

2024 PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE *City Guide*

JANUARY
TO JUNE



Congratulations to Mrs. Hauser's kindergarten class at Crescentview School for winning our "Name the Mini Loader" contest with their submission of Lucy Loader. As they said, "Girls like machines too, so the loader is a girl."

Community Partnership and Grants

Portage Regional Economic Development:
Creating an environment for success

Information on current projects,
City services, recreation and more!

Portage  **la Prairie**
City of Possibilities

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Creating an environment for success

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ON THE COVER

Congratulations to Mrs. Hauser's kindergarten class at Crescentview School for winning our "Name the Mini Loader" contest with their submission of Lucy Loader. As they said, "Girls like machines too, so the loader is a girl."



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MESSAGE FROM Mayor Sharilyn Knox

Dear Residents of Portage la Prairie,

As your elected Mayor and Council, we are entering the New Year with a sense of optimism and commitment to our collective responsibilities. Serving you is both an honor and a privilege, and we would like to take a moment to reflect on the accomplishments we've achieved together and share our vision for the future.

Our dedication to enhancing the quality of life in Portage la Prairie is unwavering. We are actively collaborating with developers to foster sustainable growth in our neighborhoods. Our focus extends beyond mere housing expansion; we aim to cultivate vibrant communities where families can thrive, find happiness, and truly feel at home.

The safety and well-being of our community are paramount concerns. To address this, we are advancing initiatives such as the introduction of Community Safety Officers to collaborate with the RCMP in maintaining a secure environment. Your input has been invaluable, guiding our efforts to implement improvements in alignment with the shared plan we've developed together.

Portage la Prairie boasts numerous strengths—from its diverse population to its assets. Over the coming years, we intend to leverage these advantages to propel our city's growth and enhance its overall appeal. Our commitment involves ensuring top-notch utilities to attract and retain businesses, along with collaborating closely with local enterprises to revitalize our downtown and former mall into exciting hubs.

Our inclusivity extends to all. This year, we are intensifying our collaboration with Indigenous partners and fostering an environment that welcomes new Canadians. Improved communication is a priority, and we are dedicated to keeping you informed and engaged in the happenings of our city.

“Our dedication to enhancing the quality of life in Portage la Prairie is unwavering.”

The inherent beauty of our city deserves recognition. Together with our community stakeholders, we will actively promote Portage la Prairie as a destination worth visiting. Additionally, we have exciting projects underway to make our downtown even more inviting, ensuring it becomes a wonderful and vibrant space.

As we embark on this new year, let us continue our collaborative efforts, generating fresh ideas, and celebrating the unique qualities that make Portage la Prairie special. Together, we are steadfast in our commitment to making our city a place we can all take great pride in.

—Mayor Sharilyn Knox

CONTACT INFORMATION

www.city-plap.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/cityplap/

Twitter: Twitter@cityofportage

CITY HALL

97 Saskatchewan Avenue East

Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 0L8

T: 204-239-8309 • F: 204-239-1532

Monday to Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

After-hours emergency: 204-239-8340

Email: info@city-plap.com

Operations Department: 204-239-8346

Water On/Off & Invoices: 204-239-8370

Property Tax Clerk: 204-239-8308

Animal Control/Bylaw Enforcement:
204-239-8326

Planning District: 204-239-8345

RCMP: 204-857-4445

EMERGENCY: 9-1-1

CITY FACILITY HOURS

City Hall is open to the public from Monday to Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., excluding statutory holidays. Entering and exiting City Hall is through the east front doors.

The Operations Department is open to the public, but it is encouraged to call ahead at 204-239-8346. They are closed between 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

The Fire Department is always accessible to the public in the event of an emergency. However, if your inquiry is of a general nature, please contact them by telephone at 204-239-8340 or email at firehall@city-plap.com. Office hours for general inquiries are Monday to Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m.-12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

For all other inquiries please call the general line at 204-239-8309 or visit the City's website.

UPCOMING OFFICE CLOSURES

January 1 – New Years Day

February 19 – Louis Riel Day

March 29 – Good Friday

April 1 – Easter Monday

May 20 – Victoria Day

July 1 – Canada Day

August 5 – Terry Fox Day

September 2 – Labour Day

September 30 – National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

October 14 – Thanksgiving Day

November 11 – Remembrance Day

December 25 – Christmas Day

December 26 – Boxing Day

YOUTH MEMBER OF COUNCIL

City Council sees value in having a Youth Member of Council in order to build interest and knowledge of municipal government in today's youth. A Youth Member will be selected at the beginning of each school year and will remain until the last meeting of Council in the following August.



The Youth Member of Council for the 2023-2024 term is Aparajita Sarker.

SCHEDULE OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Monday, January 8	Monday, January 22
Monday, February 12	Monday, February 26
Monday, March 11	Monday, March 25
Monday, April 8	Monday, April 22
Monday, May 13	Monday, May 27
Monday, June 10	Monday, June 24
Monday, July 8	Monday, August 12
Wednesday, September 11	Monday, September 23
Tuesday, October 15	Monday, October 28
Tuesday, November 12	Monday, December 9

Council and Committee meetings are open to the public. Meetings can also be live-streamed or watched after the fact on the City of Portage la Prairie YouTube channel. Meetings are scheduled for 6:00pm unless posted otherwise. If you wish to speak at a public

hearing or make a presentation to Council, please pre-register by calling 204-239-8337 or by email at info@city-plap.com.

Mayor Sharilyn Knox provides a video recap of Council meetings the morning after each meeting, which can be viewed on the City's Facebook page.

DELEGATIONS TO COUNCIL

Persons wishing to present information to or make a request to City Council may do so by appearing as a delegation. To register as a delegation, please fill out the registration form and submit it no later than the Wednesday prior to Council to the Manager of Administration.

Delegation registration forms can be submitted online, in person at City Hall or via email to info@city-plap.com.

Link: <https://www.city-plap.com/cityplap/city-hall/council/register-as-a-delegation/>

INVITATIONS TO COUNCIL

Each year, the Mayor and members of City Council attend many special events, ceremonies, and celebrations throughout the City. If you would like to invite the Mayor or Council to an event, please submit using the online request form.

Link: <https://www.city-plap.com/cityplap/city-hall/council/invitation-to-council/>

CITY COUNCIL



MAYOR SHARILYN KNOX sknox@city-plap.com

Member: Finance, Legislative & Property Committee, City Planning & Economic Development Committee, Public Safety Committee, Waterworks Committee, Transportation Committee, Community Services Committee.

Director: Portage Regional Recreation Authority. **Representative:** Budget Committee, City Manager's Evaluation, Emergency Control Group, Tax Sharing Committee, Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Committee, RCMP Community Consultative Committee.



COUNCILLOR COLIN DOYLE cdoyle@city-plap.com

Chairperson: Public Safety Committee. **Second:** Community Services Committee. **Director:** Portage Regional Recreation Authority, Portage Regional Economic Development. **Representative:** Budget Committee, City Manager's Evaluation, Emergency Control Group, Tax Sharing Committee, RCMP Community Consultative Committee.



COUNCILLOR RYAN ESPEY respey@city-plap.com

Chairperson: Community Services Committee. **Second:** Transportation Committee. **Director:** Portage la Prairie Planning District Board, Portage Regional Landfill Authority. **Representative:** Budget Committee, City Manager's Evaluation, Emergency Control Group, Board of Revision, Tax Sharing Committee, Parks Committee.



COUNCILLOR JOE MASI jmasi@city-plap.com

Chairperson: Finance, Legislative & Property Committee. **Second:** Public Safety Committee. **Director:** Portage la Prairie Planning District, Regional Library Board. **Representative:** Budget Committee, City Manager's Evaluation, Emergency Control Group, Tax Sharing Committee, Chamber of Commerce



COUNCILLOR PRESTON MEIER pmeier@city-plap.com

Chairperson: City Planning & Economic Development Committee, Board of Revision. **Second:** Finance, Legislative & Property Committee. **Director:** Regional Landfill Authority, Portage Regional Economic Development.

Representative: Budget Committee, City Manager's Evaluation, Emergency Control Group, Tax Sharing Committee, Suta Kachicha Indigenous People's Coalition, Public Art Committee.



