



RM OF EDENWOLD NO. 158

# 2025 ANNUAL SURVEY WHAT WE HEARD REPORT



# BACKGROUND

The RM of Edenwold is a diverse, complete, and connected regional municipality focused on continual growth with a thriving and sustainable way of life. The RM is a community rooted in its desire to work together with urban and rural centres, neighbouring municipalities, and Indigenous communities to establish a safe, strong place for our children and grandchildren to thrive.

Our goal is to make sure residents' voices are heard, whether you're raising your family on an acreage, run a business, or plan to spend your golden years in the RM of Edenwold. Addressing your concerns and making sure provincial and federal governments hear those concerns as well is our top priority. We strive to offer our community members a transparent and accountable local government that seeks innovative and progressive ideas to secure a better tomorrow for all.

The RM holds many opportunities for those looking for something new. We have various housing and lifestyle options, employment, recreation, and leisure opportunities that make our community a highly desirable place to live.

In addition, our business districts offer quality services and diverse products that are locally based. Business owners will find the RM has an economically diverse business sector, giving their business the chance to prosper. We are a business, agriculture, commercial, and industrial hub that drives regional prosperity and resiliency.

The RM of Edenwold is bridging pathways for a prosperous and harmonious future. We are ever evolving to address the needs of today, while honouring our past and looking towards the future.

*As quoted in the RM of Edenwold 2021-2026 Strategic Plan*





# ENGAGEMENT PROCESS



## PURPOSE

As set out in the RM's 2021-2026 Strategic Plan, the RM is committed to gathering community feedback and improving the quality of life for all ratepayers. As such, the RM will develop annual surveys to collect input and increase transparency. The input gathered in this annual survey will help identify community needs and will help increase the overall quality of life for ratepayers.

## METHODOLOGY

The survey targeted over 1900 RM of Edenwold No. 158 residents and business owners as participants. The survey was mailed to all ratepayers in the RM of Edenwold in mid-March 2025 with a self-addressed business reply envelope with a return request by April 15, 2025.

There were 261 valid survey respondents, representing about 6.3% of the total RM population (an increase from the 182 valid survey respondents in 2024). The survey included questions related to the operations, services, and general quality of life in the RM.



# WHAT WE ASKED

The survey consisted of the following 10 questions:

- 1** I reside in the RM of Edenwold (check all that apply).
- 2** I own/operate a business in the RM of Edenwold (check all that apply).
- 3** How would you rate the overall quality of life in the RM of Edenwold?
- 4** How satisfied are you with the level and quality of service provided by the RM?
  - Front Desk/Reception
  - Building permits, construction permits , new developments, inspections and enforcement
  - Road maintenance, snow clearing, water and sewer services (Emerald Park)
  - Road maintenance/grading, gravel, snow clearing, and bridge maintenance (rural/subdivisions)
  - Community Safety Officer (CSO) Program
  - Type, frequency and value of communication/information
- 5** What is your preferred method to communicate with the RM and conduct business?
- 6** How do you prefer to learn about RM news and events? (select up to three options).
- 7** How satisfied are you with the RM on the following aspects:
  - Value for the services you receive from the RM
  - Qualified and respected councillors/leadership
  - Demonstrates transparency and accountability
  - Demonstrates fiscal responsibility
  - Works collaboratively/regionally with other municipalities
  - Is ratepayer-focused
  - Is modern, evolving and future looking
  - Is a safe and secure municipality
- 8** In your opinion, what are the most pressing challenges facing the RM?
- 9** Are there amenities or services you would like to see available in the community?
- 10** Do you have any additional comments you would like the RM to consider in setting municipal priorities?

# WHAT WE HEARD



## KEY FINDINGS

98% of respondents rated the overall quality of life in the RM of Edenwold as good to excellent. This is up from 97% in 2024.

Respondents that believe they receive good or excellent value for the services from the RM has gone up from 83% in 2024 to 89.5% in 2025. By comparison, when all the results for question 4 are calculated, an average of 86% of ratepayers are satisfied with the level and quality of service provided by the RM.

In 2024, we expanded this question to include road maintenance, snow clearing, water and sewer services, and in the Emerald Park area, 91% were satisfied or very satisfied. This improved to 93% in 2025.

