



Celebrating Municipal Excellence
2025 Nomination Form
Deadline: 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 18, 2025

Nominee Information	
Name of municipality leading project:	Northern Village of Denare Beach
Additional municipalities included in nomination: <small>(please include the names of all partner municipalities)</small>	Northern Town of Creighton
Contact Name:	Meredith Norman
Contact role in project:	Chief Administrative Officer
Telephone #:	306-362-2054
E-mail Address:	denarebeachadmin@sasktel.net
Name of Nominated Practice or Project:	Wolf Fire Recovery and Rebuild
Date of Project or Practice Initiation:	June 2, 2025
Date of Project or Practice Completion: <small>(If ongoing, please indicate)</small>	Ongoing Ongoing: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Nominator Contact Information (if different than above)	
Name:	Meredith Norman
Organization:	Northern Village of Denare Beach
Position:	CAO
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E-mail Address:	denarebeachadmin@sasktel.net

Please provide as much detail as possible. Winning practices are posted in the Best Practices Library as a reference or resource for 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?

On June 2, 2025 the Northern Village of Denare Beach suffered a huge loss to the community with approximately 60% of our homes burning in the Wolf Fire. The homes were desimated and over 200 families were left without a home. The Town of Creighton supported Denare Beach in many different ways including fire fighting efforts, meetings with the Councils, SPSA and Provincial Officials. The Town also opened up their newly developed subdivision for interim housing for the residents of Denare Beach that are displaced due to the wildfire. The Province has supported the residents with interim housing until placed in the Town of Creighton subdivision. The Town has developed the lots, coordinated a variety of contractors to place, connect and have the units ready and available for our residents to move in.

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

The project has ensured that anyone displaced due to the Wolf Fire that destroyed their homes have a safe and warm residence to live in not only through the Winter but until their homes are rebuilt. It has provided our residents with some assurance they will not be left out in the cold after such a traumatic event of losing their home and community.

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 to a similar project or practice.

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

- Municipal Council
- Municipal Administration
- Other

SPSA and the Province of Saskatchewan

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

The Councils and administration for the Northern Village of Denare Beach and the Northern Town of Creighton worked together to advocate for supports and housing for the residents of Denare Beach. We met many times, and continue to meet regularly, with the Province of Saskatchewan representatives and the SPSA to ensure the best possible plan for the residents in terms of housing and required supports for the communities of Denare Beach and Creighton.

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

The Province of Saskatchewan and SPSA both support the project. They have provided the housing units and supports for the residents. The project goes beyond housing. It also includes the clean up of all the building lost to fire and ensuring a safe clean community for our residences to return to. The Province has provided supports, staffing and financial support for the clean up, housing, mental health capacity etc.

6. What resources were involved?

Nearly every contractor within our region has been involved in some capacity with the clean up and housing for the Denare Beach residents. The resources provided by the Province go beyond the financial supports and resources but include mental health resources, clean up resources, housing resources. The town of Creighton has provided the Village with approximately 20 lots serviced lots for our housing units.

7. How was the project or practice developed?

The project developed rapidly after the Wolf Fire hit the Village on June 2, 2025. The need for clean up and housing became the focus of both the Village of Denare Beach and the Town of Creighton as soon as news hit that so much was lost in the community of Denare Beach. As soon as the Councils and staff returned home work began to implement a clean up plan and housing plan

The Results

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

The clean up project provided the residence with a solid clean up plan for thier properties. The Province supported the plan and so did the insurance companies. Once the residents were notifed of the clean up plan they signed waivers to permit the clean up to occur on their properties. In a very stressful time, it was one stress relieved for the residents.

The housing has provided a necessary home for the residents who were unable to secure rental property. For many residents it was a very stressful time not knowing whre they would be living come winter and beyond until their homes were rebuilt.

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

The clean up project has been evaluated by an engineer to ensure all properties are clear of toxins and contaminants. Soil sampling was completed and results provided to the residents.

The housing portion of our rebuild is an ongoing project and will be evaluated at the completion in a few years

10. Describe any challenges faced.

We encountered a few challenges with the housing units, but mostly minor deficiencies within the housing units that were rectified through local contractors arranged by the Town of Creighton.
Ensuring the homes were ready prior to cold weather became a challenge also.

Lessons Learned

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

We'd recommend in an event such as this your neighbouring community and local contractors can be a huge support. Be patient, in our case we felt like we were moving faster than the Province at times. We needed to remind ourselves of the different levels of government and how many different ministries are involved in our rebuild efforts.

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 (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
19th annual Saskatchewan Municipal Awards.***