



Rural Municipality of Mountain View No. 318

ORIGIN OF RURAL MUNICIPALITY MOUNTAIN VIEW NO. 318

Before Saskatchewan became a Province in 1905, it was part of the area known as the North West Territories which covered all that portion of land lying between Manitoba to the east, British Columbia to the west and from the International Boundary between Canada and the United States north to the Arctic Ocean. Up to the year 1905, the North West Territories was under the administrative control of the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba and a Council of eleven members appointed by the Dominion Government. This Territorial Council acted under the authority of the North West Territories Act of 1875, and was empowered to pass legislation to provide for the governing of this vast area.

When the Province of Saskatchewan was established in 1905, all municipal affairs came under the supervision of the Territorial Department of Public Works. By the year 1908, the Saskatchewan Legislature had adopted legislation to provide for the formation, operation and control of the local government units we have today — that of city, town, village and rural municipality. Before that, the rural area was divided into Local Improvement Districts; the size and shape of which was variable as natural boundaries such as creeks,

hills and rivers were used, but most of them were of the nine township square size. These Local Improvement Districts were administered by elected representatives of the people who lived in each district. By March 21, 1907 rural local government assumed legal form and status.

The Rural Municipality of Mountain View, as it exists today, was part of the Mountain View local Improvement District No. 16-N-3. The councillors elected to administer the district were as follows:

Division 1: Charles T. Ramsey — Twp. 31-17-3

Division 2: Frank Cutten — Twp. 32-17-3

Division 3: Alex Walker — Twp. 31-18-3

Division 4: William J. Heatherington (Chairman) — 32-18-3

Division 5: D. Dubrueil — Twp. 33-17-3

Division 6: M. J. McMillan — Twp. 33-18-3
and Charles Lawrence, Notary Public, Berkshire Farm, of Wiggins, Sask. was Secretary-Treasurer.

On May 19, 1909 a petition was sent to the Municipal Commissioner for Saskatchewan by a Municipal Committee, whose names appear on the copy of the petition, for the authority to proceed with the organization of a rural municipality. The seven names submitted for the name of the proposed municipality also appear on the petition.

POR

Organisation of a Rural Municipality

To the *Municipal Commissioner for Saskatchewan*:—

We, the undersigned committee, do hereby petition for authority to proceed with the organization of a Rural Municipality, as provided by The Rural Municipality Act; and the area of the proposed Municipality comprises Townships 31, 32, 33
(Here describe townships and parts of townships to be included in the
Municipality, giving their numbers, ranges and meridian.)
East in Ranges 16, 17, 18 and 19th

We suggest one of the following as the name for the proposed Municipality:

1. Mountain View 5. Bramley
(Here insert seven names in order of choice.)

2. Kalbarford 6. Newbury
3. Glenagarry 7. Aldersminster
4. Dreamworld

We request that all correspondence and instructions from the Department relating to the organisation of the proposed Municipality be addressed in Charles Lawrence at Higgins P.O.

Dated this thirtieth day
of May 1929

M/g Weatherington
Alex Walker
Frank Cullen
Aerie Brown
A D Thrall

Municipal
Committee

STATUTORY DECLARATION.

CANADA
Province of Saskatchewan
TO WIT:

I, Abraham Walker of Regina
in the Province of Saskatchewan, do solemnly declare:

1. That I am a member of the above named committee and am personally acquainted with the other four members;

9. That each of the members of the said committee is of the full age of eighteen years, actually resides within the limits of the above proposed Municipality and has so resided therein and owned or been the occupant of assessable property therein for a period of at least two months prior to this date;

the best of my knowledge and belief the facts set forth in the above petition are

make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true and knowing that
the force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of The Canada Evidence

at Wiggins
of Saskatchewan this
day of May

Alex Walker

Accompanying the petition was an approval of the resident electors requesting a vote be taken for and against the organization of the rural municipality.

'RESIDENT ELECTORS' APPROVAL

(Section 15, The Rural Municipality Act)

We, the undersigned resident electors of the proposed Rural Municipality of Manitowish, hereby declare that we are desirous of having the said Municipality duly organized under the provisions of The Rural Municipality Act and that for this purpose it is desirable that a vote of the resident electors should be taken for and against the organization of the said Rural Municipality.

[illegible]

(NOTE)
JAN/8

The corner of this document was missing but listed below are the landowners of the property listed: SW16-32-17 A-Frechette NE6-33-17-3 T.Frechette; SW24-32-17 Jim Madill; SE16-32-17 W.Lamontagne; NW6-33-17 Joe Frechette; SE24-32-18 John Patterson; John Stephenson; NE32-32-17 James Mitchell; SE22-31-17 James Brown.

