



RMAA

Review

News from the Rural Municipal Administrators' Association of Saskatchewan

Inside April 2020 RMAA Review

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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 Leurser | 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!

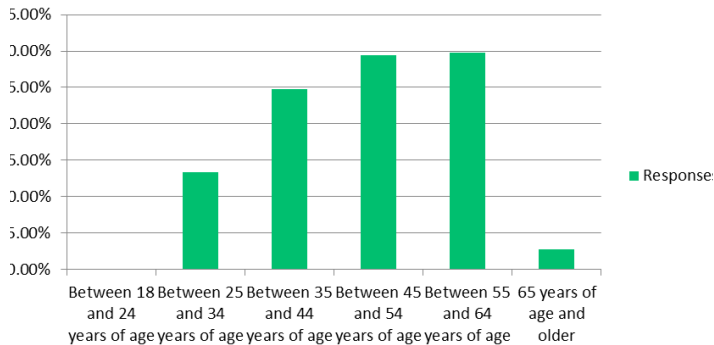
Congratulations to the following members who have reached a milestone 25th Anniversary! Once again, the following will be included in the 2021 convention program but we didn't want to miss this opportunity to say CONGRATULATIONS!

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

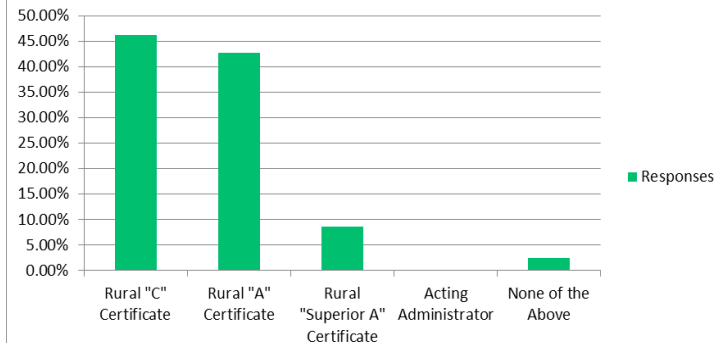
Rolande Davis – RM of Enterprise No. 142
Wendy Gowda – RM of LeRoy No. 339

2020 Annual Salary Survey

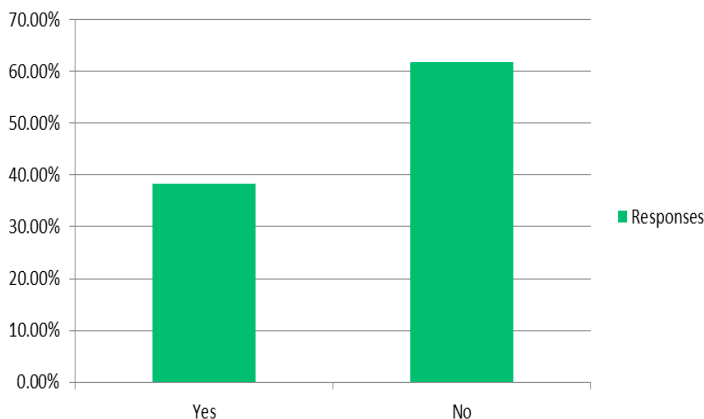
DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION: You are:



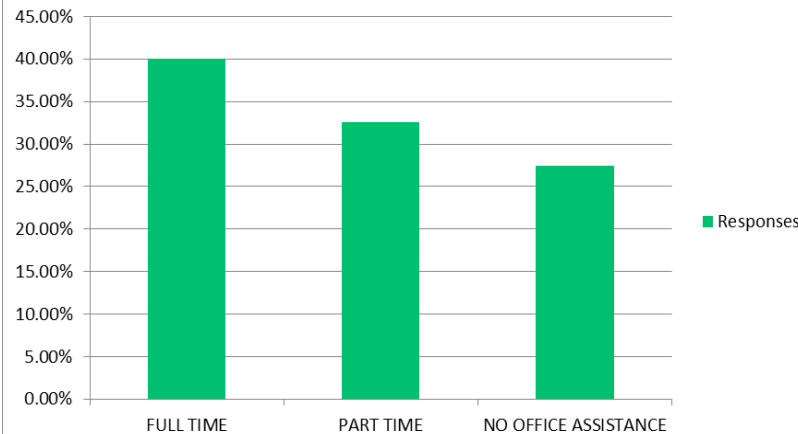
What Rural Certificate do you currently hold?



