

# Elbow Council News - March 2012

**Community Park** – The Community Park Committee continues their tireless work as we near 'Build Day' – May 12<sup>th</sup>. If you haven't already, remember to sign up as a volunteer (go to [www.elbow.ltbk.ca](http://www.elbow.ltbk.ca) or contact Sarah Wilm, Committee Chair). We will need anyone and everyone to pitch in on Build Day; from serving coffee, to playground equipment assembly – there is a job for everyone!

A successful Potluck & Talent Auction was held at the Civic Centre on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> with all monies raised going towards the park project. Watch for posters, the Village website ([www.elbowsask.com](http://www.elbowsask.com)) and the Elbow Community Park website ([www.elbow.ltbk.ca](http://www.elbow.ltbk.ca)) for other exciting fundraising (and fun) events that include: the Women With A Purpose Brunch, a Gala Dinner, and a Coffee Party.

You may also wish to consider creating a lasting legacy in the Community Park by purchasing your own Memorial Bench or Memory Stone. The Memorial Benches are \$500, a Picture Memory Stone is \$100, and a Message Memory Stone is \$55. Further information and pictures are available at [www.elbow.ltbk.ca](http://www.elbow.ltbk.ca), or feel free to contact Carol at 854-2244 or Grace at 854-2003.

The Committee set a fundraising goal of \$75,000 but hope to go above and beyond that. Donations to date total: \$61,357. All donations of any size are gratefully appreciated, and charitable tax donation receipts will be issued.

## **Summer Maintenance Assistant:**

Applicants must have a valid driver's license, be physically able and willing to learn and work at a wide variety of tasks. Experience with equipment an asset. Start date: May 1, 2012. Wage: \$12/hr, 40 hrs/week. Submit complete resume with references and a cover letter indicating if applicant is attending secondary or post-secondary education in the fall. Village of Elbow, PO Box 8, Elbow, SK S0H 1J0 Fax: 306-854-2229 or [elbow@sasktel.net](mailto:elbow@sasktel.net)  
**by April 16, 2012.**

**Saskatchewan In Motion Community Pledge Challenge** - wow, wasn't that an intense couple weeks at the end of January where we were kept busy voting online! Our small community won with an amazing 25,392 votes! That's \$10,000 that will go towards playground equipment in the Community Park! Thank you to everyone, near and far...literally around the world....for supporting the Elbow Community Park Project! Thank you for believing!!! Without YOU....it would not have been possible! The final tally: Elbow - 25,392; Leader - 22,953; Unity 2,374; Swift Current - 2,074; Craven - 745; James Smith Cree Nation - 494

**TD Friends of the Environment Foundation** – we just received word that the Community Park Project was successful in securing \$5,000 from the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation to build a walking trail around the Community Park and improve the existing path that goes through it. Another great addition to the park!

The Village is currently accepting applications for a **Janitor/Custodian for Civic Properties**, including the Rink, Civic Centre, Gym, and Community Park. Duties include cleaning and light maintenance. Flexible hours, dependent on the number of bookings at each facility. Will consist of some weekend work. This is a contract position with a wage of \$12/hour. Application deadline: April 4, 2012.

## **Grace McTavish Receives Chairman's Lifetime**

**Achievement Award** – Grace was presented with this prestigious award at Tourism Saskatchewan's Awards of Excellence, Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> in Regina. This award is given to an individual who has had a significant impact on the development of the tourism industry; someone that has provided long-standing and exceptional service, has demonstrated leadership and integrity, has left a strong legacy, and has gained the respect of those in the tourism industry. Grace is a great supporter and cheerleader for Elbow, Lake Diefenbaker, and has been a Southwest Tourism board member for numerous years. Congratulations Grace!

**Civic Centre Reno's** – After numerous delays and glitches, the Civic Centre Accessibility Project is 99% complete! We are grateful to Access 2000 for managing this project, to Doug Wankel for being the construction "go to guy" and the Facilities Committee for their part in the project. A special thank you goes out to all those weekly Bingo supporters - \$10,000 from the Bingo fund went towards this project through their SK Lotteries License. Having a fully accessible Civic Centre will be a great addition to our community!

**Maintenance Foreman** – You will notice a new face behind the Village equipment. Dale Norrish left his position with the Village mid March and James Swedberg has been hired as the new Maintenance Foreman. James came from a farming background before moving to Elbow 12 years ago, and has been involved in the construction industry lately. James spent 2 ½ years on Council recently so has first hand knowledge of the ongoing projects around the Village. As with any new employee, we ask for patience and understanding as James learns the in's and out's with his new position and the equipment. Please join us in welcoming James to his new position.

**Utility Rate Increases** – SaskWater provided notice that potable water rates will be increasing as of April 1, 2012 by 9%. As well, they will increase this rate by an additional 9% in 2013 and 2014. Our contract with SaskWater for the operation and maintenance of the distribution system, sewage collection and treatment, also increased by 2%. Council is in the process of adjusting the Village's rates to cover these increases. The Saskatchewan Municipal Board, Local Government Committee has to approve all utility rate increases. It is anticipated that our rate increases will come into effect July 1, 2012.

**Bulk Water Loader** – The Village of Elbow and the R.M. of Loreburn recently came to an agreement to upgrade the Bulk Water Loader with the necessary back flow prevention measures that will satisfy Saskatchewan Environment's requirements and allow the bulk loader to be operational once again. Elbow will cover 1/3 of the expense related to this upgrade. It is anticipated that the loader will be operational late spring/early summer.

**Toilet Replacement Rebate Program** – the Village and Province will each provide you with a \$50 rebate for the replacement of high volume toilets, but only until the end of 2012!

**Transfer Station** – The Transfer Station will open again for the season in late April; weather permitting. Check with the Village Office for the exact dates/times. The fee schedule remains the same.

**Village Website** – Remember to check the Village's website for upcoming events, and news items (all on the home page). Council meeting minutes are posted once they've been approved at the following meeting. Other areas of the website continue to be developed and updated. Remember, this is YOUR website – be sure to provide us with your community events, news items, and photos!

**Untidy/unsightly properties** – spring, and hopefully summer, are right around the corner . . . and with that we'd like to remind everyone of the Village's Nuisance Bylaw. Under this bylaw Council can issue an order to remedy – we kindly ask that you mow your property on a regular basis and take care of any weed infestation accordingly, remove any junked (unlicensed) vehicles, and store any building materials, etc. in a neat manner. This bylaw also deals with dilapidated buildings that substantially depreciate the value of other land/improvements in the neighbourhood.

FYI – in 2011, the Village approved 17 building permits for a total construction value of \$1,674,250!

**Election Year** – This October will see another civic election for members of Village Council. The term of office will now be 4 years with the change in legislation. Please consider either running for Council yourself or encouraging someone you think would be interested. The Village Office can provide more information. Council meetings are open to the public – consider attending to see what it's all about.

**New Business Owners** – Over the winter, two major businesses in Elbow have been sold to new owners. May's Restaurant, previously owned by Andy and May Wong was sold to Ivy and Peter Hsu. They have undertaken some renovations to the building as well as developed some new menu items. Paul and Denise Ganes sold Paul's Fine Foods, after operating it for 31 years, to Kevin and Long Cheng who now operate the store along with Tiger, Michael and Rainbow. They are open extended hours in order to serve the public. We welcome these new families to Elbow!

***Council would like to remind everyone of the need to support all of our local businesses, or we face the threat of losing them. Whenever possible, please shop/support locally!***