

VIRTUAL Convention and Tradeshow



Frequently Asked Questions about Virtual Convention

We know you have questions about Convention going virtual, so we've tried to answer many of them here. If you have questions we haven't answered, please send them to events@munisask.ca. We will continue to update this document, so check back for new information.

➤ Why did you decide to have a virtual convention?

It is more important than ever that we connect and prepare for the future. Municipalities of Saskatchewan's Convention Planning Committee decided a virtual event would ensure the safety of our members while still delivering access to the education, networking, and advocacy components that make up convention.

➤ Can you describe what you mean by a virtual event?

This will not be just a fancy webinar. There will be keynotes, breakout sessions, networking rooms, and the ability to interact with other attendees and exhibitors. Elected officials will be able to vote for Municipalities of Saskatchewan's new executive committee and participate during our AGM, Resolutions, Dialogue with Ministers, and Bear Pit.

➤ Will the dates of the conference stay the same?

Yes, Convention will be February 7-10, the same as if we were hosting it in person. However, you can expect to see some changes to the schedule to ensure that the format of our convention works with a virtual experience, including education sessions provided on-demand and shorter sessions. By going virtual, you will also have 30 days

of access following the event to watch all on-demand sessions and recordings of live sessions. Though there will be recordings, we recommend joining online February 7-10 for events like Municipalities of Saskatchewan Executive Committee elections, our Annual General Meeting, sector meetings, resolutions, and Dialogue with the Ministers so you can participate in real-time and make your voice heard.

➤ **What about the tradeshow?**

You'll be able to browse virtual tradeshow booths throughout Convention and for 30 days following the event. Speak live with vendors on **February 8** and **9** between 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Be sure to check out the Municipal Marketplace for the opportunity to win some great prizes.

➤ **What is the cost of the virtual convention?**

The fee for Municipalities of Saskatchewan members is \$285 per registrant; this is nearly 50 per cent less than the in-person registration price. At this virtual convention rate, with no travel and accommodation costs incurred, you can have approximately five people attend for the cost of one person attending the in-person event.

➤ **Will there be elections for the Executive positions and how will it work?**

Yes, there will be Executive elections during Convention 2021. All registered elected officials will be provided access to our voting platform and will participate in a live vote to elect our next president. All elected officials from our towns and villages, resort villages, and northern municipalities will vote for their vice-presidents at the Sector Meetings. You must be a registered delegate and virtually in attendance to vote. If you are interested in running for any of these positions, contact Municipalities of Saskatchewan for nomination papers. Nomination papers must be submitted by January 24.

➤ **Will I still be able to participate in the AGM and Resolutions?**

Yes, these meetings will be held in a Zoom room where all elected officials will have the ability to speak when requested. All you will need is a mic and preferably a web camera that can be turned on when it is your turn to speak. All voting delegates will use the voting platform to vote at both events. If you are not an elected official, you will have the opportunity to observe these sessions directly through the platform.



➤ **Will there still be Dialogue with the Ministers sessions and the Bear Pit? How can I ask my questions?**

Yes, we are still planning to have dialogue sessions with the Provincial Cabinet and a Bear Pit. During the dialogue sessions, elected officials will be able to ask questions live. For Bear Pit, voting delegates, non-voting delegates, municipal employees, and members of New North are invited to use their smartphone, camera, or computer to video record their 60 second question and [upload it here](#). All questions must be submitted by January 15.

➤ **If I booked my hotel through your hotel booking site, how do I cancel my reservation?**

If you booked your hotel room in Saskatoon for Convention 2021 through our new hotel booking site Resiada (powered by Streampoint), there is no need to lift a finger, or a phone, to call and cancel. All reservations made through Resiada have been cancelled on your behalf.

➤ **I am normally a sponsor or exhibitor for the Municipalities of Saskatchewan Convention and Tradeshow. What changes can I expect?**

The great news is that the Virtual Convention and Tradeshow will have the ability to virtually feature and include sponsors and exhibitors. We will work in partnership with each sponsor and exhibitor to shape an experience that delivers the same or greater value as you would have at the live event. Please contact our Marketing and Sponsorship Coordinator, Lisa Rawlings [by email](#) or phone 306-525-4466 for more information.

➤ **Will there still be a Service Awards Ceremony and how will award recipients be recognized?**

Yes, we will still be holding a Service Awards Ceremony on Tuesday afternoon. If you are a delegate at Convention, you will be able to watch the ceremony on the Convention platform. A link will also be available so those not in attendance can watch a livestream of the ceremony on our YouTube channel.

➤ **Will there be an in-person Municipalities of Saskatchewan Convention and Tradeshow in 2022?**

At the moment, we are still planning to hold an in-person event in 2022. However, in-person events are dependent on what happens with COVID-19.

