

# NEW PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING OPEN

The new and expanded Public Works Building is now completed and in use to better service RM of Ste. Anne residents.

On October 7 a combined Grand Opening celebration and Open House was held for the public to tour the new facility, conveniently located just behind the RM of Ste. Anne Municipal Office.

The Public Works Department had outgrown the old quonset building facility, as it was full when two graders parked inside and didn't allow for new equipment to be added. As well, it was not very energy efficient due to being an older building.

The \$2 million larger and fully modernized facility will now allow the Public Works Department to comfortably store new equipment when acquired, as well as having more space for the Public Works Department administration staff and Emergency Coordinator.

In addition to more floor space for the heavy equipment, the bays are drive-through and a wash bay



The new RM of Ste. Anne Public Works facility is now in service, located just south of the Municipal Building.

is set up to maintain the equipment more easily.

Deputy Reeve Randy Eros says this expansion was done with future planning in mind. "It's been 60 years that we've been using the old one and now this one could be good for the next 60 years," Eros says.

The RM of Ste. Anne Public Works Department is responsible for maintaining approximately 350 kilometres of roads currently, and that will increase as more

development occurs throughout the RM.

The RM received a \$27,000 rebate from Manitoba Hydro due to the new facility exceeding set environmental standards, as well as a \$5,000 grant from CN and a \$5,000 grant from TC Energy for the establishment of the Emergency Operations Centre. The new location is more energy efficient and environmentally friendly due to access to the municipality solar electricity panels nearby.

#### **CALENDAR**

#### RM of Ste. Anne 2021 Council Meeting Dates

November 3 9:00 am November 17 6:00 pm December 1 9:00 am December 15 6:00 pm

#### **LUD of Richer Meeting Dates**

November 3, 2021 December 1, 2021

A reminder that due to the ongoing pandemic, RM of Ste. Anne and LUD of Richer meetings continue to be physically closed to the public. Meeting recordings can be viewed at www.rmofsteanne.com

LUD of Richer Garbage Pickup Day - Fridays

**2021 Tax Deadline** Oct. 29, 2021 by 4 pm

RM OF STE. ANNE
PROPERTY TAX
DEADLINE
29 OCT 2021

# The RM of Ste. Anne property tax due date is 4 pm of Oct. 29, 2021. Please submit your payment asap to ensure it is received in time!

Mail and online payments take a few business days to process. A 1% penalty will be applied to all outstanding amounts on Nov. 1st without exception.

#### Payments can be submitted by:

- $\cdot$  Regular mail (cheques made out to the RM of Ste. Anne)
- · 24 hr drop slot (located in the staff entrance door by solar panels)
- · Online banking via all Credit Unions, Scotiabank and TD Bank (use your Roll # as the account number)
- · Cash, cheque or debit in office, as per Public Health safety regulations. - NEW! Credit card, on website or
- in office, however all credit card fees must be paid by the cardholder when making their transaction.

### LAGOON EXPANSION NEARS COMPLETION



Drone footage of the RM of Ste. Anne lagoon showing the expansion cell which will be planted with cattails to filter wastewater.

Submitted photo

Thanks to excellent weather during the construction season, the RM of Ste. Anne Lagoon Expansion Project is on schedule and on budget!

The expansion consisted of 40 acres of land purchased and the addition of a large landscaped cell to the current lagoon that will use natural wetland

plants such as cattails to further remove phosphorus and filter the water until it meets government standards for returning into the Winnipeg River Basin so as not to worsen algae or pollution in the system.

Construction began in the spring and the final touches are now being

completed through October 2021, finishing with seeding of the wetland and then flooding.

It will take a couple of years to become fully functional as the cattail bed grows and becomes established.

As the existing system was at capacity, Councillor Randy Eros says that the

Municipality had to treat to remove phosphorus this year, but hopefully by next year there will already be enough capacity in the new system to not have to chemically treat again going forward.

# 2021 FARMLAND SCHOOL TAX REBATE

The Farmland School Tax Rebate (FSTR) was implemented in 2004 to support the rural economy by providing farmland owners with school tax relief.

