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

October 2025

# **MONTHLY REMINDERS**

#### The RM Office will be closed:

Tuesday, September 30th, 2025



Monday, October 13th, 2025



## **Council Meeting**

Moved from October 14th to October 15th, 2025

The regular council meeting scheduled for October 14<sup>th</sup>, has been moved to Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 10:00am.

# RM of Piney Taxes Due

Friday, October 31st, 2025



Taxes are due by 4:30pm on October 31st, 2025. All forms of payment must be in our office by that time so please be mindful of ground mail transit time. Arrears shown on your tax statement are as of May 31st, 2025. 1.25% interest is applied monthly until they are fully paid. Please contact the office for a current balance prior to payment to ensure no additional interest charges have been left unaccounted. If you received Supplementary Taxes this year, these tax bills are also due on October 31st, 2025.

#### Tax payments can be made by:

- mailing in a cheque payable to the RM of Piney
- leaving a cheque in our drop box accessible 24/7
- online banking Credit Union & Caisse Populaire
  - credit card with 2% service fee
  - debit/credit, cash, or cheque in person

**E-TRANSFERS ARE NOT ACCEPTED** 



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

Monday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 7:00 – 9:00 pm **Vassar Community Recreation Centre** 

Tuesday, October 21st, 2025 from 7:00 – 9:00 pm Middlebro Community Club

Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 from 7:00 – 9:00 pm Moonshadow Gymnasium, 24027 St. Labre Rd

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!

#### **Traffic Gravel Haul**

RM of Piney Public Works
2024-2025 Cost Comparison

For 2024, the total cost for traffic gravel including hauling, spreading, repairing municipal roads, and projects to date was \$228,648.02. This amount covers 19,395.70 tonnes of gravel. For 2025, the total cost for traffic gravel including hauling, spreading, repairing municipal roads, and projects to date is \$228,546.70. This amount covers 19,807 tonnes of gravel.

# Board of Revision October 14th, 2025

Board of Revision is scheduled for Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025, where those scheduled will have a chance to appeal their 2026 assessments and/or their 2024/2025 added/reduction statements. All submissions were due by 4:30pm on September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

The Board of Revision is an independent panel that reviews property assessment appeals. Manitoba Assessment Services will also be present to provide information and respond to questions during the hearing.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Power of the Chamber**

Sunrise Corner strongly believes in the value of partnering with our local chamber of commerce to help drive growth and prosperity in our region. The Piney Regional Chamber of Commerce (PRCC) was formed in 2016 by local community-minded business leaders to promote an environment which fosters economic development, works in partnership with our civic agencies, and provides value to our members through education, networking and cultural interests thereby enhancing our region for work, play, raising families and doing business. So, how does the Chamber benefit local businesses?

Facilitating Monthly Learning: The PRCC hosts monthly meetings which include networking and professional development opportunities. Sometimes our guest speaker is a local chamber member / business owner sharing their success story. Other times, we invite an outside agency providing business services like Community Futures Triple R or Farm Credit Canada. Our member speaker on October 9 will be discussing practical Artificial Intelligence (AI) tips for small businesses. On November 13, we welcome Crimestoppers to teach us how to protect ourselves and our businesses from scams and fraud.

Offering Employee Benefits Plans: If you thought a reliable, comprehensive employee benefits program was out of reach for your small business, think again. As a member of the Piney Regional Chamber of Commerce, you have exclusive access to Chambers Plan—Canada's most trusted group benefits solution for small/mid-size enterprises.

Supporting Youth Entrepreneurship: Back in May 2025, PRCC launched its first Youth Entrepreneur Challenge in collaboration with local municipalities, schools, and economic development partners. This dynamic "Dragon's Den"-style event highlighted five students from across the region who pitched their innovative business ideas for a chance to win cash prizes. Each of the students gained practical entrepreneurial experience and made valuable business connections.

Providing Business Supports: PRCC recently launched its new website with a compelling outline of benefits that local business owners and managers can take advantage of to help achieve success. You'll see the business directory promoting member companies and member-discounted marketing opportunities like mobile sign rental. We're working on an e-newsletter that will provide even more supports – sign up on the website. Thank you to chamber-member Jonathon Prevost of Upper Hand Technologies for volunteering to build the new site.

To learn more about the business-building supports and community-enhancing initiatives offered by the Chamber, or to get involved as a volunteer, visit the PRCC website at www.pineyregionalchamber.ca.

Monique Chenier monique@sunrisecornermb.ca

## **PROTECTIVE SERVICES**

#### Sprague RCMP

I hope everyone is enjoying the fall! We have been seeing an uptick in vehicle collisions with wildlife this month. I just wanted to warn that on these dark nights to be careful and watch out for these deer as they are getting bold. Make sure you are using high beams when appropriate and be responsible. Make sure your vehicles are up to date on insurance and that it hasn't lapsed. Having an uninsured vehicle involved in a collision like that can be an expensive venture. We have seen people stranded because of these accidents, make sure you have your phones charged and I always recommend having phone numbers for your tow company of choice on hand. As sometimes the service isn't good enough to get an internet search in.