For the rural areas and subdivisions, there was an increase since 2024 from 74% to 84.5% that were satisfied or very satisfied with road maintenance/grading, gravel, snow clearing, and bridge maintenance (rural/subdivisions).

In 2024, the Planning and Development had a satisfied or very satisfied rating of 70% with the wider scope of building permits, construction permits, new developments, inspections, and enforcement considered. Currently, in 2025, this area has improved to 74%.

The Community Safety Officer Program satisfaction in 2024 was 84.5%. Satisfaction in 2025 dropped a bit to 79%.

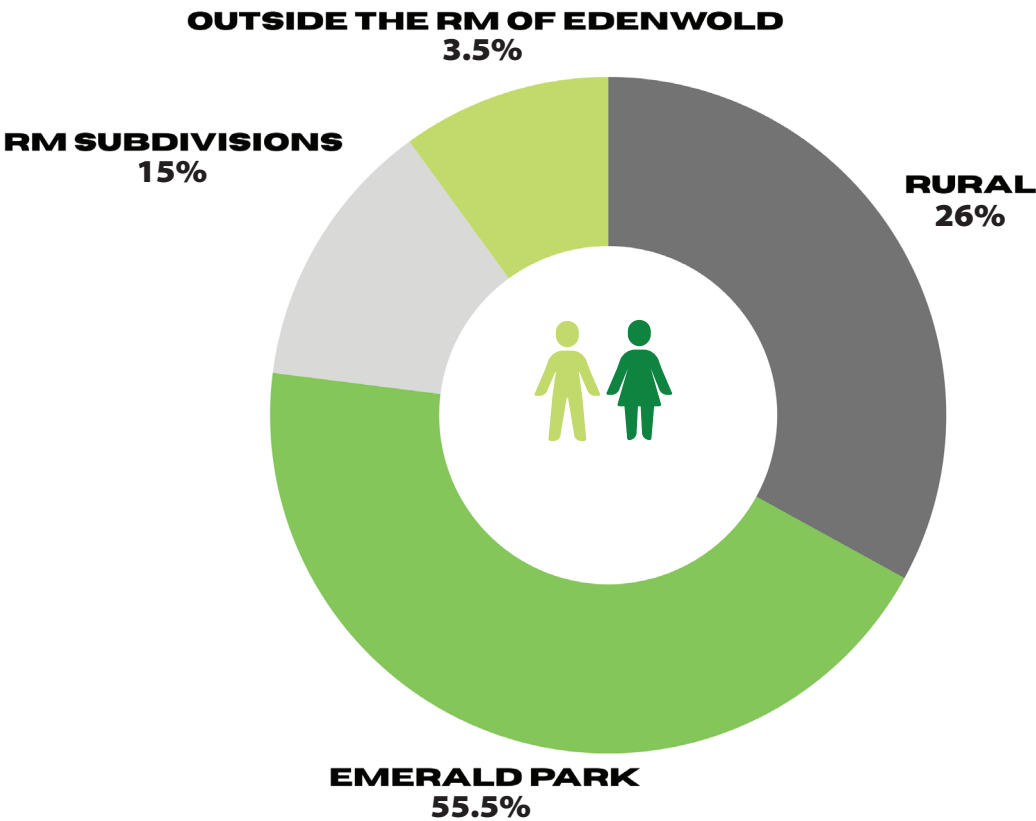
The type, frequency, and value of communication from the RM to ratepayers stands at 92% satisfied or very satisfied, with email, regular mail, and Facebook being the preferred methods to learn about RM news and events. The Voyent Alert! notification system has become a popular method of reaching ratepayers with 26% of respondents selecting this as a communication preference (up from 13% in 2024).

As was the result over the last two years, the amenities that a majority of the respondents desired for the municipality includes an indoor swimming pool, a multi-use recreation centre, and a gym/indoor sports field.

The RM is viewed as safe and secure, with 96% of respondents rating the municipality as good or excellent. The result in 2024 was roughly the same at 98%.

# WHAT WE HEARD

## WHERE DO PEOPLE WHO PARTICIPATED RESIDE?



## HOW WOULD YOU RATE THE OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE RM OF EDENWOLD?



## HOW DO YOU PREFER TO LEARN ABOUT RM NEWS AND EVENTS?



# HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH THE LEVEL AND QUALITY OF SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE RM?