The 2021 Farmland School Tax Rebate program is now open for applications. If you have received this rebate in the past, please go online to submit your 2021 application using the information provided to you from MASC. The link below will have important information on this program and how to go about getting your rebate. Any new members will be able to download the form from this website in order to submit it to the Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation. Please note that the Steinbach MASC Office now administers applications for our Municipality.

MASC Steinbach, Unit C–284 Reimer Ave., Steinbach MB R5G 0R5 Ph: 1-833-206-0480 or 1-833-467-1059 Email: steinbach@masc.mb.ca Site: www.masc.mb.ca

### FIRE EQUIPMENT DONATED

In July, the Richer Fire Department donated several older Self Contained Breathing Apparatuses (SCBAs) that we no longer used to Firefighters Without Borders. A SCBA is a device worn to provide breathable air in an atmosphere that is immediately dangerous to life or health.

Firefighters Without Borders (FWB) is a non-profit organization based in Ontario. They provide training and equipment donations to communities throughout Canada and in countries all around the world.

FWB helps fire departments in need by coordinating the refurbishment and delivery of donated firefighting equipment.



Donated equipment (FB)

### **MANITOBA 150 CELEBRATION HELD IN RICHER**

By Myriam Dyck

Richer, known for its active volunteer base and community spirit, rose to the occasion yet again. After two years of being unable to host the annual rodeo due to the pandemic, local residents were more than ready for a community event.

Multiple service groups came together to create "Le Rendezvous", a cultural experience to celebrate Manitoba 150, the 150th anniversary of the Dawson Trail and the Indigenous, Métis and Francophone cultures.¬

Music and activities were front and center in the Dawson Trail Park, the Dawson Trail Museum and the Richer Young at Heart Club.

"Over 2000 people attended the three venues throughout the weekend," reported Dan Guetre, a member of the Le Rendezvous committee. "We could not have asked for better weather. It came together almost perfectly with the help of all the groups involved, sponsors and of course, the volunteers."

Guetre estimates that just over 2,500 people visited the three different sites over the weekend. Due to Provincial Health Orders in place, organizers were limited to 500 people per day at the outside venues and a much smaller number for the indoor settings.

"The entertainment was very diverse with all the cultures we wanted to represent," continued Guetre. "Add that to the tasty custom created food and the weekend is one to remember."

"In addition to the entertainment, Le Rendezvous was the perfect opportunity for the kickoff of the Dawson Trail Arts and Heritage Tour, a wonderful Fall Supper, a trail ride down the Dawson with Red River Carts, wagons and outriders, and to show off our community and our historical culture," said Guetre. "Now we are getting questions about turning this into an annual event... all the service groups will have to get together and discuss the possibility... right now we are celebrating a successful weekend and taking a breather."



In 2020 the Richer Community Club received a grant from the Co-op Community Spaces program to create an Interpretive Historical Site including a "trading post", tee-pees, general store, and a pergola featuring a bronze plaque dedicated to community founders and builders. They also improved lighting and some natural landscaping. This whole project was designated to explain how the First Nations, Métis and Francophone people came together to create a community over 150 years ago.



Red River Expedition 15-kilometre ride from east end of Dawson Trail to Richer. Spectators were waiting eagerly for their arrival into the Dawson Trail Park. Both of the Red River Carts and one of the historical rebuilt wagons was on display in the park during the rest of the weekend.



The Trading Post in Dawson Trail Park.



Spectators enthusiastically enjoyed the return of live entertainment all weekend.



A special cake honored the 150th anniversary of the Dawson Trail.



The Dawson Trail Museum Committee held an extended version of their weekly outdoor Farmer's Market outside on the museum grounds.



The Dawson Trail Arts and Heritage committee held the 2021 Dawson Trail Art Tour inside the Dawson Trail Museum where local artists and artisans showcased their work.



The Dawson Trail Arts and Heritage committee unveiled an interpretive board situated on the Enfant Jesus Heritage Site (Dawson Trail Museum) grounds which will serve as a roadmap for visitors following the historical Dawson Trail Tour featured on dawsontrailtreasures.ca.



