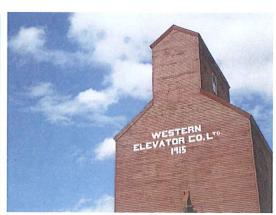
Town of Gravelbourg Official Community Plan







THE TOWN OF GRAVELBOURG

The Official Community Plan BYLAW NO. 1402/15

- 1. Pursuant to Section 29 of *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*, the Council of the Town of Gravelbourg hereby adopts the Official Community Plan, identified as Schedule "A" to this bylaw.
- 2. The Mayor and Town Administrator are hereby authorized to sign and seal Schedule "A" which is attached to and forms part of this bylaw.
- 3. This bylaw shall come into force on the date of final approval by the Minister of Government Relations.

Read a first time this $\frac{17th}{day}$ of $\frac{August}{20.15}$ Read a second time this $\frac{28th}{day}$ of $\frac{September}{20.15}$ Read a third time and passed this $\frac{28th}{day}$ of $\frac{September}{20.15}$

MAYOR

ADMINISTRATOR

Pursuant to clauses 37(1)(d) and 37(2)(c) of *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* (PDA), Bylaw No. 1402/15 is conditionally approved subject to Council preparing and adopting amendments to: identify flood hazard areas and designate floodway and floodway

identify flood hazard areas and designate floodway and floodway fringe portions on the Future Land Use map;

ensure land use designations are consistent with the flood hazard designation; and

establish policies to prohibit and regulate new buildings in flood prone areas in keeping with the Statements of Provincial Interest,

within a period of six months from the date of this decision.

Assistant Deputy Minister

Ainistry of Government Relations

Date: May 22/2016



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THE TOWN OF GRAVELBOURG

OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN SCHEDULE "A" to BYLAW NO. 1402/15

APPROVED REGINA, SASK.

Assistant Deputy Minister Ministry of Government Relations

MAYOR

ADMINISTRATOR

Lenore Swystun, MCIP, RPP

Professional Planner

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Section 1: The Official Community Plan

1.1 Introduction

The Town of Gravelbourg Official Community Plan (OCP), also referred to as the Plan, is a voluntary, community-based effort formed to assist the Town with growth and development opportunities. It functions as a day-to-day management guide that provides over-arching policies for the Town with linkages to the wider region; the policies contained within this Plan are meant to guide the municipality over the next twenty-five (25) plus years.

The opportunity exists to promote and address the need to stimulate economic development, provide guidelines to reduce conflicts between land uses, protect sensitive environmental areas, and to develop strategies which support community revitalization and population growth. There is the potential to plan and provide for the best possible mix of activities, services, and land uses for the greater community.

This Plan contains a local vision with goals and policies that will help the Town with future development that is a reflection of the community. These were developed in collaboration with community members and stakeholders, along with Council and administration. Each of the policies and sections are links with one another. To enable a comprehensive understanding of the future direction of the community, the Plan and its sections should be read in its entirety, and not in isolation from one another.

1.2 Purpose of the Official Community Plan

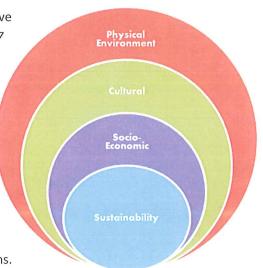
The purpose of the Official Community Plan is to provide a comprehensive policy framework to guide the physical, environmental, economic, social, and cultural development of the community. The Plan also contains provisions and procedures for the resolution of land use conflicts, administration, and amendments of the Plan.

1.2.1 Enabling Legislation

The Town of Gravelbourg Official Community Plan meets the legislative requirements as outlined by *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* and *Statements of Provincial Interest*. The OCP has been established and adopted in accordance with Section 32 of the Act.

The Plan responds to the requirements of the *Act* by providing policies based upon "Community Goals." The day-to-day decisions upon these goals, objectives, and policies in this Plan are intended to promote orderly and sustainable development.

The Town will also, in accordance with the *Act*, adopt an updated Zoning Bylaw consistent with the policies and provisions of this Plan. The Zoning Bylaw is a regulatory tool of the OCP, implementing the policies contained within the Plan and includes site specific regulations.



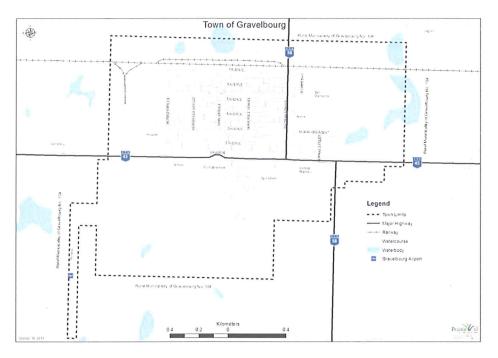
Town of Gravelbourg Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1402/15

1.2.2 Beyond Legislative Authority

The Town of Gravelbourg OCP is derived from a participatory process with the involvement of many residents and community members. The non-legislative authority for the OCP is the capacity-building and partnership opportunities that are realized as a correlation to sustainable growth, which is considered a priority.

1.3 Town of Gravelbourg Map

The following map identifies the boundaries of the Town of Gravelbourg.



1.4 The Town of Gravelbourg - Planning Context

The Town of Gravelbourg is a thriving community that is located in southern Saskatchewan. With a population of 1,116 as of 2011, the community has seen some growth over the years, increasing 2.5% from the 2006 Census of Canada. The community is known as the "Cultural Gem of Saskatchewan" with thanks to the rich history, culture, and architecture that is present. Gravelbourg prides themselves on being "A Touch of Europe on the Prairies."

With well-kept municipal infrastructure, and many community amenities and services, these strengths add to the quality of life for the residents of Gravelbourg. There are heritage homes that line the streets, with newer homes complementing the surrounding aesthetics and prairie focus of the community.

Other important amenities that Gravelbourg retains are health, education and spiritual facilities. The St. Joseph's Hospital/Foyer d'Youville serves the region with three (3) physicians and several complementary health practitioners.

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Education facilities include the Gravelbourg Elementary School (K to 7); Gravelbourg High School (8 to 12); École Beau-Soleil (francophone classes from K to 7; and École secondaire Collège Mathieu (francophone classes from 8 to 12). There are two (2) daycares located in the community and one (1) post-secondary facility, Collège Mathieu.

The community acts as an important regional hub, home to an integrated business sector including a newspaper, community radio station and over 100 businesses spanning the retail, manufacturing and service sectors. Major urban centres in the area include Moose Jaw located 119 kilometers northeast and Swift Current located 130 kilometers northwest.

1.5 Format of the Plan

The Town of Gravelbourg Official Community Plan is divided into five major parts:

Section 1

•An introduction to the Official Community Plan, providing some general background information and guidance.

Section 2

 Overview of the community voice and engagement process is provided, in addition to the vision, goals, and general planning principles of the community.

Section 3

 General land use policies to guide the overall use, planning and development of land in all areas of the community.

Section 4

 Special planning areas, which include First Treaty Land Entitlements and Urban Reserves.

Section 5

• Implementation, action planning and administrative tools and legislative supports available for Council to administer the Official Community Plan.

The <u>Policies</u> of the Plan are action statements intended to address particular issues and advance the Town towards its vision. Policy implementation should involve appropriate levels of consultation with the public and relevant stakeholders. As future amendments to the Plan are contemplated, consideration should be given as to how the proposed amendment conforms to the vision and themes presented in the Plan.

<u>Future Land Use Map</u>: One of the key aspects of the Plan is to provide an overall future land use and development concept for the Town of Gravelbourg. The Future Land Use Map (Appendix "A") illustrates general land use designations which have been determined by a number of factors including existing patterns of land use, projected land needs, resource areas, natural attributes and man-made features.

<u>Reference Maps:</u> The series of reference maps attached in Appendix "B" provide supplementary information. All Reference Maps are conceptual only and should not be used to make site specific decisions.

5 Col Action Plans: To achieve the goals set out in this Official Community Plan, a clear plan of action or implementation strategy is required. Action plans for the Town have been included in Appendix "E" to provide a checklist of the key action items. Each action items relates to policy statements included in the Plan and will require the action items to be prioritized. The action items should be reviewed regularly to monitor progress and to determine if changes are required.

1.6 Guiding Growth in the Town of Gravelbourg

This Plan encourages some degree of change in the community to provide development opportunities. Guiding future population growth to support socio-economic development in Gravelbourg is needed to ensure a better future for the area. A dynamic community requires a strategy to successfully promote agricultural diversification, business enterprises, job creation, recreational amenities, and a variety of residential options to attract new residents. The potential benefits that will accrue to the greater community include employment, tax revenue, support for local business, as well as other economic, and social opportunities.

The Town of Gravelbourg Official Community Plan and corresponding Zoning Bylaw will be utilized as tools to promote the Community while also ensuring the local way of life and natural environment will be preserved for future generations. The Town of Gravelbourg will strive for an inclusive, transparent process and invites other municipalities and First Nations to participate in order to pursue a regional wide initiative to prepare, plan and guide future growth and development opportunities.

Section 2: Community Voice, Vision and Goals

2.1 Town of Gravelbourg Vision

The Town of Gravelbourg Vision was created with the community and is an aspirational image of what the Town hopes to achieve in 25+ years.

In 2040...

We are a **destination community** that is known for our **thriving heritage and cultural characteristics.** We take pride in the stories that we share through our built heritage and cultural make-up.

Our sense of community and quality of life is strong through the quality educational, recreational, health, and community services we offer.

We have **increased our population and business activity** and are seen as a regional hub. We ensure a **balance** of development to meet the needs of our community and region.

2.2 Community Goals

The Town of Gravelbourg Official Community Plan responds to *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* and *The Statements of Provincial Interest*, by providing policies based upon "Community Goals" for the conservation and use of municipal resources. The day-to-day decisions of the Town Council will be based upon these goals.

Community Pride:

♣ To ensure the safety and well-being of residents in all developments.

Residential Land Use:

- ♣ To encourage a mix of housing options for anyone of any background.
- To ensure that housing development complements the heritage value and prairie landscape of the community.

Community and Youth Engagement:

♣ To value the community's voice in future decisions regarding growth and development, regardless of age.

Recreation and Tourism:

- To provide for a mix of recreational amenities for our residents in accordance with community demands and respecting budgetary limits.
- To actively promote and seek out more opportunities for tourism to attract visitors and potential new residents to our community.

Community Services and Public Health and Safety:

- To ensure that programs and services offered meet the needs of our diverse community and promotes a high quality of life.

Culture, Heritage and Spirituality:

→ To protect and promote our heritage, cultural assets, resources and community theme.

Community Economic Development:

To foster a business friendly atmosphere in order to facilitate job growth and wealth generation and seek to align business goals with community goals.

Sustainability:

Transportation and Infrastructure:

→ To maintain our current infrastructure and explore opportunities that introduce efficient new technologies.

Inter-Municipal Cooperation:

- To correspond regarding land use development and development concerns and work together on service delivery and cost-sharing initiatives.



Section 3: Town of Gravelbourg - A Look Forward

3.1 General Land Use Policies

The Town of Gravelbourg is committed to planning for the community's future and ensuring compatible land uses, safety of residents, and quality developments that fit with the characteristics of the Town. The policies below will assist the Town with growth and development and allow it to achieve its goals and vision over the next twenty-five (25) plus years.

Objectives

- ↓ To promote orderly and compatible land use development.
- ♣ To encourage growth and development that complements the built heritage and characteristics of Gravelbourg.
- To promote development where there is existing infrastructure in place.
- 4 To explore service delivery options that are financially attractive to the Town.
- To work with surrounding communities to achieve consistent and compatible planning along with opportunities for shared costs and resources.

General Policies

.1 The Town shall have a sustainable form, mix of uses and densities that allow for efficient use of land, infrastructure, and public facilities. This Plan will help to identify suitable lands to attract a broad range of residential, commercial enterprise, recreational, institutional, and industrial development to meet anticipated long-term needs for the community.



- .2 The Town will avoid unplanned development to achieve an orderly, efficient land use pattern which is possible to develop and service in appropriate phases. This Plan strengthens and maintains the small town character through policies and provisions.
- .3 Future development shall integrate into the natural surroundings and shall complement the surrounding community design, landscape, and vegetation. Planned development will help to increase land values, not be wasteful of the land resource, minimize public expenditure in service provision, recognize significant features, and reduce access connections to provincial roads and highways to minimize disruption to traffic flow.
- .4 Development of new buildings and additions to buildings in the flood way of the 1:500 year flood elevation of any watercourse or water body shall be prohibited. If the development of new

buildings or additions is approved, flood-proofing to an elevation of 0.5 meters will be required. Flood prone areas and natural constraints are identified on a Reference Map in Appendix "B".

- .5 The Saskatchewan Water Security Agency or other appropriate government or private sector consultants will be utilized as a source of technical advice regarding flood levels and flood proofing techniques.
- .6 Development proposals in flood plain areas shall be referred to the Saskatchewan Water Security Agency for review prior to approval. A site specific legal land survey including contour lines shall be provided by the proponent at the time of proposed development.
- .7 The Town encourages sustainable building designs. Building materials and construction methods that conserve energy and reduce long-term operating costs shall be encouraged.
- .8 When reviewing applications for development, consideration shall be given to the proposal's conformity with this Plan. A proposal shall be denied when it is detrimental to the health, safety, general welfare of persons residing or working in the area, or incompatible with existing or proposed land uses in the vicinity.
- .9 Major deviations to the Plan design and policies shall require an amendment. The Future Land Use Map in Appendix "A" shows the general designation of land use.
- .10 Cumulative effects, land fragmentation, best management practices, innovative procedures, development phasing, route modification, alternative construction techniques and impacts on municipal servicing shall be considered when reviewing all developments as to compliance with the Plan.
- .11 The Town promotes development in such a way that support services are able to form around existing or planned businesses to ensure efficient use of land, infrastructure, and public facilities.
- .12 Land development shall also be evaluated on the degree of prematurity including the consideration of the number of unsold and undeveloped sites in previous phases of the area being subdivided or rezoned or similar site in adjoining developments.
- .13 Development shall minimize the potential impact to drainage, landscape, or other conditions and shall be required to mitigate on and off-site impacts relating to the drainage, landscape, and/or other natural conditions.
- .14 The Town of Gravelbourg shall continue to discuss and collaborate with surrounding municipalities on future growth and development plans. Where there is an opportunity for cost-sharing, tax-sharing, or sharing of resources, this shall be encouraged.

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.15 As per the *Statements of Provincial Interest*, the Town recognizes the agricultural land within the surrounding Rural Municipality as a value and land for sustainable growth of agriculture activities including the diversification and expansion of agricultural and value-added business development.

3.2 Community and Youth Engagement

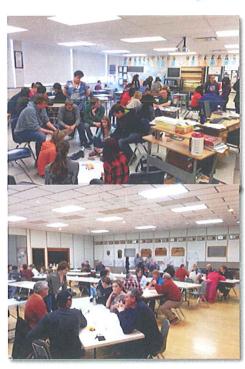
Residents in the Town of Gravelbourg are actively involved in their community. There are many community service clubs and organizations that commit their time and effort to various Town events and initiatives. The Town is supportive of the clubs, organizations and volunteerism in the community and wants to ensure this continues in the future. Being inclusive and encouraging residents to become involved is important to the Town.

Objectives

- ♣ To encourage and foster local stewardship and citizen participation in community committees.
- To engage and encourage community members to be involved in community events and initiatives.
- To deliver communications through a variety of methods to all residents in different languages.
- ♣ To encourage youth engagement.
- To collaborate with neighbouring municipalities and First Nations communities on local and regional initiatives, programs, and events.

General Policies

- .1 The Town of Gravelbourg shall continue to encourage participation in community service clubs and organizations. Recognition of volunteer contributions shall be encouraged.
- .2 The Town shall continue to provide information on upcoming local and district events and initiatives. This may be communicated through the newspaper, website, radio, newsletter, social media or any other means.
- .3 Communications that support the cultural diversity of the community particularly with respect to language, shall be encouraged.
- .4 Advisory committees may be established to provide input on planning and development, strategic



planning, social, cultural, economic, infrastructural, and environmental issues.

- .5 The Town shall consider ways to encourage youth engagement and implement such whenever feasible and attractive.
- .6 Review of the Official Community Plan and Future Land Use Map should be done regularly to ensure policy statements and future land use potentials are current and reflective of the community. The community shall be invited to a community meeting to participate in these.
- .7 The Town shall initiate discussions and collaborate with neighbouring communities and First Nations on community and district wide events, programs and initiatives. This may include a focus on culture, heritage, recreation, and others.

3.3 Residential Land Use

As Gravelbourg continues to grow, there will be increased demand for a variety of housing options and styles. The community prides itself on its history and architecture. New developments should be complementary to the existing landscape and the historic nature of the community.