COUNCILLOR FARON NICHOLLS fnicholls@city-plap.com

Chairperson: Waterworks Committee. **Second:** City Planning & Economic Development Committee. **Director:**

Portage Regional Recreation Authority, Portage Regional Economic Development. **Representative:** Budget Committee, City Manager's Evaluation, Emergency Control Group, Tax Sharing Committee, Heartland Community Futures, Fort la Reine Museum.



COUNCILLOR TERRIE PORTER tporter@city-plap.com

Chairperson: Transportation Committee, Heritage Advisory Committee. **Second:** Waterworks Committee.

Director: Portage la Prairie Planning District Board, Portage Regional Landfill Authority. **Representative:** Budget Committee, City Manager's Evaluation, Emergency Control Group, Board of Revision, Tax Sharing Committee.

Taxes and utility rates



2024 UTILITY RATE CHANGE – WATER & SEWER

The Public Utilities Board granted the City of Portage la Prairie approval for revised rates effective January 1, 2024. The revised rates are:

Cubic Meters per Quarter	Water	Wastewater
Domestic, up to 227 CM	\$2.38	\$1.83
Intermediate, 228 CM to 2,273 CM	\$1.97	\$1.83
Wholesale, 2,274 CM to 18,184 CM	\$1.87	\$1.38
Variable, over 18,184 CM	\$.79	\$1.38
Quarterly Service Charge \$22.51		

2024 PROPERTY TAXES

2024 Property Tax Statements will be mailed out in June. If you do not receive a copy of your Property Tax Statement, please contact us at (204) 239-8308. Taxes are due by 4:30 pm on July 31, 2024.

HOW TO PAY TAX OR UTILITY BILLS

To avoid waiting in line, we offer a variety of payment options.

Please note electronic payments take 3 to 5 days to process. To avoid penalty, allow sufficient time for your payment to be received by the City on or before the due date. Penalties begin for the current year on August 1, 2024, at a rate of 1.25% per month.

- **Online Banking:** set up through your financial institution, allow 3 to 5 days to process.

• **Telpay:** www.telpay.ca

• **Mail:** cheque or money order made payable to City of Portage la Prairie, 97 Saskatchewan Avenue East, Portage la Prairie, MB, R1N 0L8. Cheques and money orders must be received at City Hall by 4:30 p.m. on July 31, 2024.

• **Post-Dated Cheque:** cheque must be dated and received at City Hall by 4:30 p.m. on July 31, 2024.

- **After Hours:** a night deposit box is located on the east front door of City Hall.
- **E-Transfer:** send to payments@city-plap.com. Include the roll number in the message field.
- **Credit Card:** online only through Pay Simply at www.paysimply.ca. Fees of 2.5% apply, allow 3 to 5 days to process.
- **In Person:** at City Hall Monday to Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
- **TIPP:** Properties set up on the preauthorized payment program will continue to have payments withdrawn monthly as scheduled.

- **Prepayment:** Taxes may be prepaid up to 90% of the previous year's net tax levy. Payments made prior to June 30, 2024 may be eligible for a discount.

If you have sold your property, please return the property tax statement to City Hall.

TAX INSTALLMENT PAYMENT PLAN - T.I.P.P.

Pay your property taxes in 12 easy monthly installments on the 15th of each month beginning January 15th, 2024.

You can join TIPP if:

- Your tax account is not in arrears.
- You have chequing privileges at a financial institution (bank, trust company, treasury branch or credit union)
- Your taxes are not presently paid through a mortgage company (P.I.T.).
- Your application is received prior to December 15, or the application is received prior to June 30 with an initial payment of the missed installments paid at the time of application.

Complete the TIPP application found on the City's Website, visit City Hall, or call (204) 239-8308 for more information.

New Community Safety Officer Program approved

By Lisa Kopochinski

The recent announcement from the Province of Manitoba stating it would increase funding to municipalities for community safety has created an opportunity for the City of Portage la Prairie to provide additional resources to their public safety portfolio.

In an article published this past August by PortageOnline, City of Portage la Prairie Public Safety Chair Colin Doyle called this grant very exciting.

“It’s actually just shy of \$414,000 and this is in addition to the Policing Envelope that we already receive. So, this couldn’t have come at a more perfect time.”

Doyle noted that it has been six years that the basket funding for policing has been frozen by the province. Over that period, much has happened, including the unionization of the RCMP that increased costs for their services in municipalities.

“This money definitely helps us cover some of those costs plus helps us look toward future projects. It makes a huge difference in everything from resources, in addition to our current RCMP to things like community safety officers.”

Portage la Prairie City Manager Nathan Peto says the Province of Manitoba has identified layered policing as a strategy to help improve public safety in Manitoba.

“Layered policing provides resources for municipalities to train and hire public safety officers to support their current police force. In the City of Portage la Prairie, these officers would support our RCMP officers in our community. Public safety officers can respond to lower priority calls, which allows the RCMP to concentrate on higher priority calls.”

City of Portage la Prairie Director of Public Safety Brad Bailey adds, “I am excited to see the City of Portage la Prairie pursue additional resources to support our RCMP members in keeping our community safe. Public safety officers will play a key role in our Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan and be the boots on the ground that can work with all our community partners to make Portage be and feel safer.”

“Our intention is to see the program officially start rolling out in the summer of 2024,” says Peto.

He adds that in the City of Portage la Prairie’s community strategic plan

the addition of public safety has been identified as key priority for Council based on feedback from citizens.

“In the 2024 City budget, City Council has planned to build the foundation of this new public service and continue to add resources to public safety over the next three years. Council believes having a public safety officer presence in our community can improve police response times, provide additional safety presence, and provide support to our community partners.”

The main benefit of this program is that public safety officers will be able to create relationships with the business community, social needs resource providers, and vulnerable citizens. These relationships will help to identify resources needed within our community.

“Working closely with our local RCMP detachment, safety officers will fulfill the community needs on lower priority calls,” says Peto. “We believe this balanced approach of supporting public safety while working with our social service agencies to connect those in need with the proper resources will foster a safer and healthier community.”

The City will now begin hiring and training these officers in partnership with the province.

WINTER 2023/2024 CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

SASKATCHEWAN AVENUE WEST ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The City of Portage la Prairie is committed to making significant improvements to revitalize Saskatchewan Avenue West. The City is mid-way through this three-year project – one of the community's largest investments in infrastructure advancements. The improvements include: renewed roadway, paved parking, curbs, sidewalks, protected bike lanes, enhanced urban tree canopy and soft landscape, and improved land drainage.

The City is grateful to their community partners for their support and patience during this significant period of construction and community beautification. 2023 was our biggest year of construction on the project to date and we have worked with our project partners to provide a Winter Construction Update to outline what we have accomplished and what we can expect in the upcoming construction season.



**CONSTRUCTION 2024 SEASON START:
LATE MAY 2024 (WEATHER PERMITTING)**

**APPROXIMATE DURATION FOR 2024 SEASON:
EARLY OCTOBER 2024 (WEATHER PERMITTING)**

TRAFFIC IMPLICATIONS:

- Restricted on-street parking along Saskatchewan Avenue West
- Reduction to one lane in either direction for vehicular traffic

PROJECT TIMELINE

PHASE ONE: ROADWAY RESURFACING: 4TH STREET WEST TO 7TH STREET WEST
(2022-2023) Timeline: Construction is complete in this area



During construction, we must leave enough room outside of the active roadway for equipment, necessary pavement work, protection of trees, and safe passage for the public at all times. Saskatchewan Avenue West is a provincial highway. During active construction, one lane of traffic will be maintained in either direction.

Construction has been divided into three distinct phases to be completed over three consecutive years:



PHASE TWO: ROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION: 7TH STREET WEST TO 20TH STREET WEST

Timeline: Summer 2023 – Summer 2024



Phase Two of the roadway project is the most progressive change to the roadway. The new infrastructure creates and improves upon roadway drainage, sidewalk connections for pedestrians and provides a protected cycling lane on either side of the street. There have been gains on the streetscape work this year and although it is not yet complete, there has been a positive response to these multi-modal pathways used along the north side of Saskatchewan Avenue West.

Over the winter the section of the roadway between 18th

Street SW and 14th Street SW will be a single lane of eastbound traffic while the westbound section remains two-lanes. This reduction in service on the eastbound side is temporary over winter.

