

**CLEARWATER COUNTY COUNCIL AGENDA**  
**January 27, 2015**  
**9:00 A.M.**  
**Council Chambers**  
**4340 – 47 Avenue, Rocky Mountain House AB**

**Delegation: 1:15 p.m. Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative,**  
**Sarah Cox Senior Conservation Program Manager**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

**B. AGENDA ADOPTION**

**C. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

1. January 13, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes

**D. PUBLIC WORKS**

1. Request for Input: Community Aggregate Payment Levy Regulation

**E. AG SERVICES & LANDCARE**

1. North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance Annual Report
2. North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance Headwaters Forum Invitation
3. Committee Appointment - Red Deer River Municipal User Group (RDRMUG)
4. Mountain View County Proposed Resolution: Landowner Special License for Elk

**F. PLANNING**

1. Mountain View County Proposed Resolution: Resource Extraction within Municipal Boundaries

**G. COMMUNITY & PROTECTIVE SERVICES**

1. Physician Recruitment and Retention Society Request for Additional Funds

**H. MUNICIPAL**

1. Invitation: Visions West Outreach School Grand Opening
2. Alberta Order of Excellence
3. CAAMDC District 2 FCM Committee Appointment

**I. DELEGATION**

1. 1:15 P.M. Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative  
Sarah Cox, Senior Conservation Program Manager

**J. INFORMATION**

1. CAO's Report
2. Public Works Director's Report
3. Accounts Payable Listing

**K. IN CAMERA\***

1. RC Strategies – Preliminary Report

\* For discussions relating to and in accordance with: a) the Municipal Government Act, Section 197 (2) and b) the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, Sections 21 (1)(ii); 24 (1)(a)(c); 25 (1)(c)iii; and 27 (1)(a)

**L. ADJOURNMENT**

***TABLED ITEMS***

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Item, Reason and Status</u></b>
01/13/15	<b>014/15 Motion for Tax Rate Approval</b>  <b>STATUS: Pending Information, Corporate Services</b>



## Agenda Item

<b>Project: Request for Input: Community Aggregate Payment Levy Regulation</b>	
<b>Presentation Date:</b> January 27, 2015	
<b>Department:</b> Public Works	<b>Author:</b> Kurt Magnus/Marshall Morton
<b>Budget Implication:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
<b>Strategic Area:</b> Infrastructure & Asset Management	<b>Goal:</b> To effectively manage the financial and physical assets of the County in order to support the growth and development of the County while obtaining maximum value from County owned infrastructure and structures.
<b>Legislative Direction:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) _____	
<b>Recommendation:</b> That Council review and approve administration's comments, for submittal to the AAMDC, to the " <i>Request for Input: Community Aggregate Payment Levy Regulation.</i> "	
<b>Attachments List:</b> AAMDC Member Bulletin "Request for Input: Community Aggregate Payment Levy Regulation" & Province of Alberta Municipal Government Act Community Aggregate Payment Levy Regulation 263/2005	

### Background:

The Alberta Association of Municipal Districts & Counties (AAMDC) has been invited to provide input into possible changes that could be made to the existing Community Aggregate Payment Levy (CAPL) Regulation. The Municipal Government Act (MGA) authorizes municipalities to pass a community aggregate payment levy bylaw to allow municipal councils the ability to raise revenue by imposing a levy on sand and gravel businesses operating in a municipality. The regulation initially became effective on January 1, 2006 and was last reviewed in 2010.

Hence, administration would like Council to review the attached "*Province of Alberta Municipal Government Act Community Aggregate Payment Levy Regulation 263/2005*" and, thus, provide feedback on administration's comments, for submittal to the AAMDC.

It is the intention of administration that the comments, stated below, reflect and represent Council's views. All comments are to be submitted by February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