According to the 2011 Census, there are 485 private dwellings that are occupied, of which 390 are single-detached, 5 movable (mobile), 10 semi-detached, 5 apartment-duplex, and 70 apartment (less than 5 storeys) units. The newest subdivision of La Vista is located on the south side of town and offers residents an "unobstructed view of the prairie vista" surrounding Gravelbourg. The community also has a 23-unit senior housing project called "Pioneer Villa" that is located on the west side of town, adjacent to St. Joseph's Hospital and Foyer d'Youville.

Promoting a balance of residential units is very important to ensuring the availability of entry-level homes for young people and disability-friendly homes for elderly people. Ensuring these homes are high-quality will protect the well-being and safety of the residents of Gravelbourg.

Objectives

- To encourage a wide range of housing options for the community to appeal to varying income levels.
- To promote infill developments on vacant or under-utilized land that is complementary to the surrounding character of the community.
- To ensure other new housing developments complement the historic and heritage value of the current housing stock and surrounding prairie landscape.
- ♣ To promote the diversification of housing options, including rental apartment buildings.
- ♣ To encourage home-based businesses when and where it makes best sense.

General Policies

- .1 The Future Land Use Map (Appendix "A") will provide for the development of residential and compatible land uses to accommodate a variety of housing forms provided for within the Zoning Bylaw.
- .2 When planning new residential areas or rezoning portions of land for residential use, the proposed development shall have regard to:
 - a. Compatibility of adjacent land uses;
 - b. Avoidance of environmentally sensitive or hazardous areas;
 - c. The ability of the Town to provide cost-effective municipal services;
 - d. The impact of financial and capital planning by the Town;
 - e. Zoning, subdivision design, street layout, and site planning;
 - f. The use of natural topography and drainage patterns to minimize the cost and risks associated with storm drainage; and,
 - g. Provision of land for Municipal Reserve pursuant to *The Planning and Development Act,* 2007.
- .3 In new residential subdivisions, the provision and development of buffers and pathways will be encouraged to separate potentially incompatible land uses, and if possible, to keep important natural and nature-like areas intact.
- .4 Residential building construction will be regulated by the Building Bylaw to ensure high quality of housing that is consistent with *The National Building Code of Canada*. The safe construction and maintenance of dwellings, along with certification of modular homes to meet safety standards, will be enforced.
- .5 Ready-to-move (RTM) and modular homes will be considered within residential areas if constructed to complement neighbourhood dwellings.
- .6 Mobile homes may be accommodated when they can effectively integrate with other types of dwellings within the Town. Mobile homes will be regulated by the Zoning Bylaw and must meet the standards of the Canadian Standards Association.
- .7 Redevelopment and infill residential development will be supported to maximize the use of existing infrastructure and services.

Affordable and Rental Housing Policies

- .8 The Town shall support affordable housing by:
 - a. Integrating opportunities for such development within existing and proposed residential areas;
 - b. Assisting in the development review process; and



- c. Participating in affordable housing projects where appropriate and within financial capabilities.
- .9 The Town should give consideration to development proposals for small and compact forms of housing such as small lot single detached homes, townhouses and apartment buildings.
- .10 The Town will seek opportunities to apply for grants or conditional funding from other orders of government and agencies to support the development of affordable housing.



.11 Rental housing options will be encouraged to mitigate the potential shortage of rental accommodation. The Town will consider various options to stimulate this type of development when in demand.

Senior Housing Policies

- .12 The Town will continue to support the Pioneer Villa, which offers affordable senior housing units.
- .13 The Town may contribute to the provision of additional affordable senior housing units in the form of townhouses or other multi-unit dwellings through the exploration of partnerships with Provincial government and local housing authorities to provide subsidies or incentives.
- .14 The Town will continue to work with local community groups to assess the needs of the senior population and advocate for the any other initiatives that serve the population.

Multi-Family Housing Policies

- .15 Higher density housing shall be encouraged to improve the sustainability of the community and meet market demand. Such development shall be appropriately located within proximity to local services, communal open space, and commercial facilities.
- .16 Multi-unit dwellings will be encouraged on sites that are considered to be compatible with adjacent residential development, having regard to suitable street and vehicle access and as regulated by the Zoning Bylaw.

3.4 Community Pride

There is a lot of pride in the community of Gravelbourg and much of this pride stems from the community's rich history and architecture. The Town of Gravelbourg wants to promote themselves as a destination area that is culturally and historically rich, that offers many services and amenities, and that attracts people who want a unique experience with "a Touch of Europe."

Objectives

- ♣ To encourage development that reflects the historic nature and elements of the Town.
- ♣ To explore options for incentives and programs to ensure preservation and complementary development.
- 4 To promote Gravelbourg as a destination community with "A Touch of Europe.
- → To provide opportunities for the development of specialty shops that offer a different experience from large-scale retail spaces.
- To work with business owners, the Chamber of Commerce and other stakeholders to adopt and commit to the Town slogan.
- ♣ To continue to expand opportunities of goods and services that reflects the unique characteristics of Gravelbourg.

General Policies

- .1 New developments within the Town shall be encouraged to include historic elements that complement the community's existing built form.
- .2 The Town may create incentives and programs to encourage consistency in building and development characteristics.
- .3 The Town should work with business owners, the Chamber of Commerce and stakeholders to adopt the Town slogan of "A little touch of Europe on the Prairies" to encourage similar building design and opportunities for events and initiatives.
- .4 To provide a unique experience, the Town should encourage and explore opportunities to develop locally made products that reflect the theme and character of the community.
- .5 The Town shall promote access for people of all ages, ethnicities, cultural backgrounds and accessibilities to a wide range of arts and cultural opportunities and activities that contribute to quality of life and social well-being.

3.5 Recreation and Tourism

The Town of Gravelbourg offers a number of recreational services and amenities (see Reference Map in Appendix "B1"). For recreational amenities there is an indoor swimming pool, baseball diamonds, bowling lanes, golf course, skating and curling rink, karate club, and fitness centre. There are numerous green and park spaces available that are easily accessible for people of different ages and accessibilities.

The Thomson Lake Regional Park and the Shamrock Regional Park are located only minutes away and provide other recreational and leisure opportunities. It has been identified by community members that these are important features for the Town and they wish to see these amenities maintained.

Objectives

- ♣ To maintain and promote existing community and recreational amenities and services offered in Gravelbourg.
- ♣ To explore opportunities such as funding sources that can assist in enhancing community and recreational amenities.
- ♣ To identify gaps and opportunities for age specific community and recreational amenities and services.
- ♣ To maintain the Gravelbourg community forest.
- ♣ To encourage multi-seasonal activities.

General Policies

- .1 The Town of Gravelbourg shall encourage the maintenance of existing community and recreational amenities and facilities. These amenities and services shall be promoted locally and regionally.
- .2 In order to enhance community and recreational amenities, the Town should seek funding opportunities in the form of grants, private-public partnerships, and cost-sharing with surrounding municipalities.



- .3 The Town should engage the community to identify opportunities for other community and recreational services. Age specific developments for seniors and youth shall be considered.
- .4 Public spaces and facilities shall be maintained and promoted for functions, events, festivals, and other uses that promote community development.
- .5 The Town alongside community organizations and committees shall maintain and continue to grow the community forest. The forest may be the start of other like initiatives in the Town including the creation of a community garden.
- .6 The Town of Gravelbourg shall continue to support and participate on the Thomson Lake Regional Park Board.

Recreation Policies

.7 Existing recreational amenities such as the swimming pool, rink, ball diamonds and parks shall be maintained and enhanced when there is opportunity to do so and it is within the financial means of the Town of Gravelbourg, respecting other budgetary needs.

- .8 The Town of Gravelbourg shall encourage and provide multi-seasonal recreational amenities. The Town shall encourage joint-use facilities when it makes sense to do so.
- .9 Park space, green space, and natural areas shall be maintained to an aesthetically appealing and most natural state where possible in order to prevent any long term negative effects on the lands.
- .10 New recreational developments such as a skate and bike park or spray park may be pursued in the Town when it is financially viable to do so.



- .11 The maintenance and possible expansion of playgrounds shall be encouraged and be interspersed throughout the community to ensure children have close access to recreational amenities near their home.
- .12 Recreational amenities shall be considered in locations which meet the following criteria:
 - a. The additional development shall not conflict with existing land uses;
 - b. Access to the development shall meet municipal standards;
 - c. There shall be a demonstrated demand for new recreational facilities; and
 - d. Buffer strip requirements shall be followed.
- .13 Future recreational uses in Gravelbourg shall include the development of structures, buildings, and landscaped areas which, without limiting innovation and marketing attributes, are compatible with adjacent uses and ensure a high level of visual and aesthetic quality.
- .14 The Town shall encourage landscape designs that complement the intended use of an area.
- .15 Where a proposed recreational development arises in an environmentally sensitive area, the developer must undertake an assessment of the environmental impacts. Mitigation measures may be required to ensure the protection of land and water resources.

Tourism Policies

- .16 The Town should consider the development of a tourism plan to market the community and what it has to offer.
- .17 Promotion of the Regional Parks shall be encouraged by the Town.
- .18 The Town will continue to collaborate with neighbouring communities on joint initiatives and events for the benefit of the region as a whole.

3.6 Community Services and Public Health and Safety

The public health and safety of community members is important to the Town of Gravelbourg. The Town is committed to ensuring health care services continue to operate in the community and strives to expand on other public health and safety amenities and services when feasible.

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The St. Joseph's Hospital and Foyer d'Youville was opened in 1996 and offers a number of services including general medical inpatient care with 9 beds, outpatient services, diagnostic services including radiology, laboratory and electrocardiography, respite care, outreach program, palliative care, convalescent care, long term care with 50 beds, and has 3 doctors.

Educational opportunities in Gravelbourg are excellent and unique as this community has schools that offer English and French. Educational facilities include the Gravelbourg Elementary School (K to 7); Gravelbourg High School (8 to 12); L' École Beau-Soleil (francophone classes from K to 7; and L' École secondaire Collège Mathieu (francophone classes from 8 to 12). There are also two daycares located in the community and one post-secondary facility, Collège Mathieu.

Day care services are also available in the Town and there are a number of clubs, organizations and committees to join that are specifically targeted at anglophone or francophone cultures.

Also included within the community is a local RCMP detachment that employs five police officers and patrols the Town and surrounding region. The volunteer Fire Department is on a voluntary basis and includes a Fire Chief and twenty-one firefighters.

Objectives

- 👃 To work with neighbouring municipalities and agencies to maintain and promote ongoing health and emergency services in the Town.
- ♣ To ensure police and firefighting services meet the needs of the community.
- Let To increase the number of skillsets of health professionals in the area.
- To maintain and support our health care facilities and services.
- To maintain and promote our educational facilities.
- To ensure emergency planning is conducted in a fair and efficient manner.

Community Service Policies

- .1 The Town will work with service delivery agencies, other municipalities, and other jurisdictions by:
 - a. Participating in activities enhancing the delivery of services;
 - b. Assisting in site planning for public service uses;
 - c. Ensuring infrastructure development that supports public service uses;
 - d. Supporting, as appropriate, the joint use of community facilities as a means of providing cost efficient services to the public;
 - e. Accommodating public service development



- in appropriate locations in the community, compatible with existing land uses as may be permitted by the Zoning Bylaw; and
- f. Entering into collaborative inter-municipal or inter-agency agreements.
- .2 The Town will ensure that adequate land and buildings are made available to a full range of institutional, public, and community services. The development of institutional, recreational, or cultural facilities shall be encouraged to be located where services can be shared or have a jointuse.
- .3 The Town will consider energy-efficient designs, when practicable respecting financial constraints, in design or alteration of buildings and amenities.
- .4 Proposed community service developments will be evaluated based on their location, site layout and proper vehicular access, compatibility of land use, and access to municipal services.
- .5 The Town of Gravelbourg supports the educational facilities in the community and will correspond with the School Divisions to ensure they are maintained. These facilities will also be promoted as public gathering spaces for community events when permitted by the School Division and appropriate.
- .6 The Town of Gravelbourg shall continue to support health amenities and services in the community and participate in discussions with the Five Hills Health Region and surrounding communities on service expansion and health care personnel recruitment.

Public Health and Safety Policies

- .7 Public safety and health requirements shall guide all development. The Town shall ensure that Emergency and Response Plans are current and reflect changes in land use or activities.
- .8 Firefighting requirements will be considered as a part of every re-zoning application, subdivision review and servicing agreement.
- .9 The Town is encouraged to utilize FireSmart¹ principles for subdivisions planned within and adjacent to fire hazard areas.
- .10 Emergency planning needs to be undertaken before an event to identify risk and to research risk reduction measures that lower the probability of an event occurring. An understood and practiced plan needs to be maintained.
- .11 The Town shall encourage the maintenance and on-going service of the local ambulance to the local and regional community members.
- .12 The Town, in conjunction with community clubs, organizations, and advocacy groups shall promote healthy lifestyles for community members by ensuring health support and recreational opportunities are available in the community.

¹ FireSmart principles and resources can be found at the following website: http://www.environment.gov.sk.ca/firesmart

.13 The Town shall promote the community's small town charm and safety to encourage young families to stay in the community.

3.7 Culture, Heritage, and Spirituality

Culture is celebrated in the Town of Gravelbourg through the diversity of backgrounds. The Town was historically a French settlement but over time the anglophone presence grew substantially. In more recent years, Gravelbourg has attracted a variety of other cultures and has established itself as a regional leader in this regard. Bringing cultures together is important to the community and expression of culture and spirituality is supported. This is done through various events and initiatives.



The culture of the community is intertwined with the

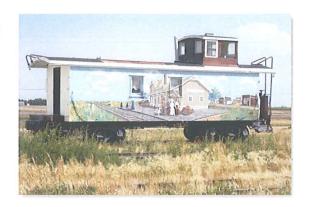
buildings and history that have been preserved and passed on through generations. There is a heritage walking tour that may be self-guided or guided, if arranged in advance, that showcases the historic attractions of the Town of Gravelbourg. Of particular note on the tour is the Our Lady of Assumption Co-Cathedral, the image of which has come to represent the community, as well as the Bishop's Residence and Convent of Jesus and Mary. Though these are the buildings most often used to showcase the Gravelbourg experience, there are many other beautiful and historic buildings featured in the tour.

Objectives

- To protect heritage and cultural resources and assets in Gravelbourg.
- ♣ To encourage the use of existing community spaces for arts, culture, and heritage initiatives.
- ♣ To value and celebrate diversity and strengthen opportunities for cultural interaction and representation in Gravelbourg.
- ♣ To support and enable cross-cultural initiatives in the community and develop opportunities for diverse cultural expression in civic spaces and places.
- To collaborate with neighbouring municipalities, First Nations communities, and organizations to create a regional arts sector.
- To ensure that a wide range of cultural spaces are available and affordable.

General Policies

- .1 The Town shall continue to promote heritage and cultural assets, amenities, and sites through continuation of an inventory of cultural and heritage sites, heritage tours, map of assets, and heritage and tourism pamphlets.
- .2 The Town will explore opportunities to work with owners of cultural and heritage resources to ensure their presence and sustainability in the community for the benefit of present and future generations.



- .3 Heritage and cultural resources will be protected from incompatible or potentially incompatible land uses which may threaten their integrity or operation. The protection of these resources from incompatible development will be regulated by the Zoning Bylaw.
- .4 The Town of Gravelbourg shall collaborate with neighbouring communities and municipalities to identify heritage and cultural assets in order to protect, maintain, and market these important assets, amenities, and sites for community members and visitors.
- .5 At the time of subdivision, Environmental Reserve and/or Municipal Reserve may be used to protect and preserve certain portions of land that may have any cultural and/or heritage significance.
- .6 The Town should support the efforts of senior governments, public agencies, organizations, individuals, and the private sector to fund or otherwise enable affordable and appropriate commercial space for visual art, theatre and dance studios, galleries and non-profit offices.
- .7 The Town encourages and supports the utilization of public spaces, especially outdoor spaces that can be used for winter celebration, which is essential to creating a culture and seasonality
 - of the community because the seasons of Canada are an inseparable part of Canadian and local culture that should be celebrated.

Heritage Policies

.8 The Town will recognize and celebrate the Town's heritage through public awareness and education efforts, consider establishing a heritage inventory and reserve fund, consider heritage incentives, regulatory controls and on-going monitoring.



.9 The Town will work with the Provincial Heritage Resources Branch and other agencies to develop a local catalogue for local heritage buildings, sites, landmarks, and districts.

- .10 The Town will utilize the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* to guide and inform conservation projects on historic places which are owned, regulated, funded, or guided by the municipality.
- .11 The Town will move forward where criteria is met, for the designation of respective buildings, sites, and districts either municipally, or where applicable, provincially, nationally, and internationally.
- .12 The Town will be a role model for the creative use and adaptive reuse of Town-owned heritage buildings and properties, including excellence in maintenance and restoration.
- .13 The Town shall encourage opportunities for the reuse, rehabilitation, preservation, or restoration of the many historic buildings found in Gravelbourg.