R.M. 318.

\$18.

I trust that nothing will prevent the election from being held in due form and shall be glad to receive the official statement of the Returning Officer when he is in a position to render the same.

Charles Newton, Esq.,
R I G G I N S .

(Section 10, The Rural Municipality Act.)

Dec of J. R. N. O. 1909.

Robert Municipal Commissioner.

Returning Officer's Statement

(Section 52, The Rural Municipality Act.)

Against the Municipality 16

Dated at Triggin this Twentieth
day of July 18 09

Charles Lawrence
Returning Officer.

The Mountain View Local Improvement District No. 16-K-3

Sec. 1. Chas. T. Farnham, Tm. N-11-3
 2. Frank Coffey, Tm. N-11-3
 3. George Walker, Tm. N-11-3
 4. Wm. T. MacFarquhar, Chairman, Tm. N-11-3
 5. D. Vincent, Tm. N-11-3
 6. J. McMillan, Tm. N-11-3
 CHARLES L. AUSTIN, Secretary-Treasurer
 Henry Peltier, Spiritual Power, Physics, Etc.

WIGGINS, SASK. *July 27* 1909

Sir,
Enclosed please find the Official
Statement of the results of the Election for
Mayor forming the district of Montreal
divided into 318 wards & Municipalities;
At a Municipal Committee
Meeting held on the 24th inst, it was
Resolved to request you to have the said
division divided from East to West instead
of from North to South as it will facilitate
the work of the Council as both the North
& South are in the Hills viz South end
in the "Bas Hill" & North end in the "Bour
Hills". I am sure you will grant us this
favor.

Yours faithfully
Chambers
L. H. Payne Esq.

In due course, a reply to the July 27th letter was received, with an additional letter concerning the divisions and the official organization of Rural Municipality of Mountain View No. 318 comprised of Townships 31, 32 and 33 in Ranges 16, 17 and 18, all west of the Third Meridian.

318

B-cs

August 16, 1909.

Sir:-

I beg to acknowledge your letter of the 27th ultimo enclosing your statement as Returning Officer, showing a good majority in favour of the organization of Rural Municipality No. 318.

In accordance with the Act, the Commissioner's Order has been given, organizing the Municipality and I enclose a copy of such order.

All documents in connection with the proceedings may be retained by you until a regular Secretary-Treasurer is appointed, at which time, the papers which served in the initial steps may be handed to him.

I have noted with satisfaction the result of your efforts in the matter.

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Lawrence, Esq.,

Deputy Commissioner.

W I G G I N S, Sask.

318

B-cs

August 16, 1909.

Sir:-

In addition to the attached letter, I may say in reply to your request that much as we would desire to comply with your wishes, yet we feel constrained to apply the method outlined in The Local Improvements Act and have the divisions of your municipality with their greater length North and South. While this may prove a little inconvenient at present, yet, in years to come I think the ratopayers will see the wisdom in following the rule already laid down for our guidance.

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Lawrence, Esq.,

Deputy Commissioner.

W I G G I N S, Sask.

Organisation of Rural Municipality

REGINA, August 16, 1909.

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of The Rural Municipality Act in that behalf that by order of the Municipal Commissioner (which will take effect on, from and after the Thirtieth day of December, 1909) the following lands have been organized as a Rural Municipality under the name of The Rural Municipality of Mountain View No. 318 with the divisions as hereunder shown:

Division No. 1.- Township 31 and the South-half of Township 32 in Range 16 West of the third meridian.

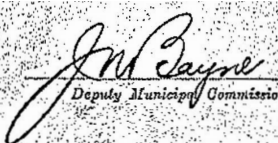
Division No. 2.- Township 31 and the South-half of Township 32 in Range 17 West of the third meridian.

Division No. 3.- Township 31 and the South-half of Township 32 in Range 18 West of the third meridian.

Division No. 4.- The North-half of Township 33 and all of Township 33 in Range 16 West of the third meridian.

Division No. 5.- The North-half of Township 33 and all of Township 33 in Range 17 West of the third meridian.

Division No. 6.- The North-half of Township 33 and all of Township 33 in Range 18 West of the third meridian.