The stage at the Premier Tech MultiPlex kept the spectators engaged throughout the weekend with talent. Indigenous drumming and dancing, Francophone songs and square dancers, and Metis fiddlers and jiggers all got their chance to connect with the audience. The large open well-ventilated space was perfect as households could remain physically distanced.

### COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM

Richer is a small town of around 600 people located in the RM of Ste. Anne. It is a vibrant community serviced by several volunteer organizations and businesses, and it continues to grow. New businesses are being built, apartments going up, roads being paved, tourist attractions being added.

The town is blooming, and it is our intention to help achieve, to the best of our ability, a 5 star rating with Communities in Bloom.

This is Richer's first year participating with CiB, and it has been a bit of a rough start. But there is a need here, and there has been communication with all the volunteer organizations, and Richer CiB has been greeted with much enthusiasm. As such, our first report will be on the state of the town currently. But wait till we really get going.

#### Tidiness:

This has not been an issue that CiB Richer has felt a need to deal with. Properties and businesses are generally well kept. The elementary school does an annual spring cleanup, and

the LUD sponsors an annual metal collection. Several of the community organizations have "green teams" that are a great help.

#### **Environmental action:**

Richer has a weekly curb side garbage pickup. Recyclable waste is picked up at the Richer Husky who have kindly allowed use of the space. Burnell's Food Plus has not had plastic bags for years. The Richer Inn obtains almost all its power with solar panels.

#### **Heritage Conservation:**

This is an area where Richer excels. The Dawson Trail Museum is located in an old church, which is itself a heritage site and has seen extensive renovations over the last few years.

The Dawson Trail Arts and Heritage Tour will be through Richer, where 2 exhibits are being erected.

The Dawson Trail Park strives to maintain its development according to the history of the town.

Obviously, Dawson Trail is where our history lies, and in September there was a huge event, throughout the town, celebrating the Francophone, Indigenous, and Métis cultures as they were 150 years ago.

#### **Urban Forestry:**

Richer is in the forest, just 5 minutes after you leave the prairies.

Many properties have several acres that are entirely forested. Even the smaller "city sized" lots will contain several trees. There is usually a general attitude, when there are so many, that "trees be trees" and more is better. (Personal observation).

It is our hope to change the attitude a bit by providing educational programs to plant, prune, and learn more about the trees around us. Putting any kind of tree ordinance in place would be a stretch. Richer CiB has however suggested to the RM of Ste. Anne that they should have a tree service on retainer in case of emergency.

Richer CiB also held a weekend in October where a chipper was rented and available free of charge to local residents.

#### Landscaping:

There has not been any coordination with the landscaping aspect in Richer, and that is where we are hoping Richer CiB can come into play in a big way. As mentioned, Richer is growing. A new gas station and shops are being built at the entrance to town off Hwy #1, and when complete the entrance to town will have a fresh look.

Richer CiB has also been asked to complete the pergola recently built at the park with native wildflowers.



#### Floral Displays:

About 10 years ago an attempt was made to have floral displays in Richer, but on account of watering issues this was unsuccessful. This year it was nice to see that the Museum had a nice display of yellow flowers, as did the school. The MMF also had displays along one intersection.

Having the Green Team taking care of the watering proved the key to success this year. Richer CiB has also been fortunate to have been gifted a trailer that holds 100 gallons of water from the Richer Fire Department, so our future need should be taken care of.

We hope you have enjoyed your tour of Richer, and are hoping to be able to show off our town in person next year.



### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Did you know the RM of Ste. Anne offers a monthly automatic withdrawal tax payment program? For a \$5 annual service fee, you can sign up for this hassle free option.

Call our office at 204-422-5929 or email finance@rmofsteanne.com for more information on how to get set up!



Don't forget to bring some non-perishable food items for the Accueil Kateri bin when you come visit our office!

### WILDLIFE ALERT!

In Manitoba, October and November are the two worst months of the year for deer/vehicle collisions. Be cautious when you see wildlife crossing signs and be extra alert at dawn, dusk and at night.

Do not swerve to avoid deer. The majority of collisions are caused by drivers attempting to avoid animals and instead lose control of the vehicle or crash into another vehicle

or roadside hazard.

