



RMAA Review

News from the Rural Municipal Administrators' Association of Saskatchewan

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KINDNESS
*Doesn't cost a thing,
yet it's the richest
gift you can give.*

FUN FACT

'Smith' is the most common last name of RMAA Admins and 'Tracy/Tracy and 'Cathy/Kathy' is the most common first name of RMAA Administrators



We want to hear from you!

We are looking forward to seeing you all in Saskatoon in May at the Saskatoon Inn. Reminder that there will be **no walk-in registrations**. Turn to page 5 to see a summary of the draft agenda. Please review the topics and presenters and email Vice President Michelle Buechler at vicepresrmaa@sasktel.net and if you have specific questions or content that the presenters can incorporate into their presentations they will try their best to accommodate your suggestions.

Lou Jacobs Award Recipient

We are extremely pleased to announce that **Tim Leurer** has been selected as the 2025 Lou Jacobs award winner. Tim is well known to the association and a deserving recipient of our associations' highest honour! We look forward to recognizing Tim during the Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Banquet at convention.

New Members

A warm welcome to our newest members. We encourage everyone to reach out to our new members and welcome them to our association!

Holly Gabruck	R.M. of Mervin No. 499
Janessa Macnab	R.M. of Mervin No. 499
Vanessa Nasby	R.M. of Frenchman Butte No. 501
Tobi Duck	R.M. of Dufferin No. 190
Christine Trithardt	R.M. of Sherwood No. 159
Lisa Ensor	R.M. of Milton No. 292
Valerie May	R.M. of Milton No. 292
Krista James	R.M. of King George No. 256

WELCOME EVERYONE! GOOD LUCK IN YOUR NEW PROFESSION!

President's Corner - Sheila Keisig

Has Spring arrived yet??!! I am sure all of you have had enough snow this season, and are so very much looking forward to sunny days and all things summer!

It is so hard to believe that I have been in this role for almost a year now. So many new things to learn, which I am embracing to the fullest. It is so important to keep learning, and growing as the professionals we are.

We are very excited to welcome each of you to our 105th Annual Convention, held at the Saskatoon Inn on May 12-15, 2025. This year's convention promises to deliver great learning workshops, a fantastic keynote speaker, the popular Admins in the Hotseat panel, and a sold out Tradeshow! All of this, plus equally important, plenty of time for networking with your colleagues. Vice President Buechler did an amazing job organizing the agenda!

I'm looking forward to seeing and connecting with each of you in a few weeks!

Retirements

Congratulations to the following individuals who have announced their retirements since the last newsletter! If we missed you in this list please contact us so we can recognize you at convention.

Chris Buecket - R.M. of Eyebrow No. 193	Sandi Dunne - R.M. of Wolverine No. 340
Donna Flavel - R.M. of Sarnia No. 221	Richard Goulet - R.M. of Arlington No. 79
Paulina Herle - R.M. of Senlac No. 411	Wilma Hrenyk - R.M. of Ituna Bon Accord No. 246
Diane Jamieson - R.M. of Good Lake No. 274	Guy Lagrandeur - R.M. of Redburn No. 130

25 Years of Service

CONGRATULATIONS to the following members or reaching a milestone 25th Anniversary!

Vicki Baptist R.M. of Willow Creek No. 458
Janet Hollingshead – Leslie R.M. of Hillsdale No. 440
Joanne Loy R.M. of Manitou Lake No. 442
Brenda Skakun R.M. of Grant No. 372
Donna Tymiak R.M. of Leroy No. 339

We look forward to presenting these individuals with a commemorative pin during the convention program.

RMAA Executive

President – Sheila Keisig	Vice-President - Michelle Buechler
Past President – Guy Lagrandeur	Director Ex-Officio – Bill Huber
Division One – Amanda Baumgartner	Division Two - Carol Bellefeuille
Division Three - Raylene Packet	Division Four - Vacant
Division Five – Vacant	Division Six – Becky LaClare
Executive Director - Rose Zimmer	

Humanitarian Efforts

By Becky LaClare

The RMAA has committed to a Humanitarian Initiative annually, and is celebrated and presented to the deserving organization at our RMAA Convention in May of each year. This year, as the health care crisis in Saskatchewan has become forefront to the entire province of Saskatchewan, we have selected the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Saskatchewan as our recipient.

