



# RMAA Review

News from the Rural Municipal Administrators' Association of Saskatchewan

### Inside 2016 RMAA Review

Lou Jacobs Awards	2
Annual Survey	3
Welcome New Members	3
President's Message	4
2016-17 Committees	5
Membership Dues	6
Executive-Director Message	6
2016-17 Executive	6
2016-17 Division Directors	6

## Plan Now to Attend the 2017 RMAA Convention

The 2017 Annual RMAA Convention will be held at the Saskatoon Inn in Saskatoon from Monday, May 15th to Thursday, May 18th, 2017. As always, there is a block of rooms for our delegates and they fill up quickly. Please find a reservation fax sheet for the Saskatoon Inn & Conference Centre included in this package for your convenience.

As you likely know, our block of rooms is never large enough to accommodate our members so

we suggest that you fax your reservation back right away.

Reservations will be accepted on a first come first serve basis by the Saskatoon Inn so if the block is full, you can ask to be placed on a waiting list or you can look for accommodations elsewhere. If you are not able to book a reservation at the Saskatoon Inn there are a number of other hotels in the area that are quite close and convenient.

## Rural 'A' Certificates

We would like to congratulate the following administrators who have recently attained their Rural 'A' Certificates.

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>Sentura Freitag</b> | RM of Moose Creek No. 33                            |
| <b>Lynette Herauf</b>  | RM of South Qu'Apelle No. 157                       |
| <b>Jill Omiecinski</b> | RM's of Marriot No. 317 and Pleasant Valley No. 288 |
| <b>Vanessa Tastad</b>  | RM of Loreburn No. 254                              |
| <b>Shandy Wegwitz</b>  | RM of Sasman No. 336                                |

*Some succeed because they are destined to,*

*But most succeed because they are determined to.*



## Lou Jacobs Award for 2017

In 1972 our Association adopted a policy of giving special recognition to persons who have made outstanding contributions to rural government and community life in Saskatchewan. The **Lou Jacobs Award** is used as a vehicle for providing this recognition and it serves the dual purpose of also honoring the late Lou Jacobs for his valuable and dedicated service in the Department of Municipal Affairs for so many years. The bylaws of the Association provide that the recipient of this award be granted honorary life membership in the Association.

In adopting the program of making this award available it was stressed that it be a very special honor, with not more than one such presentation each year. However, the name of the nominee may be submitted in subsequent years if he or she is not selected on the first submission.

If you wish to nominate anyone for this award, please send your nomination to me as soon as possible, but not later than **February 15<sup>th</sup>**. A brief biography of the municipal career, activities and special accomplishments relating to municipal affairs and community life in Saskatchewan, should accompany each nomination. This will provide the selection committee with the information they require.

Regards,  
Janet Black, Executive-Director

---

## Past Recipients

1973	Lorne Wilkinson	1988	Boyd M. Anderson	2003	Sinclair Harrison
1974	Bert Sims	1989	Gerald Parrott	2004	Audrey Trombley
1975	Everett Murphy	1990	Doug Thompson	2005	Jim Angus
1976	William H. Howes	1991	Isaac (Ike) Thiessen	2006	Dale Malmgren
1977	F. William Pohlmann	1992	No Award	2007	Neal Hardy
1978	Howard S. Riddell	1993	James W. Nichols	2008	Jim Reiter
1979	E. A. (Ted) Walters	1994	Bernard Kirwan	2009	No Award
1980	Grant Drysdale	1995	Walter Manley	2010	No Award
1981	No Award	1996	Douglas Empey	2011	Ken Engel
1982	Alex G. Vetzal	1997	Walter Antonio	2012	Sam Edgerton
1983	William Kindrachuk	1998	Dale Leflar	2013	Donna Strudwick
1984	Clara Wiese	1999	Richard Sylvestre	2014	Graham McNamee
1985	Ken Hanson	2000	Edwin (Ebbie) Henry	2015	David Marit
1986	William Burbank	2001	No Award	2016	Kevin Ritchie
1987	Nick Bichel	2002	Murray Otterson		

## Annual RMAA Member Survey

Don't forget to complete and return your annual survey promptly in late January.