Cultural Policies

- .14 The Town shall encourage the continued development of arts and cultural programming in the community and ensure adequate space is provided for cultural events and initiatives.
- .15 The contribution of public art will be greatly encouraged, and be located in areas of high pedestrian use or vehicular travel.
- .16 The Town will continue to develop and enhance Gravelbourg as a centre for arts and entertainment, and a catalyst for community cultural development through facility, project, operating grants, co-ordinated marketing and product placement, and strategic planning for capital investment in existing and new supportive infrastructure.
- .17 The Town will continue to support community-based arts organizations through grants, incentives, and other means.
- .18 The Town shall support the production and delivery of a wide range of arts and cultural activities, community celebrations, signature events and festivals that engage and are enjoyed by residents and visitors.



- .19 The Town should incorporate public art that relates to the Town's natural, social, and built environment into both public and private sector development and projects.
- .20 The Town will support creative strategies, practices, and partnerships that cross boundaries, fuse different traditions, encourage cross cultural understanding, and celebrate the Town's distinct cultural identity.

- .21 The Town will work with community partners in tourism, economic development, health and social service sectors to realize the value of arts and cultural activity and events in attracting visitors and residents.
- .22 The Town will continue to foster community-led arts and culture programs that engage local residents, organizations and business owners.

3.8 Community Economic Development

The Town of Gravelbourg offers a wide variety of commercial and industrial services and wants to promote these services to residents and visitors. The community is in support of expanding commercial and industrial services to increase economic development in the Town. While there is support for expansion of commercial and industrial developments, the Town wants to ensure such developments complement the community and do not have negative effects on the safety and well-being of residents.

Objectives

- ♣ To support and maintain existing commercial and industrial businesses within the Town of Gravelbourg.
- ↓ To work with and support the Gravelbourg Chamber of Commerce.
- To maintain existing home-based businesses and accommodate new ones where appropriate.
- To encourage technology and technological advancements in economic development and industry.

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General Policies

- .1 Working together with community members and organizations, the Town shall continue to support the Gravelbourg Chamber of Commerce to provide assistance and support for existing and new businesses in the Town.
- .2 Business activities shall include the development of structures, buildings, and landscaped areas that are compatible with adjacent uses and ensure a high level of visual and aesthetic quality. The Future Land Use Map (Appendix "A") indicates areas designated for commercial and industrial development.
- .3 The Town shall work with business, nongovernmental organizations, community groups, conservation authorities, education and economic development agencies, other municipalities, and





First Nations representatives of other levels of government to:

- a. Initiate inter-community cooperation to coordinate the efficient provision of services and infrastructure;
- b. Promote environmentally and economically sustainable developments;
- c. Stimulate population growth to support social-economic development; and
- d. Coordinate local and senior government economic and social development initiatives.
- .4 The Town shall consult with individuals, business owners, and organizations to identify initiatives or incentive programs that would encourage businesses and enterprises to locate in the Town.

Highway Commercial and Industrial Policies

- .5 Landscaping only zones shall be established in the Zoning Bylaw to provide a buffer between differing land uses.
- .6 Residential development shall be discouraged in Highway Commercial/Industrial Areas.
- .7 Highway commercial and industrial development requiring rezoning of land will be evaluated based on the following factors:
 - a. Consistency with the Future Land Use Map and any other relevant reference maps;
 - b. Site planning land use compatibility with existing development;
 - c. The capacity of the Town to provide efficient and economical municipal services, at a cost that can be borne by the development;
 - d. Provision for safe movement and integration of vehicular traffic on local streets and with controlled access to the highways;
 - e. The site shall have direct and approved access to a major public road system; and
 - f. The development shall not have adverse impacts on groundwater.
- .8 A wide variety of lot sizes will be provided to ensure the availability of land for a broad range of activities. Highway commercial and industrial areas shall be provisioned with adequate infrastructure that can accommodate these developments in a timely, economical, and environmentally sustainable manner.
- .9 Where necessary, the Town may acquire land for industrial and commercial development through purchase or exchange of lots.



- .10 The Town will assist the appropriate agencies to identify potentially contaminated sites that may exist in the community and cooperate in the development of appropriate mitigation plans for those sites. Incentives may be considered for redevelopment of brownfield sites so long as the development includes undertaking appropriate environmental assessments.
- .11 Care shall be taken in situating industrial uses that normally create very significant land use conflicts with regard to noise, vibration, smoke, dust odor or potential environmental

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contamination. Such uses shall be encouraged to find a location that maximizes separation from residential areas and shall be visually screened at the expense of the owner or otherwise buffered to protect adjacent land uses.

Hazardous Use Policies

- .12 Facilities or developments which manufacture, handle, store or distribute hazardous materials will be governed by the following:
 - a. Hazardous facilities shall not be located closer to dwellings than permitted or recommended by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment;
 - b. Anhydrous ammonia facilities shall be located a minimum 100 meters (328 ft) from provincial highways and municipal roadways;
 - c. Where new development or expansion of a potentially hazardous use is proposed, information may be required relating to the nature of any potential discharges into the air, soil or water, the nature of outside storage requirements, the compatibility of surrounding land uses, and plans for buffering such activities from adjacent uses; and
 - d. In instances where the risk is severe, development may be directed to a suitable rural location.
- .13 Hazardous industries shall be required to locate in, or adjacent to, areas of concentrated use or in new industrial parks. Hazardous industries must be approved by applicable Provincial and Federal environmental agencies and provide clear evidence of compliance with *The Saskatchewan Fire Code, The Environmental Management and Protection Act, The Dangerous Goods Transportation Act, The Fire Prevention Act, The National Building Code,* and other applicable codes and standards.
- .14 Oil and gas related industries shall be encouraged when proposing to locate in areas that are suitable for this type of development.
- .15 Use-specific industries that exhibit a potential level of hazard or environmental impact which can only be mitigated through spatial separation shall be located according to the separation distances outlined by the appropriate provincial agencies. Industries considered hazardous due to the transport, handling, bulk storage, or use of hazardous materials shall be discouraged.

3.9 Natural and Ecological Resources

The Town of Gravelbourg is surrounded by agricultural lands. There has been no exploration for other resources such as oil and gas or potash. The Town is committed to ensuring it preserves the pristine agricultural landscape that surrounds the community and other sensitive ecological and open natural areas. The Town has taken precautionary measures to reduce the risk of flooding in the Town. This includes the development of dykes that surround the Town.

Dedication of Municipal or Environmental Reserve lands will be done when and where it makes sense. These lands offer opportunities for shared management, local capacity and relationship building. Strong emphasis is made towards the placement of municipal reserve to protect natural features to ensure adequate open space for community use.

Objectives

- To acknowledge and protect natural, environmental features and systems within the Town.
- To encourage development and management practices that preserve and enhance the natural environment and minimize the risk of contamination or damage.
- To extend the responsibility for sound environmental management to property owners and developers.
- To ensure new developments provide for adequate green space or municipal reserve where required.

General Policies

- .1 The Town of Gravelbourg will work with provincial departments and agencies to identify significant:
 - a. Critical wildlife habitat and rare or endangered species within the municipality; and
 - b. Wetlands and other sensitive environmental regions within the municipal boundaries.
- .2 Natural areas and habitats shall be protected from incompatible or potentially incompatible uses where:
 - a. Rare or endangered flora and fauna have received Provincial designation and protection;
 - b. Lands are designated so under the Wildlife Habitat Protection Act, and amendments;
 - c. Private lands that have been voluntarily protected by landowners;
 - d. Lands are designated under a variety of other environmental protection legislation or policies;
 - e. An aquifer is found or located (efforts to sustain the livelihood of this natural resource will be made);
 - f. The area is used for recreational purposes including bird watching or designated areas for hunting, where designated; and
 - g. Lands are designated natural prairie or grasslands.
- .3 Future development shall integrate the natural surroundings and shall complement the surrounding community design, landscape, and vegetation. Natural areas and sensitive environmental areas shall be identified and protected where human activities may create the potential to stress the environment.
- .4 The Town shall consider the ecological value, integrity and management of wetlands, riparian areas, significant natural landscapes and regional features, and provincially designated lands.
- .5 Retaining and expanding upon green space within the Town including: a healthy stock of urban trees/forest, community gardens, and tree nurseries shall be encouraged to ensure the natural environment can be enjoyed by all members of the community.

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- .6 The Town shall encourage residents to keep a healthy stand of trees upon their properties in order to mitigate the transmission of disease affecting trees in the community.
- .7 When reviewing applications for development, consideration shall be given to the proposal's conformity with the policies of this Plan. A proposal shall be denied when it is detrimental to the health, safety, and general welfare or persons residing or working in the area, or incompatible with existing or proposed land uses in the vicinity.
- .8 Adequate surface water drainage will be required throughout the Town and on new development sites to avoid flooding, erosion and pollutions. Consideration shall be given to the ecological, habitational and drainage effects of development, including the upstream and downstream implications.
- .9 Developers may be required to provide a Comprehensive Development Review with information pertaining to environmental qualities, vegetation, drainage, and soil reports prepared by accredited professionals as a means of ensuring the required provisions and criteria of the proposed development are met.
- .10 Aggregate extraction developments shall be compatible with existing and planned land uses and such development is operated with minimal disturbance to the environment and aquifers.
- .11 Buffer strips should be maintained adjacent to watercourses and water bodies to allow for protection measures against erosion, sediment control and flood hazards, as well as buffering around heavy industrial and oil related activities. Wetlands shall be preserved for the benefit they serve as catchment basins for drainage.

Natural Hazard Policies

- .12 Natural hazard lands include the following:
 - a. Lands subject to flooding around main water bodies within the municipality, including all lands which would be flooded by the 1:500 year flood event, or in any flood prone area, unless the development is above the elevation representing the 1:500 year return frequency flood event;
 - b. Lands subject to instability or erosion; or
 - c. Lands in areas subject to ponding based upon historical information and specific site analysis.
- .13 No new development shall be permitted in any potentially unstable slope area without undertaking erosion and/or slope stability investigation to address:
 - a. The interests of the municipality; and
 - b. To ensure that the developer and/or property owner reasonably assess the hazards relative to the proposed development. The development standards and permitted uses for the Natural Hazard Areas will be provided in the Zoning Bylaw.
- .14 It may not be practical or desirable to restrict certain development in hazard areas due to economic or social reasons. Development shall be carefully controlled and planned to ensure that they are compatible with the risks or that the hazards have been eliminated or protected against. In these instances, the following criteria shall be applied:

- a. Proposed developments shall not obstruct, increase or otherwise adversely alter water and flood flows and velocities;
- b. There shall be no added risk to life, health or personal safety;
- c. Structures and services must be protected against flood damage and shall be fully functional during hazard conditions;
- d. Activities which alter existing slopes and may accelerate or promote erosion or bank instability shall be prohibited, unless appropriate mitigation measures are taken to minimize the potential of such erosion or bank instability; and
- e. Existing tree and vegetation cover shall be preserved where appropriate to reduce erosion and maintain bank stability.

Surface Water and Drainage Policies

- .15 Adequate surface water drainage will be required throughout the Town and on new development sites to avoid flooding, erosion and pollution. Consideration shall be given to the ecological, wildlife habitat and drainage effects of development, including the upstream and downstream implications.
- .16 Where an area has formerly shown or exhibits potential for poor drainage due to snowmelt or prolonged rainfall events, all proposed building sites shall be located outside of those areas whenever possible. Otherwise, the proponent shall provide a suitable amount of fill at the building site to provide a satisfactory level of protection for the buildings.
- .17 Unauthorized drainage of surface water runoff from any land throughout the Town shall be prohibited. Water courses shall not be filled or altered without the prior approval of the Water Security Agency, Ministry of the Environment and the Town of Gravelbourg. The Town encourages the preparation on overall drainage plan for Gravelbourg and the surrounding region.

Municipal and Environmental Reserve Policies

- .18 Subdivision applicants will be required to dedicate the full amount of Municipal Reserve owing in the forms provided for in The Planning and Development Act, 2007.
- .19 Subdivision applicants will be required to dedicate, as Environmental Reserve, all lands in an area to be subdivided that can be defined as Environmental Reserve in accordance with the provisions of The Planning and Development Act, 2007.



.20 Public, Municipal, and Environmental Reserves may be used for active and passive recreation, the development of continuous pedestrian linkages, for natural drainage courses, storm or runoff water retention, or other similar uses.

- .21 Land provided as an Environmental Reserve becomes the property of the municipality. The applicant may be required to provide any amount of land in any location that the approving authority considers necessary, if the land consists of:
 - a. A ravine, coulee, swamp, natural drainage or creek bed;
 - b. Wildlife habitat of areas that:
 - i. Are environmentally sensitive; or
 - ii. Contain historical features or significant natural features.
- .22 Public reserves that support a combination of parks, green spaces, nature reserves, and recreational facilities will be encouraged.
- .23 New subdivisions must include municipal reserve linking the area to existing development. The use of municipal reserve dedication for recreational function shall be encouraged including the consolidation of reserve land into larger parks and the provision of trail linkages between these parks and through Town when possible.
- .24 Critical or threatened habitat and environmentally sensitive areas shall be designated as Environmental Reserve within the Town.

3.10 Ground and Source Water Protection

Water is a natural resource and ensuring it is being used sustainably is important to community members. When new developments are being considered, the quality of water needs to be carefully considered. The Town has opportunities to work with various agencies and organizations to promote water resources while also ensuring that those resources are protected.

Objectives

- ♣ To protect and maintain water resources and quality for the benefit of community members and visitors.
- ♣ To give consideration to ground and source water in areas of new development and redevelopment.
- ♣ To ensure that new developments do not jeopardize ground and source water resources.
- ♣ To work with the Saskatchewan Water Security Agency to monitor development and ensure protection of the aquifers.

General Policies

.1 Development shall not deplete or pollute groundwater resources within the Town. Investigations to assess the impact of development on groundwater resources including drainage may be required in order to protect aquifers and their supply. The Saskatchewan Water Security Agency will be utilized as a source of technical advice and in determining the method of protection required in circumstances which may include:

- Ensuring that the development and on-going operation of activities associated with the land use will not pose a risk or cause pollution of the soil, surface water or groundwater resources; and
- b. The municipal footprint and any precautionary measures which are required to be taken to sufficiently mitigate the potential risks of endangering soil, surface and groundwater resources.
- .2 Development should avoid any alteration to drainage, landscape, or other natural conditions and shall be required to mitigate on and off-site impacts. Detailed analysis by a qualified engineer shall include studies for water quantity and quality, septic services, shoreline erosion and any works required to support the proposed development.
- .3 Proponents may be required to obtain comments, recommendations, and requirements from appropriate referral agencies or private consultants regarding water supply quality and quantity considerations, waste or manure management plans, and other issues that may be required for the purpose of ensuring public health and safety.
- .4 All development near any water bodies will be complementary to the natural features of the surrounding area. All development shall be in accordance with the 25 Year Water Security Plan.

Aquifer Policies

- .5 Care must be taken in the storage, handling, manufacturing, and use of products on sites related to aquifer areas to avoid contamination of the underlying aquifer.
- .6 All applications for development near aquifers shall be accompanied by a report certified by a professional engineer that shall address site design, waste water management, and hazardous materials handling, storage and disposal, descriptions of physical/facility-specific structures, and plans and standards.
- .7 The Town of Gravelbourg shall work cooperatively with Saskatchewan Water Security Agency (WSA) to monitor ground water resources and may require annual assessment of residual nutrient levels in the soil, ground, and local surface water by a qualified professional recognized by WSA demonstrating:
 - a. The development and on-going operation of activities with the land use will not pose a risk or cause pollution of the soil, surface water or groundwater resources; and
 - b. The precautionary measures which are required to be taken to sufficiently mitigate the potential risks of endangering soil, surface, and groundwater quality resource.

3.11Transportation Networks and Infrastructure

The Town is located within a well-travelled corridor, and is approximately 110 kilometers from the Cities of Moose Jaw and Swift Current, and the United States border. The area is served by Highway #43 eastwest and Highway #58 north-south, both of which are paved. The community is also located 72 kilometers south of the Trans-Canada Highway.

The community also has an airport that is located on the west side of Town. It includes a 2,500 foot by 75 foot paved runway, taxi strip and apron. The runway is night-lit and has capacity for light aircraft.

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Other transportation services include the Saskatchewan Transportation Company bus service that is available weekly, travelling to Moose Jaw, Regina, and Shaunavon.

The Town wants to ensure that there is priority in the maintenance of public works and facilities. The Town is committed to providing these services to the community in a safe and sustainable manner through investigating new and innovative options.

The Reference Maps in Appendix "B7" and "B8" illustrate the water and sewer distribution lines throughout the Town.

