

Come Out and Vote

Referendum Question ...

I am in favour of Town Council borrowing \$360,000 to build the proposed Community Hall (with an estimated value of \$2,400,000) and also in favour of Town Council co-signing a loan for \$765,000 for the Hall Fundraising Committee.

A **YES** vote means a new hall for \$8.33/month per property.

A **NO** vote means no hall for at least three years; possibly forever.

The referendum is binding for three years, so there is no 'do over'.

The terms of the referendum are governed by provincial legislation which means that 50% plus 1 is required for the referendum to pass.

People eligible to vote are defined as:

- Canadian citizens;
- being the full age of 18 years or will be on voting day;
- residing in the Town of Rocanville for at least three consecutive months immediately preceding the day of the vote **or** personally owning assessable land within the Town of Rocanville for at least three consecutive months immediately preceding the day of the vote; and
- residing in Saskatchewan for at least six consecutive months immediately preceding the day of the vote.

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Voting will take place at the Rocanville Town Office as follows:

Advance Poll	Tuesday, July 21	4:00pm–7:00pm
Regular Poll	Wednesday, August 5	9:00am–8:00pm

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Hall Committee's Fundraising Strategy

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The Hall Committee has already received a \$35,000 donation, so the balance at this time is \$765,000. In the first two years, the Committee expects to raise about 30% from:

- Government Grants
- Contractors who worked in the area, several of which had contracts exceeding \$100,000,000
- Fundraising from local businesses
- Fundraising from local citizens, some of whom can get matching grants from their employer.

That will leave about 70% to be fundraised over the next six to eight years.

When the skating rink was built, that Committee fundraised \$950,000 (\$1,340,000 in today's money) between 1996 and 2007. During that time there was very little money in the Province and interest rates were high (6.00%). Despite those challenges, the Rink Building Committee succeeded.

Compare that with today's climate of low interest rates (2.85%), lower income tax, lower sales taxes and stronger economic climate. In addition, the hall has a much broader appeal in the community.

Operating Costs

Most facilities in the Town including the rink, pool, and library require annual funding from the Town to function. The hall will be no different. We anticipate an annual operating deficit of \$10,000 per year to be funded by the Town and possibly the RM.

\$10,000 represents roughly 0.5% of the Town's annual expenses in 2014 and includes:

- \$4,500 for insurance; and
- \$5,200 for base heating and cooling loads

As with many other facilities, the hall will be exempt from property taxes and water/sewer charges.

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Town of Rocanville Infrastructure

When PCS needed water and sewer services for the camp they chose to integrate those facilities with the town's facilities. When the camp was decommissioned, the water and sewer services remained with the town. The Town received \$2,747,000 of upgrades to the Town's water supply and a new lagoon worth \$2,603,000. These upgrades will allow the Town to increase its population by 50% without spending any money in these areas. The big ticket items that many communities struggle with are already in place.

The Town of Rocanville has a program of asphalt replacement in place. In 2015, Town Council has allocated \$165,000 in their budget for pavement repair.

Beginning in 2016, the Town will start a water main replacement project. Street-by-street, as aging water mains are removed and replaced, each street will have a new asphalt surface installed. These costs are covered by existing revenue streams.

Going beyond water, sewer and asphalt, Rocanville enjoys:

- skating rink, curling rink, swimming pool and golf course;
- ball diamonds, soccer fields and playgrounds;
- daycare and Dial-A-Van;
- medical and dental services; and
- a new subdivision with serviced lots ready for housing.

Summary

[If the referendum fails, the hall will be cancelled for three years and possibly forever.](#)

The fundraising required has been done before under much more difficult conditions. The Town's infrastructure is being upgraded with a properly-funded, long term plan in place. Even with the hall, the Town's long term debt is low, with room to accept other challenges if they arise.

To pay for the hall involves \$100 per year (\$8.33 per month) per property for 10 years.

If you have any questions please contact Steve Fortney, Chairperson at 645-2710 or s.fortney@sasktel.net

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Town of Rocanville Long Term Debt Commitments

Year	Moosomin Hospital Payments Principal + Int 4.50% 2009-2014	Cameron Crescent #1 Payments Principal + Int 2.85% 2012-2016	Cameron Crescent #2 Payments Principal + Int 2.98% 2013-2018	2014 Paving & Curbing Payments Principal + Int 2.45% 2016-2023	Community Hall Payments Principal + Int 2.59% 2016-2025
2013	\$48,857	\$76,097	\$88,594		
2014	\$48,857	\$76,097	\$86,390		
2015		\$76,097	\$83,940		
2016		\$76,097	\$81,705	\$61,058	\$41,325
2017			\$79,470	\$61,058	\$41,325
2018			\$77,235	\$61,058	\$41,325
2019				\$61,058	\$41,325
2020				\$61,058	\$41,325
2021				\$61,058	\$41,325
2022				\$61,058	\$41,325
2023				\$61,058	\$41,325
2024					\$41,325
2025					\$41,325

The Town of Rocanville is in a strong financial position, carrying very little debt.

If the Community Hall proceeds, the payment mentioned above (\$41,325) will be funded by the \$100 property tax increase that began in 2015.

Sponsored by Rocanville Community Hall Committee