



## PRCC 2018 | Year in Review

This is the second Piney Regional Chamber of Commerce Year in Review. We had another incredibly successful year due to our engaged membership. We're proud of the work we are doing in our communities and would like to share a few of those accomplishments below.

### ***PRCC Milestone Achievements:***

***Purchase of Portable Signs:*** In 2017 the PRCC applied for funding under the Hometown Manitoba Main Street Enhancements grant program. We received approval and, in March 2018, finalized the purchase of two portable signs that are available to Chamber members to advertise their businesses or community events.

***Community Forum on Strategic Development:*** The PRCC also applied for funding in 2017 under the provincial Partner 4 Growth program. In early 2018 we received approval and formed a committee to keep the project on track for the grant deadline of March 31, 2018. It was a big undertaking in such a short period but we managed to hire a consultant, (Health in Common Consultants) to facilitate community workshops to gather information, identify strengths and opportunities, and prioritize goals and objectives. This document was created and is being used to generate our PRCC Strategic Plan. From this document we are creating action items to keep the PRCC focused on the tasks at hand that relate back to our organisation's vision.

***2018 Career Symposium:*** On April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 the PRCC partnered with Ross L. Gray School to host our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Career Symposium. The group's goal was to bring businesses and organizations together in a venue where students and the entire community were able to come out to discover the incredible opportunities that are available to all of us in the region. Several guest speakers did classroom presentations for high school students throughout the day, while local businesses and organizations had displays set up in the gymnasium for the students and public to visit and ask questions. Some businesses sponsored a free lunch for all who attended. Eighteen exhibitors attended and all of the feedback indicated an incredible success. We look to continue to grow this event again for 2019.

***RM meet the Candidates:*** On October 11<sup>th</sup> the PRCC hosted a "Candidate Meet & Greet" forum at the Piney Hall. The forum was designed to give all candidates running for Reeve in the RM a chance to state their positions on a number of pre-determined questions. All other councillor candidates were invited to meet the public in general following the question period. The event was well attended and helped the chamber bring awareness to our mandate.

### 2018 PRCC GUESTS

#### **Healthy Living Workgroup:**

Tiffany Thunder presented information on the Bag program. PRCC assigned one member as part of the group to be the voice of local business.

#### **Mb Chamber Affinity Benefit Program:**

Information presented on chamber affinity programs benefits June 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Jiffy Peat Moss:**

The PRCC met with local and corporate managers from Jiffy along with the RM of Piney Reeve and CAO in September to discuss potential expansion in the region.





## 2018 MEETING LOCATIONS

Jan.	R.M. Office Vassar
Feb.	R.M. Office Vassar General Election
March	R.M. Office Vassar
April	R.M. Office Vassar
May	Woodridge Fire Hall
June	Woodridge Fire Hall
July.	R.M. Office Vassar
Aug.	Over 40 Club Piney
Sept.	Prevost's Perennials
Oct.	Piney Hall Meet and Greet
Nov.	R.M. Office Vassar
Dec.	Pineland Seniors South Junction

**PRCC Voice of Business in the Region:** The PRCC has been an active voice for businesses in the region for the following concerns:

1. Regional Health Care Changes
2. Local Border Services Hours of Operation
3. Regional Cell Service
4. Housing initiatives

**PRCC Partnerships:** The PRCC has formed a number of strategic partnerships on a variety of projects. We've used these partnerships to leverage grant funding for projects as well as join resources to create more synergy between the organizations and communities in the region. Some of the partnerships include work with the RM of Piney, Ross L Gray School, EBCH & Sunrise Corner. It would have been impossible to initiate as many projects as we have without these key partnerships.

**PRCC Development:** Members of the PRCC attended our Open House on economic development, North Forge's launch event in Morden, EBCH's AGM, CBSA informational meetings, Coffee with Council meetings, and many more.

**PRCC Moving Forward:**

2019 looks to be another exciting year for the PRCC as we continue to make progress and work hard to keep our finger on the pulse of business in the region. In partnership with the Ross L Gray School and the RM of Piney, we plan to host another Career Symposium for the students and community in April of 2019.

**Become a Member:**

The PRCC will work to continue membership growth and increase the strength of the organisation. While we are still a young organization, we continue to look for new ideas to improve the economic environment of our region. To accomplish this, we need more new members who are willing to be part of that change. If you might be that person, or know of a company or organization that is not already a member, consider taking in a meeting to see what we are all about.

