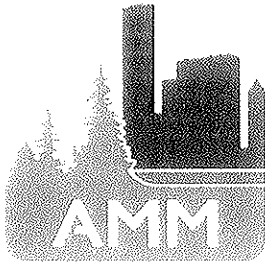


3



4th ANNUAL MUNICIPAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

Submission Form

PART 1:

Name of municipality/municipalities:

Brampton

Date implemented:

Type of municipal project:

Municipal Innovation

PART 2:

Please provide a brief overview of 500 words summarizing the municipal best practice and the impact on the community. Additional supporting material may be included, however it should be referenced in the 500 word summary to explain its relevance. The judging will be focused on how the 500 word summary meets the 4 judging criteria.

Contact Name(s): Conrad Arvisais

Phone:

Email:

APPLICATION DEADLINE – NOON ON MARCH 27TH, 2008



4th ANNUAL MUNICIPAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

Submission Form

PART 1:

Name of municipality/municipalities: Town of Carman & Rural Municipality of Dufferin

Date implemented: August 16, 2007

Type of municipal project: Residential Development Agreement

PART 2:

Please provide a brief overview of 500 words summarizing the municipal best practice and the impact on the community. Additional supporting material may be included, however it should be referenced in the 500 word summary to explain its relevance. The judging will be focused on how the 500 word summary meets the 4 judging criteria.

Contact Name(s): Tyler King

Phone: 745-2675

Email: carmcom@mts.net

APPLICATION DEADLINE – MARCH 27, 2008

AMM- Municipal Excellence Award Town of Carman & Rural Municipality of Dufferin

Our plan was to find a way to allow for residential development that was beneficial for both the Town of Carman and the Rural Municipality of Dufferin. We had a new residential development occurring in the town right along the boundary with the Rural Municipality of Dufferin and it will eventually take in some of the Rural Municipality of Dufferin. The developer wanted the land to be annexed into the Town of Carman. Both the Town of Carman and the Rural Municipality of Dufferin wanted to help the developer but the municipality also needed to see if there was a way to minimize the loss of tax base. As a result the Town of Carman and RM of Dufferin met to discuss ways to satisfy both organizations.

The outcome of the discussions was the Town of Carman agreeing to a residential tax sharing agreement with the RM of Dufferin. The Town of Carman agreed that once the land was annexed that they would put an amount of money equal to the taxes the Rural Municipality of Dufferin would have received if the land was still theirs into a fund for jointly funded projects and organizations. Examples of the potential recipients were the local library, recreation and fire department. The Town of Carman also agreed to match the amount of money that they were putting in on behalf of the Rural Municipality of Dufferin. Once the taxes received by the Town of Carman exceeded the original amount being put in the amount of money put into the joint fund would then change to 20 percent of the taxes received. This would ensure that the money being put in each year would only increase with development. The hope with this agreement and any potential future agreements is that it would allow for the joint fund to be the source of funding to joint projects and allow for the Rural Municipality of Dufferin and Town of Carman to maintain or lower taxes. We took the approach to make the agreement as simple as possible as there is no need to make the plan more complicated than it needed to be. As far as we can tell this type of agreement does not exist anywhere else in Manitoba.

Some of the benefits of this have been there is a generally friendlier atmosphere within our community groups when their municipal governments are working together, the potential future savings on funding joint projects and organizations between the Town of Carman and Rural Municipality of Dufferin, the RM of Dufferin will not lose revenue as a result of this annexation, the RM of Dufferin can avoid getting involved with traditional Town of Carman infrastructure like sewer and paved roads, and we are able to work together and work towards a solution to traditionally difficult situations allowing our residents and any potential residents to see the municipalities as forward thinking.

