



Spring 2015

St. Clements

The place to be

1043 Kittson Road, Box 2 Group 35 RR 1 | East Selkirk, MB, R0E 0M0 | Phone 204-482-3300, toll-free 1-888-797-8725 | www.rmofstclements.com

Message from the Mayor and Council

WITH OUR BEAUTIFUL PARKS, SUNNY BEACHES, FRIENDLY neighbourhoods and close proximity to all the services of an urban centre, St. Clements is a wonderful place to call home.

Our municipality's many natural amenities and superb quality of life are among the reasons St. Clements continues to be one of the fastest-growing communities in Manitoba's Capital Region.

As a Council, we recognize the need to focus not only on today's priorities but on the long-term well-being of our growing RM. We're committed to ensuring that St. Clements remains "the place to be" for many years to come.

In practical terms, this means ensuring that investments in our roadways keep pace with

increased use as we continue to grow. It means options for recreation and active living that offer something for residents of every age, from young families to seniors enjoying a healthy retirement. And it means ensuring that everyone in our community can enjoy the benefits of clean water, air and soil, not just today but for future generations.

As you'll read about in this issue of the St. Clements newsletter, Council has just completed a multi-year strategic plan, designed to ensure we are consistently focused both on today's priorities and also tomorrow's challenges. Effective municipal leadership means knowing where we are but also where we want to be. Our strategic planning efforts reflect a vision for the long-term prosperity, health and sustainability of our RM, while ensuring we have clear, achievable near-term goals and actions to get us there.

Effective strategic planning also helps us to remain transparent and accountable to you as a taxpayer and citizen. We will continue to report regularly on all major RM plans and initiatives so that you know how your tax dollars are being invested, as well as which areas Council is directing its focus.

You can find copies of our strategic plan on the RM of St. Clements website, and we welcome your comments and questions at any time. You can always reach us by calling the RM office at 204-482-3300, 1-888-797-8725 (toll-free), 204-474-2642 or by email at info@rmofstclements.com.

Debbie Fiebelkorn
Mayor

A vision for a strong, vibrant, sustainable St. Clements

Council's priorities reflect a clear vision to ensure St. Clements is "the place to be" for years to come.

Services and infrastructure that keep pace with changing needs.

The RM is committed to continuous improvements in municipal services, as well as making the necessary investments in local infrastructure to ensure the RM can anticipate and meet residents' long-term needs as our municipality continues to grow.

Continued, measurable environmental progress.

The RM is committed to establishing clear targets and implementing recognized best practices to reduce our environmental impact, improve quality of life, and protect our water and land for the benefit of future generations of St. Clements residents.

A model for effective municipal leadership.

From fiscal transparency to fair taxation to responsiveness to community concerns, the RM is committed to building long-term trust with residents and exceeding citizens' expectations for effective, accountable governance.

Celebrate the history of the East Beaches

Many Manitobans both young and old have fond memories of the iconic Grand Beach/East Beaches area. The St. Clements Heritage Committee is proud to celebrate the area's rich history and invites the public to a special sneak peek of the new Grand Marais Heritage Wing at the Grand Marais Community Central Building. This new interpretive area will celebrate its official opening on Canada Day, but you can enjoy a special first look over the May long weekend.

When: Saturday, May 16 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Where: 36058 PTH 12, Grand Marais, Manitoba

For information, phone 204-754-3596 or visit our website at www.stclementsheritage.com.

Donations are still needed to complete this important project. If you are interested in donating, please contact us by phone or click the "Donate" button on the website.



Exhibit installation crew finishing up

Landfill and transfer station summer hours

* Effective March 8, 2015

[Questions about waste disposal or recycling?](#)

Contact the Landfill Office at 204-766-2388 or toll-free at 1-866-205-8914






	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Libau Landfill	Closed	Closed	9 am – 5 pm	9 am – 5 pm	9 am – 5 pm	9 am – 5 pm	9 am – 5 pm
Dunning Transfer Station	9 am – 5 pm	11 am – 7 pm	Closed	Closed	11 am – 7 pm	11 am – 7 pm	9 am – 5 pm
Clark Transfer Station	9 am – 5 pm	11 am – 7 pm	Closed	Closed	11 am – 7 pm	11 am – 7 pm	9 am – 5 pm
Grand Marais Transfer Station	9 am – 5 pm	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	11 am – 5 pm	Closed
Gull Lake Transfer Station	Closed	11 am – 5 pm	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	9 am – 5 pm
Please note: Gull Lake and Grand Marais Transfer Stations change to summer hours on May 3, 2015 (below)							
Grand Marais Transfer Station	10 am – 6 pm	10 am – 6 pm	Closed	Closed	10 am – 6 pm	10 am – 6 pm	10 am – 6 pm
Gull Lake Transfer Station	10 am – 6 pm	10 am – 6 pm	Closed	Closed	10 am – 6 pm	10 am – 6 pm	10 am – 6 pm

