

Rural Municipality of Cupar No. 218

Celebrating 100 years

In the very beginning...

- Dominion Lands Act of 1872 passed which opened the way for a huge influx of settlers to come to the area to obtain recently surveyed land.
- In 1905 Saskatchewan became a province and all municipal affairs came under the authority of the Department of Public Works.
- Local Improvement Districts were operating and in this area it was Local Improvement District Council 12 M 2.

Rural Municipality of Cupar No. 218

Date of Incorporation
December 13, 1909

First council meeting held on January 3, 1910 at the office of John Hubbs, Cupar

- Reeve, Simon Gower
- Div. 1, W.J. Hogg
- Div. 2, Jas. A. Murray
- Div. 3, Alex Palmer
- Div. 5, R. McLean
- Div. 6, John Zurowski

(F. Facer replaced Simon Gower as reeve in March and Div. 4 councillor Issac Harrington first present at April, 1910 meeting.)

Remuneration for reeve \$4/day, councillors \$3/day and mileage at \$0.10/mile.

R.M. of Cupar No. 218

Historical Census Data

- 1910 1893
- 1921 2936 (highest)
- 1931 2920
- 1941 2360
- 1951 1731
- 1961 1405
- 1971 1008
- 1981 669
- 1991 636
- 2001 550

Many immigrants were living in the municipality as was noted by:

May, 1911 resolution stating, “That the notice of poll to be held on June 5th be published in the following papers:

- Cupar Herald & Earl Grey Comet (In English); and
- The Saskatchewan Courier, Regina & North Western Publishing Co., Winnipeg (In German)”

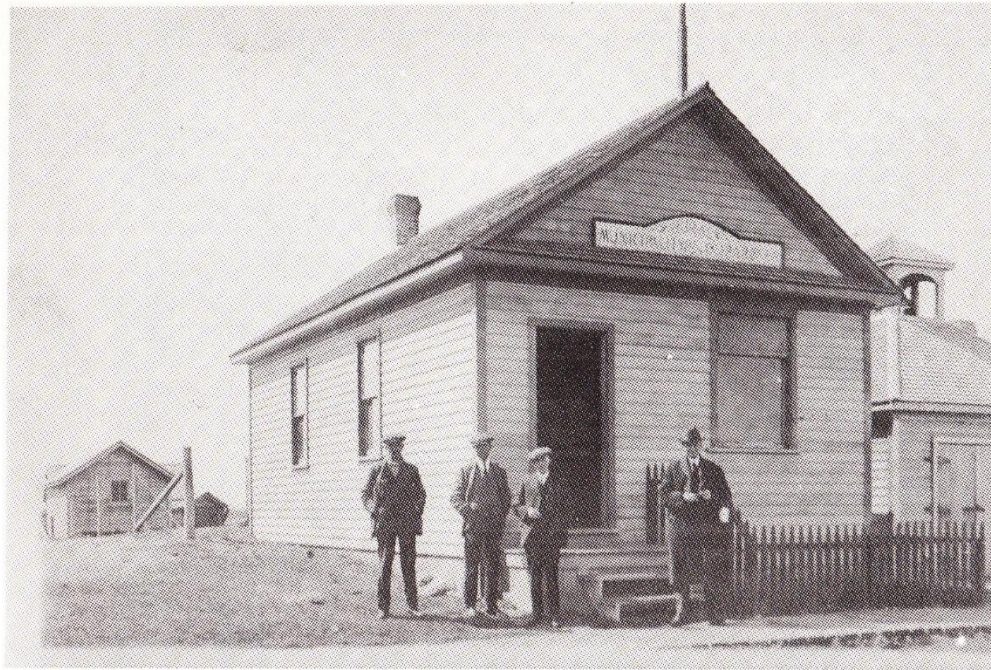
In February, 1917 the following resolution was drafted and the secretary instructed to forward copies to the Association for their consideration:

“Whereas the municipalities are governed according to the regulations embodied in the Municipal Act and whereas a proper understanding of this Act is necessary to enable a reeve to properly conduct the affairs of the municipality and whereas a person must be able to read the English language before he can understand the Act and whereas all notes, cheques, bills, bylaws, etc. are printed in the English language only and therefore a reeve signing same, who does not understand the language, does not intelligently know what he is signing, therefore be it resolved that a knowledge of the English language should be a qualification for the position of reeve.”

