

Which aspect of the UMAAS Convention was most beneficial to you? Why?
17 responses
No answer.
Networking.
N/A
Kim Anderson and George Hleboff
NA
?
*
networking
Inspirational Speakers
Networking
With it being my first year, the networking and time given to meet and talk to everyone was great.
LAFOIP session
Information and networking
Division Meeting, trade show,
Networking, sessions
Educational components
Networking
Always the atmosphere for great networking
Networking is the best. A chance to meet and talk with peers without having to babysit council.

Networking. More specific time for this please in the future. Peer networking, division meetings Dr. David Siegal and Kim Anderson, most relevant to my position. **Education Sessions and Networking** Networking Everyone is great, we are a friendly bunch What is the question? Convention content was very beneficial The convention as a whole is beneficial as there us always something to learn. Even if you take back one thing, that's one more piece of knowledge than you had before. Networking with other CAO's is also always important, especially for our mental health. The theme of embracing the unknown was spectacular and most presentations that spoke really hit home and were able to tie the theme together. Networking is especially beneficial George Hleboff's presentation was the highlight of the Convention along with Diana Lee's keynote speach. Wednesday was really long Next years convention theme: It Takes a Team - How to bring Administration and Staff together Hotel was awful! dirty and bugs. Of the 15 conventions I've attended, this one rates up at the top. I was a great convention again this year, enjoyed the speakers and the networking. Yes definitely some good inspiring speakers. What's the question?

Over all was a great experience as a first time attender

Enjoyed everything, I liked things starting on time or earlier! The content was overall excellent. Last convention, will miss seeing all the familiar faces! Benefits of talking with peers and others. Key note speaker was not good - in y opinion her presentation was nothing to do with municipal government work. She was there to sell her book! Talking to other Administrators and learning new things to help you in your job. I always enjoy attendance at convention, unfortunately I had to miss a few events which would definitely have benefitted my enjoyment. There's no question. This was my first convention. I didn't know what to expect. Found it to be very helpful on many topics. Wished that I could have participated in some of the fun stuff but wasn't able to due to personal family matters. legislative update na Informational Just really always a valuable experience to talk to experienced administrators **Good Convention** I do not see a question here, only a star. I will say I thoroughly enjoyed my first experience and look forward to the next Convention. I am also grateful for the people that I met while attending. This year I was unable to attend the Tour, however I have many times in the past and will do so again in the future n/a I can't pick just one thing. I found several aspects very good and beneficial.

Networking, trade show, all sessions

Networking with other administrators. In a one person office you don't have anyone to bounce ideas off and having opportunities to talk to other in similar situations was amazing.

Fantastic motivational speakers this year. I believe everyone in the room felt included in their presentations.

As newcomer, the networking aspect was very beneficial to me. Great meet other CAO's from neighbouring communities.

connecting with others

-

Networking - learn lots from others

Networking - Finding answers to unusual situations with peers is extremely beneficial

Networking. Meeting other CAO's and talking about topics going on in their municipalities. Either learning from them or having the ability to help them if I have been through a similar scenario.

Governance related content

Networking (division meetings, events). The rest can be researched if need be.

Networking opportunities.

Networking with other Administrators

Networking, speakers

The sumassure presentation on the cybersecurity because there are alot of scammers out there to this day.

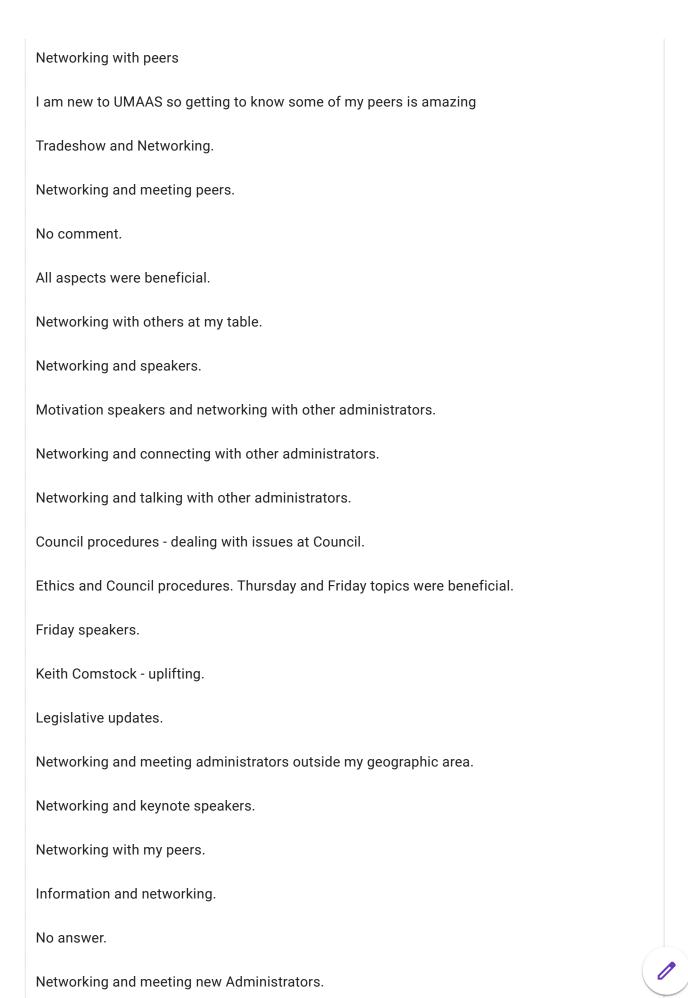
Networking. It was nice to meet other administrators and being able to relate to problems.

The opportunity to share experiences with other administrators.

Friday's Information Sessions where great as they were like attending local workshops.

Legislative updates presentation





Please outline any aspect of the Convention that was of little or no benefit to you. Why?
117 responses
No answer.
None
N/A
NA
none
n/a
No answer.
?
Saskpower
It was all beneficial
All had relevance.
Sask power- same info very vague, unreasonable
I felt a lot of the speaches were meant for Council and not Administrators, as we are aware and already understand the importance. Ex: conflict of interest and public disclosure.
None
Everything is a benefit - as long as I put in the effort
All beneficial
I found the day 3 presentations a little tedious; that being said I think there is absolutely great value in those presentations for newer administrators or those who don't deal with those

topics on the regular.

None. It is all good.

Would prefer one less presenter and more networking or tradeshow time.

The golf!

I always learn new tools to keep in my personal and employment tool box.

Dr. David Siegel - Repetitive content

It was all good.

SUMA/ SUMAssure/ Kinetic repeats

na

There were parts of this conference that were very basic entry level information and although important especially to new attendees I think the more seasoned attendees were bored. I'm sort of in the middle so did not mind the review too much.