The reason for the temporary reduction in service is due to the difference in elevation between the new and old pavement, which will be regulated once the road construction can resume. Final pavement restorations for the underground works at 8th Street, 18th Street, and 20th Street will be completed in Spring 2024.

Phase Two roadway and hard landscape work is complete along the north side of Saskatchewan Avenue West from 7th Street to 20th Street. In the spring of 2024, focus will be on the soft landscape work (street trees, shrubs, and sod) on the north side.

In the spring 2024 the following improvements will resume along the south side of the Avenue:

- Roadway renewal - the removal and replacement of existing asphalt and base courses

- Parking re-organization - new curbs, defined approaches, and medians
- New sidewalks, accent paving, lighting, street trees, soft landscape, and planters with benches
- New bike lanes at sidewalk level from 8th Street NW to 18th Street NW and a new multi-use path at sidewalk level from 18th Street NW to 20th Street NW

PHASE THREE: ROADWAY REHABILITATION: 20TH STREET WEST TO ELM STREET

Timeline: Estimated Construction start – 2024



Phase Three of the roadway project features streetside bioswales designed to capture water run-off from the roadway, reducing the surface contamination before reaching the land drainage outfalls in Crescent Lake. The roadway geometry is enhanced to include new medians with boulevard trees. Pedestrian and cyclist connections are introduced along both sides of the Avenue.

PHASE THREE WORK INCLUDES:

- Roadway renewal - existing asphalt will be milled down and repaved
- Land drainage sewer updates - new catch basins
- Parking re-organization - new curbs, defined approaches, and medians
- New multi-use path at sidewalk level on the north side and new concrete sidewalks on the south side
- New medians with trees
- New bioswales adjacent to the roadway

WHAT IS THE EXTENT OF CONSTRUCTION WORK?

Roadway Improvement:

1. The existing asphalt pavement will be totally removed in Phase Two, new drainage inlets, catch basins and connecting pipes will be installed.
 - a. This work includes excavating to a depth of approximately 0.914m – 1.22m (3'0"- 4'0") to place new gravel subbase and base course material.
2. Once the new gravel subbase and base course has been installed in Phase Two, the concrete work will begin. The concrete roadway improvements include:
 - a. New, defined concrete approaches to properties as indicated in the construction drawings
 - b. New concrete curb and gutter
 - c. New concrete medians
 - d. New concrete sidewalks and accent paving

- e. New concrete raised planters with seating to be installed between the sidewalk and raised bike path at select locations between 8th Street and 18th Street
- 3. When the concrete work is complete, new asphalt paving will be added to the roadway.

STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS:

Once the concrete and asphalt work are complete the soft landscape including new street trees, shrub and perennial planting, and new sod will continue.

HOW WILL THIS WORK AFFECT YOU OR YOUR BUSINESS?

We recognize undergoing major roadway and underground services construction will create some short-term inconveniences. We want to ensure the disruptions to you are minimal and reasonable. It is likely there will be short term lane and sidewalk closures, construction noise and possibly some reorganization of access points in order to provide the necessary upgrades to underground services and improve the quality, experience, and equity of the road environment.

PARKING DURING CONSTRUCTION:

- There will be no parking permitted on Saskatchewan Avenue West within the active construction zone. Parking will be available on the nearby side streets.
- Residents will be expected to park on the closest side street unless they have accessibility issues and require direct access.

BUILDING ACCESS DURING CONSTRUCTION:

- Access will be maintained to applicable businesses which have no secondary access.

- There will be times where access will be restricted for a few days. For example, during concrete pours for approaches, curbs, gutters, sidewalks or during asphalt paving operations. Businesses and residents will be given notice as early as possible in advance of the work.

GARBAGE & RECYCLING COLLECTION:

Garbage and recycling will continue to be picked up at regular locations and times. The contractor may relocate bins if required, and they will be restored to their original location when the work is complete.

EXISTING TREES WITHIN THE CONSTRUCTION AREA:

We have strived to keep many of the existing trees along this section of roadway. Unfortunately, some existing trees are in locations which do not meet the accessibility goals of this project: they prohibit safe sightlines and clear pathways of travel. Other existing trees are in direct conflict with the renewal of the underground watermain and wastewater services and need to be removed. Where adequate growing space can be maintained, the remaining existing trees along the avenue will be protected during construction and saved.

EMERGENCY SERVICES:

Emergency services will be maintained throughout the duration of this project. We appreciate your patience during construction.

We recognize undergoing major roadway and underground service construction will create some short-term inconveniences. We want to ensure disruptions to you are minimal and reasonable. Our team will be issuing communications throughout the project to assist owners, residents, and visitors as we move through construction.

This project is engineered by Stantec Consultants Ltd.

If you have accessibility concerns, special access requirements, or any questions regarding this construction please contact Brent Kellett at Stantec 1 (204) 795-2256 or Brent.Kellett@stantec.com

The project contact for the City of Portage la Prairie is Jocelyn Lequier-Jobin, Director of Operations (204) 239-8387

**For more information on the project, please visit the City's project website:
www.city-plap.com/cityplap/city-hall/projects/saskatchewan-avenue-west/**

SNOW CLEARING: WHAT TO KNOW

When we get a significant snowfall event our first priority is always to clean the main roads that provide access to our hospitals, schools, and essential services. Once those are clear we will move on to secondary and residential areas the day following waste collection.

ROUTINE SNOW CLEARING

Routine snow clearing takes place the day after garbage collection when snow accumulation has met set standards.

By-Law No.20-8705 states: "From November 1 to April 30 of each year

parking on streets shall be limited for routine snow clearing. During this period, no person shall park a vehicle on any portion of a street on the business day following residential garbage collection for that street until such time as the employees or contractors acting on behalf of the municipality have completed snow clearing for the said street."

Parking in violation of the By-law is subject to a fine. City crews work as fast as possible to remove snow from the streets, but parked cars can get in our way. If we have to tow some vehicles to make winter driving safe for everyone, we will, but we would rather not. So please, to avoid having your car towed, do not park on the street during snow-clearing operations.

DRIVEWAY SNOW CLEARING

Snow being blown, shoveled, or pushed onto city streets is not permitted. All residents should adhere to City of Portage la Prairie Traffic By-Law No. 20-8705 which states: "It shall be an offense for any person to remove from any private property, public property, street, boulevard or sidewalk any snow or ice and deposit same on any street, boulevard, parking lot, public place, or sidewalk in such a manner that could negatively impact drainage, or create a hazardous condition for either vehicular or pedestrian

New

SASKATCHEWAN AVE SNOW CLEARING STRATEGY

1 INCREASED SERVICE LEVELS
The City of Portage la Prairie is partnering with the Province of Manitoba to double the current service level for removing built-up snow from parking lanes and snow banks on sidewalks along Saskatchewan Ave.

2 PEOPLE & EQUIPMENT
We're investing in people and equipment to ensure active transportation lanes along Saskatchewan Ave, and the entire City, can be adequately cleared and available for use during the winter.

3 COMMUNICATING TO BUSINESSES
We will work with businesses to communicate snow clearing expectations on property frontages. Property owners are responsible for clearing the sidewalk similar to the downtown standard.

PRIORITY STREETS FOR SNOW CLEARING



traffic, or otherwise impede the snow removal efforts of the City or Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation.”

SIDEWALK SNOW CLEARING

Reminder to Business Owner/ Operators

By-Law No. 20-8705 states: "before 10:00 a.m. each day, following every fall of snow, hail or rain which shall have frozen on the sidewalk, or after a fall of snow or ice off any building, cause the same to be removed entirely off the sidewalk fronting or abutting the premises and in the event the ice or snow shall be so

frozen that removal would damage the sidewalks, every such person shall strew the sidewalk with salt, sand or other like substances."

MAJOR SNOWFALL PARKING BAN

The Mayor may declare a citywide parking ban in the event of a major snowstorm. This will prohibit parking on any city street until the ban is lifted. Notice will be given by social media, City website, and the radio.

TICKET AND TOW

If your car is parked on any street during a citywide parking ban, it will be ticketed, at a cost outlined in the

current Fees and Charges Schedule.
As well, your vehicle could be towed
to the nearest cleared street.

BETTER DRIVING FOR ALL

We want to react to snowfall and clear the streets quickly. With the streets clear, roads will be less congested, and drivers will be able to reach their destination easily and safely. By listening for messages and watching for the signs, you'll be ensuring trouble-free, easy winter driving for everyone.