Municipal Ideas:

Ending the paper chase

Brandon City Council goes paperless

Submitted by the City of Brandon

The City of Brandon has long been a pioneer in Manitoba's recycling movement. Home to a state-of-the-art material recycling facility, Brandon residents enjoy curbside collection of household waste, recyclables, and yard waste. Brandon City Council is not only a firm believer in recycling, but in reducing waste as much as possible. This year they decided to tackle one area where a great deal of paper was being used – council meetings. Not satisfied to simply reduce the amount of paper that was being used each meeting, the council took the bold step to go where few councils have gone before – completely paperless.

Out with the old, in with the new

The City of Brandon's paperless concept actually started a number of years ago with internal and external communication being carried out as much as possible through the use of e-mails. This, of course, has drastically reduced Brandon's annual paper, postage and staff costs, and led the council to ask themselves some questions: Why produce all that paper when we don't really have to? Why not use the technology when it is right there at our fingertips? Those were the questions that prompted Brandon City Council to act.

Council decided it was time to leave the old cumbersome paper generating methods behind when it came to preparing for Council meetings. No more multi page agenda packages being painstakingly put together and delivered throughout the City to each member of Council, with copies made for City Administration and the media for the Council meetings. Council specifically wanted access to the detailed information to be electronic and to use no more paper. As well, Council determined that it was important for the public to have the same ease of access so that Council could be seen as transparent and accountable. It was felt that the public needed to know not only what Council decided but also the background for such decisions. Now, at the Council meetings, the agenda and all supporting documentation are viewed and notes are created electronically through the use of laptop computers.

Because not all Council members had personal computers at home, it was agreed to purchase a laptop for each of the 11 members at a cost of \$1,000 each, a considerable savings due to the bulk purchase. (This investment will be easily recouped in just one

What are the savings?

With the introduction of the paperless agenda, the annual savings in paper and delivery costs to the City of Brandon will amount to \$2,029.96.

The staff hours reduced will result in an estimated savings of \$9,312.00.

This adds up to a total annual saving in operating costs in the first year of over \$11,000.

The savings to the environment? Priceless.

year of practice – see sidebar). Council members could then use their laptops when at home or away and, most importantly, bring the laptops to the Council meeting to access the meeting agenda. This allows them to make notes before, during and following the meeting. In addition, the laptop allows the continuous electronic flow of information from City Administration to City Council on a daily basis. Previously, any information had to be copied and packages were delivered to members only once a week.

Callout:

"This fits in well with our desire to set a proper environmental example to our residents..."

*Mayor Dave Burgess
City of Brandon*

The agenda and all supporting documentation is not only available to the Council members electronically. The public and the media have full electronic access from the City's website as well.

Brandon Mayor Dave Burgess says that the move to a paperless agenda has been easier than expected and allows for more efficient and effective information flow to all of Council with their laptop computers. He notes that, "this also fits in well with our desire to set a proper environmental example to our residents wherever possible".

Why stop there?

While the City of Brandon could have patted itself on the back for its environmental initiative at the council table, the paperless mindset did not end there. City Administration was paralleling City Council's departure from the paper war. Why print and distribute reports manually when they're prepared electronically? These reports are now signed electronically, emailed to various addressees and even submitted for approval electronically. Not only is the demand for paper diminished considerably, but valuable staff time in physically preparing and transmitting these reports is being saved. As well, the entire operational process is much more quick and efficient.

But why stop even there? The paperless concept was expanded further to assist City Administration in its supportive function to City Council. A seamless electronic flow of communication from the public and City Administration to City Council and then back has been developed through a collaborative effort involving the City's Information Technology and the City Clerk's Departments. Once a report has been created and approved for submission to City Council or a submission is received from the public and scanned, it is electronically integrated into the Council meeting agenda document for consideration and debate by Council. Electronically produced and colour coded maps, drawings and charts are now accessible for viewing by all. Once dealt with by Council, the matter electronically flows into the minutes of the meeting and the advisory process that disseminates Council's decision - most of which is also being done electronically.

What is the key to the City of Brandon's success in implementing a paperless agenda concept? "Keep it simple," advises Conrad Arvisais, City Clerk. By doing just that, the

City of Brandon has been able to bring about increased efficiencies and ease of access for Council, City Administration and the public they serve. Best of all, their approach is environmentally friendly – and saves money.