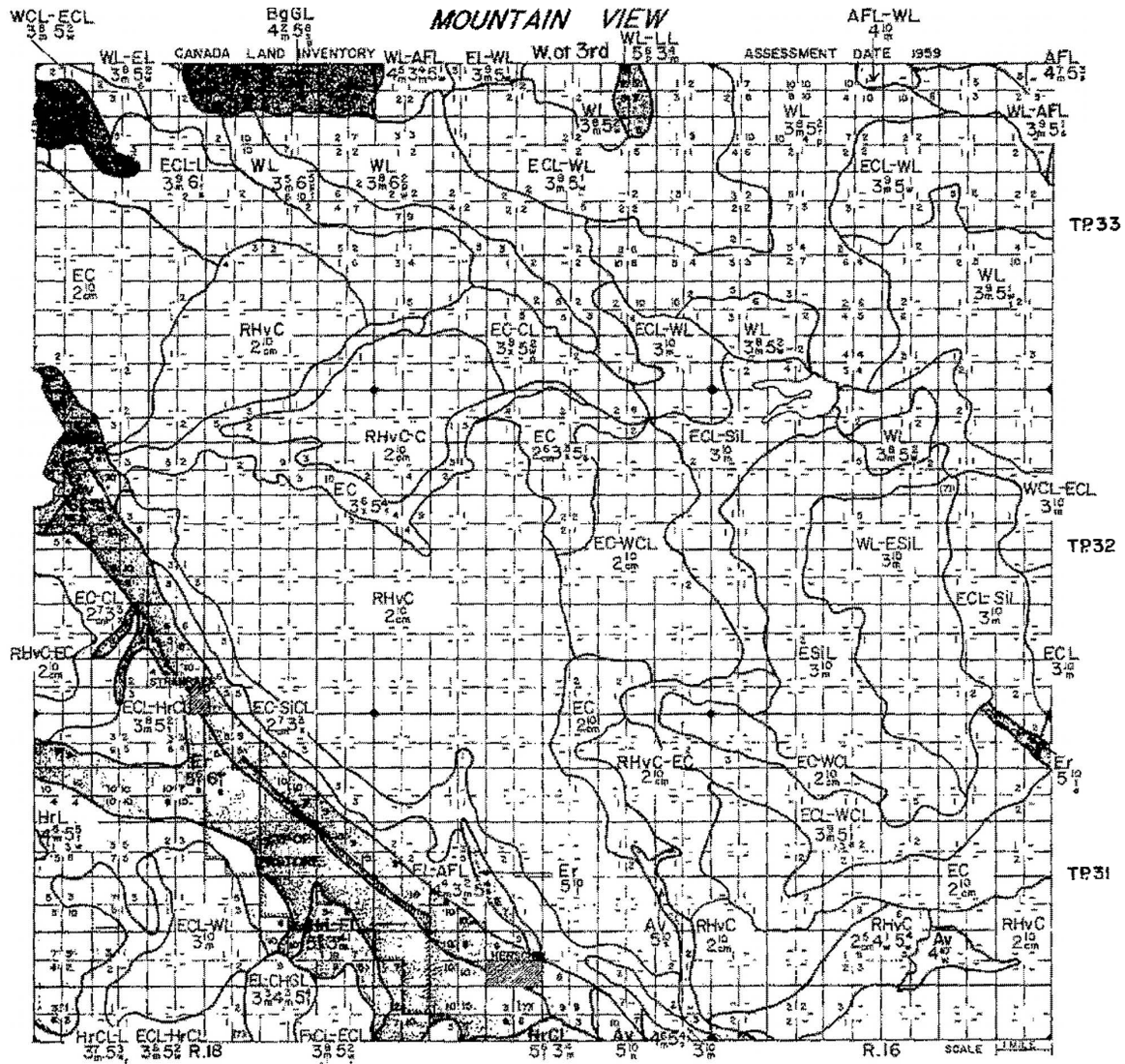

Deputy Municipal Commissioner.

Our Municipality is located in the Dark Brown Soil Region of the province and has a long time average wheat yield of 15.5 to 25 bushels per acre.

For the period 1932-1961 average wheat yield was 15.3 bus.; 1942-61 average wheat yield was 16.8 bus.; 1952-61 average wheat yield was 20.8 bus.; 1962-80 average wheat yield was 24.8 bus.

The fertile flat land in the middle of the municipality is bordered on the north by the Bear Hills and on the south by the Bad Hills. The hill regions of the area are used for grazing purposes. We are fortunate to have some of the best grain growing soil in Saskatchewan which tends to make our municipality one of the highest in economic standing.

RURAL MUNICIPALITY NO. 318

☐ 60% or more of Class 4 soils.

60% or more of Class 5 and 6 soils.

