

Policy Department Update

SARM Midterm Convention
November 2014



SARM...the voice of rural Saskatchewan

Agenda

◉ Committee Updates

- > SARM R&EDC
- > SARM Infrastructure Committee
- > SARM Agriculture Committee

◉ Other Policy Projects

- > Multi-Material Stewardship Western (MMSW)
- > Rural Broadband
- > Civic Addressing
- > PFRA Pastures

Some Key Projects:

- Update on Past Recommendations
- 2014 Consultations & Outcomes
 - a. *RMA Rates*
 - b. *OW Rates*
 - c. *BEOs*
 - d. *Well Drilling Licenses*
 - e. *Gravel Rights*
 - f. *Extraction Fees*
 - g. *Info. On Contractors*
 - h. *Setback Distances*
 - i. *Pipeline Approvals and Signage*
 - j. *New Technologies*

Update on Past Recommendations

- Province allow RMs to charge an initial fee to developers to off-set the upfront costs incurred by the municipality

Update on Past Recommendations

- An increase in regulated road maintenance fees

Update on Past Recommendations

- An increase in government funding to support public-private partnerships to construct, maintain and rehabilitate municipal transportation infrastructure

Update on Past Recommendations

- An increase in government funding to maintain and rehabilitate roads which have been identified as essential to economic development, such as the Clearing the Path Corridors

Update on Past Recommendations

- ◉ Authorize RMs to reduce traffic speeds for certain vehicles

Update on Past Recommendations

- Authorize RMs to sub-class within the current property assessment classes

Update on Past Recommendations

- Better the current system for issuing and enforcing road maintenance agreements

2014 Consultations & Outcomes

- 5 meetings were held around the Province this summer.

1. Carlyle – 7 RMs/ 18 attendees
2. Midale – 12 RMs/24 attendees
3. Kindersley – 12 RMs/ 26 attendees
4. Shaunavon – 13 RMs/ 19 attendees
5. North Battleford – 12 RMs/23 attendees

Some of What we Heard & What we will pursue

- Road Maintenance Agreement (RMA) rates are too low.
- Overweight permitting fees are too low.
- We need more bylaw enforcement officers and the duties of BEOs need to be expanded to allow for enforcing OW permits and speeding infractions.
- Well drilling licences are too low.

Some of What we Heard & What we will pursue

- ◉ RMs without gravel need to have right of refusal before private companies for deposits.
- ◉ Extraction fees for sand and gravel are too low. There needs to be a fee for clay extraction.
- ◉ RMs need more information about contractors i.e. equipment, capacity and work history.

Some of What we Heard & What we will pursue

- ◉ Ministry of Economy (E&R) and Ministry of Government Relations are not in agreement on setback distances for new oil wells/batteries.
- ◉ We need a database of all pipeline approvals – RMs and Province.
- ◉ We need mandatory and standardized signage i.e. underground fluid movement vs. utility line.

Some of What we Heard & What we will pursue

- ◉ RM's need more information about new technologies for road construction and maintenance.

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Some Key Projects:

- Road Construction Handbook
- Road Maintenance Agreement Rates
- Resource Roads Program (P3)
- Asset Management

Road Construction Handbook

- Section 1: Introduction to the Handbook
- Section 2: Road Plans
- Section 3: Engineer Selection
- Section 4: Tendering
- Section 5: Non engineered Road Construction
- Section 6: Other Agreements
- Section 7: Other Information Collected

Resource Road Program (P3)

- ◉ We developed a proposal and submitted it to the Province for consideration.
- ◉ Province announced in Throne Speech that it is seriously considering the proposal.
- ◉ Details have not been formally announced but much of the document was pulled from our R&EDC discussions this summer.

RMA Rates

- Goal: increase allowable rates RMs can charge for road maintenance and loss of road life.
- Second of two increases scheduled for January 1, 2015.

Asset Management

- ◉ Work began early 2014
- ◉ Research, due diligence
- ◉ Define asset management
- ◉ Consultant review and selection
- ◉ Criteria for asset management
- ◉ Pilot projects
- ◉ Next steps

Ag Committee Projects

Key Topics:

- > Canadian Transport Agency Review
- > Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)
- > Country of Origin Labelling (COOL)
- > Bison Fencing
- > Working with APAS
- > Species at Risk (SARA)

CTA Review

- ◉ Launched in June, 2014
- ◉ Consultations have been held on September 22nd and October 16th in Regina.
- ◉ Focus on grain transportation
- ◉ Submissions due by December 30, 2014.

SARM CTA Comments

- ◉ Forceful legislation that guarantees the ongoing movement of products
- ◉ Stiffer penalties on both shippers and railways
- ◉ Increase the number of grain cars delivered to 13,000 per week
- ◉ Railways should show how they forecast the amount of cars and engines required

Chronic Wasting Disease

- ◉ Management practices in SK
- ◉ Canadian Food Inspection Agency may label SK as endemic for CWD
- ◉ SARM opposes this
- ◉ Prefer game farm risk management practices
- ◉ Issue will be raised in Ottawa

Country of Origin Labelling (COOL)

- ◉ Has been in place since 2008.
- ◉ Estimated to cost Canadian cattle producers \$640 million per year
- ◉ World Trade Organization has condemned COOL
- ◉ Republican Party now has majority in the US Senate and House of Representatives

Bison Fencing

- ◉ SARM met with Minister Moe and Ministry of Agriculture staff on November 4th
- ◉ Both an Agriculture and Environmental issue
- ◉ Examine other jurisdictions
- ◉ SARM will be involved in the consultation process