Erika Rempel

Subject: FW: Municipal Excellence Awards (I will mail a copy via regular post)

From: Martin Dupont [mailto:normad@mts.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 20, 2008 2:07 PM
To: Tyler MacAfee
Subject: Municipal Excellence Awards (I will mail a copy via regular post)

Tyler acAfee
Director of Policy & Communications
AMM, 1910 Saskatchewan, Avenue West
Portage La Prairie, MB.
R1N 0P1

Mr. MacAfee,
2008

March 20th,

Our best municipal practice resulted in a process that had been an issue of great interest for the past forty years or so. Our two councils though not amalgamated, have worked on several other projects in the past years and as we move forward, we certainly envision this being the route we will continue to follow. What started out as a joint meeting in 1999 and a vision that both councils had, we embarked on an adventure that continues today which is the acquisition of the Fort Ellice Site located in the rural Municipality of Ellice.

This project would of never been possible if both councils had not agreed to the initial project. When several attempts to purchase this property, via government proposals and municipal proposals were refused, the councils decided to boldly use steps of expropriation as outlined in the municipal act. We were informed that the act had been expanded to purchase property for other reasons than roads etc.. We knew that this would definitely test the act if an agreement were not achieved after the inquiry report was finalized. This act is allowing our councils to develop a tourist site that will benefit the whole area. Having used the expropriation act to purchase this property has certainly challenged our councils and we knew that we would have to work closer than ever before. It hasn't been an easy road to follow and only time will tell if going this route will benefit or hurt both councils financially. Of course the dollars spent has been mostly on lawyer fees, however we still hope that this will be a sustainable for both the environment and it will be our economic vehicle in the future.

Is this a unique or a creative practice for municipal council? We feel that it might meet your parameters because it is portion on the municipal that needs complete support and a unified council to allow this to happen. Our proposal is very cost effective; it is the legal road that is the challenge to both councils. We have stated on several occasions that we want to protect this area from vandalism, restore the gravesites and other artifacts, as they are uncovered. This is great news for the environment and hopefully our economies in the future.

Tyler, I don't know if this falls within the submission guidelines, but I thought that I would submit it I thank you in advance for listening to me and reading our short version of a wonderful and challenging adventure we are currently dealing with.



Erika Rempel

From: Tyler MacAfee
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 10:41 AM
To: Erika Rempel
Subject: FW: 4th Annual Municipal Excellence Award

Tyler MacAfee
Director of Policy and Communications
204-856-2362

-----Original Message-----

From: Brian McKinnon Tel 2047390159 [mailto:bmckinno@mts.net]
Sent: Friday, March 21, 2008 4:26 PM
To: Tyler MacAfee
Subject: 4th Annual Municipal Excellence Award

Dear Tyler:

Please accept the following as our submission for the subject award:

Part 1:

Name of Municipality: Rural Municipality of Eriksdale

Date implemented: March 13, 2008

Type of municipal project: Strategic Planning Workshop

Part 2:

The RM of Eriksdale completed it's first ever Strategic Planning Workshop.

We thought other municipalities might be interested in:

- 1.The uniqueness of our experience as we did not get wrapped up in a process that took too much time.
- 2.The process was beneficial in helping the whole council focus on common objectives.
- 3.The total cost was less than \$1,000.
4. The process is economically feasible for any municipality and is we expect sustainable for the remaining term of council.It will provide a foundation for a future strategic planning workshop.

Council agreed a community strategic plan would help to establish a direction for the municipality and provide a blueprint for the future of our RM.

More importantly at the end of our term,council will be able to look back and measure our success in accomplishing set objectives and plans in support of our community's vision.

We realized we would need a facilitated discussion in order to develop a Plan which would reflect the collective vision, goals and values of our community.

Best Practice # 1 Shop for the right consultant

AMM and Community Futures Interlake West provided names of consultants;

We asked around for additional names

We requested proposals which would describe the approach,time required,personnel and costs.

