Dale Leflar *Earns Lieutenant Governor's Award for Outstanding Service to Rural Saskatchewan*

ON MARCH 13, 2024, THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S AWARD for outstanding service to rural Saskatchewan was presented to Dale Leflar.

Dale was born and raised with his siblings on a farm in the RM of Bengough No. 40. Growing up Dale participated in various sports, but he especially loved hockey and baseball. Dale attended school in Bengough and upon his graduation in 1952, he worked at the Imperial Bank of Commerce, on a seismic crew, and on the family farm before attending the University of British Columbia in 1956. On August 16, 1957, Dale married Johanna "Jo" Swensson-Rosenquist.

After they wed, Jo got a teaching position in Edmonton, and Dale worked as an apprentice in a Chartered Accounting Firm. However, the call back to Saskatchewan was too hard to ignore, so they returned, and Dale's municipal career began in February of 1958 at the RM of Waverley No. 44. In January of 1960, they moved to Neudorf where Dale took a job with the RM of McLeod No. 185.

On October 1, 1962, Dale took the administrator position in his home RM, the RM of Bengough No. 40, where he would remain until his retirement on September 30, 1996.

Dale received both his "C" (No. 433) and "A" (October 15, 1962) certificates while working at the RM of McLeod No. 185. He received his "Superior A" certificate on August 19, 1974, while working at the RM of Bengough No. 40.

During his time as an administrator for the RM of Bengough No. 40, Dale also worked part-time for the Bengough Rural Telephone Company, as manager of the Bengough Housing Authority, and as the part-time administrator for both the RM of Happy Valley No. 10 and RM of Excel No. 71. Dale also spent time in various offices that were in between administrators.

Dale accomplished many things during his time with the RM of Bengough No. 40. One of the more memorable accomplishments was the transition to a computerized system. He had friends and colleagues that were apprehensive about this change and in true "Dale" fashion he faced the challenge head on and looked at it as an opportunity rather than just another task to complete.

As you can tell, municipal politics has always been near and dear to Dale's heart. He further showed this by serving as an alderman for the Town of Bengough from 1982 to 1988 and the Division 2 Director for the Rural Municipal Administrators' Association (RMAA) from 1982 to 1993. Dale also volunteered his free time to his community and received the Citizen of the Year award in 1995.

In 2000, when the Rural Board of Examiners took over the duty of office inspections for administrators wishing to advance their certificates, Dale was hired as the first inspector along with his colleague and friend Dale Malmgren. Dale continued performing office inspections until 2009. Two years after Dale retired, in 1996, he received the prestigious Lou Jacobs award, and in 2023 Dale was honoured with the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal.

Even after his retirement in 1996 Dale continued to serve his community. He spent countless hours documenting and upgrading cemetery records and doing groundskeeping at both the Bengough Cemetery as well as the Zion Lutheran Cemetery. He was also always willing to lend his bookkeeping and accounting expertise whenever asked to do so to various community groups, friends, and colleagues.

Dale and Jo now reside in Regina. They enjoy spending time with their three children, seven grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren spread throughout Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia.

Dale Leflar

RM of Waverley No. 44
1958-1960

RM of McLeod No. 185
1960-1962

RM of Bengough No. 40
1962-1996

RMAA
1982-1993

Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

His Honour Russ Mirasty presenting The Lieutenant Governor's Award for outstanding service to rural Saskatchewan to Dale Leflar.