For more information about snow clearing, please call the Operations Department at (204) 239-8346.

SOLID WASTE & RECYCLABLE COLLECTION

SOLID WASTE

Residential dwelling units are allowed a maximum of 2 waste containers per household per week. Each container must not weigh more than 25 kg. (55 lbs.) and each garbage bag must not weigh more than 18 kg. (40 lbs.) Additional waste will be collected provided a waste collection

tag is affixed. The tags are available for purchase at various retail and City outlets. Waste containers must be placed on the front boulevard near the curb. Items weighing more than 45 kg. (100 lbs.) must be disposed of by the owner. Bulky items such as furniture weighing less than 45 kg. (100 lbs.) and tree trimmings properly

bundled will be collected curbside, provided a waste collection tag is affixed.

Please have refuse out for collection prior to 7:00 am on your collection day, but no later than 8:00 pm the day prior.

There is a limit of four waste containers per household on the first collection day following the Christmas Holiday.

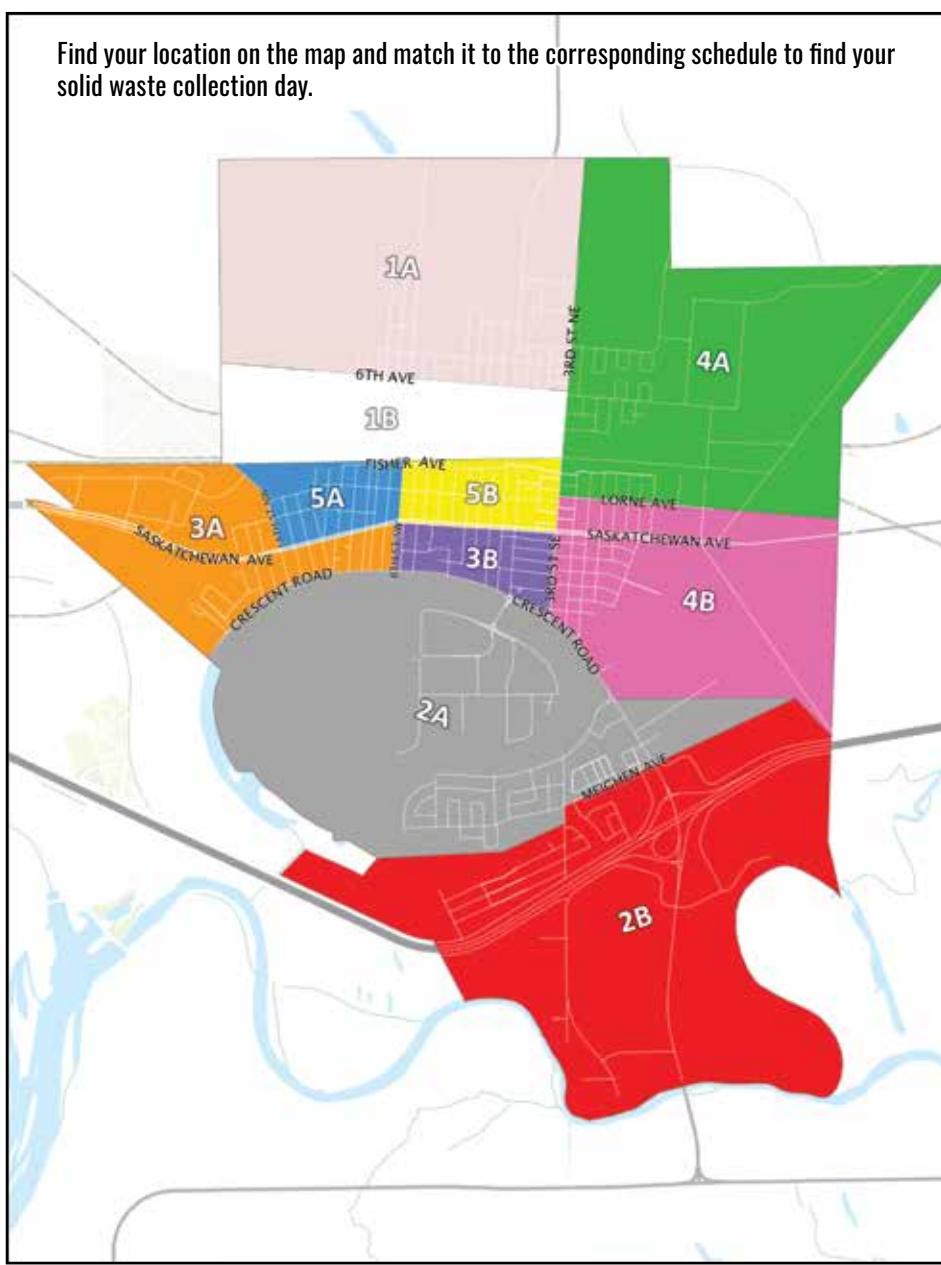
RECYCLABLE COLLECTION

The City provides curbside collection of recyclables to single and multiple-family dwellings on regular solid waste collection days, on a bi-weekly basis. All recyclables must be placed in a recycling box, with a maximum of 4 recycling boxes per household.

Yard, garden, and kitchen vegetable wastes, excluding tree trimmings, may be deposited at the compost site located at 4th Ave. N.W. and 15th St. N.W. Empty all bags and containers and place them in garbage containers provided or remove them from the site. Free curbside yard waste collection takes place each spring and fall, on dates advertised.

A Tree Disposal Site is located behind the Water Pollution Control Facility, east of River Road (PR 240) and south of the by-pass, where trees and tree trimmings may be disposed of. Open Monday through Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Christmas trees may be placed on the boulevard in front of your residence and will be picked up between January 2 - 23, 2024.





Area 1A to 5A

Solid Waste and Recyclables Collection Schedule - 2024

Solid waste & recyclables will be collected on the days blocked on the calendar.

Please have refuse out for collection prior to 7:00 a.m. on the days marked, but no earlier than 8:00 p.m. the day prior.

For inquiries please contact the Operations Dept at 204-239-8346 or email operations@city-plap.com

PEACH
GREY
ORANGE

DAY 1 GREEN DAY 4
DAY 2 BLUE DAY 5
DAY 3

R - SOLID WASTE/RECYCLABLES
COLLECTION DAY

H - HOLIDAY

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	H	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	R	R	R	R	13
14	R	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	R	R	R	R	27
28	R	30	31			

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
4	5	R	R	R	R	10
11	R	13	14	15	16	17
18	H	20	R	R	R	24
25	R	R	28	29		

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	R	R	R	9
10	R	R	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	R	R	R	23
24	R	R	27	28	H	30
31						

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	H	2	3	4	R	6
7	R	R	R	R	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	R	20
21	R	R	R	R	26	27
28	29	30				

MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	R	4
5	R	R	R	R	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	R	18
19	H	R	R	R	R	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	R	R	R	R	R	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	R	R	R	R	R	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	H	R	R	R	R	6
7	R	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	R	R	R	R	20
21	R	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	R	R			

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				R	R	3
4	H	R	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	R	R	R	17
18	R	R	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	R	R	R	31

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	H	R	R	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	R	R	14
15	R	R	R	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	R	R	28
29	H					

OCTOBER						
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13	H	R	R	R	R	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	R	R	R	R		

NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				R		2
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10	H	R	R	R	R	16
17	R	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	R	R	R	R	30

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	R	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	R	R	R	R	14
15	R	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	R	H	H	R	28
29	R	R				



Area 1B to 5B

Solid Waste and Recyclables Collection Schedule - 2024

Solid waste & recyclables will be collected on the days blocked on the calendar.

Please have refuse out for collection prior to 7:00 a.m. on the days marked, but no earlier than 8:00 p.m. the day prior.

