

**Mayoral Address**  
**Sedley Ratepayer's Meeting**  
**Wednesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012**

Good evening everyone,

It is great to see such a large turnout tonight. As council we appreciate your participation in the municipal process...or maybe you just came for the free supper? In any event, your presence will help spread the word throughout the community as to what is happening.

I have been very fortunate in the past year to travel extensively to many parts of Canada, the US and even to Europe. I have been to Florida, Cleveland, Montreal, Vancouver, Abbotsford, Lethbridge, and Toronto numerous times and an especially memorable two week trip to London, England. One of the most interesting observations from all of my travels is the recognition of Saskatchewan. Known around the globe as a new economic force, in oil, potash, uranium and several other commodities.

An especially memorable story was running into a Texas gentleman in our London hotel lobby. He was checking out the hotel to bring his family for a vacation. His crew was at the Co-Op Upgrader installing pressure vessels. He talked about how busy it was and how hard it was to find employees. This is not news, but rather the norm now in Saskatchewan. Everywhere you travel, the word is out, and Saskatchewan is where it's at. Fellow Canadians as well as immigrants are settling here. This translates to a thriving economy with benefits for everyone.

Sedley stands to benefit from this prosperity also. It is evident already with several new houses built and more to come this year and next. Other homes are changing hands, with new families on every street. This growth will only accelerate into the future. In the past year we have seen 13 plus properties change hands. A sign of what is to come. To this end, your council has embarked on a five year strategic plan to enhance this growth. We have introduced an annual action plan to help keep us on track, to make sure things that need to be accomplished are completed.

Your council has spent many long hours preparing and positioning the community to be ready to capitalize on the new economic reality. I smile every time I see a daily train going by blowing its whistle, with its oil and grain cars in tow. Knowing shortly it will also be pulling potash cars. We are uniquely positioned, being squeezed from the East by oil and the West by potash. All around us the region is a buzz of activity.

In the past year council has completed many of the goals we had set out for ourselves, these include, completion of the Prairie Avenue water / sewer extension, completion and implementation of our strategic plan, the new water meter installation initiative and our large land purchase. All of this while still providing quality basic services to the residents of Sedley.

A positive upbeat attitude at the council table with crisp understanding of our roles in a solid governance model has enabled us to push forward with policies and processes in a framework geared for results. Sedley is prepared to reach out and work with all of our partners at all levels of government, from the RM level to the provincial and federal government. In March we met with the RM of Francis discussing many issues of mutual concern, and are committed to working together for common causes.

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It is council's intention to include our residents in every step, to inform, to ask for constructive feedback and in all cases try to make decisions which are positive for you the rate payers and good for the community. We look forward to the future and what it will bring to our Village. On behalf of Council, I would like to thank you for your participation, your wisdom, and your patience as we press forward.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow councillors, Gerard Parent, Graham Anderson, Shawn Forbes and Mervyn Klein for the dedication over the last year and I look forward to working with them in the future. I would also like to thank Samantha Gillies for her perseverance and understanding working with us.

I hope that all of you have an enjoyable and informative evening.