Objectives

- ♣ To ensure the road network in Gravelbourg is well-maintained and prioritized for improvements.
- ♣ To ensure that road design permits safe and convenient vehicle, pedestrian and bicycle circulation.
- ♣ To provide an acceptable level of recycling, solid waste, and collection and disposal that is economical and environmentally progressive.
- ♣ To maintain appropriate utility service levels, planning to ensure that infrastructure in place is reasonable to accommodate planned or likely development.
- ♣ To maintain attractive residential, commercial, and industrial areas including roads, sidewalks, sewer, and water.
- To offer opportunities for sustainable utility provision within the community.

Water, Sewer and Other Utility Policies

- .1 The Town shall ensure proper maintenance and upkeep of public works, sewers, streets, maintenance yards, and other public utilities.
- .2 In accordance with *The Municipalities Act*, Council will prepare a capital works plan that will be coordinated with policies from the Official Community Plan, to ensure the effective and efficient control of development and public spending.
- .3 In managing growth and change, the Town shall maintain a long-term asset management plan to ensure growth will not place an undue strain on municipal infrastructure or public service facilities.
- .4 The planning, phasing, and development of water and sewer services will be based on:
 - a. Financial resources for the Town of Gravelbourg;
 - b. Conformance with environmental regulations;
 - c. The demand for services and the need for upgrading;
 - d. The logical extension of existing services; and
 - e. Growth trends.



- .5 The Town will encourage and educate residents and visitors on water and natural resource conservation to reduce over-consumption and reduce pressure on existing water infrastructure.
- .6 The Town will encourage balanced development that effectively utilizes existing utility infrastructure for infill development while exploring new types of renewable utility systems to accommodate for future land development.
- .7 For the subdivision of private land, the proponent will generally be responsible for all costs associated with providing municipal utility services negotiated through a servicing agreement.
- .8 The Town will continue to work with utility providers, including satellite, internet/cable, and cellular networks, to ensure that these utilities are maintained to a high quality.
- .9 The Town will work with neighbouring municipalities to provide recycling and compost options to the local and regional residents.
- .10 The Town will investigate opportunities for waste diversion programs, invest in additional waste-diversion infrastructure, and undertake public education to increase waste diversion, to extend the life of the landfill and promote the sustainability of the Town.
- .11 The Town will work with organizations, agencies, and neighbouring communities in providing and enhancing effective waste management and environmental protection.

Transportation Policies

- .12 Street classification of local, arterial, and collector streets should be established in order to promote orderly, safe, and efficient street systems. Control of access points and provision of service roads may be required in some instances.
- .13 The Town will encourage developments that will ensure safe access and egress from adjacent roadways without disrupting their transportation function.
- .14 Roadway and pedestrian linkages between the Town Centre and peripheral areas will be established or identified to ensure multiple modes of movement including pedestrian, bicycles, and vehicles.
- .15 The Town will continue to work with transportation agencies such as the Saskatchewan Transportation Company to ensure alternative transportation options are available for residents and visitors.
- .16 A network of pedestrian, cycling and other modes of transportation should be identified and made publicly available.



.17 The Town shall strive to provide and maintain year-round, safe, well-lit and convenient trails for pedestrians, scooters, and cyclists.

3.12 Inter-Municipal and Governmental Cooperation

The Town of Gravelbourg realizes the importance of strong relationships with adjacent municipalities, First Nations, and organizations. A number of opportunities exist for shared service and utility provision to local and regional members of the community.

Objectives

- To maintain positive and productive relationships with neighbouring municipalities and First Nations communities.
- ♣ To continue partnerships with public and private sectors for continuous improvement of service delivery at a regional level.
- To create open communications amongst stakeholders in different municipalities, agencies, and government orders.
- ♣ To investigate opportunities for shared-service provisions between municipalities.

General Policies

- .1 The Town shall continue to work in partnership with other jurisdictions, the adjacent Rural Municipalities and other agencies as a means of providing, sharing and funding community services effectively and efficiently.
- .2 The Town shall promote inter-municipal cooperation and public/private sector initiatives that focus on a cooperative approach to providing cost efficient services that optimize financial and infrastructure resources.
- .3 The Town shall pursue inter-municipal agreements to ensure that local and regional growth issues are addressed proactively. A coordinated, integrated, and comprehensive approach should be used when dealing with inter-municipal planning matters including:
 - a. Managing and/or promoting growth and development;
 - b. Managing natural heritage, water, agricultural, mineral, tourism, cultural, heritage and archaeological resources;
 - c. Infrastructure, public service facilities, energy generation, and waste management systems;
 - d. Ecosystem, shoreline, and watershed related issues;
 - e. Natural and human-made hazards; and
 - f. Population, housing, and employment projections, based on regional market areas.

Joint Management Area Policies

- .4 The Town shall ensure that development and land use patterns which are adjacent or in proximity to Gravelbourg that may have negative effects on future urban design and/or densities that may hinder the Town's expansion will be discouraged, or mitigated.
- .5 The Town will consult with the adjacent RM on the use of land in future development priority areas identified by the Town. An agreement between the Town and RM to manage development within these identified growth corridors should be explored, in order to prevent the need for early annexation of these lands by the Town.
- .6 Referrals from the RM respecting development proposals on nearby rural municipal lands will be evaluated based on the following guidelines:
 - a. The potential for land use conflict and compatibility with adjacent municipal development or planned development;
 - b. The impact on future land use;
 - c. The effect on municipal services and inter-municipal agreements for services to the rural area.
- .7 The Town may undertake to alter its boundaries to ensure that they are able to retain a 5-year supply of land or for the purposes of accommodating specific development proposals where Town services are required.

3.13 Future Urban Development

The Town of Gravelbourg does have opportunities to expand development within the Town boundaries. The Future Land Use Map in Appendix "A" includes areas for potential residential, commercial, industrial, and mixed uses, green spaces, and a walking trail. Future development will be determined based on current infrastructure capacities and needs of the community.

Objectives

- ♣ To plan for the possibility of urban expansion with regards to infrastructure, future land use and other services.
- ♣ To ensure development occurs in a manageable and sustainable manner.

General Policies

- .1 Future Urban Development Areas include:
 - a. Lands which are capable of being serviced with a full range of utilities though for which no overall area concept plan has been approved for the general area; or
 - b. Lands which are not readily capable of being serviced with a full range of utilities, and for which no concept plans have been approved.
- .2 Development and land use patterns which are adjacent, or in proximity to, urban areas that may have negative effects on future urban design and/or densities that may hinder expansion, will

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- be discouraged, or mitigated. This does not apply to such effects that arise in the course of normal, non-intensive farm operations.
- .3 The Town shall work with neighbouring municipalities and First Nations communities to discuss and coordinate future land use and development to ensure compatibility of uses and potential inter-municipal sharing.

Section 4: Special Planning Areas

The Town shall continue undertaking consultation and coordination with Federal and Provincial departments with regard to matters that may have an impact on lands outside of these jurisdictions including working in cooperation with First Nations respecting proposed developments on First Nations lands. This section is intended to identify the varying government jurisdictions and any areas where cooperation may be established.

4.1 Crown Lands

- .1 Crown lands are defined in the Province Lands Act and Regulations. Crown lands include agricultural lands and environmentally sensitive lands including waters or watercourses, easements, and resources such as mines and minerals.
- .2 The administration of Crown land is the responsibility of both Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture and Saskatchewan Environment. Ministry of Agriculture provides services for lease administration, oil and gas development, gravel exploration and extraction, Crown lease management assistance, and the sale of Crown land.
- .3 Crown Lands, just as deeded lands (those with title to an individual), are subject to *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*, and municipal bylaws, except in the specific designations such as Provincial Forest, and Provincial and Regional Parks. Municipalities work with the Ministries to develop complementary planning on these lands and several integrated resource management plans have been incorporated into Municipal bylaws.

4.2 First Nations, Treaty Land Entitlements and Urban Reserve

- .1 The Town of Gravelbourg shall improve relationships between First Nations parties to ensure a collaborative working body can be created. An invitation will remain open for First Nation Bands to participate in any planning processes.
- .2 Collaboration and integration of First Nations and Métis heritage and culture will be supported as a historical and present acknowledgement that The Town of Gravelbourg resides within the Treaty 4 lands area. This may be pursued through sharing of stories, art, gatherings, events and joint initiatives.
- .3 Where land within the municipality has been purchased by a First Nations band and it is pursuing reserve status through either the Treaty Land Entitlement process (TLEFA) or the Specific Claims process, to encourage compatible development, Council will offer to meet with the Band Council of the First Nation proposing the reserve to discuss and if possible, negotiate shared services, compatible bylaws and other matters of mutual interest.
- .4 Lands selected by a First Nation in an urban municipality are governed by The Treaty Land Entitlement Act, which requires an agreement between the First Nation and the affected municipality regarding tax loss compensation, municipal service provision, and any payments in lieu to the municipality, bylaw application and enforcement and an appropriate dispute resolution mechanism for solving matters of mutual concern.

Section 5: Administrative Tools

5.1 Action Planning

Successful implementation of this Plan depends to a large degree on whether its policies can guide local development and action in a variety of contexts over the next twenty to twenty-five years. This section contains policies to ensure that planning is sensitive to local conditions in specific locations of the Town of Gravelbourg, while at the same time advancing the Plan's core principles and building on its broad objectives.

To achieve the goals set out in this Official Community Plan, a clear plan of action or implementation strategy is required. An Action Plan template has been attached in this OCP for the Town of Gravelbourg's use as the Town may choose to undertake action planning as part of this Official Community Plan. Each action item will relate to the policy statements included in the Plan and will require the action items to be prioritized. The action items will be reviewed regularly to monitor progress and to determine if changes are required.

The Plan Guides Action

As a statutory document for guiding development and land use in the Town, the Plan gives direction to Council on their day-to-day decision making. The Plan's land use policy areas illustrated in the Future Land Use Map in "Appendix A" provides geographic references for the Municipality's policies. If the Town is to move closer to the future envisioned by the Plan, the Plan must guide other related decisions of Council. *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* requires that:

- Municipal bylaws and public works will conform to this Plan;
- The decisions and actions of Council and Municipal Administration, including public investment in services, service delivery and infrastructure, will be guided by this Plan; and
- Implementation plans, strategies and guidelines, consistent with this Plan will be adopted that shall identify priorities, detail strategies, define guidelines and actions, and advance the vision, goals and objectives of this Plan.

The Future is a Shared Responsibility

Communities are successful when all sectors cooperate with their time, effort, and resources to enhance the quality of life in the greater community or district. The Town of Gravelbourg, and other surrounding municipalities and First Nations communities can lead by example with engaged and informed residents to successfully guide the future by measuring the accomplishments made in environmental stewardship, economic development, community service provision, population growth, social planning, and the overall lifestyle available in Gravelbourg.

5.2 Implementation and Monitoring

Planning Tools

This section outlines the variety of traditional tools the Municipality has available to make things happen. *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* provides the authority that governs plans of development, zoning bylaws, servicing agreements, development levies, and review processes to ensure that the Plan is effective over the long term.

Definitions

The definitions contained in the Town of Gravelbourg Zoning Bylaw shall apply to this Official Community Plan and are not contradictory to this Plan. Any amendments to the Zoning Bylaw definitions shall ensure they do not conflict with the Official Community Plan.

Adoption of the Official Community Plan

Adoption of this Official Community Plan by the Town will give it the force of law. Once adopted, no development or land use change may be carried out within the area affected by the Official Community Plan that is inconsistent or at variance with the proposals or policies set out in the Official Community Plan.

By setting out goals, objectives, and policies, the Official Community Plan will provide guidance for the Town when making decisions regarding land use, zoning, servicing extension, and development in general. It will also provide the Town with the ability to provide input on future subdivision applications. These decisions must be made in conformity with the stated objectives and policies of this Plan to ensure that the goals for the future development of the municipality will be achieved.

The application of the Official Community Plan policies is illustrated in the Future Land Use Map contained in Appendix "A." This map is intended to illustrate the locations of the major land use designations within the Town. This map should not be interpreted in isolation without consideration of the balance of the Official Community Plan. The land use designations have been determined by a number of factors including existing patterns of land use, projected land needs, resource areas, natural attributes, and human made features.

The Official Community Plan will be implemented, in part; by the development-related decisions that will be made in the future. However, the two most important tools available for guiding the future development of the municipality are the Zoning Bylaw and the subdivision process; including associated agreements.

Adoption of the Municipal Zoning Bylaw

Following the adoption of the Official Community Plan, the Town of Gravelbourg is required to enact a Zoning Bylaw which will set out specific regulations for land use and development:

The Zoning Bylaw must generally conform to the Official Community Plan and future land use and development shall be consistent with the goals and objectives of this Plan;

- Future development will avoid land use conflict and meet minimum standards in order to maintain the amenity of the municipality;
- ♣ Zoning Bylaws designate areas for certain types of development. Permitted and discretionary uses and development standards are prescribed for each zone;
- Development will be consistent with the physical opportunities of the land and of reasonable engineering solutions;
- Undue demand shall not be placed on the municipality for services, such as roads, parking, water, sewers, waste disposal, and open space;
- The objectives and policies in the Official Community Plan provide guidance to Council when preparing the Zoning Bylaw or considering an amendment to the Zoning Bylaw.

Contract Zoning

For purposes of accommodating a rezoning for unique development situations, Council may consider entering into rezoning agreements, pursuant to provisions of *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*. The person applying for a rezoning agreement to have an area of land rezoned to permit the carrying out of a specified proposal, the council may enter into an agreement with the person setting out:

- a. A description of the proposal;
- b. Reasonable terms and conditions with respect to:
 - i. The uses of the land and buildings or the forms of development; and
 - ii. The site layout and external design, including parking areas, landscaping and entry and exit ways, but not including the colour, texture or type of materials and architectural detail.
- c. Time limits within which any part of the described proposal or terms and conditions imposed pursuant to clause (b) must be carried out;
- d. A condition that, on the rezoning of the land, none of the land or buildings shall be developed or used except in accordance with the proposal, terms and conditions and time limits prescribed in the agreement.

Section 69 of *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* contains the provisions on entering into a rezoning agreement. The following are additional guidelines:

- The rezoning to permit the development will not unduly conflict with adjacent land uses that are legally permitted uses within the proposed or adjacent Zoning District;
- The rezoning will be used to allow a specific use or range of uses contained within the Zoning District to which the land is being rezoned;
- The development or redevelopment of the site for the specific use will be of benefit to the immediate area and the municipality as a whole;
- The use of these zoning tools does not undermine the intent of the Plan or any affected legislation such as *The Condominium Act* or Environment or Health regulations.

Concept Plans

Concept plans represent design layout concepts prepared at the request of the Town Council to provide direction for how new developments:

- Ensure the efficient provision of infrastructure services;
- Demonstrate how site development will be organized to ensure compatibility with adjoining land uses and transportation systems; and
- ♣ Provide design features for special purposes such as landscaping, buffers, open space, and pedestrian and vehicular access.

In accordance with Section 44 of *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*, a Council may, as part of the Official Community Plan, adopt a concept plan for the purpose of providing a framework for subsequent subdivision and development of an area of land. The Council shall ensure that any concept plan is consistent with its Official Community Plan, and any part of a concept plan that is inconsistent with the Official Community Plan has no applicability insofar as it is inconsistent.

Comprehensive Development Reviews

A Comprehensive Development Review may be completed by any person proposing to rezone land for multi-parcel country residential, commercial, or industrial purposes. The purpose of this comprehensive review is to identify and address social, environmental, health and economic issues appropriately and to encourage the development of high quality residential, commercial, and industrial developments. This review proposes to address the following topics:

- Proposed land use(s) for various parts of the area;
- The effect on adjacent land uses and integration of the natural landscape regarding the planning and design of the area;
- The location of, and access to, major transportation routes and utility corridors;
- The provision of services respecting the planning for future infrastructure within the municipality;
- Sustainable development and environmental management practices regarding surface and groundwater resources, storm water management, flooding, and protection of significant natural areas:
- Appropriate information specific to the particular land use (residential, commercial, or industrial); and
- Proponents may be required to undertake and submit special studies as part of the approval process for certain types of development proposals. Engineering or other professional studies may be required including though not limited to, traffic studies to determine impacts upon the Municipality's road and highway system, assessments of lands affected by flooding or slope hazards, risks to endangered species, heritage resource conservation, potential for ground and surface water pollution, and general risk to health and the environment.

Development Levies and Agreements

Council may provide for a Development Levy Bylaw as specified in Sections 169 to 170 of *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*. Where a development is proposed that is of a greater density and requires the capital upgrading of services beyond those originally provided for in the subdivision of the land, Council may by Bylaw, provide for the recovery of those capital costs.

Council may adopt a Bylaw that specifies the circumstances when these direct or indirect levies will apply to the development based on the additional capital costs for services created by that development. The Bylaw will contain a schedule of the unit costs to be applied. Before adopting the Bylaw, Council will undertake studies necessary to define the benefiting areas and the unit costs associated with required capital upgrading of off-site services. The studies will be used to determine a fair level of development levy charges in relation to the subdivision fees.

