

A Thumbnail Sketch of 100 Years

*Rural Municipality of Saltcoats
No. 213*



Rural Municipality of Saltcoats No. 213 1912 - 2012

Author: Dell Skitcko

THE HISTORY OF THE R.M. OF SALTCOATS No. 213

The history of any Rural Municipality is one of struggle, organization, and change. It is the story of the coming together of many people, often of diverse backgrounds, who put down roots, stayed for the duration and created a combination of communities. The structuring of an R.M. created a nucleus from where the business affairs of the people as a whole could be run efficiently.

It is a somewhat erroneous belief that our country was a great empty desolate land before the arrival of the first settlers. Although it is true that everything was pretty much in its original state, the area was certainly populated. We have no exact census count but First Nations people definitely inhabited the region. Many artifacts of their life have been found throughout the municipality. Such items as stone hammers, axes, and arrow heads indicate their presence here. The communities that we refer to as “home” had no doubt been “home” to these folk for many decades, well-known, well-travelled, and likely as well-loved.

The Little Bone Indian Reserve borders the west edge of the R.M. Early in the century several sections

shown on old maps as reservation lands became part of the R.M. The reasons for this annexation are not clear, but early settlers may have desired the hay and grazing that this somewhat swampy area would have afforded. Present day maps show several parcels of land returned to the First Nations people following recent Treaty Land Entitlement and Specific Land claim settlements with the Federal Government.

First surveys of the R.M. may have been done as early as 1876. These old survey maps show the early topography and present a somewhat different picture than the one we see today. Most of the R.M. was designated as open rolling prairie dotted by small poplar and willow clumps. There were two main tracts of heavy bush, one in the northeast quadrant and one in the southwest. Early settlers took advantage of these big trees for building their first log homes and outbuildings. There were also scattered throughout the area many types of berry bushes such as Saskatoon, pincherry, and raspberry.

There are several creeks which cross the R.M., the most notable being the

Cutarm Creek. These creeks were teeming with fish when the settlers arrived in the 1880's. There were still a few fish caught in the Yorkton Creek as late as the 1950's. These creeks would also be a source of frustration when road-building began. There is a very large body of swamp and bog in Division Six. Another small system of lakes and streams are situated on the west edge of the R.M. in Division Five. These bodies of water and bullrushes are home to thousands of waterfowl and birds during summer nesting periods and during autumn migration. They have afforded excellent hunting throughout the years. At present Ducks Unlimited have established a large water conservation project in these areas.

Another notable body of water is Soda Lake or Lake "36" as it is sometimes called because of its location on sec 36-24-2-2. This lake contains high levels of minerals which produce the peculiar soda taste. There are other small lakes but the best known lake is Saltcoats Lake. It was first known as Anderson Lake. It has been used as a spot of recreation since the earliest days.

Another body of water, although man-made, is certainly worthy of mention. It is known as the Perley Dam and was constructed in 1896 to cope with

a water shortage at that time. It may very well have been the province's first conservation project. It is situated on NW 28-22-2-2. That it still stands today is a tribute to the early pioneer efforts.

Water wells throughout the R.M. vary. There are some excellent drinking water sites. In other near-by areas, water is non-existent or else of such poor quality as to render it unfit for drinking. Next to shelter a waterwell was perhaps the most important part of any homestead. A good supply of sweet water was a prize indeed. A waterwell was also a dangerous place and sometimes proved fatal when noxious gas overtook those who were either digging or cleaning a well. There were other situations when curious animals or more sadly, children, became victims of the cold depths.

Soil types range from very sandy through to heavy loam. There are areas that are very saline especially those closest to swampy sections. Some land is extremely stony while portions are relatively stone free. In earlier years gravel supplies were adequate but with the increased number of roads in the R.M., it has become somewhat difficult to locate amounts needed. For the most part the R.M. contains very fertile farmland adaptable to almost all types of grain and fodder crops.

Wildlife has changed over the years. The fish in the streams have disappeared along with the prairie dog colonies. Although there are still beaver, mink, and muskrat, their numbers have been greatly diminished. Coyotes have always been very prevalent since bounties have been paid for their hides on a continuous basis all through the years. Bounties were paid for weasels as well so we can probably assume they were very high in numbers. They are no longer large in numbers. Bears were one time also present in the Cutarm area. Today, only rarely does one amble through the R.M. Large numbers of white-tail deer are still present and of course the ever pesky gopher.

