

TOWN OF SPIRITWOOD

Newsletter

September 2016



Upcoming Events

October 8 – Bull Riding & Dance
October 18 – Municipal Election Advanced Poll
October 22 – Ducks Supper
October 23 – Fall Supper
October 26 – Municipal Election
October 28 – Family Halloween Dance
October 28 to 30 – Co-Ed Opener Hockey Tournament
October 29 – Adult Halloween Dance
November 12 – Senior's Supper
November 26 – Lions Craft Sale
December 10 – Festival of Trees
December 23 – Timberwolves Dance

At meter reading time...

Water meters will be read again in December 2016. Please keep pathways clear by removing snow for our staff to read the meter! Thank you!

Utility & Tax Payments

Did you know you can pay your taxes and utilities online? **The Town of Spiritwood is registered with major financial institutions such as Scotia Bank, all Credit Unions & the Bank of Montreal.** Payments can also be made at the municipal office by cash, cheque or debit.

Contractors

If you hire contractors & businesses from outside of town, they are required to have a business license to work within town limits. This includes plumbers, builders, electricians, heating technicians, etc. Licenses can be purchased at the Town Office.

Transfer Site Hours

Spiritwood Transfer Site Winter Hours are in effect from October 1 to March 31. NOTE: 1st & 3rd Saturdays every month from 9am to 4pm.

After Hours Emergencies

In the event of an emergency, an on-call person can be contacted at 306.841.7780. **This number will only be in service during the hours, which the Town Office is closed.**

Municipal Updates

Municipal Election

The Town of Spiritwood municipal election will be held on **Wednesday October 26, 2016 from 9am to 8pm at the Civic Centre.** An Advanced Poll will be held **Tuesday October 18, 2016 from 6pm to 8pm at the Town Office.** Mayor Gary von Holwede was elected by acclamation. The candidates for Town Council are as follows:

- Debbie Allan
- Shannon Beaulac
- James Bedi
- Brad Nemish
- George Pretli
- Dianne Roberts
- Bruce Rogers
- Bryan Wingerter

Six Candidates must be elected.

Town Office Roof

The Town received a grant of \$20,000 through the **Main Street Saskatchewan Program** to go towards replacement of the roof. The replacement cost of the entire roof was substantial; therefore, it was decided to address the office portion at this time. The upgrades to the roof were necessary to preserve the historic downtown building, as leaks had been causing damage for some time. The Town Office restoration began mid-August. This included installing a sloped angle to the roof, new insulation and vapour barriers, new trim around the perimeter of the roof, and a new set of downspouts.

Main Street Saskatchewan is an on-going, community-driven program that works to revitalize historic downtowns. Being part of the Main Street Saskatchewan Program as an affiliate member gives businesses on Main Street Spiritwood access to grant money that is provided through the Ministry of Parks, Culture & Sport.

Roads

As mentioned in the June newsletter, the Town purchased a stockpile of cold mix for the maintenance crew to be able to repair roads. The public works maintenance crew have been working to repair problem areas. We ask that drivers please continue to be courteous while crews are at work.

Property Revaluations in 2017

The Saskatchewan Assessment Agency (SAMA) conducts revaluations on a four-year cycle. The next revaluation is set for 2017 as the last was conducted in 2013. During revaluation, property assessment values will be updated to reflect a new base date of January 1, 2015. This means that 2017 values reflect a property's value as of January 1, 2015.

While a revaluation updates property assessments, the overall impact on property tax is designed to be revenue neutral on a municipal basis. Provided that a municipality's budget requirements remain the same, changes in taxable assessments will only result in changes to tax levels if a property's assessment increases or decreases substantially, relative to the average for that jurisdiction.

Property owners are responsible for being aware of the assessment of their properties and initiating the appeal process. Please watch for property assessment notices in 2017. If you have any questions regarding the assessment of your property, please contact the Town Office or SAMA.