The presentations from SaskPower, Kinetic, and on cybersecurity.

Advisory Services Presentation on Disclosure Statements.

I was expecting to have a lot more learning and mentor type presentations - it felt like most of the presentations were review and highlights of things that were pushed at SUMA and SARM and not so focused on Administrator's but more on Council and advisory items.

The Golf

Dr. David Siegel - Governance Presentation was very dry and spoke to all the same topics we learned in school.

SaskPower presentation - I realize it's a sponsor, but not really relevant to me.

I was happy with what was provided.

Dr. Siegel I had just took his course

Some of the presentations feel a little rambly, I much prefer the speakers, I feel I take a lot more away from that or the dialogue sessions

A couple of the Speakers were very dry and did not hold my attention.



I felt this was one of the best conventions I have attended so far. There were topics that I have heard before but I also realize that there are a lot of new administrators there that need this info and it doesn't hurt for us that have been here for a while to have a refresher.

It helped me understand a lot more than I already do but most was down south problems

SaskPower presentation

Public disclosure statements presentation

I felt alot of the information was not very valuable/ reviewed things adminstrators already know.

The LAFOIP was dry and added no new information to handling these requests

all good, usually do take part in networking afternoon

I had benefit from all in some way.

A few of the presentations were repeats from the RMAA convention.

I enjoed the convention

One or two speakers on pep talks is enough

The QUICK rapid paced sessions with many speakers was rushed and ineffective...found presenters even said they had very little time...less speakers more depth

None, I think it is all beneficial.

SaskPolytech update

repetitive

everything had some benefit

SaskPolytech program as it is currently not recognized for our certification

This being my first Convention. I think that all content was beneficial to help myself grow in my position, and give me that outlet in the way of another Administrator to talk to if needed.

Everything was pertinent this year



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I don't golf. Other than that nothing else.

I feel all was pretty beneficial, maybe information is becoming a little repetitious from year to year

As a first timer, I found every aspect to be extremely beneficial.

Sorry too old for the basic presentation on council governance and CAO relationship.

I found that there was something to take away from most of the speakers. So - none.

too much trade show time. too many breaks. make 2 days not 3

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The golf and tours

motivational speakers

Keynote - was just not relevant for me.

All aspects of the Convention have benefits.

It is all beneficial

Governance, recently went to a similar one day session so was repetetive

The saskpower presentation was not the best. It did not apply to us as administrators.

The David Siegel presentation could be something that would be better suited for SUMA

nothing really

All the presentations and the updates were very helpful.

The Keynote speakers took up too much time.

George hieboff as awful as a speaker

Government Relations Advisory Services reading off a presentation does not benefit me in anyway, I can read a power point presentation too!



It was terrible presentation by SUMA Jean-Marc Nadeau, should have invited someone in his place who could attend.
Some of the speakers were boring and dry.
Thursday afternoon - not a golfer nor tour attendee.
Some that were repeated from the RMAA Convention.
No comment.
All aspects were beneficial.
None.
All information is good.
No comments.
SaskPower and George Hleboff.
SUMA and SUMAssure - everyday stuff.
Some items are not needed as the tasks are already completed. But refreshers are also good.
No comments.
None.
Governance presentation was good but we know this, Council does not.
Governance.
Tradeshow. Same vendors as at SUMA.
SaskPower presentation.
It's all good.
SaskPower.
All is good.

What suggestions do you have to improve the UMAAS Convention? 117 responses No suggestions. No answer. none None N/A Very comfortable at convention More relevant topics Include the PowerPoint presentations digitally within the agenda sometimes it's hard to read on the big screens Some structured ice breakers that forces you to meet new people. Team building type activities, karaoke night, personality analysis workshops I'd like to see speakers who address the issues that we face as administrators and possible solutions. Also, just want to say that though mental health is extremely important, it can be triggering, so perhaps having a mental health councillor available would be a good idea. And one more thing, even though it's nice to have a free networking evening, it would be nice to have an option to attend something that evening, especially for those who don't want to stay at the bar after supper, or don't really know anyone to have a "network" evening with. In my opinion, prizes should not include alcohol, now that cannabis is legal, it could be given out the same way but not everyone partakes. I wish it was one day longer Make sure the presentations don't go over an hour ... sitting and listening can be tiring Wednesday meetings end around 4

Convention is great - the atmosphere is always wonderful. I wonder if different breakout

sessions might be a thing on day 3? Also, if you're considering karaoke, I'm in!



We are paper people. The code was nice but the agenda on paper is what is preferred.

Think about moving golf/tour to Tuesday afternoon. Thursday seems like a lost day.

it is too spread out, golf/on the go tour should take place Tuesday afternoon, Wednesday/Thursday could be full days and it would only take away 2 days of your time if you don't want to take part in the extra curriculars.

I would love to see further in-depth training on LA FOIP.

Could have experienced CAOs present some "best practices" or "good experiences" that they had. Always enjoy the down to earth conversations more than the guest speaker information pieces.

Have specific breakout sessions. If the topic does not pertain to you then you can attend one that does.

Different hotel. Closer golf course location

New venue

Move hotels!

Move the BBQ back to the golf course instead of being at the RedZone. I felt it was too late by the time we ate. I would rather eat right after golfing.

Shorten by one day. Possibly smaller one person offices might be able to attend if it was shorter. Maybe do something different instead of golf/tour. How about escape room? or axe throwing? scavenger hunt?

Absolutely no changes required. The committee spends a lot of time and work putting this together for all of us and it is greatly appreciated.

Presenters need to keep up to date with what is happening in local government a the time of their presentation

I would hope to see educational items such as George Hleboff's presentation. Items like conflict resolution and building emotional intelligence and other key aspects of filling an administrator's roll.

Would like to see the Golf and Tour on first day as an option

How to support administration in the avenues they need to look at when dealing with harassment, difficult councils, project management, asset management, and capital planning.

different hotel..

I'd like a different venue. While Travelodge is cost effective and central, I really don't feel that safe walking the dogs

Change of venue.

Better hotel facilities

Have the Board communicate with SARM, SUMA, RMAA as a lot of the content tends to be on repeat and some of us are paying for the same thing twice.

I would like to see more learning opportunities with smaller groups. I feel that a lot of the content, while important, is the same from year to year. Having smaller sessions that say speak to utilities, transportation, etc. would be so beneficial as we can learn from each other's trials and errors.

Different location

Just little things like having juice for breakfast for those of us that don't drink tea or coffee. I only saw juice out once. For the coffee break to have something that is different from the left over breakfast. Otherwise the meals were pretty good.

