



• where agriculture and industry meet •

**Vision Statement**  
A future with growing, sustainable  
communities and a diverse economic  
base resulting in more people, more jobs  
and more housing.

### Greeting from the Reeve

As we move towards the conclusion of another year of action and activity in the Rural Municipality of Morris it is appropriate to do a short review of success and significant events this past year.

The majority of municipal assessment is farmland and Council choose to add budget dollars to the 2017 road and drainage maintenance program. The long overdue repair of the Riverside Road Bridge over the Morris River was completed in 2017. The Riverside West Bridge will be rebuilt in 2018.

The 1.2 million dollar Lowe Farm lagoon project was completed in 2017. The cost of this upgrade was shared equally by the three levels of government. We received notice of grant approval for the completion of the Rosenort Industrial Park road network. The project will complete the roadway, sewer and water and drain plan and create 26 new industrial lots. The construction of a new fire hall in Rosenort was initiated in 2017 with the generous support of the community and residents and taxpayers in the RM of Morris.

In addition to continued aggressive drain maintenance program your Council will be planning for the expansion of the Rosenort lagoon and the establishment of a rural wastewater program that will include the community of Aubigny. The first stage in the development of this project will include a feasibility plan to review the cost implications of this major project.

2018 will also see your Council review the potential of providing fibre optic internet service to municipal residents. Progress reports will be available on the RM of Morris website and on our Facebook site.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the community.

On behalf of your Rural Municipality of Morris Council I want to wish everyone a very special Christmas season. Enjoy this holiday with a focus on family and friends.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

### CAO Report

#### Building Inspector:

Our current Building Inspector, Mr. Ed Penner has been working with us for many years and has done an excellent job for us. Ed indicated his desire to retire several months ago and he plans on retiring in June of 2018. We wish Ed a wonderful time as he transitions into retirement. He will be missed around here!

#### Fire Chief:

Our current Fire Chief, Mr. Bernard Schellenberg, has been providing his services in this position on a part time basis for the past couple of years. He is also a full time firefighter with the Winnipeg Fire Service and has been performing his duties with us after those hours. He has served us well, however with a young family and other commitments he has been a very busy person and has indicated his desire to pass the responsibilities on.

#### New Position:

Council has been discussing how best to fill these two positions for several months now and in the summer of 2017 it was agreed that we should combine the two positions in order to attract someone to a full time employment position.

So after going through the hiring process, I would like to announce, on behalf of the Rural Municipality of Morris Council and Staff, the recent hiring of Mr. Trevor Dackow for the position of Fire Chief/Building Inspector. Mr. Dackow will be starting with us on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

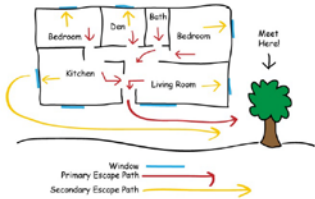
We look forward to having Trevor meld this new position that we hope will provide our residents with a great new combined service. He will be located in our Administration Office, however he will also be out in the community.

On behalf of the Staff of the Rural Municipality of Morris I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very Merry Christmas and we look forward to serving you in 2018!

Serving the communities of  
Sperling, Aubigny, Rosenort,  
Riverside, McTavish, Silver Plains,  
Lowe Farm, Kane and Sewell since  
1880.

**When a fire occurs, there is no time to waste. That is why it is so important to sit down with your family today and make a step-by-step plan for escaping from a fire.**

Draw a floor plan of your home, marking two ways out of every room - especially sleeping areas. Discuss the escape routes with every member of your household. Agree on a meeting place outside your home where every member of the household will gather to wait for the fire department. This allows you to count heads and inform the fire department if anyone is trapped inside the burning building. Practice your escape plan at least twice a year. Have a fire drill in your home. Appoint someone to be a monitor and have everyone participate. A fire drill is not a race. Get out quickly, but carefully. Make your exit drill realistic. Pretend that some exits are blocked by fire and practice alternative escape routes. Pretend that the lights are out and that some escape routes are filling with smoke.



## Be Prepared

Make sure everyone in the household can unlock all doors and windows quickly, even in the dark. Windows or doors with security bars need to be equipped with quick-release devices and everyone in the household should know how to use them.

If you live in an apartment building, use stairways to escape. Never use an elevator during a fire. It may stop between floors or take you to a floor where the fire is burning.

If you live in a two storey house, and you must escape from a second storey window, be sure there is a safe way to reach the ground. Make special arrangements for children, older adults and people with disabilities. People who have difficulty moving should have a phone in their sleeping area and, if possible, should sleep on the ground floor.

Test doors before opening them. While kneeling or crouching at the door, reach up as high as you can and touch the door, the knob and the space between the door and its frame with the back of your hand. If the door is hot, use another escape route. If the door is cool, open it with caution.

