



Your Community

The official newsletter of the R.M. of East St. Paul

March 2023

For more information, call: 204-668-8112

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Email: info@eaststpaul.com

Office: 1 - 3021 Birds Hill Rd. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Provincial funding freeze thaws; ESP gets \$1.1 million this year



East St. Paul Mayor Carla Devlin, third from right, with other municipal leaders and Premier Heather Stefanson, centre, following the announcement of \$47 million in additional provincial funding to municipalities.

The Province of Manitoba has announced an additional \$47 million in funding to municipalities and for the RM of East St. Paul that means just over \$1.1 million added to the 2023 budget.

The RM received just over \$670,000 in provincial funding last year.

Mayor Carla Devlin says the increase comes at a perfect time for all municipalities.

"It's no secret the last few years have been challenging," Devlin said.

"The global economy is down and inflation is up. Ending the seven year freeze now is critical for municipalities who haven't just been dealing with these issues today, but for several years. We applaud Premier Stefanson's move."

Premier Heather Stefanson and Municipal Relations Minister Andrew Smith made the announcement.

"Our government is listening. We are taking action and getting things done for the benefit

of all Manitobans," said Stefanson. "We recognize municipalities and communities across our province are facing significant pressures that impact the ability to deliver important projects and services Manitobans rely and depend on. This additional \$47 million in unconditional funding will support municipal budgets for the 2023 fiscal year and beyond, and we are pleased to provide this much-needed certainty, now."

The increase brings to a close

a seven-year freeze on provincial funding and the move earned praise from the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM).

"As inflation has significantly impacted municipal budgets and municipalities are not permitted to run deficits, this historic municipal funding announcement will help local councils respond to current financial pressures, build stronger communities and finalize local budgets with certainty."

Congratulations to ESP athletes who competed at Canada Games

East St. Paul was represented at the Canada Winter Games 2023 in the sports of alpine skiing, cross country skiing, gymnastics, hockey, judo, snowboard and wheelchair basketball.

The Games were held in Prince Edward Island from Feb. 18 to March 5.

Manitoba finished the Games with 19 medals – six gold, six silver and seven bronze.

The East St. Paul athletes that participated were:

Jocelyn Jekat, Sophia Jekat, Ewan Dalling

– Alpine Skiing
Sarah Madsen – cross country skiing
Jordan Crerar – gymnastics
Stephanie Jacob, Vanessa Moreira, Ella Stewner – hockey
McKenna Stewart, Amaya Machado – judo
Maya Veitch, Kai Veitch – snowboard
Ben Galagan – snowboard coach
Josh Brown – wheelchair basketball

Congratulations to all of them on their amazing accomplishment!



**PEI • ÎPÉ
2023
JEUX DU
CANADA
GAMES**

**ST.
PATRICK'S
DAY**

**ST.
PATRICK'S
DAY**

**ST.
PATRICK'S
DAY**

Reminder - do the right thing, pick up your dog's poop

Dog owners are reminded that picking up after your dog isn't just the courteous thing to do, it's the law.

The RM's Animal Control Officers have received numerous complaints about the amount of dog feces being left along the Duff Roblin Parkway Trail north of Garven Road.

It's unsightly and unsanitary – imagine stepping on a pile of poop unknowingly and then spreading it everywhere with every step, your car and your house – and it's also against the law.

The RM's By-Law 2022-11, Section 3.1 (d) states:

No person shall permit a dog to:

(d) defecate on property other than the owner's without immediately removing the excrement and disposing of it in a sanitary manner.

The fine for your dog pooping and you not scooping is \$268.

Please have consideration for your neighbours and pick up your dog's business everywhere in the municipality.



Hank loves to be outside, and he also loves it when you pick up after him. He knows it's the law!

Wednesday 'Coffee on Burt' still going strong

The Bird's Hill United Church began hosting 'Coffee on Burt' in the church hall Wednesday afternoons from 1-3pm last year.

Open to all ages, family and friends are invited to meet your neighbours and enjoy coffee/tea and snacks.

You can chat with others and if you choose join in on a game of cards, cribbage or any game you like.

If knitting and crocheting are your passions, bring your latest project with you.

There is an abundance of puzzles and extra fingers and eyes are always welcome to help complete the picture.

The aim of this mid-week break is simple – to relax and have an enjoyable time.

Happy St. Patrick's Day and hope to see you there! The church is located at 2105 Burton Ave., in Birds Hill.

Low to moderate risk for spring flooding, province says

In its February Spring Flood Outlook, Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation's Hydrologic Forecast Centre says there is a low to moderate risk of flooding in most areas of the province.

It's early so the Outlook says weather conditions from now until spring melt will determine the actual flood risk.