**Comments (Request for Input – Community Aggregate Payment Levy Regulation):**

- A.) Is the Community Aggregate Payment levy regulation meeting the needs of your organization?** – As only five organizations (excluding Clearwater County) have existing aggregate pits in the County, and, because Clearwater County issues road haul agreements (no levy may be imposed on shipments of sand and gravel that are required pursuant to a road haul agreement – Section 6(3) of the MGA Community Aggregate Payment Levy Regulation), no Community Aggregate Payment (CAP) bylaw has been instituted. However, additional organizations have now expressed interest in pursuing aggregate opportunities within the County. Consequently, Clearwater County is considering reviewing the implementation of a Community Aggregate Payment Levy Bylaw, while at the same time, taking into consideration that the current levy rate cannot offset the possible damage which can be done to roadwork infrastructure.
- B.) What are the important issues, if any, regarding the regulation in its current form?** – How fair is it in targeting the gravel industry, a possible minority in a county, such as Clearwater County? In addition, what is the logic in taxing one sector of the industrial base when, in many Counties, there is an increased level of resource based industrial activity beyond the aggregate industry? Furthermore, it is important that the regulation remains a discretionary power as not all municipalities use it.
- C.) Is the levy rate of \$0.25 cents per tonne still relevant?** – Community Aggregate Payments (CAP) provide valuable funding for road programs, road maintenance, and other infrastructure projects undertaken by municipalities. It follows that the current rate may not meet the need in maintaining or upgrading infrastructure. Hence, the regulation should be more flexible regarding the levy rate. If at all possible, provisions should be in place to review the rate from time to time to ensure relevancy. Currently the rate has not gone up since its inception.
- D.) Are CAPL bylaws in widespread use? Has your municipality passed a CAPL bylaw since the last review in 2010?** – According to 2013 statistics, as provided by the Alberta Sand and Gravel Association, a total of 37 Counties, within Alberta, presently have a CAPL bylaw in place. Revenue, as a result of a Community Aggregate Payment (CAP), was reported in 2013, to range from approximately \$20,000 to a little over \$2,000,000. According to the last AAMDC

Regulation Review Survey Results (2010), 77% of the responding municipalities have Community Aggregate Levy Payment Bylaws, and, all of these have set their rate at the current maximum of \$0.25/tonne. Clearwater County has not passed a CAPL bylaw since the last review in 2010.

**E.) Is the levy calculation still appropriate? (See Section 4 of the Regulation, Amount of Levy).** – The calculation is suitable. However, the regulation is based on honest self-reporting. As such, you rely on the honor system and if it is not being done, it penalizes the honest but rewards the dishonest.

**F.) Are you satisfied with providing your input now, or do you feel that additional discussions are desirable to further review the regulation? –** Clearwater County is comfortable in providing input. However, it would be prudent, on the part of AAMDC, to survey the results and at that time determine, based on the results, as to what further action(s) is to be taken, if any.



# MEMBER BULLETIN

January 7, 2015

## Request for Input – Community Aggregate Payment Levy Regulation

The **Community Aggregate Payment Levy (CAPL) Regulation** expires on December 31, 2015, and the AAMDC has been invited to provide input into possible changes that could be made to the existing regulation. The *Municipal Government Act* authorizes municipalities to pass a community aggregate payment levy bylaw to allow municipal councils the ability to raise revenue by imposing a levy on sand and gravel businesses operating in a municipality.

Revenue raised as a result of this levy contributes to infrastructure needs and other municipal costs. The regulation initially became effective on January 1, 2006 and was last reviewed in 2010.

Input must be submitted by **Friday, February 6, 2015** to AAMDC Policy Analyst Tasha Blumenthal via email at [tasha@aamdc.com](mailto:tasha@aamdc.com). To help inform the AAMDC's input, members are encouraged to review the following questions:

1. Is the Community Aggregate Payment Levy Regulation meeting the needs of your organization?
2. What are the important issues, if any, regarding the regulation in its current form?
3. Is the levy rate of \$0.25 cents per tonne still relevant?
4. Are CAPL bylaws in widespread use? Has your municipality passed a CAPL bylaw since the last review in 2010?
5. Is the levy calculation still appropriate? (See Section 4 of the Regulation, Amount of Levy).
6. Are you satisfied with providing your input now, or do you feel that additional discussions are desirable to further review the regulation?

Enquiries may be directed to:

Tasha Blumenthal  
Policy Analyst  
780.955.4094

Kim Heyman  
Director of Advocacy and Communications  
780.955.4079



Province of Alberta

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ACT

**COMMUNITY AGGREGATE PAYMENT  
LEVY REGULATION**

**Alberta Regulation 263/2005**

With amendments up to and including Alberta Regulation 187/2010

Office Consolidation

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### **Note**

All persons making use of this consolidation are reminded that it has no legislative sanction, that amendments have been embodied for convenience of reference only. The official Statutes and Regulations should be consulted for all purposes of interpreting and applying the law.



(Consolidated up to 187/2010)

**ALBERTA REGULATION 263/2005**

**Municipal Government Act**

**COMMUNITY AGGREGATE PAYMENT LEVY REGULATION**

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**Definitions**

**1** In this Regulation,

- (a) “Act” means the *Municipal Government Act*;
- (b) “Crown” means the Crown in right of Alberta or Canada;
- (c) “levy” means community aggregate payment levy;
- (d) “sand and gravel operator” means a person engaged in extracting sand and gravel for shipment;
- (e) “shipment” means a quantity of sand and gravel hauled from the pit from which it was extracted.