With Halloween upcoming, it won't be just the deer to look out for. I wanted to make sure we raise awareness for safe practices. If children are going to be walking on the streets after dark trick-or-treating, make sure they are in visible clothing and accompanied by someone responsible for them. We don't want to see any accidents happen, so hopefully everyone can have safe nights this month!

For all non-emergency matters including Criminal Record Checks, please contact the Sprague RCMP Detachment at (204) 437-2041. Our admin for Criminal Record Checks work from Tuesday to Thursday 9-5. Should you require immediate Police assistance, call (204) 437-2222 or 911 in the case of an emergency.



Cst. Mitchell Butler Sprague RCMP

# Thank you Global Medic!



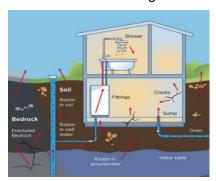


The RM of Piney Fire Service was recently the recipient of critical new fire fighting equipment thanks to a generous donation from **GlobalMedic**.

These fire skids are turning ordinary pickup trucks into frontline fire fighting tools. Each unit includes a 1,000-litre water tank, pump, and hose reel, all mounted on a steel frame. This unit will strengthen all three department's ability to fight wildfires, protect properties, react more quickly and save lives. Learn more about GlobalMedic and how they are making a difference in our communities with these fire skids: https://globalmedic.ca/canada-wildfires/

#### November is Radon Action Month in

**Canada:** - to raise awareness about the dangers of radon gas and to encourage Canadians to test their homes for high levels of this radioactive, odorless & colorless gas, which is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers. During the winter months, radon levels indoors are often highest, making November a critical time for testing and taking action to reduce exposure.



Radon is a radioactive gas that occurs naturally when the uranium in soil and rock breaks down. With the potential to build to dangerous levels in indoor spaces, radon enters a home any place the house is in contact with the ground such cracks in foundation walls, floor slabs or service pipes.

**TESTING:** The first step to protecting yourself is to test your home during the heating season. Whether you've got an older home or a newer home, or your neighbor has already tested, you still should test for radon. Radon levels vary naturally from day to day and month to month influenced by changes in the weather, the surrounding environment or how you use your home.

**LEARN MORE ON OCTOBER 20<sup>TH</sup> at the VASSAR COMMUNITY HALL 7:00PM** with a Health Canada presenter only at this location AS PART OF COFFEE WITH COUNCIL. Discussion will include the set up of a radon screening device lending library for RM of Piney residents.

Additional information may be obtained at:
Radon - Reduction Guide for Canadians - Canada.ca
Test and Reduce Radon in Your Home - Take Action on Radon

#### **Fire Prevention Week**

Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup> to Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup> Charge into Fire Safety!

The Fire Prevention Week™ (FPW™) campaign, "Charge into Fire Safety™: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home," works to educate everyone about using these batteries safely. The campaign stresses how important it is to BUY, CHARGE, and RECYCLE safely when it comes to lithium-ion batteries.





#### **PRCC Meeting**

Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 7pm RM Piney Council Chambers in Vassar Guest Speaker: Jonathon Prevost, Upper Hand Technologies

Southeast Farmer's Market
Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 10am – 2pm
Pine Grove Seniors Center in South Junction

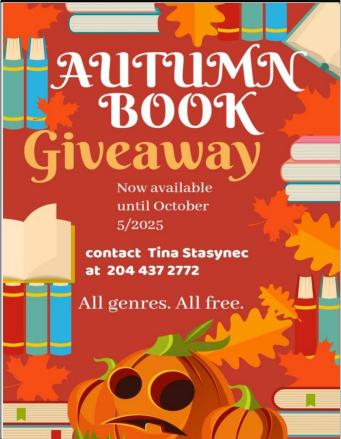
Service Canada
Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am – 3:00pm
East Borderland Primary Health Care Centre
in Sprague

"Meet Your Neighbours" – Coffee Groups Mondays - 1pm – Pine Grove Seniors in S.J. Thursdays - 1pm – Evergreen Seniors in Sprague

Woodridge Wellness Wednesdays - 1:00-4:00pm Moms & Tots on Thursdays - 10:00am-12:00pm Cancelled Days: October 2nd Woodridge Community Club

> Piney Christmas Bazaar Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 *More Info to come!*

Karaoke
Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 at 8pm
Vassar Community Recreation Centre









Entry: Ages 3-14 \$5 / 15+ \$10



#### **The Piney Community Centre**

Invites you to sign up for indoor activities that are running in our Community Hall. Please contact the people organizing the daily events. They run from beginning of October to the end of May. Cribbage runs the alternating Friday to Bingo at 6:30 pm at the Over 40 Clubroom. Bingo runs every other Friday all year long.

