

TOWN OF SWAN RIVER

2016 WINTER NEWSLETTER



Mayor & Council

Mayor Glen McKenzie
Deputy Mayor Lance Jacobson
Councillor Phylis Friesen
Councillor Duane Whyte
Councillor Jason Delaurier
Councillor Jason Sakal
Councillor David Moriaux

Town Council meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month in the council chambers located in the Town office at 439 Main Street. The meetings start at 7:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Department Contacts

Administration:

Julie Fothergill
Chief Administrative Officer
cao@townsr.ca
Terry Gnida
Chief Financial Officer
cfo@townsr.ca

Public Works:

Derek Poole
Superintendent of Works
sup@townsr.ca
Darren Harvey
Asst. Superintendent of Works
asup@townsr.ca

Fire Department:

Darren Fedorchuk
Fire Chief
srfd@townsr.ca

Parks & Recreation/Arena:

John Rooks
Facility Manager
townrec@townsr.ca

SVCU Aquatic Centre:

Patti Henkelman
Interim Pool Manager
poolmanager@townsr.ca

Veterans Community Hall:

Lana Graham
Hall Manager
vchlanagraham@gmail.com

Important Phone Numbers:

Town Office – 204-734-4586
Fire Hall – 204-734-4403
Arena – 204-734-4141
Community Hall – 204-734-2285
Aquatic Centre – 204-734-4119
Handi-Van – 204-734-4586
By-Law Enforcement – 204-734-4586
Building Inspector – 204-734-4586

Centennial Arena



Figure Skating Carnival

Mon· March 7th 6PM



Upcoming Stampeder games:

Tues· Jan 26 vs Dauphin

7:30pm

Fri· Jan 29 vs Winkler 7:30pm

Wed Feb 3 vs Wayway 7:30pm

Fri· Feb 12 vs Selkirk 7:30pm

Wed· Feb 17 vs Virden

7: 30pm

Ice available for rentals

*call the Arena for booking at
204 -734-4141*



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Centennial Arena

Activities:

*Novice Tourney
Jan 29-31*

*Corporate Challenge
Feb 5-7*

*Pee Wee A Tourney
Feb 12-14*

*Bantam Tourney
Feb 19-21*

*The outdoor rink behind
arena is ready for use
between 8am-10pm daily*

Heated dressing room
 Helmet use recommended

SWAN VALLEY CREDIT
UNION AQUATIC CENTRE IN
THE RICHARDSON
RECREATION & WELLNESS
CENTRE



Daily Admission:

Family	\$23.00 + tax
Adult	\$8.00 + tax
Senior (60+)	\$6.50 + tax
Student	\$6.50 + tax
Teen (13-17)	\$6.50 + tax
Child (3-12)	\$5.25 + tax

Tonie

Swim Wed.
6pm-8pm

Find us at: 1424 1st Street North
 204-734-4119 www.swanvalleyrec.ca
 www.facebook.com/RRWCENTRE
 for a daily schedule

Swim lessons:

Twice a week class on Tuesdays & Thursdays after school beginning on April 12/16 to May 12/16 and October 4/16 to November 3/16

Once a week class on Saturday mornings beginning April 9/15 to June 11 and October 1/16 to December 3/16

Be a Jr. Lifeguard!

"A serious purpose, lifesaving, coached in a fun way."
 The Jr. Lifeguard Club is designed to let youth age 11-15 participate in activities similar to those of real Life Guards in a safe fun and controlled setting.

Monday's 4pm - 5:30pm
 \$125.00 / 10 sessions
 Register now!

LIFESAVING SOCIETY®
 The Lifeguarding Experts

Aqua Fit – This has been one of our most popular programs happening at the Centre! We offer Aqua Fit on: Wednesday & Friday at 8 am, Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 1 pm, and Tuesdays & Thursdays at 7 pm. Cost: daily admission price or just use your membership card.

Seniors: Stay Fit & have fun with Your Grandkids

New programs:

Jr. Lifeguard Club for teens ages 11 – 15. It will be held on Mondays from 4 – 5:30 pm and will cost *\$125/person. This is an opportunity for teens to “try out” Lifeguarding. To participate in activities similar to those of real Lifeguards in a safe, fun & controlled setting.

Fun Club for kids ages 7 – 12. This once a week after school club is full of fun, education, fitness and a healthy snack is provided. It will be held on Wednesdays from 4 – 6 pm and will cost *\$90/child.

Stroke Correction an opportunity for kids and adults to work specifically on their strokes with an instructor. Cost is *\$40 and will run during the regular lesson period.

What are you going to bring to the pool for inflatable day??