Weather has always been a chief concern for farmers everywhere. The following is a very brief report on weather patterns for this area throughout the years. A dry period followed from 1886-1899. From 1900-1923 wet weather again seemed usual. The 1930's were like most other parts of Saskatchewan, extremely dry. The era of the '30's was also marked by frequent hailstorms. The 1940s were good crop-growing years with 1947-48 being an extremely long winter with tremendous amounts of snow. The 1950's were very wet years during which flood damage was widespread throughout the R.M.

The 1960's saw return to dry conditions for the first few years of that decade. The first part of the 1980's decade again saw good harvests but 1984 would mark the return of some of the driest, hottest conditions since the years of the Great Depression. Winters were snowless and the temperatures much above normal. The past weather records have taught us to expect almost anything.

A 2012 update shows a return to the wettest conditions in living memory. The rains began in 2010 and continued throughout the 2011 season and into the spring of 2012. The spring of 2011 saw roads washed out and often "cut" to facilitate the huge amounts of water that were backlogged everywhere. Culverts washed out and were often impossible to replace because of the gushing waters. It was well into the late summer before some roads became passable and some backroads still are under water in April of 2012. Farming became a nightmare throughout this period since seeding and harvesting were near impossible. Thousands of acres were left under the waves unseeded in 2011 and many farmers fear 2012 will not be better. Huge numbers of every type of water fowl have returned to the sloughs and marshes. Strangely, the fish have once again returned to Yorkton Creek after 60 years.

Settlement of the R.M. began in the early 1880's. Deciding on "firsts" is always risky but the search for this particular history indicates the first homestead filed on was the SW 4-23-2-2. It was filed by Dorcas Horan on July 4, 1882. Most of the early settlers arrived in 1883 coming to the settlement of Kinbrae, Cutarm, Clumber, Crescent Lake, Boakeview, Armstrong, and Wallace. They came from Britain and Ontario, many from urban areas, innocent and unaware of what awaited them. They were, however, intent on carving out a new life for themselves and family. The railway only reached as far west as Whitewood and Broadview so the final leg of their journey north was made on foot, horseback or horse drawn conveyances.

Areas northeast of Saltcoats were mainly Scottish settlers. To the southeast of the R.M. came a large company of Welsh people who had lived in Patagonia, South America. Large numbers of European settlers arrived some years later. Still later, during the 1960's and 1970's, groups of Mennonite farmers came into the R.M. settling here and there.

Early birth and marriage records as well as burial permits, indicate that people tended to live out their lives in their own respective settlements. The

mixing of nationalities and cultures rarely occurred until perhaps the late 1920's.

When the early settlers arrived they came not just with their worldly goods but also their religious faiths. The establishment of churches was a prime importance. For a time, travelling ministers conducted services in private homes, but the need for a proper place of worship was strong. One of the earliest churches was the Presbyterian built in Saltcoats in 1890. This church served both Presbyterian and Methodist congregations for a number of years. In an account written by C. Fehrenbach, an early pioneer, he relates the story of Father DeCorby. This Roman Catholic priest had reported seeing buffalo grazing on the south side of Section 19-24-2-2 while driving along the old Yorkton trail. The year of the priest's arrival in the area is unknown but his presence was reported in Saltcoats in 1888. Most of the major churches are represented in the R.M. ,all of which have contributed greatly to the various communities of the R.M. It should be noted that at the present time a former moderator of the United Church of Canada, Walter Farquharson, resides in Saltcoats.

There are two towns located in the R.M.: Bredenbury in Division One

and Saltcoats in Division Five. The Village of Clonmel in Division Five was once a whistle-stop on the C.P. line between Saltcoats and Yorkton. It is now a memory, as so many other small villages have become. The Village of Bredenbury was incorporated into the status of town in 1913. It was made a divisional point of the C.P.R. and consequently became known as a “train town.” Bredenbury served the south half of the R.M. The first elevator was built in 1902 and stood until 1968. It was sold several times. A second elevator was built by the Bawlf Grain Co. in 1923. It is said that in 1910, 360,000 bushels of grain were shipped from that station. In 2012 there are no operable grain elevators in either Bredenbury or Saltcoats.

