



Coming Events:

2013 UMAAS Conference
"Moving Forward Through Challenges &
Opportunities
June 4th to 7th, 2013 - Saskatoon Travelodge

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President's Message

- Rodney Audette RMA, President
UMAAS

April is almost here, and I certainly hope that April showers do not come! As I write this article the Province has been hit with yet another snow storm, closing highways, causing a number of headaches and making each of us wonder, where will all the water end up?

The Provincial and Federal Budgets have been tabled and there are some good news items for municipalities included in them. First Provincially, the Municipal Operating Grant-Revenue Sharing pool has increased providing for added revenues for each municipality in the Province. Although there was no infrastructure program announcement, there were increases in capital funding to Highways and Infrastructure, Health and Education, which will impact a number of communities over the next few years.

Federally, the big news, with little information on as of yet, was a ten year 40+billion dollar commitment to infrastructure renewal across Canada. Indeed great news, however everyone has to be cautious on how this will be rolled out with Provincial involvement key to making this successful for municipalities.

Early in 2013 a number of Revaluation/Assessment and Tax Policy workshops were held across the Province and were attended very well. As many of you recall, there was an issue with Minimum Tax and Base Tax application across property classes that had caused quite a stir. The Ministry of Government

Relations Advisory Services had further provided a Bulletin about the matter and referenced legal opinion received about how minimum and base tax could be applied. In light of this, if municipalities have not yet been made aware, the Provincial Government will be tabling legislation to correct this "problem" within the legislation. So when contemplating the municipality tax policy in your budget deliberations, municipalities will continue to have the flexibility to utilize the minimum and base tax policies as they had done in the past.

Your Convention Committee has been working diligently to finalize the agenda for the 2013 UMAAS Convention. This year's theme is "Moving Forward Through Challenges & Opportunities", very appropriate as we deal with the 2013 Revaluation, development opportunities in our communities, regional development, infrastructure renewal, potential flooding concerns, and the list goes on! The Annual UMAAS Convention is important for all members to make the effort to attend. Educational sessions, keynote speakers and dialogue amongst colleagues keeps us informed and enhances our networking abilities.

I look forward to seeing you all in Saskatoon, June 4-7, 2013 (unless I am called away to welcome another little Audette into the world).

Executive Director's Report

- Richard Dolezsar,
RMA

There is something about being in the twilight of your career that makes it hard to remain focused and ambitious on a daily basis. The biggest challenge is to maintain the motivation and excitement that pushed you to dig harder and remain positive, that goals of the Community can be achieved regardless of the obstacles before you, a trait which seemed to just come naturally earlier in your career.

There are a few tools which we can use to help offset becoming mired in a deep rut that eventually could consume all your energy and ambition. One commonly used method is to take a little time off and do some things or become involved in other activities that are completely separate from your workplace and job duties. Personally I find anything that takes me outdoors, allows me to operate something with a motor on it, involves physical activity or takes me to new places or sites even if they are close to home can really invigorate ones tired mind. Therefore, I personally believe that a tired body is much better than a tired mind, although sometimes coming back to office work after an invigorating outdoor weekend can backfire for the first day or two until our bodies get the rest they need and once again become one with the mind.

Another method of addressing the motivational challenges of our jobs is to divide projects into smaller tasks and concentrate on accomplishing one phase at a time. With each successful accomplishment confidence and motivation will ramp up as the end of the project looms nearer and nearer with each step along the way.

Additionally, why don't you use the people that work with you to divide up the load and perhaps at the same time make their job experiences more rewarding and beneficial towards future

succession planning within your municipalities setting. Too often we look at the files on our desk and assume that we are the only ones who can possibly work through the myriad of forms, paperwork and government bureaucracy, but guess what, if something happened and you weren't there, someone else would be doing it, right. Usually you will find that the more you rely on your staff and give them the authority to make decisions and solve problems within the scope of your municipalities policies and budgets the more team orientated they will become and the more job satisfaction they will incur. This tool of course is only available in offices where sufficient human resources are available to share the load.