Table 1. The Initial Capability Grouping and Basic Soil Index for the Soil Associations and Textural Types in R.M. No. 318.

bol	Soil Association and Textural	Soil Zone	Initial Cavability	Basic Soil Index	bol	Soil Association and Textural Type	Soil Zone	Initial Cavability	Basic Soil Index
RHVC	Regina Heavy Clay	Dark Brown	2cm	80	WLL	Weyburn Light Loam	Dark Brown	4m	50
EC	Elstow Clay	Dark Brown	2cm	73	AFL	Asquith Fine Sandy Loam	Dark Brown	4m	50
ECL	Elstow Clay Loam	Dark Brown	3m	64	BgCL	Biggar Gravelly Loam	Dark Brown	4m	44
ESMCL	Elstow Silty Clay Loam	Dark Brown	3m	64	FxCL	Fox Valley Clay Loam	Brown	3m	56
ESiL	Elstow Silt Loam	Dark Brown	3m	59	HrCL	Haverhill Clay Loam	Brown	3m	55
EL	Elstow Loam	Dark Brown	3m	59	HrL	Haverhill Loam	Brown	4m	50
WCL	Weyburn Clay Loam	Dark Brown	3m	63	ChGL	Chaplin Gravelly Loam	Brown	5m	37
						Eroded			
WL	Weyburn Loam	Dark Brown	3m	58	Av	Alluvium			

In the early years of development, large areas of land in the municipality were taken up by large farms. The Engen farm of 1909 contained 9 sections; the Lamborn farm of 1910 contained 5 sections (sold later to a group of Mennonite settlers in 1925) and the Bellamy farm of 1912 contained 17 sections. The Engen and Bellamy farms were later broken up into smaller farms. Now history is reversing itself; the smaller farms are being taken over by larger farming units.

Pioneers

Come listen a spell and a tale I will tell
As I dream of the long, long ago.
It's a tale of past years, of laughter and tears
Adventures only old-timers know
But it's not too long ago, as history will show
That our prairie was untamed and free
With nothing to mar the distance afar
Not a mountain, or town or a tree.

Only Indians had trod the unbroken sod
And antelope grazed on the plain
A buffalo herd had never been stirred
By a gun, or the toot of a train
The grass in the sloughs was knee-high to a moose
And the tumble-weed raced with the hare
Near unto a creek were saskatoons, thick
And golden rod scented the air

You could travel for days without meeting a face
Of an Indian, outlaw or scout
Only a hawk or an owl, or a shy prairie fowl
And gophers playing about.
It made you feel queer, tho' it wasn't with fear
Only something mysterious, sublime
A feeling of awe, like an unspoken law
Of the endless passing of time.

Then the government guys got beams in their eyes
And decided some steel tracks to lay
It was their great boast to reach the west coast
But when and how would they pay?
So it certainly did seem a very wise scheme
To get some returns in great haste
To give homesteads for free, or a very small fee
And not let the land go to waste.

The land ads at home assured us the loam
Was rich and productive and deep
The wheat, we were told, was equal to gold
All we had to do was to reap.
Now with such a big lure who could endure
To let fortune slip unheeded by
So with vim and with zest we all went out west
For a life on a homestead to try.

No mention of cut-worm or bug, or rocks to be dug
E'er ever a furrow be made
No hint of blizzard or hail, or crops that might fail
Or grasshoppers planning a raid.
It helped to get started, if ere you departed
You'd taken some "critters" and tools
For at that early date there was a rebate
On "settlers effects", said the rules.

The very first day, if you decided to stay
You bargained for lumber and nails
You put up a shack wrapped in tar-paper black
With a "box-car roof" against the gales.
The next on the list, if you wished to exist,
Was a well that wouldn't go dry
So you dug night and day through hard-pan and clay
Then a pulley and buckets you'd buy.

So with might and with main but with vision of gain
You toiled every hour of the day
There was plowing and sowing, reaping and mowing
Threshing and stacking of hay.
There was always some bug, or rocks to be dug
More acreage always a goal
In winter's deep snows, when everything froze
You kept busy shovelling in coal.

But we never looked back tho' bemoaning the lack
Of funds for payments to meet
We strode lightly along with a grin and a song
Never lacking for something to eat.
There was porridge to fry when the cow had gone dry
And a barrel of well salted pork
There was carrot and turnip and beet, if not wilted by heat
And potatoes dug with a fork.

In those early days we had some strange ways
That's hardly approved of today
If a tramp came to beg you fried him an egg
You never turned strangers away
And, if a near neighbor was unfit to labor
Or needed a days work, or two
You gave him a lift, with no thought of a gift
For he'd do the same thing for you.

Us women, poor folk, had the brunt of the yoke
Tending to everyones needs
You couldn't spend hours on frills or on flowers
When the garden was choked by the weeds