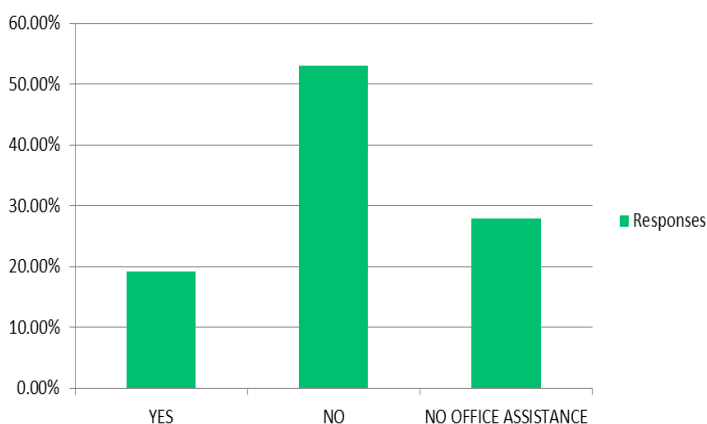
Do other R.M.'s, towns, villages seek to hire you away from your current position? (unsolicited by you)



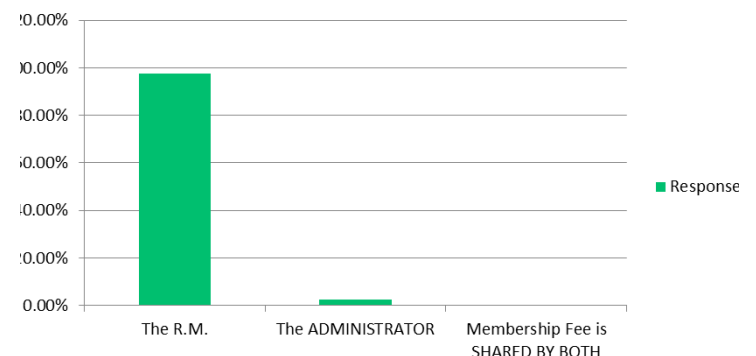
Describe the office assistance in your office:



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

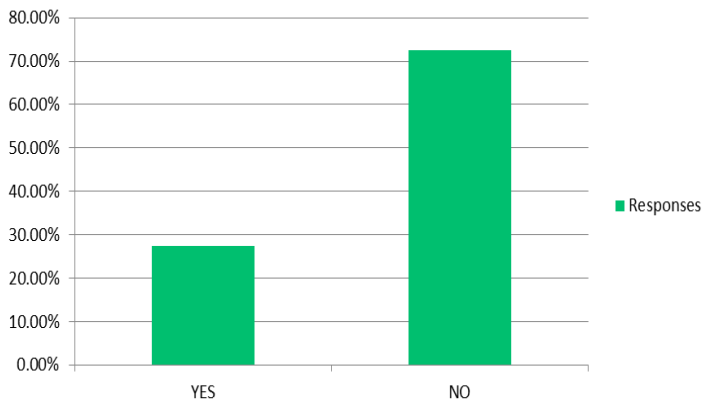


Who pays your annual RMAA membership?

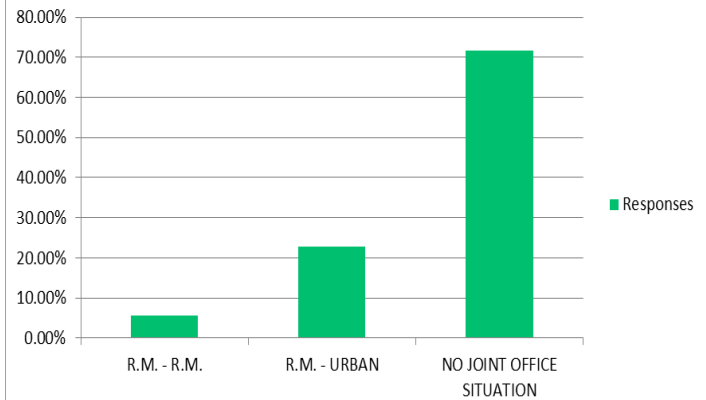


2020 Annual Salary Survey Continued

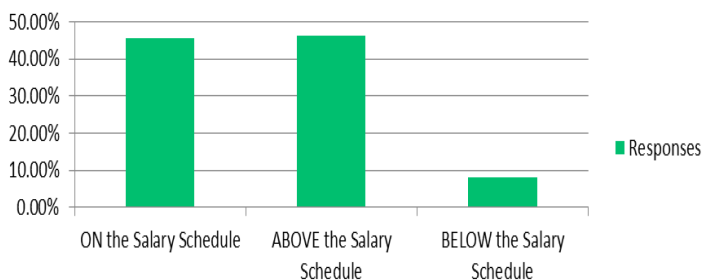
Are you the Administrator for a joint office situation?



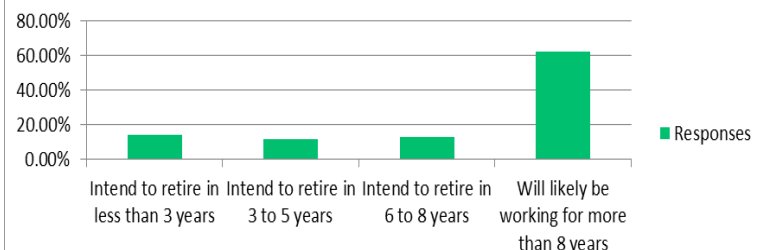
If you administer a joint municipal office, it could best be described as:



In its annual brief to SARM, the RMAA Salary Negotiation Committee discloses total numbers of R.M. Administrators who are on, above or below the approved salary schedule. The more Administrators who consider themselves paid on or...



As you may know, many current R.M. Administrators will soon be in a position to retire. In an ongoing effort to track potential Administrator retirements, we are asking you to again tell us when you think you may be retiring in the future....



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!