We will continue to use Survey Monkey to assist us in conducting our annual surveys in hopes that our overall response rates improve. The response in 2016 was 95%. Many thanks to each of you for making it a priority to complete and return this survey.



With using 'Survey Monkey' we will send the survey out to you in late January 2017. We intentionally keep the member survey as brief as possible so that it will only take 3 to 5 minutes to complete.

Note, that there will again be a question on the survey concerning retirements as we continue to track the number of Administrators who will be in a position to, or expect to, retire in the near future. Impending retirements is a statistic that we feel we must track on an ongoing basis. The summary salary information is also an important statistic that we feel we must track on an ongoing basis.

The summary salary data is also an important and integral part of the data presented when the Salary Negotiation Committee meets with the SARM Board.

Please remember that your individual survey information is kept *strictly confidential* but we do share the membership summary of results in the spring newsletter.

**Please remember to complete and return your member survey as soon as you receive it in January!**

## Welcome New Members!

We would like to welcome the following new administrators who have recently achieved their Rural 'C' Certificates.  
Good luck in your new profession!

<i>Certificate</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Certification Date</i>
1494	Karen Beauchesne	RM of Shellbrook No. 493	April 24, 2016
1495	Jane Johnson	Village of Kennedy	April 25, 2016
1496	Clinton Mauthe	RM of Orkney No. 244	June 24, 2016
1497	Dawn Oehler	RM of Stanley No. 215	June 24, 2016
1498	Raelee Boehm	RM of Lawtonia No. 135	June 24, 2016
1499	Melanie Huyghebaert	Village of Kincaid	July 28, 2016
1500	Aleshia Underwood	RM of Lomond No. 37	July 28, 2016
1501	Courtney Wiers	RM of Longlaketon No. 219	July 28, 2016
1502	Melinda Hammer	RM of Big Stick No. 141	July 28, 2016
1503	Pamela Bartlett	RM of Enniskillen No. 3	July 28, 2016
1504	Marianne Knaus	RM of Prairie Rose No. 309	July 28, 2016
1505	Julie Gillard	RM of Riverside No. 168	October 13, 2016
1506	Joanne Fullerton	RM of Glenside No. 377	October 13, 2016
1507	Alysson Slater	RM of Tecumseh No. 65	October 13, 2016
1508	Belinda Rowan	RM of Morris No. 312	October 13, 2016
1509	Christina Moore	RM of Round Hill No. 467	December 1, 2016
1510	Colleen Ferguson	RM of Rodgers No. 133	December 1, 2016

## President's Message

December 5, 2016

Colleagues

It is an honor to extend seasonal greetings on behalf of the RMAA Executive to all of the RMAA Members, your families and Councils and best wishes for a healthy and prosperous New Year.

The challenging implementation of Code of Ethics, Pecuniary Interest and Procedural Bylaws has kept our offices busy over 2016 - and essential for conveying this information in this election year. In my experience, Government Relations, and SARM have been forefront with the welcome and education of newly elected Councillors. Many colleagues have capitalized on training sessions to educate new and returning Councillors alike on municipal governance procedures. I know the 2017 revaluation will add another dimension to this education and bring many questions both of and from elected officials.

The success of the RMAA Executive is only possible with the exceptional dedication and effort of the entire executive. Welcomed to your Board in May was Division 3 Director, Linda Boser and Executive Director Janet Black. Gratitude is appropriately extended to Kevin Ritchie and Lori McDonald for their contributions to the RMAA during their tenure on the executive board, and to Jade Johnson, Division 6 Director, who has recently announced her resignation from the Board due to a career and life commitment in Alberta. Best wishes are extended to all of you in your future endeavors!

It has been a privilege and an honor representing the RMAA Executive throughout the year, and I am very pleased to announce my intention to seek re-election to the position of President. I welcome the opportunity to hear from members on an individual basis, and look forward to working with you in the New Year. Happy year-ending!