Bring your own or use one of ours.
 Last Sunday of every month
 Jan 31 Feb 28 Mar 27 Apr 24 May 29

Private Rentals:

30 people for *\$99/hour
 31-69 people for *\$124/hour
 70-104 people for *\$149/hour
 105-139 people for *(\$174/hour (this includes spectators)
 Waterslide Lifeguard *\$25/hour

Renters can enjoy unlimited Lap pool, Leisure pool, Waterslide, Lazy River, Tot pool, Hot Swirl Pool & Sauna use.

Saturdays & Sundays
 5pm, 6pm & 7pm.

Super Splash Party: *\$120.00 (during public swim times only)
 This Includes 18 swimmers, 1 hour in the party room and unlimited pool use until the end of Public Swim. Just pay regular drop in fees for numbers exceeding 18.

\$56.00

Parent & Tot Classes – Physically & Socially a Great Idea!

Swan Valley CO-OP Multi-Purpose room is an excellent space for meetings, training sessions, family gatherings, club wind-up parties, and Birthday parties. *\$40.00 for the 1st hour, *\$35.00 for the 2nd hour. We also offer a table place setting service for an additional *\$10 fee.

*Residents of non-contributing Swan Valley municipalities pay double the listed price.



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Transportation

2015 – Capital Projects

1. **3rd St. South Basework** – In preparation for paving in 2016, 3rd Ave South between 11th Ave and 13th Ave was excavated to remove saturated soils and replace them with pitrun and gravel. The basework was surveyed and graded to be ready for asphalt paving.
2. **1st St. North Sidewalk** – Completed in August this sidewalk will increase pedestrian accessibility along 1st St North. An extension of the sidewalk to PTH 10 N is planned for 2016.

2015 - Maintenance

Tree Trimming – Trees overhanging back lanes throughout town have been trimmed back to increase driver visibility and to improve garbage removal operations.

Snow Clearing – While the mild start to winter has meant less accumulation of snow than in recent years, crews have still been busy plowing streets and clearing residential sidewalks after the early winter snowfalls.

Utility

2015 - Capital Projects

1. **Heyes Street Lift Station Upgrade** – All mechanical and electrical components have been installed including replacement of all the internal piping and upgraded pumps to handle surge flows. Programming and component testing is scheduled to be completed in early January prior to project completion and commissioning of the lift station.

2. Radio Water Meter Replacement –

Water meters were being upgraded to radio read units throughout December. The new meters are read remotely which saves the utility operators a considerable amount of time collecting readings thereby freeing them up to work on other projects.

2015 - Excavations

Water Breaks – There have been several leaks of the transmission and distribution system this year. Fixing the leaks requires a backhoe to excavate down to the pipe. Once the pipe is exposed the utility operators repair the leak and then soil is backfilled into the excavation and covered with recycled asphalt. During the repair water may have to temporarily be turned off to buildings located on the same street.

New Services– When a new water or sewer service is requested for a new building an excavation is dug down to the depth of the water and sewer stub out left by the plumber. The utility operators attach a coupler to the stub out and then run service lines out to the water and sewer mains located under the street. A valve called a “curb stop” is connected to the water service line at the approximate location of the property line. A rod is connected to this valve and brought to surface so that the water can be turned on and off without requiring an excavation down to the valve.

BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT

The By-Law Enforcement Officer’s hours are Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Any concerns must be put in writing and brought to the Town office or sent by email to bylaw@townsr.ca

ANIMAL CONTROL

The Animal Control Officer’s hours are Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For any situations that arise after hours, please call 204-734-4586 or email bylaw@townsr.ca. The officer will get back to you as quickly as possible. Please remember to have your dogs licensed and keep their vaccinations current. Licenses are available at the Town office. Any dog that has a valid license will be brought back to you at no charge.



HANDI TRANSIT VAN

The Handi Van is used primarily for mobility challenged individuals. The cost is \$6.00 per trip or \$12.00 for a round trip within Town limits. The hours of operation are Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please book in advance because the bookings fill up quickly.

Councillor’s Corner

Now that the Primary Health Care Clinic is up and running I thought it would be appropriate to give a brief history of its evolution and a big “Thank You” to the many people who made it all happen.

Yes it still has a way to go but our 5 new doctors are taking further education to obtain their and our goals of returning obstetrics plus other services to our valley. Two more doctors and a medical student have signed contracts to return to practise medicine in the Swan River Valley. We expect Dr. Tyler Burnside will arrive early in July, 2016 to open his practise. Our community has been active for 40 plus years in the process of doctor recruiting.

Recently, with the formation of the Medical Services Committee, with the

support of all the G-7 Municipalities and RISE, recruiting picked up speed.

Town of Swan River Councillors, R.M. Councillors, local doctors, RISE, Prairie Mountain Health, plus many volunteers got together to make an action plan.

