

*Let's celebrate*



JOIN US FOR AN END OF YEAR BASH WITH LIVE MUSIC FROM

**GOOD N DUSTY**

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VASSAR COMMUNITY CENTER 8PM-1PM  
DECEMBER 29TH

SPONSORED BY THE VCRC  
**\$15 Entry Fee**




Coming to Your Community  
**Métis Mobile Clinic**  
January 19, 2024  
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

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**Woodridge Community Hall**  
69 Denis Street

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Offering:

- Blood sugar testing
- Cholesterol levels
- Foot Care (limited seat available 4) – Please Book Early
- 5-minute health “check ins”
- COVID -19 vaccines including boosters.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

Vaccine and Foot Care by appointment only. Call or email  
contact: 1-833-390-1041 ext. 3 or [clinicinfo@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:clinicinfo@mmf.mb.ca)

# UPCOMING Events

**Piney Regional Chamber of Commerce AGM**  
Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6:30pm  
RM Piney Council Chambers in Vassar

**Stay & Play**  
Tuesdays from 9:30am – 11:30am  
January 16<sup>th</sup> – March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Ross L. Gray School Library (*families with kids 5 & under*)

**Southeast Farmer's Market**  
Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 from 10am – 2pm  
Pine Grove Seniors in South Junction


**Kids Club**  
Every Wednesday from 7:00 – 9:00pm  
Sprague Community Fellowship (*kids 5 and up welcome*)

**Exercise for Fun & Health**  
Mondays & Thursdays at 9:30am  
Pine Grove Seniors Club in South Junction

**Floor Curling, Pickle Ball & Archery**  
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays  
Piney Community Centre

**Coffee Conversation & Computers**  
Every Monday from 9:30am – 11:30am  
Vassar Community Hall

**Sprague & Area Arena**  
Check the Sprague & Area Arena Facebook Page  
For updates on when the ice will be ready!



*Piney Puzzle Party*  
Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 at 7:00pm



Registration Deadline January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Teams of 4 or less (\$30/team)  
Contact Roger Schwegel: 431-996-5686

Phone: 204-437-2284 or 204-437-2060  
office@rmofpiney.mb.ca  
Hours: Monday – Friday  
8:30am – 12:00pm  
12:45pm – 4:30pm



**Need to Contact your Councillor?**  
Wayne Anderson: 204-527-0569  
Ken Prociw: 204-429-2143  
Dale Edbom: 204-423-2089  
David Beaudry: 204-437-2528  
Mark Bernard: 431-997-5077

## MONTHLY REMINDERS

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### Piney/Menisino Transfer Site

The household dumping pit at Piney/Menisino dump will be closed as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Starting Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 all household materials must be disposed of using the appropriate transfer bins.

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### 2022/2023 Overdue Taxes

**Tax Sale Processing Deadline: Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**

2023 RM taxes were due on October 31<sup>st</sup>. If you happened to miss the deadline and also have 2022 taxes still owing on your property, your property will incur tax sale costs if not paid by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

For all rate payers who have 2022 and 2023 taxes owing, a letter will be issued to you later this month stating what you owe for 2022, including arrears and penalties. This amount is due by **Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024**. The letter will not state the amount due for 2023 taxes since only 2022 needs to be paid in order for the property to not incur additional tax sale costs. Come April 1<sup>st</sup>, tax sale costs will be added to your property as well as monthly penalties.

### Piney Weed / Building District

Year in Review

Our 2023 building season turned out to be a very busy year for building permits. We saw our second busiest year to date with 69 permits being pulled for 2023. This is a 60% increase over our normal average for Piney building permits, which shows that our RM continues to grow year after year. With the new sub-divisions in Woodridge and Sandilands, I can see another strong year coming for 2024.

The 2023 road side spray program for noxious weeds saw it's challenges this year. We started with a winter that did not seem to end, having a very short spring then straight into a hot summer. This left an effect on the growing season and our crew had to adjust accordingly. The one thing that we found this year is a new Tier 1 weed in our RM called Red Bartsia. This weed is very hard to control and mainly targets pasture and grazing lands, effecting our cattle producers and hay lands. Our weed district will be sending out an informational newsletter in mid-January to inform our locals on how to treat this weed of concern.

Gary Hora  
RM of Piney

January 2024



**HAPPY New Year**

The RM office will re-open on Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Recycling Incentive Program

The RM of Piney Recycling Incentive Program has officially begun! Starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, for every blue recycling bag you drop off at any of our three waste transfer stations, you will receive a ticket to be entered into our monthly draw. Only recycling done after January 1<sup>st</sup> will qualify to receive a ticket.

If you drop off recycling bags at the community bins, tickets can be picked up at the RM office or at the waste transfer stations. If someone is dropping off your recycling for you, it is your responsibility to get the tickets from that person.

Please note that draws will be done by the 21<sup>st</sup> day of the following month. For example, all the tickets collected in January, a draw will be done by February 21<sup>st</sup> and the winning ticket will be announced immediately on our Facebook Page, 'The Rural Municipality of Piney' and in our monthly newsletters.

Every month in 2024 there will be a ticket drawn for a prize of \$250 in value. A reminder to keep your portion of the ticket (or take a photo of it) or write your name on the back of the dump attendants ticket. You will need to show proof of the winning ticket or provide I.D. that matches the name on the winning ticket when picking up your prize.





## RM of Piney Climate Action Plan

Last call to participate in the RM of Piney Climate Action Plan survey. This survey will be closing mid-January. This survey gathers thoughts and ideas on climate change and how it impacts this region. The information will be used to shape the RM of Piney Climate Action Plan. This plan will help make sure that this region is ready and prepared to adapt to a changing climate. Your thoughts are important. We want to hear from you!