One thing that is really annoying is the phones that are ringing or dinging and people talking at the tables while someone is speaking. It is rude and I did look at some at my table but they didn't get the hint. It is one thing to make a comment to your neighbor about something that was said from the speaker but leave it as a comment and not start a conversation with it. Some people have voices that can be heard from a few tables away. It isn't right for people in our profession to have to be told to be quiet and to put your phones on silent.

We need bigger coffee cups no I'm just kidding it was a great experience met a few people!

Nothing

Less keynote/lengthy speakers, I think one really good keynote and the rest of the content could be updates/education on municipal topics. Not long enough breaks between speakers, not enough division time (ours spent the hour on only 1-2 topics). I would also like each day to begin at the same time. I would also suggest sending out a package to all attendees with the financials, bylaws, etc because there weren't enough copies of the bylaws so we were being asked to vote on something we'd never seen.

I would shorten the conference, more beneficial training



Many of us experience challenges with our council. There was much discussion about the do's and don't of councils role but little on how to solve and deal with councils that don't know their lane.

keep up good work

Different time of year. Too busy in June with Resort Villages opening up.

Don't hold the convention when Hail season is open - as a combined office I spent all Thursday afternoon writing Hail policies

The hotel is sketcy

Would like an couple of hours to discuss with other Administrators issues and concerns you may have with your municipality and have an open discussion on how to fix some issues or concerns. More than just the division meeting. Maybe a couple of hours.

Why not shorten convention by a whole day...Thursday afternoon events could start at 4 eliminating the need for Friday altogether

If the meeting info (bylaws, minutes, financials) could be sent ahead of time as a pdf with the conference registration/booking form/announcement we wouldn't need the paper copies in the package when we check-in. If we could have more workshopping than being talked at that would help, more round table or breakout sessions.

more time for open forum

different venue

Prefer industry relevant topics to keynote speakers.

Is there a different hotel is could be held at?

That someone is in charge of not having a lot of chitter chatter while speakers are talking. It is very distracting.

At this point, aside from a possible hotel change, I think the Convention was great and I look forward to what UMAAS comes up with for the next one.

Keep up the good work!

A new venue is needed

- 1. I do not disagree with sending out the convention package information out electronically, however, having a paper copy of the schedule in our name tags pouch rather than the QR code would be much much better!
- 2. Keep the start time the same for each morning. Having 3 different start times for 3 days is very confusing!

I can't think of anything at the moment. Maybe a questionnaire should go out prior about topics and what delegates want to touch on.

I would have enjoyed being able to split the group up by population size. I found one admin that had a similar population to mine and we were able to share a wealth of information and ideas whereas all the other admins didn't have quite as much in common. For me personally, I think a time for networking with like populations would have been very beneficial.

I think we really need to think about changing facilities.

Different venue?

too much trade show time. too many breaks. make 2 days not 3

Please set time aside or assign some seating during blocks of time where we can sit together with other admins who work in similar sized municipalities as each other. If you are new and want feedback specific to your community needs it could help to be grouped with others in the same size community as you are in. Experienced admins are very relaxed and know each other but for those newer it would create a more engaging enviro if we could break out into same sized munics at some point during week. Thanks.

Shorten the convention to three days with the option of tours/golf on the last day

More subject specific matter

Better registration process. Guest was not issued tickets and not on planning list for events. at registration. Lack of info about lunch arrangements for an event happening over lunch without a break for lunch. Lack of clarity about social programs. Small space / difficult to get a seat, especially if you want us to be networking and attending trade show and going back and forth from presentations. It is loud when seating near trade show entrance and hard to focus. More vendors for trade show (and of a diverse nature). Better overall convention facility. One of the best parts of convention is chatting with colleagues about issues, yet the division meetings are so short. This could be half a day, and then coming together to share issues and ideas back to the main group.

Perhaps a different venue.

Overall it is very good



Maybe a new location

Changing the location of the convention to a different hotel in Saskatoon that is not downtown either. The travelodge is not the cleanest of places.

None.

I think everything was very organized and easy to follow.

time allotment for guest speaker- an hour is too long

Have more workshops with handouts during the convention so it is more like a mini schooling session for administration.

Add little agenda card to go in back of name tag for years going forward, for banquet and awards list people in alphabetical order or go from 5 years to 40 years when retiring, also lost sponsors on cards in alphabetical order under gold, platinum etc to not show favouritism

Registration Ice-breaker on the Tuesday from 7pm should NOT be seated - this does not allow for networking with peers. Perhaps this should be in an area where there are high tables and everyone can mingle instead of being seated and not moving tables

Being my first year I was taking everything in so no suggestions

Speakers that can engage the crowd better - Lorri Nathewson.

Recognize first-time attendees at banquet before long-service awards. Continue with the orange tags.

More bars in supper hall. Open doors on time at supper.

All aspects were beneficial.

Move to a different hotel.

No suggestions. The committee does a great job.

Time to change hotels.

More vendors at the tradeshow and a better hotel.

Refreshers are always great.

No suggestions. I always appreciate the work done.



Interactive participation to engage people such as SUMA did in 2022.
Specific day to day duty training/sessions - ask what things administrators need to know more about.
New location.
No answer.
The Friday speakers should have been on Thursday.
No suggestions.
Have presentations and keynote speakers be more relevant to CAO's.
A change of venue.
6 more responses are hidden



What comments do you have regarding this year's Convention format?
17 responses
No comments.
N/A
No answer.
good
Very Good
None
None.
No comments.
It was overall good. I wasn't sure what to expect as it was my first year
Overall a positive experience.
It was really good the venue was awful
Excellent format
It was very good!
Very good
No comment
Aside from my minor comment above re day 3, I thought it was great overall
Nothing. It was great.
Was great. Congrats to all involved.
same as above. also more informative/training presentations.

It was great.

Overall good - have come a lot of years and thought it was better than many

Format was very well laid out

Find a golf course closer to the city, a 45 minute drive seems long when there are so many golf courses to choose from.

Great format. Filled with content

It was good

I thought the format was good

Although I enjoyed the short presentations, there are more breaks needed. Even to get up and walk around the room. Wednesday afternoon was too long.

Format was good

Good flow and plenty of time to network

would like to see the golf and tour separate from convention

Get back to a Thursday night get together, even if turns out to be small event or whatever, tour and golf can mingle there after their events are done. Golf was very rushed and BBQ was missed.

It was such a great time, I always leave with great memories, more networking contacts, and interesting perspectives. Lovely and Jason crushed it out of the park! Great work you guys.

it was put together great.

The mental health aspect was great. Those 2 sessions changed my life. No joke.

The format was fine, seemed to flow well.

The hotel is in a bad neighborhood and the rooms were dirty.