If you are trapped, close all doors between you and the fire. Stuff the cracks around the doors with towels or blankets to keep out smoke. Wait at a window and signal for help with a light coloured cloth or a flashlight. If there is a phone in the room, call 911 and tell the operator exactly where you are.

## Get Out Fast...

In case of fire, do not stop for anything. Do not try to rescue possessions or pets. Go directly to your meeting place and then call the fire department from a neighbour's phone. Every member of your household should know how to call the fire department.

Crawl low under smoke. Smoke contains deadly gases and heat rises. During a fire, cleaner air will be near the floor. If you encounter smoke when using your primary exit, use your alternate escape plan. If you must exit through smoke, crawl on your hands and knees keeping your head 12 to 24 inches (30 to 60 cm) above the floor.

## ... And Stay Out

Once you are out of your home, do not go back for any reason. If people are trapped, firefighters have the best chance of rescuing them. The heat and smoke of a fire are overpowering. Firefighters have the training, experience and protective equipment needed to enter burning buildings.

## Play It Safe...

More than half of all fatal home fires happen at night while people are asleep. Smoke alarms are set off when a fire starts, alerting people before they are trapped or overcome by smoke. With smoke alarms, your risk of dying in a home fire is cut nearly in half. Install smoke alarms outside every sleeping area and on every level of your home, including the basement. Test smoke alarms monthly. Change all smoke alarm batteries at least once a year. If your smoke alarm is more than 10 years old, replace it.

ROSENORT FIRE SERVICES IS IN NEED OF A NEW FIRE HALL. PRESENTLY APPROXIMATELY 40% OF THE NECESSARY FUNDS ARE IN PLACE. PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A ONE-TIME DONATION OR A MULTI-YEAR PLEDGE. A TAX DEDUCTIBLE RECEIPT WILL BE ISSUED ON PAYMENTS MADE TO THE R.M. OF MORRIS AND TAGGED 'ROSENORT FIRE HALL'. IF MAILING, PLEASE SEND TO THE R.M. OF MORRIS AT BOX 518, MORRIS, MB, R0G 1K0.

## Building Inspector's Report

As inspector for the RM of Morris it is my duty to oversee construction projects according to Manitoba Building codes and Local Building By-Laws. I can be reached at 204-324-4641; preferably on text or email at [edinspect@gmail.com](mailto:edinspect@gmail.com).

When I am away on holidays or at extended meetings my assistant **Larry Chubey** can be reached at 204-746-4032.

**Grade Heights:** Just a reminder that all new construction project; especially in a flood area will require grade heights approved by either a geotechnical engineer and/or the local building inspector.

*Continued on page 3....*

R.M. of Morris  
Website

Please take the time to visit our website and check out our upcoming events. We want to include as many community events as possible, so please forward information to Jennifer Reimer at the R.M. of Morris office at 204-746-7300 or email her at [jennifer@rmofmorris.ca](mailto:jennifer@rmofmorris.ca)



Water Works  
Emergency Line:  
**204-746-7300**

Animal Control  
Officer: John  
Doerksen  
**C: 204-746-0593**

*Reminders*

Address Change: Please remember to advise the RM of Morris Office if you are moving so changes can be made to your water and tax accounts.

Outstanding Utilities: Water bills are sent out quarterly. Any accounts overdue 45 days will be transferred to your tax account.

Building Permits: Any new buildings, renovations, relocation, removals, demolitions, etc., require a permit. Permits are done at the RM of Morris Office.

Rural Residents: Please refrain from dumping or blowing snow onto road allowances. This can be dangerous for snow clearing equipment travelling at high speeds.

Parked Cars and Snow Clearing Operations: Please remove parked vehicles from the street during snow plowing or clearing operations. Parked cars not only slow the operation, but also leave large amount of snow on the road after the car is dug out, which is inconvenient for everyone and dangerous. Your valued assistance during the winter season will help provide efficient and economical winter maintenance service.

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**Reminder:** Check all your filters, smoke detectors, sump pumps egress window operations for trouble free winter.

**2018--Planning a new Home or Shed?**

Please contact me to discuss your building project. I am willing to discuss all facets of construction to get you started and help you bring your project to completion. New homes will require engineered stamped plans prior to start up.

Merry Christmas!

**Ed Penner, Building Inspector, R.M. of Morris**

**Public Works Report**

**Drainage** – The drainage program came to a halt December 18<sup>th</sup>. The spreading of dirt piles is 95% completed. There will be approx. 20 miles to carry over to 2018.

**Roads** – The gravel roads are all in decent condition. This year we increased the gravel quantities substantially during our spring gravelling program. Last years wet conditions took quite a toll on most of our roads. The dirt roads are shaping up quite nicely. This is an ongoing process of pulling up the shoulders so that the roads tops will shed water better.

