

2016 UMAAS CONVENTION EVALUATION

	POOR 1	FAIR 2	GOOD 3	VERY GOOD 4	EXCELLEN T 5
Registration Kit	1	3	16	42	28
Opening Ceremonies			21	43	23
Ken Coates – “Managers of Change” - Conference Kickoff	2	11	16	29	33
Eric Biehn – SMRA Retiree Plan	1	3	26	42	19
Trade Show	2	4	29	33	24
Taunia Kupiec – SUMA Group Benefits	1	3	26	38	25
Tania Meier – Tenders, RFPs, RFQs		1	19	43	29
Jim Walters – Planning Subdivisions		5	35	37	15
Aaron Orban – Privacy Legislation (LAFOIP)		8	33	35	14
Banquet & Awards			6	28	44
Casino Night/DJ	1	1	10	18	24
Laurie-Anne Rusnak – Council vs Manager Roles		1	8	25	57
Bill Hawkins – Building Code Regulations	2	12	28	31	16
Ron Cummins – Boil Water Advisories & Regulation Changes	4	19	40	22	5
Shelley Thoen-Chaykoski-“How is your Rec Board Doing?”	3	9	20	36	15
Networking Afternoon – Golf & BBQ	1			1	11
Networking Afternoon–Humboldt Bus Tour	1	1	2	3	9
Thursday Free Evening			8	19	37
Bonnie Chambers – Legislative Updates	1	3	9	32	36
SAMA – 2017 Evaluations	2	5	12	37	17
Hotel Facilities	4	4	20	37	19
CONVENTION CONTENTS					
The application of material to your work situation is relevant?		1	15	37	38
The information you obtained from the Convention was as expected?		1	19	36	35
You have benefited from participating in the Convention?			12	28	49

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Overall Reaction

- 1. Which aspect of the UMAAS Convention was most beneficial to you?**
 - a) Sessions/Workshops - 21
 - b) Council vs Manager Roles - 18
 - c) Networking – 33
 - d) Dr. Coates – Managers of Change – 7
 - e) Legislative Updates - 10
 - f) Planning & Subdivisions - 2
 - g) Tenders, RFPs, RFQs - 4
 - h) Division meetings - 3
 - i) Rec Board - 3
 - j) Group benefits
 - k) SUMA presentations - 3
 - l) SAMA - 2
 - m) LAFOIP - 2
 - n) Having Advisors available
 - o) Trade show - 3
 - p) Retirement plan
 - q) Building Codes

- 2. Please outline any aspect of the Convention that was of little or no benefit to you.**
 - a) Loved it all!/good - 3
 - b) Golf & Tour --- would rather see Friday's session on Thursday afternoon.
Tours could stay in Saskatoon.
 - c) Tour afternoon – don't want to sit on bus for an hour trip. - 2
 - d) Networking afternoon - 2 – something other than golf and shopping
 - e) Rec Board Presentation - 3
 - f) Legislative Updates (dry).
 - g) Dr. Coates – couldn't relate to him & his travels/did not enjoy references to east/Asian communities - 2
 - h) Water presentation - 10
 - i) Building Code Regulations - 4
 - j) Privacy Legislation
 - k) A lot of repetition because joint office
 - l) Ken Coates – too much international rather than more local focus.
 - m) Retirement Plan – years away. - 3
 - n) Trade show - 2
 - o) Planning & Subdivision

