Phone No.: 204-437-2284 or 204-437-2060 Fax No.: 204-437-2556 office@rmofpiney.mb.ca





January 2020

MONTHLY REMINDERS

Event Grant Deadline: January 10th, 2020

2018/2019 Overdue Taxes

Tax Sale Processing Deadline: Tuesday, March 31st

RM taxes for 2019 were due on October 31st. If you happened to miss this deadline and also have 2018 taxes still owing on your property, your property will incur tax sale costs if not paid by March 31st, 2020.

For all rate payers who have 2018 and 2019 taxes owing, a letter will be issued to you later this month stating what you have owing for 2018 including arrears and penalties. This amount is <u>due by Tuesday, March 31st, 2020</u>. The letter will not state the amount due for 2019 taxes since only 2018 needs to be paid so the property will not incur additional tax sale costs. Commencing April 1st, 2020, tax sale costs will be added to your property as well as monthly penalties.

COTW is scheduled for January 8th, 2020 1:00pm.

Annual Coffee with Council

February 18th – 20th

All residents of the RM are welcome to join the council members and CAO at their Annual 'Coffee with Council' meet and greet on the following days:



<u>Tuesday, February 18th, 2020:</u> 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Over 40 Club in Piney



<u>Wednesday, February 19th, 2020:</u> 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Woodridge Community Centre in Woodridge

<u>Thursday, February 20th, 2020:</u> 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Evergreen Seniors Centre in Sprague

Coffee with Council is a time for rate payers within our RM to join council to voice any concerns or ask council any questions they may have.

We hope to see you there!

HAPPY NEW YEARS! The RM Office re-opens to the public on Thursday, January 2nd, 2020.



RM HIGHLIGHTS

Manitoba – Minnesota Transmission Line – The MB - MN Transmission Line Working Group looks forward to renewed discussions with the newly appointed Minister of Crown Services. Preliminary talks with the Minister were positive and the group looks forward to favourable outcome in reinstating committed funding for the project.

Development Plan – Significant progress has occurred on the review of the 2010 Development Plan. A draft Development Plan map will be available online for review sometime in January. More information will be presented during the February Coffee with Council meetings. We encourage ratepayers to review the map and to come to the Coffee with Council meetings to discuss the draft plan.

Association of Manitoba Municipalities Annual **Convention** – The RM attended the 21st AMM Annual Convention in November. Council had the opportunity to vote on approximately 40 resolutions which impact municipality's province wide; ranging from cell service, health care, taxation, service delivery and many more. In addition, the RM of Piney was able to meet with the Department of Health, Seniors and Active Living and the Minister of Agriculture and Resource Development. Both departmental meetings were beneficial, as the RM continues to lobby the Province for improved health care service delivery, seniors housing and crownlands transfers for economic growth.

PR201 Upgrade – The RM's of Emerson-Franklin, Stuartburn and Piney are collaboratively lobbying the province for improvements to Highway (HWY) 201 that will aid economic development. HWY 201 is a core route for residential and commercial traffic for all three municipalities and has been identified as the number one priority for upgrading to advance economic development. Unfortunately, many operational decisions impact the region's economy, including reduced weight limits and spring road restrictions. The partnering municipalities have met with the local MLA's and will be submitting a lobbying report to the Provincial Government shortly.



Thank you for all the responses!



RM of Piney Fire Fighters

Winter Time!

When winter arrives, we can have a difficult time changing our driving habits to suit the conditions of snow and sleet. Inappropriate speed, reduced visibility, following too closely, sudden acceleration or braking, and poor vehicle maintenance are all reasons why Manitobans report more crashes in winter months.

Slow Down

Slowing down will maintain traction and decrease your total stopping distance. Posted speed limits are the maximum recommended speed for ideal conditions only.



Severe Conditions

Conditions on Manitoba highways during winter can quickly turn dangerous. Planning ahead may save your life. Check for weather forecasts and road condition alerts by visiting <u>Manitoba511.ca</u> for road information. Fill up on gas, anti-freeze and windshield washer fluid and travel with a fully-charged phone if you have one.

Emergency Supplies

Keep a cold-weather survival kit in your vehicle.

