



RMAA

Review

News from the Rural Municipal Administrators' Association of Saskatchewan

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*At the timberline
where the storms strike
with the most fury,
the sturdiest
trees are found!*

- unknown

President's Address

This is my last address as your president and it is difficult to be addressing all of you with this abbreviated farewell address that was intended for the annual convention. It is with great respect that I am extending gratitude to Past President Tim Leurer as well as Division Three Director Linda Boser who will be leaving the board. Tim has served the executive since 2003 in the positions of Division 4 representative, Vice-President, President and Past-President, and Linda has served as Division 3 Director since May 2016, serving on numerous committees, and instrumental in coordinating the year-book, which you will be receiving with your SMHI supplies this week.

Formal recognition for Tim, Linda, as well as former Division 4 Director Fern Lucas and Janet Hollingshead, who left their positions in 2019, will be at the 2021 RMAA convention.

The cancellation of the 2020 convention due to the COVID-19 pandemic was necessary, but disappointing to the entire board, which had planned an event worthy of marking this milestone. Provision has been made for an electronic nomination and election process, as well as to conduct the business of the annual meeting later this month.

It is timely to reflect upon the initial rules and regulations set out one hundred years ago when our Association was formed, and which are in place today:

1. To work in conjunction with the S.A.R.M. in all matters of public interest.
2. To protect the interests of the Council and public by insisting on a proper educational standard for all its members and a high degree of honor and efficiency.
3. To mutually assist each other in standardizing the work, methods and forms used in solving questions arising from the administration of the Acts.
4. To secure a recognized standing of the profession and to provide means by examination for admission to the Association.
5. To obtain recognition of the importance and responsibility of the municipal secretary's work and to protect the members of the Association carrying out their duties in accordance with the law and the dictates of honor and integrity.
6. To secure for members adequate compensation for services rendered and satisfactory working conditions.
7. To watch legislation relating to municipal work and to suggest to the Executive of the S.A.R.M., from time to time, such amendments that may be deemed advisable.

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Additionally, our association has approximately 25 appointed committees providing direct benefits for members and municipalities. Individual director's will be submitting written reports of the work they have tended on your behalf prior to the annual meeting which is planned to be held in electronic fashion later this month. Questions come up from time-to-time as to what the membership fee covers, and it should be noted that the RMAA operates entirely from the membership fees and revenue generated from workshops. The annual convention continues to be provided with no registration fee due to the generous contributions from sponsors.

In closing, I am extending gratitude to all the current and former executive, the RMAA membership, and those individuals and organizations our association works closely with, for the respect and courtesies extended to me for the past five years. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as president of this association.

Respectfully yours,

Wendy Gowda

President

2019 - 2020 RMAA Executive

President	Wendy Gowda	LeRoy
Vice President	Guy Lagranduer	Rouleau
Director Ex-Officio	Ray Orb	Cupar
Immediate Past President	Tim Leurer	Kelvington
Executive Director	Rose Zimmer	Wolseley
Division 1	Sheila Keisig	Balcarres
Division 2	Mike Wirges	Moose Jaw
Division 3	Linda Boser	Swift Current
Division 4	Barry Hvidston	Canora
Division 5	R. Doran Scott	Bradwell
Division 6	Michelle Buechler	Paynton
Secretary to Board of Examiners	Jill Palichuk	Rosetown

Office Inspectors

We would like to acknowledge Donna Strudwick for her years of service as Office Inspector for the Board of Examiners. Donna thank you for your great work and the valuable contributions you made as an inspector. We wish you well in your retirement and look forward to a time when we can gather for a proper send off!

Replacing Donna is recently retired Administrator Gwen Johnson who is being trained by her predecessor. Welcome to your new role Gwen!

Gwen joins continuing inspector Terry-Lynn Zahara. Once the pandemic is over, these inspectors will have a lot of ground to cover to visit the many offices of Administrators whom have applied for advanced certification!

Professional Development Hours

Many of you are wondering how you will meet PD compliance if we can't get together for conventions and workshops. Continuing learning gives us the tools to effectively carry out our Administrative duties and responsibilities and helps us develop in our profession. The Executive stands firmly behind their professional development policy while recognizing the unique challenge that COVID-19 has presented. That said, for 2020 only, we will not be seeking PD hour compliance from our membership. However, it is strongly encouraged that you endeavour to seize as many opportunities as you can to further your development when the pandemic passes. Next year we will expect your usual high level of compliance!

