

## **NRE Site Profile Update 2000**

Your Name: Centre for Rural Studies

Community name: RM of Wood River

NRE cell number: #24

### **4. SITE HISTORY - MAJOR EVENTS & STORIES**


Note: This timeline has revisions from 1956 onwards, but has not been revised from the original profile for dates prior to 1956.

- 1956 Lafleche constructs water and sewer main. 1 Quonset building erected by community volunteers to store grain since grain quotas were very low or non-existent. First grain went into the building summer of 1956. 1961 was a very short crop on the prairies, and as a result the grain (which had brought us money for storage) was shipped out and work began immediately on the 3 sheet curling rink.
- 1957 New hospital built.
- 1958 Train service for mail and passengers is discontinued and replaced with mixed service three times a week. Passenger service was completely discontinued in 1960. Town water sewer plant officially opened.
- 1960 Land bought for a landing strip for light airplanes.
- 1960 Saskatchewan Government Telephone constructed a new dial office and telephone. An indoor curling rink with three sheets of ice was built.
- 1961 Automated phones came into operation. A new artificial ice curling rink opened with three sheets of ice.
- 1965 DeCap Trailer Manufacturing began in Lafleche in a small building and later moved into a large new facility in 1975.
- 1967 Town of Lafleche builds self-contained housing units for senior citizens, Wood River Centennial home
- 1968 Streets were paved in Lafleche.
- 1969 Homecoming Celebration.
- 1973 New indoor skating rink and regional library opened.
- 1977 Wheatland Lodge opened – eighteen suite senior citizen low rental housing building. Palliser Aggregates, a gravel crushing business came to Lafleche from Ernfold, and in the early 80's moved to its present location.
- 1978 Town council takes precedent setting action of eliminating the business tax to encourage and support the local business community
- 1979 Construction of a new 16-bed hospital/special care facility. New office complex for Wood River School Division No. 70. District offices of the Crop Insurance Corporation and for the Agricultural Development and Diversification District No. 3 were established in Lafleche. Toronto Dominion Bank constructed new building. Wood River utility board begins to service the RM with water lines. Previously the RM relied on dugouts and wells but with water lines, RM recipients can now expand into cattle etc.
- 1980 The Wood River flooded in the spring, the largest flood in many years. Gravelbourg was threatened. Roadways were cut off. The most severely affected areas were in the southern part of the RM.
- 1982 DeCap Trailer building was taken over by Palliser Aggregates and the trailer manufacturing moved to new facilities 4½ miles south east of Lafleche.
- 1990 Wheatland Aggregates began a gravel-crushing business, and works out of the Palliser Aggregate shop
- 1991 Lafleche & District Museum saw its beginning in the former Wood River School Division building, and has grown to a popular visitor centre showing many of the artifacts of early pioneering days in this community.
- 1996 Hospital is downgraded to community health centre (12 – 20 jobs lost).
- 1999 Creative Enterprises, owned by Wayne and Geri Engel, moves from the farm north of Woodrow to a new location on highway #13, a southwest corner of the town of Lafleche. They opened for business early 2000.
- 2000 The last grain elevators closed in Lafleche—the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool followed by

Pioneer Grain, in March, 2000. The Lafleche Credit Union opens a new office building on Main Street.

## 5. Communications and Infrastructure

Item	Yes/No/#	Comments
<b>Communication Inventory</b>		
Cable TV (is local programming in the form of "text" messages only, or actual programs as well)	Yes	No local Lafleche Programming
Cable TV Provider (who is the cable provider, name the company)		Shaw Cable
Internet (which companies provide Internet (ISPs), list community website address)	Yes 1	Sasktel www.dlcwest.com/~lafleche/
Speed of Internet Access (indicate which forms are available: Vibe, DSL modem, cable, other)		Modem only.
Public Internet Access Terminals	Yes 1	Library
Local Newspaper (frequency)	Yes 1	School Newspaper - biweekly
Regional Newspaper	Yes 2	Tribune (Gravelbourg), Assiniboia Times
National Newspaper	Yes 1	National Post
Community Newsletters (how many, how frequent, only include church bulletins if they carry more than church news)	Yes 1	School Newspaper (2 weeks)
Local Radio Station	Yes 1	French Gravelbourg
# of Radio Stations available in the site (use your radio dial)	10	
Community Bulletin Boards (how many can you find, usually in stores or post offices, comment on what they are used for - mostly local notices,	Yes 5	Post office, Co-op Store, A & L Foods, Flying Goose Inn, Credit Union  Event notices, articles for sale, small business

personal notices, regional notices, government notices, etc)		advertising (ie. mowing lawns, babysitting, landscaping).
<b>Community Identity Inventory</b>		
Community "Welcome" Sign (describe what it says and any symbols or pictures)	Yes	"Lafleche Welcomes You" – put up by Town of Lafleche "Lafleche: Hospitality with a Country Touch" – to be put up by the Merchants Association (made, needs to be erected)
Community Flag (please describe)	No	
Community Symbols (crests, coat of arms, icons, etc, please describe)	Yes	 The background colors of dark green and yellow represent the provincial colors (grain belt and northern forests) as seen on the flag. The white/red colors on the "L" and arrow represent the colors of Lafleche. Lafleche (la fleche) means "the arrow". The arrow points to the location of the town in the province of Saskatchewan.