When deer are directly in your path, steer straight towards them and firmly apply the brake to stop. Deer are erratic when frightened and naturally twist, zigzag, and jump around to avoid danger. You cannot predict which direction they will go; however, chances are they will not remain in the spot where they are standing.



# **BE AWARE OF FIRE BY-LAW UPDATES**



Richer Fire Department

Richer Fire Department April 22nd, 2021 report (FB)

11 Comments 36 Shares

**₩** 28

2021 has been a year with MANY brush, grass, structure and forest fires, both in the extremely dry spring season and later throughout the summer and dry autumn periods. Several years of drier than usual weather have taken their toll and our local volunteer fire departments have had periods of being under pressure keeping up with multiple call outs within a 24 hour period.

The RM of Ste. Anne Municipal Fire By-Law was revised effective July 28th, 2021 and the final version is available for download as a PDF on the rmofsteanne.ca website.

Many local residents tend to take to social media asking what is acceptable and what the current rules are, which may often lead to misinformation (which could potentially cost you as the homeowner in loss of property or fines).

We have therefore opted to publish part of the revised by-law here to make it very clear how every fire you start should be attended and monitored, what each of the RM burn ban levels allow, the updated definition of an "enclosed fire" and note that setting off fireworks are now included in the by-law rules. Please save this page for reference!

Some extracts follow with key changes:

#### 3.0. "Outdoor Fire" Responsibilities

- **3.1.** All burning within the Municipality shall be subject to the conditions and provisions of *The Wildfires Act*, and the *Manitoba Crop Burning Residue Burning Regulation MR 77/93* and any other Provincial or Federal Provisions.
- **3.2.** Authorization to conduct "Outdoor Fire" burning does not exempt or excuse a person from the responsibility, consequences, damages, or injuries resulting from the authorized burning and does not excuse a person from complying with other applicable laws, ordinances or regulations. In addition to this, all "Outdoor Fires" shall be subject to the following:
- **a.** Shall be supervised by the owner or occupier of the land or a responsible adult authorized by the owner or occupier of the land;
- **b.** Shall not be started when environmental conditions are conducive to a fire burning out of control;
- **c.** No person shall cause an "Outdoor Fire" to be started on any land without ensuring:
- i. That sufficient precautions are taken that are reasonably necessary to protect persons and property from the fire and to make certain that the fire can be kept under control;
- ii. That the resulting smoke does not pose unreasonable hazard to the health of any person or reduce the visibility on any road or highway;
- iii. That a sufficient water supply and means of fire suppression capable of extinguishing the fire shall be available on the subject property;
- iv. That the fire is never unsupervised or is confirmed to be extinguished when subject property is left unsupervised.
- **d.** That this section is deemed to include "Crop Residue Burning" which includes as follows:
- i. That where the intention is to clear land or burn debris, burn crop, stubble or grass, that the subject land on which the fire is started is completely surrounded by a fire guard consisting of:
  - a. A strip of land free of inflammable material of sufficient width to control the fire;
  - b. By natural or man-made barriers, water; or
  - c. By a combination or 3.2.d.i. (a) and/or (b).
  - e. That this section is deemed to include the ignition of Fireworks.

#### 4.0. "Enclosed Fire" Responsibilities

- **4.1.** In addition to all provisions outlined in Item 3.0, any "Enclosed Fire" shall be:
- **a.** Enclosed on all sides and constructed of masonry, concrete, heavy gauge metal or other non-com-

bustible materials which has a maximum diameter of 3 feet and a minimum height of 1 foot;

- **b.** Located on a flat, level and non-combustible base clear of overhangs, such as roofs, tree branches or utility wires;
- c. Located in such a manner as to have a minimum clearance of 10 feet measured from the nearest fire pit edge to any structures or any combustibles (i.e. fences, trees, hydro poles) and property lines.
- **d.** Installed to manufacturer's specifications with any required distance to a structure or combustible in addition to Item 4.1.c., if applicable.