**Bridges** – The Bridge on Road 28N west of Riverside is getting repaired in 3 phases this winter. Phase 1 and 2 are completed already and phase 3 will take place in Jan/Feb. This will be one more road closure until the work underneath the bridge is completed. Just a reminder that when crossing these wooden bridge structures to please slow down. The combination of weight and speed destroys these wooden bridge structures quickly.

**VariouS** – The RM Employees will be busy this winter replacing equipment and building various items when not out plowing snow.

**Employees** – Paul Robert my assistant is progressing very nicely and will take on more and more responsibility all the time.

Merry Christmas everyone!! On behalf of Paul and myself I would like to thank Public Works staff for another successful year of accomplishments.

**Public Works Manager**

**Don Harder**

**Recycling Pick-Up 2017/18**

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



Sperling-Riverside-Rosenort-Aubigny

Rosenort-Lowe Farm



Holiday.....Closed

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

**Compost Site (located at entrance of Rosenort Landfill)**

- Grass clippings and small branches only
- Please empty bags onto pile
- Please put empty bags into barrels
- No other dumping allowed

**Landfill Holiday Hours**

**Rosenort** – Closed December 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018

**Low Farm** – Closed December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Landfill Hours and Price List**

DAYS	Rosenort 204-746-0417	Low Farm 204-746-4337
Monday	9am - 4:30pm	CLOSED
Tuesday	9am - 4:30pm	1pm - 5pm
Wednesday	9am - 4:30pm	CLOSED
Thursday	9am - 4:30pm	10am - 8pm
Friday	9am - 4:30pm	CLOSED
Saturday	9am - 4:30pm	9am - 3pm
FEES		
Scale per ton		\$30.00
1 Ton Truck		\$30.00
Fridge		\$30.00
Half Ton Truck		\$12.00
Trailer		\$12.00
1-5 Bags		\$6.00

Anyone bringing mixed shingles with other products to either landfill will be charged triple the normal tipping fee for such loads. Effective April 2017.

Residents of the Municipality are asked to use the Landfill site closest to their residence.

*Office Holiday Hours*

*December 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>,*

*2017: Closed*

*January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018:*

*Closed*

*Public Works*

*Shop Holiday*

*Hours*

*December 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>,*

*2017: Closed*

*January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018:*

*Closed*

*The R.M. of Morris Council and Staff  
wish you a very Merry Christmas and a  
Happy New Year!*

**Upcoming Council Meetings**

Please check out our Twitter, Facebook and Website in case of date change.

- January 9<sup>th</sup>/18
- February 14<sup>th</sup>/18
- March 14<sup>th</sup>/18
- April 11<sup>th</sup>/18

**Visit our new Website and “like” us on Facebook to keep up with the latest at the Valley Regional Library.**

<http://valley.mb.librarics.coop/>

**Reduce your Speed**

Please don't forget to reduce your speed in school zones:

Low Farm - 30km/hr

Rosenort - 50km/hr

Morris - 30km/hr

**Council Contact Information**

**Reeve Ralph Groening** Cell: 204-746-5394

Email: [ralph.groening@rmofmorris.ca](mailto:ralph.groening@rmofmorris.ca)

**Deputy Reeve Stan Siemens** Cell: 204-746-5818

Email: [stan.siemens@rmofmorris.ca](mailto:stan.siemens@rmofmorris.ca)

**Councillor Barry Fraese** Cell: 204-746-5824

Email: [barry.fraese@rmofmorris.ca](mailto:barry.fraese@rmofmorris.ca)

**Councillor Denis Robert** Cell: 204-746-5688

Email: [denis.robert@rmofmorris.ca](mailto:denis.robert@rmofmorris.ca)

**Councillor Mervin Dueck** Cell: 204-746-5010

Email: [mervin.dueck@rmofmorris.ca](mailto:mervin.dueck@rmofmorris.ca)

**Councillor Michael Toews** Cell: 204-746-4586

Email: [michael.toews@rmofmorris.ca](mailto:michael.toews@rmofmorris.ca)

**Councillor Rick Giesbrecht** Cell: 204-746-5355

Email: [rick.giesbrecht@rmofmorris.ca](mailto:rick.giesbrecht@rmofmorris.ca)

**CAO Larry Driedger** Phone: 204-746-7300

Email: [larry@rmofmorris.ca](mailto:larry@rmofmorris.ca)

**Payment Options**

- 1) Online Banking** – You may process your payments online if your bank is set up for such. Please be sure to choose the RM of Morris, not Town of Morris as a payee. Always allow 5 business days for your bank to process payments to ensure it is received by its deadline. We do not deal with TD Bank.
- 2) Pre-Authorized** – Forms are found in our office. Please bring a void cheque if signing up. Both utility and tax bills may be paid this way.
- 3) At Our Office** – We accept cash, cheque and debit. Cheque payments can also be sent in the mail. We do not accept credit cards.