



Assiniboia

Heart of the Golden South



"All Matters Town"

Issue Five

April 2013

Mayors Message - *Bob Himbeault*

Its been quite a winter, I know we are all looking forward to spring! I would like to thank our town staff and contractors for the great job on snow removal, I know it is not an easy job. I would also like to extend a thank you to all the residents for your continued patience.

Winter also brings water breaks and we have had a few this season. Repairing lines in the winter is no easy task but I commend the public works crew on a job well done.

In the next few months Council will be approving the completed "Official Community Plan" (land use policy). We will also unveil our Strategic Plan which will set out our direction for the next four years. Both of these documents will be released and will be made available for the viewing public as soon as they are approved by Council.

We are in the process of reviewing our 2013 Operating and Capital budgets which are scheduled to be completed by the end of April - we are making all the appropriate adjustments to better serve the community. Your input is invaluable and as I have stated many times before, myself and any member of Council are always willing too meet with you for direction or any concerns. Please call the Town office to make an appointment. - **Bob Himbeault**

Government Services - *Steve Gibson, CAO*

Now that spring is finally here, the Town will be in full clean up mode to ensure that our community shines throughout summer. The Town works hard to keep Assiniboia looking beautiful and it is something that each resident should take pride in. Unfortunately there are some nuisance issues that pop up every year that Town Officials have to address. I am informing the public about some common recurring problems in an effort to minimize public nuisances.

Town Bylaws have established that no person is permitted to cause any land or buildings to become untidy and unsightly, which also restricts the following:

- Junked vehicles being kept on any land
- Any infestation of rodents, vermin or insects
- Any dead or hazardous tree
- Any sharp or dangerous objects

If a property is being rented, the property owner will be notified of the infraction and be expected to remedy the situation. The property owner is also responsible for paying any fines or fees associated with enforcing compliance with any of the Town's bylaws.

Now that the Town has switched to front street garbage pickup, please

make sure that there is no refuse cluttering up the back alleys. Home owners are responsible for making sure that the back lanes are not overgrown with tree branches, grass or weeds. It is each resident's responsibility to ensure that trees located on their property are pruned adequately. Residents are also responsible to ensure that the grass and weeds on their property are not more than 8 inches in length.

With summer just around the corner residents will begin to bring their recreational toys out for the season. It's great to see the community become so active during the summer; however, I encourage every resident and visitor to respect their neighbors and their space. The Town permits vehicles to be parked on the street for a period of up to 72 hours, this includes trailers, boats, ATVs and RVs. If a vehicle has been deemed by the Town to have been left in any public area for a period longer than 72 hours or if it is causing an obstruction which endangers public safety that vehicle will be towed at the owner's expense.

In the event that a resident has observed a nuisance property, a public safety concern or any bylaw violation please contact the Town Office at 306-642-3382 or send an email to townoffice@assiniboia.net so that the Town can investigate the matter.

Steve Gibson, CAO

Garbage Pick-Up

Front Street pick-up is now permanently in effect.

- * Front street pick up is already being done 7 or more months per year
- * It reduces alley maintenance costs

* With the Town contracting Loraas to collect recycling, it is practical to maintain consistency with their requirements (information regarding the NEW recycling program will be sent in the very near future)

- * It avoids hazards and delays associated with the garbage truck travelling the alleys during periods of heavy moisture
- * The Town will remain in a better state of cleanliness
- * It reduces nuisance animals and infestation



Corporate Services - Ellen McKay, Manager

Assessment Notices were mailed on March 28, 2013. As of March 28, 2013, the assessment roll is open for viewing at the Town Office until May 27, 2013. 2013 is a revaluation year for the province. Therefore, the Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency updated the assessments on all properties including Assiniboia's. This will capture the change in value caused by growth in the province. It also makes property assessments transparent, understandable, and accurate. Saskatchewan has experienced unprecedented economic growth, and as a result the 2013 Revaluation will report significant increases in property assessments.

Please review your Assessment Notices. If you have questions or concerns, there are many tools to assist you.

SamaView is available by clicking (www.sama.sk.ca). With SamaView you can verify your property assessment information, compare your assessment to similar or neighbouring properties, and/or get a general idea of assessed values in your municipality.

You can view the Assessment Roll at Town Office from March 28, to May 27, 2013 by phoning the Town Office at 306-642-3382. You can phone SAMA (Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency) at 1-800-498-0575 to talk to an assessor.

The Town is having an Assessment Clinic on April 26, 2013 from 10 – 3 where there will be assessors available for questions. Please make an appointment by calling the Town Office at 306-642-3382.

