Environment field office, select Parks offices or self-service drop-off location, with results available in roughly six weeks. **Please note:** larger moose and elk heads should be dropped off at designated Ministry of Environment field offices and select Parks offices

[Map of CWD Drop-off & Testing Sites](#)

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### Letters of Support – Farm Stress and Sleep

The team at the Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture at the University of Saskatchewan would greatly appreciate it if your RM Council would consider providing a letter of support for our project to study “Farm Stress and Sleep in Saskatchewan”.

[Click here](#) to view the abstract for this project. If you choose to send a support message please send them via email to Dr. Jim Dosman at [james.dosman@usask.ca](mailto:james.dosman@usask.ca) by October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Below is a draft template email for your consideration.

*Dear Dr. Jim Dosman:*



*The purpose of this letter is to indicate our support for the Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture's proposed project to study "Farm Stress and Sleep in Saskatchewan".*

*We have been talking about these problems for a long time, and we are happy that you and your team are finally trying to do something about it. The relationship between your Centre and the Rural Municipalities is a strong one, and we know that you have the support to successfully carry out the project. Many of us in the rural areas have had problems in these areas, and often we have had nowhere to turn. We look forward to receiving the results of the work.*

*Wishing you all the best in your funding application.*

*From the RM of \_\_\_\_\_.*

## Resources

### Two Investing in Canada Infrastructure Application Streams Now Open

Saskatchewan municipalities and other eligible organizations can begin submitting detailed applications for projects under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP).

- COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream (CVRIS) opened Friday, September 18, 2020, and closes at 4:30 p.m. (CST) on Friday, October 30, 2020.
- Green Stream – Landfill Decommissioning opened Friday, September 18, 2020. Applications will be accepted until available funding is fully allocated.

[Learn More](#)

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### 2020 Election-Byelection Scheduling Tool / Calendar

The election scheduling tool is a great resource for RM administrators as it outlines all important dates and deadlines pertaining to the 2020 general election for easy reference.

You can find this document on the Government of Saskatchewan website. This resource can also be found on the [SARM election reporting website](#) under [rural election links](#).

[Election Scheduling Tool](#)

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28 - October 2



09-29-2020

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## 2020 Provincial Election: Don't Forget to Ask Your Candidates

### **BROADBAND ACCESS IS ESSENTIAL**

Funding and implementation of reliable broadband access across Saskatchewan. It is of utmost importance not only for the economic and social wellbeing of our businesses and residents but was also proven critical in maintaining the delivery of healthcare, education and other key supports during COVID-19. Access to reliable broadband has been proven to be an essential service and should be accessible to all Saskatchewan residents the same as clean drinking water, healthcare, and education are provided.

What are your provincial election candidates going to do to ensure reliable broadband access across Saskatchewan?

[Learn More](#)

## News Release

### **SARM Election priorities for rural Saskatchewan**

With the provincial election scheduled in less than a month, the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) would like to highlight key priorities for rural Saskatchewan and remind rural rate payers to ask questions of party candidates.

[View News Release](#)

## Reminders

Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation –



# Virtual Conference

October 1-2, 2020

Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation is hosting a 'Virtual Conference' this fall to share highlights from the CRRF Rural Insight Series: COVID-19. Two days of free content and interactive discussions with rural researchers and thought leaders as they share rural-specific lessons and insights about the challenges and opportunities posed by the pandemic.

SARM President and Chair of the FCM Rural Forum, Ray Orb is bringing greetings the morning of October 2.

Both days of the conference run from 11.00AM to 4.30PM (EDT, GMT-04:00) and are being hosted on Zoom by the Rural Policy Learning Commons. The Virtual Conference is being offered 'a la carte' style, so you can choose the sessions that are most interesting to you and work with your schedule by registering for each session separately.

[Learn More & Register](#)

## Information

### Federal Throne Speech Highlights

The federal throne speech was delivered in Ottawa on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020. Below are some of the highlights.

The text of the speech in its entirety can be viewed [here](#).

#### **Wage subsidy:**

- “One way the Government will create these jobs is by extending the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy right through to next summer.”

