



The Akokiniskway Golf Course is located just 23 kilometers from Standard

VILLAGE OF STANDARD

The **Village of Standard** – Heart of Wheatland County – Located on highway 840, twenty minutes east of Strathmore, with a population of 380 people. The Village has a community school, hockey arena, curling rink, community hall, campground, industrial park, grocery store, and a few other amenities. The Village is currently developing the first phase of a west subdivision and hope to have 19 lots ready for sale by the end of August, first part of September. The Village of Standard is a beautiful community with a lot of heart and pride with a focus on sustainability and growth for the future.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENT



CASTOR HOME HARDWARE

Brian Dyki, Owner and manager of the Home Hardware in Castor with a permit value of \$793,000. says that 70% of the construction has been completed for a new 10,000 sq ft building. They are expanding to include cabinets, more displays and will have window displays as well. The Home Hardware will feature his wife's flower shop, offering seasonal gardening products as well as fresh flowers. *"We are hiring people steadily in preparation for our opening as we hope to be in by October '08. Come and visit us at 4801—50th Avenue, Main street, Castor, Alberta"* - Brian Dyki

LINDEN SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

The Linden school is nearing completion of their gymnasium renovation with a permit value of \$357,800. As the original gym floor was suffering from water damage, a new solidly built floor has been constructed. They are happy to report the painting in the gymnasium has been done and the rubber topping on the floor will be done in the next few weeks. The Linden School students have been without a gym for the last school year but will be very excited to see their new gymnasium when they return to school this fall!

NEW FACES in the Region



Drumheller— **Kate Lima**—Development Officer/Safety Codes Administrator
Paul Salvatore—Director, Community Services
 Paintearth Economic Partnership Society— **Larry Davidson**— Economic Development Officer for the Paintearth Economic Partnership Society of which the Towns of Coronation and Castor, the Village of Halkirk and the County of Paintearth are founding Members.
 County of Wheatland—**Dave Churchill**— Manager of the Public Works Department
Brad Danyschuk— Development Officer
 Village of Linden — **Amy Beattie**—Assistant CAO
Dale Johnson—Public Works Foreman

FALL FIELDNOTES TOPICS:

Wind Energy
 Bio of New Shareholders
 Fall Annual Meeting



Your comments, questions and suggestions are always welcome. If you have any ideas for a Fieldnotes article, please pass them on to

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SUMMER
08

Palliser Regional Municipal Services Ltd.

PRMS
SHARE
HOLDERS

ACME

BEISEKER

CARBON

CASTOR

CEREAL

CONSORT

CORONATION

DELIA

DRUMHELLER

EMPRESS

HALKIRK

HANNA

HUSSAR

LINDEN

MORRIN

MUNSON

OYEN

ROCKYFORD

STANDARD

TROCHU

VETERAN

YOUNGSTOWN

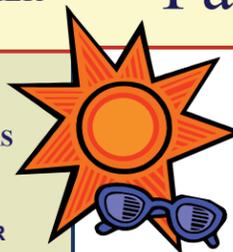
MD OF ACADIA

COUNTY OF
PAINTEARTH

SPECIAL
AREAS #2,3,4

STARLAND
COUNTY

WHEATLAND
COUNTY



GENERAL MEETING BREAKS ATTENDANCE RECORD

A new attendance record was established at the 2008 spring/summer meeting, as shareholder municipalities gathered together for an evening of business and networking.

Chairman **Annon Hovde** initiated proceedings with a report on behalf of the Board of Directors which highlighted Palliser's positive growth as a business entity. He mentioned that a reorganization in staffing has resulted in Palliser accomplishing more, with the same number of people. **Annon** thanked staff for their hard work and dedication and welcomed the Villages of Hussar, Standard and Rockyford as our newest shareholders.

Monica Ell-Bach of Endeavor Chartered Accounts echoed Chairman **Hovde's** comments stating "2007's Audited Financial Statements are the most positive seen over the 8 years of doing the audit." **Monica** reported that a \$107,000. surplus was generated.

Mr. Alf Durnie, Administrator/Chief Inspector Private Sewage Treatment Systems, then provided an informative session on Municipal Affairs model process for private sewage treatment systems.

Following **Alf**, staff presented updates on

BUILDING PERMIT STATISTICS

As seen in the figure below, building permits so far this year present a mixed message. While permitting activity over the entire region is generally up, total values are down.

	PERMITTING COMPARISON BY AREA			
	JAN—JUNE 2008		JAN-JUNE 2007	
	# PERMITS	VALUE (\$MIL)	# PERMITS	VALUE (\$MIL)
DRUMHELLER	66	\$6.72	72	\$6.5
WHEATLAND	74	\$11.1	75	\$17.9
PALLISER	157	\$10.6	131	\$16.9
TOTAL	293	\$29.72	243	\$31.2

PRISM, Safety Codes, the Exploration Grant and subdivision and planning activity (see balance of Fieldnotes for details).

Of course the General Meeting would not be a success without a wrap-up meal and networking opportunity. **Laughlin's Catering** did not disappoint in this regard as they served all you can eat barbecued steak and chicken with all the trimmings accompanied by delicious homemade pies. Winners of the draws included **Deb Kovitch**, **Julie Falkenberg**, **Shirley Buyer**, **Annon Hovde** and **Fred Walters**.

Stay tuned for the date of the Fall General Meeting.



Alf Durnie, Administrator/Chief Inspector Private Sewage Treatment Systems—Spring Annual meeting June 24, 2008.