In my opinion the speakers and dialogue are the most attention grabbing and for that reason I feel like some of the short presentations would be better to do at the start of the convention while energy is still high. It's a great week of Networking, but often leads to late nights. Some of the presentations aren't as relevant to all and can make that portion of convention long.



I beleive it worked for what was all planned.

Very well organized. Liked having a full agenda

I liked the Thursday supper, however it should have been mentioned that the food was going to be steak, potatoes, etc. There were some that didn't go and when they found out what the meal was, they were wishing they would have gone. There was also steak left over and we were asked if we wanted seconds. If the meal was counted for all those attending convention and several not attending then that would have been a waste in \$ for those not attending. I would definitely like this again for future years. The networking was great with it but have a list where people can sign that don't want to go so there isn't wasted food.

None

It was very good.

The tradeshow space was too small, not enough room to move through the space. Maybe we've outgrown that area?

na

Great Format!

It was okay. Thursday seemed like a wash as I didn't attend golf or tour but was on my laptop working in my hotel room. Again too busy this time of year.

The format was overall very good.

Well set up

Sloppy - sorry - not enough agendas for everyone at the start...no advance information circulated prior to the event...annual meeting over before it even started...how do we make motions on something we have not seen or those who had it in their hands only had it for 15 minutes....started the convention a half hour before it was supposed to start Wednesday... Regional meetings - can we have an agenda for these? An agenda each region follows...and we could dedicate far more time to these BEFORE the annual meeting...kind of like SUMA...section meetings are before the annual meeting so that regional or section issues can be brought forward.

Format worked good. Thursday could have had the nutrition break between the two speakers. Dr Siegel is not a particularly engaging speaker and Georgie is a hard act to follow. A break between the two then just a quick 4th quarter stretch not a full break in the final slot that dr Siegel had would be more suitable. That was a long time to be expected to continue sitting.



it was ok
Fine
I liked the gathering at the red zone after the networking activities.
The format was well laid out. I would prefer to have the sessions all done together and then the golf/tour on it's own day so people can get back to work or home if needed if not attending those events.
First year, no comments really. Everyone was great and I enjoyed my first Convention and looking forward to the ability to attend again.
Great job
Excellent, as always
*
I found the format totally fine.
I think the format was really good - a really small consideration might be to split up "longer" speakers. For example, Diana Lee was the only person on the Wednesday agenda but George Hleboff and David Siegle were both on Thursday morning. Interspersing the "shorter" presentations with the keynote speakers might have given more variety. And having made this suggestion, I understand that UMAAS was probably working within everyone's hectic schedules.
Great program, however, the interaction with the trade show has always needed a fresh approach.
-
N/a
great as usual
no comment

See above

It was fairly full with limited time for the speakers. Perhaps better spacing.
Very well put together and organized
Format pretty good, seem to have good flow
It was good all around!
The format was very good.
format was good
Excellent
all good
Was great as was
Format was OK
I liked the break with the golf/tour in the middle of the convention RMAA does theirs at the beginning.
I came late on Tuesday and could not find anyone that was to be in a meeting room downstairs, I am not sure if they were running late or shat. I finally left.
Bring back trade show exhibitors parade time on the agenda.
Maybe host a more involved evening on the second night.
All aspects were beneficial.
It is always good. Perhaps we could have breakout sessions.
Accurate.
The most valuable topics/speakers were Friday morning and everyone was rushed.
I enjoyed the BBQ supper at the Red Zone. It gave another opportunity to interact.
Format is good.
Really enjoyed supper after the networking afternoon.

Very nice. The QR code for the agenda was nice but the page was a little too busy. Make it simpler.

It was good but we needed more breaks on Thursday as it was too long to sit and listen.

It was fine, although I would love to finish on Thursday.

The agenda did not have information on the topics of presentations.

It was behind schedule.

No answer

Short info sessiona and transition betwen presentations makes for a long, drawn-out afternoon.

Good format although lots of information at times.

Well done.



Any comments regarding the Convention facilities? 117 responses No No comments. no none No answer. No comments. Very Good Room Cleanliness It isn't the cleanest hotel and we did see a mouse run across the floor in the bar beside the check in counters and the floor in my room was pretty dirty Ok. Would rather have a facility without a pool to keep noise level down. Gross, service was very bad, rooms were dirty, stained, smelly. Washrooms were dirty and the tubs were filthy. There was a mouse in the lobby. Food was not great and the same lunch and dinner. Dated and crowded, rooms are awful. Good, I like the option of using the pool, location it easy to find, I had a great room, and I had good parking. Run down. Not really clean. Mouse in lounge. Bugs in rooms

It was terrible. Dirty rooms. Smears on the walls and door frames I cleaned myself. No one cleaned my room the first day. Never made my bed (I make my own anyway but still). I was standing in 8 inches of water after my shower. The hotel smells and doors were locked where they should not be. The glasses were

Facilities are good. Seems a little cramped for the trade show - not sure where else could

handle the convention as well as it does though.



Dirty. The location is falling apart and neglected. The staff was not friendly other than the bar gentlemen. The ladies at the banquet did not know what they were doing.

It is a dated hotel, but might be the best for cost.

Good, great staff.

The hotel was average - the food was amazing

I think UMAAS should look for another hotel convention center facility. Some of the rooms were not clean,had holes in the water, a motion detector in their room, fur on their floor, lamp wires burned, my door wouldn't lock twice because the screws came out. And don't look underneath the tables in the room, you wont like what you see.

Poor

Like the setup

Food has been going downhill and cleanliness is questionable

A collegue had bugs in their room. The Travelodge is very difficult to navigate around.

Travelodge is less and less attractive each year. I noticed in the evening that there are more undesirable folks hanging out in the parking lot. I do have some concern for safety. Rooms were not as clean as previously.

Facilities were good.

Accommodations need upgrading; food was decent

None

Trade show was cramped.

hotel - poor - facilities poor

There were bed bugs found in my room. I would encourage UMAAS to keep the convention in Saskatoon but move venues, even if the cost is more.

BUGS! it was awful.

While I saw Travelodge made quite a bit of improvement, I still don't feel entirely safe.

The venue is really run down, my room was dirty. The hotel is tired.



Just not the best hotel choice

I think the space is fantastic. I do think it would be cool to explore other municipalities the way the SPRA conference changes the location. I also think showcasing our smaller municipalities would benefit their economies. We are a large group, but I don't think too large that some of our Larger Towns/Cities couldn't support. We might attract some more individuals to come. I feel like the city of Saskatoon doesn't really seem too flattered to host us year after year as they send no representation, so just a thought to highlight other communities that are around the province.