Front Desk/Reception

**93%**

Satisfied or Very Satisfied



Building permits, construction permits, new developments, inspections and enforcement

**74%**

Satisfied or Very Satisfied



Type, frequency, and value of communication/information

**92%**

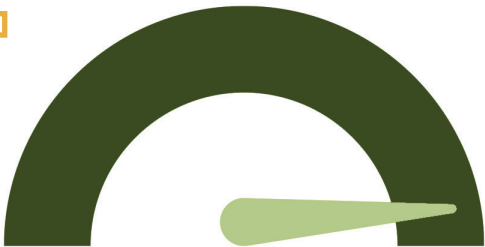
Satisfied or Very Satisfied



Road maintenance, snow clearing, water and sewer services (Emerald Park)

**93%**

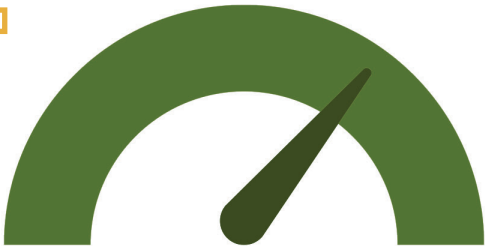
Satisfied or Very Satisfied



Road maintenance/grading, gravel, snow clearing, and bridge maintenance (rural/subdivisions)

**84.5%**

Satisfied or Very Satisfied



Community Safety Officer Program

**79%**

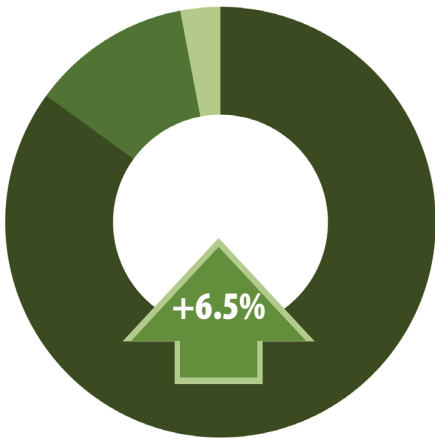
Satisfied or Very Satisfied





# HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH THE RM ON THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS?

