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For Immediate Release

SAMA Provides Stable Property Tax System

Neil Hardy, Chairman of the board of the Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency, says that SAMA will continue to consult closely with stakeholders and will listen carefully to what is needed to improve Saskatchewan's assessment system. He made the remarks at the annual meeting of SAMA stakeholders in Regina.

"SAMA is charged with developing, regulating and delivering a stable, cost-effective assessment system that is up-to-date, universal, equitable and understandable," said Neal Hardy. "SAMA strives to maintain effective communications and positive relationships with our municipal clients and stakeholders."

The Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency (SAMA) is responsible for the governance of Saskatchewan's property assessment system. As part of this function, SAMA coordinates a full revaluation of all properties in the province every four years.

SAMA is responsible for a \$160 Billion property assessment base, and a \$1.55 Billion property tax base. The Agency provides assessment valuation services to 756 urban, northern and rural municipalities. It is directly responsible for the assessed values of approximately 803,000 properties in the province.

"SAMA provides reliable, up-to-date property assessment valuations," said SAMA CEO Irwin Blank. "They are the pillar upon which local governments are able to provide services to their communities like water and sewer services, police and fire protection, community events and other necessary municipal programs."

Delegates to the annual meeting heard the annual report from the chair, as well as updates from representatives from SAMA's administration and from Prince Albert, Saskatoon, Swift Current and Regina, four cities that provide their own assessment valuations.

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