Ronald McDonald House Charities Saskatchewan provides families with everything from accommodation and meals, social/emotional programming, and holistic support for parents and siblings, at little or no cost, while a child is receiving medical care in Saskatoon or Prince Albert. This will soon include Regina, as we've launched a \$39.9M Campaign with \$22M being raised in community to building two new Houses (Prince Albert & Regina), bringing needed care to Saskatchewan families.

ANNUAL REPORT, 2024 - PROVINCIAL IMPACT

- Our Vision -** A world where every family has what they need to ensure the best health outcomes for their children.
Our Mission - We provide essential services that remove barriers, strengthen families, and promote healing when children need healthcare.
Our Values – *Compassion* – We lead with compassion. *Respect* - We are deeply respectful.
Integrity - We act with integrity. *Commitment* - We are firmly committed.

2024 BY THE NUMBERS

Occupancy

- 28,000+ Families supported since 1985
- 1,517 Families supported in 2024
- 7 nights Average family stay in 2024
- 156 nights Longest family stay in 2024

House Services

- 37,230 Loads of laundry in 2024
- 430 Wellness bags provided in 2024
- \$14,520 Annual phone bill in 2024
- \$87,900 Annual water bill in 2024

Family Programs

- 885 Shuttle riders travelled approx. 23,000km
- 390 Kids involved in KidsCare
- 14 Programs: Pet Therapy, Art Therapy, Kids Car, Forest School, Self Care Night, Chats with Lyndon, Around the Kitchen Table, Family Connections, Project Sunshine, Shuttle Program, BINGO, home for Dinner, Breakfast, Lunch.

Family Room

- 809 Families served in 2024
- 178 NICU families supported in 2024
- 4,488 Lunches/meals served in 2024
- 2,002 NICU lunches/meals delivered in 2024
- 526 Wellness Bags
- 899 Loads of Laundry
- 441 Batches of Cookies
- 1611 Pots of Coffee
- 1630 Grab & Go Snacks

Food Programs

- \$109,700 Groceries purchased
- 7,976 Home for Dinner meals served in House
- 10,085 Breakfasts served
- 20,015 Lunches provided through hospitals
- 19,760 Cookies baked in House

Volunteer

- 16,317 Combined hours of regular & community outreach House and Family Room volunteers
- 6,072 Hours of volunteer time by community partners
- 170 Average # regularly scheduled volunteers, House & Family Room

In 2024, RMHC-SK saved Saskatchewan families \$2,930,313 in expenses like hotels, parking, laundry, food, and other essentials by using our House and Family Room.

TOGETHER, WE ARE KEEPING SASKATCHEWAN FAMILIES CLOSE.

Individual or RM donations can be made by cash or cheque (payable to Ronald McDonald House) and brought to Division 6 Director Becky at Convention Registration or anytime throughout the convention.

Tax Receipts can be issued if requested as per the RMH regulations.

Board of Examiners Update by Jill Palichuk

I just wanted to provide a quick little update from the Board of Examiners. The end of 2024 brought about much change to the BOE, as Terry Lynn Zahara, and Wendy Gowda both announced their retirement from their roles as BOE office inspectors. It was a pleasure working with both Terry and Wendy. Terry & Wendy's knowledge, professionalism, and high standards of excellence while being extremely approachable, and supportive to the administrators and RMs they visited is not easily replaceable. As such they will be greatly missed. On behalf of everyone on the BOE and RMAA Board, we congratulate them on their retirement, and thank them for the lasting impact they have left on our association.

