

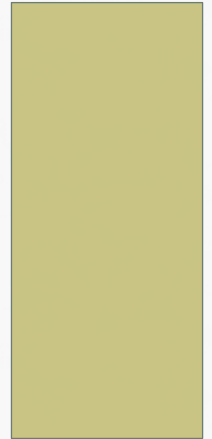


SARM

Saskatchewan Association
of Rural Municipalities

SARM POLICY UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2016



SARM POLICY DEPARTMENT

- **Shelley Kilbride, Director of Policy & Research**
- **Ben Chursinoff, Senior Policy Analyst**
- **Libbey Morin, Policy Analyst**

AGENDA

- **SARM History and Resolutions**
- **Member Engagement in Advocacy**
- **Communications Survey**
- **Weed Inspections and Survey**
- **Rural Broadband**
- **Growing Forward III (Next Ag Policy Framework)**
- **Carbon Tax**
- **OH&S Snow Removal**
- **Emergency Response Plans**
- **Mutual Aid Agreements**
- **Grade Crossing Regulations**
- **Got Gravel**

SARM HISTORY

- **The voice of rural Saskatchewan since 1905**
- ***Act of Incorporation in 1932***
- **Policy driven by member resolutions**

*The Saskatchewan
Association of Rural
Municipalities*

being

Chapter 01 of the *Statutes of Saskatchewan, 1986-87-88*
(effective September 25, 1987) as amended by the *Statutes of
Saskatchewan, 1996, c.04; 2001, c.04; and 2002, c.02.*

RESOLUTIONS

- **Purpose**
 - **Directs efforts of the Association**
- **Who can submit?**
 - **RMs or RM Regional Associations**
 - **SARM Board of Directors**
 - **SARM Divisions via June Division Meetings**

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

- **Member Engagement in Advocacy**
 - How does SARM advocate on behalf of RMs?
 - How does SARM engage RMs in advocacy?
 - How can RMs advocate on their own behalf?

HOW DOES SARM ADVOCATE?

1. **Identify issues**
2. **Focus our efforts**
3. **Develop key messaging**
4. **“Ask” development**
5. **Advocacy plan**
6. **Engage members and public**
7. **Amend and repeat until successful**



HOW DO WE ENGAGE RMs?

- **SARM Website**
 - **Advocacy Tab**
- **Policy Bulletin**
- **Twitter - @SARM_Voice**
- **Media releases**
- **Emails**
- **Rural Councillor**
- **Conventions and Division Meetings**



HOW CAN RMs ADVOCATE?

1. Educate Council and Administration
2. Educate your community
3. Make your voice heard!
 - i. Hold a public meeting
 - ii. Use the media
 - iii. Write letters

COMMUNICATIONS SURVEY

Do you know about the Policy Bulletin?

- **YES**
- **NO**

COMMUNICATIONS SURVEY

**Do you access the Weekly Policy
Bulletin?**

- **YES**
- **NO**

COMMUNICATIONS SURVEY

**Do you access the Monthly Policy
Bulletin?**

- **YES**
- **NO**

MONTHLY POLICY BULLETIN



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of Rural Municipalities

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ABOUT

ADVOCACY

SERVICES

PROGRAMS

EVENTS

RESOURCES

COMMITTEES

MEDIA RELEASES

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT IN
ADVOCACY

POLICY BULLETIN

RESOLUTIONS

SUBMISSIONS

WHAT'S TRENDING

THE VOICE *of* Rural
Saskatchewan

MEMBERS LOGIN

Use your email address & password to login:

Email Address

Welcome

The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities is the independent association that represents rural municipal government in Saskatchewan and is the principal advocate in representing them before

MONTHLY POLICY BULLETIN



Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities

200 – 2221 Cornwall Street Regina, SK | S4P 2L1 | (306) 757-3577 | sarm.ca

Policy Bulletin

October 2016

October 4, 2016

ACTION REQUIRED: Final Reminder – Resolution Deadline

The deadline for submitting resolutions for the upcoming 2016 SARM Midterm Convention is **this Friday, October 7** by end of day. Resolutions must be received in the SARM office by this date in order to be addressed at the convention and included in the resolution booklet. Please email resolutions to sarm@sarm.ca.

