





# ONLINE LEARNING

## *for the Busy Councillor*

**PLANT.**



**WATER.**



**CULTIVATE.**



# Why SEEDS?

- **Needs Assessment (2019 and 2024)**
- **Key Take Aways:**
  - Training was lacking among elected officials
  - Training was desired among elected officials
  - Cost and distance were barriers
- **Pending Changes to The Municipalities Act (2025)**

# **SEEDS for Elected Officials**

- **10 minutes**
- **“Tips” versus “Essay”**
- **Accessible**
- **Primarily for Elected Officials**
- **Focus on Key Governance Topics**
- **Individually Paced**
- **Online – Smart Phone Compatible**
- **Low Band-Width Requirements**

# SEEDS for Elected Officials

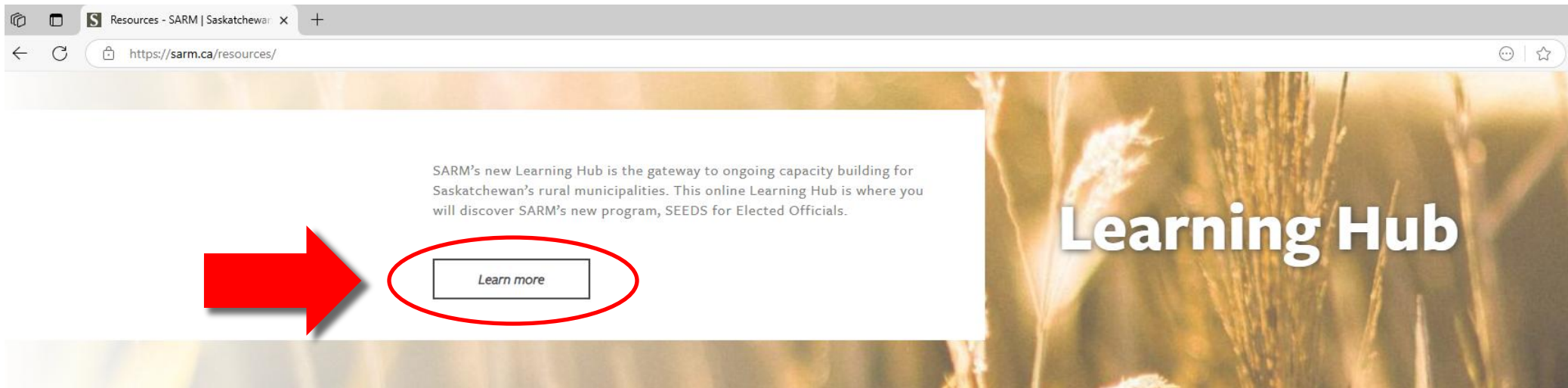
- **4 modules created; 4 more awaiting release**
- **Topics include:**

Intro to the program	5 things elected officials should not do
Role of Council	Role of the Elected Official
Conflict of Interest	Human Resources
Budgeting and Financials	Communicating with Ratepayers
- **Follows the RM of Fantasyland No. 777**
- **Line illustrations**
- **Infographics for recall**

# How Does SEEDS Work?

1

**Find SEEDS on the SARM website:  
“Resources/Learning Hub”**



2

Sign up for a new account:

Create a new account

*Please confirm you have entered your email address correctly.*

First name	Last name
Joe	Elected

Email

djresch@gmail.com

Password

.....

RM (required)

Guest

Role (required)

Elected Official

**Sign up**

[I already have an account](#)

How  
Does  
SEEDS  
Work?

# How Does SEEDS Work?

3

Go to the SEEDS Learning Path:

SARM LEARNING HUB

## My Dashboard

Welcome to your Dashboard. This page presents the learning paths available to rural municipal Elected Officials.

SEEDS for Elected Officials is the inaugural program for Elected Officials, which is comprised of multiple modules designed to provide tips on topics important to the elected official role.



4 MODULES

## Seeds for Elected Officials

Ten minutes modules helping you become more familiar with key tips on an important topic. You will be more comfortable with and effective in your role as an elected official. View the course path below, and get started!

[View Learning Path →](#)

**SEEDS**   
LEARNING PATH

SARM for ELECTED OFFICIALS



# 4

## Enroll in the SEEDS Learning Path:

LEARNING PATH

- ✓ Ten minute modules helping you become more familiar with key tips on an important topic.
- ✓ You will be more comfortable with and effective in your role as an elected official.
- ✓ View the learning path modules below, and get started!
- ✓ NOTE: Click the button below to enrol in this learning path.