Election Workshops

As you are all aware the planned in-person spring workshops had to be revamped due to COVID-19 restrictions. We were fortunate that Government Relations was able to come through to deliver the Election Workshop material in webinar form. The presentations were very informative and included a forum for real time questions and answers. Kudos to our Advisors for a job well done. For anyone that missed it or simply wants to review the material it is available at your convenience. The board feels that the content was very valuable and timely and will not be issuing a refund or credit for this workshop. The second part of the planned workshop will be presented at a later date.

Humanitarian Services

A Message from the Humanitarian Committee:

During this time of unrest due to Covid-19, Municipal Administrators can be thankful that we are able to continue working even if it is modified. Many families across Saskatchewan do not have that luxury. Saskatchewan Food Banks is one of our major fundraisers at the RMAA Convention and in the absence of the convention, we are asking every person to consider stopping by one of the 32 Saskatchewan Food Banks or visit <https://skfoodbanks.ca/> and donate online to the COVID-19 Crisis Response Fund.



Lou Jacobs Award Recipient

We are extremely pleased to announce that **Rodney Schoettler** has been selected as the 2020 Lou Jacobs award winner. Rodney is well known to the association and a deserving recipient! This award will be presented to him at the 2021 convention at which time we will recognize him in a fashion that is deserving for a recipient of our associations' highest honour!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

This is not the way we had envisioned introducing our newest members to the association but we feel it is important to acknowledge the following who have recently received their Rural 'C' Certificates and who are embarking on a new career path. We encourage everyone to reach out to our new members and welcome them to our association!

<i>Certificate</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Certification Date</i>
1567	Erin Simpson	RM of Loon Lake No. 561	June 4, 2019
1568	Tracey Schacher	On the move	June 17, 2019
1569	Laura Delanoy	RM of Laurier No. 38	July 9, 2019
1570	Sandra Silvernagle	RM of Biggar No. 347	July 19, 2019
1571	Brandi Morissette	RM of McKillop No. 220	July 19, 2019
1572	Krista Park	RM of Elfros No. 307	August 15, 2019
1573	Laurie Rudolph	RM of South Qu'Appelle No. 157	September 3, 2019
1574	Dawn Marleau	RM of Tisdale No. 427	September 3, 2019
1575	Pierrette Woynarski	RM of Emerald No. 277	September 3, 2019
1576	Bridgette Shwytky	RM of Aberdeen No. 373	September 23, 2019
1577	Andrea Smyth	RM of Willowdale No. 153	October 7, 2019
1578	Theresa Poschenrieder	RM of Grass Lake No. 381	December 3, 2019
1579	Kirk Morrison	RM of Meota No. 468	December 30, 2019
1580	Cheryl De Roo	RM of Walpole No. 92	January 17, 2020
1581	Jacklyn Zdunich	RM of McCraney No. 282	January 17, 2020
1582	Karen Smith	RM of Three Lakes No. 400	January 31, 2020
1583	Jessica Franklin	RM of Browning No. 34	January 31, 2020
1584	Kristen Wallis	RM of Bone Creek No. 108	March 4, 2020
1585	Jamie Mack	RM of Mount Hope No. 279	March 4, 2020
1586	Mylee Lamb	RM of Val Marie No. 17	March 6, 2020
1587	Shala Kanasevich	RM of Francis No. 127	March 19, 2020
1588	Jacquelynne Mann	RM of Kinistino No. 459	March 26, 2020
1589	Tracey Zweifel	RM of Hillsdale No. 440	March 26, 2020
1590	Keri-Lynn Hudec	RM of Fox Valley No. 171	April 30, 2020
1591	Sarah Dietrich	RM of Grayson No. 184	April 30, 2020

WELCOME EVERYONE! GOOD LUCK IN YOUR NEW PROFESSION!

Advanced Certificates

Congratulations to the following administrators who were awarded their Rural Advanced 'A' and Rural Advanced 'Superior A' Certificates this past year. Traditionally, the recipients of advanced certificates are recognized for their achievements during our Annual Convention each May. As a result of the cancellation of the 2020 Annual Convention, we would like to publicly acknowledge the achievements of the following administrators:

Advanced Rural 'Superior A' Certificate Recipients:

170 – Joni Mack RM of Viscount No. 341

171 – Adrienne Urban RM of Harris No. 316

Advanced Rural "A" Certificate Recipients:

975 – Raelee Boehm RM of Lawtonia No. 135

976 – Shanna Loeppky RM of Foam Lake No. 276

977 – Meghan Nickason RM of Monet No. 257

978 – Denise Ward RM of Milden No. 286

Due to the COVID 19 Pandemic, administrators who applied for "A" and "Superior A" Certificates as of the March 1st spring intake deadline, have not been inspected. Administrators who are awarded Advanced Certificates through this session, will be recognized at the 2021 Annual Convention.

