

THE BEST INFORMATION LINE

From your Chairman...

Hello Fellow Irrigators,

While I know you are all going hard out there in the fields, it is that time of the year for a quick overview of the summer & fall irrigation season.

A very frustrating issue many of us have been experiencing are the random power outages that have a big impact to our operations. Unfortunately, this is out of our hands, but none the less, we will lobby Irrigation Saskatchewan on this issue.

The rain we received throughout the summer has been exactly what we needed – It seems Mother Nature can still be on our side and will still throw us a bone occasionally.

I had an opportunity to speak in late August about the value of irrigation with a bus load of great individuals down at the East Side Pump Station.

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SSRID
SOUTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVER IRRIGATION DISTRICT NO.1

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Chairman Report Con't...

The attendees were:

The Honourable Daryl Harrison, Minister of Agriculture, Barret Kropf, MLA for Dakota-Arm River, Blaine McLeod, MLA for Lumsden-Morse, Kevin Weedmark, MLA for Moosomin-Montmartre, Darlene Rowden, MLA for Batoche, Jamie Martens, MLA for Martensville-Blairmore, Chris Beaudry, MLA for Kelvington-Wadena, Brad Crassweller, MLA for White City-Qu'Appelle, Shawn Jaques, President & CEO of Water Security Agency, Bill Greuel, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Jeff Morrow, President & CEO of SCIC, David Cooper, Vice President Agricultural Services, Clinton Molde, Executive Director Irrigation & Project Development, Leah Clark, Executive Director Irrigation & Economic Development, Kelsey Schmidt, Manager O & M Conveyance, David Bagshaw, Chair of Irrigation Saskatchewan. Everyone was very, very interested in hearing about the value of Irrigation in our great province. I spoke on the need to secure our food for our consumers in Saskatchewan, and throughout Canada, and why it should be a top priority.

I talked about the value of the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (SCAP) program and thanked the attendees for their support. While it was renewed for another 5 years with some added dollars, we are disappointed that the program expired in year 3 of a 5-year timeframe. Irrigators were making plans to expand their acres, however, some have now shelved those plans, following the closing of the program. You know you have a great program when the up take is so good! I asked the group to see if there was a way to extend, reboot or provide some sort of a commitment to keep this program moving forward. On that point, SSRID Board of Directors will be urging all our members to write and or call our MP's to fund their fair share in moving irrigation forward! I pointed out to the group that we are not asking governments to fund 100% of irrigation - in fact when you break it down it's the farmers that are funding the LION's share! It starts with the land, equipment, infrastructure, etc, and all of the millions of dollars invested by farmers, to produce the best and safest food for consumers in the country! Then the farmers have to deal with the weather and government policies (example 75% tariffs on canola)!

I thanked Minister Harrison, the MLAs and the rest of the group on behalf of our Board, Staff and Irrigators for their commitment in moving irrigation forward in Saskatchewan!



Photo (L-R): Kelsey Schmidt, Jamie Martens, Kevin Weedmark, Minister Harrison, Steve Primrose, Darlene Rowden, Barret Kropf, Blaine McLeod & Shawn Jaques

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To keep the momentum going, we will be having our annual meetings with WSA and the Ministry of Agriculture down at Cutbank this fall and a follow up meeting will occur in Saskatoon in December.

On our operations side, some of you may have noticed we are finally making progress in getting those drain ditches cleaned out and functioning again.

It's also that time of the year and the water will be shut off on September 30th!

Happy Harvesting!!

Steve Primrose
Chairman
SSRID No.1 Inc.



THE BEST INFORMATION LINE

**WATER WILL BE SHUT
OFF ON TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 30TH!**



WATER ORDERS

Our website www.ssrid.com will continue to support the submission of multiple turn on/off requests in a given area (South, Central, or North), at the same time, for the 2025 season. This method of ordering has proven to be the most efficient for irrigators and District staff.

THE BEST INFORMATION LINE**IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

Water delivery invoices will be going out Mid-October.

DISTRICT FINANCES

A friendly reminder to all irrigators that, per District bylaws, all base rates and water delivery fees are to be paid to the District by December 31st of each year. Any accounts left unpaid after December 31st are subject to interest at a rate of 2% per month until the entirety of the arrears have been paid. Invoices for custom work are due within thirty (30) days of the date first noted on the invoice for said custom work.

In addition, any irrigator with an account left unpaid after January 31st shall be charged the upcoming season's base rates, which must be paid (in addition to all arrears) in advance of any water being turned on for that irrigator.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

The SSRID office has the ability to accept various methods of payment options. A payment receipt will be issued once the payment has been received.

- **Cheque** - bring in your cheque during business hours or sent in the mail.
- **Online banking** - South Saskatchewan Irrigation District No. 1 set up as a payee.
- **Etransfer** - email to ssrid1@sasktel.net

Please reach out to Krystine directly at (306) 867 9923 to discuss these secure & efficient means of payment.

NOTIFICATIONS

We provide notifications of significant items via text messages and email. Please ensure that we have accurate contact information for you.

OUR MISSION

To be a leader in Saskatchewan irrigation and foster growth, efficiency, prosperity & sustainability in our district.

OUR VISION

- Strive to convey the cleanest water possible at a fair price.
- Establish positive relationships with district consumers, governments, and the broader community.
- Secure a shared revenue-stream from local, provincial, and federal sources, to enhance the viability & longevity of the district.
- Increase irrigable acres in our district by 20,000 before the year 2030.
- Replace failing canals with pipelines, wherever feasible.
- Rely on local personnel, businesses, and manufacturing, wherever feasible, to fulfill the operations & maintenance obligations of the district.

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