Service Agreements

Council may establish a separate fee Bylaw for the collection of subdivision servicing charges that would be applied in a servicing agreement at the time of subdivision in accordance with Section 172 of *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*, at the time of subdivision approval to ensure that new subdivisions are developed to the standards of the Town and to address other concerns specific to the proposed subdivision.

Where Council requires a Servicing Agreement, the Agreement becomes a condition of approval of a subdivision by the approving authority. The Agreement will ensure that municipal standards are met for capital works and ensure that such infrastructure development costs are borne by the developer. A Servicing Agreement will be required by all subdivision proponents. The requirements, conditions, and fees relating to Service Agreements may vary depending upon the level of required services.

Subdivision Process

The Director of Community Planning for the Ministry of Government Relations is currently the approving authority for subdivisions in the Town of Gravelbourg. The Town has input into the subdivision procedure as follows:

- The municipality provides comments on all subdivision applications within the municipality.
- The municipality has an impact on the subdivision process through the Zoning Bylaw, since no subdivision can be approved that does not conform to the Zoning Bylaw. In the Zoning Bylaw, the municipality can establish the minimum area, width, or depth of lots, and other spatial and land use standards. Zoning is intended to implement the municipality's development policies, and to ensure that subdivisions contribute to achieve the long term goals of the municipality.
- In order for the subdivision to be completed in a timely manner, it is advisable to consult with the planning staff of the municipality before submitting a subdivision proposal to Government Relations.

Monitoring Performance

The Official Community Plan is a document intended to guide decision-making over the long term and is not a static document that commits the Town to an inflexible development policy. As new issues and concerns arise, or old ones change, the Plan shall be revised to meet these changes. The Plan shall be reviewed after five years, and before ten years, from the date of its adoption by Council to evaluate the Plan's current relevance regarding the stated goals, objectives, and policies.



The Official Community Plan must be kept up to date to ensure that the document will continue to appropriately address the development issues facing the Town and the greater community. New implementation initiatives will be needed and priorities will require adjustment in response to the varied and changing conditions in the municipality.

Amendment

On occasion, land uses and developments may be proposed that do not conform to the Official Community Plan. The Plan can be amended in accordance with *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*, to allow the new development to proceed, however, before any amendment is made, the impact of the proposed change on the rest of the Plan and the future development of the Town shall be examined. Any changes to it or the Zoning Bylaw shall be in the interest of the future development of the community as a whole. Through the process of periodical review, amendments to the Plan will allow the Plan to continue to serve as an effective guide for Council to make decisions regarding the future development of the Town.

Appendices

Appendix "A" – Future Land Use Map

Appendix "B" – Reference Maps

Appendix "B1" – Community, Park, and Recreational Amenities

Appendix "B2" – Health, Safety, and Emergency Services

Appendix "B3" – Heritage Sensitive Lands

Appendix "B4" – Heritage Buildings and Historic Places of Interest

Appendix "B5" – Main Street Heritage and Cultural Resources

Appendix "B6" – Transportation Hierarchy

Appendix "B7" – Water Distribution System

Appendix "B8" – Sewer System

Appendix "C" – Action Plan Table

Appendix "D" – Infrastructure Capacities

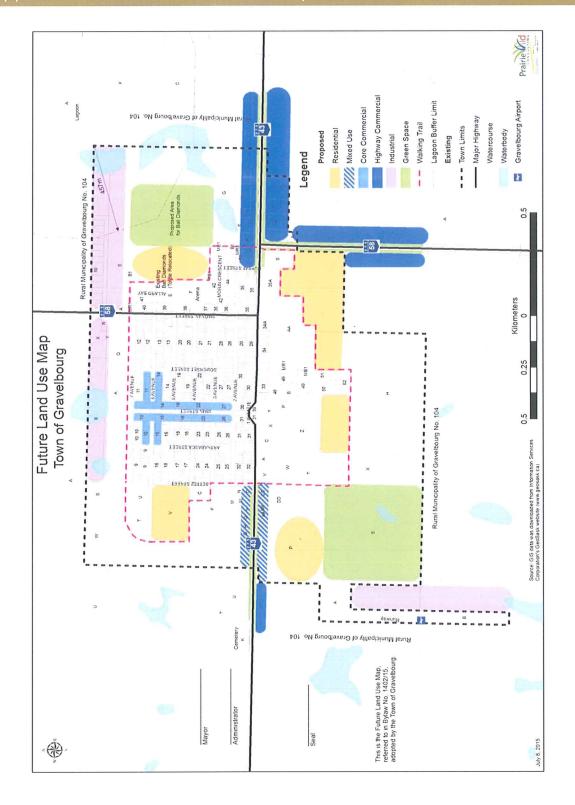
Appendix "E" – Community Profile

Appendix "F" – Community Voice and Engagement

Appendix "G" – Definition of Culture



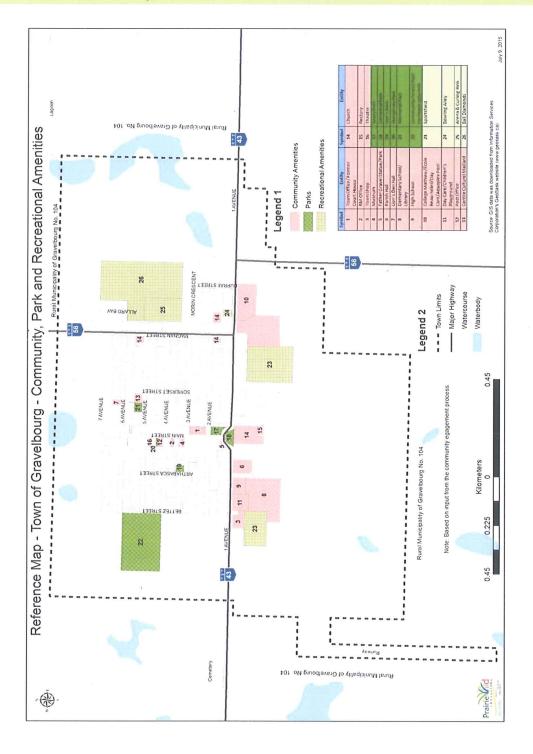
Appendix "A" – Future Land Use Map





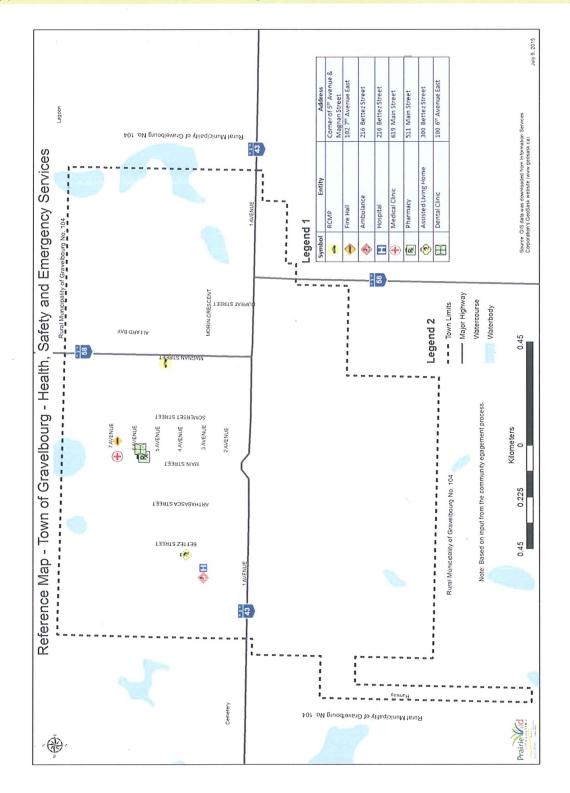
Appendix "B" – Reference Maps

Appendix "B1" – Community, Park and Recreational Amenities

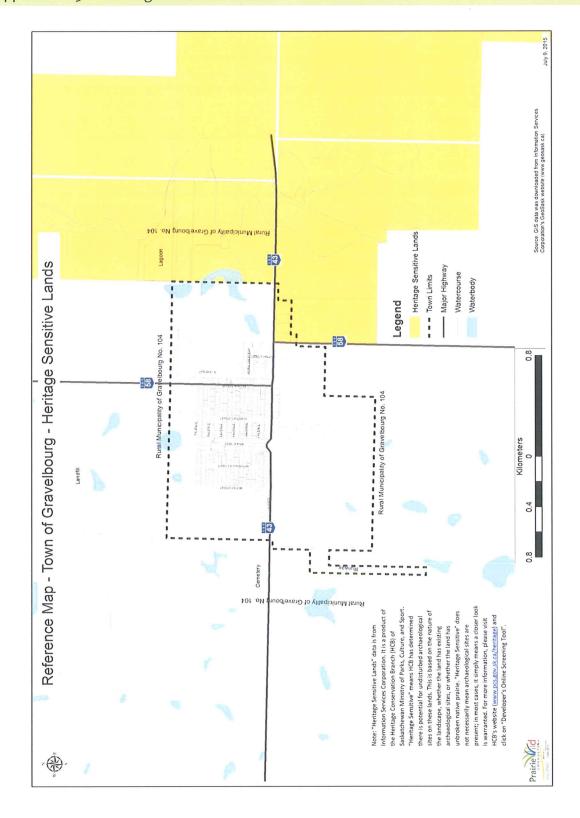




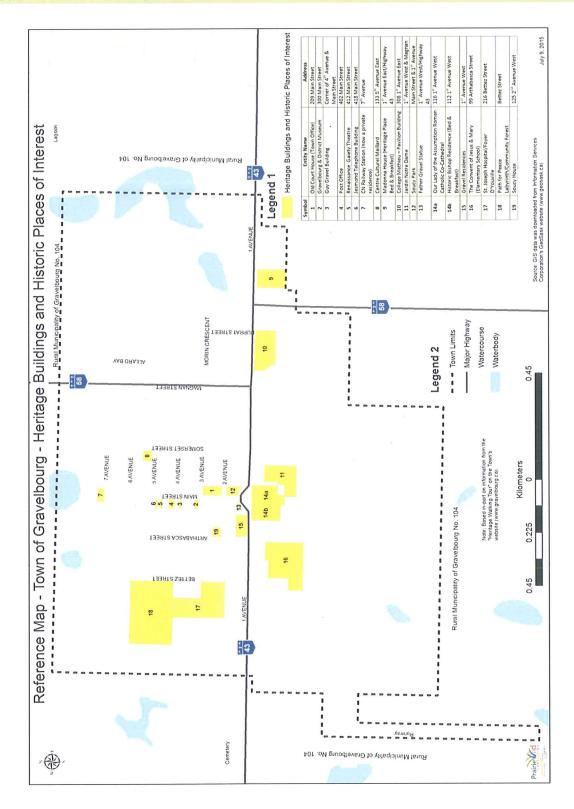
Appendix "B2" - Health, Safety and Emergency Services



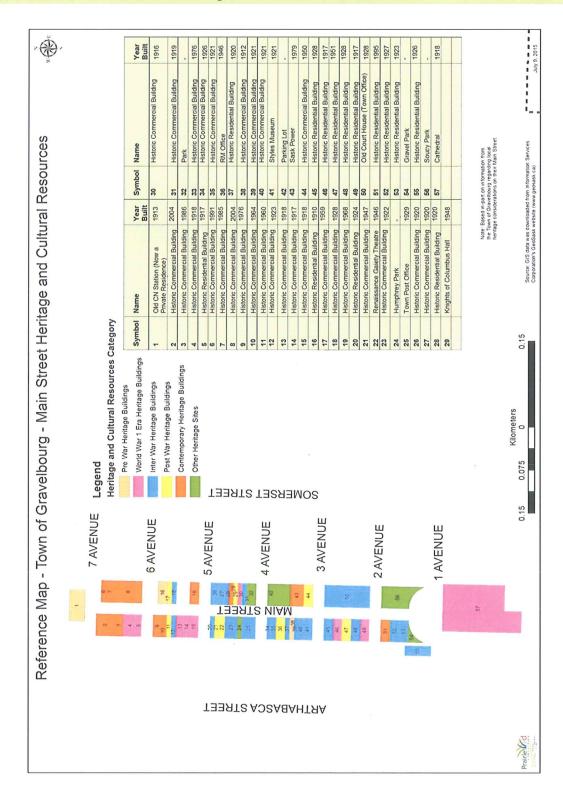




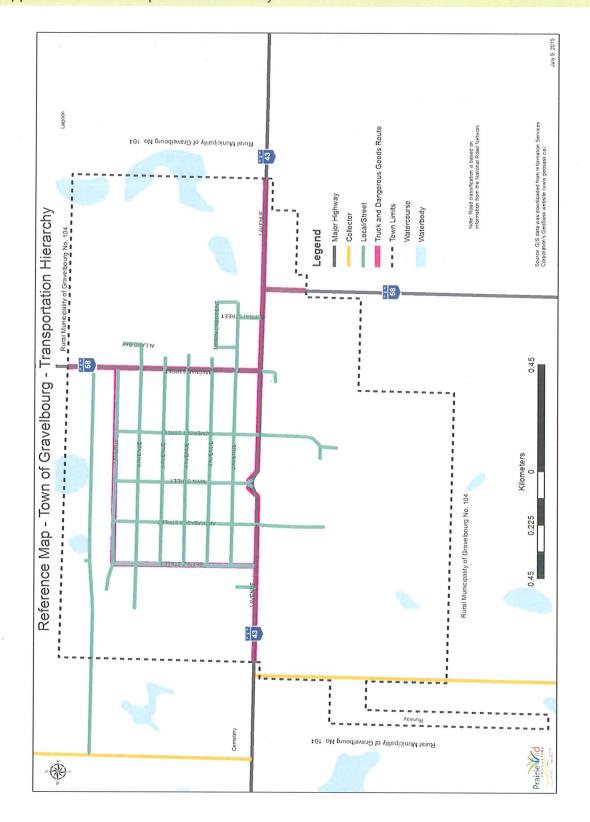
Appendix "B4" – Heritage Buildings and Historic Places of Interest



Appendix "B5" - Main Street Heritage and Cultural Resources

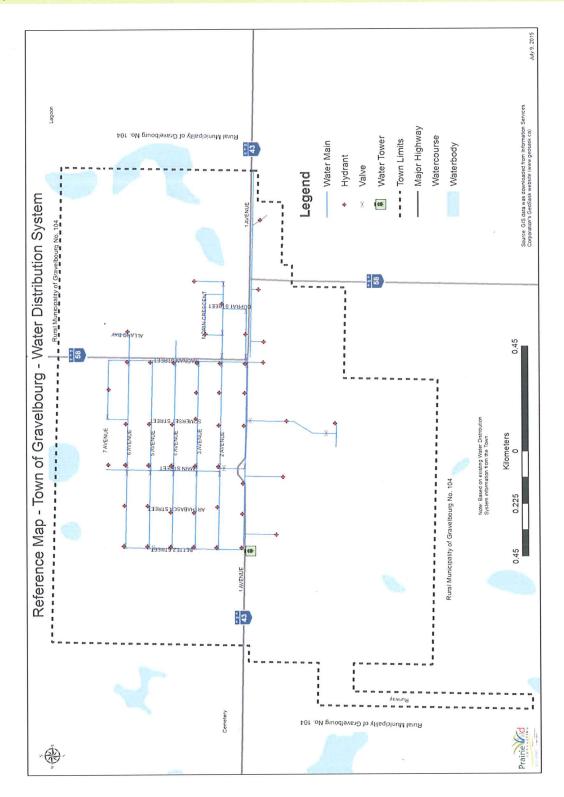




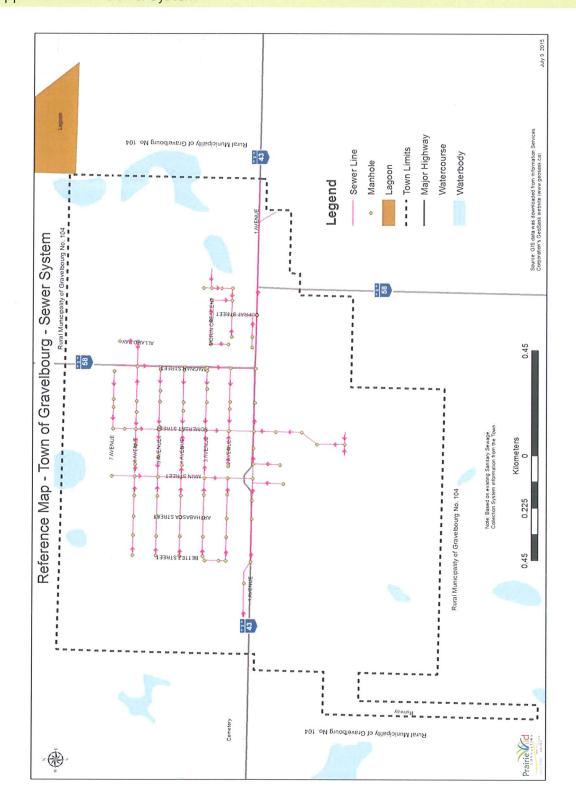




Appendix "B7" - Water Distribution System







Appendix "C" –	Appendix "C" – Action Plan Table						
Policy Section/ Action	Performance Goal/Aim	Policy Section	Priority Timeline i.e. immediate, mid- term, 10+ years	Current Status	Reporting Period Status Update Typically annually for most		
General		P 9					
Community Engagement		P 11					
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Residential Land Use	P 12			
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				81
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				8
Community Pride	P 14			
			41	