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- 3. What suggestions do you have to improve the UMAAS Convention?**
- a) Speakers were in the way of the screens/screens dark - 2
 - b) Thursday afternoon could have admin discussion in smaller groups (had this last year and was very good). - 4
 - c) Session seemed very rushed and they were very informative. Allow more time.
 - d) Every year, include “Everything you need to know about municipal administration but were afraid to ask”/What LGA didn’t teach you. - 8
 - e) Allow 45 mins sessions so less likely to get behind and not so rushed.
 - f) Too long away from the office – would like combined into 2 days.
 - g) Bit more dedicated tradeshow time.
 - h) List all the UMAAS Subcommittees & reps on the program. It sounds like the executive does a lot through the year so this would help to demonstrate all the advocacy work being done. It just seems there is just an annual convention, newsletters and workshops happening. More networking opportunities-in person, online, etc through the year would be valuable. And more committee/advocacy updates in the newsletter.
 - i) Explain more as you go for newbies. How do resolutions work? What is their purpose? What does being on the executive involve? How often are meetings? When & Where?
 - j) More networking with people in your type of municipality.
 - k) Network afternoon be moved to beginning of conference or last day to not “lose a day”. - 3
 - l) Cut off those presenters who go over time; why should others hurry thru theirs/speakers keep within time limits - 3
 - m) Spend more time on the important info (ie; legislative updates).
 - n) Start on Tuesday, end on Thursday.
 - o) Good/Excellent - 5
 - p) Bigger trade show and should be in a different room (noisy). - 8
 - q) Should be made more mandatory – offering training credit, etc
 - r) Joint convention with RMAA. - 2
 - s) Have advisors present legislative changes every year.
 - t) If you are serving fruit – serve it or don’t publish it.
 - u) Hand out the slide presentations – the slides were very hard to see.
 - v) More time for division meetings.
 - w) Skip the “portfolio” gifts to speakers – do they really appreciate? Make a donation like they do at SUMA convention or to some local charity on their behalf.
 - x) Learning sessions dealing with day to day operations of a municipal office.
 - y) Keep it relevant.
 - z) More snacks at Weds night event. - 2
 - aa) Keep bringing Ken Coates in.
 - bb) Start Wednesday afternoon until Friday at noon.
 - cc) Put Friday on Thursday afternoon and leave networking until Friday. – 2

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- 4. What comments do you have regarding this year's Convention format?**
- a) Loved the education sessions this year. Very beneficial
 - b) Good/Excellent/Great. - 20
 - c) Liked free afternoon.
 - d) Try not to cram so much into a morning (Weds.)
 - e) Felt some sessions were rushed.
 - f) Wasn't sure about the free night, but I enjoyed the downtime.
 - g) Casino night a great idea to keep for future.
- 5. Any comments regarding the Convention Facilities?**
- a) Food was terrible this year. They seemed to keep running out and Thursday breakfast was terrible. - 3
 - b) Poor "nutrition" at breaks and morning.
 - c) Convention room was too small for number of people attending. - 11
 - d) Good/Great/Excellent - 22
 - e) Breakfast provided was not what was expected as per program.
 - f) Not so many divisions in the same room for division meetings; too noisy. - 3
 - g) Breakfast on Weds & Thurs were poor –not much there.
 - h) Good – other than breakfast - 3
 - i) Hotel needs renovated, things falling apart in room/hotel is getting tired. - 6
 - j) Food wasn't as good as past years – running out.
 - k) Cinnamon buns did not happen.
 - l) Food was great on Weds lunch.
 - m) Hasn't changed much over the years.
 - n) Disappointed in breakfast - 3
 - o) Lunch ran out of food for a while – tired of waiting.
 - p) Would love to see convention at a downtown hotel.
 - q) A little noisy in the hallways late at night.
 - r) Room was cold.- 4
 - s) Food was lousy this year.
 - t) Wednesday light lunch was great change.
 - u) Normally Travelodge does a great job – 1st time in 15 years they disappointed.
 - v) Hotel – a bit of a maze getting to and from.
 - w) Good lunch – something different.
 - x) Could use a newer hotel/outgrowing the hotel - 4
 - y) Fajitas too messy in nice work clothes. – 2
 - z) Fajitas too spicy, no other salsa choice and was not marked spicy.
 - aa) Helpful if food was labelled.
 - bb) Rooms could be updated but they were clean and staff was super.
 - cc) First couple 'breakfasts' were nice but not very sustainable.

