



***SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION
OF RURAL MUNICIPALITIES***

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NEWS RELEASE

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“Clearing the Path” for Economic Development

A committee has been set up by SARM to identify impediments to rural economic development within the existing municipal structure, legislation or policy and to make recommendations for change.

“Our goal is to create a regulatory environment that doesn’t hinder economic development in rural Saskatchewan,” said SARM President Neal Hardy.

The eighteen member committee consists of twelve reeves and councillors from across the province, three SARM board members and two rural administrators. The first meeting of the committee was held yesterday.

“We need economic development in rural Saskatchewan. Our population has been decreasing due to problems in agriculture and centralization of services,” said President Hardy. “We want to remove any obstacles to development.”

The committee will be working over the summer doing research and meeting with stakeholders. An interim report will be presented to the SARM Midterm Convention in November with the final report to be presented to the Annual SARM Convention in March.

“I am excited and optimistic about this committee. We have a good group of knowledgeable people from across the province,” said Hardy. “Rural Saskatchewan has tremendous potential and we hope to help it reach that potential.”

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