We received two proposals and chose the winning consultant based on a practical approach, municipal experience,budget and chemistry.

Best Practice # 2 Clearly define the process.

We agreed the strategic planning process would have four parts:

1. A vision for the community

2. Strategies that can help to achieve that vision

3. Action Plans that define how those strategies will be implemented and with what priority

4. Measurements of success

Best Practice # 3 Agree who should participate in the workshop

1. The Reeve and all councilors

2. CAO, Recreation Director, Assistant CAO and other staff if available

3. School Board Trustee/Hospital/Health Services Representative/Credit Union GM.

4. A sampling of the top 20 taxpayers

6. Former Reeve

7. Former Resident

Best Practice # 4 Create a Vision

1. Each participant was invited to send to the consultant a simple statement of how people in the community see themselves in the future. The intent was to simply get everyone in the same ball park. It was suggested they try answering the two questions:

– What is your vision of the municipality in 5 to 10 years?

– What do you see as some of the key focuses in 5 to 10 years?

The consultant also provided some examples of visions from other Canadian communities.

Best Practice # 5 Agree on Workshop Agenda

1. Introductions and Agenda

2. Where we are today?

- Reflections on local heroes and the municipality
- A "Vision" for the municipality from earlier input from participants
- Assets/Needs/Opportunities

3. What can we do?

- Possible strategies–No holds barred and outside the box thinking
- Clarify and refine strategies
- Set priorities/dot-mocracy

4. Lunch – continue group discussion

5. How will we do it?

- For top 5 strategies
- How do you do it
- Who is the lead
- What is the measure of success?
- When will it be done?

6. Next Steps

- what should we do with the materials we produced today?

7. Wrap-up, evaluation and thank you.

- comments from the Reeve/Councilors/Participants/Consultant

Outcomes

1. Vision: "Eriksdale is a strong and thriving community, proud of it's heritage, honouring it's natural environment and recognized as an Interlake Community of Choice to live,work,visit and do business in. It is a place of opportunity that people are proud to call home."
2. Understanding the community: Detailed notes from the day's discussion.
3. Assets: A full listing of assets, needs and opportunities
4. A listing of possible strategies
5. Top five priorities including how they will be accomplished, who is the lead, what is the measure of success and when it will be done.
6. Next steps include clearly defined and agreed objective and action plans which can be communicated to the community.

Our strategic objectives are:

1. A Public Private Partnership to construct a 4300 sq foot Professional Building on municipal land across from the hospital to house clinics, health services and a wellness center;
2. Partner with the Regional Health Authority and Manitoba Health to complete renovations to the hospital to bring it up to current day standards and house the new ultrasound and cancer care services for the area;
3. Work with developers on cottage lot and housing developments;
4. Seek grants and funding to upgrade McEwan Park to accommodate RVs and plans for family and naturalist activities.
5. Develop a marketing plan to promote the municipality as a destination for visitors and as a preferred place to reside because of affordable housing, a safe place to raise a family and a caring and friendly community.

Our consultant is a recent retiree from the City of Winnipeg. He has indicated he would be willing to do a joint presentation with me at the next AMM conference if we were invited.

Best Regards!

From the Reeve of the RM of Eriksdale!

Brian McKinnon
Tel 204 739 0159



Successful Municipal Practices: Responding to New Challenges



Tools for Change

BETTER MUNICIPAL BUSINESS PRACTICE: Shared Municipal Office Town of Grandview / RM of Grandview

The Town and the RM of Grandview are located along PTH#5 in the picturesque valley between Duck Mountain National Park and Riding Mountain National Park. Given the many challenges facing a small rural town and a farming community today, the two municipalities understand the importance of working together in order to secure a strong future.

Over the years the two councils have come to realize that service sharing makes sound economic sense. Many municipal services provided by one municipality benefits the citizens of the other, and by entering into service sharing agreements additional and improved services can be provided to the entire community. Over the last number of years the Town and RM have partnered together to provide many services including recreation, fire protection, ambulance, waste disposal, recycling, library, cemetery and emergency services and physician recruitment incentives.