MEET OUR RECENT TEAM ADDITION



Dana V. Schmalz joined the Palliser Regional Municipal Services office in May 2008. As a fresh graduate with a bachelor's degree in Regional and Urban Planning from the University of Saskatchewan, Dana is excited and looking forward to enhancing her knowledge and interests within planning.

Being raised on a dairy farm south of Shellbrook Saskatchewan, Dana loves being outside. Her pastimes include gardening, landscaping, and anything outdoors. As a child growing up, she was involved in dance and music and still today these hobbies have carried on. She has been a Cuban Salsa dance instructor for Saskatoon Salsa and still enjoys trying to teach her husband the steps at home.

Besides her love for dance and music, Dana and her husband Kyle keep busy with their mobile welding business. They also enjoy cooking, eating, spending time with their family and travelling. In fact, Dana and her husband recently returned from a one month's travel of touring the western part of Europe.



APPEAL BOARD GOES REGIONAL

In response to some member municipalities experiencing problems in the administration of their Subdivision and Development Appeal Boards (SDAB), Palliser agreed to review the possible creation of a regional board.

A volunteer task force consisting of John Kaster (Hanna), David Connauton (Coronation), Barrie Hoover (Starland) and Fred Walters (Beiseker) was created to review the matter.

In arriving at a solution, the Task Force recognized that municipalities were having difficulty in finding qualified people to sit on their Boards and that a perception of bias was appearing in some of their decisions. Inconsistency and concerns about offending friends and neighbours was also prevalent.

After having determined that regional SDABs are permitted under the Municipal Government Act, the Task Force considered a number of optional structures. While a single large Regional Appeal Board was attractive in that more consistent decision making with reduced opportunities for conflict-of-interest would occur and only limited training would be required, there was concern regarding potential costs and time commitment of Board members becoming prohibitive.

It was agreed that Sub-regional Appeal Boards would operate most effectively. The western based communities of Beiseker, Castor, Linden, Acme and Trochu volunteered to initiate a pilot project. All hearing and advertising costs associated with their appeals will be absorbed by the respective municipality. Palliser will provide training and operational guidelines.

SUBDIVISION ACTIVITY

Based upon the first six months of 2008, subdivision activity is on pace for the second highest total in Palliser's history.

As indicated in the table titled "Rural/Urban Subdivision Activity", urban applications show a marked percentage increase. Many of these applications feature a greater number of lots than is customary. Highlights include: Beiseker (72 lots), Carbon (41 lots), Trochu (30 lots), Castor (20 lots), Drumheller (7 lots) and Coronation (6 lots).

RURAL/URBAN SUBDIVISION ACTIVITY

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 (June)
Urban	44%	42%	19%	16%	23%
Rural	56%	58%	81%	84%	77%



LAND USE BYLAWS, LEGISLATIVE UPDATES AND PRIVATE SEWAGE POLICY

Keeping Plans Current

With all the demands associated with growth and expansion of infrastructure, Palliser is increasingly being asked by our shareholders to assist in the production and revision of their Municipal Land Use Bylaws (LUB) and Municipal Development Plans (MDP). Because these legislated documents are the key tools by which development and use of land is proposed and regulated, it is important they be kept up-to-date.

Palliser's resources are allocated towards updating LUBs and MDPs in the order requests occur. To date in 2008, we have seen the completion of the Town of Drumheller's LUB and MDP. Work in progress includes the following:

MDP & LUBStarland County, County of Paintearth, Coronation
MDP Background Studies.....Trochu, Linden, Carbon

As time permits, document updates for the Village of Beiseker, M.D. of Acadia, Hanna, Oyen and Wheatland County will be undertaken. If your municipality wants to be placed on the list, be sure to contact us.

Provincial Land Use Framework

The final draft of the Provincial Land Use Framework was recently announced by the Honourable Ted Morton, the Minister of Sustainable Resource Development. PRMS provided feedback on behalf of the shareholders via the Public Feedback Survey. The purpose of the Land Use Framework is to improve the overall sustainability by means of land use management within the Province including oil and gas, forestry and mining, agriculture, recreation, housing and infrastructure.

The Land Use Framework proposes to divide the Province into six regions based on the major watersheds with boundaries to best represent existing municipal boundaries and the natural regions. Regional Land Use Plans are to be developed within these regions that take into account the cumulative impacts of development overall in the region with thresholds identified for air, land, water and biodiversity. Land-use planning will operate within these defined thresholds.

New policy tools are to be developed for conservation and stewardship on private and public lands including best practices and incentives for conservation initiatives.

Municipalities will continue to retain the current authority in land-use planning and decision-making but will need to ensure their plans and decisions are consistent with regional plans. Plan amendments may be necessary to adopt and implement regional planning directions.

Private Sewage Disposal System Policy



Wheatland County recently passed new requirements due to concerns regarding country residential development as it pertains to private sewage disposal system (PSDS) requirements.

The policy created with input from Palliser Regional Municipal Services and Alberta Municipal Affairs, requires all new applications for country residential subdivisions to satisfy among other things:

- any limitations on site due to parcel size
- suitable and unsuitable system types for the parcel
- limiting soil or groundwater conditions
- topographic limitations
- recommended location for the proposed system based on soil/site assessment shown through a site plan and for each proposed parcel

For more information contact the Wheatland County office at 403-934-3321 or our office at 403-854-3371.

PRMS DISCOVERS A KITTY TREE!

The staff at Palliser had an exciting day at the office when they discovered a litter of kittens in a juniper bush outside the window. We are happy to report that the kittens have found good homes—they didn't have to look very far though as Char and Ed were happy to make room in their farm yards for these adorable kittens.