Municipal Office

- March, 1910
“That Lot 15, Block 2 in the hamlet of Markinch be purchased for site for office for \$100.00.”
- June, 1915
“That Mr. Gray’s tender for \$100.00 for the erection of the new municipal building be accepted with the following specifications: Building 18 x 30 with 9 ft ceiling, shingled roof, shiplap and siding outside with 2 ply paper and one ply paper inside and V joint, double floors, and 8 ft desk with cupboards and shelves underneath and book rack. Mr. Gray to move the old building and the municipality to supply power to do so and hire the hauling of all material needed. Mr. Gray to receive \$50.00 when roof is on and \$50.00 when building is completed.”

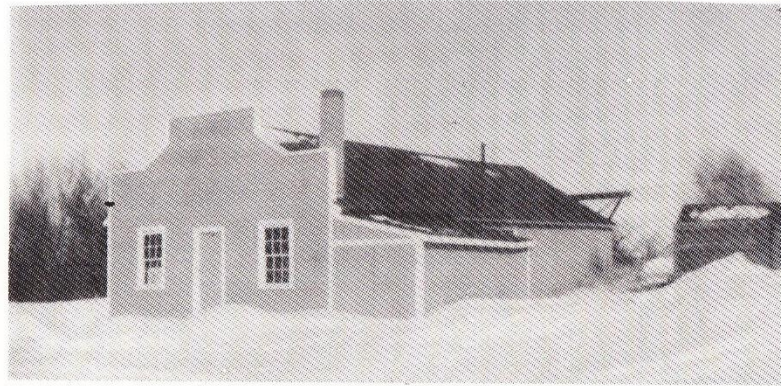
Picture of RM office in Markinch in 1918



Picture of new office taken in 1918. Shown are Councilor J.J. Craig, Reeve George F. Edwards, Sec. Treas. Walter T. Leggett and an inspector from Department of Municipal Affairs.

Municipal Shop

- Original workshop constructed in the mid-forties and was across the street from the RM office in Markinch.



Workshop constructed in the mid-forties. Cost of building was \$4,500.

The Constant Issues

- Roads
- Pest Control (Gophers, Rats, Grasshoppers, Coyotes, etc.)
- Weed Control
- Poundkeepers
- Conventions & Resolutions
- Court of Revision (Assessments)
- Elections

Roads in the Early Years

- February, 1915
“That the secretary advertise in the Cupar Herald asking ratepayers who wish to petition for roads and improvements to do so by Feb. 27th and have notices printed in English & German and placed in each Post Office of the Municipality”
- May, 1915
“That the councillors are instructed to let every man work on the roads one day for each quarter section as far as possible.”
- March, 1918
“That the following rate of pay be made for roadwork:
Foreman, \$5.00 per day
Man and team, \$6.00 per day
One man and 4 horse team, \$8.00 per day
Two men and 8 horse team, \$16.00 per day”