The Town and the RM were presented with another partnership opportunity when the office building of the former Intermountain School Division was vacated in 2003. The Town was in need of more office space as they were quickly outgrowing their small one-room office. The RM was comfortable in their current location however they could see the advantage of sharing office space with the Town. Talks between the two councils began.

In making their decision, the two councils considered both the challenges and benefits of sharing office space. The challenges included citizens adjusting to the new office location, employee acceptance of the new arrangement, maintaining confidentiality between the two offices and increased customer traffic. The possibility that the two office buildings could remain vacant also posed a problem that had to be considered. The benefits included:

- Improved customer service. A "one-stop shop" for those who need to do business with both the Town and the RM or for those who are unsure which municipality they need to see.
- Improved communication between the two municipalities – staff and council members.

The Town has a population of 839 and the RM 736. The two municipalities enjoy many 50/50 service sharing agreements.

The two councils agreed that the benefits of sharing office space far outweighed the challenges.

(8)

Successful Municipal Practices: Responding to New Challenges



Tools for Change

- Cost savings of approximately \$10,000 per year with the sharing of office equipment, utilities, janitorial services, and board room.
- A structurally sound and spacious building.

A reasonable purchase price was quickly agreed upon and a legal document drawn up that formalized joint ownership of the new building and 50/50 sharing of the capital purchase and future operating costs. With only a fresh coat of paint and new locks on the doors, in December of 2004 the Town and the RM moved into their new 2,500 square foot municipal office, almost twice the area of their previous offices.

The Town and the RM retained ownership of their former office buildings both of which were immediately occupied by organizations in need of suitable office space. The Grandview and District Community Resource Council located in the "old" Town office while the Parkland Agricultural Resources Co-Operative moved into the "old" RM office. The rental income realized from these two tenants more than offsets the costs of operating and maintaining the buildings.

The councils are now considering further development for the new office building by turning part of the finished basement into an emergency operations centre. A bank of phone lines has been installed and the basement already has a kitchen facility.

The Town and the RM of Grandview enjoy the benefits of working together. Joint council meetings are held approximately four times each year when shared services and other items of similar interest are discussed. The cooperation between the two municipalities has been economically beneficial. More importantly, it has been instrumental in forming a "sense of community" by improving communication and building a partnership between the two municipalities.

Both councils agree that partnerships are essential to maintain the level of services now available and to ensure continued success into the future.

For more information on better municipal business practices, Successful Municipal Practices, and the Tools for Change program, see the Association of Manitoba Municipalities' website, at www.amm.mb.ca.

Contacts: Sharon Dalgleish, CAO, Town of Grandview (204)546-5250
Joan Scott, CAO, RM of Grandview (204)546-5080

THE RM OF LAWRENCE RECYCLING & WASTE MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Council of the R. M. of Lawrence was apprised of the Lawrence Recreation Commission's intention to cease operating the municipality's recycling program December 31, 2003.

Discussion immediately began within Council as to how the recycling program could be continued and perhaps enhanced. The municipality became entirely responsible for the recycling program. A building was constructed for the purpose of receiving and sorting recyclable materials at the local landfill site. This made the building more accessible and efficient which encouraged people to recycle rather than send all their refuse to the landfill site. (Picture #1 building)

As a cost saving measure it was Council's decision to extend recycling duties to the employee currently employed as the landfill site supervisor. The employee receives the recyclables and sorts them into large cardboard boxes (gaylords) which are stationed on pallets (Picture #2-5) for easy removal to the storage trailer. The municipality purchased a trailer, as shown in Picture #12, which would serve as a storage facility until such time as it was full. To improve material handling efficiency bin hatches and bins within the building were constructed. In July 2005 a Forklift was purchased (Picture #6) for the purpose of moving the filled gaylords from the recycling building to the trailer.