Contact us 24/7

When you need us for a municipal emergency, we are available day and night at 204-482-3300

Building a bright future for St. Clements: Council’s 2015-18 priorities

The decisions our municipality makes today must also have tomorrow’s needs in mind. The RM’s 2015-18 Action Plan sets out a strategic direction for the current four-year term of Council. The four-year plan is structured to reflect important trends such as population growth while ensuring the RM is adequately resourced to meet residents’ needs and expectations both today and in the future. The RM Action Plan identifies priorities and benchmarks in five key areas:

Transportation and Roads	
Residents have consistently identified road improvements and drainage as a top priority. The RM has significantly increased its annual investment in road renewal and maintenance in recent years. During the current term of Council, the RM will continue to increase the annual allocation for road improvements, and invest in areas of the municipality where traffic volumes are increasing and where residents or engineers have identified a distinct need for improvement. The RM’s plan continues to improve improve snow clearing, ditch clearing and drainage.	
Recreation and Tourism	
Increased tourism spending in the RM of St. Clements benefits the entire municipality. Over the next four years the RM will pursue new economic development partnerships and opportunities to market our many tourism amenities, and our municipality as a year-round destination. The RM will also focus on increasing the recreation and leisure options available to residents of all ages in all parts of the municipality.	
Waste and Wastewater	
This spring, residents in the Old River Road area of the RM will be connected to a new, permanent sewer line, while households in East Selkirk will have wastewater carried to a modern, new-generation lagoon that significantly exceeds the province’s new water protection standards. During this term of Council, the RM will continue to explore ways to improve water protection and create new opportunities for residents to connect to water-treatment infrastructure that protects the environment and is convenient for the homeowner. A near-term priority will be to explore grant opportunities to expand the Lockport wastewater treatment plant, which would allow for additional homes to receive sewer service.	
The Environment	
Both for the sake of today’s families and future generations, St. Clements is committed to adopting recognized best practices when it comes to environmental protection, waste reduction and reducing the flow of nutrients into our waterways. During this term of Council, the RM will improve recycling programs to make it even easier for residents to keep recyclables out of the landfill. RM transfer stations will adopt universal standards to improve consistency of service and the RM will explore the possibility of curbside pickup for garbage and recyclables. Council will establish ten-year targets for waste reduction and recycling volumes, and will work with partners to further strengthen protection of our vulnerable rivers and lakes.	
Protective Services	
From safe roads to emergency preparedness to ensuring a timely response in the event of fire, community safety is a high priority. The RM’s Action Plan sets out clear steps to work with partners such as the Partnership of the Manitoba Capital Region as well as neighbouring municipalities to maximize operating efficiencies and further improve emergency response protocols. The RM will also work with regional partners to explore opportunities to improve safety along high-traffic roadways, and will explore ways to improve communication of local by-laws.	

Matching municipal revenues with long-term need

St. Clements has long had some of the lowest property taxes and lowest mill rates of all Capital Region municipalities. Council is committed to keeping taxes competitive with neighbouring RMs, while ensuring we have the revenue necessary to invest in core infrastructure such as roads and drainage, and further improve municipal services

Stay connected to your RM
RM news delivered right to your inbox
Council is committed to keeping citizens informed about important municipal projects and events. You can sign up to receive e-updates right on our website. Simply visit www.rmofstclements.com and click the “Register with us” link at the bottom of the home page.

from snow clearing to dust control.

Fiscal discipline and transparency are key priorities for the RM. Financial plan hearings are fully open to the public, Council meeting minutes are posted to our website, and budget documents are publicly available.

Similarly, Council is committed to keeping residents informed about future investment priorities and ensuring that annual property tax rates are predictable and tied to important priorities such as roads, recreation and improved services.

Council is committed to a balanced approach to municipal revenues, and over the coming years will seek to increase revenues from multiple streams to increase investments in services and infrastructure while keeping tax increases modest.

A continued focus will be generating revenue from new development via development fees. This

ensures that the costs of new development are not funded by existing homeowners. New developments in our municipality can help fund improvements that benefit all residents.

For the coming year, municipal property taxes will increase by a rate of approximately \$34 per \$100,000 of assessed value. These dollars will directly support the RM in keeping improvements in priorities like road renewal well above historic averages.

The RM will continue to pursue matching grants from the other two levels of government, which allows the RM to invest three dollars in local infrastructure such as roads for every one dollar that comes from the municipality.

The RM will also explore generating additional funds for recreation improvements through federal and provincial grant programs that become available in the lead-up to Canada’s 150th anniversary in 2017.