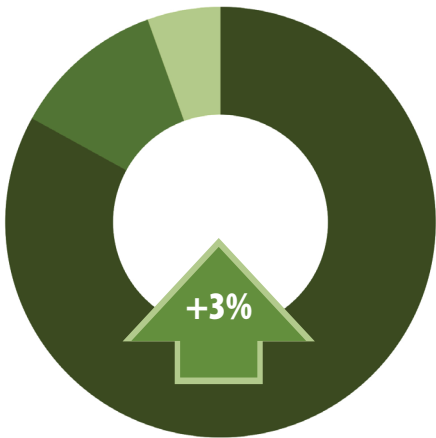
Good/Excellent    Bad    Terrible



Value for the services you receive from the RM

**89.5%**

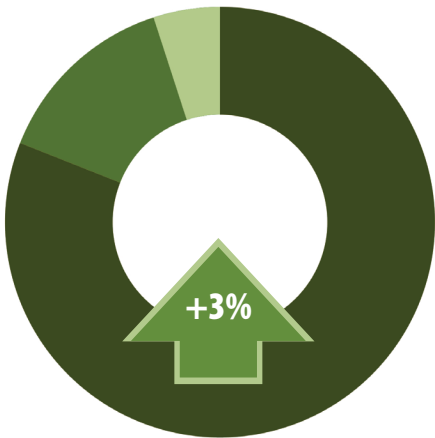
Satisfied or Very Satisfied



Qualified and respected councillors/leadership

**88%**

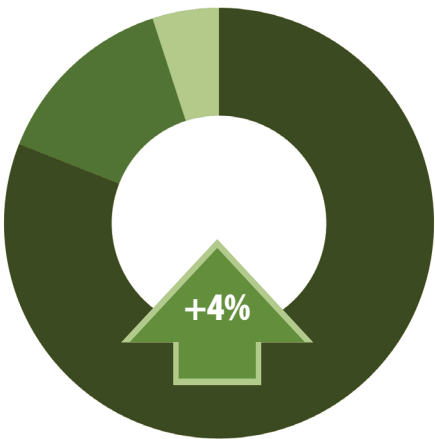
Satisfied or Very Satisfied



Demonstrates transparency and accountability

**84%**

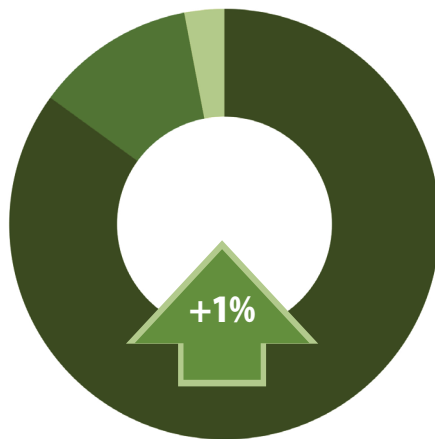
Satisfied or Very Satisfied



Demonstrates fiscal responsibility

**87%**

Satisfied or Very Satisfied



Works collaboratively/regionally with other municipalities

**87%**

Satisfied or Very Satisfied

Is ratepayer-focused

**80%**

Satisfied or Very Satisfied



Is modern, evolving and future looking

**86%**

Satisfied or Very Satisfied



Is a safe and secure municipality

**96%**

Satisfied or Very Satisfied



## IN YOUR OPINION, WHAT ARE THE MOST PRESSING CHALLENGES FACING THE RM?

### Taxes & Rising Costs

- Desire to keep residential taxes low and ensure fair representation in taxation.
- Complaints about special water and sewer taxes for new developments.
- Need for careful financial management, including provincial and federal funding.

### Growth & Development

- Balancing rural and urban interests.
- Debate on whether apartments should be allowed, with a strong preference for stand-alone condos over apartments, especially for retirees.
- Maintaining single-family homes for purchase rather than multi-family dwellings.
- Concerns that rapid expansion could negatively impact the community's character.
- Requests for controlled commercial development.
- Calls for transparency in future development planning.

### Infrastructure & Services

- Concerns over failing and outdated infrastructure, including roads, maintenance, and dust control.
- Calls for paving rather than capping specific roads.
- Complaints about declining summer maintenance.
- Efforts to maintain strong infrastructure amid population growth.
- Complaints about messy yards.
- Balancing rural, urban, acreage, and commercial ratepayers' needs.

### Annexation & Local Governance

- Strong opposition to White City's annexation attempts and calls for legal agreements to prevent future annexation efforts.
- Calls for better cooperation between White City and Emerald Park.
- Concerns about Emerald Park being prioritized.
- Push for fewer in-camera council meetings and more openness in decision-making.
- Concerns over tax allocation fairness among rural, urban, and agricultural ratepayers.

### Community & Environment

- Desire to preserve the area's rural character and maintain its bedroom community appeal.
- Issues with deer overpopulation damaging yards and attracting coyotes.
- Calls for improved community safety officer visibility.
- Requests for stronger community engagement and communication.
- Interest in family-oriented recreational facilities, including a pool, gym, curling, and rinks.
- Calls for better collaboration and agreements between neighboring communities.

### Road Safety & Public Works

- Support for improved collaboration with White City on major projects.
- Requests for better lighting and traffic control on Highway 46 and access roads.
- Need for road improvements due to increased traffic in Crawford Estates.
- Desire for better navigation between subdivisions and local communities.

### Education & Recreation

- Strong demand for a new high school to accommodate population growth.
- Calls for keeping pathways clear in winter, including golf course paths.
- Concerns about recreational amenities being impacted by growth pressures.



# ARE THERE AMENITIES OR SERVICES YOU WOULD LIKE AVAILABLE IN THE COMMUNITY?

## Community Amenities & Recreation

- Indoor and outdoor swimming pool, aquatic center, and recreation facility.
- Multiplex or community hub with sports facilities (hockey, curling, gym, running track).
- Recreation spaces including skating rinks, disc golf courses, and expanded park paths.
- More public events and activities, including farmers/local markets.
- Recycling depot and extended cleanup bins availability.