For inquiries please contact the Operations Dept at 204-239-8346 or email operations@city-plap.com

WHITE	DAY 1	PINK	DAY 4
RED	DAY 2	CANARY	DAY 5
PURPLE	DAY 3		

R - SOLID WASTE/RECYCLABLES
COLLECTION DAY

H - HOLIDAY

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	H	R	R	R	R	6
7	R	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	R	R	R	R	20
21	R	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	R	R			

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				R	R	3
4	R	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	R	R	R	R	17
18	H	R	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	R	R		

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					R	2
3	R	R	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	R	R	R	16
17	R	R	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	R	R	H	30
31						

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	H	R	R	R	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	R	13
14	R	R	R	R	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	R	27
28	R	R				

MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			R	R	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	R	11
12	R	R	R	R	17	18
19	H	21	22	23	24	25
26	R	R	R	R	R	

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	R	R	R	R	R	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	R	R	R	R	R	29
30						

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	H	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	R	R	R	R	13
14	R	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	R	R	R	R	27
28	R	30	31			

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	H	6	R	R	R	10
11	R	R	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	R	R	R	24
25	R	R	28	29	30	31

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	H	3	4	R	R	7
8	R	R	R	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	R	R	21
22	R	R	R	26	27	28
29	H					

OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	R	5
6	R	R	R	R	11	12
13	H	15	16	17	18	19
20	R	R	R	R	R	26
27	28	29	30	31		

NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	R	R	R	R	R	9
10	H	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	R	R	R	R	23
24	R	26	27	28	29	30

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	R	R	R	R	7
8	R	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	R	R	R	R	21
22	R	24	H	H	27	28
29	30	31				



Portage la Prairie
Community
Revitalization
Corporation

Working with the...
to create...

COMMUNITY COMMUNITY

Upcoming Events:

JANUARY
YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT

FEBRUARY
WINTERFEST

MARCH 7, 2024
INTERNATIONAL WOMENS' DAY EVENT

APRIL
EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

MAY 16 - 31, 2024
SPRING BEAUTIFICATION DAYS

MAY 23, 2024
TOUCH A TRUCK

JUNE 1-2, 2024
COMMUNITY GIVE AWAY DAYS

Programs at PCRC:

COMMUNITIES BUILDING YOUTH FUTURES

**URBAN INDIGENOUS SENIORS
RESOURCES**

LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

**PORTAGE URBAN INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S
COALITION**

GRAFFITI REMOVAL

SMALL GRANTS

REACHING HOME

WAWOKIYA

MEN SHED

**FIND OUT MORE AT WWW.PORTAGECRC.COM OR
BY CALLING 204-240-7272 !**





Koko Platz Recreation Club project well underway

With the goal for the new Koko Platz Community Recreation Club to be completed in 2024, work is well underway on the \$750,000 sports park.

The original Koko Platz Recreation Club building—which was built in the 1980s—was destroyed by fire on April 29, 2021. While Portage la Prairie firefighters worked extremely hard to get the fire under control, the building suffered extensive damage resulting in a total loss.

“The Koko Platz Community Center is a cornerstone in our community,” says Julene Toews Dewis, board chair of the Koko Platz Rec Club.

“It is a well-loved and well-used space. It’s a gathering

place for special events, a hub for rec hockey and skating, and a playground space in the summer. This is a community run not-for-profit. Lots of love and care goes into the upkeep and running of the club.”

In an article this past April, Toews Dewis told PortageOnline that the new design had a lot of thought put into it from several angles.

“One was the usability of space from the community’s perspective and from the organizations we work with, and how they will use it. The other thing, of course, is taking into account the security and safety of the whole site.”

“The Koko Platz Community Center is a cornerstone in our community.”

—Julene Toews Dewis

She says the new drawings show that the clubhouse is changing locations on the property to have a better sight line of the park.

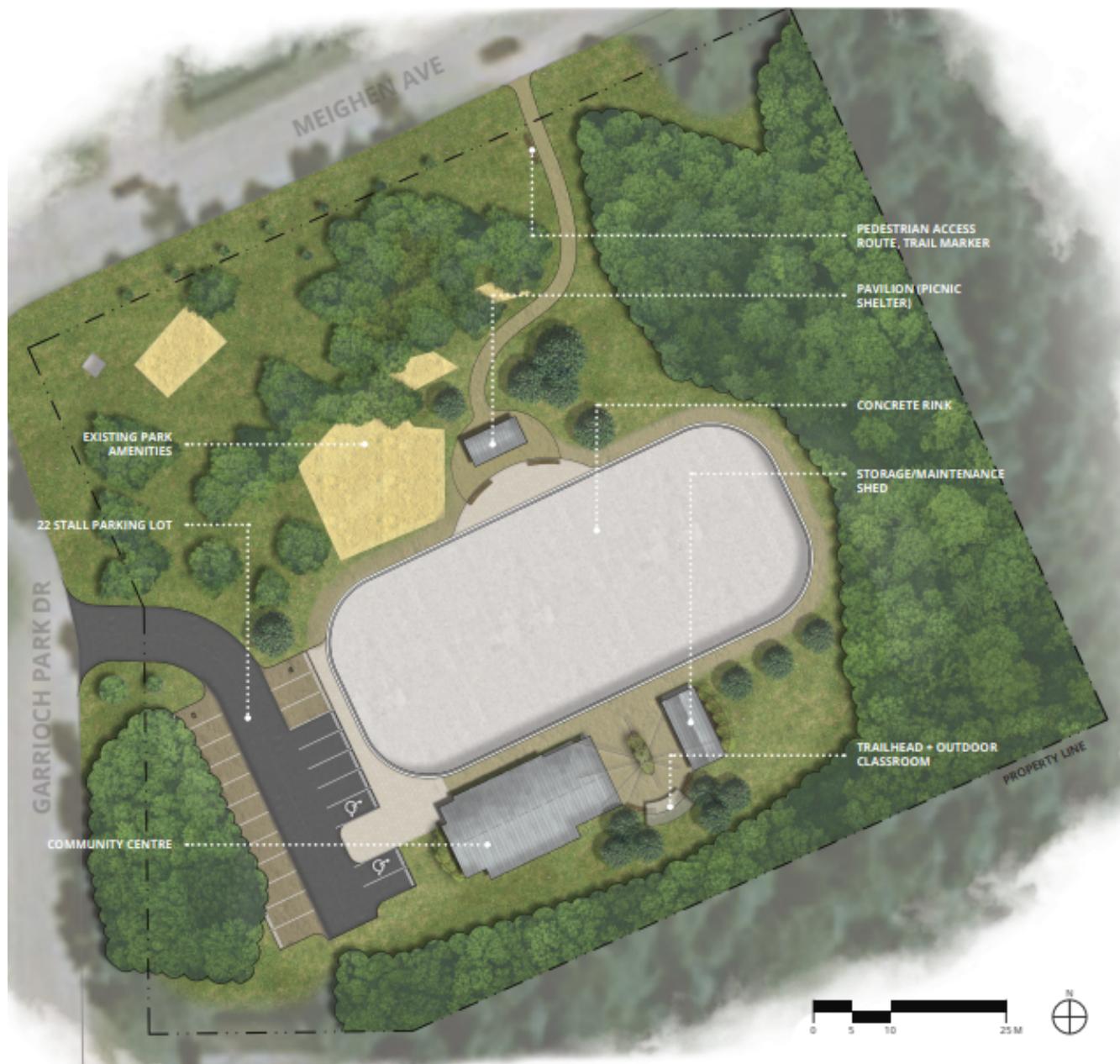
Winnipeg-based ix1 Architecture is the architect on this impressive project. The firm recently designed the project's new clubhouse.

"We are also working with Scatliff + Miller + Murray on the concept plan for the full space," says Toews Dewis. "This

project will be going out to tender in the coming weeks. The general contractor will be determined at that time."

She adds that costs are kept low through community donations and corporate support to ensure affordable access for people of all age ranges across our region.

"We can't wait to have it back up and running. Our goal remains to have it running as an outdoor rink for the winter of 2024-2025."



New daycare centre now complete

By Lisa Kopochinski



Now completed, the new MacKenzie Knight Daycare – located at the corner of Park Drive and 25th Street NW behind the Portage Mall – has received the seal of approval from many local parents and the Mayor.

PHOTO: CITY OF PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE

Now completed, the new MacKenzie Knight Daycare —located at the corner of Park Drive and 25th Street NW behind the Portage Mall—has received the seal of approval from many local parents and the Mayor.

When touring the new building in September, Mayor Sharilyn Knox told PortageOnline that it is a beautiful centre that she believes both children and staff will enjoy. It has created 74 new spaces.