Retirements

Normally we would recognize our newly retiring members at the Wednesday evening banquet sponsored by Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance. While we will include these individuals in the 2021 program we didn't want to wait an entire year to wish them well!

Kevin Melle RM of Lomond No. 37
Ellen Klein RM of Lake of the Rivers No. 72
Tamilynn Ritchie RM of Bratt's Lake No. 129
Mark Zdunich RM of McCraney No. 282
Alan Tanchak RM of Redberry No. 435

Peggy Tuchscherer RM of Key West No. 70
Deborah Saville RM of Walpole No. 92
Darlene Paquin RM of Grayson No. 184
Fern Lucas RM of Tisdale No. 427
Allan Frisky RM of Arborfield No. 456

25 Years Strong!

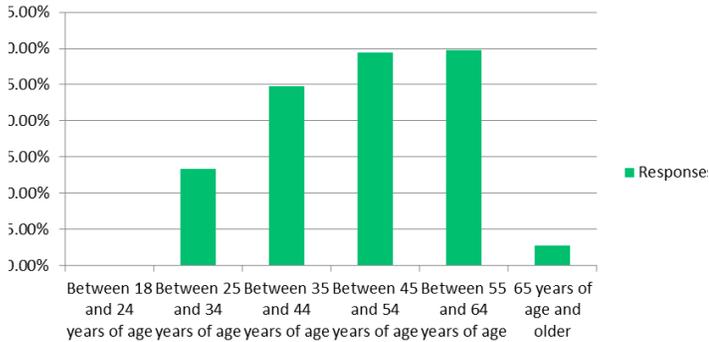
Congratulations to the following members who have reached a milestone 25th Anniversary! Once again, the following will be included in the 2021 convention program but we didn't want to miss this opportunity to say CONGRATULATIONS!

Charlene Loos – RM of Hillsborough 132
Trent Smith – RM of Eagle Creek No. 376

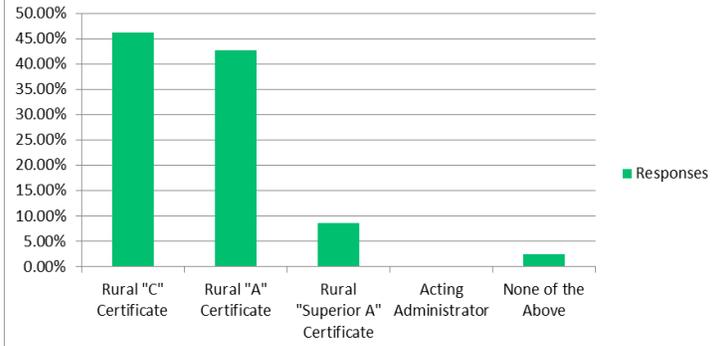
Rolande Davis – RM of Enterprise No. 142
Wendy Gowda – RM of LeRoy No. 339

2020 Annual Salary Survey

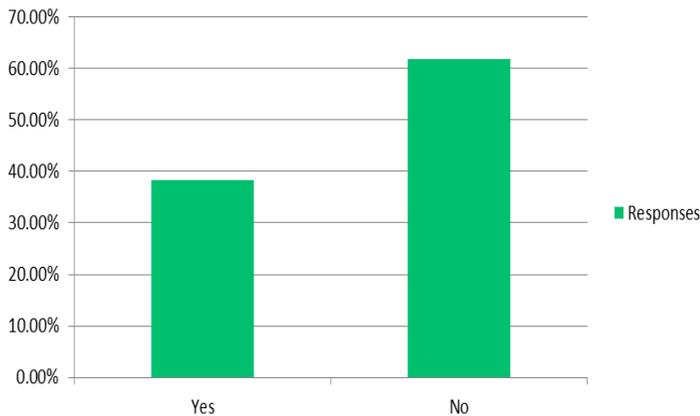
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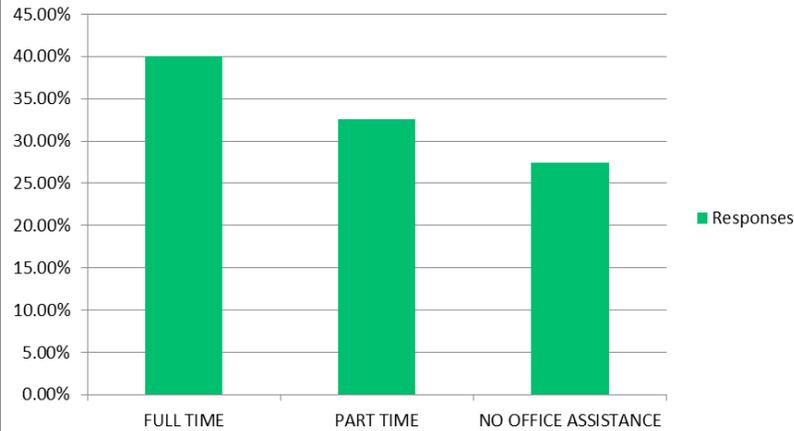
What Rural Certificate do you currently hold?