Ten steel recycling bins (Picture #7) were designed and constructed and placed at strategic locations in the municipality. A trailer (Pictures #8-11) was also designed for easy pick-up of full bins and replacement of empty bins making it a one person operation. With transportation costs absorbing approximately 40% of that recovered from recycling when shipped by carrier, shipments were to be made with the municipality's own vehicle when there is a full a semi-trailer load to further reduce shipping costs.

With the assistance of funds from the WRAP program the Lawrence Recycling Program has been enhanced and has grown to a well organized and well run progressive program. The municipality was approached by two Aboriginal and Northern Affairs communities to collect their recyclables and now they are part of our program. It has been possible to make it accessible to other communities through the cost efficient practice that has been developed.

Further cost savings is previously a Cat crawler was required to bury the garbage at the landfill site, a job that is now done with a loader.

A used oil Collection Depot with an environmental license was also established at this site (Pictures 13&14). The project demonstrated measureable progress towards achieving the waste management objective by the amount of used oil that is collected. An added advantage is there is a per litre rebate through MARRC. The benefit has been to the environment as much of what was not recycled was disposed of on the ground. The benefits of collection of oil prevent pollution of ground water supplies and stimulate the local economy through cost recovery of the

used oil collected. The need was demonstrated as residents are collecting used oil in barrels and containers with no depot in the area to dispose of materials collected. For further cost savings the RM of Lawrence has recently purchased a Clean Burn used oil burning furnace to heat the maintenance shop. (Picture #15 the oil holding tank for the furnace, pictures 16-18 the used oil furnace) This serves to decrease the energy bills significantly, recycling a lot of the used oil collected.

A Manitoba Hydro grant fostered through the Alonsa Conservation District landscaping tasks, such as fencing, grassing and planting of trees, were also undertaken in order that the recycling building is separated from the landfill area. Shrubs were acquired through the PFRM program. (Hence a "green space") With the measure of the change in volumes of recycling (kgs) pre and post facility development is that volume from recyclables increased by 52.21%. Communication through posters and newsletters (from MPSC) to our citizens regarding a very valuable recycling program help to sustain it and remind everyone of our "green" earth.

PART 2:

In 1993, the R.M. of Louise along with the Town of Pilot Mound and Village of Crystal City created a Waste Management Committee with a goal to provide an efficient and environmentally sound facility for solid waste management placement. With years of hard work, dedication and determination our goal finally emerged in October of 2006 when we were able to open our doors to the residents of these communities. Our practices are unique in the sense that we are a one and only state of the art facility that uses a sorting, grinding and composting system to dispose of our waste. The following explains how the facility works and what our goals are:

