



New North – SANC Services Inc.

Saskatchewan Association of Northern Communities
Administrative Office
320 Boardman St. La Ronge, SK.
Box 1018, LA RONGE, SK • S0J 1L0
(O) 306-425-5505 • (C) 420-5600

Membership Brief – Spring 2025 Update

The Board met recently to set direction for the months ahead. The meeting focused on leadership transitions, strategic planning, funding, and regional collaboration.

Board Leadership

Executive elections confirmed Rick Laliberte as Chair, Bruce Fidler as Vice-Chair, and Abby Besharah as Secretary/Treasurer. The Board also confirmed its capacity for representation as the SUMA Northern Caucus to chart the path forward in the relationship with SUMA. Lyle Herman, Member at Large for New North, is offered as Vice President of the Northern Caucus.

CEO Recruitment

The search for a new CEO is underway. The role emphasizes leadership, relationship-building, and advocacy for northern communities. The position is being promoted across multiple platforms, with the goal of attracting candidates with strong ties to the region. Interim administrative continuity is being supported by designated board members.

Strategic Planning and Member Engagement

The Board plans to begin a formal strategic planning process and is considering a facilitator to guide this work. Member input will be an important part of this process, with a survey or virtual engagement session planned to gather perspectives from across the North.

Support for regional planning and administration remains a key focus. The Board is exploring ways to strengthen village-level capacity, including support for the Northern Administrators Association and community-level services. Emergency planning, infrastructure, and collaboration across jurisdictions were also discussed as strategic priorities.

Funding and Reporting

The organization is preparing to meet eligibility requirements for upcoming funding opportunities. Priorities include completing financial audits and submitting a clear forward-looking plan. The Board continues to explore programs such as the Northern Municipal Trust Account and Targeted Sector Support (TSS) to support shared services and administrative capacity.

Looking Ahead

The organization is entering a period of rebuilding and opportunity. The Board remains focused on stability, long-

term planning, and strong engagement with northern communities. Updates will continue as progress is made – look for our invitation to a Mayor’s Meeting soon!