The R.M. of Saltcoats may have had the only city that never existed. If this sounds confusing to the reader, you can imagine the confusion and disappointment that must have been experienced by those first early pioneers as they arrived at this non-existent destination. Someone who worked for an enterprising transportation company apparently decided that the new settlement which would be going to 18-23-3-2 needed a name for their point of arrival. This person decided to give the place a name, “Crescent City.” No one saw fit to correct the mistake and

so it was not until their actual arrival that these pioneer folk realized there was no city, not even a town. There was a small collection of tents; that was it. Although they must have been bitterly disappointed, especially the women of the group, they stayed. Although no city or even town ever appeared, the name “Crescent City” still comes up in local conversation.

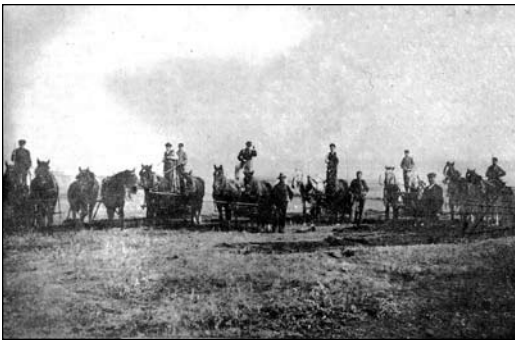
The town of Saltcoats was incorporated in 1910, but prior to incorporation had been a village since the early 1880’s. It was a centre of commerce for the settlers to haul their farm produce to, get their blacksmithing done, and buy supplies. Saltcoats was a depot for the North West Mounted Police. The detachment opened in 1888. These officers were the keepers of the peace for the entire R.M.

The towns of Bredenbury and Saltcoats were often the first sights encountered by early settlers on their way to finding their homesteads. Saltcoats would become the site for the first council of the R.M. of Saltcoats #213, and has remained as such for nearly a century.

It was here on April 6, 1898, in the Imperial Hotel, in the Village of Saltcoats, that the first meeting of the Statute Labour District No. 7 met.

On that day Thomas MacNutt, as returning officer, declared Donald McKillop “duly elected as overseer.” Present at the meeting were Messrs McKillop, O’Keefe, MacNutt, and A.B. Lander. Mr. MacNutt was elected chairman, D.M. McKillop was nominated observer by D.J. O’Keefe. It was moved by D.J. O’Keefe, seconded by D.M. McKillop, that Thomas MacNutt be auditor. The motion was carried. The meeting closed with the following comment, “No suggestion as to where the labour should be done, was made.” These are actual quotes taken from the first minutes journal.

From 1898 to 1912, the chief sources of concern for these councils would be prairie fires, the building of roads and bridges, and gophers. Fireguards had to be kept “in an effective condition.” Road building was limited to basics in these early days. Scrubbing was



**Road Construction Crew 1906
in Saltcoats.**

essential to establishing roadways, as were bridges and culverts to ford the many streams. A grader is mentioned as early as 1901, but there are no details concerning size or type.



**Queen's Hotel - site of first meeting of
the local improvement district.**

On March 12, 1904, Local Improvement District 12A2 held its first meeting at the Queen's Hotel in Saltcoats. Councillors present were E. C. Cass, G. Hughes, W.E. Porter, and W. Stewart. Mr. Cass was elected chairman of the council and Mr. Hughes became secretary-treasurer. Meetings were held regularly throughout these first years, and though the minutes are short in nature, they seemed to have covered the concerns of the day. There were concerns over weeds, one mentioned often was sow-thistle. One man from each division was hired to keep an eye on the problem. They were very well paid for this work so it must have been considered very important. Animal pounds were established in

each division as well, and a bylaw was passed to cover the construction of fences to precise specifications. Stray animals were likely a problem due to very large tracts of unfenced land. The fact that the R.M. had been declared a “Purebred Area” made the confinement of animals especially crucial.

The year 1912 marked the end of an era, for in December, in the year 1912 the R.M. of Saltcoats #213 was formed. The council that year included: H. Leppington, Reeve, A. Lopston, Division 1, A. Methven, Division 2, Jas. Keith, Division 3, R.D. Kirkham, Division 4, G. Hughes, Division 5, and Robert Maddaford, Division 6.