As a result, the RMAA Board has been hard at work recruiting the right representatives to carry the BOE inspector torch, while expanding the inspector field from two individuals to three. I am very excited to share that Fern Lucas, Lori McDonald, and Glenda Giles have signed on as Rural Board of Examiners Office Inspectors. We have no doubt these three will continue the mandate to uphold the highest standards of excellence in the certification process.

As a reminder, the BOE processes advanced certificate applications twice a year in the spring and fall. The spring application deadline is March 1st, and the fall application deadline is September 1st. Applications must be received in the office of the Board of Examiner secretary by the application deadline (not *post-marked*).

I hope everybody is having a great spring, and I look forward to visiting with many of you at convention next month!

AMP Report by Jill Palichuk

The end of 2024 marked the completion of the 2nd year of the AMP program in its current state, as administered and funded solely through the RMAA. AMP was introduced in the Spring of 2023 as an in-office visit from an experienced RM administrator to review one's work. AMP Advisors can reiterate what an administrator is doing well, while also providing suggestions, and identifying areas of an administrators work, duties, or habits that could be corrected or improved. An AMP visit is currently available to any active member of the RMAA working in the role of the administrator. However, it is geared towards newer administrators, or those who have not obtained advanced Rural Municipal Administrator Certification.

Spring 2025 office visits are currently underway. Upon the completion of these visits, a total of 63 administrators while have had an office visit through AMP. Advisors Don McCallum and Joan Babecy have been tremendous assets to our association, and I encourage any RM Administrator who would like to have their work reviewed to participate.

Much like the BOE, AMP visits take place in the spring fall, primarily in the months of April and October. The spring sign-up deadline is March 1st, and the fall deadline is September 1st.

Bylaw 5

The RMAA Executive is proposing some changes to Bylaw 5. These changes are outlined on page six of this newsletter. The reason for the proposed change is to modernize some of the language; change notice of delivery to e-mail and to allow the executive greater flexibility in determining where future conventions are held. Convention venues are secured a couple of years in advance of the event; current language in the bylaw prevents the executive from changing venues without a membership vote. This ties the hands of the executive and prevents them from making crucial pivots that are in the best interest of the membership.

Convention Draft Agenda

Monday, May 12, 2025

- 11:00 a.m. Bus Leaves Saskatoon Inn for the 'Admin on the Go' tour **Crossmount Cider Company**
Noon Bus Leaves Saskatoon Inn for **Moon Lake Golf Course** tee off at 1:30
7:30 p.m. Welcome Reception and Social Evening, Registration

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

- 8:30 a.m. Registration and Tradeshow
9:00 a.m. Call to Order: Sheila Keisig, **President** - Rural Municipal Administrators' Association
President's Address
Executive Director Report
Darlene Glowa - MEPP
Sharon Pratchler Office of the Ombudsman
Induction of New Members, Presentation of Advanced Certificates and 25 Year Membership Pins
Opening Luncheon
Repeated MEPP and Ombudsman Breakout sessions from above
Keynote Presentation - Sponsored by SMHI - Michael Kerr
4:30 p.m. Adjourn

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

- 8:30 a.m. Registration and Tradeshow
9:00 a.m. **Tracy Arno - Negotiating Your Next Raise: A Leaders Guide to Compensation Growth**
SAMA - Pertinent Topics
Sask Power
Lunch for Delegates
**Tim Duhamel - Admin/Council Relations/Understanding Financial Statement Disclosures/
Financial Reporting Fundamentals**
Admins in the Hot Seat - Audrey Trombley, Janet Hollingshead, Tammy Knight, Aspen Johnson
4:30 p.m. Adjourn
5:30 p.m. Cocktail Hour for All Members Courtesy of **Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association**
6:30 p.m. Dinner and Program Courtesy of **Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association**

Thursday, May 15, 2025

- 9:00 a.m. RMAA Humanitarian Presentation - Ronald McDonald House
Government Relations Advisory Services - Hot Topics
Targeted Sector Support Grant Funding Program, Richard Beck
Division Meetings
Bylaw Amendments, Resolutions, Introduction of New RMAA Executive, Door Prizes, Other Business
Noon Adjourn

TEASER - This year the RMAA has partnered with SARM to bring **two** exciting nutrition breaks, one on Tuesday and one on Wednesday! We are excited to see what you think!

