

Kronau resident receives Protective Services Medal

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Dean Ross is modest about his 26-year career with the Regina Police Service.

Earlier this month, Ross received the Saskatchewan Protective Services Medal, which recognizes exemplary long service for individuals working in a direct capacity to protect people and/or property and supervisory personnel in the public service sectors who ensure the safety, security and protection of Saskatchewan citizens.

"(Receiving the medal) is a nice reflection of my first career," he said. "It's just a recognition of what I've done, which I think of as pretty good work."

In 1991, at the age of 21, Ross began with the RPS. "At 21, you think you're ready for anything," he said. "Back then, that position was more brawn than brains in some situations — but I'm glad I survived the first few years."

He remembers his first day well — but not for the reason you might think.

"I remember the day I got sworn in. I was driving to the station — and we had to wear our dress uniform — and people were kind of waving and pointing and I thought, "oh this is pretty cool." I got to the station for the swearing in,

and (it turns out) I'd forgotten to unplug the extension plug from my car," he said with a laugh.

"The first day on the job, I remember going to a few alarms and just being kind of awestruck about what this position really meant — it wasn't training anymore, it was real-world stuff."

Over the next two plus decades, Ross would see and experience things that remain fresh in his mind today; from the good to the bad, a career in the police service means Ross has witnessed things that an average individual has no ability to imagine.

"I could tell you probably ten of my best ones and thirty of the absolute most horrific ones that I can still describe to this day," he said.

"Your life really changes — you're no longer a normal citizen," he added.

One of his favourite parts of being a police officer was being able to connect with members of the community and build lasting relationships.

"I always really enjoyed helping people that needed help. I appreciated going to people's house and helping them out when they needed some help or somebody to talk to. I was proud of the fact that I kept that up during the 26 years (of my service)," he said.

"Just little things — like buying someone a cup of coffee

or dropping gifts off at Christmas to kids who didn't have any."

Conversely, however, a job in the public sector means that even when he was off-duty, Ross and his co-officers had to ensure they upheld higher expectations than that of the average citizen.

"In a lot of ways, you're still under a microscope — people know you're a police officer (even in your off-time). You always have to watch yourself because everybody is pretty quick to criticize you, (even) if you're off-duty (because you're) in the public eye. You're kind of held to a higher standard, representing the protective services."

Ross retired from the RPS a year-and-a-half ago, but two of his sons have followed in his footsteps and have made careers in the protective services. Riley is a constable with the Weyburn Police Service while Jordan is pursuing a criminal justice degree while playing hockey at the University of Toronto Institute of Technology.

"I'm proud of my family and my kids for putting up with the long hours and the time I wasn't home, working night shifts and things like that," he added.

According to the Government of Saskatchewan website, the Protective Services Medal is given to those who set high standards and strive for excellence in their duties so everyone in Saskatchewan can live safe and secure lives.

Ex-Montmartre mayor grateful for access to lifesaving procedure

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A cutting edge procedure has saved the life of former local dignitary.

In February 2016, Dave Romanow went to the doctor because his skin had become jaundiced. Within four days of testing, it was determined he had a cancerous tumour at the tip of his pancreas, encroaching on his bowel duct.

The former mayor of Montmartre is candid about the seriousness of his diagnosis. "People who get pancreatic cancer — usually, it's a death warrant," he said simply. "Ninety-five percent of pancreatic cancer patients die early."

With no early detection (pancreatic cancer often presents with little to no symptoms until it is advanced) and no screening process, many people have advanced disease by the time it's discovered, making

treatment much more difficult and a cure near impossible.

Romanow first had an attempted whipple operation — a surgery where the head of the pancreas, the gallbladder, part of the uppermost portion of the small intestine, a small portion of the stomach, and the lymph nodes near the head of the pancreas are removed.

"When they went in, they found that the tumour had wrapped itself around the blood vessel, and they weren't able to operate."

The next course of action for Romanow was chemotherapy, in hopes of shrinking the tumour enough to have a successful whipple procedure.

"By November of last year, I did my last chemo and they noticed that it had shrunk a little bit."

In January 2017, another whipple surgery was attempted. This time, the tu-

mour had sent nodes into the blood vessels surrounding the pancreas — so again, the surgery was unsuccessful.

While undergoing treatments, Romanow learned of nanoknife surgery, a unique surgical technique that destroys cancerous tumours using electronic current. The electronic pulses are contained between electrodes, minimizing damage to the surrounding area, making it an excellent alternative for cancers of the organs such as pancreatic or kidney.

"I found out by accident. Last fall ... there was a news blurb from Saskatoon about the nanoknife procedure," Romanow recalled. "I asked my oncologist here in Regina about the procedure, and she wasn't aware of it because it's not a very common procedure."

It wasn't quite as simple as knowing the cutting edge treatment was available so close to home, however. Ini-

tially, the provincial government denied coverage for the surgery. Facing literal life or death, Romanow began lobbying — writing letters and making phone calls to government officials to have his case heard.

After a tense eight days, the decision was overturned and in mid February Romanow was told his procedure would be covered. On March 20th, he had the surgery.

Typically a one-to-two hour procedure, Romanow's operation took nine. Surgeons had to go through layers of scar tissue from his prior surgeries.

"Right after the operation, I ended up in emergency again. I had an infection ... from the previous operation. But I had a CT scan and they noticed that where the tumour was, there's nothing but a black hole — so the tumour is gone. Officially, I'm cancer free."

Today, Romanow is slowly but surely regaining his energy levels and had plans to be back at work by mid-August. He goes for another PET scan this fall to confirm that he's still cancer free.

"People who saw me a year ago, when they see me

today they say they can't believe it's the same person," he said.

But he's looking to the bigger picture, hoping to make enough waves with his story that Saskatoon will become a national centre and patients from all over Canada will be able to come for the procedure.

"Nanoknife is the alternative to cutting you up or poisoning you with chemo," he said of the procedure. "Chemo might give you a few more months or years of life, but the nanoknife — if it's successful — you basically get your life back."

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF MONTMARTRE NO. 126 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Rural Municipality of Montmartre No. 126 intends to adopt a bylaw under The Planning and Development Act, 2007 to amend Bylaw No. 50/78, known as the Zoning Bylaw.

INTENT

The proposed bylaw amendment will:

- Increase the number of sites allowed per quarter (1/4) section to no more than 8 in the Agricultural District

REASON

The reason for the amendment is to:

- Provide for more Agricultural subdivisions in a quarter (1/4) section

PUBLIC INSPECTION

Any person may inspect the bylaw at the Rural Municipal Office, located at 136 Central Avenue, in the Village of Montmartre, between the hours of 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM on Monday to Friday excluding statutory holidays. Copies of the proposed bylaw are available at the R.M. office free of charge.

PUBLIC HEARING

Council will hold a public hearing on October 10, 2017 at 9:00 am at the R.M. Office (136 Central Ave in the Village of Montmartre) to hear any person or group who wants to comment on the proposed bylaw. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing, or delivered to the undersigned at the R.M. office before the hearing.

Issued at the Rural Municipality of Montmartre No. 126, this 21st day of September, 2017.

Dale Brenner, Rural Municipal Administrator

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