These early councils carried a heavy load. There was more than road building, bylaws, and taxation to be considered by these men of yesteryear. In some ways, these men were responsible for every ratepayer from the cradle to the grave. The R.M. paid for births, health care, and funerals. They also paid for the maintenance of people in sanatoriums, homes for the aged, and asylums. These were cases, of course, where there were no funds or family present to shoulder the care. The R.M. recorded births, marriages, deaths, and burials.

They were responsible for disease control in both human and animal

populations. There were very weighty decisions to be made in some of the more extreme cases and there may have been errors in judgment at times. For the most part, however, these early elected officials gave their level best and turned in a good performance.

From 1913 throughout the 1920’s, road building seemed to be the chief preoccupation. There were few roads in the years 1898 through 1912. The early roads were referred to as “trails”, took the shortest routes across private lands and landowners were compensated for “right of way”.

The minutes of the June 8, 1912 meeting lists some of the machinery being used by the R.M. Included were nine scrapers, four “brush hooks”, three “wheelers”, and a scrub plow. Although this machinery may not sound impressive, it nonetheless accomplished the job for, by 1930, every division had some passable roads. The men using this horse drawn equipment were paid fifty cents an hour on the basis of a nine hour day. Ratepayers were hired to do scrubbing and very often their wages were applied towards their taxes.

Bridges were always a problem especially on the Cutarm Creek. Spring flooding often destroyed bridges and culverts necessitating both their

constant repair. There is only one operable bridge left in the R.M. in 2012. This bridge is located in the NE corner of Division Six and has seen updates over the past year to keep it in service.

Over the years, technology, provided new methods and machinery, which speeded up the road building process. 1912 saw the building of Highway 14 connecting the R.M. into the provincial highway system. The 1950's decade saw the construction of many grid roads throughout the R.M. The section of highway 16 that runs through the R.M. was completed in 1969. Many secondary grids and market roads were completed throughout the last twenty years. The building of Highway 15 in 1974-75 saw the realization of a dream that had long been awaited. The work of road building is an on-going process.



**Modern Day
Maintenance Equipment**

Taxation has always been with us. Taxes were often as difficult to

collect by the R.M. as they were for the ratepayer to find money to pay them. The earliest taxes levied ranged between two and a half cents per acre to five cents. This tax money covered the expenses of schools, health care, road building, wages, and telephones to name but a few. Rates were lowered or raised as circumstances dictated. Except for the 1930's decade the R.M. had a fairly stable supply of tax dollars. The 1930's was a nightmare for all R.M.'s. The drought, depression, and poor prices caused the tax base to shrivel. Ratepayers required many different types of help and the R.M. was expected to provide relief in the form of seed grain, fodder, twine, gasoline, and actual dollars to help families in destitute circumstances. Although there was some government assistance, the biggest part of the burden fell back on local government. The welfare system was not developed at today's standards so R.M.'s paid for everything that residents could not finance themselves. 1938 statistics show there was a total of eighty-three heads of families assisted which numbered 419 persons all told. The administration worries of the R.M. during those dreadful years were overshadowed only by the despair and misery of the ratepayers themselves. The R.M. of Saltcoats survived and, unlike some R.M.'s, remained solvent. In a piece of correspondence written

by the secretary-treasurer in 1940 he remarks “The R.M. is in better shape than I could have hoped for, in spite of our great problems.” Tax sale of land was rampant during this decade and seemed to bring about smaller farms. Land was sold at fire-sale prices, perhaps only a few dollars per quarter section.

