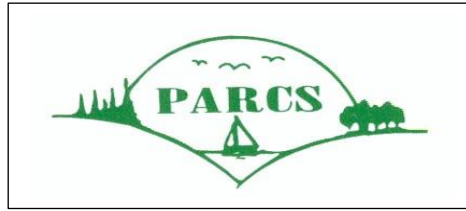


## PARCS UPDATE #82

### January/2018



### “ARE YOU AN INFORMED LEADER OF YOUR COMMUNITY?”

EDITORIAL by Lynne Saas, Co-ordinator of Member Services

A few days ago I received an email request from a board member of an organized hamlet, asking me to send him a copy of a convention presentation (#49 in our catalogue, about Fraud and Ethics). The request prompted me both to wonder whether the board member was suspecting someone of fraud or an ethics breach and to applaud that PARCS member’s decision to **inform himself** by reviewing the session from the 2015 convention.

Board members of organized hamlets, councillors of resort villages or rural municipalities and their staff will be more effective leaders if they strive to keep informed about the issues they encounter in their role.

Suppose your resort village council was giving consideration to hiring a bylaw enforcement officer. Would your council members and staff not want to first do some research? By going to our **Resource Guide to Research**, you would first check the index (under “Bylaw Enforcement Officers”) to discover that:

- There have been two journal articles about bylaw enforcement officers (one in PARCS UPDATE #6 in 2009 refers to comments made by the president of the Saskatchewan Association of Bylaw Enforcement Officers, another in Parcs Update #15 in 2010 describes the RV of Candle Lake’s use of a bylaw enforcement officer). You would print the back issues of those two newsletter from our website.
- The index also lists two convention presentations about bylaw enforcement officers (one by Candle Lake, one by commissionaires) along with a PARCS survey about which communities use bylaw enforcement officers. You would email me asking me to send you these three documents and I would do so.

After doing this research, your council and staff would be much better informed and would also know who to phone for answers to any further questions.

Suppose your new organized hamlet board had some questions about submitting their first budget to the RM. By going to the **Resource Guide to Research**, (under “Organized Hamlets and RM Councils work together”) you would find that the Catalogue lists three resource for you use. You might decide to email me, asking that I send you a copy of the *Tool Kit of Organized Hamlets* which has a template for OH budget submissions. If you are a member community, I will do so.

Suppose your community was facing a possible flood. The index in the **Resource Guide to Research** tells you that PARCS UPDATE #17 has instructions for how to build sand bag dikes. So you download that newsletter from our website.

Both SUMA and SARM list their journals on their website, as we do. PARCS however goes **one step further** and provides you with an **index** of both journal articles and convention presentations, along with a **catalogue** describing 61 convention presentations that I have catalogued since 2013. The index provides you with a list of **140 documents** you can access if order to be an **informed** community leader.

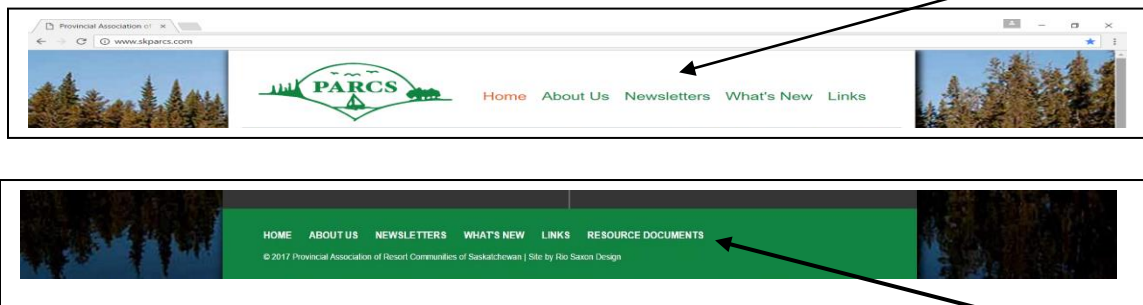
After replying to the request a couple of days ago, I realized that it was time for me to update the index and the catalogue to include the 9 presentations from our convention last October. I also decided to repackage the index and the catalogue into a single document called the **Resource Guide to Research**. That document is sent to you alongside this newsletter. I encourage you to **print this 10-page document and pin it to your bulletin board**.

I'm proud that PARCS provides this access to information for its members and encourage you to be an **informed** leader in your community.

## PARCS RESOURCE MATERIALS

**NEWSLETTERS** - Our first newsletter (PARCS UPDATE #1) was released in June of 2009. Here we are, more than 7 years later, sending out the 82<sup>nd</sup> edition of this newsletter. That's about 11 editions per year! We keep these newsletter **available to anyone who visits our web site** ([www.skparcs.com](http://www.skparcs.com)), filed by year on the Newsletter Page shown at the **top of the homepage**.

Go to that page, click on the newsletter, download and print.



**CONVENTION PRESENTATIONS** – On the **bottom of that same homepage** is a link to Resource Documents. Should you forget to print the Resource Guide that accompanies this newsletter, you can always go to that page, click on **Resource Guide to Research** and find both the index and catalogue descriptions of power point presentations and the handouts from the speakers at our annual conventions since 2013. PDF copies of these presentations will be **emailed to any PARCS members who request them**.