



Kamsack now has New Water Supply and Treatment Facilities

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Water is an essential ingredient for life. In the 21st century, water remains a major strategic commodity and access to water has significant impact on commerce and quality of life. The experiences of Walkerton, Ontario and North Battleford, Saskatchewan has exemplified the fact we cannot take safe, reliable supply of water for granted.

Assessment and planning of water supplies for Kamsack commenced in 2003 and culminated with the development of new water source from groundwater supplies and installation of a new water treatment facility. Operations began in February 2009 and now Kamsack Residents and the Assiniboine Rural Pipeline users have received their water supplies from this system. This water supply meets or exceeds all drinking water standards and has sufficient capability to meet the requirements for many decades.

Kamsack water supply commencing in 1915 was sourced from the Assiniboine River and over the years adequately met the needs of its residents. The water flows in Assiniboine were erratic and direct supplies from the river offered a challenge in meeting the needs of the community. A new water treatment plant and earthen reservoir were constructed in 1962-63 met the requirements for the next 4 decades.

The Federal and Provincial Governments responded to the concerns about the quality of drinking water by upgrading the standards and monitoring of operations required to meet these standards. Communities determined their existing systems could not meet these new standards and assessed their options. Kamsack was not different than many of their counterparts.

Kamsack is fortunate in having water supply sources from groundwater as well as surface from the Assiniboine River. The study of supplies and types of treatment facilities resulted in the preferred combination of groundwater supply with it attributes of consistent quality, sustainable reliable volumes throughout the different seasons offering the capability for more efficient treatment. A Reverse Osmosis treatment process was found to be the best means of meeting the new standards based on the water source.

Kamsack as a result of this \$8 million initiative has an abundant supply of high quality water for years to come. This is just another example of a forward looking community that has established capability to access a “strategic commodity” that will provide its present and future residents and businesses this valuable resource for many years to come.

Here are pictures of our new water treatment plant.