As of early March, the risk along the Red River in the Interlake region is moderate.

The Province, along with Winnipeg Environmental Remediations Inc., (WERI) is conducting normal spring ice-cutting and breaking to reduce ice-jam related flooding. Ice cutting is expected to wrap up this month.

The Hydrologic Forecast Centre expects to operate the Red River Floodway this year if weather conditions are unfavourable.



Early spring flooding predictions put the risk at low to moderate, but the Amphibex machines are doing their thing and cutting ice north of Selkirk to help reduce ice-jam related flooding.

The spring flood outlook report is available online at: www.gov.mb.ca/mit/flood-info/pdf/2023/february_2023



Spring road restrictions are important

The RM implements Spring Road Restrictions every year to limit the allowable weight a heavy truck can carry on Municipal roadways. Generally, restrictions are in effect from early March until late May. This is all weather dependant and the RM follows the Provincial recommendations for start and end

dates.

All municipal roads are classified as Class B roadways with a maximum weight rating of 20,000kgs. There are many East St. Paul roads that are designated as no truck routes, including Wenzel. The complete listing of roadways is available in the annual Spring Road Restriction No-

tice the RM issues.

During spring thaw, no truck routes are posted at 65 per cent of normal axle loads to limit the weight commercial trucks can carry on roadways and avoid serious damage to the surface and base layers of the road. The exception is Hoddinott Road, which is restricted to 90 per cent

of normal axle loads.

Infrastructure repairs, such as damaged roads, are paid for through tax dollars. Restricting overweight trucks helps save East St. Paul roads and taxpayer dollars. Roadways are especially susceptible to damage during

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Welcome to Kayla Zastre and Kerry Pogson

If you’ve been into the RM of East St. Paul Municipal Office in the past six months or so you may have noticed some new faces.

Kayla Zastre and Kerry Pogson joined the team last year.

For Zastre, the RM’s Utilities and Receivables Assistant, the excitement of her first day was tempered by the fact it was also her young son’s first day in daycare.

“The first thing I said to (Chief Administrative Officer) Suzanne was ‘my little guy just started daycare today,’ Zastre said.

“So I had a really hard day but everyone here made it a lot better. It’s nice, because it’s easy to come to work when you work with great people.”

She’s now more settled, and so is Jayden, who turned one just before Christmas.

Zastre didn’t hesitate when asked what her favourite part of her job is.

“The people,” she said.

“Everyone is great. We have a

great team here, everyone gets along great, everyone is super friendly. The residents are so nice.”

People are what drew Pogson to the job as well.

As the RM’s Office Clerical Assistant she gets to engage with the public as well and she’s thrilled with the interaction. She previously worked in administrative positions with a focus on accounting and often didn’t have person-to-person contact.

“I like interacting with people. I started to miss that when I was doing more accounting-heavy work. The only time I felt like I was talking to people was to ask for money or to tell them the cheque is in the mail,” she laughed.

“I was missing human interaction.”

A country girl who moved to Winnipeg after high school, she was also missing a feeling of community.

She curls at the East St. Paul



Kayla Zastre, left, and Kerry Pogson, are two of the new smiling faces you’ll see in the RM of East St. Paul Municipal Office.

Curling Club and she’s enjoying the friendliness of East St. Paul.

“I’m from a small town originally and when I moved out here I remember the first time I shopped at Sobeys they were

like ‘how are you today’ and I hadn’t experienced that for a while,” she said.

We welcome Kayla and Kerry to our team! Please say hello if you see them in the office.

March is fraud prevention month

March is fraud prevention month and if you think you can’t be scammed, consider these facts provided by the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre:

- In 2022, 91,190 reports of fraud were made in Canada. In the first month of 2023, 6,610 reports were made;
- There were 57,055 victims of fraud last year and 3,923 by Jan. 31st of this year;
- \$531 million was lost to fraud last year and already in 2023 \$43.6 million has been lost.

Authorities say these numbers are low, as many people don’t report fraud.

There are online resources to help you educate yourself and

avoid becoming a statistic. The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre website (<https://www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/index-eng.htm>) offers information on the countless types of fraud Canadians fall victim to every day.

Please visit the site and learn how to spot a fraud, what the latest types of frauds are and what you can do to stay safe.

You can report fraud online or by phone at 1-888-495-8501.

To find out what’s in a fraudster’s toolbox, visit <https://www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/features-vedette/2023/02/tricks-trade-ficelles-metier-eng.htm>

Spring road restrictions

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the spring thaw as the road base cannot support the surface as well. Wet, soft ground conditions also make the ground less stable.

Highways and roads that fall under Provincial jurisdiction

have higher weight restrictions because they are built to higher standards to accommodate heavier loads. All weight regulations on Provincial roadways are enforced by the Department of Transportation or other Provincial Peace Officers.