#### 5.0. Burning Ban

- **5.1.** The Designated Officer may, at their discretion, restrict fires in the Rural Municipality of Ste. Anne if environmental conditions exist where such a ban could prevent loss of life or property as a result of "Outdoor Fires".
- **5.2.** Fire restrictions, as described in Item 5.1., will be applied in a tiered format:
- **Level 1** Only fires adhering to Sections 3 and 4 of this by-law are permitted.
- **Level 2** Only "Crop Residue Burning" and "Enclosed Fires" are permitted. No Fireworks are permitted under Level 2 restrictions.
- **Level 3** Only "Enclosed Fires" with a "cover" are permitted.
- **Level 4** NO fires, either "Outdoor Fires" or "Enclosed Fires" are permitted.

#### 6.0. Costs and Penalties

- **6.1.** Any person found to be in contravention of any of the provisions of this by-law, and at the discretion of the Designated Officer, may be subject to one or both of following:
- **a.** A penalty of not less than:
  - \$500.00 for a first offence;
  - \$1,000.00 for a second offence;
  - \$1,500.00 for a third offence; and
  - \$2,500.00 for any subsequent offence.
- **b.** The recovery of costs incurred for any response taken by the Rural Municipality of Ste. Anne, or any other Municipality responding on behalf of the same, which is a result of the contravention of this by-law.
- **6.2.** Any person who has an automatic alarm system that activates a false alarm to which is responded to by the Rural Municipality of Ste. Anne shall be charged a fee of \$300.00 for every third or subsequent offence in any 12 month period.



#### **PUBLIC NOTICE - 2022 BOARD OF REVISION**

Public notice is hereby given that the **2022** Assessment Roll for the Rural Municipality of Ste. Anne has been delivered to the Municipal Office at **395 Traverse Road** in Ste. Anne, Manitoba and is open for public inspection during regular business hours. Any person who believes that an assessment ought to be revised may make application in accordance with Section 42 and 43 of *The Municipal Assessment Act*:

#### **Application for Revision**

42(1) A person in whose name property has been assessed, a mortgagee in possession of property under subsection 114(1) of *The Real Property Act*, an occupier of premises who is required under the terms of a lease to pay the taxes on the property, the authorized agent of the person, mortgagee, or occupier, or the assessor may make application for the revision of an assessment roll with respect to the following matters:

- (a) liability to taxation;
- (b) amount of an assessed value;
- (c) classification of property;
- (d) a refusal by an assessor to amend the assessment roll under subsection 13(2).

#### **Application requirements**

- 43(1) An application for revision must
  - (a) be made in writing;
  - (b) set out the roll number and legal description of the assessable property for which a revision is sought;
  - (c) set out which of the matters referred to in subsection 42(1) are at issue, and the grounds for each of those matters; and
  - (d) be filed by:
    - (i) delivering it or causing it to be delivered to the office indicated in the public notice given under subsection 41(2), or
    - (ii) serving it upon the secretary,

at least 15 days before the scheduled sitting date of the board as indicated in the public notice.

The Board of Revision will sit on **Wednesday, November 17th, 2021 at 7:00 pm** in the Council Chambers of the Rural Municipality of Ste. Anne, 395 Traverse Road in the RM of Ste. Anne, with virtual participation options to accommodate any possible pandemic related gathering restrictions.

The final date by which applications must be received by the Secretary of the Board, Interim Acting CAO Nadine Vielfaure, is **Tuesday, November 2nd, 2021 at 4:00 pm.** 

Box 6 Grp 50 RR1

Ste. Anne MB R5H 1R1 Fax: 204-422-9723

DATED this 21st day of September, 2021.

Nadine Vielfaure, CMMA
Interim Acting Chief Administrative Officer
<a href="mailto:acao@rmofsteanne.com">acao@rmofsteanne.com</a>

# RM OF STE. ANNE OFFICE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Please note that the RM of Ste. Anne office is open to the public subject to all provincial health order restrictions on capacity, physical distancing and mask wearing. These are subject to change as the Province issues their updates. We encourage contactless means of accomplishing your business with the Municipality when possible.

A reminder that due to the ongoing pandemic, RM of Ste. Anne and LUD of Richer meetings continue to be physically closed to the public. Meeting recordings can be viewed at www.rmofsteanne.com

# GARBAGE BURNING WITHIN RM OF STE. ANNE

The LUD of Richer does not allow any burning of Garbage under By-law #14-1996.