**Everyone who completes the survey will be entered in draw to win one of 5 gift cards.**

The survey can be found on-line at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Pineyclimate> or simply scan the QR code on your phone for a direct link to the survey.



If you would like to get involved in this project or want more information, please reach out to Allison Driedger by phone at 204-392-3849 or email: [bluestemdevelopment@gmail.com](mailto:bluestemdevelopment@gmail.com)

## Why join the Piney Regional Chamber of Commerce in 2024?

As the new year approaches, you may be considering whether or not you want to take your business to the next level. Have you considered joining your local Piney Regional Chamber of Commerce? So, why join the Piney Regional Chamber of Commerce?

### Credibility

When your company is highly involved in its local chamber of commerce, it infers that your company is trustworthy and cares about its customers and community.

### Supporting each other

Running your own business can be quite lonely. Our regular networking events are designed to provide opportunities to meet fellow business owners, share experiences, and discover new potential partners, clients, and referrals!

### Promote your business

There's a saying that there are only two kinds of customers; those who know about you and those who don't! As a member of the Piney Regional Chamber of Commerce, you can promote to a whole new audience through speaking at Chamber events and promoting your business at Chamber events.

### Networking

The chance to expand your professional network is one of the main reasons to join and attend a Chamber of Commerce. Attending meetings and other chamber events is a great way to connect with local business owners, network like a pro, and build business relationships in 2024. Just being a member is appreciated.

### Professional development

As a member, you have access to a wealth of resources, training opportunities, and the means to develop your own business skills. You can also tap into local expertise, and seek help from people in your community, rather than just online, or via a video. Better yet, you can be one of the experts in the room to mentor other entrepreneurs.

By joining and attending monthly meetings, the Piney regional Chamber of Commerce provides businesses with access to resources and discounts. Once you are a Piney Regional Chamber of Commerce member, you automatically are members of the Manitoba Chamber of Commerce, with all the advantages, discounts and resources they provide to all Chamber members across the province.

When do we meet? We meet every second Thursday in Vassar at the RM of Piney Council Chambers at 7pm. As mentioned, being a member is appreciated, but attending chamber meetings is where the real growth is to ignite your business! Did I mention it is \$80.00 per year, now that is a deal!

To learn more, please reach out to our President, John Prevost at [president@pineyregionalchamber.ca](mailto:president@pineyregionalchamber.ca) or our secretary, Monique Chenier at [info@pineyregionalchamber.ca](mailto:info@pineyregionalchamber.ca).

Mark Bernard

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



### Small Business Fuels Our Economy

Some people think that economic development is all about securing that one big, bricks-and-mortar business that's going to be the solution to all our challenges. What people may not realize is that according to the 2021 Census, Sunrise Corner has a rate of entrepreneurship that is more than double the provincial rate. That's why one of our main areas of focus since day one has been helping small business grow and new businesses launch.

To help small business promote their products and services, events and job openings, we have created a number of free tools. One of those tools is the [business directory](#), available both online and as a print version (pick yours up at the RM offices in Vassar or Vita). We set up basic listings for all businesses that were listed in previous RM directories and have been adding businesses as we hear about them.

A local business directory is as much about helping businesses promote their offerings as it is about helping residents find the products and services they're seeking right here in our region. It is better for everyone in Sunrise Corner if local money is spent at local businesses. Indirectly, it's even more than that. It's showing potential residents the goods that are available here when they're considering moving to the area. It's about showing the gaps so that entrepreneurs, whether from within our region or from beyond, can consider starting new businesses here to meet local needs. It's also about showing that people can live in our beautiful corner of the province because they want this unparalleled quality of life without having to be close to their customers in other parts of the province, country or world.

Over the coming months, we will be promoting the existing businesses that have updated their listings and new businesses that have added their listings. Follow our [Sunrise Corner Economic Development Facebook page](#) for business profiles.

If you would like your Sunrise Corner-based business to be considered for an upcoming social media profile, simply update your existing listing on the directory, or if your business is not yet listed, create a new listing. You can either log on yourself to claim or create a listing, or we're happy to help.

As always, we encourage you to shop local. Let's all contribute to a prosperous 2024 for all our local businesses.

Monique Chenier  
[monique@sunrisecornermb.ca](mailto:monique@sunrisecornermb.ca)



## PROTECTIVE SERVICES



### Sprague RCMP

Happy New Year! As of now, there is a little bit of snow... Hopefully enough will accumulate for all the avid snowmobilers out there. If this is a hobby of yours, please be sure to make good choices when using them. This means no drinking and driving, travelling at a safe speed, and making sure your machine is properly registered and insured. Please stay off private property, and stick to designated routes or trails. Historically we have received quite a few complaints about riders driving on private property. We need to be cognizant and respectful of people's property. Many people have gardens, ornaments, and even obstacles that could be dangerous under the snow. If you're using a groomed trail, make sure you have a Snow pass! Those trails don't groom themselves. Make sure you have emergency gear with you, and let someone know where you're going to be riding for the day.

Now that the sun sets quite early, I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone to try wear bright reflective clothing when out for those evening walks. We have observed quite a few people dressed in dark clothing while out walking. We don't want anyone getting hit by a vehicle. Especially children. Children are sneaky, quick, unpredictable and don't always know to watch for vehicles.

**For all non-emergency matters including Criminal Record Checks, please contact the Sprague RCMP Detachment at (204) 437-2041. Should you require immediate Police assistance you can call (204) 437-2222 or 911 in the case of an emergency.**

Cpl. Kevin Bruce  
Sprague RCMP



For paid employment and volunteer opportunities in Sunrise Corner, visit:

[www.sunrisecornermb.ca/workfinder](http://www.sunrisecornermb.ca/workfinder)