The governments of Canada and Manitoba allocated up to \$70 million in capital funding for new childcare facilities, which will create more than 1,200 new and regulated nonprofit childcare spaces across the province. One of these is the MacKenzie Knight Daycare.

In exchange, the City of Portage la Prairie provided two acres of serviced land for 15 years rent free. The City and RM of Portage la Prairie will jointly provide support services

including snow removal, landscape maintenance and repairs. These support services reduce costs for child-care operators, ensuring long-term sustainability of centres.

When selecting a name for the facility, administration looked for one that would represent the many successful City/RM collaborations over the years. One of the most notable ventures was the signing of a Tax-Sharing Agreement in 2000. Signed by Mayor Ian A. MacKenzie and Reeve James A. Knight, this agreement was entered to enhance commercial and industrial development and growth in both the RM and the City by working together in a cooperative manner. As a nod to that successful endeavor, it was decided to name the new childcare facility the MacKenzie Knight Daycare.

“Increasing childcare capacity in our community is not only a needed

support for families, but also a key component to unlocking economic growth regionally,” said Mayor Knox.

“We are very proud of the partnership between the City and Rural Municipality of Portage la Prairie, which collaborated to make this building a possibility. This is just another way that two municipalities work together for the betterment of our whole community.”

Wee World Daycare was chosen as the childcare service organization to operate the MacKenzie Knight Daycare and Executive Director Sydney Dubetz-Zacharias told PortageOnline in October that these opportunities don’t come up very often.

“To have the opportunity to provide quality childcare and more spots in our town is something we’re very proud of. Being part of this is an amazing opportunity that we’re very grateful for.”

Emergency preparedness

LOSS OF UTILITIES

While utility providers do their very best to maintain their services, from time to time there are events that interrupt those services.

Electrical outages may be isolated to your home or may be widespread. Check with neighbours to see if their power is on. Phone 911 to report downed power lines.

Safety controls on natural gas equipment are designed to close and shut equipment off if gas flow is interrupted. The natural gas distribution system is designed to deliver gas in the event of isolated electrical outages. For information on your equipment contact the manufacturer.

WHAT TO DO TO STAY WARM IN YOUR HOME

Note that your home will retain heat for several hours.

1. Keep windows and doors closed. Dress warmly. Stay inside.
2. Gas burning appliances must not be used indoors as they produce carbon monoxide.
3. If it is a gas outage, use portable electric heaters.
4. Use your emergency heating source to warm one room before it gets too cold.
5. Move to a location with heat.

WHAT TO DO TO PREPARE FOR FREEZE UP

If water pipes are at risk of freezing, follow instructions below:

1. Drain water pipes to prevent freezing and splitting the pipes:

- a) Shut off the tap at the water meter.
- b) Open all taps in the house. Water will drain from a tap at the lowest point.
- c) Capture water in pails.
2. Turn off and drain the hot water tank, hot tub, washing machine, and dishwasher.
3. Flush toilets and add antifreeze to the tanks and bowls. Add antifreeze to all drains.
4. City crews may shut off the water at the street and drain the line to your house. They may also require access to your house to drain the water meter.
5. Wrap the valve, inlet pipe and water meter with blankets or insulating material.

WHAT TO DO WHEN THE ELECTRICITY IS OFF

1. Check with your neighbours to see if they have electricity.
2. If your home is the only one without power, the problem could be in your residence.
3. Call Manitoba Hydro at 1-888-624-9376.
4. If you do not know how to change a fuse or re-set a breaker, contact Manitoba Hydro or a professional electrician.
5. If it is a neighbourhood power outage, unplug all appliances to avoid damage from a power surge when the power is restored.
6. Shut off all lights except one to signal the return of power.

7. Turn on your battery powered radio that is tuned to a local station.
8. Report all downed power lines by phoning 911. Use caution – assume all power lines are energized.

WHAT TO DO WHEN THE ELECTRICITY IS BACK ON

1. Wait a few minutes for the power to stabilize before plugging in appliances again.
2. Be sure the water heater is full of water before turning it on.
3. Turn off portable heaters.

WHAT TO DO WHEN THE NATURAL GAS IS OFF

1. Call Manitoba Hydro at 1-888-624-9376.
2. Turn the thermostat down so it is not calling for heat.

WHAT TO DO WHEN THE NATURAL GAS IS BACK ON

1. You may have to re-light the pilot light(s). Call Manitoba Hydro for help.
2. Be sure the water heater is full of water before turning it on.
3. Turn up the furnace thermostat and turn off portable heaters.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT CARBON MONOXIDE IN YOUR BUILDING

1. Open all doors and windows and leave the building immediately.
2. Immediately seek medical attention for those affected by phoning 911.
3. Call Manitoba Hydro at 1-888-624-9376 for an emergency inspection.

Community partnerships and grants

The City of Portage la Prairie works with a variety of partners in delivering services to its residents and businesses and supports a wide range of projects and organizations in our community through the following grants.

COMMUNITY GRANTS

The City is interested in working with local organizations to improve and enrich the lives of its residents. We are interested in supporting grant applications from local organizations that meet this goal. Applications for Community Grants are accepted in September of each year and applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application early the following year as the approval process is part of the annual budget approved by City Council. In 2023, a total of \$2.34 million was expended in this area.

BUSINESS STOREFRONT IMPROVEMENT GRANT

The Business Storefront Improvement Grant provides financial support for Portage la Prairie businesses to improve building exteriors by providing funds for exterior building upgrades. The Business Storefront Improvement Grant intends to help business owners in Portage la Prairie improve the face of their business by providing funds for exterior building upgrades. In

addition to improving the appearance of an individual building, these upgrades are expected to contribute to overall business enhancement. The Business Storefront Improvement Grant is a matching grant offered by the City of Portage la Prairie that will provide up to 50% of the project cost, with a maximum municipal contribution of \$3,000 per project, from a total fund of \$15,000.

HOSTING ASSISTANCE GRANT

Hosting Assistance Grants are offered to encourage local organizations to host events in our City. These grants are accessible to non-profit groups to assist in offsetting their marketing and bid preparation costs to attract public festivals, special events, conferences, sport, art, or heritage events. Re-occurring annual events are not eligible. Grant applications will be accepted twice per year on the following dates:

- Term 1 – Applications for events/bids occurring between January 1 and June 30 will be due on or before December 1.
- Term 2 – Application for events/bids occurring between July 1 and December 31 will be due on or before June 1.

For more information on these grants visit <https://www.city-plap.com/cityplap/services/license-permits-grants/>.

Pet licenses

Pet licenses are required annually and expire on December 31 each year. Pet licenses for the 2024 year are available at no cost if registered between January 1- March 31. Proof of a current rabies vaccination will be required. If registered after March 31, the cost for a spayed/neutered dog or cat is \$25. The cost for a non-spayed or intact dog or cat is \$60.

All dogs and cats over the age of six months must have a pet license. The penalty for failing to obtain a valid pet license is \$100.

There are various ways you can register your pet:

- In Person: At City Hall, 97 Saskatchewan Ave. E. between 9:00 am – 4:30 pm.
- Online: Complete the online pet license application form and upload a copy of your pet's current rabies vaccination papers.
- Drop Box: Print the pet license application form on our website, fill it out, and drop the completed form with proof of current rabies vaccination in our drop box at the front doors of City Hall.
- Mail: Mail in all applicable documents to City Hall. Attention: Pet Licensing at 97 Saskatchewan Ave. E. Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, R1N 0L8

For more information call (204) 239-8310 or email officeclerk@city-plap.com.



Before and after photos: These three Portage la Prairie businesses received financial support to improve their building exteriors thanks to the Business Storefront Improvement Grant.



What water/wastewater operators do

Have you ever wondered what it is like to be a water or wastewater operator? Like most people, the answer is probably no, as long as the water flows in the direction it should. These “behind the scenes” heroes are hard at work, each and every day, ensuring the water is safe to drink and safe to return to the river.

The City's water and wastewater treatment plants are classified as “Level 4” facilities due to their complexity and volume of water treated. This means the operators also have to obtain a level 4 certification.

This requires earning four years' worth of education credits, gaining experience through work, as well as exams. It can be a long process, but it is necessary to ensure that the people in these positions are properly trained to ensure high-quality treated water.