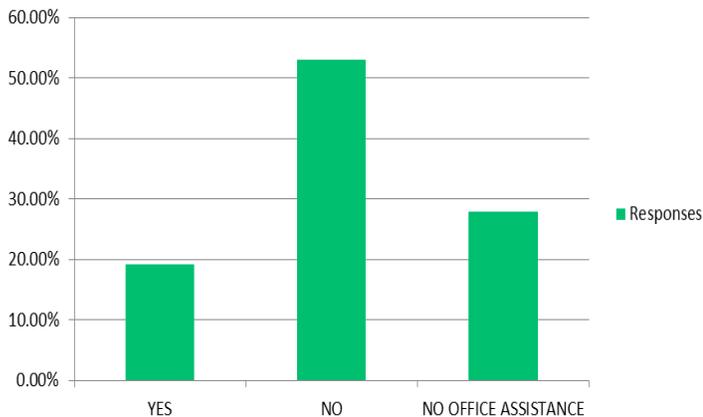
Do other R.M.'s, towns, villages seek to hire you away from your current position? (unsolicited by you)



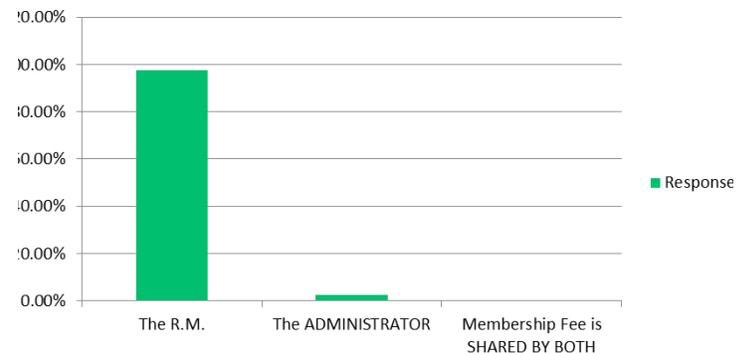
Describe the office assistance in your office:



