

Ken has volunteered to assist operate and mentor the newest councilor to a small village of McTaggart, Saskatchewan. Ken having extensive years of knowledge in the safety and treatment of public water, put his name forward for nomination to the Village of McTaggart Council. He was voted in for his first 3 year term then acclaimed the next election for another 3 year term. During this time he mentored and assisted the volunteer operator of the village drinking water system. This system is used by the 110 residents who trust and depend on clean safe drinking water. Ken soon took over the operation as the current operator became ill and could not continue. Ken is still a full time Public Health Inspector but could not leave the village without an operator. Ken spent many hours on evenings and weekends operating the water distribution system by maintaining water chemistry and water quality as required. Free and total chlorine tests were performed daily and logged for compliance. This took considerable amount of effort and commitment. Cancelled trips and holidays were the norm as the water had to be monitored daily. Ken operated the system without fail and realized the importance of safe water for the community.

Ken also looked after the 2 cell lagoon which collected the sewage from the village. Weekly and monthly samples were taken and sent to the lab as required by law. He was constantly monitoring during the course of the year for consistency and safety of the sewage system. Ken was always concerned of environmental impacts if the lagoon should overflow so was always in contact with the proper agencies.

Ken then retired from the Council but not before he trained the incoming councilor on the water and sewage system. Ken shared his knowledge acquired through his training and experience with the newly appointed water monitor. Hours and days of teaching Ken gave freely of himself to make sure the information was being received correctly and understood. Ken then talked the incumbent to register for proper training at SIAST. The new operator took not only the small water systems training course but also the waste water operator's course. The incumbent passed both with excellent marks and thanked Ken for his teachings as the course was easier after being taught by Ken.

The village now has a certified operator for the safe drinking water and sewage system thanks to the efforts of Ken.

Because of his dedication to the delivery of safe drinking water to a community I would like to nominate Ken for the Canadian Water & Wastewater Association Safe Water Award.