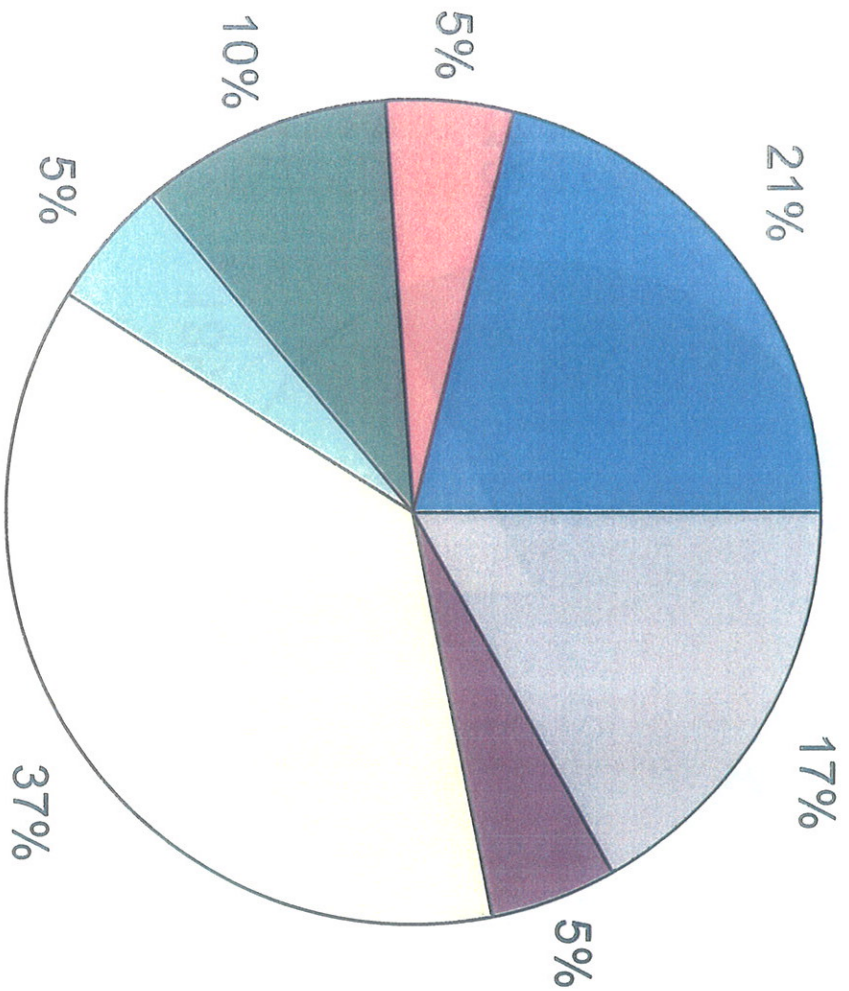
All household waste that is collected by town pickup or dropped off by residents is weighed before it enters the Waste Facility Site. The waste is then unloaded into a bay large enough for the refuse truck to back into. It is pushed into a pit to be processed, first through a bag ripper, and then carried by a conveyor over the sorting table where all the recyclables are pulled out. Finally the waste is shredded in a large grinder and transferred into a vehicle to be placed in the active cell. Once placed in the cell, the skid steer is used to push the garbage in a more organized fashion so composting can take place.

The site provides a clean facility for residents and ratepayers to unload their household waste and recyclables in a comfortable, safe environment. We provide containers that are visibly marked to help residents place their items in the proper place. We also provide designated areas for such items as metal, tires, concrete, composting and 2 pits for burning wood waste. As well as the site provides a fenced in area for empty chemical containers and an oil recycling shed will be coming in the near future, therefore making it a one-stop-drop for easy convenience.

The process of having a bag ripper and sorting table (via conveyors) has helped to increase the number of recyclables that we can collect out of the household waste, which in turn eliminates any entering the landfill. We also provide door to door pickup for recycling which has also increased our volume of recyclables.

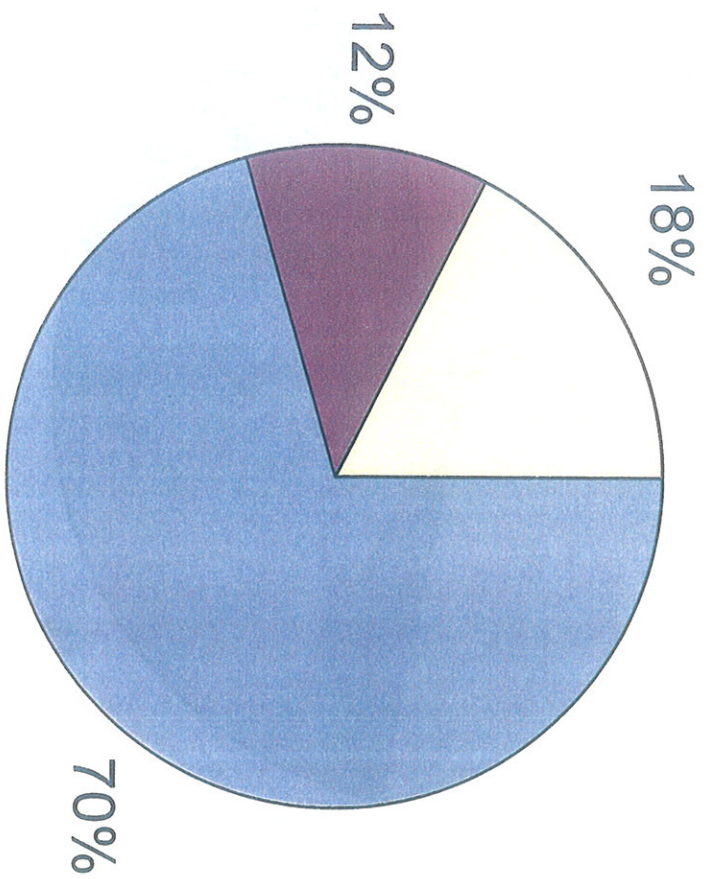
Initially we were hoping to have a reduction of 50% after shredding the household waste. Depending on the load, we are seeing a reduction closer to 60 or 70%. Household waste has been reduced by 20% with pulling out recyclables, metals and wood burnable material. Composting of the shredded waste is working well; it is reducing an 8 – 10 ft. pile down to a 4 – 6 ft. pile with the a temperature reading of 140 degrees in the centre. This system has increased the life of our site from 35 years to 70 years if volumes stay at the present rate. This makes it both an environmentally and economically sound project.