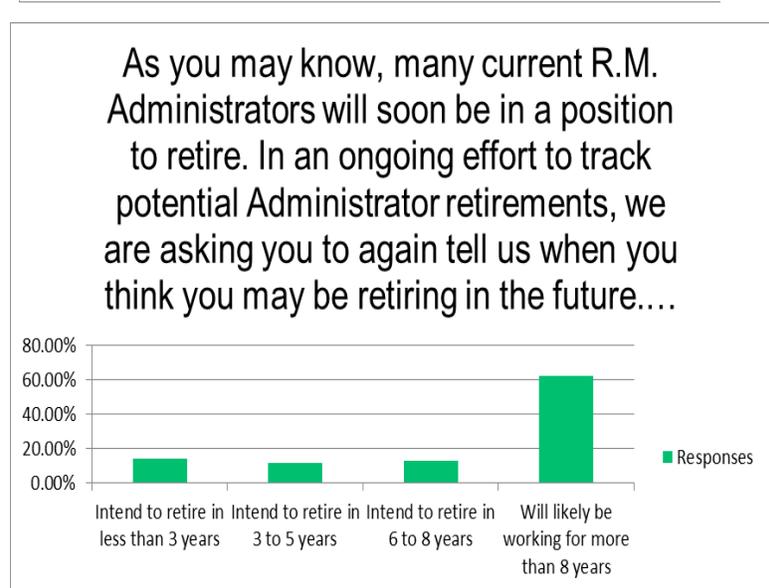
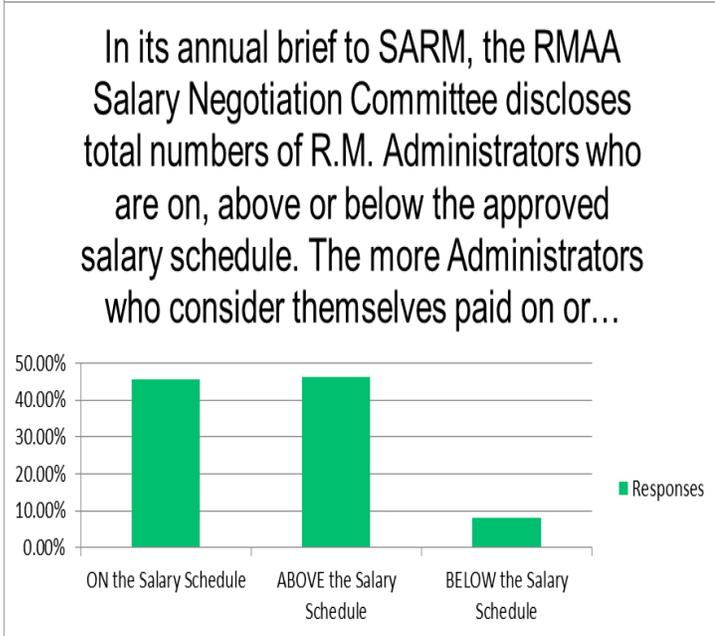
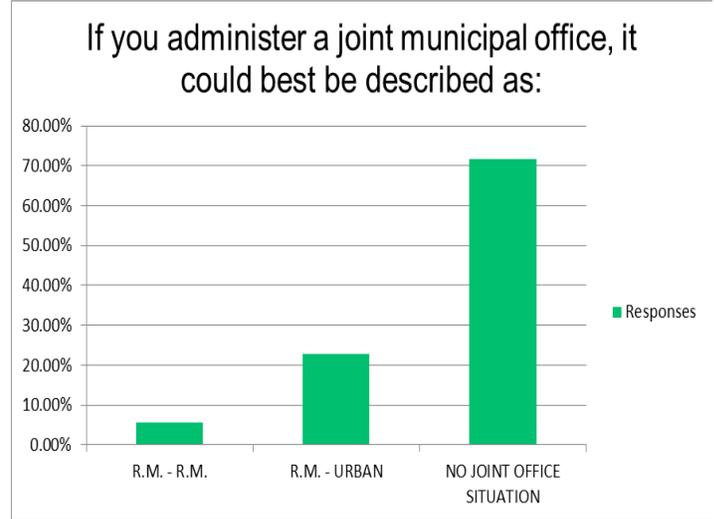
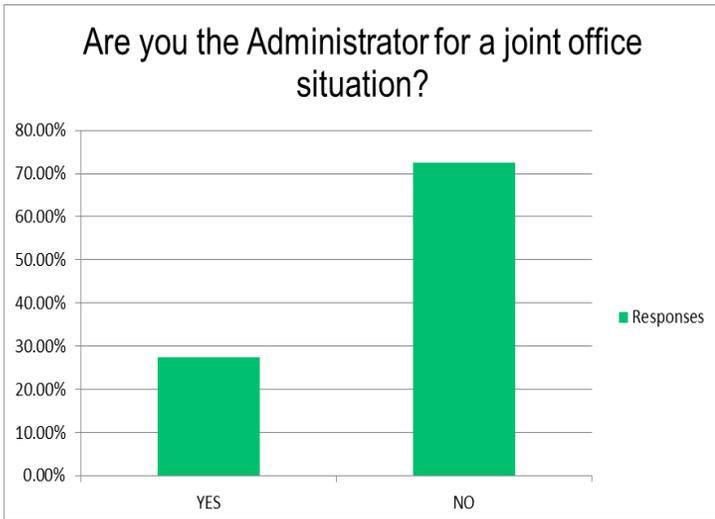
Does your office assistant hold a Rural "C" Certificate?



Who pays your annual RMAA membership?



2020 Annual Salary Survey Continued



WHY SHOULD I COMPLETE THE SURVEY?

Your time is not wasted...the board reviews the results of the survey and uses the information to compile data for the salary negotiation team, to gauge interest for future workshops and to aid in retention and recruitment! This year the board was particularly interested in many of the comments in the survey and noted that there was a common theme...Salary Negotiation. The board took this to heart and planned for a salary negotiation workshop to be held at the convention. Sadly this is on hold thanks to COVID-19 but it continues to be a priority for when we are all able to gather again!

Thank you all for your dedication and leadership! You are key sources of information for your communities and are an important and valued member of our association!