The R.M. administrated a health care premium which was collected from the ratepayers and used to finance municipal doctors and hospitals. Doctors were paid a yearly wage with an added commission for extra duties. During the 1940’s the R.M. offered a salary of three thousand dollars per year and for this fee, the doctor covered five thousand people all together. Prior to 1945, ratepayers stayed in private “nursing homes” or the larger Yorkton hospital. In 1945, a municipal hospital was established in Saltcoats. Financing was shared between the towns and R.M. Hospitalization cards were issued to ratepayers, thereby identifying them as eligible for hospital services. These were the first such cards to be used in the province. In 1957, the Yorkton Union Hospital district was formed and the R.M. joined this new unit. Today the Saltcoats War Memorial Hospital is gone but the Saltcoats Lakeside Manor Carehome replaces it, providing a

different form of health care. Many of the R.M.’s early citizens have enjoyed good care and comfort during their older years in its home-like atmosphere. Education was a prime concern of all the early settlers and school districts were quickly formed soon after the arrival. Among the earliest school districts were Crescent, Castleton, and Clumber. Eventually there would be twenty-one school districts in the R.M. not counting those in the towns. The R.M. paid into school districts outside its borders as well, in order to accommodate youngsters living closer to those districts. Amounts paid were calculated on student numbers. Most of the early school houses were built and furnished by the residents of the district themselves. In 1990, a very large part of every tax dollar goes to education.

Other concerns for the R.M. over the years were hail insurance, disease control in animals, and pest control. Following many disastrous hailstorms the R.M. decided to institute a system of insurance. A levy was assessed against each quarter section owned by the ratepayer. Sometimes there was much confusion and grumbling over lands assessed by the R.M. but which the landholder had believed were exempted. Cases where summerfallow had inadvertently been included was commonplace. There is no record on

how well the system worked but R.M.'s still offer hail insurance.

The R.M. was very concerned over animal disease down through the years. Vaccination for Blackleg and Bangs testing was carried out with great diligence. Testing for the presence of T.B. was done on a regular basis. Much of this work was done under the careful direction of a well-known veterinarian affectionately remembered as "Doc" Branion. Herd law was established by an early bylaw in 1914. Because the district was also established as a Purebred-Sire area, great pains were taken to eradicate grade sires and allow only purebred animals.

Pest control was a first priority, and their numbers were constantly kept down. In some very early minutes the formula for gopher poison is found: "two bottles of strychnine and one bottle bisulphate of carbon." Coyotes referred to as "wolves" were hunted down on a regular basis and bounties ranging as high as five dollars a pelt were paid by the R.M. Stray dogs were a problem and at one time all dogs in the R.M. required licensing. The R.M. was responsible for reimbursing a farmer whose animals were killed by "wolves." If it could be established that the animals were killed by dogs, then

the dog's owner was held responsible. A man called a sheep evaluator was hired by the R.M. to determine what caused the animals death and the actual worth of said animal. The R.M. then paid the owner three quarters of the animal's value. Most of these animals were sheep.

Grasshoppers were an ever present menace throughout the years, especially during the '30's decade. Poison of varying types was used and success rates seem debatable. It seems remarkable now that the men who handled and applied these highly toxic poisons survived into old age. Application techniques of those days did not include masks, tractor cabs, or any other modern safeguards.

In the very early years prairie fires were a constant danger especially during the tinder dry autumns. Crops, buildings, and machinery could be wiped out in a few moments. Precautions were taken by plowing several furrows around farmyards and fields. In spite of the greatest of care, there were times when nothing stopped the walls of flame, not even water. Homesteads including houses barns feed supplies and even machinery were lost, wiping out years of labour and dreams.

The earliest communication in the R.M. was postal service, provided by dedicated men who travelled on snowshoes, horseback, sleigh, or whatever means possible. They faced the worst of nature's elements but always the mail came through. Post offices were located in several locations throughout the R.M.

Telephones reached the area as early as 1908. By 1916, there were eighty-four telephones in use. There were a number of telephone companies located in various R.M. communities. The party lines hummed with news both good and tragic as well as much local gossip and rumour.

Electricity was installed throughout most of the R.M. by the middle 1950's. Much of the drudgery of chores and housework disappeared with the arrival of this new invention. Pumps, cream separators, and lights worked all by themselves. Some landowners despised the many poles that crossed their land and there were a few threats and scuffles over the installation process of the transmission lines. Eventually yard lights began to light up the dark prairie skies everywhere.

Oil and mineral exploration began in the late 1950's at various locations in the R.M. Although much drilling (not to

mention speculation) took place, no oil wells exist. The exploration did provide us another well, however. This well is located north of 13-24-3-2. It is an overflowing well with endless quantities of excellent drinking water which has now become a community water source.