Please talk to us before filing an appeal. An assessment can be changed without filing an appeal. An appeal is when all other avenues have failed. It costs \$100 per roll to appeal and is only refunded if the appeal is won. The deadline to file an appeal is May 27, 2013.

Remember, in a revaluation year, an increase in assessment does not equal the same percent increase in your property tax bill. Council and administration will work together to lower the mill rate to keep your property taxes roughly the same or with minimal increases. This is done through the budget process which is well on its way to be completed.

Ellen McKay, Corporate Services & Assistant CAO

Parks, Recreation & Culture - Cheryl DeNeire

I would like to take a minute to introduce myself. My name is Cheryl DeNeire and I am your new Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture. I started in mid- January and I am very happy to be here. Assiniboia is a wonderful Town and everyone has been extremely welcoming. I have my Degree in Recreation Administration and I have worked in 5 Provinces for the YMYWCA, municipal recreation as well as corporate recreation services. I have managed pools, arenas, summer camps and a multitude of other programs. I have family in Moose Jaw and I enjoy a good conversation. I hope to meet many of you in the coming months. Feel free to stop by the office in Town Hall whenever you have a minute or have a question.

CALLING ALL LIFEGUARDS AND AQUATIC INSTRUCTORS!!

The outdoor swimming season is fast approaching and we need you in order to open our pool! If you

haven't already sent in your resume you can still drop it off at Town Hall. If you would like more information about the positions, call Cheryl at 642-3382. We are looking for an Aquatic Coordinator, a Head Guard, Lifeguards, Instructors and Junior Lifeguards.

SUMMER PUBLIC SWIMMING RATES

Adult: 18 years and older
Student/Youth: 13 -17 years of age
Child: 6-12 years of age

**The Aquatic Centre is scheduled to open
Sunday, June 2, 2013.**

Cheryl DeNeire - Manager



AQUARIAN SWIM CLUB

Registration for the Club will be held at Town Hall on April 22nd from 7-8:30pm

ASSINIBOIA MINOR BASEBALL

Missed registration? Call us to see how you can still be involved! 642-3332

ASSINIBOIA ROCKETS FOOTBALL

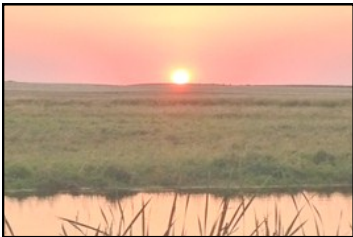
Registration will be in mid-May! See you there!

Seasonal Pass Monthly Pass Weekly Pass Daily Rate

	Seasonal Pass	Monthly Pass	Weekly Pass	Daily Rate
Family (4 people- max of 2 adults)	\$225	\$50 each additional child)	\$107	\$22 each additional child)
Adult 18+ years	\$123		\$54	\$24
Student/Youth 13-17 years	\$107		\$48	\$21
Child 6-12 years	\$96		\$43	\$18

**** Children under 6 years of age are free but must be accompanied by a student/adult (16 years of age or older)**

WE ARE ON THE WEB!
www.assiniboia.net



Did You Know:

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically please send an email to edo@assiniboia.net

FAQ:

*** Catch Basins**

Town employees will be out in full force to remedy any situations that occurs with the spring runoff, your patience is greatly appreciated.

*** New Land Fill Hours**

Landfill hours have been changed starting April 1. They are now set indefinitely year round at:

Monday thru Saturday 8am-5pm (closed during the lunch hour)

Public Works & Utilities - Owen Green, Manager

It appears Spring is in the air - what have we been up to this winter?

Snow, snow, snow, and more snow. Yep we have been working around it, moving it, blowing it, trying to melt it and just when we think we have it beat, good old mother nature gives us another big bowl full. The town crew with the help from the local contractors have been doing a great job keeping our streets clean and accessible. I would like to thank all the residents who are helping us to keep the streets cleared, for parking off the streets and for not blowing or piling the snow into the streets.

In order to have a trouble free season we are preparing and servicing equipment for another season.

Snow and Warming temperatures:

We have had a good snow pack this winter and that is starting to equate to moisture in the ground.

The town maintains the storm ditches to ensure we can provide a controlled pathway for the runoff water. The runoff in outlying areas and water shed is collected into the towns water reservoir to provide for water storage, drinking water supply, irrigation, and fire suppression.

What can you do to control the run off and prevent potential moisture problems in your homes and yards?

- Keep your catch basins clear of ice and debris.
- Move the snow away from your house foundation.
- Open a pathway for the water to travel away from your home and yard, just don't direct it into your neighbors basement window.
- Ensure your eve troughs and down spouts are opened, and pointed away from your house.
- Check your sump pumps to make sure they are in working condition.

