



**MULTIPLEX NEWS  
QUARTERLY REPORT  
December, 2011**

As part of its Strategic Planning process, the Council of the Town of Russell has identified improved communication as an important piece of the service it delivers to the Community. To that end the Council has decided to create a quarterly report; a “State of the Community” if you would, to be supplied to the residents in paper and electronic form at the end of each 3 month period. The report will provide a recap of issues and events.

2011 has been a very busy year in the community. Construction activity in the Town is at an all time high with both publicly funded and private projects being worked on over the past 12 months.

The Assiniboine Regional Health Authority opened the doors to the new dialysis unit at the Russell Health Centre earlier this year. The expansion to the facility and in the services available in our community demonstrates the key role our town and hospital play in the future of health care provision in our area.

Residential lot sales and construction of new homes enjoyed an especially strong year. In total the Town of Russell saw 9 permits taken out for new single family houses. While MacIsaac Crescent Phase II, which contains 10 lots; had 6 sell to private individuals or private ventures, 3 other lots have been committed to developers leaving a single lot for sale in MacIsaac Crescent.

Main Street Revitalization saw the completion of the construction component of the project. A small amount of electrical work remains outstanding, which will be completed as weather permits. In general the project has developed as advertised. It has truly beautified our downtown and allowed our community to take the next step toward becoming a tourist destination community. Congratulations to the Main Street Revitalization Committee for their efforts and achievements.

The Russell Regional Multiplex Project continues to be a challenge. 2011 saw great progress and setbacks on the site. No group is more disappointed with the developments of the project than the Town Council or the Fundraising Committee. The one positive out of all this, is that extensive testing has been performed on the facility in the hope that all deficiencies have been discovered. Once the deficiencies have been identified the Town and the Committee will work with MMP to develop solutions. As soon as answers have been determined, Graham will be fixing the problems at no additional cost to the residents of Russell. In the end we will get a first class facility that will become the centre piece of our community, unfortunately we have to wait a little longer to get it.

As far as Town operations go, 2011 was a fairly typical year. The Town’s beautification efforts continued. We identified 2 blocks of new sidewalk on Augusta Street that have been prepared and are waiting asphalt in the spring of 2012. In addition a new focus on regional cooperation with regard to garbage collection and recycling was initiated in 2011.

Speaking of cooperation, the Town and RM of Russell have partnered to install a water main east from the corner of Memorial Avenue and South Government Road to provide potable water to the industrial park immediately south of Town. The Project estimated to cost \$250,000 also included funding from Western Diversification through its Community Assistance Program.

2012 promises to be a very good year for the Town of Russell. A new commercial building will be going up south of the Russell Civic Centre and the Town has already had enquiries about new home and new multi-family construction for next summer. Russell has joined the Provincial Age Friendly Community program which has a number of exciting opportunities. We will provide greater details on this initiative in the new year. Progress is never easy and change is never popular but we need both if our Town and region is to thrive in the future

As we close out 2011 and head toward 2012 it is a time to take stock and reflect. Yes we could have done things better; but much has been accomplished that we need to be proud of. A great foundation has been established to move our community forward and the future looks bright.

To you and yours, have a great Holiday Season.

Chris Radford  
Mayor