Include the following:

• Candle

• Ice scraper

Boots

• Warm clothes

- Matches
- Flash light
- Flares or reflectors
- First aid kit
- Water
- Non-perishable food
- Booster cables
- Shovel

If Stranded

If you are stranded, call for help, turn on the vehicle's four-way flashers, and remain in your vehicle until help arrives. Ensure that your tail-pipe is not getting covered or blocked with snow to reduce the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.

For more winter driving tips, please visit: <u>https://www.mpi.mb.ca/Pages/winter-driving.aspx</u>



BETTER ACCESS TO GROCERIES

- open to everyone
- \$10 per bag of mixed fruits & vegetables
- pre-order & pre-pay through your community volunteer
- bags may be ordered & donated
- contents are non-negotiable & will vary each time

BAG program runs January 2020 - March 2020, biweekly

Accessible Healthy



COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS:

Contact your community volunteer to receive an order form today!

 Buffalo Point - Buffalo Bay Marina - 204 437 2402

 Middlebro - Rita Loranger - 204 437 2415

 Sprague - EBPHCC - 204 437 3015

 Piney - Jean Gushulak - 204 423 2285

 Kevin & Tiffany Thunder - 204 437 2542



Program sponsored by: Healthy Living Working Group and Buffalo Point Health & Wellness



All Vendor types welcome!

If you can't make it, bake it or grow it... You can buy it at the Farmer's Market!



Coming soon... Moodie and Hickey COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Woodridge Community Club presents

VALENTINE Dinner & Dance Fundraiser

Saturday, February 8, 2020

Woodridge Community Club 69 Denis Street, Woodridge, MB

TICKETS: \$25 Includes DINNER, MUSIC & Entertainment by SMALL TOWN LIMITS

> DINNER: 5pm - 6:30pm MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT: 7pm-11:30pm CASH BAR



TICKETS: \$25

Tickets must be purchased in advance (before Feb 1st) at the Vintage Corner Store (Woodridge, MB), from a WCC Board Member or call: Stan 204-429-2253 John 204-429-2045



Vassar Snowmobile Derby February 8th, 2020 – Vassar

Piney Regional Chamber of Commerce February 13th, 2020 – Council Chambers in Vassar

> Piney Curling Bonspiel February 15 - 16th, 2020 – Piney

Economic Development



Last month, we listed our four pillars of economic development: tourism, existing business expansion, agriculture/forestry/ industrial, and entrepreneurial activity. Starting this month with tourism, we'll explain each in more detail.

What we're working on: After three years of tireless effort to build up the Sunrise Corner Tourism brand, adding a dedicated economic development resource is a substantial step forward. What progress has been made to date?

- Meeting with partner organizations like Eastman Tourism to leverage their networks and resources will help to further promote our tourism offering.
- Creating a detailed inventory of all area events will provide current content for the Sunrise Corner website and on social media to entice more visitors.
- Setting up Sunrise Corner Tourism & Economic Development Inc. as a non-profit will allow us to apply for new grants that may result in additional resources to promote our area.

What residents can do: Creating a thriving community is about each of us as residents doing what we can to support the promotion of our area. What can you do to help?

- If you're on social media, like and follow Sunrise Corner Tourism. Like the posts (and if you love them and comment, even better). Share posts with your friends and invite them to like the page. The more people see what our area has to offer, the more visitors we'll get.
- Plan a day trip with family or friends to a Sunrise Corner attraction you haven't visited yet. The next big thing: Vita & Area Winter Festival on January 18 and 19.
- Community volunteers, we're here to support you in promoting your event. Just email me with event name, date, community, description (250-word max), contact, website/social media link.

Please watch the RM Facebook page for monthly Open Office Days in both the Vassar and Vita offices where you can come meet with me informally to share your tourism or business ideas.

Monique Chenier monique@sunrisecornermb.ca

Piney Regular Curling Start Date TBD



All interested individuals or teams that would like to curl during the week – please contact:

Drew Gushulak - 204-380-2544 Wally Gushulak - 431-205-1248

Sprague & Area Arena



Public Skating Hours: Weekdays: 3:30pm - 9:00pm Weekends: Noon - 9:00pm



A water cooler

has been added to the warming room for the public to use. Cups are NOT supplied, so please bring your own refillable water bottle.