Each day the water plant produces and supplies almost 25 million litres of water to the residents and businesses in Portage, the RM, and as far as Austin, Plumas and east of Oakville. Operators at both facilities love the variety of duties the position brings. Although daily tasks such as

monitoring equipment and adjusting set points can seem routine, there are very few days that are the same.

Longtime Wastewater Operator Wyatt McEachnie said the one thing he likes most about his job is the “variety of duties and being outside.”

Their jobs require skills in chemistry and biology, as well as mechanical repair and maintenance. Worksites could involve sample collection around the City, working at the river, outside monitoring the basins as well as in the lab.

When asked what they would like the public to know about their job, Supervisor Ben Olson said, “We put our blood, sweat, and tears into the treatment of the City's water. We take pride in our product.”

This is never more evident than during the spring thaw and winter freeze up. Staff often prepare to spend the night at the plant—with an air mattress, bedding, and emergency food supply at the ready.

It is no different at the wastewater facility. Operators keep the plants running regardless of weather conditions, time



Andre Watanabe, Operator of the Water Treatment Plant.



Solids processing at the Water Pollution Control Facility.



Kaley Giffin in the Lab at the Water Treatment Plant.



Wastewater operator Brittany Denommee and wastewater operator Justine Duarte.

of day, or holidays. It is their responsibility to protect public health and waterways. Remember, our treated wastewater is another town's drinking water. We need to be just as diligent of what goes out to the river as what comes in.

As Water Plant Manager Jared Smith says, "Public health is our top priority, and we strive to supply the appropriate quantity of the highest quality water possible at the most economical price. We take our jobs very seriously, and all of us will report to work when needed at all hours—at the drop of a hat."

Director of Utility Karly Friesen is always eager to brag about her staff. Whether it is the water plant, wastewater plant, the utility maintenance staff, or the lift station operators, she has the most dedicated team of Water Professionals. When reflecting on two recent difficult situations—the Thanksgiving storm of 2019 or the spring river break up of 2023—she had this to say.

"Both of these situations were high stress and impacted our ability to provide service. My staff jumped in where needed, logging long hours to keep the water flowing. Their dedication to their professions is unwavering and I am so proud of what they do—not just during difficult situations—but every day".

If this sounds like a career you would be interested in, please reach out to Karly at kfriesen@city-plap.com to find out how you can become an Operator at the City of Portage la Prairie.

"Stop flushing wipes and plastics and remember the 3 Ps (poop, pee, paper)."

A CHAT WITH JARED SMITH

As Water Treatment Plant Manager for the City of Portage la Prairie, there never seems to be a dull moment for Jared Smith. While he has been in this position just over two years now, he has worked in water and wastewater for about 19 years.

"My primary responsibilities are providing leadership, direction, and support to the plant staff," he says. "I also liaise with other levels of government and look after budgeting, tendering, and capital projects. I try to leave as many day-to-day decisions to the operators and supervisor, as long as they keep me in the loop."

As for what he likes most about his position, it is the feeling of serving both the public and industry, and the fact that his position has a direct positive impact on public health.

His position has also come with some big challenges at the water plant in the last two years that were related to finishing the first two of three phases of capital upgrades, along with managing an aging plant with increasing water demand.

"Also, last spring the Assiniboine River Diversion malfunctioned and altered the water flow in the Portage Reservoir," he says. "This disturbed a lot of sediment that, among other things, clogged and damaged our raw water intake pumps, temporarily reducing the output of the water plant. This was overcome by encouraging staff to keep an open mind, and quickly developing different procedures for handling this type of unforeseen event. In the end, the great staff here worked around the clock and teamed up to get the plant fully functional within a day or two."

What Smith would most like the general public to know about water treatment operators and managers, is how dedicated to their jobs they are.



PRRA

Portage Regional Recreation Authority

204-857-7772 info@prra.ca

245 Royal Road South
Portage la Prairie, MB
on the Island



2024 REGISTRATION DATES

SPRING LESSONS	MARCH 13th 2024
PRRA DAY CAMPS	APRIL 17th 2024
DELTA CAMPGROUND	MAY 1st 2024
SUMMER LESSONS	JUNE 5th 2024

PRRA FREE PUBLIC SKATING

Public Skate, Family Skate, Senior Skate, Tiny Tots Skate & varied Sticks n' Pucks options.

*Available annually from October until April

AQUATIC SWIM OPTIONS

Public Swim: Everyone Welcome; children 11yrs & under must be accompanied by someone 16yrs & older.

Family Swim: Focused on Families; admission for a family of 5 is \$15 for this swim. (up to 2 adults & 3 children)

Fitness Swim: Lap Swim; pick a lane that accommodates how fast or slow you would like to swim. \$3 each.

Public Shallow Water: All Welcome; includes hot tub waterslide & lazy river - no deep water, no waves. \$3 each.

Aquafit Classes: A Low Impact Full Body Workout; 13yrs + suggested, drop ins available \$8 each.

PRRA MEMBERSHIPS

PRRA offers a few different types of memberships

ACTIVE: Gives you full access to the 4000 sq.ft. Viterra Fitness Centre, Homestead CO-OP Walking Track, Shindleman Aquatic Center & Splash Island (in season)

AQUATIC: Love the water? This gives you full access to the Shindleman Aquatic Centre & Splash Island (in season)

WALKING TRACK: What about walking without all the ice and snow? The Homestead CO-OP Walking Track is a 210 meter long indoor track with 2 - 1 meter wide lanes.

SHINDLEMAN POOL PARTIES

* Admission for up to 16 people **\$145**

* Use of the Shindleman Pool during Public Swim

* Use of the Century 21 Pool Party Room for 2 hours

SHINDLEMAN POOL RENTALS

* Hourly private pool rental * up to 65 people

\$144/hr for local users **\$206/hr** for visiting users

GREAT FOR BIRTHDAY PARTIES OR SPECIAL OCCASIONS



FACILITY - PROGRAM	BASIC INFORMATION
REGULAR ICE RENTALS	* Youth \$130/hour Adult \$170.50/hour * September - May
PRRA DAY CAMPS	* 5 - 12 year olds * Weekly themes * All summer long (9 weeks)
BDO CENTRE	* Youth \$130/hour Adult \$170.50/hour * Seasonal facility * October - March
ROTARY REPUBLIC PARK	* Seasonal athletic park * May - Oct * Soccer, Baseball, Football / Rugby.
COMMUNITY GARDENS	* Individual gardening plots at Republic Park * May - October
DELTA CAMPGROUND	* Seasonal campground * May - Oct * Seasonal and daily camping
SPLASH ISLAND	* Seasonal outdoor waterpark on Island Park * June - September
SUMMER ICE RENTALS	* All Ice \$140.75/hour * Stride Place only * June - August

* Schedules can change without notice, always check online

Facebook: @StridePlace

Instagram: @stride_place

StridePlace.ca

Portage la Prairie Regional Landfill

Portage Regional Landfill

26095 PR#227

Telephone: 204-871-4549

Site Manager: Robert Pohl

Email: rpoohl@city-plap.com

Residents may deliver waste to the Portage la Prairie Regional Landfill site located 12 km north of the City on PR 240 and 15 km east on PR 227.

Effective January 1, 2024, Tipping Fees of \$60 per metric tonne apply to all City residents and all commercial users within the RM of Portage.

The Landfill has a minimum charge of \$10 which applies to loads of 200 kgs or less. A \$10 per metric tonne provincial Waste Reduction and Recycling Support Levy has been applied to waste deposited in the landfill.

Effective January 1, 2024, the Landfill will no longer charge for freon-containing appliances.

Before you leave home...

- Review your City of Portage la Prairie Waste Reduction Guide to see which products can be kept out of the Landfill. The site is prohibited from receiving hazardous waste (e.g., oil, flammable products, chemicals of any kind).
- Sort loads by material type.
- The Landfill recycles metals, freon-containing appliances, tires, mattresses, and box springs.
- Remove all fluids from gas-powered equipment.
- Customers must make their own arrangements to unload heavy materials.
- Secure open loads with a tarp and straps or rope. The Landfill will be enforcing a \$60 penalty for all untarped loads.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Haulers from outside the region often comment that the Portage la Prairie Regional Landfill is one of, if not the best kept, landfills in Manitoba.
- According to data gathered by the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics, workers in the waste industry consistently rank in the top six most dangerous jobs in the United States.