## 6. Social Services - Availability and Accessibility

ITEM	Yes/ No	If "no", how far?			Comments
		Which Community?	Time	Kms	
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
Elementary School	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	
High School	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	
CÉGEP/comm. college	No	Gravelbourg	15	20	
University	No	Regina	130	218	
Continuing Education and Extension Courses	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	SCN at the Lafleche High School
Other Educational Institutions	No				

HEALTH/SAFETY					
Hospital	Yes	Gravelbourg	15	20	Lafleche does have a Community Health Centre in the old Hospital building.
Blood/Urine Testing Facility	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	
X-Ray Facility	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	
Baby Delivery Facility	No	Moose Jaw	90	147	
CT Scan Facility	No	Regina	130	218	
Nursing Home	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	
Doctor(s)	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	Doctors who live in Gravelbourg have office hours at the community health centre twice a week.
Nurse(s)	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	
Dentist(s)	No	Gravelbourg	15	20	
Dental Surgeon(s)	No	Regina	130	218	
Optometrist(s)	No	Assiniboia	30	42	
Home Care/Visits	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	
VON	No				
Social Worker(s)	No	Assiniboia	30	42	
Pharmacy	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	The pharmacy was bought by a young pharmacist who moved to town, as the other pharmacist wanted to retire.
Ambulance	No	Gravelbourg	15	20	
Emergency Services	No				
Public Health Nurse	No	Gravelbourg	15	20	
Rehabilitation - Physiotherapy	No	Gravelbourg	15	20	

Rehabilitation - Speech Therapy	No	Gravelbourg	15	20	
Rehabilitation - Occupational Therapy	No	Gravelbourg	15	20	
Police (local or RCMP)	No	Gravelbourg	15	20	
Fire Department (state if comprised of volunteers, paid staff, or both)	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	Lafleche/ Wood River Volunteer Fire Dept.
911 Emergency Line	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	As of May, 2000
<b>LEGAL</b>					
Lawyer	No	Gravelbourg	15	20	
Notary	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	Sutherland Accounting
Citizenship Court	No	Regina	130	218	
<b>FINANCIAL</b>					
Bank	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	TD Bank
Credit Union	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	New offices in 2000
ATM Machine	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	New to community in 2000.
Micro-Financing Group	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	Via merchants Association
Insurance Office	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	
<b>SERVICE FOR THE ELDERLY AND DAYCARE</b>					
Daycare	No	Assinaboia	30	42	
Senior Citizens' Retirement Home	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	Part of the hospital that was closed in the mid 1990's
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>					
Employment Insurance Office	No	Moose Jaw	90	147	

Revenue Canada Office	No	Regina	130	218	
Provincial Automobile License Office	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	
Welfare Office	No	Moose Jaw	90	147	
Town Hall	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	
Band Council	N/a	N/A			
Post Office	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	
<b>COMMUNITY SERVICES</b>					

Food Bank	No	Moose Jaw	90	147	
Clothing Exchange or Depot	No	Moose Jaw	90	147	
Second-Hand Stores (profit & charitable)	No	Moose Jaw	90	147	
Drop-In Centre	No	Lafleche	0	0	
Half-Way House	No	Moose Jaw	90	147	
Personal Aid Services(counseling, family distress, etc)	No	Assiniboia	30	42	

**PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

Bus	Yes	STC	0	0	
Train - Passenger	No	Saskatoon	240	370	
Train - Freight	No	Gravelbourg	15	20	
Air	No	Regina	130	218	
Helicopter	No	Regina	130	218	
Boat	No	N/A			
Taxi	No	Moose Jaw	90	147	

<b>FACILITIES</b>					
Curling	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	
Municipal Swimming Pool (indoor & outdoor)	Yes	Thomson Lake	7	10	Thomson Lake, Regional Park, 10km north of Lafleche (outdoor) Gravelbourg (indoor)
Municipal Skating Rink (indoor & outdoor)	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	
Community Playing Field	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	
Community Gym	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	At the high school
Community Centre	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	
YMCA/YWCA	No	Moose Jaw	90	147	
Athletic Club	No	Moose Jaw	90	147	
Theatre	No	Gravelbourg	15	20	
Cinema	No	Gravelbourg	15	20	
Museum	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	
Library	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	
Parks	Yes	Thomson Lake	7	10	



## 7. ECONOMIC FORTUNES

New business opened since summer 1998:

- For Real Photography—photographer (1)
- D'antiques—antiques and collectibles (1)
- Massage Therapy Centre—massage and reflexology (2)
- Impressions Silk Screening and Trophies— (1)

Existing business closed since summer 1998:

- Looks by Lisa -- hairdresser (1)
- Old and Crafty -- antiques (1)
- Ellis Meats (3)
- Saskatchewan Wheat Pool—grain elevator (3)
- Pioneer Grain Co—grain elevator (2)
- Ross's Funeral Service— (2)

Sold to new owners:

- Crasswell's Computer Service (became Eagle Computer)
- Lafleche Pharmacy
- DJ's Video (became What's Up Entertainment)
- John's Café (became Ming's Café and Lafleche Café)

## 8. COMMERCIAL SHOPPING

We want to determine the level of retail / commercial shopping in the site, and the distance and time to travel to any higher levels of retail / commercial shopping. We are roughly following Hodge / Stabler's classification scheme.

For example, if the community is a full convenience centre, write "yes" in the Yes/No column beside that description. Then for each of the four descriptions of more extensive retail / commercial centres, identify the nearest community people in this site would travel to for that level of shopping, and how far that is in terms of time and distance by personal automobile.

Description	Yes/No	If "no", how far?			Comments
		Which Community?	Time	Kms	
minimum convenience centre (gas and basic groceries)	Yes	Lafleche	0	0	
full convenience centre (minimum plus some general merchandise, full grocery store, implement dealers)		Gravelbourg	15	20	
partial shopping centre (above plus selected merchandise - small malls)		Assiniboia	30	42	
complete shopping centre (above plus extensive retail merchandise - large malls)		Moose Jaw	90	147	
secondary wholesale-retail centre (above plus some wholesale)		Moose Jaw	90	147	
primary wholesale-retail centre (above plus central wholesale outlets)		Regina	130	218	