

General Message

I hope everyone had a great holiday season and the start of 2025 has been good to you and your family.

As your new Council nears three months in the role, we start to shift focus from orientation to governance and ongoing implementation of the strategic plan. We have been taking some time to bring the new Council up to speed on several initiatives.

Over the next few months, we will be focussing on the following work:

- Town's Branding and Marketing Plan
- Implementation of the Development Strategy
- Annual Budget Deliberations

If you have interest in any of the above topics or others please visit the Town [website](#) to review agendas, minutes or other pertinent information.

One of the things that makes Dundurn great is the community spirit and involvement. Serving on Council provides insight into all the activities that take place in our community. From the Carollers over Christmas to various library and fire events, volunteers who run sports and the numerous generous donations to fundraising efforts that support the community. It takes many dedicated community members to make these events happen and we are grateful for all you do.

Recently, a group of locals approached the Town and RM to use the Community Hall for a weekly coffee group for seniors or anyone else who wants to join. I had the opportunity to attend one of these gatherings and what a wonderful group of folks to chat with. I encourage you to go check it out, Fridays at 10:30 AM in the Hall.

Our Strategic Plan development and community engagement identified an opportunity for the community through the formation of a formal recreation and community events committee. These groups are usually comprised of local community leaders and numerous volunteers. If you are interested in participating, or you have some ideas for events please keep an eye on communications when the work begins.

I hope everyone has a good winter and I look forward to engaging more with the community through events and our upcoming annual rate payers meeting in May. Please make note of your questions or topics you would like discussed as we will be seeking advanced submissions to help us prepare responses to your questions.

Council Highlights for December 2024 / January 2025

December 17, 2024

- Regular business tasks and approvals for administrative, financial, and correspondence matters.
- Employee reviews presented and accepted.
- Implemented Council Education Policy for orientation and continuing development.

January 21, 2025

- Regular business tasks and approvals for administrative, financial, and correspondence matters.
- Branding Action Plan presented to Council for review and comments.
- Delegation from Metis Nation of Saskatchewan regarding proposed upgrades to the display at the Town entrance.
- Annual review of Waterworks Emergency Response Plan and Quality Control/Assurance Policy
- Introduction of proposed updates to the Protective Services Cost Recovery Bylaw (1st Reading)

Town Updates

Dundurn Wheatland Library

I wanted to give a huge shout-out to everyone involved with the operation of the Dundurn Wheatland Library. It takes a community to make this amenity flourish. Thank you to the dedicated employees, volunteer board consisting of Council members, residents, and representative from regional partners, as well as the numerous volunteers and individual and company contributors.

There have been so many great events put on by volunteers as fundraising efforts to help fund the operations of the library, such as learn to play crib, book readings, and the Santa Visit.

These fundraisers are made possible by the generous donations from the community. I was lucky enough to win the grand prize from one such fundraiser in 2024. I want to thank Josh Turner and the Blackstrap Glamping Resort for your generous donation of a Pixel Pizza and stay at the resort. What a cool concept and awesome way to enjoy the Blackstrap Area! Your support of the entire Dundurn and regional area is much appreciated by your community.

2025 Property Reassessments

This year, 2025 is a Reassessment Year in Saskatchewan. A reassessment of all property classes is required by provincial legislation at least every four years to ensure property values are up-to-date, accurate and fair. This marks the beginning of the current four-year assessment cycle (2025-2028).

As municipalities are required to run on a revenue neutral basis, reassessments usually lead to the redistribution of which properties pay more or less, depending on their assessment changes relative to the average. Which means, the total property taxes collected will remain relatively constant factoring in incremental growth in expenditures, some properties will see an increase in taxes, while others may decrease based on that average assessment amount.

Please watch your mail for the assessment notices once the Town receives them from the Provincial Assessor (SAMA). The Town will also provide some informational notices throughout the process the help you understand the changes and their impacts on your property.

Upcoming Council Matters

Next 1-3 Months	Next 3-6 Months
Annual Financial Audit	Property Tax Notices
Marketing & Branding Strategy Implementation	First Annual Ratepayer Public Meeting
2025 SAMA Property Re-Assessment Notices	Economic Development Incentives
Approve Tax Strategy (Mill Rate & Tax Tools)	Development Strategy Implementation
Deliberate and Approve 2025 Budget	

To find out what will be discussed at any particular meeting, please keep an eye on the Council Agendas which are posted on the [website](#).

If one of the topics is of interest to you, please feel free to attend a meeting or tune in via the livestream on the [website](#). You may also request to attend as a delegation and will be given the opportunity to address Council on an agenda item. Please contact the Town Office if you have any questions.

Community Engagement

Event	Date	Purpose
Community Coffee Group	January 24	Support Community Events