This picture shows a fire at the Landfill in 2022. The fire was likely caused by batteries, flammable materials, or hot ashes, none of which are supposed to be dropped there. Taking the time to properly dispose of these items will greatly reduce the frequency of these events.

- The Landfill accepts cash, Debit, Visa, and Mastercard.

HOURS OF OPERATION

- November 1 to March 31: Monday to Saturday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
- April 1 to October 31: Monday to Saturday, 8:30 am to 6:00 pm
- Closed Sundays and all Statutory Holidays

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

There is no scavenging, trespassing, or hunting allowed on the Landfill site.

Your cooperation in helping to keep the customers and staff of the Landfill safe is appreciated.

The Portage la Prairie Regional Landfill Authority operates the development as a Class 1 Waste Disposal Ground pursuant to regulations under the Environment Act, Manitoba Regulation 37/2016 and Environment Act Licence No. 3278.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Doug McAuley (Chair), Terrie Porter (Vice-Chair), Preston Meier, Ryan Espey, Roy Tufford, and Garth Asham.

It was ranked as the 5th most dangerous occupation in North America by the Solid Waste Association of North America.

- Hazardous waste, while typically not accepted by municipal solid waste landfills, will still show up in the waste stream and landfill staff can be at risk from these types of materials.

Over the past year, City Council has been working to engage the community, identify issues and opportunities through a community assessment, and develop a strategic direction. The Strategic Plan will focus on five major initiatives: Quality of Life, Community Safety and Well-being, Economic Opportunity, Inclusive and Informed Community, and Showcasing our Community.

On November 24th, 2023, Doug Griffiths from 13 Ways presented the Strategic Direction at the Portage la Prairie & District Chamber of Commerce luncheon. He shared the journey that led Council to this point, along with the valuable insights and findings that have influenced their decisions.

Read more about the five major initiatives here and watch the full November 24, 2023 presentation on our YouTube Channel at www.youtube.com/@cityofportagelaprairie6200.



QUALITY OF LIFE

We will continue to connect and build upon the strategic investments of the past that have created a community of excellent cultural and recreational activities while ensuring we provide opportunities to grow and enhance housing in our community.

This Council will:

- Work with developers to build great neighbourhoods that will allow our community to grow sustainably;
- Continue to enhance our recreational and cultural opportunities, and our green spaces, as well as expand our active transportation network across the City;
- Encourage positive infill developments that add density and reinvestment in more established neighbourhoods.



COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING

We recognize that it takes an entire community working together to improve the safety and well-being of all residents. This Council is committed to working in collaboration with our partners to continue to improve and support the well-being of our citizens. Community safety is ultimately about helping communities to be and feel safe.

This Council will:

- Hire and train Community Safety Officers to provide additional support to our RCMP in keeping our community safe;
- Complete and help implement the recommendations of the community-led Community Safety and Well-being Plan;
- Continue to support community mobilization efforts and work with other levels of government to provide positive support and early intervention for those at risk.



SHOWCASING OUR COMMUNITY

We believe that community beautification and tourism-focused investments contribute to civic pride and make for a more livable community. Our goal is to share our story about the quality of life we enjoy here in Portage la Prairie.

This Council will:

- Work with our partners to enhance, maintain, and promote our tourism; assets to bring new events and visitors to our community;
- Focus investment to bring new amenities and beautification to our downtown;
- Continue to invest in beautification projects with our community partners to showcase our community.



ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

We will build upon our accessible and diverse transportation infrastructure, ample quality water and soil, existing innovative industries and labour pool, and exceptional quality of life amenities to grow our region's economy and population in a sound and sustainable, but robust manner.

This Council will:

- Continue to invest in our utility infrastructure to retain and grow industrial investment in our region;
- Actively work with our business community to see new commercial investments in our downtown and former Portage Mall property;
- Partner with and support organizations looking to improve transit options for our region.



INCLUSIVE AND INFORMED COMMUNITY

We cherish how diversity brings appreciation, understanding, and energy to our region, but we also value how the friendships, bonds, and partnerships we build as we learn from each other help us find new solutions and identify new opportunities that we could not find or achieve alone. We forge renewed strength as we walk this path together.

This Council will:

- Take meaningful steps in ReconciliACTION with our Indigenous partners;
- Continue to work with our partners in the immigration community to make Portage a more welcoming community to new Canadians;
- Invest in our communication capacity to better inform and engage with our citizens.

PORTRAGE REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Creating an environment for success

PRED is all about driving economic growth in the Portage la Prairie Region.

We offer advice and take action on various economic development matters, such as initiatives, incentives, assessing the business environment, attracting and retaining businesses, fostering community economic development, exploring marketing opportunities, and tackling other factors that bolster economic progress. We aim to encourage and support companies and individuals in their investments, growth, and success within the region.

Ultimately, our goal is to create jobs, diversify the economy, and enhance the quality of life for everyone who lives, works, and visits our community.

Economic development is a multifaceted process, and at PRED, we focus on multiple aspects, including attracting investments, retaining, and expanding businesses, promoting tourism, engaging with stakeholders and the community, and using an economic development perspective in our work.



We believe economic development can't happen in isolation; it's a collective effort that must adapt to the community's evolving needs. Many groups and stakeholders are involved in ensuring our economy remains strong, and various municipal departments work closely together to plan for the future of the Portage la Prairie Region. This collaborative approach is what makes our community unique and thriving.

PRED recognizes that our recent successes result from the strong partnership between the City of Portage la Prairie and the RM of Portage la Prairie. Twenty years ago, they entered into a tax-sharing agreement, motivating them to collaborate in attracting new businesses and investments to the region. Their forward-thinking decision to work together has paid off, and we continue to see the positive impacts of that choice.

For more information about PRED and to stay updated on our ongoing projects, visit: Investinportage.ca.

DEVELOP IN PORTRAGE LA PRAIRIE

Manitoba, Canada

www.investinportage.ca



Portage la Prairie Regional Library

40 B Royal Road N., Portage la Prairie R1N 1V1 | Ph: 204-857-4271

Welcome!

Have you visited the library lately? In 2023, over 50,000 community members of all ages attended activities, enjoyed events, investigated the internet and borrowed books!

All of our programs and events are open to the public and free of charge!



WINTER / SPRING 2024

Family Literacy Week: **January 21 to 28**

Storytime with Mayor Knox: **January 27**

Valentines for Seniors: **February 1-13**

Easter Egg Hunt: **March 30**

Mother's day gift workshop: **May 9**

Father's day gift workshop: **June 13**

46th Summer Book Sale: **June 25 to September 7**

TD Summer Reading Club: **June to August**

SERVICES

- Books, magazines, audiobooks, DVDs, eBooks, eMagazines, eAudiobooks, Radon Kits, Air Quality Monitors and Board Games
- Databases: Ebscohost & Ancestry.ca
- Resources for Patrons with Perceptual Disabilities
- Free Wi-Fi access & public computers
- Photocopying & Printing (starting at 25¢)
- Local History Archives
- Free Activities for Children and Adults
- Exam proctoring



LIBRARY HOURS

Tuesday	10 am to 5 pm
Wednesday	10 am to 8 pm
Thursday	10 am to 8 pm
Friday	10 am to 7 pm
Saturday	10 am to 4 pm

Closed Sundays, Mondays and the following Statutory Holidays in 2024:
March 29: Good Friday

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA
FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION

 portagelaprairielibrary  @portagelaprairielibrary



www.portagelibrary.com

EVENTS

Around town



City Hall Accessibility Ramp Opening Ceremony. From left to right: City Manager Nathan Peto, Director of Operations Jocelyn Lequier-Jobin, Mayor Sharilyn Knox, Councillor Faron Nicholls, and Councillor Joe Masi.



Mayor Knox was joined by Firefighter Craig Braun, Deputy Fire Chief Norm Vuignier, Fire Chief Brad Bailey, and Firefighters Ryan Draycott and Stephen Moffit to proclaim the week of October 8-14, 2023 as Fire Prevention Week in the City of Portage la Prairie.



Mayor Sharilyn Knox presenting Willy Klassen the Manitoba Good Roads Association Best Urban Home Grounds award.



Mayor Sharilyn Knox and Councillor Faron Nicholls attending the Throne Speech at the Manitoba Legislative Building.



Official naming and plaque unveiling at Veterans Memorial Park.