Lastly technology should be something we regularly use to fight the status quo. Let's face it some of the agenda, minute taking and letter writing can be pretty mundane and have stayed pretty much the same since the Romans held their first council meetings, except we are using pen and paper as opposed to a chisel and stone slab. I know that I have not been one of the most excited at times respecting the embrace of changing technology, however if you can get past the initial dread of "how am I ever going to learn how this works" the majority of us will realize that we can learn and technology can make a breeze out of some of our repetitive work duties that over the years we had learned to dread on a daily, weekly, monthly or even annual basis.

There, I feel better now as one of the items on my list was the preparation of the April 2013 newsletter, which although is far from complete at this point by completing this editorial I have now accomplished one of the building blocks in its' completion.

See you all at the June Conference in Saskatoon.

Executive Editorial

Gord Murray - Convention Chair
(yeh - I'm biased!!!!)

2013 UMAAS Conference is proving to be an interesting and exciting one for both new and seasoned UMAAS members with education and information covering a gamut of topics. If you think you already know everything I encourage and challenge each of you to be surprised by attending this year's conference.

Twist your brain with Brian Thwait's as our Keynote Speaker.
A Trade Show Extraordinaire!

Recording artists Keith & Renée and a surprise Jazz group to provide just the right decompression after your gruelling day on the links or your tour of one of the most interesting Green House complexes in the Province and a small (but legal) distillery!

I encourage all our members to attend this year's UMAAS Conference if for no other reason than to network and exchange our challenges and opportunities with one another.

I look forward to seeing you there!

Don't Miss

KEITH AND RENÉE

At 9:00 p.m. Wed. June 5th, 2013 UMAAS Conference



Over their fifteen years together Keith Macpherson and Renee Lamoureux have developed a truly unique musical partnership; one based as much on their mutual determination to realize their full potential as singer/songwriters as it is on their shared belief that - beyond entertaining people - music has the power to inspire positive change in the lives of others. "I think music affects people on a deeper level than they're conscious of," says Keith, "and, after hearing our songs, I hope people will have

a more positive outlook on their own lives."

Since their music has been featured in North American promotions by AT&T, and in television shows including Radio Free Roscoe, 15 Love and Degross: The Next Generation. More recently in 2012, they were invited to perform at the CCMA Festival in Saskatoon and were awarded the Western Canadian Music Award for Country Recording of the Year for *Best Day*.

Administrator's Profile

- Lynne Lemieux,
Town of Ponteix

I was born and raised in Ponteix, Saskatchewan. My career in Local Government Administration started when I was hired as Assistant Administrator for the Town of Ponteix in September of 2001. The following year while working full time I enrolled in the LGA program at the U of R and finished the program in 2004. In 2004, the current Administrator moved and a temporary replacement was hired and then became a mentor until I was trained and completed the UMAAS requirements. In 2005, I received my

Urban Standard Certification and was officially hired as the Administrator, a position I thought I would eventually fill just not as soon as I did.

My husband and I have two wonderful children Colby, age 17 and off to university in the fall and my daughter Madison, age 13, who keeps very busy with sports and friends. I enjoy travelling, camping, volunteering and spending time with family and friends.

I love and enjoy working for the community I grew up in!

Community Profile - Town of Ponteix

The town of Ponteix is a vibrant and progressive community of approximately 600 people, located in southwest Saskatchewan. Nestled in a small valley near the Notukeu Creek.

Originally located on the north side of Notukeu Creek, Notre Dame d'Auvergne was founded in 1908 by Father Albert Marie Royer, a French priest from Auvergne, France and named in honor of the Holy Virgin Mary and fulfilling a promise to his Bishop. Along with a group of French and Canadian settlers, Father Royer saw that the small community would grow and attract many homesteaders and entrepreneurs from various parts of the world.