The Council of the RM of Ste. Anne is looking to expand this type of restrictions to all developed residential areas which are designated as Settlement Centers under the Municipal Development Plan.

Currently, burning of garbage is permitted in the rural portion of the RM of Ste. Anne provided that burning is in compliance with other Municipal and Provincial rules and regulations.

Although some burning of garbage is permitted, the Council strongly encourages alternative and more sustainable methods of waste management, such as composting and recycling. Disposal of waste in an approved waste management facility, such as the City of Steinbach landfill, is the best option to ensure the impact to the environment is minimal.

RM of Ste. Anne residents have access to this facility directly for a \$10 tipping fee plus any additional charges for non-household waste, or can contract one of our local waste haulers to provide them with this service for a fee. Local contractor's information may be found on our website.

# 2022 PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS

The Province of Manitoba have mailed out the Notice of 2022 Property Assessments to all property owners in the RM of Ste. Anne. If you have not received one, please verify your mailing address with our office by emailing admin@rmofsteanne.com.

These notices indicate the assessed value of your property. Should these amounts be incorrect for any reason the attached Notice of Board of Revision contains instruction on how to appeal. If you would like more information, please either contact our office or Assessment Services.

# RM OF STE ANNE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The RM of Ste. Anne Development Plan was enacted on July 14th which means some minor land use policy changes are now in effect.

This will mainly affect subdivision potential in the agricultural areas of our municipality. We can now move forward with the zoning bylaw review in 2022.

# THANK YOU TO OUR SUMMER STUDENTS

The RM of Ste. Anne Council and Staff would like to express our sincere gratitude to the 3 summer students who helped us out this year.

Taylor Hiebert was a tremendous help to the office administration and accomplished many tasks in addition to being such a pleasure to have by our sides, greeting residents and others visiting our office with her positive and zestful presence.

Eric Adams and Brittany Unger did some amazing work for us in our Public Works department and helped us accomplish many tasks efficiently such as our gravelling program, our sign installations, maintaining our parks and pathways and keeping our municipality clean. Their youthful and hardworking presence will be missed.

We are very thankful that you chose to join our team, even if only for a few months. We wish you all much success in your post-secondary pursuits and in all of your future endeavors.

Regards, Nadine Vielfaure, CMMA Interim Acting Chief Administrative Officer





All homes in the LUD of Richer are invited to enter into our Christmas Yard Decorating Contest.

- Decorate your house and yard and light it up!
- Judging will take place between December 21 and 27, 2021 from 5 pm to 8 pm
- Multiple winners will be announced in January 2022

Thank you to our sponsors!



#### RM OF STE ANNE MUNICIPAL OFFICE:

395 Traverse Road Box 6, Grp 50, RR 1 Ste. Anne, MB R5H 1R1 Telephone: (204) 422-5929 Fax: (204) 422-9723

www.rmofsteanne.com

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

For specific inquiries, the following Administrative Staff may be contacted:

CAO - Jennifer Gilmore - cao@rmofsteanne.com

**ACAO** - Nadine Vielfaure - acao@rmofsteanne.com

**Development Officer** - Irina Poplavski development@rmofsteanne.com

**Operations Manager** - Kevin Medeiros pw@rmofsteanne.com

**Executive Assistant** - Tiana Bohemier finance@rmofsteanne.com

**Planning Assistant** - Colette Martens admin@rmofsteanne.com

Administrative Assistant - Kristina Forsyth info@rmofsteanne.com

#### **RM OF STE. ANNE COUNCIL**

Reeve

Paul Saindon - 204-422-6755

#### Councillors:

Ward 1 - Sarah Normandeau ward1sarah@outlook.com / 204-392-6900 Ward 2 - Jake A. Reimer 204-346-0147 Ward 3 - Brent Wery bcwery@hotmail.com / 204-371-7370 Ward 4 - Brad Ingles ward4rmsteannebrad.i@gmail.com / 204-793-0671 Ward 5 - Robert Sarrasin robert.rm.steanne@gmail.com / 204-791-7735 Ward 6 - Randy Eros reros@mts.net / 204-371-2959

