



*Celebrating Municipal Excellence*

# 2022 Nomination Form

**Deadline:** 4:00 p.m. on Friday, November 25, 2022

Nominee Contact Information	
<b>Name of municipality/ municipalities being nominated:</b> <i>(please include the names of all partner municipalities)</i>	Town of Redvers, Town of Camduff, Village of Storthoaks, R.M. of Mount Pleasant #2, R.M. of Storthoaks #31, R.M. of Reciprocity #32, and R.M. of Antler #61.
<b>Contact Name:</b>	Katy Soroka
<b>Contact role in project:</b>	Chief Administrative Officer
<b>Telephone #:</b>	3068407770
<b>Mailing Address:</b>	18 Eichhorst Street Redvers, SK
<b>E-mail Address:</b>	se.medicalgroup@gmail.com
<b>Name of Nominated Practice or Project:</b>	South East Medical Group
<b>Date of Project or Practice Initiation:</b>	September 1, 2016
<b>Date of Project or Practice Completion:</b> <i>(If ongoing, please indicate)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Nominator Contact Information	
<b>Name:</b>	Jena Cowan
<b>Organization:</b>	Town of Redvers
<b>Position:</b>	Assistant C.A.O.
<b>Mailing Address:</b>	25 Railway Avenue Redvers, SK
<b>Telephone #:</b>	3064523533
<b>E-mail Address:</b>	jena@townofredvers.ca

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

## The Practice

1. What issue inspired the nominated project or practice?

The South East Medical Group has had no shortage of difficulties arise while trying to provide above average medical care to the Southeast corner of Saskatchewan and it's rural population. COVID-19 aside, staffing shortages have left our centres struggling to operate on a daily basis.

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

Through the combined effort of all the municipalities involved, as well as an extremely dedicated committee, the staff shortages were addresses and resolved, with four new RN positions added to our centre. We have recently had two doctors leave our centre, so this is a new issue the South East Medical Group will face together as a team.

## The Process

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

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

- Municipal Council
- Municipal Administration
- Other

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

The roll of the Municipal Council(s) have been to appoint committee members, who in turn must attend meetings and hold voting power for their respective municipalities. Then, they report back to their full Council on pertinent information and updates.

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

The South East Medical Group itself and it's Secretary/Treasurer are responsible for the vast majority of work done, as well as the organizational aspect of running such a committee with so many voices. Together they have overcome operational obstacles, differences of opinion, dealings with the Provincial Government, as well as answering to the general public, with the pressure to ensure our area has medical care for many years to come. Ensuring that all communities involved have been heard and are treated equally in respect and opportunity has been the top priority.

6. What resources were involved?

Funding wages, travel costs, operational costs, utilities, administrative supplies, and accounting have been the main resources provided by the South East Medical Group. Along with this, our doctors travel between communities so that each town may visit a doctor without having to travel so far. They share time between clinics, therefore broadening the service area provided for. All clients can choose to visit their physician in either Carnduff (2 days per week) or Redvers (3 days per week). The South East Medical Group also assists in arranging locums, who also follow this schedule. They assist in advertising and providing incentives to bring in new medical professionals, such as RN's, LPN's, GP's, and Combined X-ray/Lab Technicians.

7. How was the project or practice developed?

The Group was formed in Fall of 2016 due to the threat of losing our medical facility in Redvers. From there, once all the rural communities were brought together, gears shifted from saving one clinic to the expansion of the Tony Day Clinic being built in Redvers, thanks to the generous donation of the Day Family, local to Carnduff, SK, owners of Fast Trucking Ltd.

## The Results

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

The community, particularly our elderly residents and persons with disabilities were relieved and thrilled to be able to continue having local medical care, 24 Hour Emergency services, as well as a reliable facility for their lab and x-ray needs. Many people from surrounding communities, not just the ones included in the Group's funding agreement, use our clinics and benefit from the hard work of the South East Medical Group. The Group is responsible for fighting all closures presented by the Saskatchewan Health Authority, taking staffing matters into their own hands, and seeking funding from the local communities. In addition to this, there is a sub-committee that was formed to put on an annual "Redvers & District Health Foundation Fundraiser" in which the funds are used to purchase new medical equipment for the clinics. This event is well attended, selling out most years, as well

as receiving many generous donations and auction items to be sold during the event. This event has been carried out for well over a decade, including an online auction during COVID-19 restrictions. 9. No formal evaluation has been completed. The Secretary/Treasurer provides all involved communities with meeting minutes and financial reports on a regular basis.

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

No formal evaluation has been completed. The Secretary/Treasurer provides all involved communities with meeting minutes and financial reports on a regular basis.

10. Describe any challenges faced.

Challenges faced have been funding related, and staff related. RN's have been the major shortage for the past five years. In 2022-2023 we face the loss of two doctors that have been with our community for a decade. Applications made to SIPPA have been declined, but plans for reapplication in January is already underway. Whatever the challenge, the South East Medical Group is ready to handle them with expertise.

## Lessons Learned

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

The first lesson learned was that only keeping the community you live in and/or serve in mind does not produce results. Working together, joining forces, combining funds, and joint effort will make the load lighter and the timeline shorter. Forming an agreement signed by all municipalities, along with a fair funding assessment based on population and assessment, ensures all community contributes the appropriate percentages. Along with this, it was learned that Municipal Funding (and Provincial/Federal Funding) was still not enough. Local residents in the community of Redvers have come together to put on their Health Foundation Fundraiser every year to purchase "wish list" items for the clinics, ensuring our technology is always current and even possibly advancing. The goal is to maintain the current services, and seek out more, by means of hiring specialty technicians and the required equipment, such as an Ultrasound Technician and Machine.

The Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1040948993339431/about>

The Current Committee Members:

- Ross Apperley

- Spence Sutter
- Kim Carlsen
- Brian Chicoine
- Christine Ewert-Hill
- Clinton Taylor
- Corinne Orsted-Bulbuck
- Mike Fowler
- Krystyn Gilles
- Brian Magotiaux
- Clint Paton
- David Pryde
- Shandelle Lamothe
- Shawn Gallant
- Derek Soroka
- Tyler Arthur
- Katy Soroka

**All nominations will be listed on the Saskatchewan Municipal Awards website as a resource for other municipalities. Be sure to include specific information.**

Please submit your completed nomination package to:

**E-mail:** [awards@municipalawards.ca](mailto:awards@municipalawards.ca) (preferred)

**Fax:** Attn: Saskatchewan Municipal Awards Program

**Mail:** Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association, Unit 305 – 4741 Parliament Avenue, Regina, SK S4W 0T9

**Questions?**

Contact Stephanie Bourassa at 306-525-4318.

***Thank you for submitting a nomination for the  
16<sup>th</sup> annual Saskatchewan Municipal Awards.***