Could be better

They are good. However it would be nice to have a place that would have accommodations that would be less money. I don't know if something like the university would be able to do that, where it would be the dorm style room. Or maybe that isn't any more cost effective. Council understands the importance of attending convention but they don't like the costs included with it.

None couldn't attend was busy with work errands

It was very good.

Parking and traffic here are kind of a nightmare, otherwise its great.

the hotel is a bit run down

It was very nice to have most everything in one place.

The door for the ladies washroom could have used some oiling as it was a bit distracting every time it closed....

Try somewhere else besides the Travelodge - loud by the pool

The facilities were good, except the staff was a little slack on providing water to the tables and removing dirty dishes.

They we okay.

Everything was nice and clean.

Facilities are good as usual...kind of odd to me that some of the section meetings are in the depths of the Travelodge and others are held in the main convention room. Also the doors to the parking lot are accessible all throughout until Friday morning...they are very obviously kicking waiting for us to leave the hotel.



Closing the door between the trade show and convention helped immensely when convention was in session. 15 minutes for a nutrition break to get up and walk around and talk to vendors doesn't feel like quite enough.

different venue

Adequate an accessible.

Have there been any other options sourced out for hotel with convention facilities?

The facilities were clean and the staff were accommodating for gluten free item posting.

I did report issues with the room I stayed in to front desk. Light coming into the room was shorting out every time you turned it on, so didn't turn it on much. Light on desk had a very dim light bulb so working on some work I had brought to do on my off time was near impossible. The tall lamp in the corner of the room didn't work at all. There was dust and garbage behind the beds and the dresser, even a whole cigarette behind the tv stand/dresser. I found dry grass in my blankets that didn't come from me.

The Travelodge is not a suitable facility for our convention. As professionals, we expect higher standards than the hotel provides.

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I don't think it would be a bad thing to change facilities. I did not stay over night in the hotel but I did hear a lot of comments of the lack of cleanliness in the rooms.

Food was much better than SUMA.

N/A

The facilities were wonderful, meals were excellent. I chose not to stay at the Travelodge this year, but stayed with family instead. Next year, I think that I will stay right at the venue for more networking opportunities.

Time to change facilities, access to and from for activities is good but the room quality and overall appearance of the hotel has really slipped.

Some rather bad smells in the hallways, although my room was good. I did see pictures of others rooms that were not so clean.

choose a new facility. It was dirty, broken, run down. I WILL NOT stay here again.

0

A new facility for Convention would be the best choice. Would pay more in registration fees to have a better facility.

the facilities seem to have improved over the last couple years

It was a bit warm in the room this year. Other than that, everything was great.

food was good

See above

I heard many complaints. My room was clean and tidy. The hotel needs a major upgrade.

A different facility would be better

Didn't mind the convention space, hotel room wasn't that clean

The travelodge was not the cleanest of hotels. One administrator found male fecal matter in her room and the hotel staff disregarded her concerns.

The hotel was not the greatest. Run down, not clean.

travelodge is getting tired - food was ok

I really enjoy my stay at the Travelodge.

The facilities were horrible. There were stains on the chairs in the hotel rooms, my door had been previously pried open with a crowbar and would not close properly. The hotel smelled musty and moldy and set off a lot of peoples allergies.

Banquet staff ran out of food, never refilled water on tables promptly and rooms weren't the cleanest

Facilities were OK

Great food, Nice and clean, good sound

Travelodge is good. Needs better directions to navigate the facility.

Travelodge renovations may be required to continue the UMAAS Convention there.

Could improve.

The hotel is outdated. We need to switch hotels.



It is a good facility with excellent food. The Thursday BBQ supper was beneficial. The hotel is dated and the chairs in the conference room were quite dirty. Convention room was OK. Hotel rooms are shabby and dirty. We need a bigger room. The food is excellent. It is easy to access and there is plenty of parking. I do not like the poolside rooms. Very poor and quite outdated. Rooms are not clean, bugs on the beds, and a mouse in the lounge. Getting old but does the job. Not sure of the alternatives. Should consider upgrading. Facilities are good. Hotel is aged. Request that we are all put in renovated rooms. Travelodge is dated. A new location would be nice. We need to try a different hotel. They are getting a little "tired". Move convention to a clean, well-maintained facility. No answer. 6 more responses are hidden



What other topics for sessions/workshops should our Association offer? 117 responses No suggestions. No suggestions. No answer. If there is any way someone can speak about handling difficult staff member or Council members. N/A ? Communication, Social Media Infrastructure projects Minute writing and bylaw writing workshops, top 10 policies to have in place, team building workshop. Real life scenario, more legal advice More on community development, planning, basic knowledge presentations on water, sewer and transportation infrastructure. Local improvements steps, bylaws- in-depth how to do, HR • Harassment or boarder harassment from ratepayers and how to address them Recruitment/retention/training advice (maybe not administrator specific - ie training your accounts clerk; keeping your municipality attractive to employees/potential employees; alternate recruitment methods.

Dealing with difficult people. Tips on elections.

Conflict Resolution

Harassment, how to deal with difficult people, Human Resource Unknown Year by year could have discussion on hot button issues - example a discussion on golf cart policies would be helpful this year as there was a new law enacted. Mental Health/Stress Management Council meeting protocols Content for more experienced administrators in addition to new administrators Tax enforcement How to deal with difficult council/ratepayers? More information on LA FOIP More on mental health and overall positivity in the workplace. Off the top of my head I can not think of any. Lets hear more from the Minister of Gov Relations and let us ask him/her questions See answer above - more educational material for administrators and excelling in their positions **Building Bylaw** Labour law, contracts between admin and council, best practices sessions Project Management, how to properly use asset management, capital planning, and other items not taught in school. Encourage division meetings, much like SUMA does and have a networking afternoon.

I think the Committee does an excellent job every year.

I would like some back to basics training. Some of us have been around for awhile lol!!

Not sure

Refreshers or demos of payroll systems, Tax Enforcement, Policy building, Strategic Planning, etc.



Continuing with mental health in the workplace, and anything that us Administrators deal with throughout the year. Topics such as landfill, water treatment, managment practices, etc.

Staff Management, HR session, dealing with difficult situations/people

I would like to see a training session on budgeting. A session that would include the administrator and council. Something in the smaller settings that we would work through a budget. Lots of explanations on amortization, planning for the future, not being afraid to increase the mill rate and minimum tax so that there isn't a shortfall of money at the end of the year.

More training on governance with both the administrator and council. Some of the things that were at convention are things the council needs to hear as well

More positive and group on group functions

Tax enforcement and mediation

I would like to have the option to attend an education session for professional development as a part of the convention, possibly as an alternative option to a paid excursion.

I would have liked to dive deeper into LAFOIP

Conflict management.