Meeting with APAS

- On August 12th SARM's Ag Committee met with APAS Executive Committee
- Issues discussed included Full Costing Review, Ag Drainage, UPOV '91, GF3, Temporary Foreign Workers and Tree Nursery
- Desire to work together on Ag issues moving forward

Species at Risk (SARA)

- ◉ SARM comments anytime new Species at Risk proposals emerge
- ◉ Balance with economic growth & development
- ◉ Proposed recovery strategy for the Greater Short-horned Lizard
- ◉ SARM will review the document and provide comments

Other Policy Projects

- ◉ Multi Material Stewardship West (MMSW)
- ◉ Rural Broadband
- ◉ PFRA Pastures
- ◉ Civic Addressing

Multi-Material Stewardship Western (MMSW)

- ◉ Extended Producer Responsibility
- ◉ Stewards – fund up to 75%
- ◉ Funding agreement with MMSW
- ◉ Steward fees based on amount of waste packaging and printed paper
- ◉ www.mmsk.ca/stewards/fees/
- ◉ Small business exemption & low volume rates

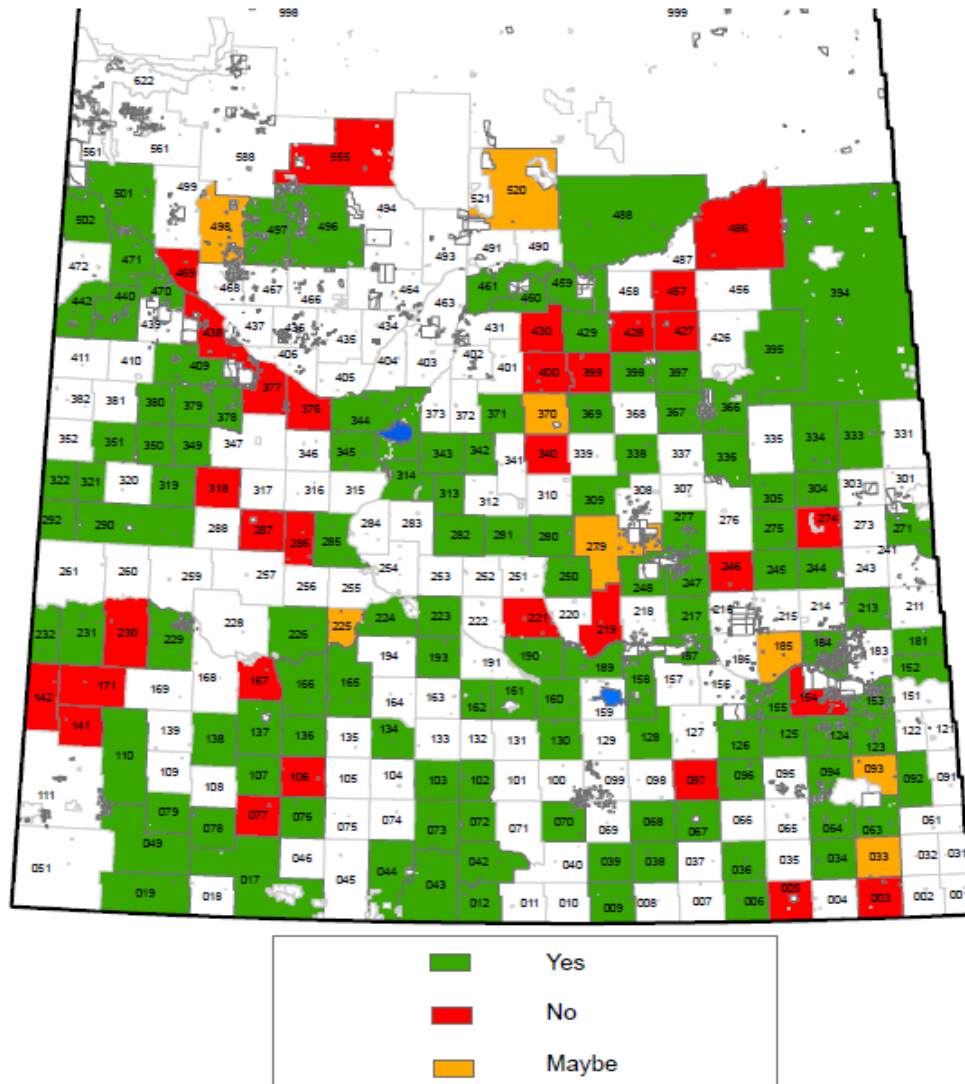
MMSW

- ◉ Program begins January 1st, 2015
- ◉ 314 municipalities signed up
- ◉ 370 stewards - 50,000 tonnes of waste
- ◉ Compliance rate around 55%
- ◉ Non member discount factor 25%
- ◉ Municipalities can opt out
- ◉ Questions? Email info@multimaterialsw.ca

Rural Broadband

- ◉ 3500 MHz Spectrum
- ◉ SARM submitted comments opposing the changes
- ◉ Asked that rural service areas keep their rural designation
- ◉ Took issue with the minimum population coverage requirement

Civic Address Signage



Civic Addressing Signage Policy



PFRA Pastures

- ◉ 2014 Annual Convention Resolution
- ◉ Meeting with RMs & Outcomes
- ◉ Decision to Pursue Action outside of SARM
- ◉ Staff Research – archive visits, meetings

PFRA Pastures

- ◉ Request from Ministry for Historic Agreements
- ◉ SARM/RM Meeting with Minister & Outcomes

Policy Dept. Related Presentations

- ◉ Emergency Preparedness – on-going.
- ◉ Water Management – on-going.
- ◉ Environmental Code – work on this since 2006.
- ◉ Alternative Enforcement – work on this since 2011.