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Recreation and Tourism	P 15		
Community Services and Public Health and Safety	P 17		

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Culture, Heritage,	P 20		
and Spirituality			
and Spirituanty			
	D 22		
Community	P 23		
Economic			
Development			

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Natural and	P 25		
Ecological Resources	1 23		
Ecological Resources			
at .			
	D 20		
Ground and Source	P 29		
Water Protection			
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Transportation	P 30			
Networks and				
Infrastructure				mark at the second
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Inter-Municipal and	P 33			
Governmental				
Cooperation				
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Future Urban Development		P 34		

Other				
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Out				
Other				

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Appendix "D" – Infrastructure Capacities

CONNECTIONS						
CONNECTIONS	550					
WATER SUPPLY	Surface – Thomson Lake 320,000 gal Treated Reservoir 60,000 gal Tower Resevoir					
	420 gpm					
SURPLUS CAPACITY (PERCENTAGE / POPULATION)	35%					
ANNUAL WATER TREATMENT	102,678 cubic metres					
SEPTIC TREATMENT	3 cell – primary, secondary, and tertiary					
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT (TRANSFER STATION / LANDFILL life expectancy)	Landfill – not shared					
CURRENT ENGINEERING STUDY (YES/NO; YEAR)	n/a					
PUBLIC WELLS OR WELL-HEADS	n/a					
WATER LINES / UTILITIES	Indicated on Reference Map					
LAGOONS	Indicated on Future Land Use map					
CEMETERY	n/a					

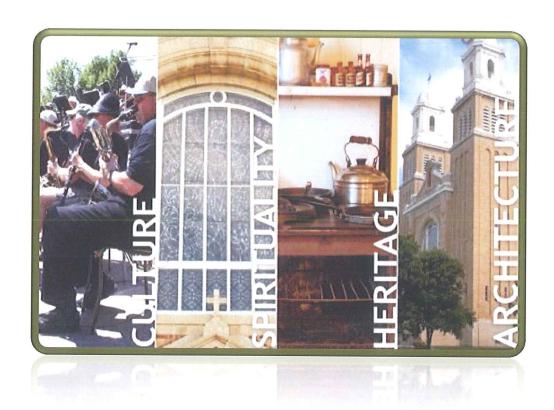


Appendix "E" – Community Profile



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Community Profile



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Gravelbourg Community Profile

To better understand the Gravelbourg district, the region's historical and socio-economic characteristics have been summarized to provide readers with an up-to-date and contextual snapshot of the area. This summation will also allow people to better understand the past and present state of the Town and RM of Gravelbourg while subsequently facilitating the creation of future plans which will help the community to achieve its four pillars of development: culture, heritage, architecture and spirituality/community spirit. (Wallington, n.d., p. 3)

Regional Overview

Located within the Rural Municipality of Gravelbourg No. 104, the Town of Gravelbourg is intersected by Highway #43, which runs east to west, and Highway #58 which runs north to south. Figures 1 and 2 illustrate the location of Gravelbourg within the RM and the highways on which it lies (Statistics Canada, 2012).

Gravelbourg is located in the south-central part of Saskatchewan. The two nearest larger centres are Moose Jaw, located 117 kilometres northeast and Assiniboia, located 65 kilometres southeast. As a result, Gravelbourg is quite self-reliant and acts as a supporting community for nearby towns and

Figure 1. Map of Gravelbourg Source: Statistics Canada, 2012

The Town of Gravelbourg is 3.23 square kilometres in area (Statistics Canada, 2012, Table 1). This community is situated in the prairie eco-zone and the mixed grassland eco-region (Canadian Plains Research Center Mapping Division, n.d., pg 1). Soils found near Gravelbourg are the most productive soil types in the brown soil zone and have contributed to the successful agricultural sector

villages that have fewer services, amenities or job opportunities.



Figure 2. Map of Gravlbourg RM Source: Statistics Canada, 2012

(Hamilton, 2002, p. 243). It is also in close proximity to important water sources such as the Wood River, Thomson Lake and Old Wives Lake. The Town is a part of the Old Wives Lake Watershed Association and the Wood River Environmental Authority (Luk, 2011). These waterbodies play an important role in southern Saskatchewan, as the Wood River is a water source for approximately 24,000 residents (FCM, n.d., p 1) and the Old Wives Lake has been described as "one of the most important inland sites for migratory birds in North America."

History of the Region

Historically the site where Gravelbourg is located was primarily inhabited by the Nakota or Assiniboine Sioux plains people (Brasser, 2012). This region is also located within the greater area of Treaty 4, which had its first signings in 1874 (Office of the Treaty Commissioner, 2013). However, the nearest reserve to the community is the Wood Mountain Reserve located 75 kilometres to the southwest. This reserve is comprised of Lakota peoples, who had followed Chief Sitting Bull up to Canada after the Montana Battle of Little Bighorn in 1876, but remained in Saskatchewan after his return to the United States five years later (Documenting the Dakota, 2011, para. 8). Although this is of historical significance, the First Nations community does not presently have a noticeable influence on the developmental policy of the Gravelbourg RM and Town. The area was also incorporated into the 19th Century North West Mounted Police Red Coat Trail patrol route. As well, the Crippled Creek Crossing Site, a former NWMP campsite and current heritage site, is located within the RM of Gravelbourg (Parks Canada, n.d).

Father Louis-Joseph-Pierre Gravel is recognized as the founder of the Town. He was a missionary colonizer who had been authorized by the Archbishop to establish a parish at a location of his choice in southern Saskatchewan. After choosing the Gravelbourg location, the area opened up to settlement in 1904. Father Gravel settled in the area and recruited francophone immigrants as well as petitioned for the construction of a railway which arrived in 1913 (Baerwaldt, 2012, para. 1). The RM of Gravelbourg was incorporated on December 9, 1912, followed by the incorporation of Gravelbourg as an organized village on December 30, 1912. Gravelbourg was incorporated as a town on November 1, 1916.

Community Development

In 1918, a convent was built in the town as well as a college. Other Catholic buildings followed such as a Romanesque cathedral, a monastery and a hospital. These institutions enabled the creation of the Diocese of Gravelbourg (1930) and the appointment of a francophone bishop, which made Gravelbourg

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a focal point for Saskatchewan's French inhabitants (Baerwaldt, 2012, para. 2). By the 1940s Gravelbourg also had residences, banks, stores, a Courthouse, a post office, printing offices, restaurants and a new skating rink among other things. This development made the Gravelbourg community an outstanding centre for its time and a place of interest in southern Saskatchewan (Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, 1941, para. 3). Although some of these facilities are now gone, many are still functional today including the college, cathedral and hospital. The utilization of heritage buildings has been one successful outcome from the sustainable community economic development approach instituted since 1998 when Gravelbourg hired its first Economic Development Officer. Examples of these projects include the preservation of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool grain elevator and the creation of a heritage walking tour and cathedral tour. In addition, historically significant facilities were through this approach such as the Gravelbourg Community Arts Centre (Wallington, n.d., table 1), otherwise known as the Renaissance Gaiety Theatre.

Agriculture was the primary economic activity that facilitated the settlement of Gravelbourg and its surrounding Rural Municipality in the early 1900s. By 1913 the importance of Gravelbourg as a grain-producing region was established when the settlers marketed one million bushels of wheat. These types of activities remain important today and are still an economic foundation for the community and surrounding area. Gravelbourg was one of southern Saskatchewan's busiest trading centres, as it had nine grain elevators and a flour mill. Although only two defunct elevators remain, they are important landmarks that symbolize the agricultural heritage of the region and the era of expansion in the grain-handling industry between 1900 and 1930 (Ministry, 2006, para. 2). Today, Gravelbourg is a service centre for surrounding farms with mustard being significant – a mustard seed mill was opened in the Town in 2007 (Baerwaldt, 2012, para. 4). Small manufacturing operations are another integral part of the community's commercial sector. Gravelbourg has been home to Trailtech since 1987, which is one of Saskatchewan's leading manufacturers of light commercial trailers (Saskbiz, n.d., para. 8). Since the Town of Gravelbourg acts as both a service centre and cultural hub it has a total trading area population of approximately 10,800 people (Renaissance Gaiety Theatre, 2013, para. 1).

Gravelbourg Region Today- Socio-Economic Profile

This section highlights the statistical features of Gravelbourg and those found in the wider area of the surrounding Rural Municipality. The statistical information used here is taken primarily from the Statistics Canada Census of Population from 2011 and 2006. This profile is intended to provide a social and economic context to help guide decisions for future development of the area.

Town of Gravelbourg Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1402/15

Population

Distribution

The Town of Gravelbourg has seen population fluctuations over the past ten years. Table 1 shows these changes, as well as the progressive population decline within the RM. The population of Gravelbourg declined from 2001 to 2006, but slightly re-established itself by 2011. (Statistics Canada, 2001, 2006, 2011). In contrast the population of the Gravelbourg RM has continuously decreased, although at lesser rate from 2006 to 2011 (Statistics Canada, 2001, 2006, 2011).

Projected Growth

Based on a growth estimate, the projected population of Gravelbourg by 2036 could reach 2,281 people and the RM of Gravelbourg's population could reach 625 people.

Table 1: Population Change 2001-2011 and Projected Future Growth

Municipality	2001 Pop.	2006 Pop.	2011 Pop.	% Pop. Change	Projected
				2001-2011	Growth 2036*
Gravelbourg	1,187	1,089	1,116	-5.9%	2,281
RM 104	409	329	306	-25.2%	625
Province	978,933	968,157	1,033,381	4.5%	2,111,761

Source: 2011, 2006, 2001, Census of Canada.

Age Distribution

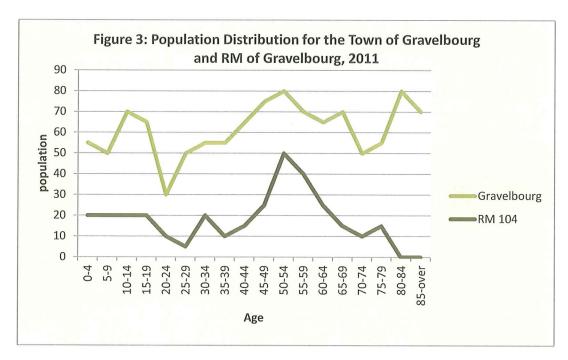
Figure 3, below, shows the age distribution of residents in the area. In Gravelbourg, a slight decrease in the age group of 15-19 suggests that many youth are leaving the area after high school, either for further education or employment. Gravelbourgs's population peaks at the age 50-54 and 80-84 and the RM's similar peak at 50-54 reflects an older work force and an overall higher proportion of aging residents. According to the 2011 statistics, 84.4% of Gravelbourg's population is over the age of 15, with the RM of Gravelbourg at 81.7 % and the Province at 80.85%.

Median Age

The Provincial median age for both the Town and the RM of Gravelbourg are very similar and compared to the Provincial average, the residents of Gravelbourg and area are elderly. The average age for the

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Province of Saskatchewan is 38.2, the RM of Gravelbourg is 49.5, and the Town of Gravelbourg is 49.4 (Statistics, 2011).

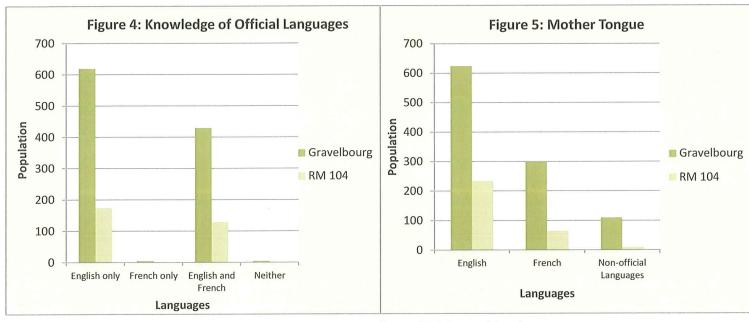


Source: 2011 Census of Canada

Language and Diversity

As of 2011, Gravelbourgs's English and French speakers by mother tongue, were the most common residents with approximately 59% of people speaking English and 29% French while 2% of the population identified both French and English. Around 10% had identified a non-official language including: German, Chinese dialects, Dutch, Korean, Lao, Swahili, and Tagalog. Tagalog, spoken by Filipino people, was the most spoken of these and made up about 5% of the population (Statistics Canada, 2011). The RM of Gravelbourg's mother tongue statistics were similar, although a greater percentage of people reported their mother tongue as being English. 77% of residents said English was their mother tongue, while 21% of individuals reported theirs as French. Only 3% claimed their mother tongue was a non-official language such as Dutch and Ukrainian (Statistics Canada, 2011).

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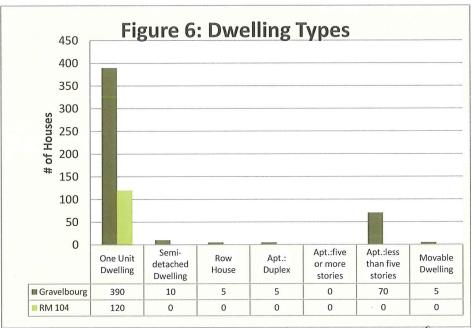
Source: 2011 Census of Canada

Source: 2011 Census of Canada

The knowledge of official languages is similarly diverse with 58% of Gravelbourg residents speaking only English, 0.5% speaking only French, 41% speaking both English and French, and 0.5% speaking neither English nor French (Statistics Canada, 2011). The RM of Gravelbourg's knowledge of official languages is quite diversified with 57% of people saying that they only speak English and 43% saying they speak both English and French. However, there were no residents who claimed to speak French only or neither of

the official languages.

These statistics demonstrate how relevant the French language and culture is within the region of Gravelbourg. This strong francophone culture is dramatically different from the Saskatchewan average which only has 4.57 % of the population able to speak both French and English and only slightly more than four hundredths of a



Source: 2011 Census of Canada

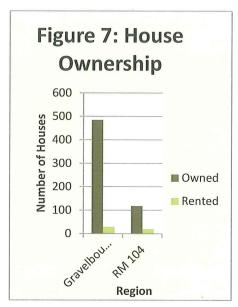


percent speaking French only (Statistics Canada, 2011). This French prominence also contributes to potential immigration, which aligns with the Gravelbourg strategy to encourage francophone immigrants to settle in the region. The promotion and preservation of this culture will enable employers working with immigration authorities to attract francophone professionals, especially for work in the fields of education, culture, business, agriculture, accounting and health (Réseau de Développement, n.d., para. 6).

Economic Trends

Dwelling Characteristics

There are a total of 480 private households in Gravelbourg. Of these dwellings, 78.1% are owned, 21.9% are rented and 91% of the dwellings were constructed before 1986. The average value of owned dwellings is \$63,450 less than the provincial average. The majority of these, 81%, are single detached homes (Statistics Canada, 2006). In the RM of Gravelbourg, there were 120 private households in 2006. Of these dwellings, 87.5% were owned, 12.5% were rented and 92% of the dwellings were constructed before 1986. The average value of owned dwellings is \$47,701 less than the provincial average. The majority of these, 96%, are single-detached homes (Statistics Canada,



Source: 2011 Census of Canada

2006). This shows that many people in this area are owners of older housing stock, which is partially due to the lower cost of housing.

Household and Family Structure

There are a total of 280 Census families in Gravelbourg. Of this total, 84% of these are married couples while 11% are lone parent families of which 5.5% are single female parents and 5.5% are single male parents (Statistics Canada, 2006). In the RM of Gravelbourg there are 105 Census families, 90% of which are married couples and there are no single parent families (Statistics Canada, 2006).

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Median Household Income

The Town of Gravelbourg median income for households in 2005 was \$40,451 before taxes and \$35,740 after taxes. RM of Gravelbourg median income in 2005 before taxes was \$42,943 and after taxes \$39,871. While the provincial median income for households was \$46,705 before taxes and \$41,084 after taxes (Statistics Canada, 2006).

