



**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> <small>(please include the names of all partner municipalities)</small>	Town of Shaunavon
<b>Contact Name:</b>	Tara Fritz
<b>Contact role in project:</b>	CAO
<b>Telephone #:</b>	306-297-2605
<b>Mailing Address:</b>	Box 820 Shaunavon SK S0N 2M0
<b>E-mail Address:</b>	shaunavonedc@sasktel.net
<b>Name of Nominated Practice or Project:</b>	Regional Co-operation & Initiatives
<b>Date of Project or Practice Initiation:</b>	Began years ago with the first project, and has been ongoing since.
<b>Date of Project or Practice Completion:</b> <small>(If ongoing, please indicate)</small>	<b>Ongoing:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Nominator Contact Information	
<b>Name:</b>	Lauren Johnson
<b>Organization:</b>	Shaunavon Economic Development
<b>Position:</b>	Economic Development Officer
<b>Mailing Address:</b>	Box 820 Shaunavon SK S0N 2M0
<b>Telephone #:</b>	306-297-2605
<b>E-mail Address:</b>	shaunavonedc@sasktel.net

***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?**

Over the past several years, The Town of Shaunavon has undertaken several regional initiatives to increase cooperation and collaboration throughout Southwest, Saskatchewan. These initiatives include: Shaunavon & District Fire and Rescue, Shaunavon & District EMO, Southwest Waste Management Authority Regional Landfill, Regional Business License, Regional EMO, Regional Bylaw Officer and the Municipal Shared Resource Committee.

These initiatives were inspired by the identified need to share assets and resources as a means of minimizing the financial burden for all partners. As a region, we are able to achieve more together, then we would have been able to individually due to human capital and financial limitations. Each of these initiatives provide its own benefits to all of the partnering communities and the region as a whole.

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

Working together regionally on all of these initiatives has had many positive impacts for the partnering communities. These positive impacts will be felt for years to come, as all of these initiatives are ongoing. Each of these initiatives have addressed the limitations faced by each community individually, especially pertaining to finances and human capital.

Shaunavon & District Fire and Rescue – Increase to public safety in all of the partnering communities while lessening the financial burden for each. Able to provide quality services by working together to support one fire department. Ability to purchase and maintain required equipment.

Shaunavon & District EMO and Regional EMO – Increase to public safety for all the communities as well as shared knowledge and resources.

Southwest Waste Management Authority Regional Landfill – This project lessened the financial burden of building the landfill on each of the communities, something that would not have been accomplished by any individual community.

Regional Business License – Creating consistency across the partnering communities so new businesses and contractors have a streamlined process when working in the area.

Regional Bylaw Officer – Working together to be able to have a full-time bylaw officer that no individual community would be able to support on their own.

Municipal Shared Resource Committee - Sharing of information and resources to help all partnering communities achieve success. This resource sharing allows each community to lessen their individual financial burden.

Working collaboratively not only helps us to be able to provide the services needed in each community, and build stronger relationships, it also assists us with acquiring grant funding for other projects.

We are continuing to work on all of these initiatives and hope these strong relationships lead to additional collaboration moving forward.

## 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?

Town Council has been involved with the formation of all of the identified initiatives. For all of these initiatives, a shared need was identified and then we had to work together with the other communities to come up with effective solutions. Town Council still spearheads some of the committees and attend ongoing meeting for: Shaunavon & District Fire and Rescue, Shaunavon & District EMO, Southwest Waste Management Authority Regional Landfill, Regional EMO and the Municipal Shared Resource Committee. Town Council is very involved with advocating for these committees and initiatives so they continue to benefit all the communities moving forward.

Municipal staff has been shared through some of these initiatives to provide essential services at less of a financial burden to each of the communities (i.e. Regional Bylaw Officer). Sharing this human capital resource has allowed each of the partnering communities to have bylaw enforcement, which was otherwise not feasible. Municipal staff are also involved by sitting on some of the committees for these initiatives and assisting with planning and administrative work.

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

Each of these initiatives involved a number of partnering communities, including RM's and other Towns and Villages.

Shaunavon & District Fire and Rescue – This involves the RM of Grassy Creek, RM of Arlington, RM of Bone Creek and the Town of Shaunavon.