Another valuable resource is known to exist, that being potash. No mine shafts have, as yet, been put down inside R.M. boundaries but prospects are always there. Siesmic activities returned in the summer of 2010 and once again hopes have risen over the prospects of the "big find".

The two World Wars did not leave the R.M. of Saltcoats untouched. The first World War enlisted 220 men, seventy-nine of whom paid the supreme sacrifice. World War II claimed another twelve men and one woman. Dozens of others enlisted and served honorably. The R.M. was involved in enlisting or exempting members from service. Landowners who were enlisted were excused from taxes during their time in service. The R.M. supported the war effort in a variety of ways, one of which was purchasing Victory Bonds. Saltcoats and district had always been associated with the Light Horse Regiments but with the advance of air power in World War II, many local young men joined the air force.

We owe all veterans our deepest appreciation. To those who did not return, the people of the R.M. remember, not only when laying the annual Remembrance Day Wreath, but always.

The R.M. has seen nearly a century of change, growth, productivity, success, and sometimes setbacks. Looking at a map of the R.M. in 2012 we see the names of the descendants of many of those first settler's homestead files. A list of these names will be found at the end of this essay. The R.M. contains many successful seed growers and purebred cattle breeders. There are also several thriving feedlot and poultry operations.

In the first part of the 20th century, there were some very large land operations consisting of fifteen to twenty quarter sections. In a census taken by the R.M. in 1954, land holdings had shrunk in size considerably. Only one farm contained four and a half sections. Half section farms were by far in the majority. There were 142 out of a total of 429 farms in the R.M. There were ninety, three-quarter section farmers and eighty-five, one quarter farms. Once again the trend has reversed to larger farming units. In 2012, there are many large individual land holdings in the R.M.

Of all the R.M.'s resources the greatest has been its people. People of all professions and callings, multi-talented and highly skilled call the R.M. of Saltcoats "home." Many of these individuals have gone on to greatness all over Canada and the world.

Not to be passed by, however, are those unassuming folk who lived quietly, contributed in smaller ways, and even having failed, stayed to try again. It was this same steadfastness and tenacity possessed by those first hardy settlers, that created our world of today. We have much to be grateful for.

This history is, of course, an open-ended one, a little like a book only partly written. The passage of coming years will enlarge the future volume.

Reference Sources:

1. The Saltcoats History Book - "Saltcoats Roots And Branches"
2. The Bredenbury History Book - "Memory Lane"
3. R.M. Minutes and Records

MEMBERS of COUNCIL
R.M. of SALTCOATS No. 213

“in recognition of those who so graciously gave of their time and effort for public service”

REEVES

1913 - 1916	Henry Leppington	1946 - 1952	Tom Neal
1917 - 1919	R. Maddaford	1953 -	F.F. Cromwell
1920 - 1924	A. Lopston	1954 -	Geo. Trowell
1925 - 1929	John Russell	1955 - 1956	George Hilton
1930 - 1931	G.H. Collins	1957 - 1968	A.R. Littman
1932 - 1939	J.B. Anderson	1969 - 1976	H. Hutchings
1940 -	A.C. McGregor	1977 - 1986	James Richards
1941 - 1944	J.B. Anderson	1987 - 1995	Bob Bjornerud
1945 -	W.T. Ritchie	1995 -	Don Taylor

COUNCILLORS - DIVISION 1

1913 - 1919	A. Lopston	1959 - 1972	Milton Brears
1920 - 1932	Thos. Stevenson	1973 - 1974	Mel Paulger
1933 - 1938	G.J. Taylor	1975 - 1976	Alex Riddy
1939 - 1944	W.T. Ritchie	1977 - 1979	R. Webster
1945 - 1946	S. Lopston	1980 - 1995	Don Taylor
1947 - 1950	F.F. Cromwell	1996 - 2000	Wayne Onda
1951 - 1954	G.C. Heinrich	2001 - 2004	Brian Soke
1955 - 1956	Walter Martin	2005 -	Terry Hall
1957 - 1958	W.M. Stevenson		

COUNCILLORS - DIVISION 2

1913 - 1919	A. Methven	1953 - 1954	J.T. Wiley
1920 - 1925	Thos Bury	1955 - 1965	A. Thompson
1926 - 1935	T. Wiley	1966 - 1976	Harry Holland
1936 - 1945	G.R. Henderson	1977 - 1995	Rae Thompson
1946 - 1949	George Hilton	1996 -	Scott Haas
1950 - 1953	E.J. Hughes		