When the railway arrived in 1913, contrary to the original plan, it was routed on the south side of the Notukeu Creek thus the young settlement was relocated, knowing that the rail system would be integral for future prosperity. Father Royer chose Ponteix as the new name for the relocated community, a parish in which he had served in Ponteix, Auvergne France.

The new community continued to grow and prosper through good times and bad. Settlers brought with them many different cultures, languages and traditions but this diversity has developed resilience in this community and is evident through its population and institutions. This French settlement like many others was influenced by the clergy. The advent of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Chambriac provided education for the

children and care for the sick. The Sisters constructed a convent and a hospital. The later provided invaluable care during the Spanish Flu epidemic. 1927 marked the beginning of the construction of the new and unique Catholic Church, a must to visit when in Ponteix. 1929 not only was the beginning of the great depression but also is remembered as the start of the Dirty Thirties. Many settlers relocated during those years and those who remained are living proof of their tenacity and belief in the community.

Today, Ponteix is rich in cultural and bilingual history and is the focal point for the surrounding prairie farming and ranching community with agricultural-related businesses in operation. The business community encompasses a trading area of approximately 3,500 people.

There are many good reasons to choose to locate in Ponteix. The community offers a clean, safe and serene environment with numerous services and amenities of a diverse business community. The Town has a complete infrastructure system capable of accommodating everyone's needs that also include all paved streets and beautifully well maintained green and recreation areas.

The community offers an abundance of residency and business options and opportunities. Ponteix also offers excellent health, fire, ambulance, police and educational services that include Day Care, a Francophone School and a Public School.

Board of Examiner's Report Jan - March, 2013

New Certificates issued:

Standard Certificates:

Jenna Johnson
Lani Rae Best
April Williams
Michelle Mackow
Kayla Hauser

Diane Moss
Rhonda Heiser
Colette Hauser
Kyle Van Den Bosch

Advanced Level 2:

Sandra MacArthur

11 Commandments for an Enthusiastic Team

1. Help each other be right - not wrong.
2. Look for ways to make new ideas work - not for reasons they won't.
3. If in doubt - check it out! Don't make negative assumptions about each other.
4. Help each other win and take pride in each other's victories.
5. Speak positively about each other and about your organization at every opportunity.
6. Maintain a positive mental attitude no matter what the circumstances.
7. Act with initiative and courage as if it all depends on you.
8. Do everything with enthusiasm - it's contagious.
9. Whatever you want - give it away.
10. Don't lose faith - never give up.
11. Have fun!!!



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Mr. NussBaum is under annual retainer to
your Association and is available to
members for initial consultations.

E.F.A.P.

EMPLOYEE AND FAMILY
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Do You. . .

- have difficulty coping at work?
- live in fear and apprehension?
- have more bills than money?
- require legal advice?
- find living stressful instead of exciting?
- have trouble talking with your spouse or children?
- use alcohol and/or other drugs to cope with life?
- want someone confidential to talk to?

Wonder What To Do???

If you need information or assistance to sort out a problem we
invite you to have a private discussion with your Program
Manager, Internal Referral Agent, Supervisor, Employee
Group Representative or your Counseling Service.



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2013 UMAAS Conference NOTICE!!!

The Travelodge Hotel, Saskatoon
offers the following
special rate for on-site
Convention Rooms
June 4th - 7th, 2013

\$134.00 - Standard

\$154.00 - Business Class

Phone (306) 242-8881

Please book by May 4th, 2013
and advise you are with the UMAAS

ADVERTISING RATES - UMAAS UPDATE

Published 3 times a year -
April, Sept., Dec.

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Other</u>
Page	\$150	\$200
½ Page	\$75	\$100
1/3 Page	\$50	\$70
1/4 Page	\$35	\$50
Card	\$20	\$25

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DEADLINES: 15th day of the
preceding month.