

Welcome to the Fall/Winter 2016 issue of the *PREP Update* newsletter; sharing valuable information, contacts and current happenings with RMs and PCOs regarding information relevant to rat control in our province. Twice a year, Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter, the *PREP Update* will be circulated to all RMs and PCOs. PREP asks that RMs share this information with your PCOs to ensure they don't miss out and are PREP Updated!

2016 PREP Statement of Compliance – Claim Deadline December 31, 2016

In 2016-17, the Provincial Rat Eradication Program (PREP) once again has received funding to \$1.4 million for this program year. Program forms and guidelines are available on the PREP website at prep.sarm.ca and claim deadline for this program year is **December 31, 2016**.

In order for an RM to be eligible for the PREP grant the following minimum level of service must be provided:

- An RM must have a Pest Control Officer (PCO) with a valid Pesticide Applicator's License.
- Each site within an RM where agriculture produce is (or was) stored or where livestock or poultry are housed (or have been housed) must be inspected by the licensed PCO at least once a year. This includes both occupied and abandoned sites.
- The RM must provide reports as required by SARM, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Federal Government under *Growing Forward 2*.

Ensure your RM is compliant and able to receive funding by following the Program Guidelines which include the requirements for eligibility, lists eligible expenses to be claimed, along with the resources PREP makes available to RMs each year.

January 2017 PREP Winter PCO Workshops – FREE to Attend!

Don't let your PCO miss out on this valuable free training and networking opportunity!

PREP is hosting its annual PCO workshops – **one in each of the six divisions** this coming January, 2017. These accredited workshops are provided **free of charge** to Saskatchewan Pest Control Officers. This year, the workshop features topics relating to *reporting requirements of PCOs, Baits, Baiting Procedures as well as Animal Identification*. **All workshops run 10:00 am – 3:00 pm**. The agenda and registration form is available at www.prep.sarm.ca, or contact Annette Ellert, PREP Manager at (306) 761-3744 or aellert@sarm.ca to register.

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| ▪ DIVISION No. 1 - | Wednesday, January 4, 2017 | Recreation Centre, Kipling, SK |
| ▪ DIVISION No. 2 - | Friday, January 6, 2017 | Heritage Inn, Moose Jaw, SK |
| ▪ DIVISION No. 3 - | Monday, January 9, 2017 | Elk's Hall, Gull Lake, SK |
| ▪ DIVISION No. 4 - | Thursday, January 12, 2017 | Kerry Vickar Centre, Melfort, SK |
| ▪ DIVISION No. 5 - | Tuesday, January 17, 2017 | St. Anne's Church, Saskatoon, SK |
| ▪ DIVISION No. 6 - | Thursday, January 19, 2017 | Tropical Inn, North Battleford, SK |

PREP Board Vacancy – Call for Nominations

The PREP Board Division 4 seat is currently vacant and we will be calling for nominations at the Division Meetings to be held during the SARM Annual Convention in March 2017. A dedicated and passionate PREP Board of Directors leads the way in ensuring an effective and efficient program continues each year. Communication is the key to positive improvements and the PREP Board and administration strive to encourage, share and direct information and resources at every level available. *Come join our team in March 2017!*

PREP Regional Pest Control Supervisors

Since SARM has taken over the administration of the PREP in 2010, the program has been growing and evolving by leaps and bounds. Many of the successes of this program are due to the PCOs in the field coming together and working towards a rat free Saskatchewan. Along with the PREP PCO Co-ordinator, the PCO Supervisors have contributed in sharing their valuable knowledge and assisting with training and educating fellow PCOs in all types of situations. We would like to extend a huge thank you to these resourceful individuals for all of their time and efforts.

With all of the growing pains comes change. The PREP Board feels this is an opportune time to canvass the PCOs in Saskatchewan for anyone who may be interested in applying for a PREP PCO Supervisor position in the 2017-18 program year.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Provincial Rat Eradication (PREP) Board would like to extend an opportunity to all active, licensed Pest Control Officers who are members of the Saskatchewan Pest Control Officers Association (SPCOA) and who may be interested in becoming one of the six Regional Pest Control Supervisors, one for each of the SARM Divisions. These are contract positions and run from April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018. Contracts are renewed on a yearly basis once funding for PREP has been determined with each new program year.

The successful candidates must possess a valid structural pest control license. He/she will be responsible to provide SARM with services consisting of Pest Control Officer (PCO) training within their SARM Division, ensuring consistency in inspection procedures and baiting processes, assisting as needed in bringing rat outbreaks under control and meeting with municipal councils, for technical purposes, when requested.

Questions regarding these positions can be directed to Grant Peeling, SPCOA representative on the PREP Board, at (306) 631-7141 or e-mail to gpeeling@sasktel.net.

Please complete the [APPLICATION FORM](#) by January 31, 2017 and send to Annette Ellert, PREP Program Manager, by fax (306-761-0284), email aellert@sarm.ca, or mail to 200-2221 Cornwall Street, Regina, SK S4P 2L1. Application forms can also be found on the PREP website at <http://prep.sarm.ca>

PCO's receive assistance and in-field training from PREP Supervisors

Regional supervisors ensure that the policies of the PREP board are carried out uniformly at the ground level. The supervisors ensure consistency in inspection procedures and baiting processes. They provide assistance during outbreaks. They also meet with municipal councils when requested.

Should the RM or PCO find they are unable to complete the requirements of PREP guidelines, don't hesitate to contact Grant Peeling, PCO Provincial Coordinator, as PREP can assist with the necessary resources to ensure your RM is in compliance.

If you require assistance, please contact the PCO Supervisor located in your SARM Division:

Division 1: Henry Fieseler- 306-743-7875

Division 2: Ryan Budd- 306-631-7350

Division 3: Stewart Biech- 306-778-0715

Division 4: Dennis Friend- 306-528-4320

Division 5: Neil Mooney- 306-934-4782

Division 6: George Dresser- 306-228-3184

PCO Provincial Coordinator, Grant Peeling – 306-631-7141

2016 PREP Board Members

The PREP Board is made up of elected RM officials who set program parameters and deal with issues that arise with rural municipalities, ADD Boards, government, and others. They focus on developing effective policies and procedures to eradicate rats in Saskatchewan.

Division 1:	Teresa Walker	306-435-7224	teresa.walker@sasktel.net
Division 2:	Ray Beck (Chair)	306-436-7405	norlandcreek@sasktel.net
Division 3:	Bill Owens	306-962-7462	bill259@sasktel.net
Division 4:	Vacant		
Division 5:	John Serhienko	306-497-4008	dustydog@xplornet.com
Division 6:	Gerald Gerlinsky	306-843-2902	sw13acres@gmail.com
SPCOA:	Grant Peeling	306-631-7141	gpeeling@sasktel.net
Ministry of Agriculture:	Richard Wilkins	306-787-5207	richard.wilkins@gov.sk.ca
SARM Board of Directors:	Carmen Sterling	306-861-1097	sarm.sterling@sasktel.net

RAT Fact: Romans considered the rat to be a sign of good luck.