Shaunavon & District EMO - This involves the RM of Wise Creek, RM of Grassy Creek, RM of Arlington, RM of Bone Creek and the Town of Shaunavon.

Southwest Waste Management Authority Regional Landfill - This involves the Town of Eastend, RM of Grassy Creek, RM of White Valley, RM of Arlington, RM of Bone Creek and the Town of Shaunavon.

Regional Bylaw Officer - This involves the Town of Gull Lake, Town of Frontier, Town of Climax, Town of Eastend and the Town of Shaunavon.

Regional Business License - This involves the Town of Gull Lake, Town of Frontier, Town of Climax, Town of Eastend and the Town of Shaunavon.

Regional EMO - This involves the RM of Webb, Village of Webb, RM of Gull Lake, RM of Carmichael, Town of Gull Lake, RM of Wise Creek, RM of Grassy Creek, RM of Arlington, RM of Bone Creek and the Town of Shaunavon.

In each of these initiatives, all of the regional partners were imperative for it to be successful. Each partnering community provides its own knowledge, resources, expertise, supplies and financial contributions that are all required to make these initiatives a success. Without this type of collaboration, individually we would not have been able to achieve all that we have as one.

6. What resources were involved?

There were a number of shared resources involved in each of these initiatives, including: human capital, equipment, buildings, insurance, volunteers and contactors.

Human capital and limited staff were a huge reason for working together on a number of these initiatives. Through this we are able to share some staff (i.e. Regional Bylaw Officer) to help meet the needs of the region. Human capital resources are so important and by collaborating we are able to feasibly have these personnel to do these important jobs.

Shared equipment has also been a huge benefit of working together with various communities, lessening the financial burden for all partners. This is the case for some

initiatives like the Shaunavon & District Fire and Rescue where through this regional partnership we are able to purchase equipment and train volunteer staff that we need, which would not be possible on our own.

Resource sharing has allowed us to serve a greater audience and provide better services to the community, that would not be possible without the partnership.

## 7. How was the project or practice developed?

The Town of Shaunavon and the surrounding communities identified the need for each of these initiatives through a gap analysis. The groups collaborated and worked together to solve the identified issues.

A number of these initiatives took time to implement, many collaborative meetings were held, and policies put in place. Key roles and responsibilities were also identified through the process. Now, for a number of these initiatives, ongoing meetings are held to ensure everyone involved is still working towards a shared vision.

## The Results

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

All of these initiatives had great positive benefits to all the communities involved.

There has been increased access to services that each of the communities would not be able to sustain on their own. Financial and human capital limitations have eased, as the partnering communities are able to share these important resources.

These regional initiatives have allowed the communities to work together, and build stronger relationships, which will have additional lasting positive impacts. The hope is that all of these initiatives will continue in the future and lead to additional conversation and ideas on ways to work together.

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

There was no formal evaluation done as all of these initiatives are currently ongoing and continuing to provide benefits to all the communities involved in each. The Town of Shaunavon is continuing to work with these partners to improve these initiatives and increase collaboration, which will hopefully lead to more shared projects in the future.

## 10. Describe any challenges faced.

There were at times challenges achieving an effective consensus throughout these various initiatives. In any situation where various communities and organizations are working together, there are always going to be difficulties working together towards a share vision, when each community has their own individual priorities. It is important when organizing these initiatives that the communities involved really work hard, to see the benefit of the initiative as a whole and the positive impacts that are felt on all the communities.

## Lessons Learned

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

Overall the process of implementing these various initiatives has been very smooth and all the committees involved have been working well. Improvements can always be made along the way to streamline processes and communication to achieve results more effectively. Throughout implementing all of these initiatives, the Shaunavon & District Fire and Rescue, Shaunavon & District EMO, Southwest Waste Management Authority Regional Landfill, Regional Business License, Regional EMO, Regional Bylaw Officer and the Municipal Shared Resource Committee, the communities have really had to work hard to keep the goal of the group as the driving force behind the initiative. We have learnt that working together can be difficult at times, but we are able to achieve so much more together, that benefits all of the communities in the region.

**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.***