

August, 2009 Newsletter

R.M. of Pense No. 160, Box 190, Pense, Sask., S0G 3W0

Phone: (306) 345-2303, Fax: (306) 345-2583

e-mail: rm160@sasktel.net, website: www.pense160.ca

Provincial Education Tax Credit

Relief on the education portion of property taxes will increase this year. The Provincial Government announced the following:

- residential property - increase from 10% to 12%;
- commercial property - increase from 10% to 12%;
- agricultural property - increase from 38% to 47%.

A \$2,500 cap remains in place for commercial/industrial property. The amount of education property tax credit is shown on your 2008 tax notice.

New Municipal Website

The new R.M. of Pense website was up and running mid-January 2008. Please visit us at www.pense160.ca.

We have incorporated many new features:

- ❖ A new events calendar, showing upcoming R.M. events, including meetings, office closure times, important deadlines, landfill hours, etc.
- ❖ An expanded search feature and easy, user-friendly navigation.
- ❖ News section on the front page.
- ❖ Frequently requested forms are now available on the site (Development and Building permit applications)
- ❖ Weather information for Pense, Regina and Moose Jaw.

Many thanks to Jeff Boulton, Reactive Designs, Moose Jaw for his expert work on our website.

2007 Financial Statement

We would be happy to mail you a copy upon request. A copy of the financial statement is posted in the municipal office on the bulletin board.

Controlled/Planned Burns

A reminder that all controlled or planned burns must be reported to the Moose Jaw Fire Department at (306)692-2792 in advance to avoid a false alarm.

Our fire fighting service is provided on a user pay basis. You will be billed for all fire responses to your property. Please review your fire insurance policy and deductible to insure your needs are met.

Landfill

Welcome to Sherry and Blair Findlay, who took over as landfill supervisors this past March. The landfill hours will remain the same:

Wednesdays and Saturdays

Noon - 4 p.m.

Please give Sherry and Blair your co-operation when utilizing the municipal landfill. Please tarp/secure all loads - this is a bylaw requirement for anyone who utilizes the landfill. Help keep our municipality (roadsides and fields) free of unwanted garbage.

Development

The R.M. of Pense, along with most other Saskatchewan municipalities, has seen a significant increase in development inquiries.

Please contact our office very early in the development, building or subdivision process. Anyone working in the development field (ie: surveyors, building contractors, Saskatchewan Community Planning) is very busy. We do our best to assist you with development issues. Our website has some good information on this topic.

Emergency Contact Numbers

Police, Fire & Ambulance 9-1-1
To report Controlled Burns 692-2792
(Moose Jaw Fire Department)

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Alpine Plant Foods Corporation

The R.M. has approved a development permit for Alpine Plant Foods Corporation to develop a liquid fertilizer manufacturing facility and crop research plot area east of the Canadian Salt Plant. Approximately 20 construction jobs will be created for one year. The plant is tentatively scheduled to start operations in the fall of 2009.

Alpine utilizes proven technology to manufacture fertilizer. Inputs are received at the plant and mixed to produce the desired product. Approximately 10 million litres of fertilizer will be manufactured annually. Alpine Plant Foods Corporation was established in New Hamburg, Ontario in 1973. Their website can be found at www.alpineplantfoods.com.

Setback Regulations - Trees, Fences, etc.

Obstructions (trees, fences, buildings, snow piles, bales, etc.) must be placed back 150 feet from the centreline of any municipal road or 300 feet from the intersection of two municipal roads. R.M. of Pense Bylaw No. 09-02 regulates these setback distances. Reasons?

- to reduce snow blockage problems on our roads in the winter.
- to ensure machinery and equipment can travel over municipal roads.

Noxious Weeds

Please continue to battle against noxious weeds. Our weed inspectors spray municipal right of ways contaminated with leafy spurge and scentless chamomile. They also complete "Weed Notices" for landowners with noxious weed problems. The notice provides information on the location of the weed(s) as well as a recommended herbicide application.

We must work together to reduce the spread of

these noxious weeds in our municipality.

Did you know you can pay your bills by internet and telephone banking?

On your internet banking site you can find us in the list of vendors that are authorized to receive payments. **Note:** be sure to select the R.M. of Pense, not the Village of Pense. Your customer account number is:

for taxes - your owner number located above your name on your tax notice (add zeros at the start if more numbers are required).

for utilities, etc. - your telephone number (including area code).

Your bank will notify us that a payment has been made, we will issue a receipt and mail it to you

R.M. Contact Numbers

Administration

Carolynn Meadows, Administrator 345-2303
Cathy Ripplinger, Assistant Administrator
Carma Dilts, Administrative Assistant

Road Crew

Ken Lovell, Foreman - R.M. shop 345-2424
Bob Nuttall, Grader Operator
Laurent Deneve, Grader Operator
Don Kelln, Grader Operator
Ron Ball, Utility Operator

Pest Control Officer/Weed Inspectors

Grant Peeling, Pest Control Officer 694-8485
Devon Parcher, Tom Beingessner
Prairie EcoSystems, Weed Inspectors 737-2180

Council Members

<u>Division</u>	<u>Council Member</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
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Reeve	Tom Lemon	345-2230
#1	Kerry Ogilvie	345-2253
#2	Lorne Straub	345-2390
#3	Eleanor Durie	693-2377
#4	Garry McRae	529-6144
#5	Ashlea Street	345-2119
#6	Brian Short	345-2514

Nominations will be open for the positions of Councillor for Divisions 2, 4 & 6 this fall.

Council appreciates comments/questions from our ratepayers in respect to how we are serving the R.M. Please keep in mind that Council members receive no special status and that they are on council to help make our municipality a better place to live.