

# TOWN OF SPIRITWOOD

## Newsletter

March 2017



### Upcoming Events

- April 7 – Poker Bowling
- April 7-9 – Quilters Retreat
- April 8 – Community Auction
- April 20-22 – Grand Ole Opry
- April 26 – Spiritwood Credit Union AGM
- April 28 – Gord Bamford Concert
- April 29 – Witchekan Wildlife Fish Fry
- May 27 & 28 – Take the Lead
- June 1 – YDA Fundraiser
- June 2 – 4 Spiritfest



### False Fire Alarms

False fire alarms within the Town of Spiritwood will lead to charges. When Fire Fighters are dispatched to a residence and it is found to be a false alarm, the following rules apply in each calendar year:

- 1) the first false alarm call-out will be no charge,
- 2) and any additional false alarm call outs will be charged the firefighters hourly rate with a minimum three hour call-out plus a \$5 administration fee.

### Residential Recycling

Did you know you that through MMSW (Multi Material Stewardship Western Inc.) municipalities receive money back per kg on the recycling from **RESIDENTIAL** properties? **So let's recycle, recycle, recycle! Make sure you bring home your "junk" mail and pop it in your recycle cart!**



### Why is recycling important?

**Paper and Packaging materials make up 40% of household waste in Saskatchewan.**

Finding ways to reduce waste is an increasingly important part of minimizing our impact on the environment. Recycling diverts waste from landfills, conserves resources and energy, and feeds the ever growing green economy.

### 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

#### 2016 Census Results

The Town of Spiritwood population results are in;

- 2011 Census was 916
- 2016 Census is 786



This decrease in population will negatively impact multiple streams of government funding provided to the local government. A decrease in population could result in significantly less funding opportunities. Stats Canada's population numbers are used in calculations that determine the amount of funding received and affect the allocation of grant funding. The Town will see a decrease of over \$40,000 in 2017 municipal revenue sharing due to the population decrease combined with the provincial budget changes.

In an effort to **appeal** this decrease in population the Town Office staff have conducted their own Local Census via phone and door to door. The results of the Local Census have confirmed that the Town of Spiritwood population was 917 in May of 2016.

Council would like to remind residents about the importance of filling out census forms correctly, as these numbers directly impact potential funding. This funding provides the municipality with a means to maintain and improve vital services including but not limited to water and sewer infrastructure, roads, recreation, and economic development. **This funding helps mitigate potential significant municipal tax increases.**

#### SIGN UP FOR TEXT MESSAGE UPDATES

**Did you know that you can sign up for text message updates from the Town of Spiritwood? To sign up text the word SUBSCRIBE to 1-306-500-1616!!** Please note this is one-way messaging service, if you send a message back to us we will not receive it.

### Business Licenses

*Are you a contractor/home business owner/salesman?*

You need a license to operate within the boundaries of the Town of Spiritwood if you do not operate your business from a property classed as commercial, industrial, elevator, railway right of way or pipeline. 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. **Please contact the Town Office to renew or receive a business license for 2017!**

### School Taxes?!

Please be sure to pay attention to where your school taxes are going. As a municipal tax payer, you have a choice as to which school division receives the school portion of your taxes. If you wish to make a change to where future taxes are allocated, there is a form you must fill out at the Town Office. If you are unsure of where your taxes are being allocated please call the Town Office.