**Enroll in SEEDS Learning Path**

# SEEDS

LEARNING PATH

**SARM** for ELECTED OFFICIALS

Enroll to begin improving in your role as an elected official.

4 Modules

**SEEDS**  
MODULE 1

**SARM**


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### Introduction to SEEDS


Introduction to SEEDS - the 'what' and 'why' around the SEEDS program, a picture of what the elected official will experience and the value it will provide.

# How Does SEEDS Work?


## Enter your first module:



You are enrolled in this learning path. Continue your progress with the next recommended module:  
[Introduction to SEEDS >](#)



Completed 0 of 4 Modules (0%)



**SEEDS**  
MODULE 1


SARM

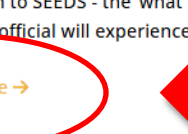
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### Introduction to SEEDS

Introduction to SEEDS - the 'what' and 'why' around the SEEDS program, a picture of what the elected official will experience and the value it will provide.

[View Module →](#)



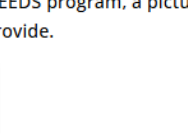


**SEEDS**  
MODULE 2

SARM

### Five Things Not To Do

Tips on What Not to Do – how to avoid common pitfalls, building awareness on actions and behaviours that can hinder effectiveness and impact relationships important to an elected official.



**SEEDS**  
MODULE 3

SARM

### Tips on the Role of Council

Tips on the Role of Council - a basic picture – a few tips - on the primary responsibilities of council and how council decisions are made.

6

Read the content and click “Complete & Continue” to proceed. View the different sections on the sidebar:

# How Does SEEDS Work?

The screenshot displays the SEEDS program interface. On the left is a sidebar titled "Introduction to SEEDS" with a "0% complete" status and a search bar. The sidebar lists several sections: "Introduction" (0/3), "Introduction" (TEXT - PREREQUISITE), "Our Objectives with this First Module" (TEXT - PREREQUISITE), "Let's Get Started" (TEXT - PREREQUISITE), "How Does It All Work" (0/2), "Example" (0/6), and "What Happens Next?" (0/3). A red box highlights the "Introduction" section and its sub-items. A large red arrow points from this sidebar section towards the main content area. The main content area is titled "Introduction" and features a large image of a green train car with "Saskatchewan!" written on it, set against a sunset background. Below the image is a brown banner with the "SARM" logo. The text below the banner reads: "Welcome to the introductory module of SARM's new program for elected officials – SEEDS. SEEDS is a line-up of learning modules designed to provide key tips on topics considered relevant to the role of the rural municipal elected official. What's unique about this program? You've told us you are very busy - each module has been designed to require only ten minutes of an elected official's time to complete. Ten minutes, and you will become more familiar with key tips on an important topic, helping you be more comfortable with and effective in your role as an elected official." At the bottom of the main content area, a red circle highlights a button labeled "COMPLETE & CONTINUE →". A large red arrow points from the bottom of the sidebar towards this button.

# How Does SEEDS Work?



## Work through the content and take the quizzes:

QUESTION 1 OF 1

Over half of elected officials do not participate in learning opportunities because:

Choose only ONE best answer.

- A The registration cost of the event is too high.
- B The time required and travel distance to the training event are barriers.
- C Too much knowledge is a dangerous thing.
- D Elected officials have no need to learn, that's why there is an administrator.



CONFIRM

# Support

- “Program Guide for Administrators” is available on the SARM website: [sarm.ca/seeds-for-elected-officials](https://sarm.ca/seeds-for-elected-officials)
- Forgotten passwords can be reset through password recovery in the system
- Admins are first point of contact for councillors
- Contact [learning@sarm.ca](mailto:learning@sarm.ca) for extra support

# The “Ask”

- At an upcoming council meeting, go through module 1 together as a group
- Each council member to register (or be registered) and complete the modules
- Work through the modules independent or together as a group – 10 minutes at the beginning of each council meeting
- System tracks individual progress
- Watch for new content!
- Send ideas for new topics
- SEND FEEDBACK to [learning@sarm.ca](mailto:learning@sarm.ca) or [dresch@sarm.ca](mailto:dresch@sarm.ca)