**General application of Regulation**

**2** This Regulation applies to all municipalities that have passed a community aggregate payment levy bylaw.

**Community aggregate payment levy bylaw**

**3(1)** A community aggregate payment levy bylaw must

- (a) state when sand and gravel operators must report shipments, in tonnes,
- (b) state the date or dates on which the municipality will send out levy notices, and the date by which the levy is payable,
- (c) require the tonnage of sand and gravel in an operator's shipment to be recorded on a sand and gravel shipped tonnage roll,
- (d) specify that the shipped tonnage roll is based on the tonnage of sand and gravel in an operator's shipment, as reported by the operator,
- (e) set the uniform levy rate to be applied throughout the municipality, subject to the maximum levy rate, and
- (f) set the uniform conversion rate of
  - (i) 1 cubic metre = 1.365 tonnes, for sand, and
  - (ii) 1 cubic metre = 1.632 tonnes, for gravel

where 1 cubic metre is equal to 1.308 cubic yards.

**(2)** Where a sand and gravel operator is unable to provide a measurement of weight for the amount of sand and gravel in a shipment, the operator must use the conversion rates set out under subsection (1)(f) to record shipments, in tonnes, for the purposes of reporting under subsection (1)(d).

**(3)** A community aggregate payment levy bylaw may require that the community aggregate payment levy be paid monthly or by quarterly payments in the year in which a shipment occurs.

#### **Amount of levy**

**4** The amount of levy to be imposed in respect of a sand and gravel operator is calculated by multiplying the number of tonnes of sand and gravel recorded on the sand and gravel shipped tonnage roll referred to in section 3(1)(c) for that operator by the levy rate.

#### **Levy rate**

**5(1)** The levy rate is set by the municipality and is subject to the maximum levy rate established under subsection (2).

**(2)** The maximum levy rate is \$0.25 per tonne of sand and gravel.

**(3)** A municipality must set a uniform levy rate to be applied throughout the municipality.

**Exemptions from levy**

**6(1)** No levy may be imposed on the following classes of shipments of sand and gravel:

- (a) a shipment from a pit owned or leased by the Crown for a use or project that is being undertaken by or on behalf of the Crown;
- (b) a shipment from a pit owned or leased by a municipality for a use or project that is being undertaken by or on behalf of a municipality;
- (c) a shipment from a pit owned or leased by the Crown or a municipality for a use or project that is being undertaken by or on behalf of the Crown or a municipality.

**(2)** No levy may be imposed on shipments of sand and gravel that are subject to another tax, levy or payment that is established by and payable to a municipality.

**(3)** No levy may be imposed on shipments of sand and gravel that are required pursuant to a road haul agreement or a development agreement for construction, repair or maintenance of roads identified in the agreement, that is necessary to provide access to the pit from which the sand and gravel is extracted.

**Person liable to pay levy**

**7** For the purposes of section 409.2 of the Act, a person who purchases a sand and gravel business or in any other manner becomes liable to be shown on the sand and gravel shipped tonnage roll as liable to pay a levy must give the municipality written notice of a mailing address to which notices under Division 7.1 of Part 10 of the Act may be sent.

**Application of Act**

**8** Except as modified by this Regulation, Parts 10 to 12 of the Act apply in respect of a community aggregate payment levy and a community aggregate payment levy bylaw, and for that purpose a reference in those Parts

- (a) to a tax includes a community aggregate payment levy,
- (b) to a tax bylaw or a tax rate bylaw includes a community aggregate payment levy bylaw, and

(c) to a tax roll includes a sand and gravel shipped tonnage roll.

**Effective date of community aggregate payment levy bylaw**

**9** A community aggregate payment levy bylaw has no effect before January 1, 2006.

**Expiry**

**10** For the purpose of ensuring that this Regulation is reviewed for ongoing relevancy and necessity, with the option that it may be repassed in its present or an amended form following a review, this Regulation expires on December 31, 2015.