Mental health tools and strategies - how to protect the mental health of Administrators that are under constant pressure of a disrespectful council.

unsure right now...always any updates or changes

Munisoft Training portion or classes if you don't want to go to golf or on a tour.

1. Payroll sessions may be helpful as a refresher or a new learning experience for new administrators. 2. Something on mental health [taking care of you and your staff] - often mental health issues are not talked about.

Presentation were very good

can't think of any right now.

Best Practices...why not tap into a few leaders in our association to lead sessions on topics that interest people...pre register for those sessions...we can have some of the "experts" that were there also at these sessions...a la SUMA convention.

I love the focus on mental health, don't stop doing that. Perhaps some workshopping on dealing with personal biases, identifying risks and how to manage them, sort of like maybe the



top 5 small steps to successful communications, some practical lessons in a workshop type format on body language would help a lot of people.

no suggestions at this time.

some topic about taxation process

resolution conflict

Bylaw enforcement tactics

maybe something on good job descriptions or adding KSAO (knowledge skills abilities and other) to job descriptions that covers expectations of decision making, time management etc so when there is passive aggressive push back from an employee you can refer back to the job description. Or when an employee is "loosely" fulfilling job description duties you have some backing to write them up to start the termination process. It just seems like it is very difficult to reprimand or release an employee simply because they just are a slacker on the job.

Enforcement options and more time for networking in groups.

Again, this was my first Convention and all the topics offered at this convention were great to me. So, nothing off the top of my head in the way of topics at this point.

Community planning specific to urbans (not RM issues) like zoning amendments now that their application is online. We do not have an OCP and may never get around to implementing one. Proper development permits and the likes.

Employment Contracts

*

I would like to know what the top issues are that Municipal Advisory get calls about from Administrators. Although it likely wouldn't help our own situations directly, it is always comforting/mind easing when you know you are not the only municipality dealing with absolute chaos!

Not sure at this time.

We struggle with Nuisance Abatement issues - dogs & cats, untidy & unsightly, dilapidated buildings. A presentation on that would be helpful for me.

We are a small town with failing infrastructure and financial needs - always looking for a grant! A grant writing presentation might also be helpful.

Some of the real nuts & bolts of day to day work - tax title property, Annual Reporting for EPT, budget, financial reports, etc. might also be a way for some with more experience to share tips and tricks with new admins.



I would like us to consider Sheldon Kennedy as a speaker at some future convention.

Leadership training, I really enjoyed the motivational speakers who had been administrators as their stories were relatable.

Offer more education session vs keynote speakers

-

Psychology based - dealing with conflict, personality typing, etc.

how to encourage volunteers to get involved and stay involved

discipline specific material

I understand that most of the attendees are smaller communities with very few staff. However, it would be nice to have some options or breakout sessions more geared toward those that do not process every function for the municipality (like disclosure statements)

All topics are good for a certain percentage of the attendees. No topic will please everyone.

Granting opportunities

Record retention tips

Having SAMA do a presentation on assessment would be handy.

Audit tips and tricks, year end tips and tricks, budget tips and tricks, day to day operations tips and tricks etc.

incorporate a training module

I think most of the relevant topics were cover and I know where to call or who to contact if I need further information.

i believe all the topics were covered at the convention

Policy drafting, Tax Enforcement Processing, Administrative Best Practices, Peer Network Examples of assistance needed, how to handle Council, Administrator wage negotiations.

T4s workshop and R0E workshops or maybe something to understand insurance policies better?

A good range of topics are covered



NA

Follow the Facebook Group to see what are the hot topics.

Conflict resolution - de-escalating the crazy people.

HR seems to be a common concern. Best practices for hiring, discipline, termination. Also, Bylaw Enforcement - without a BEO; planning and development, economic development, grant writing; dealing with difficult people; how to "train" your Council on roles and responsibilities, especially following an election.

Financial Statements - how to explain to Council and the public.

Suggestions for dealing with harassment in the workplace from residents.

New Council training - "in camera" session, LAFOIP training.

Breakout sessions.

Unsure.

No answer.

LAFOIP Training.

Taxation and bylaw enforcement with the use of different court systems such as the Kindersley Bylaw Court.

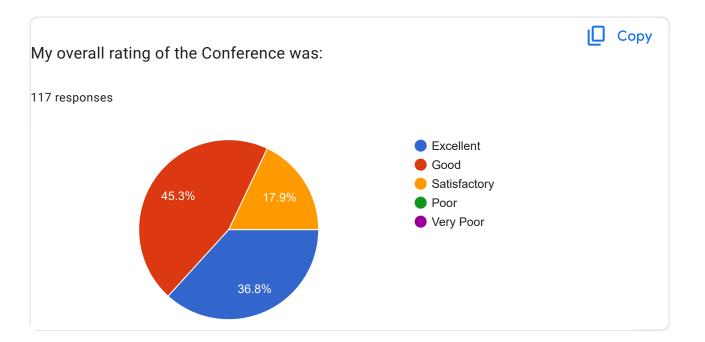
HR and payroll. How to do SETS/EPT.

Payroll.

HR; Leadership; Bloom - Tim Duhamel would be great for presentation.

Any topics to do with government and or training.





Other comments:
117 responses
None
No comments.
No comments.
none
N/A
n/a
na
No comments
NA
No other comments at this time.
None.
?
No other comments
Would like more detailed information regarding law and liability.
Please find a different venue
Why always in Saskatoon? I prefer it but I think it's more fair to alternate between the major cities.
None

I can't rate a session I did not attend - but had to put something in let me skip a review

I noticed many newer administrators didn't have a portfolio. Would be nice for the to have UMAAS Portfolios

Time to move the convention. More rundown every year. Maybe Saskatoon Inn ???

Thank you for all the obvious hard work that goes into convention every year - your membership appreciate it!

None. Other than find a new venue.

Keep up the great work!

None at this time.

Move golf closer to city?

new hotel venue please!!!

Na

I found it unclear if the red zone BBQ was for all or only those that went on excursion. I did not attend as I did not do the golf or tour.

Convention location - why only Saskatoon or Regina? Why not someplace like Waskesui or Manitou? Why limit to cities? There are so many places throughout our province that could benefit from our convention - Yorkton, Weyburn, Swift Current, Meadow Lake, etc. Maybe ask your members if they could accomodate a convention and make a list for consideration? If golf/tour is not an option you could still do hypnotist or comedian and have the golf/tour as a separate event.

Need to find a way to increase attendance

I made a comment that the mentors should have to go through a short week to month long course to ensure that their practices, experience, and information being given to new administrators is correct. Many senior administrators may be too stubborn to change with the ways and pass that on to knew administration. A good mentorship is the key to retaining administrators, along with Council becoming more aware of what their role is.