#### **Infrastructure:**

- “To keep building strong communities, over the next two years the Government will also invest in all types of infrastructure, including public transit, energy efficient retrofits, clean energy, rural broadband, and affordable housing, particularly for Indigenous Peoples and northern communities.”
- “In the last six months, many more people have worked from home, done classes from the kitchen table, shopped online, and accessed government services remotely. So it has become more important than ever that all Canadians have access to the internet.”
- “The Government will accelerate the connectivity timelines and ambitions of the Universal Broadband Fund to ensure that all Canadians, no matter where they live, have access to high-speed internet.”

#### **Climate Action:**

- “The Government will immediately bring forward a plan to exceed

Canada's 2030 climate goal. The Government will also legislate Canada's goal of net-zero emissions by 2050.

- As part of its plan, the Government will:
  - Create thousands of jobs retrofitting homes and buildings, cutting energy costs for Canadian families and businesses;
  - Invest in reducing the impact of climate-related disasters, like floods and wildfires, to make communities safer and more resilient;
  - Help deliver more transit and active transit options;
  - And make zero-emissions vehicles more affordable while investing in more charging stations across the country.
- "The Government will launch a new fund to attract investments in making zero-emissions products and cut the corporate tax rate in half for these companies to create jobs and make Canada a world leader in clean technology. The Government will ensure Canada is the most competitive jurisdiction in the world for clean technology companies.
- Additionally, the Government will:
  - Transform how we power our economy and communities by moving forward with the Clean Power Fund, including with projects like the Atlantic Loop that will connect surplus clean power to regions transitioning away from coal;
  - And support investments in renewable energy and next-generation clean energy and technology solutions.
- Canada cannot reach net zero without the know-how of the energy sector, and the innovative ideas of all Canadians, including people in places like British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Newfoundland and Labrador.
- The Government will:
  - Support manufacturing, natural resource, and energy sectors as they work to transform to meet a net zero future, creating good-paying and long-lasting jobs;
  - And recognize farmers, foresters, and ranchers as key partners in the fight against climate change, supporting their efforts to reduce emissions and build resilience.
  - The Government will continue its policy of putting a price on pollution, while putting that money back in the pockets of Canadians. It cannot be free to pollute.
- The Government will ban harmful single-use plastics next year and ensure more plastic is recycled. And the Government will also modernize Canada's Environmental Protection Act.
- When the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration was closed by a previous government, Canada lost an important tool to manage its waters. The Government will create a new Canada Water Agency to keep our water safe, clean, and well-managed. The Government will also identify opportunities to build more resilient water and irrigation infrastructure.

#### **Firearms:**

- "The Government has banned assault-style firearms. The Government will also continue implementing firearms policy commitments, including:
  - Giving municipalities the ability to further restrict or ban handguns;
  - And strengthening measures to control the flow of illegal guns into Canada."



Vacant agricultural Crown land that is eligible for sale is available for purchase on the [McDougall Auctioneers Ltd. website](#). The next online auction will start on October 13, 2020.

Any Crown land that does not sell in the main auction will be listed for sale in a secondary auction immediately following the main auction. Secondary auction information will be listed on the auctioneer's website. Following the secondary auction, unsold land will be available in the eCatalogue on a first come, first serve basis.

[Learn More](#)

## Resources

### Asset Management Saskatchewan - NAMS Canada Online Asset Management Training Workshop

An interactive and engaging [NAMS Canada](#) online workshop is being offered through Asset Management Saskatchewan's brand new learning platform, and will include a total of 6 live 2 hour sessions from October 27- December 1st, 2020.

For information, a list of the Workshop Dates & Times and to register:

[Workshop Dates & Times](#)

## Question of the Week Results

On September 17<sup>th</sup> Transport Canada announced further funding under the [Rail Safety Improvement Program \(RSIP\)](#). Information sessions/webinars on the RSIP and Grade Crossings Regulations have taken place in February and June of this year.

Have you had the opportunity to attend one of the previous sessions?

**Yes - 55%**

**No - 45%**

Would you be interested in attending one on fall 2020?

**Yes - 6%**

No - 94%

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