COUNCILLORS - DIVISION 3

1913 - 1916	Jas Keith	1963 - 1968	A.J. Callin
1917 - 1930	J.B. Anderson	1969 - 1974	James Richards
1931 - 1934	E.R. Vaughan	1975 - 1976	D. Cooper, Jr.
1935 - 1948	D. Cooper, Sr.	1976 -	James Richards
1949 - 1954	R.A. Maddaford	1977 - 1982	Allan Bolton
1955 - 1956	D. Cooper, Jr.	1983 -	Vernon Glaicar
1957 - 1962	A.E. Vaughan		

COUNCILLORS - DIVISION 4

1913 - 1916	R.D. Kirkham	1954 - 1969	Reg Trowell
1917 - 1929	G.H. Collins	1970 - 1975	S.L. Kirkham
1930 - 1941	R.D. Kirkham	1976 - 1982	Bob Bjornerud
1942 - 1947	G.H. Trowell	1983 - 2004	Nelson Rodgers
1948 - 1949	R.E. Cross	2005 -	Angeline Sawkey
1950 - 1953	Geo. Trowell	2006 -	Leslie Trowell

COUNCILLORS - DIVISION 5

1913 -	G. Hughes	1946 - 1952	L.E. Janett
1914 -	E. Jacobs	1953 - 1956	Foster Sinclair
1915 - 1916	J.B. Mclauchlin	1957 - 1962	Joe Laycock
1917 - 1919	H.J. Dand	1963 - 1968	H. Hutchings
1920 - 1926	D. Cameron	1969 - 1970	Gillean Switzer
1927 - 1940	A.C. McGregor	1971 - 1974	James Bradford
1941 - 1942	C.S. Erratt	1975 - 2006	Jim Datema
1943 - 1945	Tom Neal	2007 - 2009	Joel Armbruster
		2010 -	Robert Kirkham

COUNCILLORS - DIVISION 6

1913 - 1915	R. Maddaford	1953 - 1957	Claude Russell
1916 - 1925	John Russell	1958 - 1959	M. Maddaford
1926 -	Chris Berg	1960 - 1961	John Maddaford
1927 - 1939	J. Oxenbury	1962 - 1977	Ben Holstein
1940 - 1941	Fred Oxenbury	1978 - 1985	Dale Hulston
1941 - 1947	A.A. Phelps	1986 -	Joe Skitcko
1948 - 1952	George Lee		

ADMINISTRATORS

1913 - C.E. Boake
1919 - Thos Blake
1920 - A. Meade
1926 - C.E. Boake
1926 - T.R. MacNutt
1940 - May Kirkham

1944 - Mrs. L.P. MacNutt
1947 - L.A. Macdonald
1952 - M. Gerla
1962 - Ewald Kitsch
1985 - Ronald Risling

There have been countless other dedicated people who contributed in so many ways to the R.M. throughout all the years of its development. There were the early road builders and their faithful horses, men with

axes who scrubbed roads by hand and picked rocks. Grader Operators, Weed Inspectors, Pest Control Officers and a variety of heavy machine operators all worked for the betterment of the R.M. They too deserve a sincere thank you.



1920 - Council R.M. of Saltcoats No. 213

Back Row - (Left to Right) D. Cameron, Division 5, George Collins, Division 4, J.B. Anderson, Division 3, T. Burry, Division 2, T. Stevenson, Division 1.
Front Row - (Left to Right) A. Meade, Secretary Treasurer, A. Lopston, Reeve John Russell, Division 6.



1957 - Council R.M. of Saltcoats No. 213

Back Row - (Left to Right) Alfred Vaughan, Division 3, Joe Laycock, Division 5, W.M. Stevenson, Division 1, Arthur Thompson, Division 2, Claude Russell, Division 6.
Front Row - (Left to Right) M. Gerla, Secretary Treasurer, Adolph Littman, Reeve, Reg Trowell, Division 4.