Has the Committe considered Yorkton as a location?

The only thing would be the venue that needs to be changed.

Poor hotel and food wasn't great

Looking forward to next year!!



Best convention yet. Thank you for the hard work of the committee to put this together. Regarding the convention location. I chose Saskatoon. My council would prefer Regina to avoid some of the costs. However, if it were in Regina, I would feel that for council, I would need to stay at home and not the hotel and drive in each day. That would be a big savings for council but I feel that I would miss out on the networking on things that are going on in between as I would be driving to and from.

For the brochure - it would be nice to have it so it isn't soo many pages to scroll through. I ended up looking at the paper copy and put it inside my name tag. I would prefer to have that sent to me a head of time and not the 14 page version.

Not really convention related but there is a lot of money in the Short and Long-Term Investments. What is the plan for this money? That should be brought up at convention or maybe in a newsletter. When we see all that money there, we wonder why the costs have increased for us to attend convention or membership fees.

Non

It was very enjoyable.

Thank you for putting it together, I know its a lot of work!

Very much enjoyed. George Hleboff was outstanding!

good

Food not that great. Never any pop.

Unfortunately, the registration form was confusing. Upon seeing the form, I assumed that if I wanted to partake in the Thursday events that I would have to pay the price listed. I am still not sure if any of those items were included in the registration fee.

This was my first convention. I thought it was well planned. The hotel is just in need of a lot of upgrades. I may be just fussy. I do want to note, that as a room of adults, the majorlty being women, there was way too much blabbing going on when speakers were speaking. I thought someone from the Board should point that out next year. If they feel the need to chat when a presentation is happening perhaps they should leave the room.

I had to leave early due to work but would like to see the slide shows from Municipal Affairs posted.

Would like to see major convention format changes in the coming year...those changes should not simply fall on the board...you might have volunteers in the association as well.

While I really appreciate the leadership in place...A LOT actually - doesn't it strike anyone else as odd that the association is predominantly female and the main leaders (Pres, VPres, Exec



Director)...and has been that way for quite some time...again no slant on those in the roles...l appreciate all of you/them...just disappointed women aren't stepping up...

Had to prep for a council meeting so didn't really get to hit Friday morning's action. I enjoyed Chris's opening president's welcome bit.

It was good

no

I really enjoyed the conference this year I thought the majority of the speakers and content was very good.

Thank you for all the hard work that went into planning the event

*

Thank you for having this every year.

Again, as a first timer, it was a phenominal experience for me and I will be attending every year!

NOne.

I really enjoyed the convention and getting to meet lots of fellow Administrators.

Choose a new venue. Very dirty and old. Many rooms with damage and generally disgusting!

N/a

I think the complexity of the content could be elevated to increase the return on value of attending and retaining matter

If we are going to be in smaller spaces and these types of venues, I could see that if we were moving convention around to different mid size centres. This would also allow for variation in tours and social activities. We might also be able to visit some of the communities where unique or interesting projects and works could be seen. Maybe sharing the contact info of all the registrants via an electronic networking means (e.g. such as SUMA convention), as it is easier to remember/look up contacts.

Besides the venue, which has served us well for many years, all is good.

I look forward to the convention each year. Being together and learning from eachother is very beneficial.



No

No other comments

Very good convention.

Congratulations to all the organizers. You did a good job!

Stated above

The tour was not very good.. more visiting with peers than actual tour, not worth the money!

Jason and Lovely id well for first convention in new roles. Juice or pop options at all refreshment breaks for non-coffee drinkers. Need to change hotels.

Alternate locations between Regina and Saskatoon.

Open forum needs to be longer to allow people to warm up to it. The convention program needs to be more compact.

Have the start time consistent every day.

Hotel needs an upgrade.

Thank you for this very valuable outlet for administrators.

Municipal Advisory Services would be better if they provide updates rather than "teach" material that has been around for awhile. The hours the the Advisors are available needs to be listed. I went to see them a few times and nobody was at the "office". The Open Forum should be earlier in the conference when people are more robust.

Open forum needs more time. Also any session on topics and issues that we encounter at work that help us to be better equipped to do our job would be beneficial

I really enjoyed that the speakers were different than the SUMA Convention as sometimes they are the same and therefore it is less desirable to attend the UMAAS Convention.

Move convention to a different venue. This is an old, outdated, rundown hotel. Meals were repeated with mac and potato salad for lunch and supper.

For location, Regina or Saskatoon work, but Saskatoon is likely more central to northern communities.

Dr. David Siegel is more beneficial to new administrators.



Need larger coffee cups. Preferred location is North Battleford.

Alternate locations between Saskatoon and Regina.

Needed more time on a lot of presenters. The Red Zone BBQ needed more promotion. Use Survey Monkey to determine location as Saskatoon may be skewed because the convention is always held there. Move golf and tour to Friday to be more like RMAA if people decide to opt out.

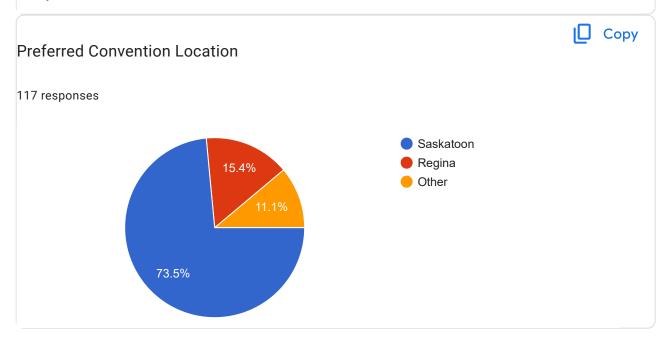
George Hleboff was good but the information was at too high a level. Dr. Siegel's presentation is more relevant to Council.

SUMA presenter was not here. Dr. Siegel was really good, but too long. We should switch the location between Regina and Saskatoon.

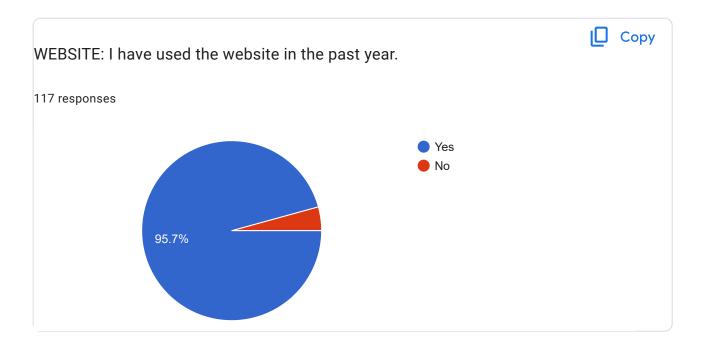
Some "open" discussion sessions on recurring/popular concerns would be helpful. Ex. vacant properties and each municipality's method of dealing with them. Location preference is to rotate between the two main cities and perhaps have other options once in awhile. Also, being new to UMAAS does not always mean being new to municipal government.