- Check your back flow valve (if you have one) to ensure it is in working condition.
- Do you have a shop vac or alternative? In the event you have water appearing in your basement one may come in hand.

Waste Collection is now front street pick up and will remain such indefinitely.

Landfill hours have been changed starting April 1. They are now set indefinitely year round at:

Monday thru Saturday 8am-5pm (closed during the lunch hour)

Thank you to the Town of Assiniboia residents for utilizing the blue bins for your recycling of papers and cardboard. This is a great asset to the Town's landfill in reducing the amount of materials being disposed of as well as extending its service life. We thank you for not putting your garbage and trash in these containers.

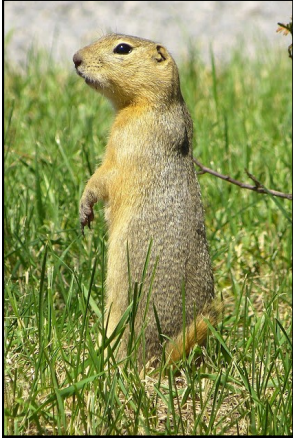
Water meters: The town is working on a new program, replacing the older water meters to new units which are read by a special hand held radio. The main benefit of this program is better time efficiency for the crew who have in the past had to walk through your private yards to read the meter. Now they will be able to capture a number of readings while walking down the sidewalk, without having to go into your yards, flower beds and gardens. This is a multiyear program, there are 1214 residential meters that will be outfitted.

My office is open and I welcome questions and solutions.

Regards,

Owen Green
Director of Works and Utilities
Town of Assiniboia

Your suggestions and feedback are greatly appreciated! If you would like information & questions made available please let us know!



Economic Development & Tourism - *Rochelle Neff, Manager*

Oh how I wish for Spring!

At the heart of many effective community partnerships are the individual efforts and time that company employees give as volunteers in community service.

The Town of Assiniboia monthly clean-up initiative will be in full swing starting in May. It is a program whereby the town staff, business and citizens help clean our streets and roadways. Community Cleanup Days are scheduled to take place on the third Thursdays of each month between 12:00 noon – 2 p.m. In the event of rain, the Cleanup events will be cancelled.

The Town will provide rubber gloves and trash bags for those interested.

This is a wonderful opportunity to participate in a Community Service Project and demonstrate your concern for your Town and the environment.

Your assistance is needed even if you can only participate for part of the event.

Getting economic development to work well in Assiniboia and the region means adopting efforts that produce lasting economic activity that raises the standard of living and opportunities available to the many, not just the few. It means spending our limited infrastructure and economic development monies as investments for the future not just activity for now. It means funding projects that improve our environment and quality of life. In the near future the Strategic Plan will be unveiled, my 2013 work plan includes a new business program, it is my hope that many businesses will participate.

Explore opportunities to receive public funds to help springboard your business venture. There are programs that apply to businesses in all provinces and territories, and others that apply only to businesses in Saskatchewan. These federal grants can be viewed

at www.canadabusiness.ca. Provincially, there is a ton of available monies for businesses to tap into, these can be found at www.gov.sk.ca. I am always here to assist businesses and individuals in grant availability.

The Assiniboia Regional Economic Alliance (AREA) is working hard to complete their own individual OCP's and Zoning Bylaws as well as the regional "umbrella" plan. The Alliance hosted a Regional Economic Development Forum this past March, in Assiniboia. Invitations went out to dozens of municipalities in the hopes to have round table discussions in regards to regional economic development. Included in this forum was a number of speakers on housing as well as tourism opportunities. The end result was clear - in order to sustain a unified, strong voice - smaller communities have to rely on one another - in all things. The Town of Assiniboia is dedicated in working together. The AREA is a catalyst and from what I have heard regional cooperation can tap into a greater pool of funds, when they become available. The new AREA website is in its final stages of completion. It will be a one stop shop of investment readiness for future investors, entrepreneurs and businesses looking for any economic information for the region. I look forward to announcing the launch date in the very near future!

On another note, The Tourist Information Centre will again be opening in the middle of May for another season. Tune in for more information!

Congratulations to the new owners of the Wheel Inn Motel - I extend you nothing but success!

My door is always open, if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

Rochelle Neff, EDO & Tourism Manager

WE ARE ON THE WEB!

www.assiniboia.net

Contact Us

Town of Assiniboia

Box 670
Assiniboia, Saskatchewan
S0H 0B0

Phone: 306-642-3382

Fax: 306-642-5622

E-mail:

townoffice@assiniboia.net

