

Nicole Shewchuk

From: AngelaKlassen1980 [REDACTED]
Sent: July 1, 2026 4:21 PM
To: Nicole Shewchuk; ombreg@ombudsman.sk.ca; info@smb.gov.sk.ca
Subject: Formal Complaint

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To Whom It May Concern;

I am writing to formally complain about the Rural Municipality of Good Lake No. 274's ongoing failure to fulfill its duties, resulting in serious threats to private homes and local businesses, including the Good Spirit Market and the Good Spirit Golf Course. These issues arise from apparent incompetence, neglect of core responsibilities, and disregard for local expertise in water management.

I am a niece, staying with one of the residents living in the RM of Good Lake, specifically near the golf course and the market. These two businesses serve the surrounding residential areas, encourage tourism, and are vital community assets.

Specific Concerns

1. **Failure to Perform Duties and Key Mistakes:** The RM has neglected essential responsibilities in water flow management and infrastructure. A critical example occurred approximately two weeks ago, when the RM was informed of blocked water flow caused by beaver dams. Despite it being the RM's responsibility to assess and address such situations promptly, no action was taken. Local individuals familiar with the area—who possess superior knowledge of local conditions—provided clear guidance on how to restore proper water flow. This advice was ignored.
2. **Ignoring Local Expertise:** The RM continues to disregard input from residents and stakeholders who know the area far better than external or inexperienced decision-makers. This has led to preventable problems with water management that now threaten homes and properties through flooding, erosion, or related hazards.
3. **Inappropriate Burden-Shifting and Threats:** While the RM failed to act, a few workers from the golf course stepped in to address the beaver dam blockages and restore water flow. Rather than appreciating this community-minded effort, the RM continues to point fingers, even going as far as blaming the golf course for mistakes the RM workers are personally making. This is unacceptable and demonstrates a clear pattern of incompetence and misplaced accountability.
4. **Threats to Homes and Businesses:** These failures directly endanger nearby homes and businesses, including the golf course itself, and the operations of Good Spirit Lake Provincial Park.

Requested Actions

I demand the following immediate steps:

- An immediate and thorough investigation into real water flow issues and the RM's response (or lack thereof).
- Prompt assessment and remediation of all water blockages and related hazards to protect homes and all businesses, including the Good Spirit Provincial Park.
- Cessation of any unfounded threats or blame directed at the residents and businesses for performing work the RM neglected.
- Written response outlining corrective actions, timelines, responsible parties, and how local expertise will be incorporated going forward.

- A meeting with Council or designated staff to discuss resolution.

The RM must uphold its obligations under Saskatchewan municipal law to protect all (and not just a select few) ratepayers, manage infrastructure effectively, and respond to known hazards. I understand this year's wet conditions are exceptional, but the RM workers must know how to do their jobs properly and stop casting blame on others when the fault has been theirs all along. When locals and workers from a golf course know what to do better than them but are ignored, ridiculed, and threatened for it, this doesn't say much about those RM workers.

Sincerely, Angela Klassen