#### **LUD COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Roger Godard - 204-422-9369 / 204-371-6475 John Lenton - 204-422-8496 / 204-371-1674 Norm Bremaud - 204-371-9282 Brent Wery - bcwery@hotmail.com / 204-371-7370

#### RCMP:

During an emergency, dial 911 / 204-326-1234 Steinbach Detachment - 204-326-4452

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER: rams@animalmanagement.ca / 204-223-5521

#### RICHER FIRE DEPARTMENT

If you have any questions for the Richer Fire Department such as burn bans or burn permits etc. please contact them directly richerchief@rmofsteanne.com / 204-422-5966

# SEVEN RMs ESTABLISH MUNICIPAL SILICA SAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The RM of Ste. Anne is proud to partner with 6 other Municipalities, spearheaded by the RM of Tache, to study possible impacts from silica sand mining operations with the intent to determine possible mitigation measures that can then be enacted by municipal regulations and bylaws in order to ensure an appropriate, safe and sustainable use of our lands.

This Committee was formed to serve as an advisory body to the municipal council of each participating Municipality regarding independent review and obtaining of information to better understand the effects that may arise as a result of silica sand extraction and processing operations in southeast Manitoba. The Committee is concerned about the silica sand mining extraction as proposed by CanWhite Sands Corp. CanWhite has submitted Environment Act Proposals for a silica sand processing facility and separately for silica sand extraction.

The members municipalities are interested in any impacts to water quality and quantity (the aquifers, surface water), any land use issues including undue contamination, any impact on municipal

infrastructure and services. The Committee will provide recommendations to the Council of each member Municipality regarding the best solutions for mitigating any impacts of silica sand mining, which could include regulation or restriction of silica sand mining through municipal bylaws.

Membership of the Committee shall be comprised of one elected official and one administrative official of each member Municipality. The Chair of the Committee is the Mayor of the Rural Municipality of Tache. The Chief Administrative Officer of the Rural Municipality of Tache will provide direct administrative support to the Committee and chair a committee of administrators of the member Municipalities. The Committee held its first meeting on Monday, September 27, 2021.

Mayors and Reeves of R.M. of Brokenhead R.M. of Hanover R.M. of La Broquerie R.M. of Reynolds R.M. of Ste. Anne City of Steinbach R.M. of Taché

### **SENIORS HELPING SENIORS**

Seine River Services for Seniors Inc. (SRS Inc.) knows firsthand the needs of older adults. That's why they're excited to launch a new project called Seniors Helping Seniors- Entre aînés, on s'entraide specifically created with regional seniors in mind.

"Initially we wanted to create in-person presentations and workshops bringing in seniors in our region who have a lifetime of knowledge to pass on these skills to other seniors," explained Melanie Bremaud, Coordinator with SRS Inc. "Current health restrictions in place due to the pandemic has forced us to think out of the box and revise the way we are going to present this"

The once in-person format has now been redeveloped to create information packages that can be delivered on a regular basis to seniors in the region.

"We have many seniors in the region with skills they have developed and we believe that giving them an opportunity to share their creativity with other seniors in the area could be very informative and really fun," said Bremaud. "Many of our regional seniors are facing various levels of isolation and these projects we are going to share through this program will allow everyone

a sense of connection to their peers."

Twice a month, seniors have the chance to receive an informational package that contains a useful booklet with essential resources and materials. In addition, SRS Inc. will be giving away 20 activity kits which include all the supplies needed to complete the project. Every package and activity kit is developed by a professional older adult in the community and will be delivered to the door by a dedicated team of volunteers... now that's Seniors Helping Seniors!

The program kicked off on July 27, 2021 and runs until March 25, 2022. It is available to older adults that reside in the RM of La Broquerie, the RM of Ste. Anne, the Town of Ste. Anne and the surrounding communities. Registration will be open on a first-come-first-serve basis.

To request your first package or activity kit contact 204-424-5285, labseinerss@gmail.com or visit Facebook at srsseniors.

This project is funded by the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program.

"The New Horizons for Seniors Program is key to allowing us to provide this program," said Bremaud. "Their generous support will go a long way in ensuring Seniors Helping Seniors- Entre aînés, on s'entraide is a success."