



Celebrating Municipal Excellence
2023 Nomination Form
Deadline: 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 21, 2023

Nominee Contact Information	
Name of municipality/ municipalities being nominated: <small>(please include the names of all partner municipalities)</small>	Town of Redvers
Contact Name:	Tricia Pickard
Contact role in project:	
Telephone #:	3064523533
Mailing Address:	25 Railway Avenue, PO Box 249, Redvers, SK, S0C 2H0
E-mail Address:	tricia@townofredvers.ca
Name of Nominated Practice or Project:	Water Source and Treatment Plant Upgrade
Date of Project or Practice Initiation:	1-Sep-2022
Date of Project or Practice Completion: <small>(If ongoing, please indicate)</small>	31-Dec-2025
	Ongoing: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Nominator Contact Information	
Name:	Jena Cowan
Organization:	Town of Redvers
Position:	Assistant C.A.O.
Mailing Address:	25 Railway Avenue, PO Box 249, Redvers, SK, S0C 2H0
Telephone #:	3064523533
E-mail Address:	jena@townofredvers.ca

Please provide as much detail as possible. Winning practices are posted in the Best Practices Library as a reference or resource to others. Nominations that clearly outline the practice and all steps involved have a higher chance of being selected for an award.

The Practice

1. What issue inspired the nominated project or practice?

The issue that inspired the Water Source and Treatment Plant upgrade was the dire need for our community to have plentiful, tasteless, odorless, and sediment free drinking water, straight from the tap. Currently, in working closely with the Water Security Agency, town administration discovered that our community has been requiring an upgrade for almost a decade, at risk of a permanent boil water advisory, with no work being put towards a replacement or maintenance plan. In our current C.A.O. Tricia Pickard's first quarter holding her title (10 years with the municipality at her promotion), she was faced with this daunting project, which was not optional, and of which she had no forewarning. Within her first year, the first component of the project was complete, and in her second year, the second had been initiated.

2. What has this project or practice done to address the issue?

The Town of Redvers and C.A.O. Tricia Pickard, with the help of her three administration staff, they researched into the history of our town's waterworks system, reading Town Council meeting minutes from the early 1900's to current, trying to piece together our infrastructure. Without this information, engineering and planning on a solution could not go forward. The entire team spent two weeks creating a master file of everything related to water and sewer, to pass to our engineers. Thankfully, the work completed was sufficient enough for the engineer to get the new project off the ground. To date we have completed a second water source for the Town of Redvers. A community of our size should have two to three water sources, and we had been running on one, which was past its lifespan. Now that the water source is secure, we are proceeding with an addition to our Water Treatment Plant, and overhaul of the filtration system, converting it from green sand to bio-filtration, and finishing with reverse osmosis.

The Process

This section should be the longest and most detailed part of your nomination. Include enough information, such as steps, resources accessed, and considerations to support a municipality interested in applying the same project or practice.

3. Indicate who had a direct role in this project or practice:

- Municipal Council
- Municipal Administration
- Other

4. What was the role of the municipal council and/or municipal staff in this project or practice?

The role of the municipal staff was to compile every bit of historical information possible regarding water and sewer in our community, be a liaison to the engineer, collaborate with our retained lawyer, and follow steps and recommendations set out by the Water Security Agency. They were responsible to document, summarize, and report each step of the project to the Council, make financial spreadsheets and breakdowns, and understand the material entirely so they may answer any questions or concerns. They were responsible for keeping the public involved and informed. They were responsible for ensuring this project received grant funding, of which we required to avoid drastic cost increases to our ratepayers.

5. Were other groups were involved in developing this project or practice? If so, who were they and what role did they play?

Town of Redvers Council carefully reviewed the information presented, ensured it aligned with the needs of our community, and was financially feasible.

6. What resources were involved?

The Town of Redvers, C.A.O. Tricia Pickard, and her team were successful in applying to the Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF) for the second water source, and the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) for the Water Treatment Upgrade. Thanks to these successful applications, the project is nearly fully funded.

7. How was the project or practice developed?

The project was developed by a non-negotiable demand from the Water Security Agency to remedy the state of water supply and quality in the Town of Redvers.

The Results

8. What effect did this project or practice have on the community?

To date, we have secured a second water source for the community. Therefore, we have abundant water for the community and do not foresee having drought challenges.

9. Was a formal evaluation done after the project or practice was completed? Please explain.

Since the project is not yet complete, there has been no evaluations. After the fact, the Water Security Agency will conduct a full inspection of our project, inclusive to water samples and record reporting.

10. Describe any challenges faced.

The challenge of time and pressure was the most substantial of this project. A complete staff turnover in the office made the transition into new positions especially difficult. As opposed to learning a new set of responsibilities, the entire staff was consumed with ensuring our compliance with the Water Security Agency and the Ministry of Environment. We did not have a time frame given for completion, because it was supposed to have been remedied years ago. Our team faced this challenge head on, and were successful. Not only in this project, but learning their new positions, new responsibilities, and a new respect for our capital assets. A Tangible Capital Asset Management Plan was revised and a ten year savings plan created to assist in identifying aging assets earlier, so that we can ensure that we are both financially and mentally prepared for our next project.

Lessons Learned

11. What lessons were learned and what would you recommend doing differently?

A lesson learned was to ask questions, document everything, and double check/confirm details with all staff, administration/public works and Council to ensure that the recommendations coming down from our outside agencies are heard, understood, and acted upon. Starting a project prior to its anticipated failure will always be our priority going forward. We want to be proactive, rather than reactive.