Meetings, seminars and doctor recruiting interest groups were attended in Swan River, Minitonas, Winnipegosis, Dauphin, Brandon, Steinbach and Winnipeg.

The Rural Interest Groups (RIG) seminars proved a valuable source of new doctors. Under the leadership of Rise previous director Shawna Klekta hosted 46 medical students in Swan River. Local citizens took medical students on tours and fishing when they came here as part of their rural placements.

Lorne Henkelman took a lead role in encouraging the G-7 to set aside money for recruiting/retaining medical professionals. Maryann Friesen volunteered to act as retaining chair, an integral part of the process.

Our Valley Lions Clubs remain active in fund raising for specialized technologies our new doctors will need.

The Hospital Foundation purchased a condo for temporary accommodations for prospective and newly signed doctors.

Penny Gilson CEO of Prairie Mountain Health worked with our committee and provided much in negotiations with the doctors.

It quickly became apparent that a Primary Health Care clinic where the new doctors could work in a collaborative workplace would be a key component in the recruiting process.

Our MLA Ron Kostyshyn and Premier Selinger helped in accessing funds needed for its purchase and reconstruction.

This increase in our health care services has also had a huge economic impact on our Valley. We were often told at seminars that an average physician will bring approximately \$800,000.00 per year into their respective communities. Gas, clothing, hotels and food to name a few will all be purchased by visitors coming for medical help. So with 5 new doctors and 3 more coming that could be as much as 6.4 million dollars a year.

Shauna Klekta and RISE can be proud of their successes.

Our present objective is to create an expanded "Retaining Team" to try to encourage our new doctors to stay for an extended time. If you are interested, we need your help, feel free to contact myself or Maryann Friesen.

In conclusion, a Valley Success, thank ALL of you who made a dream become reality.
Respectfully,

Duane L. Whyte Chair – Dr. Recruiting
Medical Services Committee
Councillor – Town of Swan River
204-734-2316
duanewhyte@gmail.com

Council Life. A Year in Review.

It's been a little more than a year since the last municipal election and my first year as councillor. I am always asked how I like council and being a councillor as if it's the big nasty role nobody wants. Well in short I like it. I had a basic understanding of municipal politics before and decided to run and I'm not sorry I did. Honestly, I find it informative, fun and challenging as I always believed that if I have something to say about something I should get involved.

As with all positions there are many good things and the inevitable bad stuff. Being a councillor you commit yourself to attending the 2 regular council meetings a month plus any other special meetings. We each have our portfolios that we chair just like our provincial MLSs and Federal MPs along with other committees where we represent the Town of Swan River. Looking at the list it may seem like a never ending time commitment, but actually it's manageable. Some committees are more involved than others and meet regularly while some are only quarterly. While we perform our portfolio functions and sit on the various committees, I like the rest of council put our personal bias aside and try and do what's best for the Town as a whole and the Valley, not just for today but the future.

Winter is usually the busier time of year with year-end and preparing the annual budget. The budget is a very interesting but stressful time for council. As we know, the results of the budget process are what affects the current year's property taxes which everyone has an opinion on. Many evenings and hours are spent reviewing various revenue sources,

anticipated expenses and capital projects with much debate. We have some very intense discussions but in the end we respect each other's views, comments and come to a decision as a group and get the job done

Council also attends various conferences like the annual Association of Manitoba Municipalities conference where we have meetings with various ministers, attend seminars and represent the Town at the meeting reviewing and voting on the various resolutions brought forward that provide direction to the AMM for the upcoming year. While at these events there is a lot of networking and comparing among the attending municipalities on almost everything. Many suppliers also have displays and booths to show off their products. As a councillor, we also attend various celebrations and community events where we are always accessible to residents for discussions or just some good-ol fun.

On the flipside, being a councillor, we are responsible for decisions and provide direction to Town staff and for that we need to be accountable for that and have some sleepless nights pondering the decisions we made or to be made. There are decisions made that are not popular and by-laws passed that not everyone agrees with. Everyone hates paying property taxes no matter what they are, me included and there are times you curl up and just want to hide, but we don't. Everyone has the right to speak to their councillors to have a respectful conversation on issues. Sometimes residents just want to vent and many times bring up good points or they are just not happy and let us know it, and that's the responsibility we accept when we do run for council. I personally just don't take it personally. It's all part of the job.

What I can say as a result of being a councillor for a year now is that the Town of Swan River is lucky they have a council that works very well as a team for the betterment of the community. While we have our passionate debates and conversations as we respect each other and are all there at the table for the same goal. Making the Town of Swan River a better place to live.

David Moriaux, Councillor