Attached for your convenience are the [Guide for Writing Resolutions](#) and the [Resolution Submission Form](#).

INFORMATION: Carbon Pricing

Yesterday, Prime Minister Trudeau **announced** that all provinces must have a carbon pricing in place by 2018. Provinces can choose between two options: a direct price on carbon or implement a cap-and-trade system.

In a September 26 **media release**, SARM stated we are apprehensive of an approach to reducing greenhouse gases that does not consider the unique situation of various industries in each province and that we are opposed a federally imposed price on carbon that is not created through consultation or meaningful discussion with stakeholders.

WEED INSPECTIONS

- ***The Weed Control Act* empowers municipalities to enforce control of prohibited, noxious, and nuisance weeds.**
- **Weed inspectors monitor the RM for these weeds and respond to complaints.**
- **RM appoints a weed inspector.**
- **Are there issues?**

WEED INSPECTORS

Does your RM currently have a weed inspector?

- **Yes**
- **No**

WEED INSPECTORS

Have you employed a weed inspector in the past?

- **Yes**
- **No**

WEED INSPECTORS

Were there challenges in finding a weed inspector?

- **Yes**
- **No**
- **Not applicable**

WEED INSPECTORS

Would it be useful for SARM to research the costs of employing a weed inspector in-house?

- **Yes**
- **No**

WEED INSPECTORS

Do you understand the RM's role under *The Weed Control Act*?

- **Yes**
- **No**

WEED INSPECTORS

Would a workshop on *The Weed Control Act* be beneficial?

- Yes
- No

RURAL BROADBAND

- **Enhancing rural broadband access remains a key priority for SARM**
- **Poor access affects business, economic development**
- **\$500 million over 5 years from Federal Gov't**

RURAL BROADBAND

- **SaskTel Community Participation Model**
- **Cost share infrastructure construction & upgrades**
- **RM of Edenwold is a working example**
- **Total project \$235,000**
- **RM responsible for \$141,454**
- **Additional Services Levy of \$1,071 for year 1 and 2 on 66 lots**

RURAL BROADBAND

- **Would you support the sale of SaskTel?**
 - **Strongly support**
 - **Support**
 - **Neither support nor oppose**
 - **Opposed**
 - **Strongly opposed**

GROWING FORWARD 3

- **Growing Forward 2 expires March 31, 2018**
- **Topics:**
 - **Agri-Stability**
 - **Agri-Invest**
 - **Drainage**
 - **Water pipelines**
 - **Labour shortages**
 - **Climate change**
- **Please share your comments**

CARBON TAX

- Federally imposed carbon tax in 2018 - \$10/ton CO₂
- Rising to \$50/ton in 2022
- SARM concerned for agriculture sector
- Increased costs
- Inability to pass on costs
- Efficacy of tax in actually reducing CO₂ emissions
- SARM supports Saskatchewan's alternative solutions

OH&S SNOW REMOVAL

- **Snow removal exemption from OH&S**
- **Application for renewal submitted Oct. 11**
- **Maximum 30 days processing**
- **Will notify you once we hear the result**

EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND

- **Volunteer fire departments are not being compensated for services they provide when responding to some events**
- **Municipal fire departments need reliable and adequate compensation for services rendered**
- **SARM lobbying provincial and federal governments**

MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS

- **Municipalities need assurance that they will be reimbursed for responding and providing emergency services to other municipalities and First Nations**
- **Mutual Aid Agreements be made mandatory for both existing and newly named TLE/First Nations**
- **SARM lobbying the federal government**



MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS

- Do we need a bylaw?
 - When there is no agreement – **YES**
 - If there is an agreement – **BEST PRACTICE**
- MCDP – Sample Agreements
 - (municipalcapacity.ca)

FEDERAL GRADE CROSSING REGS

Information Sharing Deadline:

November 27, 2016

FEDERAL GRADE CROSSING REGS

Has your municipality shared the necessary safety information with CN and/or CP?

- **Yes**
- **No**
- **We don't have federally-regulated grade crossings**

GOT GRAVEL

- **Report released in August 2016**
- **Municipal road network > 165,000 km**
- **SARM working with:**
 - **Transportation Planning Committees,**
 - **Ministry of Highways & Infrastructure,**
 - **Ministry of Environment, and**
 - **Ministry of Agriculture**



QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

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