See chart attached.



- 17 % Burnables (193.76 tonne)
- 5% Shingles (60.86 tonne)
- 37% Household (421.465 tonne)
- 5% Metal (58.630 tonne)
- 10% Composting (113.140 tonne)
- 5% Concrete (52.870 tonne)
- 21 % Recycling (234.76 tonne)

CELL #1



■ Household 336.8
tonne

■ Shingles 60.86 tonne

□ Removed by Hand
(recycling, metal, etc.
84.6 tonne

Best Practice: South Interlake Regional Library Bookmobile

The South Interlake Regional Library (SIRL) provides library services to the 14,136 residents of the RM of Rosser, RM of Rockwood, Town of Stonewall and the Town of Teulon. The system includes library branches in Stonewall and Teulon and a Bookmobile that travels throughout all four communities.

The Bookmobile, a custom built library branch on wheels, is one of only two bookmobiles in the province. This unique branch allows SIRL to provide library services to the residents of the supporting municipalities that are spread over a larger geographical area. Carrying approximately 6,000 books, the Bookmobile operates on a 3 week schedule, 10 months of the year making 32 stops that includes 10 schools, 7 Hutterite colonies, 5 seniors homes, 5 day care centres, and several community halls and Town Halls.

Library services are a valuable service provided by many municipalities, however, RMs such as Rosser that want to offer library services but do not have a town large enough to support a library branch are often forced to offer the library services through a neighbouring municipality library branch. This requires the residents to travel in order to access the library. With the Bookmobile the library is brought to them, and so it's able to provide service to smaller pockets of residents. Many people who utilize this unique service would likely not access the library services available to them if it were not for the bookmobile.

The annual operating cost of the Bookmobile is approximately \$34,500 (including the librarian's salary). This cost is significantly lower than the cost of operating a bricks and mortar library branch and works out to approximately \$2.44 per capita. These funds come from the annual per capita library tax levy of \$15.45 per capita from the supporting communities (this covers the Bookmobile and both library branches), and matching funds from the Province. The bookmobile also receives corporate sponsorship from the Royal Bank, who provides \$2,500 per year. To ensure sustainability SIRL takes \$10,000 annually from their operating budget and places it in a bookmobile reserve so funds will be on hand to replace the Bookmobile when required. The current bookmobile purchased for \$175,000, is expected to serve for approximately 20 years with considerable residual value at the end of its term.

Providing library services in a small municipality can be expensive. Sharing the costs of the service with other municipalities through the creation of a Regional library system reduces the cost for each

participating municipality, and the addition of the Bookmobile enables the regional library system to provide this valuable service to all residents regardless of location. The Bookmobile, a great, low cost investment that increases the quality of life for our residents.