Well done to organizing committee. Lots of effort and time. Thank you to all organizers.

No comments. Location preference is Saskatoon but we could also look at North Battleford or Lloydminster.







Suggestions for improvement of website.
117 responses
None
No suggestions.
No suggestions.
none
No suggestions
No
NA
na
?
None come to mind
Alternating visuals on home page.
Update pictures of the board
Add bylaw samples
I know the site now, but sometimes find it a little counter intuitive. Maybe just a little freshening up of the site (cosmetic work essentially)? Content is great.
None
Looks good.
n/a

None at this time.

Modernize the links/ content Needs an update, looks old Wesite is ok While we do have the admin chat group I think it would be vital to include a document source spot for tried and true policies/bylaws/tenders/letters/motions/minutes/etc. I think you are likely already on this - I look forward to seeing the new look! I'd like to see a copy of all the presentations under the previous conventions tabs. From time to time I like to look back on something I saw/heard. The website is user friendly and I think its fine the way it is. **Different location** Have the registration forms email a copy to the user updated more regularly Not any at the moment. These are things that I think of later when I am looking for something. Maybe if it isn't on the website already, have a place where we can suggest improvements for the website or convention or anything else that comes up that we think about later. It is when we are doing our work that we think, oh this would be a nice topic for convention. Non Updating pictures to reflect current board and admin staff Website is great! not at this time Search field would be nice. The website is looking good. It loks ok n/a Just ensure the information is timely and up to date!

Not sure, updating photos? LOL
no
No suggestions at this time.
Better information on the Board of Examiners requirements for Advanced Certification
*
N/A
None.
Previously the education requirements, and hours required for each Standard, level 1 and level 2 were on the website, however I can no longer find them.
looks good
-
N/a
Website is good and easy to follow.
no comment
Keep going with the updates seen so far. Excellent.
Good information and resourceful
Not at this time
None.
It is very easy to navigate so I don't have any suggestions.
Document, policy and bylaw examples/templates for Administrators.
Great as is!

Add photo gallery for UMAAS convention photos - split into the different years of convention

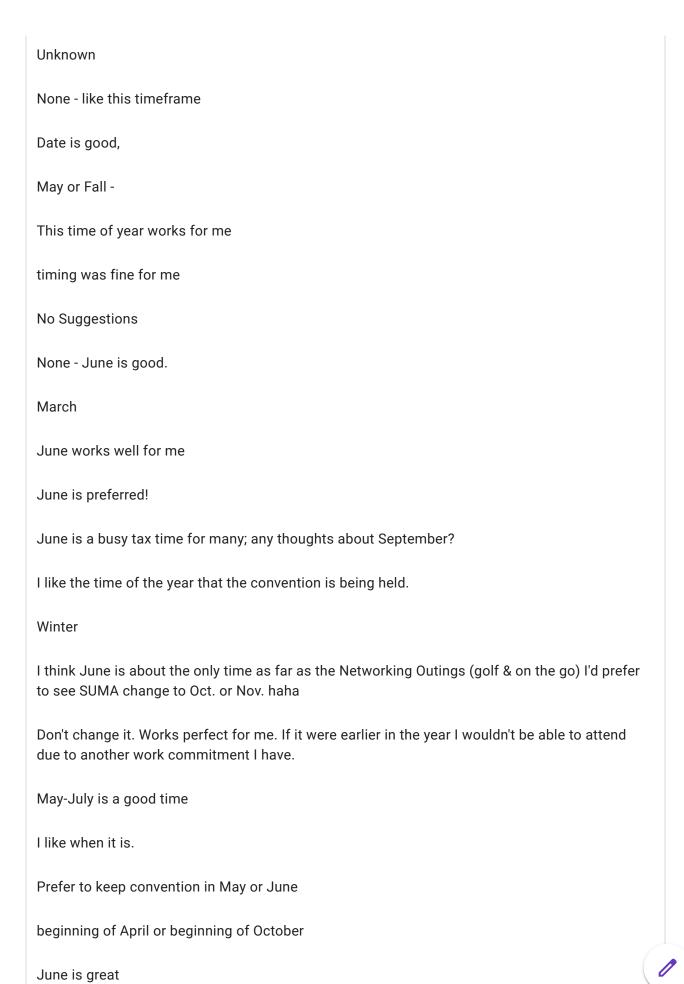
and/or other photos available to share



Still learning navigation so no suggestions at this time
It is pretty basic, maybe needs a general refresh.
It is good.
Needs a more modern and updated look.
I like it.
No answer.
It is not exciting and it is hard to find stuff.
Modernize and reorganize.
Well done.



Suggestions for alternate time of the year.	
17 responses	
None	
No suggestions.	
No suggestions.	
May	
NA	
June is good.	
September?	
N/A	
Timing is good.	
?	
Fall	
Same time of year	
June is a good time.	
I like this time!	
No idea just getting used to first week in June lol	
June is good	
Maybe in May, but June is preferred	
If not June, then September.	
n/a	



maybe 3rd week of month?? September/Fall when tax notices are wrapping up and seasonal RV are winding down. April or September/early October [June is hail season for combined offices] June was good for me. Its hard with all other conventions and commitments from work to pick a good time I like the beginning of June, honestly no time of year fits anyone better. June works fine for me the way it is, however next year it will conflict with another convention so may not be able to attend. August or September same time no April I am good with avoiding winter. September - Too close to SUMA now that it has changed dates I am ok with the time of year at this point. For me June is good, a slower period. Joint convention with RMAA There is no good time of year for municipal administration!! But I will say, I am not a fan of winter travel! I like the timing. I thought the June timing was perfect - no worries about roads or weather and not really into the full swing of summer plans.

None.

N\A
fall
-
September (June is too busy for many admins)
none
The time of year works good for me.
no comment
It might be nice to move this to late September, as the SUMA convention is in the spring.
No time will fit everyone. Our attendance is always constant which means the time of year chosen is not a huge deterrent to our members.
Maybe in the fall
This time of year was good
june works good
June works good for me.
July
No.
No June is good
September or October - later in the year is less busy
The timing is good.
Keep June.
It is good.
No suggestion.



Time of year is good.
Current time is good.
May or June are great.
Good.
Current date is good.
No answer.
September.
February.
Timing is perfect.
Second week in June.
June is fine.
Fall.
Early September.
April/May.
June is great.

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