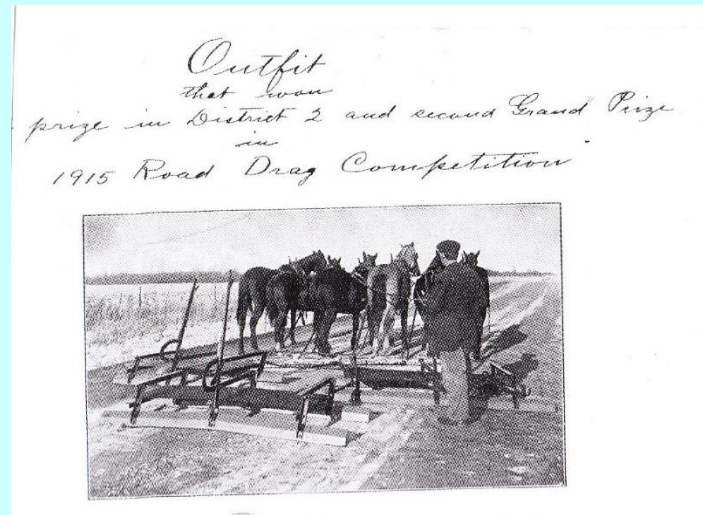


Highways

- Council made recommendations to Department of Highways
- May, 1929
“That the Department of Highways be asked to try and find another road out of the creek east of Markinch as the one now being used is too steep for hauling wheat”
- July 1931
“That the minister of Highways be petitioned to confine the work on Highway No. 22 to residents of the rural municipality and the villages of Cupar, Markinch and Southey”
- May, 1938
“That this council support the resolution of the Melfort board of trade asking the government to make No. 6 Highway an all weather road from Melfort to the border”
- October, 1963 (Annual meeting)
“That this meeting request the department of Highways to black top Highway No. 22 between Number 35 and Number 6 highways”

Road Drag Competitions

- May, 1917
“That the road east of 6, 7, 18 & 19-23-18-W2 be entered in the Saskatchewan Road Drag competition.”



Road Work Later On

- Extensive road work done on grid roads, main market roads and school bus routes, in 1950'-60's
- April, 1946
“That any person wishing to have a dugout constructed be required to make a deposit of \$100.00 in advance and to agree to supply board to the men while constructing same”

Pest Control

- February, 1910

“That gopher poison be purchased, sufficient to supply one bottle for each quarter section to be distributed by each councillor – the size of bottle to contain 2 drams.”

- May, 1919

“That the secretary be instructed to issue cheques to school teachers for bounty on gopher tails – 2 cents each on tails caught prior to May 1st and 1 cent on tails from May 1st to June 30th.”



Pest Control

- January, 1929
“That a bounty of 3 cents be given for rat tails, the bounty to be paid through the school teachers at the end of each term.”
- June, 1944
“That the secretary be authorized to pay the coyote bounty under Section 9 of Chapter 53 providing for the payment of coyote bounties.”
- October, 1949
(Annual meeting)
“That the council continue the policy of selling the grasshopper poison at a reduced price in lieu of the council poisoning the road allowances.”

Weed Control

- March, 1929
“That ten 50 pound drums of Atlacide and six dozen dusting cans be purchased the same to be used as an experiment for destroying sow thistle.”
- June, 1929
“That a supply of Wild Oat Bulletins be procured from the Department of Agriculture and sent out to ratepayers with other notices.”
- July, 1950
“That the council supply 300 pounds of Atlacide to assist in the eradication of leafy spurge.”

Poundkeepers

- Appointed annually by division same as today
- November, 1911
 - “That Bylaw No. 2 to restrain and regulate the running at large of animals be extended till December 1st of the year on account of the quantity of grain still standing in stooks and that poundkeepers be notified forthwith to that effect.”

Livestock

- October, 1928

“That we the council of the R.M. of Cupar No. 218 hereby agree to pay half the cost of administration of the Pure Bred Sire Act in this municipality with the government and also agree to prosecute any cases necessarily required for the maintenance of this Act.”

- January, 1946

“That Mr. Fred Hehn of Markinch and Mr. W. Fallis of Cupar be appointed sheep valuers”

- August, 1951

“That we order 6 boars @ \$50.00 from the Department of Agriculture and these are to be distributed and paid for at the time of distribution.”