Best Regards,

Wendy Gowda, RMAA President  
306-286-3261 Telephone  
Email [rm339.2@sasktel.net](mailto:rm339.2@sasktel.net)



## RMAA Committees and Members for 2016-2017

COMMITTEE	CHAIRPERSON	MEMBER(S)
Asset Management .....	KEISIG .....	Johnson
Convention Sponsorship & Door Prizes .....	KEISIG .....	Lagrandeur, Dziadyk
Council Mediation.....	KEISIG .....	Boser
Board of Reference .....	LAGRANDEUR .....	Black (Secretary)
Golfing .....	LAGRANDEUR .....	Johnson, Boser
Legislative Review.....	LAGRANDEUR .....	Dziadyk
Humanitarian Services .....	BOSER	
RMAA Home Page .....	BOSER	
Curling .....	LUCAS .....	Johnson
Recruitment (including MAIP) Retention & Recruitment .....	LUCAS .....	Johnson
Training, MOU Education & MLDP .....	LUCAS .....	Keisig
911 Rural Addressing.....	DZIADYK .....	Elder
Local Government Authority .....	DZIADYK .....	Keisig
Resolutions .....	DZIADYK .....	Johnson
Rural Advisory to SAMA.....	DZIADYK .....	Lucas
Enhanced Benefits .....	JOHNSON .....	Boser
Mentor Co-ordination.....	JOHNSON .....	Boser
Board of Examiners (VP).....	ELDER .....	Black (Secretary)
Convention Workshops & Guest Speakers .....	ELDER .....	Boser, Johnson
Disciplinary (VP Chair) .....	ELDER .....	Keisig, Dziadyk
M.E.P.P. (Past President) .....	LEURER	
Salary Negotiations .....	LEURER .....	Gowda, Elder, Black
Executive & Finance.....	GOWDA.....	Elder, Orb, Black
Municipal Forum Rural Table (SARM Appointed) .....	GOWDA	
Municipal Programs & Services Steering Committee.....	GOWDA.....	Elder
Ex-Officio Director .....	ORB	

## 2017 RMAA Membership Dues

As you will note there is an increase to the membership, the annual fee for active members is \$425.00 for 2017 while Associate membership fees will be \$125.00.

We have enclosed a separate membership invoice as part of your package. Please take note of the change of address for the RMAA Office, it is now:

**Box 280, Neilburg, SK S0M 2C0.**

This is the only notice that you will receive for RMAA Membership dues!

For those who wish to do so, we will allow a two part payment. One half of the fee (\$212.50) is to be paid no later than January 31st and a post-dated cheque for March 31st for the other half (\$212.50) must be included.

We want to acknowledge and thank Councils for recognizing that the RMAA members fees fund valuable committee work that not only benefits administrators but also benefits council and their ratepayers.

We note that in 2016 the membership fees were paid for the Administrator 97% of the time by the RM Council.

---

## Executive-Director Message

For the members that do not know me, I have been employed in a municipal office for 20 years, the last 15 years as the Administrator for the RM of Hillsdale No. 440 and the Village of Neilburg. I will no longer be employed by the Village of Neilburg in 2017 as I have just completed training my replacement. As I worked with my trainee it made me realize how very lucky I was to have a mentor to train under for almost 4 years. There is so very much to learn in one year. I have also been very lucky to have Kevin Ritchie as my mentor in this new endeavour. Kevin has been invaluable in the transition, I know that I can pick up the phone any time and he will be there to give me guidance.

I have completed two executive meetings and by next year at this time I may very well know what I am doing. The Executive Board has made me feel very welcomed and are always there to help. I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe holiday season.

Janet Black

---

## 2016 - 2017 RMAA Executive

President	Wendy Gowda	LeRoy
Vice-President	Darren Elder	Marshall
Director Ex-Officio	Ray Orb	Cupar
Immediate Past President	Tim Leurer	Kelvington
Executive Director	Janet Black	Neilburg
Board of Examiners Secretary	Kevin Ritchie	Wilcox

---

## 2016 - 2017 Division Directors

Division 1	Sheila Keisig	Balcarres
Division 2	Guy Lagrandeur	Rouleau
Division 3	Linda Boser	Swift Current
Division 4	Fern Lucas	Tisdale
Division 5	Gary Dziadyk	Aberdeen
Division 6	Jade Johnson	Paynton