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6. **What other topics for sessions/workshops should our Association offer?**
- a) Writing bylaws, contracts, financial statement, grants --- where to find them, how to write them, what to include with grants. (6)
 - b) Zoning amendments
 - c) How can I organize by office/time better
 - d) “Everything you need to know about municipal administration but were afraid to ask”/sessions for new administrators. - 4
 - e) Landfills
 - f) More management training
 - g) Council knowing their roles.
 - h) Code of Ethics to include Council’s attitude/relationship to/with CAO
 - i) Guidelines for performance review of CAO to not include bullying & pointing out mistakes Council is off the street-what do they know?
 - j) Fundraising ideas for WTP or other large expenditures.
 - k) Regional ideas provincially for lagoon, WTP.
 - l) “working with difficult people”, constructive criticism, conflict resolution - 2
 - m) Stress management. - 3
 - n) LAFOIP Updates; Social media; advertising; asset management.
 - o) How to deal with hard times/recession.
 - p) How to make tenders and award. - 2
 - q) Labour/Payroll – details on payment of seasonal employees re: lifeguards
 - r) How to improve/manage work-life
 - s) Governance training/awareness to help empower/understand-show examples of success.
 - t) General question and answer with Minister Gov’t Relations (or senior staff) and Ombudsman Office.
 - u) Have Laurie Ann do a HR session each convention (ie: session on interviewing).
 - v) Council vs Manager roles
 - w) Local improvement process
 - x) More government – municipal – dealing with Federal.
 - y) Legal contract writing workshop
 - z) Human Resources - 5
 - aa) How a proper meeting should be run.
 - bb) Council vs Manager role after election.
 - cc) Running Council meetings-procedure/how to do proper minutes. - 3
 - dd) List (by region) of building inspectors, lawyers (specializing in municipal affairs).
 - ee) Preparing for yearend audit/budget/keeping your accounts balanced/tips & tricks.
 - ff) Tours in Saskatoon.
 - gg) Open sessions with advisors or other panel type format.

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7. My overall rating of the Conference was:

- 46) Good
- 45) Excellent
- 4) Satisfactory
-) N/A
-) Poor
-) Very Poor

8. Other Comments:

- a) Would be great to have a class that's for new-ish administrators (under 5 years) on things that you didn't learn in LGA.
- b) Like that it's all under the 'same roof'. No travelling to other facilities for conference.
- c) Get the presentations-power points emailed or on website. - 3
- d) Where was the fruit/muffins on Weds morning; where were the cinnamon buns Thurs morning-2; would be nice to know where the hospitality room is.
- e) If we are planning to join with urban & rural, we need to make boundaries for divisions more similar.
- f) Thursday free evening a good idea.
- g) Suggestion for tour – Black Fox Distillery on Valley Road in Saskatoon.
- h) Karaoke at hotel!!/ DJ Cam Zoeller - 2
- i) I have learned more about my job this week than I have so far in my LGA courses. The presentations were very valuable to a new administrator. I also felt very welcomed from the moment I walked into the room every person was very open and friendly. The executive went above and beyond to ensure I felt comfortable and was included in all aspects of the convention. I have made invaluable connections and new friendships.
- j) Thank you for all your hard work. - 2
- k) Some way to help networking between communities of similar size? Some form of introducing all attendees?
- l) Thank you. Really value this convention and all you do for us. It's great that someone is looking out for us.
- m) Request presentation be printed three to a page to have room for notes.
- n) More screens
- o) Food choice for Tuesday social & Wednesday lunch were not good.
- p) Run election of executive more along the lines when everybody has a chance. Need to look into bullying –not only Council but the rate payers-getting worse. Good to know what UMAAS executive is working on & update our members more. Communication is key. We elect our reps for a reason=representation & information to be sent out to members. Professional behavior is nice too...it is an association.
- q) Have seminars print out available to print before convention. More beneficial to have papers to follow and just add notes instead of trying to write everything. - 2

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9. Preferred Convention Location

55) Saskatoon 12) Regina 3) Alternate 5) Either 1) Moose Jaw

10. I have used the UMAAS Website in the past year Yes 82 No 4

Suggestions for improvement of the Website:

- a) Resource library of bylaws & policies.
- b) More information --- needs to be the go to place for detailed info; needs improvement.
- c) Convention information a bit more central.
- d) Resource library – sometimes gov't website is difficult to navigate – UMAAS is much easier.
- e) Update more often - 2
- f) Find it awkward to use.
- g) Convention presentations online - 2