2012 - Council R.M. of Saltcoats No. 213

Back Row - (Left to Right) Joe Skitcko, Division 6, Leslie Trowell, Division 4, Rob Kirkam, Division 5, Vernon Glaicar, Division 3.
Front Row - (Left to Right) Terry Hall, Division 1, Ronald Risling, Administrator, Don Taylor, Reeve, Scott Haas, Division 2.

Notes of Interest

Surnames which appeared on the 1912 tax roll which are still found on the 2012 tax roll:

Taylor	Morris	Young
Ritchie	Anderson	Cross
Thompson	Rodgers	Wiley
Laycock	Jones	Russell
Kirkham	Maddaford	Jacobs
Inglis	Bradford	Hutchings
Thomas	Tatton	

Century Farm Awards



Young Family	Taylor Family
Thompson Family (2)	Jones Family (2)
Kirkham Family	Littman(Blake)
Trowell Family	Jacobs Family
Russell Family	

Master Farm Family Award

R.D. Kirkham Neal Brothers
Orville Elmy

100 Year Old Family Homes Continuously Occupied: 1900-2012

Gary Wolgemuth Home
- Built by Archie Thompson
Allen Bolton Home
- Built by Reverend Davis
Ken Trowell Home
- Built by Martin Gunn Trowell
Verne Neal Home
- Built by Tom Larsen
Joe Skitcko Home
- Built by Scott Logan
Dean Russell Home
- Built by John Russell

Author's Note:

This booklet is a thumbnail sketch of the R.M.'s history and contains only highlights of the R.M.'s 100 year history. I wish to thank all those who contributed in so many ways. Included are family descendants, community members and many other interested individuals.

To Ron Risling who never fails to oblige and to Joe Skitcko, the computer assistant.

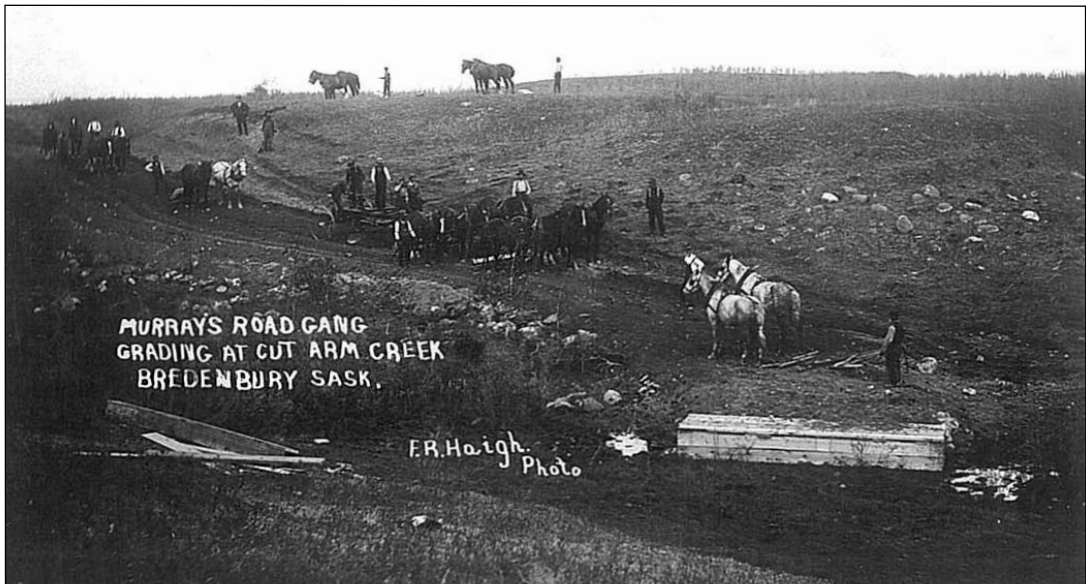
Sincere apologies for any names that may have been inadvertently missed.

Those long-ago pioneers and community planners would be pleased to know their hard work and accomplishments have been well recorded in local history books, photograph albums, and a wide variety of record books. Most of all their legacy is proudly kept in the living memories of their descendants and happily retold in 2012.

A Few Pictures From the Past



Road Construction in the early 30's



Murray's Road Gang - Cut Arm Creek



Road Maintenance - Alex Bradford 1952



Road Maintenance - 1936



Road Construction - 1956

Notes & Autographs