



### Meet Your Newest PHTA and Your Rat Control Technical Advisors

SARM and the PHTAs are excited to have Marieve Elliott join our team as Plant Health Technical Advisor in Division 1. Through the Ministry of Agriculture, Marieve worked alongside the PHTAs through the 2025 crop survey season and has now joined our team full time. Feel free to reach out to Marieve for support with any of the Pest Biosecurity Programs.



**Marieve Elliott**  
PHTA Division 1

**What is your background?** I grew up on a small farm near Kipling and have always had a love for the outdoors. This fascination guided me to Lakeland College where I obtained a diploma in Environmental Sciences in spring 2025, majoring in Land Stewardship and Conservation. I am currently working toward my TechAg designation with the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists.

**Where are you based?** I am the PHTA for Division 1 but reside in the RM of Keys (Division 4) with my boyfriend, our German Shepard, and mischievous cat.

**What do you enjoy most about your job?** I am a brand-new addition to the team, but I really enjoyed getting to work outdoors doing crop surveys for most of this past summer and am looking forward to collaborating with RMs on different pest management solutions.

**What do you like to do outside of work?** I enjoy hunting, fishing, and exploring the outdoors with family and friends. I play hockey. I also love playing card games!

**What is a fun fact about yourself?** During high school summers, I worked for an RM and continued to work for the same RM during my gap year, which lead to me being certified to operate 4 different pieces of heavy equipment.

Meet the Rat Control Technical Advisors (RCTA), Ashley Zaremba and Colette Melnychuk. The RCTAs support the [Rat Control Program \(RCP\)](#) providing technical assistance and mentoring to new and existing Pest Control Officers. Reach out to Ashley and Colette with all questions around rat control.



**Ashley Zaremba**  
RCTA  
Divisions 1, 2, & 3

**What is your background?** I have been working in retail with rodenticides for 5 years, and I am a Pest Control Officer for three RMs close to Moose Jaw. This year, I added on the role of being the Rat Control Technical Advisor for SARM Division 1, 2, and 3.

**Where are you based?** I live in Moose Jaw.

**What do you enjoy most about your job?** I enjoy meeting people from all over Saskatchewan, and helping them with rodent control, and prevention. When inspecting occupied yards, I not only get to meet people, but I also often get to meet their pets, which I enjoy. Inspecting vacant yards can be challenging, as rat infestations can easily get out of hand, but I also find vacant yards intriguing as they can hold so much history. It's interesting to picture how the yards may have looked and operated years ago.

**What do you like to do outside of work?** I enjoy spending time at my cabin at Buffalo Pound.

**What is a fun fact about yourself?** This summer I travelled to Iceland, which has been a long time dream of mine.



**Colette Melnychuk**

**RCTA**

**Divisions 4, 5, & 6**

**What is your background?** I grew up on a mixed farm and my whole life has revolved around agriculture.

**Where are you based?** We live on a farm north of Foam Lake. I am the PCO for three RMs as well as being the Rat Control Technical Advisor for SARM's Division 4, 5, and 6.

**What do you enjoy most about your job?** I have always enjoyed working outside and being with nature. I like helping people with preventative baiting and dealing with infestations.

**What do you like to do outside of work?** I love gardening and preserving veggies and fruit in the summer and snowmobiling in the winter.

**What is a fun fact about yourself?** After 30 years of driving a school bus, I was lucky enough to find this job. I find it very rewarding and love all the fresh air and exercise I get with it. All the people I get to meet are an added bonus.

To contact Ashley and Colette, visit the [Rat Control Program \(RCP\) website](#) or reach out to your PHTA.

### Upcoming Events & Reminders

- **Rat Control Program** deadline is **December 31, 2025**
- **Beaver Control Program** deadline is **February 15, 2026**

Please reach out to your PHTA if you need any assistance with completing your claim forms. Guidelines and claim forms are available on <https://sarm.ca/programs/sustainable-canadian-agricultural-partnership/> or scan the QR code for more information.



- **February 17, 2026** (12pm - 1pm) the PHTAs are hosting a webinar regarding biosecurity and livestock operations. Registration details will be coming in January.
- **Annual Appointments for Weed Inspectors and Pest Control Officers** expire every year on **December 31<sup>st</sup>**. Appointments are to be sent by email ([crops@gov.sk.ca](mailto:crops@gov.sk.ca)) to the Ministry of Agriculture at the beginning of each calendar year.

**Please contact your SARM Division Plant Health Technical Advisor for more information, to answer any questions, or to suggest content for future newsletters.**

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