Livestock

- January, 1952

“That this council approves the principle set out in the Veterinary Services Act, 1949 and agrees to cooperate with the Councils of the R.M. of Longlaketon No. 219 and the R.M. of McKillop No. 220 in the establishment of a veterinary service district consisting of this municipality and the said municipalities, and in the establishment of a veterinary services board, as set out in the act for the orderly control of the district and to contribute annually to the cost thereof of a sum deemed by the council to be necessary for the purposes of the board.”

Conventions & Resolutions

- February, 1928

“That Wm. McLean and the secretary be appointed to attend the district meeting of rural municipalities to be held at Fort Qu’Appelle on February 14th and present resolutions regarding doing away with weed inspector agreements where sow thistle is concerned and wider sleighs with a view of keeping winter roads open and refunds for auto licences where the size of the car has been reduced.”

Court of Revision

- For appealing assessment of property.
- April, 1938
“That we dispense with assessment notices this year under Subsection 2 of Section 284 of the RM Act”
- May, 1940
“That that Court of Revision to hear appeals against the assessment be held at the next regular meeting June 1th at 2 p.m.”

Elections

- Election officials and polling places appointed annually as is currently still done
- October, 1942
 - “That the following election officials be appointed:
 - Returning Officer, W L. Leggett
 - Deputies Div. 1, Poll 1, D.Ward SW-22-22-16-W2
 - Div. 2, Poll 2, York Bradley SW-34-21-17-W2
 - Div. 2, Poll 3, Ph. Weisbrod NW-22-22-17-W2
 - Div. 3, Poll 4, Wm. Porteous NE-22-22-18-W2
 - Div. 4, Poll 5, Geo E. Penfold, Cupar
 - Div. 4, Poll 6, J. Smith at A. Kaytor NE-17-24-16-W2
 - Div. 5, Poll 7, R. McAulay, Markinch
 - Div. 5, Poll 8, J. Hassman SW-22-24-17-W2
 - Div. 6, Poll 9, F. L. Hoffman SE-15-23-18-W2
 - Div. 6, Poll 10, Jno Flaman SE-17-24-18- W2”

Elections

- In 1916 a resolution was sent to Union of Saskatchewan Municipalities requesting that the term for which councillors are elected be increased from 1 year to 2 years and that three councillors be elected each year to provide for continuity of policy.
- At March, 2010 SARM Convention a resolution passed increasing terms of office from two years to four years, still maintaining rotation of even and odd numbered divisions.

Issues Dealt With by RM's in the Past But Now Handled by Other Authorities

- Health
- Welfare
- Vital Statistic Registrar
- Schools

Health

- January, 1920
“That Dr. Hutchinson and Dr. Stuart be appointed medical health officers”
- March, 1922
“That the whole council as a health board take any steps necessary to stop the spread of the small pox epidemic and for instructions to be issued to the medical health officers to do likewise”
- April, 1930
“That the council pay for all vaccinations and inoculations performed for ratepayers in this municipality by the medical health officers when the same is deemed advisable. Fees to be as follows: small pox \$1.00, scarlet fever \$2.00 and diphtheria \$1.50”

Health

- October, 1934
“That this council do not feel justified in taking a vote of the ratepayers on municipal doctor bylaws at this time as the government is contemplating a state medicine scheme and that it would be far more expensive than the present system.”
- April, 1943
“That the 1943 levy of the Sask. Anti Tuberculosis League of \$1105.98 be paid.”

Welfare

- January, 1933
“That we the council of the R.M. of Cupar No. 218 hereby petition the Sask. Relief Commission to advance relief to the 157 families, 940 souls as per list attached, which we hereby approve.”
- November, 1932
“That each councillor be allowed to expend up to \$50 for emergency cases; relief to include the following items:

1 sack of flour	1.65
10 pounds of sugar	0.65
Yeast cakes	0.15
Table salt	<u>0.25</u>
	2.70”
- November, 1937
“That the secretary wire the government that Markinch is short of potatoes and needs a carload immediately”

Vital Statistic Registrar

- From 1916 to 1950 the RM office registered:
 - Births
 - Marriages
 - Deaths
- June, 1935
“That 3 coffins of different sizes be kept in stock and that the secretary order same as required to keep this stock on hand.”