AR 263/2005 s10;187/2010

**Coming into force**

**11** This Regulation comes into force on January 1, 2006.



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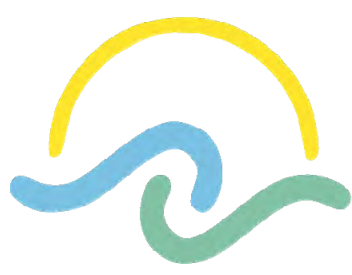


## Agenda Item

<b>Project: North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Annual Report</b>	
<b>Presentation Date: January 27, 2015</b>	
<b>Department: Ag Services and Landcare</b>	<b>Author: Matt Martinson</b>
<b>Budget Implication:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
<b>Strategic Area :</b>	<b>Goal:</b>
<b>Legislative Direction:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) <input type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) _____	
<b>Recommendation: That Council approves the following as information.</b>	
<b>Attachments</b> <b>2013-2014 NSWA Annual Report</b>	

### Background:

Council and administration are very active in the NSWA, attached is the most recent report outlining its past activities. I will provide a more detailed verbal report on highlights of the report on Tuesday.



North  
Saskatchewan  
Watershed  
Alliance



**ANNUAL REPORT  
2013-2014**

*your watershed, your voice*



## NSWA ANNUAL REPORT 2013 – 2014

The North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) is a multi-stakeholder watershed protection and improvement partnership formed in 1997 and incorporated as a non-profit society in 2000. The NSWA provides a forum to recognize and address issues affecting the North Saskatchewan River (NSR) watershed in Alberta. It also initiates and supports activities that impact the watershed positively.

NSWA membership includes individual citizen members and organizational members. Organizational membership categories are: federal, provincial, and municipal governments; industry; utility; agriculture producer groups; environment and conservation groups; recreation, culture, and tourism groups; education and research institutions; First Nations and Métis.

In 2005, the NSWA was recognized by the Government of Alberta as the Watershed Planning and Advisory Council (WPAC) for the North Saskatchewan River watershed in Alberta. As a partner in *Water for Life: Alberta's Strategy for Sustainability* (2003), the NSWA was given a mandate by the government to report on the State of the Watershed (completed in 2005) and to prepare an Integrated Watershed Management Plan (IWMP – completed in 2012). The IWMP provides watershed management advice to address issues raised by stakeholders and to achieve the three goals of the *Water for Life* Strategy: safe, secure drinking water; healthy aquatic ecosystems; and reliable, quality water supplies for a sustainable economy.

### NSWA'S VISION

*"People working together for a healthy and functioning North Saskatchewan River watershed – today and tomorrow."*

### NSWA'S MISSION

*"To protect and improve water quality, water quantity and the health of our watershed by: seeking, developing and sharing knowledge; facilitating partnerships and collaborative planning; and working in an adaptive management process."*

### NSWA MEMBERSHIP

The NSWA collaborates with as many stakeholder groups as possible and encourages all sectors, user groups and interested citizens from across the watershed to become involved in watershed management. During 2013-14 the NSWA continued to engage individuals, municipal jurisdictions and other stakeholders on NSWA projects and activities (see complete listing at end of this report). As of March 31, 2014, the NSWA membership consisted of 57 individuals and 104 organizations.

Board members are elected at the Annual General Meeting and commit to two years of service from the date of the AGM. The following individuals served on the NSWA Board during 2013-14. We acknowledge and appreciate their dedicated efforts to support watershed planning and management in Alberta.



NSR at Lea Park. Photo by B. Trout, Images Alberta Camera Club. 2013



Position	Name	Sector Representation
President	Pat Alexander	Municipal Government
Vice-President	Ken Crutchfield	NGO
Treasurer	Robert Kitching	Municipal Government
Secretary	Candace Vanin	Government of Canada
Director	David Curran	City of Edmonton
Director	Bill Fox	Agriculture
Director	Tracy Scott	NGO
Director	Tom McGee	Alberta Government
Director	Andrew Schoepf	Alberta Government
Director	John Thompson	Member at Large
Director	Aaron Rognvaldson	Petroleum
Director	Shirley Benson	Métis
Director	Vacant	First Nations
Director	Dr. Laurie Danielson	Industry
Director	Dr. Stephen Craik	Utility
Director	Bob Winship	Forestry
Director	Alan Corbett	Municipal Government
Director	Lora Brennan	Utility

### NSWA STAFF

The NSWA employed five staff during 2013-14: David Trew (P. Biol.), Executive Director; Billie Milholland, B.A., Communications Manager; Gordon Thompson (P. Eng.), Technical Program Coordinator; Melissa Logan, (P.Biol.), Basin Planner; Meghann Matthews, BBA, Administrative Assistant. Two new watershed planning coordinators were recruited in March 2014: Marilou Montemayor, M.Sc., and Mary Ellen Shain, M.Sc.

## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

An audited financial statement for the fiscal year April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014 was prepared for NSWA by Lim and Associates, Certified General Accountants, Edmonton.

The NSWA began the fiscal year on April 1, 2013 with \$217,006 in total assets, and completed the fiscal year on March 31, 2014 with \$299,655 in total assets. Full details are available in the audited financial statement, which has been posted to [www.nswa.ab.ca](http://www.nswa.ab.ca).

## PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS

We thank the City of Edmonton for continuing to provide significant in-kind support to NSWA operations during 2013-2014. This support includes office space, furniture, equipment, supplies and computer support for our operations. Other significant in-kind contributions were provided by: members of the NSWA Board of Directors; the Vermilion River Watershed Management Project (VRWMP) Implementation Team; the Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance Steering and Technical Advisory Committees; the NSWA Water Quantity and Water Quality Expert Working Groups; the “Living in the Shed” Editorial Committee; and the Mayatan Lake Management Association - all in terms of their time, expertise and travel costs. NSWA gratefully acknowledges the contributions of these individuals and their respective organizations. Total in-kind support to NSWA in 2013-14 has been estimated at \$530,719.

We thank Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development; EPCOR and the Mayatan Lake Management Association for direct cash contributions in 2013-14.

We also thank 32 Rural and Urban Municipalities for per capita contributions to NSWA in calendar years 2013 and 2014. These municipalities include: Beaver, Brazeau, Camrose, Clearwater, Lac Ste Anne, Lamont, Minburn, Parkland, St Paul, Two Hills, Vermilion River, and Westlock Counties; the Towns of Bruderheim, Devon, Drayton Valley, Elk Point, Gibbons, Onoway, Rocky Mountain House, St. Paul, Tofield, Vegreville and Vermilion; the Cities of Edmonton, Fort Saskatchewan, Spruce Grove and St. Albert; the Villages of Myrnam, Ryley, and Spring Lake; and the Summer Villages of Silver Beach and Sandy Lake. NSWA also appreciates the continued commitment from our volunteers to support our work.



*Red winged Blackbird at Telford Lake. Photo by Roger Kirchen, Images Alberta Camera Club. 2013*

## STRATEGIC PLANNING

The NSWA Board of Directors and staff developed a three-year Strategic Plan (April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2016) for the organization. This Strategic Plan provides goals and strategies required to achieve the Vision and Mission of the NSWA. A more detailed operational plan is developed annually for the organization. The four major Strategic Goals for the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance, for the period 2013-16, are as follows:

- ***Provide leadership in regional watershed planning through the provision of well supported information and advice.***
- ***Facilitate watershed research to address issues and inform management actions within the basin.***
- ***Establish an ongoing collaborative planning and management framework for the basin.***
- ***Establish a strong operational model for the NSWA and ensure the organization is sustainable, with sufficient capacity and funding.***

The NSWA's primary initiative for 2014-15 is the ongoing implementation of the *Integrated Watershed Management Plan (IWMP)* for the North Saskatchewan River. Work continues to develop the long-term collaboration required to achieve the goals of the IWMP and to implement the recommended actions. The NSWA has expanded its role as a bridging organization, bringing organization together to discuss and develop implementation initiatives.



*Vermilion landscape. Photo by Bill Trout, Images Alberta Camera Club. 2013*

Municipal Watershed Partnerships and Expert Working Groups were formed in 2013-14 to address priority IWMP tasks. Municipal Watershed Partnerships are comprised of municipal leaders from the key sub-watersheds. The Expert Working Groups will operate under the guidance of the NSWA Board. The Expert Working Groups will identify knowledge gaps and research needs; develop detailed work plans; review pertinent legislation and policy; and identify best management practices. The NSWA will provide technical secretariat support to both the Municipal Watershed Partnerships and Expert Working Groups.



## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The NSWA delivered the following strategic initiatives and projects in 2013-14:

- Initiated the Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance (SWRA) Steering Committee and Technical Advisory Committee, and developed Terms of Reference for both groups
- Initiated the Vermilion River Watershed Management Project Implementation Team and developed Terms of Reference
- Completed preliminary work towards the development of an IFN assessment for the NSR
- Hosted an NGO Forum (Nov. 13 ) and a Municipal Forum (April 10 ) to enable these sectors to share their progress in watershed management
- Participated in the Annual WPAC Summit in Milk River
- Initiated lake water quality modeling (BATHTUB) for Mayatan Lake, Wabamun Lake and advised on the application of the model for Lesser Slave Lake, Lake Isle, Lac Ste Anne and Pigeon Lake.
- Partnered with Parkland County in the application for a Regional Collaboration Grant to complete lake land use plans for five (5) lakes in Parkland County
- Participated in the Implementation Advisory Committee for the Water Management Framework for the Industrial Heartland and Capital Region
- Collaborated with municipalities and watershed stewardship groups to develop or propose watershed management initiatives (Headwaters Municipal Partnership; Mayatan, Lac Ste Anne, Isle, Jackfish and Wabamun lakes)
- Continued research and writing, and completed a year-long photography project with Images Alberta for the *Living in the Shed* project
- Participated in the City of Edmonton Biodiversity Committee
- Participated in the development of Environmentally Sensitive Areas map for Leduc County
- Drafted a monitoring program for the NSR with the newly developed Water Quality Expert Working Group
- Initiated a project team for the development of a Master Drainage Plan for Whitemud and Blackmud Creeks
- Expanded the reach of Twitter and Facebook accounts and started a Pinterest page
- Completed newsletters for members and posted new content regularly on website
- Collaborate regularly with other *Water for Life* partnerships (WPACS and AWC)
- Completed a governance review for the NSWA Board
- Completed a water quality assessment on Lac St. Cyr for AESRD



All images courtesy of B. Trout, Images Alberta Camera Club, 2013

## **STRATEGIC GOAL 1: PROVIDE LEADERSHIP IN REGIONAL WATERSHED PLANNING THROUGH THE PROVISION OF WELL-SUPPORTED INFORMATION AND ADVICE.**

### **INTEGRATED WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN (IWMP)**

Distribution of the final IWMP report is complete. Briefings to municipal sectors continued after the fall 2013 elections. Many potential lines of future work are embedded in the IWMP recommendations and will be delivered through Municipal Watershed Partnerships, Expert Working Groups and direct support to Watershed Stewardship Groups.

### **MAYATAN LAKE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The Mayatan Lake Management Association (MLMA) briefed the NSWA Board on Dec 19, 2013 and have formally requested NSWA's assistance towards the preparation of a watershed management plan. Strong integration with Parkland County planning processes was recommended back to MLMA. Accordingly, NSWA is working with AESRD staff, the MLMA and County of Parkland to develop clarity around content of a "lake watershed management plan" and respective roles of AESRD, County of Parkland, MLMA and NSWA. NSWA will continue to gather technical information to support the planning process and will also support the consultation process. The MLMA has contributed \$5,000 to NSWA to support the work.