Prairie Bylaw Enforcement (PBLE), the RM’s bylaw contractor, enforces weight restrictions on municipal roads.



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Government of Canada
Gouvernement du Canada

Canada



Fraud Prevention Month #FPM2023
Tricks of the trade: What's in a fraudster's toolbox?

Large item pick-up runs April 17-28

Waste Connections of Canada will be offering the residents of East St. Paul, the ability to leave their large household items at the curb side for pick-up during your regular scheduled garbage day service.

The large item pick-up service will commence the week of Monday, April 17 and will end on Friday, April 28.

Large Items that may be left for pick-up can include but are not limited to:

- mattresses
- sofas
- furniture
- stoves
- dishwashers
- washers
- dryers
- humidifiers
- toilets
- barbecues (without propane tanks)
- empty hot water tanks
- empty water softeners
- carpet

treadmills

Please do not leave items such as:

- glass or mirrors
- televisions
- computers & monitors
- dvd players
- vcr's
- stereos
- microwaves
- refrigerators
- freezers
- bar fridges
- propane tanks
- dehumidifiers
- water coolers
- batteries
- renovation materials
- landscaping materials
- tires
- any items containing hazardous materials

There is a 75 lb limit for all items and a 5 ft length max.

If you have any questions, please call the Operations Department at (204) 668-8336 or operations@eaststpaul.com.

Councillor Corner

Ward 3 - Brian Duval

Even though we're coming through a relatively easy winter it's still nice to see the warmer and brighter weather of spring. In particular, the stretching out of the daylight hours is most noticeable and welcome. Daylight hours are at minimum at the winter solstice around Dec. 21st and increase daily until maximum around June 21st. The day-to-day increase is not constant, starting and ending at zero, with the maximum occurring at the spring equinox around March 21st making the season most enjoyable.

A major event for our community this past winter was the recent Provincial Scotties hosted by our own East St. Paul Curling Club. By all accounts it was a smashing success, a tribute to the Club, the Curl Manitoba organization, and all the local volunteers.

In the recent half dozen years or so, the Club has served as home for several national and world ranked women's teams including Kerri Einarson, Tracy Fleury, and most recently the Walter foursome. Major competitions are televised, and the home clubs are frequently mentioned throughout telecasts with East St. Paul becoming well known nationally in the curling community.

We are keeping an eye on developments of a major project near Vivian in the RM of Springfield. Located there is a huge underground deposit of superior quality silica sand, a valuable material used for the manufacture of high tech products in the glass, electronics, batteries and solar panel industries. A company called Sio Silica has applied for approval to establish mining extraction and surface processing facilities at the site. As aquifer



water is involved in the process there is concern over possible detrimental effects of well water in the area. Although we are some distance away it is well known aquifers flow from east to west which is why we have a vested interest in the developments. A well organized and active Springfield citizens group is in strong opposition to the project, which is currently undergoing the necessary reviews and public hearings by the provincial Clean Environment Commission.

The latest Provincial flood forecast is for light to moderate risk of flooding this spring. Forecasting considers factors such as snow cover, soil saturation, frost depth, long range weather predictions, etc. This is certainly welcome news considering the problems of last year.

Finally, I thank all residents who voted in last fall's Municipal election. Exercising the democratic right to choose is essential to strong and fair governance. It's my privilege to serve the community as councillor and while we have our challenges, I find it extremely rewarding and interesting.

SATURDAY APRIL 1, 2023 8AM-11AM

2ND FLOOR - 266 HODDINOTT

EASTER PANCAKE BREAKFAST

PANCAKES, SAUSAGES, COFFEE & JUICE
PICTURES WITH THE EASTER BUNNY
(USE YOUR OWN DEVICE)
EASTER CRAFT

\$10/PERSON
CHILDREN 4 & UNDER FREE

PRE-REGISTER ON OUR WEBSITE
PAYMENT IS DUE THE DAY OF EVENT - CASH ONLY

Save the Date

Farmers Market

2023 VENDOR APPLICATIONS OPEN

JANUARY 15, 2023

Spring program registration now open

CHILDREN & YOUTH

- ZUMBA KIDS JR 3-5
- ZUMBA KIDS 6-12
- TUMBLING TWO'S
- RECREATION GYMNASTICS/CHEER
- MARTIAL ARTS - FAMILY FRIENDLY CLASS
- FAMILY PAINT NIGHT

ADULTS

- BARRE
- VINYASA FLOW
- YOGALATES
- MARTIAL ARTS 13+

RM OF EAST ST. PAUL

SUMMER CAMP

REGISTRATION OPENS
APRIL 3, 2023