

ENGAGING THE RM OF MERVIN

DID YOU KNOW...

- The Municipal Government Act (MGA) in Saskatchewan sets out rules on when a Council can go in camera (meaning no public in the meeting). The RM of Mervin Council has gone in camera far too many times in recent years, always citing strategic planning.
- Most municipalities have a clear set of key priorities in which they typically engage the public which is then laid out in a Strategic Plan. The RM of Mervin website does not show a Strategic Plan, nor have they engaged the public on this plan.
- After Jan 1 2024 no RV will be permitted on a lot unless a permitted residence exists on the lot or one is under construction. There is still some need for clarification of the bylaw with respect to RV's as the FAQ documentation published by the RM has more detail and addresses more issues than the bylaw leading to uncertainty.
- MGA 119 (3) Everyone has the right to be present at council meetings and while most municipalities across the Country have set up for the public to attend Council meetings virtually during COVID-19, the RM of Mervin has refused to allow this.
- The RM has approved a Safety Codes Officer with no publicly available schedule of penalties.

A group of concerned residents and rate payers have been meeting over the past year and are ready for change, a change towards good municipal governance in the RM of Mervin.

OVER THE YEARS, THE RM OF MERVIN COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO DEAL WITH AND EXHIBITED ISSUES IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

GOVERNANCE

Perception that Council is not responsive to public concerns as many questions and comments go unanswered, diminishing their accountability to ratepayers.

ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATIONS

Very little proactive engagement and reaction to public interest in Council matters is often ignored

BYLAWS AND POLICIES

Bylaws and policies continue to be instituted restricting land use impacting a large group of rate payers

Interested in becoming a candidate in the upcoming election, contact us through www.engagingRMMervin.com

ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE

- Based on RM policy and bylaws, there are even restrictions on putting tents on your lake property
- The MGA also sets out the timelines for the posting of Council Agendas and Meeting Minutes, however the RM of Mervin refuses to consistently post these on their website, again making rate payers question the accountability. In adherence to the minimal standards of the MGA, rate payers can go into the RM office and request these documents.

The next election after 2020 is 2024. In 2024, RVs will no longer be allowed on a property without a permanent structure. 2024 will be too late to change the RV Bylaw, this election is your only chance to make a change!

- Be a rate payer – does not have to be primary residence, can be a resident of another jurisdiction in Saskatchewan or any other province
- Be 18 years of age
- Further eligibility <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/municipal-administration/elections/voting#voter-eligibility>

Follow the conversation and updates on this campaign at:

Facebook:

Fighting the Amendment Bylaw No. 94-4

Website:

www.engagingRMMervin.com

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