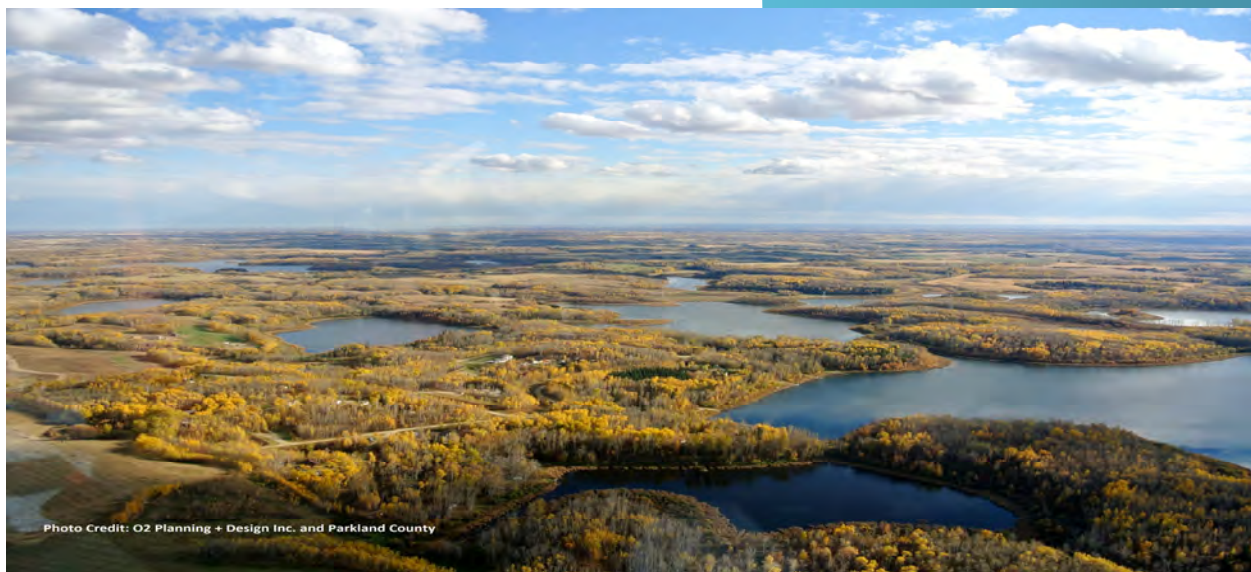


Photo Credit: O2 Planning + Design Inc. and Parkland County

*Mayatan Lake. Photo by O2 Planning and Parkland County, 2013.*

### **VERMILION RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN (VRWMP)**

The Plan was distributed in January and February of 2013. A total of 420 copies were mailed out with a formal letter of transmittal signed by Pat Gordyeko (as Chair of VRWMP-SC) and Dr. Les Gammie (former President of NSWA). Local distribution occurred directly through members of the VRWMP-SC. As with the IWMP, many potential lines of future work are embedded in the VRWMP recommendations. NSWA's role is to support the process with technical and policy guidance, and to ensure integration with the intent of the IWMP. NSWA has hired a new Watershed Planning Coordinator (Ms. Marilou Montemayor) to support the implementation phase. New formal correspondence was sent to key Vermilion River watershed municipalities and organizations requesting them to nominate their respective representatives to the new VRWMP Implementation Team. The new VRWMP-IT held its inaugural meeting on April 30, 2014. Work planning is underway by NSWA Staff and the VRWMP-IT Executive.



## **STRATEGIC GOAL 2: FACILITATE WATERSHED RESEARCH TO ADDRESS ISSUES AND INFORM MANAGEMENT ACTIONS WITHIN THE BASIN.**



*Lac Ste Anne. Photo by B. Trout, Images Alberta Camera Club. 2013.*

### **CAPITAL REGION TRIBUTARY ASSESSMENT**

Meetings have been held with City of Edmonton, County of Strathcona, and City of Leduc staff during the past year to discuss technical information availability for small tributaries and their watersheds in the Capital Region. There is a general interest in an assessment of water quality and ecological conditions of these streams in support of general environmental planning by jurisdictions in the Capital Region. NSWA has compiled an annotated bibliography of all available studies conducted in this region to support further discussions. Over 100 reports have been reviewed to date. Further discussions with municipal staff are planned.

### **NSR INSTREAM FLOW NEEDS**

A project proposal was submitted to AESRD in July 2013 and NSWA was contracted to deliver a preliminary phase of IFN work. The Water Quantity Expert Working Group was formed to guide the project. An expert panel was invited to a workshop held on Feb 13, 2014 and information exchanged at that workshop was used to develop parts of the recommendation report. The project considered both main stem and major tributary flow needs. A summary report has been prepared and submitted to AESRD for review.

### **LAC ST CYR WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT REPORT**

NSWA entered into a contract with Northern Region, AESRD, to prepare a summary report on water quality changes in Lac St Cyr as a consequence of long-term water diversions (~35 years) from the NSR mainstem. Lac St Cyr is the municipal water supply for the Town of St. Paul and the County of St Paul, and a new treated line will be extended to Elk Point. A hydrologic evaluation was prepared by S. Figliuzzi and Associates. The report was completed and submitted to AESRD, Northern Region on March 31, 2013. The report was released officially and posted to the AESRD and NSWA websites. St Paul County Council was briefed on Jan 14, 2014. Amongst other advice offered in the report, NSWA recommended further sampling of the lake and the municipal water supply to assess the presence of river-borne pharmaceutical and personal care product (PPCPs) residues.

### **WATER QUALITY EXPERT WORKING GROUP**

The Water Quality Expert Working Group has reviewed a draft NSR Water Quality Monitoring Plan. This report will be further developed in 2014, and will consider role of the new provincial monitoring agency (AMERA). Strategic review of NSWA's potential role in future water quality monitoring will also be required.

## EVALUATION OF ALBERTA BIODIVERSITY MONITORING INSTITUTE (ABMI) GRAVEL PIT MAPPING DATA

NSWA participated in this assessment project with the ALCES group and the final report “An Estimation of Surface Excavations in Alberta” was posted to the ALCES public website (<http://www.alces.ca/projects/view/91>). Gravel pits are only one of several types of surface excavations quantified at the provincial level in this report. The others are borrow pits, dugouts, lagoons, coal mines, and oil sands mines. Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute 2010 Human Footprint mapping was the basis for this report.

