

# RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF LEROY NO. 339

*Open Vision .....Strong Future*

## July 2017 Newsletter

### Contact

Reeve	Calvin Buhs	306-287-4279
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Division 2	Harlan Block	306- 286-3509
Division 3	Donald Williams	306- 365-3489
Division 4	Simon Skinner	306- 287-3545
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Office Hours	– Mon. – Fri. (9:00–4:30, Closed 12:00 – 12:30)	
Workshop Phone	306-286-3619	Website <a href="http://www.rmleroy.ca">www.rmleroy.ca</a>

### Council and Staffing

Appreciation is extended to former Councillors for the dedicated service and dedication to the RM of LeRoy:

Jerry McGrath, 12 years as Division 2 Councillor and 22 years as Reeve, Calvin Michel, Division 5 Councillor for 16 years and Christian Amendt, Division 1 Councillor for 8 years.

Welcome to newly elected Councillors, Cody Block, Tracy Mollenbeck and Simon Skinner and to Calvin Buhs, new to the Reeve position, following 18 years of dedicated service as Division 4 Councillor.

Welcome also to the RM Maintenance staff to Dylan Ehler, equipment operator, and Logan Saretsky, summer student.

### What's New

Major construction projects underway include replacing an existing bridge with large culverts and clay capping 2 miles of grid road.

A GIS mapping project is underway, including establishing elevations for municipal culverts, tracking signage and access approaches, to complement plans for Provincial Civic Addressing, Emergency Routing and annual maintenance.

RM maps are being updated with 2017 Assessments, and will be available, by pick-up at the RM Office, with one complementary map per landowner.

Repairs have been made to the shop roof and an environmentally friendly used oil storage tank has been purchased. Equipment additions include a mower, 3 point hitch sprayer and a plow truck with sanding box, which will be arriving soon. The RM has budgeted for a culvert steamer.

Together with the Town of LeRoy, plans are underway to provide electrical conversion for back-up power to the Administration Building, to facilitate the use of the Administration Building as an Emergency Measures Control Centre through power black-outs.

### Property Taxes 2017

The 2017 provincial assessment resulted in increased assessment values province wide, especially for agriculture property. On average, agriculture assessment in the RM of LeRoy increased by 119%. In setting the 2017 mill rates, Council considered numerous scenarios, including mill rate factors, minimum taxes and prior years' levies before settling on a uniform mill rate of 5.683 mills and a factor of 1.726 for commercial and industrial classified properties. Efforts were made to keep municipal taxes revenue neutral, however; with the assessment changes and other Taxing Authorities levies, there will be fluctuations on an individual basis.

Property taxes are due on or before Dec 31, 2017. Arrears remaining unpaid after this will be charged 1% penalty per month. Discounts for early payment are applicable to municipal, hail, and C&D levies – 5% to Sept. 30, 4% to Oct. 31, and 2% if paid by Nov. 30. Payments must be received at the RM office by discount date to be eligible. When remitting your taxes, please identify your customer number(s) on your cheque. This is the unique number in the top right hand corner of the tax notice, following your name.

#### Payment Options

Property tax payments can be made electronically. For details please contact your financial institution. If paying electronically, contact the RM office for your tax account identification number.

### APAS



You are encouraged to take advantage of the APAS benefits program. These 14 programs can provide significant savings and advantages for you, your family and your farm operation. Benefits include:

- **Co-operators** – Exclusive insurance coverage
- **Chrysler** – Special pricing
- **Acklands-Grainger** – Discounts on cash purchases

RM of LeRoy APAS Representative is Donovan Block. For the full list of APAS member benefits & more details visit [APAS.ca/my-rewards](http://APAS.ca/my-rewards)

## Weed, Pest & Nuisance Control

Debra Tokarski is appointed Pest Control Officer (PCO) for the municipality under the authority of *The Pest Control Act*. Due to the warm winter, increased sightings of rats have been observed throughout the municipality. Ratepayers are requested to be diligent in inspection and baiting. Please contact the RM office if Pest Control Services are required.

Bryce Moore is appointed Weed Inspector for the municipality under the authority of *The Weed Control Act*. Please refer concerns about noxious weeds to the RM Office for inspection.

## CLUBROOT: A Disease of Canola and Vegetables

### Help Prevent Clubroot Spread in Saskatchewan

- Plant canola no more than once every 4 years
- Scout canola fields regularly and stay alert for suspicious stunting, wilting, yellowing and premature ripening
- Check roots to confirm the presence of galls
- Control cruciferous weeds and volunteer canola or mustard
- Clean your equipment before moving it to another field: the disease is spread through movement of contaminated soil.

For more information, visit:

[www.clubroot.ca](http://www.clubroot.ca) or [www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca](http://www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca)

If you have questions or suspect clubroot, call the RM Office or Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377



## SaskAlert



SaskAlert is a public alerting program that provides critical information on emergencies in real time, so you can take action to protect yourself, your family and your property. An emergency alert issued through SaskAlert will let you know:

- What the emergency is
- Where it is happening
- Instructions for you to follow to stay safe, and
- Advise you when the incident is over.

The RM and Town of LeRoy will soon be broadcasting alerts about local emergency events to the public. Updates will be available on the website when this comes into effect.

The SaskAlert **mobile app** will alert users through their smartphones to everything from tornadoes and blizzards, to boil water advisories and evacuation orders.

Visit the RM webpage for a link to SaskAlert Mobile App Instructions.

## Hay Salvaging and Snow Plowing

Hay salvaging along municipal roads is permitted until July 15<sup>th</sup>; however bales must be removed by August 15<sup>th</sup>, or the RM will have the bales removed.

Ratepayers are reminded to avoid pushing snow across municipal roadways. Moved snow piles can be hazardous for motor vehicle traffic as well as RM employees plowing roads.

## Fire Fighting Coverage

It is the responsibility of the RM to provide Fire Protection Services, however; the property owner is responsible for all fire-fighting costs. Take the time to review your insurance policy to determine whether your coverage is adequate. Firefighting costs can be very costly.

### Controlled Burns

Report all controlled burns to 1-866-404-4911 prior to burning.

## Agricultural Health & Safety Network

### The Agricultural Health and Safety Network

*Our mission is to improve health and safety on the farm through education, service and evaluation research.*

*The ultimate goal is to reduce injury and illness related to the farm environment through co-operative efforts with our partners.*

Rural Municipalities pay an annual fee of \$4.60 per active farm family to benefit from the Network resources and services. Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture funds are combined with membership fees to develop and deliver farm health and safety educational materials and services to the Network RMs. For information on Respiratory/Hearing Clinics, Safety Workshops, and Educational Resources or to take the "New" Farm Safety Challenge, visit [aghealth.usask.ca](http://aghealth.usask.ca).

## SARM 90<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP



### ARE YOU...

- Enrolled in Gr 12 for the 2017-18 school year?
- Studying at a post-secondary school in the fall of 2018?

### HAVE YOU...

- Completed the last 2 years of high school in Saskatchewan?

### DO YOU...

- Have a farming background and live in a rural area?
- Have parents/guardians who own/rent land and pay taxes to a Rural Municipality?

If you answered "YES" to all of the above questions, please complete an application form (available at the RM Office), write a 1000 word essay on either: 1) *The Importance of Safety and Health on Our Farm* or 2) *Safety and Health Hazards on Our Farm*, then send your Application by mail, post marked on or before the December 15, 2017 deadline.

**2 \$1500 Scholarships will be awarded for the BEST essays!**

For more information visit [aghealth.usask.ca](http://aghealth.usask.ca)