Schools

- June 14, 1915
“That the site of the Bourneville school house be approved”
- April, 1943
“That the municipality advance sufficient money to any of the school districts who are willing to stock next winter’s fuel, who require assistance for the purpose at this time.”

Challenging Times

- World War I
- Depression Years
- World War II

World War I

- November, 1917

“That the secretary be authorized to issue cheques to cover the following taxes on lands of enlisted men.”

Depression Years

- October, 1932
“That this council delegate the authority to the reeve and the councillor for the division to take any necessary action by seizure or otherwise to collect any relief advances owing by farmers who have an auction sale of their goods and chattels”
- September, 1933
“That no tax sale be advertised or held this year”

Depression Years

- July, 1935
“That as an inducement for ratepayers to pay their relief indebtedness that the council accept payment of any relief note or notes or accounts which are paid in full during 1935 without interest.”
- August, 1935
“That the collectors be instructed to collect amounts due the RM in the following order
 1. One years taxes
 2. 1935 Seed Advances
 3. Direct Municipal Relief
 - a. All twine advances
 - b. 32-3 & 34-5 Direct Food & Clothing Relief
 - c. Hospital and medical accounts
 - d. Unpaid arrears of taxes not included in above.”

World War II

- September, 1941
“That a grant of \$10.00 be made to the Markinch Christmas Cheer Fund, and that a similar grant be made to Cupar and Southey if applied for by organizations for sending Xmas parcels to boys in uniform”
- April, 1943
“That the members of the council support the Fourth Victory Loan and that the municipality purchase \$2,000.00 of bonds”
- December, 1946
“That a grant of \$500.00 be made to each of the Village of Cupar, Markinch and Southey or any organization of returned men in those villages who will make a similar or a larger grant for the purpose of erecting buildings that could be used for the accommodation of any meeting of any organization of returned service men or women free of charge in the respective villages”

R.M. of Cupar No. 218

Now

Current Council & Administrator



Present Municipal Office

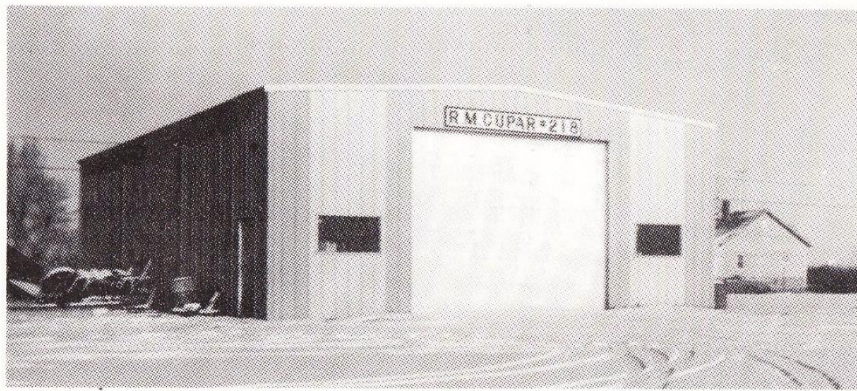
- RM purchased old medical office in Cupar for \$1.00 in 1995
- RM office moved to Cupar in February, 1997

Rural Municipality #218
CUPAR



Present Municipal Shops

- Current heated workshop constructed in 1979
- Cold storage shop constructed in 2008



Workshop constructed in 1979. Cost of new shop was \$37,000.00.

Equipment

Current heavy equipment includes:

- Caterpillar motor grader
- John Deere motor grader
- Champion motor grader
- Case payloader
- Case backhoe
- Freightliner truck & Midland gravel trailer
- Mack gravel truck
- John Deere tractor
- Case tractor



R.M. CUPAR # 218

160H

CAT

R.M. OF CUPAR Nº 218

R.M. of Cupar No. 218

- Appreciating the Past
- Looking to the Future ??????