

Lieutenant Governor's Award for Outstanding Rural Service

Congratulations to Jerry McGrath the recipient of the 2016 Lieutenant Governor's Award for Outstanding Service to Rural Saskatchewan

Jerry was born in Humboldt in 1946, the eldest of 11 children. In 1967, he married Darlene Johnson and together they raised three children. Today, they are now proud grandparents of seven grandchildren.

After following a trade in plumbing, which took his family to Lanigan and Preeceville, he returned to LeRoy in 1972. He eventually moved to his wife's family farm west of LeRoy to begin farming full-time with his father and brother.

His nomination for this award reveals his love and dedication to his community and the respect he has gained from his community and his peers.

For 34 years he has served the RM of LeRoy, with 12 years as a Division 2 Councillor and 22 years as the Reeve.

During his time as Reeve numerous challenges and changes crossed his path, including the development of intensive livestock operations in the area and the BHP Billiton Canada's Jansen site, which he met head on with innovative and collaborative strategies.

Jerry championed agreements with neighboring municipalities for road maintenance, economic development, recreation, gravel procurement and emergency services.

His foresight and vision for inter-municipal cooperation contributed to the establishment of the Mid Sask. Municipal Alliance – a 13 municipality member alliance to advance collaboration on addressing economic development, housing and land-use planning.

Mr. McGrath is also a true community advocate. He participated in and was a founding member of many organizations: the Leroy Elks, the local skating and curling rinks, the LeRoy Economic Development Committee, the Evergreen Senior Assisted Housing, the LeRoy Leisure Lotto Board, Farming with Friends, plus many others.

All the while, he has been actively involved with the family farm operations, his family and his grandchildren



The Lieutenant Governor's Award for Outstanding Service to Rural Saskatchewan, sponsored by SaskPower, is awarded to a reeve, councillor, or administrator for his or her lifetime contribution to rural Saskatchewan (both retired and/or actively working individuals). The award is presented to the successful candidate at the Opening Ceremonies of the SARM Annual Convention. This forum provides an excellent opportunity to publicly recognize the recipient of this prestigious award.