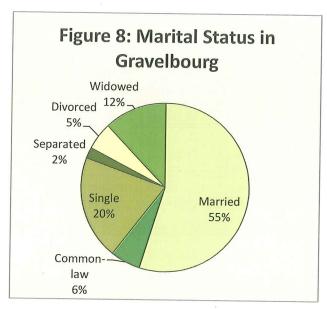
Education

This section compares the level of education attained in the Town of Gravelbourg and the RM of Gravelbourg. In Gravelbourg, 25% of residents have a high school diploma or equivalent as their highest level of education and 28% have less than a high school education. Some other educational attainment categories include: college diploma - 14%, trades certificate - 17%, some university - 5% and a completed university degree - 11%. Similar trends in educational attainment according to population are found in the RM of Gravelbourg: 33% of residents have a high school diploma or equivalent as their highest level of education and 27% have less than a high school education. Some other educational

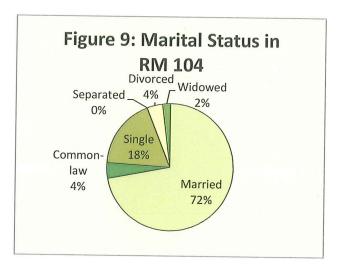
attainment categories include: college diploma -13%, trades certificate - 13%, some university -4%, and a completed university degree - 8% (Statistics Canada, 2006).

Industry Employment

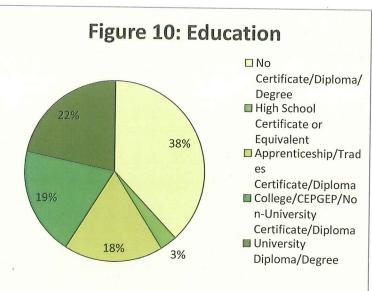
2006 statistics show there are numerous different industries of employment found within Gravelbourg. There were 485 residents in the labour force above the age of 15. The most



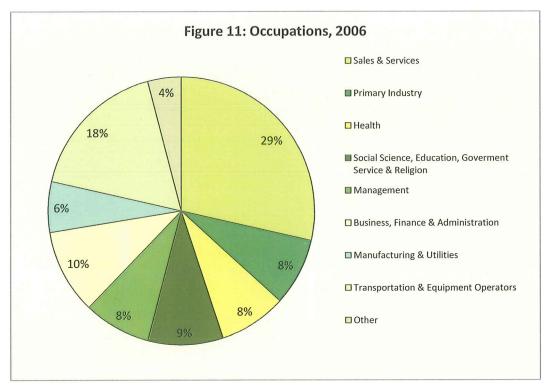
Source: Census of Canada



Source: 2011 Census of Canada



significant employment industry is in the general category of other business, which employs 21% of the workforce in Gravelbourg. The second most dominant industry of employment was manufacturing at 18%. Finally, health care and social services were the next highest employment industries at 16%. In the RM of Gravelbourg, the three highest industries of employment were agriculture and resources - 60%; other services - 9% and construction, retail trade and educational services - 7% (Statistics Canada, 2006).



Source: City-Data.com

Agriculture

Agriculture has historically been important to the Gravelbourg area and the Province of Saskatchewan. Throughout the Rural Municipality of Gravelbourg, there were a total of 124 reporting farms in 2011 of these, there were 7 cattle ranching and 107 oilseed and grain farms. The most popular types of grain production in decreasing order based upon the number of farms reporting were durum wheat, lentils, alfalfa, canola, field peas, mustard and flax seed (Statistics Canada, 2011).

Mode of Transportation

The main mode of transportation to work in 2006 was personal vehicle. At 75%, transportation by vehicle was the most dominant method of travel to work in Gravelbourg. Other forms of transportation

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include travelling as a passenger (5%) and walking or biking (20%). In the RM of Gravelbourg, transportation by car/truck was most popular at 94% followed by walking/bicycling at 6%. There were no uses of public transportation in this area. The walking or biking mode is more than double the provincial percentage. The size of the town enables this, but the emphasis on sustainability might also contribute (Statistics Canada, 2006).

Regular Place of Work

Using 2006 statistics for the Gravelbourg area, the workplace locations of individuals by municipality can be compared. In the Town of Gravelbourg, approximately 84% worked in the same municipality as their residence with, 11% in a different municipality, and 4% in a different census division. The RM of Gravelbourg showed that 20% worked close to home and 80% in a different census subdivision within the census division (Statistics Canada, 2006). These demographics demonstrate a tendency for residents of the RM to work further from home than is typical for Town residents.

Community Features

Business and Facilities

The Town of Gravelbourg has well over 100 businesses listed within their business directory including accommodations, banks, grocery stores, mechanics, convenience stores, gas stations, a drug store, a post office, a Service Canada office, a food processing plant, a funeral chapel, agri-businesses, esthetics businesses, a lawyer's office, manufacturers, contractors, media and communications providers, retail stores, recreation facilities, and restaurants. There are also three various federal corporations within the area that serve different functions (Town of Gravelbourg, 2012). These businesses span across four identifiable economic sectors including: communications, retail, manufacturing and the service industry (Wallington, n.d., p. 3). The broad mixtures of businesses have helped to sustain the community. There is a Gravelbourg Chamber of Commerce, which is a part of the larger Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce, which supports local businesses (Town of Gravelbourg, 2012). Gravelbourg is also a member of the Red Coat Regional Economic Development Authority, and works to encourage new jobs and investment through cooperative efforts. Property tax in this community is competitive, favouring a higher than average base tax in order to allow a lower than average mill rate when adjusting for differences in average assessment by community. The effect of this policy is more favouraable taxation for new construction which acts as a growth incentive. There are also tax exemptions of up to five years for new construction. About 17.6% of Gravelbourg's taxes are used for infrastructure expenditures.

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(Town of Gravelbourg, 2010). The community of Gravelbourg has attributed some of its growth and development to the hiring of an Economic Development Officer, and its use of local assets, natural and social capital, federal and provincial funding /programs, a progressive attitude, and a broad range of development (Wallington, n.d.).

Community Amenities

Gravelbourg has an expansive offering of amenities, which support its local community and an extensive network of places such as: Lafleche, Mazenod, Coderre, Limerick, Bateman, Glenbain, Melaval, Meyronne, Palmer, Shamrock, and Woodrow. Gravelbourg's Hospital, St. Josephs, is part of the Five Hills Health Region. This region provides services for approximately 8000 people and the ambulance service operates within a 60 kilometre radius of the Town (Wallington, n.d., p. 3). This hospital is owned and operated by the Catholic Health Ministry of Saskatchewan, but was previously run by the Grey Nuns (St. Joseph's, 2010). Additionally, there are chiropractors, physiotherapists, massage therapists, retirement homes and a dental clinic. There are two institutions that offer programs for people with disabilities. These are Bon Ami Inc. Berard's. There is also a Gravelbourg Service Canada Outreach Centre, which offers an array of governmental services to the community and area. In addition to health services there is also an RCMP police station and a volunteer Fire Department that serves Gravelbourg and the surrounding region (Town of Gravelbourg, 2012). Gravelbourg has a three cell lagoon to treat its wastewater. This effluent is discharged into the Wood River (FCM, n.d., p 1). Electricity is provided by SaskPower while natural gas is provided by SaskEnergy. A landfill is located north of Gravelbourg and the town also has recycling facilities. The Town's water supply comes from Thomson Lake, located south of the community (Town of Gravelbourg, 2012). The Saskatchewan Transportation Company has regular routes passing through Gravelbourg and the community operates a small airport to the southwest. There are also two newspapers and a radio station (Saskbiz, n.d., para. 7).

Educational opportunities are ver good in Gravelbourg. There are both French and English elementary and high schools operating in the community - College Mathieu, the Gravelbourg High School, the Gravelbourg Elementary School, and l'École Beau-Soleil. The Gravelbourg Elementary and High Schools are part of the Prairie South School Division and offer French immersion programs. The Chinook Regional Library is located in the Elementary School. Distance courses can be taken through the Saskatchewan Communications Network and additional educational services for Francophone adults are

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provided by Le Service Fransaskois de Formation aux Adultes (Gravelbourg, 2012). There are also both French and English day cares within the municipality.

Recreation and Tourism

Gravelbourg is known as the "Cultural Gem of Saskatchewan." There are a number of programs and features that Gravelbourg offers which promote recreation and tourism. Some features include the drop in youth night at the Church of Christ, the Movie Theatre, a bowling alley, a driving range, a swimming pool, and lessons in karate, boxing, dance and music (Gravelbourg, 2012). There is an expansive amount of activities ranging from a "Moms and Tots" group to sports including hockey, curling, baseball, basketball, volleyball, and figure skating. There is some programing specifically for the francophone population offered though facilities such as the Centre Culturel Maillard. These are supported by federal funding for official languages program development. Gravelbourg has also created a self-guided walking tour and is home to the Southern Saskatchewan Summer Solstice Festival. Other notable events include the community's Annual Coffee House, Heritage Days and Festival of Trees. The architecture and culture of Gravelbourg encouraged the filming of the movie "Prairie Giant: The Tommy Douglas Story" and the television show "La Petite Seduction" (Renaissance Gaiety Theatre, 2013, para. 3).

There is a wide variety of heritage sites in and around Gravelbourg including: the former Court House, the Gravelbourg Museum, the Guy Gravel Building, the Post Office Building, the Renaissance Gaiety Theatre, the Jesmond Telephone Office, Legault's Hardware Store, the Railway Station, Centre Culturel Maillard, the Madonna House, College Mathieu, Jardin Notre-Dame, Soucy Park, the Father Gravel Statue, the Our Lady of the Assumption Co-Cathedral, the Gravel Residences, the Convent of Jesus and Mary, St. Joseph's Hospital, the Path for Peace Labyrinth, and the Soucy House. There are also a number of other attractions such as: the Bishops Residence Bed and Breakfast, the markers of the Trans Canada Trail and the Farmers' Market (Town of Gravelbourg, 2012). "A Touch of Europe on the Prairies" is an initiative to generate tourism and create a distinguished sense of place by emphasizing the architecture and francophone heritage of the Town (Réseau de Développement, n.d., para. 14). Gravelbourg is close to two parks -Thomson Lake Regional Park is approximately ten minutes south and has a golf course, swimming pool, fishing and camp sites among other things; Shamrock Regional Park is forty minutes away and to the northeast and has facilities similar to Thomson Lake (Tourism Saskatchewan, n.d.).

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Moving Forward

Gravelbourg's vision for the future is based on an informed understanding of its past. An environmentally sustainable community economic development model is reflected in its initiatives. As a result, the community has developed a Climate Change Action Plan and a Sustainable Development Plan in addition to examining the feasibility of projects including a District Energy System and Wetlands Sewage Treatment System (Saskbiz, n.d., para. 20). The objective is to enhance the residential and industry base by focusing on the primary determinants of sustainability such as: the environment, social infrastructure, health, and economic viability (Town of Gravelbourg, 2012).

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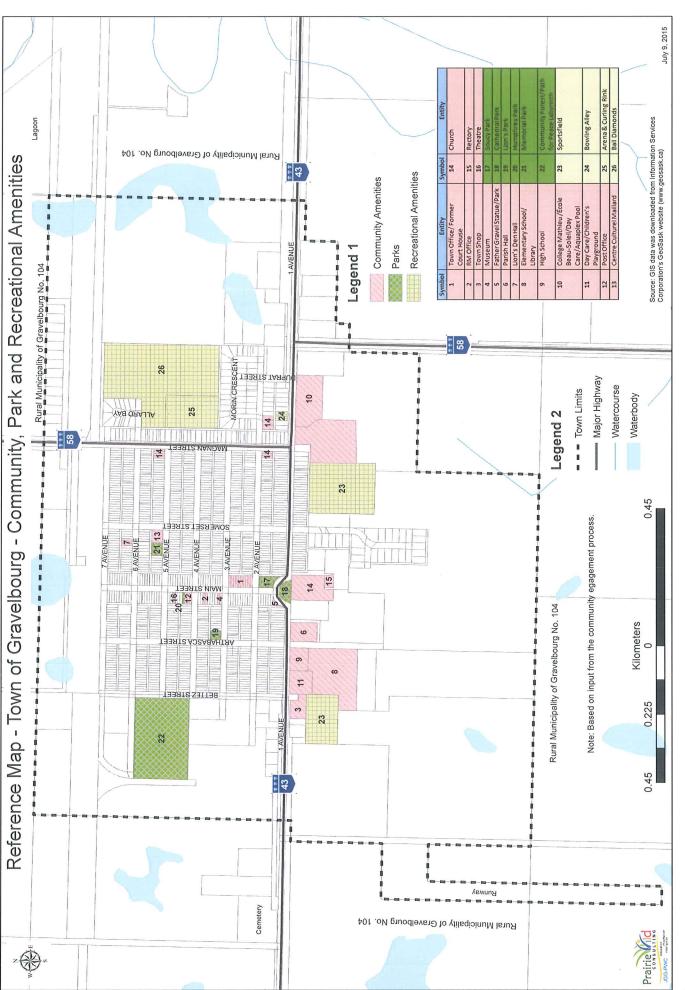
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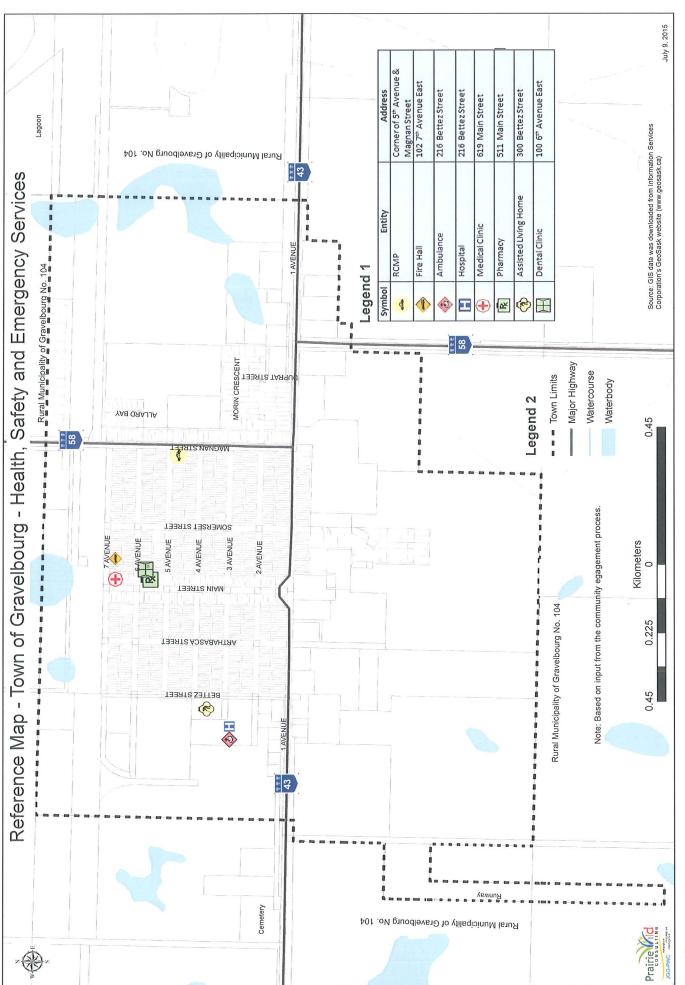
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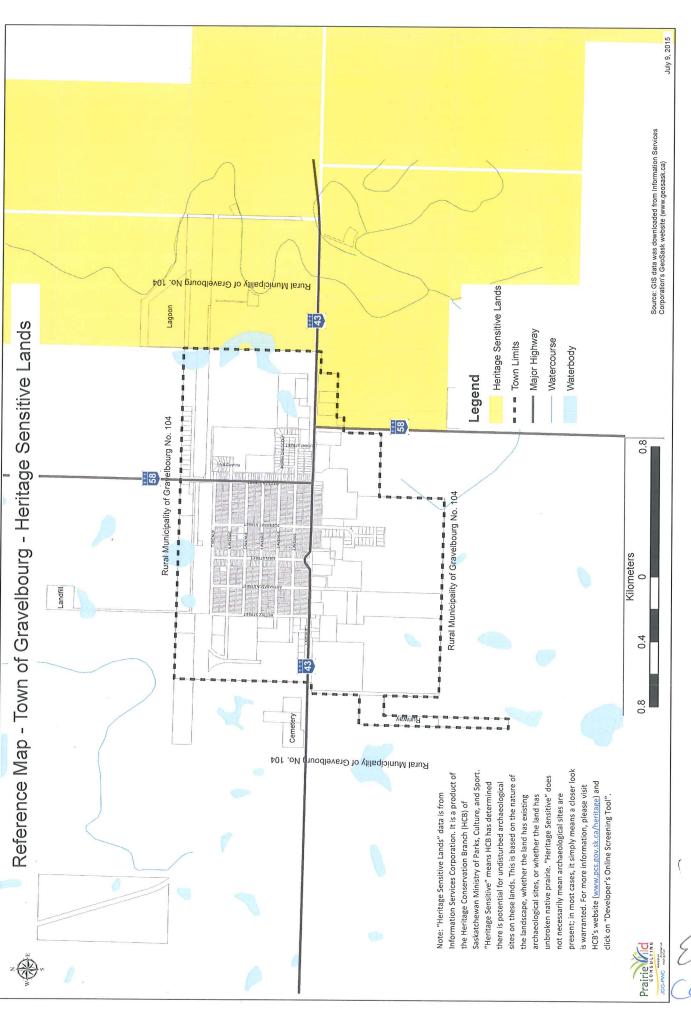
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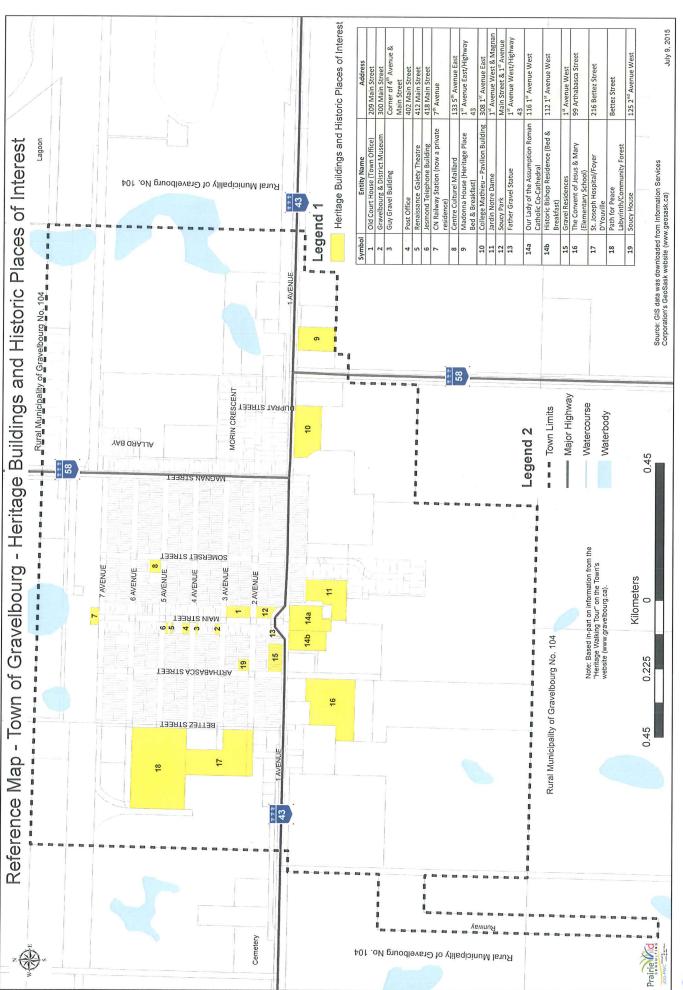