We are looking forward to seeing you at the **105th Annual Convention in May.**

Proposed Change to Bylaw 5

BYLAW No. 5 A BYLAW OF THE RURAL MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATORS' ASSOCIATION OF SASKATCHEWAN TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE ASSOCIATION:

1. ~~A convention of the Association shall be held once in every calendar year on the dates to be determined by the Executive. The first convention of the Association shall be held in the City of Regina and the second convention of the Association shall be held in the City of Saskatoon. Thereafter, the convention shall alternate between the said Cities, provided however, that the venue may be changed by the vote of two thirds of the members present and entitled to vote at the previous annual convention.~~ A convention of the Association shall be held once in every calendar year on the dates, location and venue determined by the Executive.
2. Three weeks notice of the time and place of the annual convention shall be sent ~~by ordinary mail~~ to every active, associate and honorary member of the Association at his/her ~~postal~~ email address as shown by the records of the Association.
3. All active members of the Association in good standing on the date of the opening of the convention, and no other shall be entitled to vote.
4. Except with the unanimous consent of the Convention, no amendments to the Association's bylaws shall be proposed unless notice of such proposed amendment is received by the Executive-Director of the Association at least six weeks prior to the start of the Convention, and unless at least three weeks prior notice of such proposed amendment is given to every member by ~~ordinary~~ e-mail. The vote of at least two-thirds of the members in good standing and voting shall be required to carry a resolution amending the Association's bylaws.
5. Associate and honorary members shall be eligible to attend and participate in all ordinary and special meetings and conventions of the Association but shall have no vote.
6. All associate and honorary members shall be eligible to attend and participate in all educational programs and institutes sponsored by the Association.
7. Associate and honorary members shall receive such mailouts as determined from time to time by the Executive Board of the Association.
8. ~~Resolutions presented to the convention shall be submitted in writing by active members in good standing and shall bear thereon the name or names of sponsors thereof. Every resolution shall be moved from the floor, or by the Resolutions Committee, and seconded from the floor.~~ In order for resolution to be considered by the membership at the annual convention, resolutions must be submitted in writing by active members in good standing and shall bear thereon the name or names of sponsors thereof to the Executive Director by February 15 in any year. Resolutions presented at the convention shall be considered by the membership upon two-thirds of the membership present voting in favour to consider the resolution. The aforementioned resolution must be submitted to the resolution committee in an electronic editable format by active members in good standing and shall bear thereon the name or names of sponsors thereof. Every resolution shall be moved from the floor, or by the Resolutions Committee, and seconded from the floor.
9. Voting at the convention on all matters other than voting at elections of elective officer, shall be by ~~show of hands~~ show of voting credentials approved by the Executive. Except where otherwise provided by bylaw, questions shall be decided by the majority of votes cast.
10. The order of business at the annual convention shall be in accordance with the program prepared by the Executive Board.
11. Except by permission of the presiding officer, no member shall be permitted to speak or to introduce a motion, provided, that a member shall not require permission of the presiding officer where his/her purpose is to ask a question and in every such case, the question shall be framed in as concise and succinct form as the nature of the case permits. Provided further that the right to ask questions without permission of the presiding officer shall not be used for the purpose of circumventing the power of the presiding officer relating to the conduct of the convention.
12. Except by permission granted by a vote of the convention, no member shall speak more than once and for longer than five minutes on any resolution, except the mover of a resolution who may speak in rebuttal at the end of debate on the resolution moved by him/her.
13. When a question is under debate no motion shall be in order except a motion to adjourn, postpone consideration, or amend. These motions as between themselves shall take precedence in the order mentioned, and the first two shall be decided on the question being put without debate.
14. All motions or amendments shall be put to the convention by the presiding officer who shall first ask, "Are you ready for the question?"