



2022 Municipal Summit

The Municipal Summits are statewide educational and networking events that bring together stakeholders in local and state government to share ideas and discover resources, coordinated by the Montana League of Cities and Towns (League), the Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority (MMIA), and the MSU Local Government Center (LGC).

Agenda

9:00 am	Municipal Government Overview – LGC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose of local government • Roles and responsibilities • Forms of power and plans
10:00 am	Protecting Local Decision-making – LGC and League <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview • Constitutional Values • 10-Year Voter Review Process • Local and National Trends • Talking points on local decision making
11:00 am	Ongoing Collaborations with the State of Montana – League <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MDT • Land Use • Water Quality Standards
12:00 pm	Lunch will be provided
1:00 pm	Financial Services Program – League and MMIA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxes • Finances
1:30 pm	MMIA Claims Process – MMIA
2:30 pm	Coverage Changes Affecting Libraries and Library Boards – MMIA
3:00 pm	Employment Practices: Employment Types and Wrongful Discharge – MMIA
4:00 pm	Adjourn

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Featured Speakers

The Montana League of Cities and Towns is an incorporated, nonpartisan, nonprofit association of 127 Montana municipalities. Organized under a constitution originally adopted in 1931, the League has as its sole purpose the cooperative improvement of municipal government in Montana. It acts as a clearinghouse through which the municipalities cooperate for their mutual benefit.



Major policies are determined by vote of the delegates at the annual conference, implemented by an 18 member governing body elected and appointed from among the city and town delegates. The League serves as an advisory body in contacts between municipal officials and state and federal governments. By cooperating through the League the municipalities provide for themselves a research program and a legislative voice which would be impossible for any of them individually.

Kelly A. Lynch, JD, AICP, League Executive Director

Kelly has more than 20 years of experience as an attorney and local government advocate. She focuses on collaboration between public agencies, the private sector, and elected officials with diverse backgrounds to provide creative, efficient, and effective leadership for Montana's communities.



She has served as Deputy Director and General Counsel of the League since 2016. Prior to joining the League, Kelly served as Community Development Division Administrator and Special Projects Legal Counsel for the Montana Department of Commerce.

Originally from East Helena, Kelly earned her Master's degree in Urban Planning and law degree from the University of California at Los Angeles.

Thomas Jodoin, JD, League Deputy Director and Legal Counsel

Thomas was the in the Helena City Attorney's Office for 15 years with 7 years as City Attorney. In that capacity he brought trusted leadership, collaborative problem solving, and advice to local elected officials, city staff, and citizens in all aspects of Montana municipal operations.



Thomas was born and raised in San Diego, California. He earned a BA in Environmental Studies from United States International University in San Diego and a JD, with a certificate in Environmental and Natural Resources Law, from the University of Montana School of Law.

Featured Speakers

Our mission is to strengthen the capacities of local governmental units and provide training, technical assistance, and research services to elected, appointed, and administrative officials. We work to support Montana's cities, towns, and counties by partnering with local government practitioners and their professional associations.



Dan Clark, LGC Executive Director

Dan Clark joined the Local Government Center in April 2008. He has been serving Montana since 1997. Prior to joining the MSU Local Government Center, he served as the Statewide Director for the Montana Horizons program from 2006 to 2008. Previously, Dan worked as a Montana State University Extension faculty member in Teton County from 1997 to 2006. During this time, he served as Mayor of Choteau, Montana for four years. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Arizona in Agricultural Education and taught high school agriculture for three years before joining Extension.



Ashley Kent, LGC Associate Director

Ashley joined the Local Government Center (LGC) in July 2014. She currently manages the certified education programs the LGC provides to local government officials and is developing new educational tools to enhance the LGC training offerings. Ashley earned her bachelor's degree in Business Management from Montana State University in 2012 and her Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Montana in 2017. Prior to the Local Government Center, Ashley worked in other departments at MSU including Human Resources and Institutional Equity.



The Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority has been supporting local communities since 1986. We offer affordable self-funded coverage for Liability, Property, Worker's Compensation, and Employee Benefits, as well as risk management services to the incorporated cities and towns of Montana.



Alan Hulse, MMIA CEO

Alan has spent the last 25 years working on Risk Management and Claims issues for Montana Municipalities, including law enforcement, public works, parks & recreation, infrastructure, contracts, special events and personnel.



Featured Speakers

Ann Komac, MMIA Claims Manager

Ann is the Claims Manager for the Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority (MMIA). In her capacity, she is responsible for the management of both the Workers' Compensation Claims Unit and Property and Liability Claims Unit at the MMIA.



Prior to joining the MMIA in August 2008, she worked as a Workers' Compensation Mediator with the Department of Labor and Industry, Employment Relations Division for 14 years. She also worked for the Montana State Fund from March 1988 until August 1994 as a Claims Examiner (3/88 – 9/90), Claims Supervisor (9/90 – 9/93) and Claims Manager (9/93 – 8/94).

Ann is a 1984 graduate of the University of Montana. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. She is certified in Workers' Compensation Alternative Dispute Resolution through the International Association of Industrial Accident Boards & Commissions. Ann's professional designations include Associate in Claims (AIC), Certified Insurance Counselor (CIC) and Associate in Risk Management for Public Entities (ARM-P). She is currently the Chair of the Montana Self-Insurers' Association's Board of Directors.

Britani Laughery, MMIA Operations Manager

Britani serves as the Operations Manager for MMIA. She has spent the last 20 years in the world of risk management and workplace safety including work at the Montana State Fund where she served as a Safety Consultant and a Project Manager for strategic business plan initiatives, and a Safety Professional in the manufacturing industry for Wilson Greatbatch Technologies in Carson City, NV, the oil & gas industry for Conoco in Midland, TX, and the construction industry for Granite Construction Company in Watsonville, CA.



She earned both her B.S. in Occupational Safety & Health and her Masters in Project Engineering and Management from Montana Tech of the University of Montana.

Originally from Libby, MT, Britani has called the Helena area home for the past 17 years

Derrek Shepherd, MMIA Human Resource Consultant

Derrek Shepherd comes to MMIA from the Montana Judicial Branch where he was the Director of Human Resources and Court Services. For over 11 years, he has worked in various fields of Human Resources including Employee Relations, EEO/ Civil Rights, ADA, and as an investigator for the Montana Human Rights Bureau. In addition to his Human Resources work, Derrek spent just over 10 years in law enforcement as a patrol officer, K9 handler, and detective for various agencies. Throughout his career, Derrek has provided guidance and training to people of various backgrounds in a wide range of topics and he is excited to bring his unique work history to MMIA and its members.