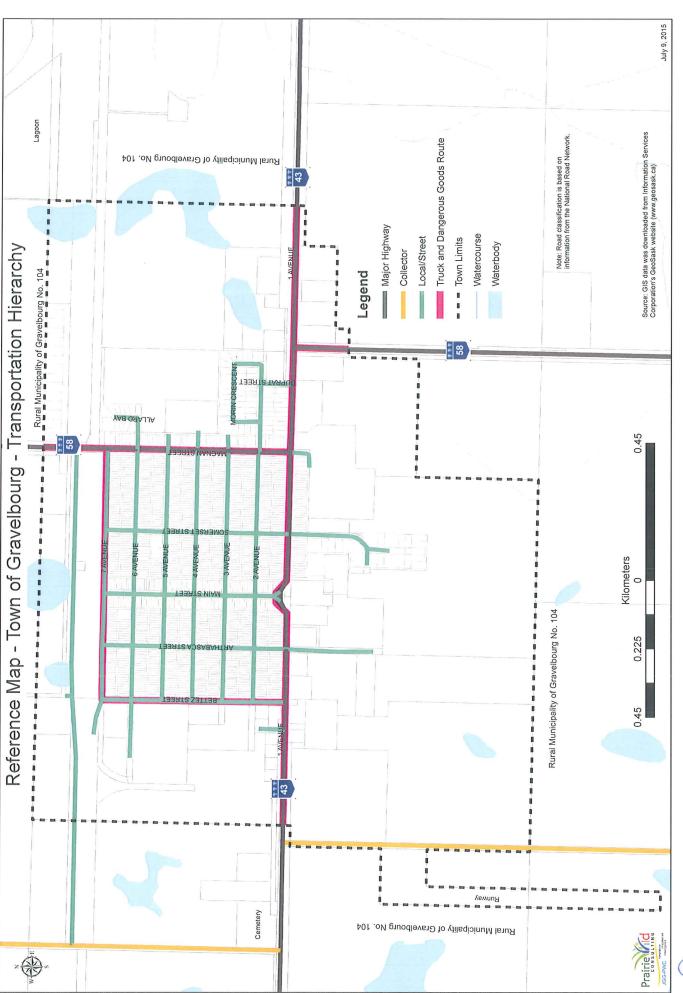
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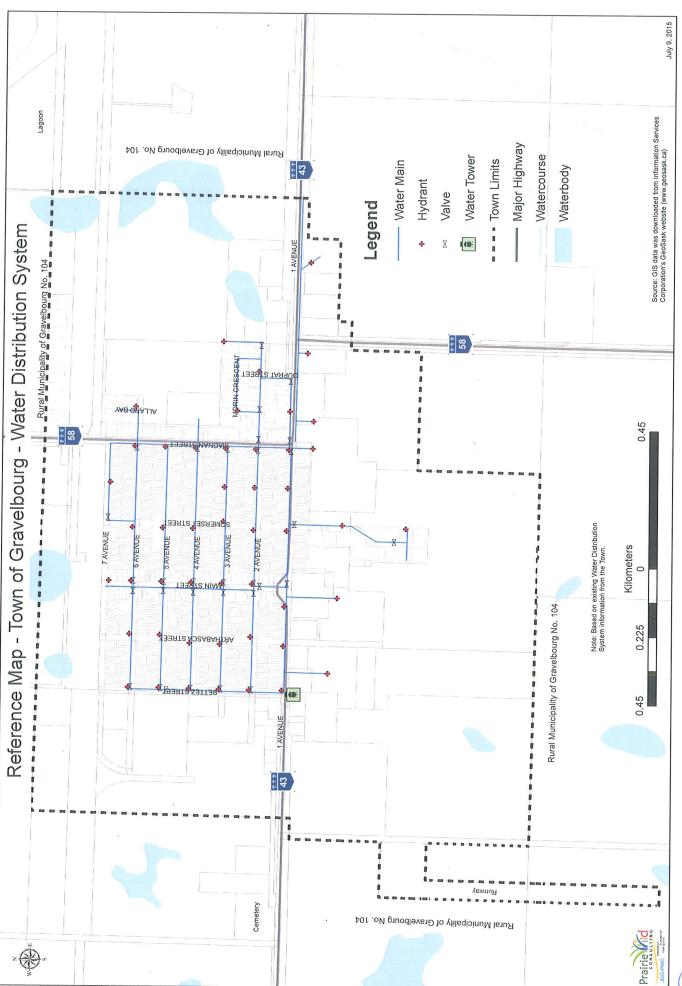


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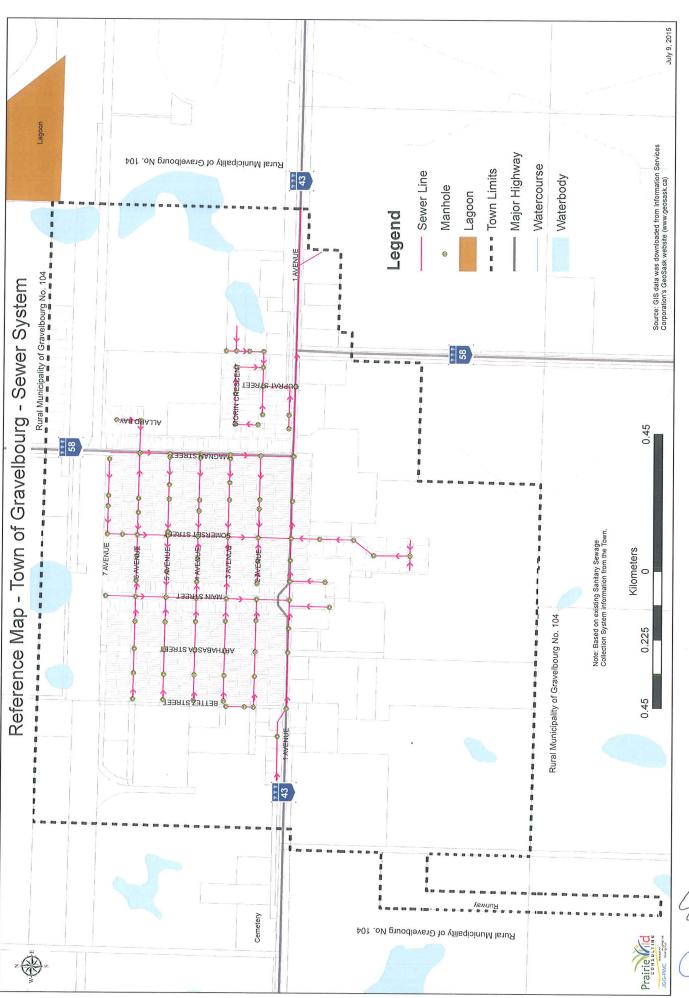








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Appendix "F" – Community Voice and Engagement

Community Engagement

Community engagement is an important component of this Plan. One of the most valuable sources of information is gained through local wisdom and experience to write local policy. The public was invited to share their local wisdom and experience to help plan for the future growth and development of the area. Information derived from this community engagement was used to define the community's vision, goals, objectives, and policies.

Findings from the consultative processes, together with technical research, have focused the Plan on the potentials and issues residents and land owners identified as prime importance for the future of the community, notably the need for collaborative planning and greater certainty when it comes to land uses. There is the opportunity to take a community and planned approach to:

- Attract new residents and businesses to the Town to support local amenities and increase tax base;
- ♣ Take advantage of existing infrastructure, central location, community assets; and
- Market economic opportunities and natural features, recreation, commercial, and industrial development.

Community Engagement Process

The process for the generation of this Plan and the facilitation design utilized is based on promising practices and Appreciative Inquiry; intended to ensure time for community capacity building and quality results. The model builds from the positives and ask participants to discuss "best hopes and goals" for the future of their communities.

Community engagement involves a wide range of participants with varying opinions and ideas. The model allows for the creation of open space where everyone can voice their opinions and be heard throughout the process. It guides the community to create a shared vision that everyone can live with.

Roles were shared at the beginning of each session for the facilitative planners and participants, with a common goal for everyone to learn something new, have fun and share others the work being done together.

Foundations for Success

Foundations for Success were developed to ensure there was open collaboration among everyone involved and that the expression of views was done in a fair manner. The following key items are seen as essential to functioning and will serve as the foundations to planning processes in the community.

- Respecting time
- Good listening skills
- Engagement
- Having fun
- Refreshments
- Open-mindedness
- Having a plan (direction)
- Setting goals
- Respecting different opinions and views

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Appendix "G" – Definition of Culture

The Town of Gravelbourg is recognized for the cultural diversity and built heritage form that is dispersed throughout the community. Through this process, the Town was able to access funding from SaskCulture to create this Official Community Plan. As part of the planning process, a cultural and heritage component is embedded in this Plan's goals and policies with the intent of maintaining and protecting the values and assets of the community now and into the future.

Definition of Culture

Context:

The United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) defines culture as follows: "... the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills – as well as the instruments, objects, artifacts and cultural spaces associated therewith – that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage.

This intangible cultural heritage, transmitted from generation to generation, is constantly recreated by communities and groups in response to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history, and provides them with a sense of identity and continuity, thus promoting respect for cultural diversity and human creativity.

Culture comprises the whole complex of distinctive spiritual, material, intellectual and emotional features that characterize a society or social group, and includes not only arts and letters, but also modes of life, fundamental rights of human beings, value systems, traditions and beliefs." (www.unesco.org)

Operational Definitions of Culture in addition to the UNESCO definition include:

- Culture encompasses the arts and includes design arts, visual and performing arts, music, literary arts, electronic arts, communications and media, crafts, festivals and events.
- Culture includes arts, built and natural heritage, the history of the community, ethno-cultural identity and expression, language and literacy, urban design, artistic expression and creativity in all sectors of the economy and the community.

Town of Gravelbourg Guiding Cultural Principles

The following principles provide a framework from which the Town has developed their local based community planning tools that will help guide the management of growth and development over the next 25+ years.

1. Importance of Culture

- Culture will be recognized, nurtured, encouraged, and promoted as an integral part of life in the Town of Gravelbourg.
- Culture is a fundamental core component of community identity and contributes strongly to sustaining community quality of life.

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- Culture is important as it encompasses many elements, including arts, built and natural heritage, the history of the community, ethno-cultural expression, language and literacy, urban design, artistic expression, and creativity in all sectors of the economy and the community.
- Unique cultural assets and identity strengthen the region as a cultural tourism destination, supporting and enhancing other attractive features of the region.
- Local and regional cultural activity, organizations, resources and products are key elements for educating residents and visitors.
- Local and regional culture represents a diverse range of components which will enrich the lives
 of all of its citizens.

2. Sustainability and Growth of Culture

Culture is integral to quality of life, sustainable development and tourism in the region. The Town recognizes and endorses the following:

- A cultural sector helps to attract and retain creative, entrepreneurial, skilled, committed and enthusiastic businesses, workforce, and volunteers.
- An environment supportive of creativity is a catalyst for innovation and imagination, inspiring renewal, growth, prosperity, and vitality.
- The cultural community is comprised of a diverse group of artists, artisans, organizations, arts and cultural workers, and volunteers who are involved in the creation, production, presentation, and distribution of arts and culture. Whether professional, semi-professional, or non-professional, all are important and valued.
- As the advocate and steward for arts and culture in the region, the Town will strive to create an environment in which the cultural community can be sustained and nurtured through economic investment and cultural renewal.
- The Town will strive to catalyze and facilitate an effective marketing and communications strategy for promoting regional cultural activities that will further community involvement in, and awareness of, arts and culture.
- The Town will encourage the neighbouring municipalities to promote cultural activities in tourism and economic development initiatives.
- The Town believes strongly that cultural identity is important to providing a framework for sustainable growth whereby municipalities that embrace and protect their sense of identity is able to respond to the evolving dynamics and needs of their citizens.
- Growth of a culture community requires strategic partnerships with private and public investors, and alliances between the for-profit and not-for-profit sectors, and government agencies.
- It is important to recognize and celebrate volunteers, arts and cultural achievements, and initiatives.
- Supporting the creation and enhancement of cultural education programs within the work of arts organizations encourages cultural renewal and growth.
- The Town's guiding principles requires ongoing planning and development, and annual evaluation of its cultural activity and growth.

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3. Economic Impact of Culture

Culture provides significant contributions, both directly and indirectly, to economic development, community sustainability, and tourism in the region. The Town recognizes the following:

- Culture is an important pillar of a sustainable community.
- The quality of life, augmented by the community's cultural products, attracts business, industry, new residents, and consumers of cultural products. The arts community makes significant contributions to our economy.
- The real beneficiaries of cultural investment are Canadian communities.
- The tangible benefits of "cultural tourism" make significant contributions to our economy.
- Leisure travellers who include a culture/heritage activity in their trips travel longer distances, have longer stays and higher spending per trip compared to other leisure travellers.
- Canadians love culture and will travel great distances in their own country to attend certain events or experience unique parts of Canada's history or culture.
- Arts and culture are "cornerstones of the creative, knowledge-based economy". (based on Conference Board of Canada, Valuing Culture: Measuring and Understanding Canada's Creative Economy, August 2008).

4. Regional Support and Capacity Building for Arts and Culture

The Town is committed to enhance arts and culture in the community. The Town recognizes the following:

- Support of artistic and cultural activities may be represented by both financial and other resources.
- The Town lends groups, artists, and not-for-profit organizations credibility and accountability. This recognition raises the status of artists, projects, and organizations in the eyes of other potential supporters, funding groups, levels of government, and the private sector.
- Recognition through financial and other resources encourages capacity building of events, activities, and programs within the community.
- Public art and cultural amenities must be developed and maintained in order to enhance the quality of public spaces throughout the region.

5. Access to Arts and Culture

The Town recognizes the importance of making culture available to all persons and encourages the following:

- It is important to provide cultural organizations with support and assistance in a pro-active manner, for promotion, advertising, and marketing of cultural opportunities, activities, and events that are held in the region.
- Clear communication is necessary between the Town and the cultural organizations to ensure that the circulation of information about cultural opportunities, activities, and events offered in the region are inclusionary.

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- Making culture available to all persons is valuable and important, particularly to those with barriers to overcome or limited opportunities for exposure to cultural experiences and activities.
 Improved access to culture fosters social inclusion and cultural diversity.
- It is necessary to assess gaps and plan to address needs.

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