## Housing & Infrastructure

- No high-density housing or apartment buildings.
- More variable housing options, including affordable condos/townhouses.
- Road improvements, especially gravel roads.
- Expansion of central water service for rural residents.
- Expanded street lighting along Frankslake Rd and Meadow Ridge Estates.
- Improved walking paths and connectivity, especially in Spruce Creek Area.
- Paving gravel roads, including Spruce Creek to Pilot Butte.
- Better road clearing practices (prioritize plowing over excessive salt).
- More green spaces and landscaping.

## Shopping & Services

- More grocery stores and shopping opportunities as IGA is considered expensive.
- More restaurant variety (e.g., Chinese food, A&W, coffee/bookshop and breakfast café).
- Local medical lab services, blood testing facilities, and healthcare options.
- Sarcan recycling drop-off.
- Auto repair shop.
- Greenhouse for local produce and plants.



## Safety & Governance

- More police/safety officers and rural crime prevention efforts.
- Better fire/burn management with accountability and notification requirements.
- Improved 911 service in rural areas.
- Humane Society collaboration for managing dumped/stray animals.

## Education & Future Planning

- Consideration for a future high school in the area.
- Collaboration on a potential new rink after the loss of Edenwold's facility.
- Exploration of public transportation to and from Regina.

## Additional Requests & Concerns

- Rural garbage collection services, including oil disposal.
- Continued support for subsidized animal spaying/neutering for rodent control.
- Concerns about fire station efficiency and potential merging.
- Interest in allowing Emerald Park residents to keep chickens with proper regulations.
- Ensuring the community remains attractive and doesn't deteriorate.





## DO YOU HAVE ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS YOU WOULD LIKE THE RM TO CONSIDER IN SETTING MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES?

### COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

- Preserve the small-town feel by avoiding high-density housing and apartments.
- Maintain a rural focus rather than urban expansion.
- Beautification of Emerald Park and business areas, including landscaping requirements.
- Uphold bylaws, including enforcement of unsightly yards, parking regulations, and noise laws.

### HOUSING & INFRASTRUCTURE

- Affordable housing options for seniors to downsize while staying in the community.
- No high-density rental properties; condos for downsizing are acceptable.
- Road maintenance improvements, especially rural roads, including snow clearing and transition areas.
- More gravel on rural roads, but not excessive amounts.
- Chip sealing road surfaces is ineffective for longevity.
- Better speed limit enforcement on gravel roads.
- More enforcement for maintaining weed control on private properties.
- Cost-sharing in building all-weather roads.

### PUBLIC SERVICES & TAXATION

- Keep property taxes low and reduce monthly utility and water bills.
- Lower service agreement costs for farm subdivisions.
- Better transparency regarding WCRM158 Waste Authority management and fees.
- Continue and expand the hazardous waste collection days.
- Rural garbage collection services with better access to disposal options.

### SAFETY & ENFORCEMENT

- More accountability and support for rural crime prevention.
- No need for town safety officers when RCMP already provides coverage.
- Increase the CSO program to ensure as our community grows, we are protected 24/7
- Better enforcement of noise laws at night, particularly in South Plains Road.
- More dog bins to encourage responsible pet waste disposal.





## GOVERNANCE & REPRESENTATION

- Public hearings should be held in the evenings to allow working people to attend.
- Emerald Park needs additional council representation.
- Non-council committees should have more diverse representation.
- Fairness in property tax for acreages.
- Ensure ratepayer opinions are considered when opposing developments.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

- Support local job creation and economic growth.
- Avoid excessive business expansion in Emerald Park; focus more on people.
- Ensure businesses are not built too close to residential areas to prevent noise and pollution concerns.

## RECREATION & QUALITY OF LIFE

- Indoor pool and recreation facilities are needed for year-round activity.
- Improve walking path maintenance and ensure snow clearing is timely.
- Evaluate and limit unnecessary stop signs in intersections.







## **RM of Edenwold No. 158**

100 Hutchence Road  
Emerald Park, Saskatchewan  
S4L 1C6

### **Primary Contact Numbers:**

Front Desk: 306-771-2522

Community Safety Officers: 306-771-1501

Water/Sewer Utility After Hours Emergency: 306-791-5089

General Inquiries: [info@edenwold-sk.ca](mailto:info@edenwold-sk.ca)

[www.rmedenwold.ca](http://www.rmedenwold.ca)



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