Mondays: Cornhole 6:30 pm - Al and Anthea Chartier - 204-392-7110



Tuesdays: Floor Curling 6:30 pm - Bob Zarn - 204-423-2053



Wednesdays: Pickleball 1:00 pm - Jean Gushulak - 204-216-5009

& 7:00 pm - Cam Brown -204-905-2060



Thursdays: Alternating with the week of Bingo 7:00 pm - Roger Schwegel - 431-996-5686



# VASSAR' Fall Brunch 2025

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH 10:00-1:00

Hashbrowns, pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, fruit and MORE!

> Cost: \$15 6-12 years \$7.50 Under 5 free. 50/50

Bingo 1:00-3:30

# Come and Visit... and Stay to Play!! At Ross L. Gray School- Fall 2025

RLG, BLSD, and Health Child Coalition-SE are hosting a *free* stay and play for families and their caregivers in the area.

- The Stay and Play is a free drop-in program, with no registration required.
- ❖ It will be held Tuesday mornings from 9:30 11:30 at the RLG school.
- A free snack and a book will be provided.
- The children will come and explore and participate in various activities that will strengthen their social skills and help promote independence.
- This is an opportunity for parents to learn with their children, children to interact and make new friends, and for everyone to meet other families in the community.

Come and Visit... and Stay To Play will follow the BLSD school calendar, which means if there is a school closure we will be closed also.

Where: Ross L. Gray School

When: Starting October 7th, 2025 (every Tuesday) until December 9th

What time: 9:30-11:30

Who: Babies and children up to age 5 and their parents/caregivers.





If you have questions please contact Carly Chubaty or Adriane Culleton at 204-437-2175. <a href="mailto:chubatyc@blsd.ca">chubatyc@blsd.ca</a> or <a href="mailto:culletona@blsd.ca">culletona@blsd.ca</a>

or

Ashley Milne at Almbri@hotmail.com



FAMILY LEARNING ADVENTURE

LITTLE RAIDER BAGS

PROVIDED BY

ROSS L. GRAY SCHOOL

FOR CHILDREN AGE 0 - 5

**BAGS INCLUDE:** 

- INSTRUCTIONS/MATERIALS
  TO MAKE A CRAFT AND A SNACK
- 4L MILK COUPON
- A BOOK

REGISTER THROUGH EMAIL culletona@blsd.ca chubatyc@blsd.ca





# Understanding Your 2025 Property Tax Bill: What's Changed and Why

As 2025 tax bills are almost due and many residents in the RM of Piney are noticing changes—some seeing increases, others experiencing little change, and a few even seeing a slight decrease. Here's a breakdown of what's driving these differences and what it means for you.

### Why Did My Tax Bill Change?

The most significant factor is the province-wide reassessment conducted by Manitoba's Property Assessment Services. These updates reflect current market conditions and ensure fairness across municipalities. If your property's assessed value increased more than the average in the RM, your tax bill likely rose—even though the municipal mill rate remains unchanged at 12.090 mills.

However, not all tax bills increased. Some ratepayers saw no change or a slight decrease, thanks in part to the new Manitoba Homeowners Affordability Tax Credit (HATC), which replaced the previous Education Property Tax Credit. This credit can provide up to \$1,500 directly applied to your municipal tax statement, helping offset increases or reduce your overall tax burden.

#### **Rising Costs and Service Demands**

The RM of Piney continues to face mounting cost pressures:

- Construction and road maintenance costs have surged.
- Fire protection and emergency services are more expensive.
- Material costs and service contracts have escalated.

These increases are driven by inflation, supply chain challenges, and growing demand for services such as recreation, transportation, and economic development.

## **Regulatory Challenges**

Municipalities are also dealing with increased regulatory requirements. These obligations require more staff time, expertise, and funding—often without additional support from higher levels of government.

# Stable Mill Rate, Expanded Services

Despite these challenges, the RM has kept the municipal mill rate stable since 2016. This consistency helps residents plan and budget effectively. Meanwhile, the RM has expanded services significantly, including:

- Improved transportation infrastructure
- Enhanced emergency response
- Expanded recreation programs
- Economic development initiatives
- Environmental stewardship and waste management

These improvements enrich community life but require sustainable funding.

#### School Taxes and Credits

- School taxes are set by the school divisions:
  - o Seine River School Division: 12.671 mills
  - Borderland School Division: 11.605 mills
- The HATC may reduce your tax bill by up to \$1,500 if you're eligible.

For questions about eligibility, contact Manitoba Government Inquiry at 1-866-626-4862 or visit manitoba.ca.

# **Need Help or Have Questions?**

- For **assessment concerns**, contact Manitoba Assessment Services at **1-866-801-2888** or visit manitoba.ca/assessment.
- For tax bill or payment questions, contact the RM office directly.