## WATER MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR THE INDUSTRIAL HEARTLAND AND CAPITAL REGION (IH-WMF)

The work of the Industrial Heartland Water Management Framework Steering Committee, guiding the technical and engineering studies to achieve the Framework’s goals, was completed in early 2013. This Committee has been disbanded and a new Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC) formed, on which NSWA continues to participate.

Terms of Reference for the IAC have been developed. The new work will focus on cumulative effects management through the establishment of maximum allowable loads, integrated ambient and effluents monitoring, communication, management knowledge and tools, and addressing emerging issues.



NSR at Elk Point. Photo by D. Aldana, Images Alberta Camera Club. 2013.

## **STRATEGIC GOAL 3: ESTABLISH AN ONGOING COLLABORATIVE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR THE BASIN.**

### **STURGEON RIVER WATERSHED ALLIANCE**

The NSWA is working closely with the municipalities within the Sturgeon River watershed towards the development of an Integrated Watershed Management Plan. The “Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance” (SRWA) was established on March 27, 2014 and consists of a Steering Committee (SC) and a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The group currently has active representation from 9 municipalities within the watershed, including the City of St. Albert, the Town of Onoway, Sturgeon County, Parkland County, Town of Gibbons, City of Spruce Grove, Lac Ste Anne County, the Summer Villages of Lac Ste Anne County East, and the City of Edmonton. The NSWA is providing technical advice and secretariat support for the initiative. The SRWA Steering Committee will continue to meet periodically and the TAC will be moving ahead with project work over the next year.



*Butterfly at Grandin Pond. Photo by R. Kirchen, Images Alberta Camera Club. 2013.*

### **HEADWATERS PARTNERSHIP**

In 2013-14 the NSWA began promoting the development of a municipal watershed partnership for the headwaters region of the basin. Invitations were sent to five counties (Parkland, Wetaskiwin, Leduc, Clearwater, and Brazeau) and three Towns (Rocky Mountain House, Drayton Valley, Devon). The first meeting to discuss interest and feasibility was held on June 11, 2014 in Drayton Valley.

### **BLACKMUD CREEK STORMWATER MANAGEMENT STUDY**

AERSD recently proposed that NSWA chair a municipal committee to examine storm water management issues in the Blackmud and Whitemud Creek drainages. The municipalities involved (Leduc County, Strathcona County, Town of Beaumont and the Cities of Edmonton and Leduc) have responded favourably to NSWA’s coordinating role. AERSD and Alberta Transportation are also participating. The group met on March 14, 2014 and the first priority will be to define a scope for the project.

### **PARKLAND COUNTY LAKES MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE**

In the fall of 2013 Parkland County invited several partners, including NSWA, to co-apply for a Regional Collaboration Grant. The purpose of the grant is to support the development of lake land use plans that can be used to guide development and other land planning work in lake watersheds. The Grant has been approved, and NSWA will now work with all partners to contribute watershed advice to support the development of these land use plans. Lake Wabamun will be the first lake to be assessed, and it is hoped that the planning methods and insights developed therein will be applied to other lakes in Parkland County.

### **CITIZEN SCIENCE ON THE NSR**

The RiverWatch Institute of Alberta has recently proposed a new “Citizen Science” project, with potential funding by HSBC, to assess the condition of key Capital Region tributaries. The project would be multi-year and delivered in collaboration with NSWA.



## WATERSHED GUIDE (*LIVING IN THE 'SHED*) AND IMAGES ALBERTA CAMERA CLUB

Targeted for completion in fall 2014, this publication is aimed at the general reader and will be designed to promote awareness and understanding of the importance of managing the NSR watershed. It will include an overview of historical human impacts at the sub-basin scale as well as insights on geographic, geologic, hydrologic, historical, cultural, land use, fisheries and other natural attributes. The publication text will be arranged by sub-basin and “sub-sub” basin boundaries, and will incorporate some of the technical information produced for NSWA’s SOW and IWMP projects. Detailed sub-basin maps are now on the website and regional residents have been approached to provide further insights and information. The introductory portion of *Living in the 'SHED* is now in draft mock-up form to assist the editorial committee and the Images Camera Club with their photographic decisions. Images Alberta Camera Club is photographing the entire watershed throughout a 12 month cycle, and will provide all photos to NSWA. This represents an innovative public engagement with 200 enthusiastic members of the Camera Club.

## PROVINCIAL ACTIVITIES

The NSWA continues to work with the other key partnerships established under *Water for Life: Alberta’s Strategy for Sustainability*. The NSWA actively contributes to discussions regarding watershed planning mandates and capacities in Alberta, and hopes to contribute significantly to forthcoming regional planning activities under the North Saskatchewan Regional Plan (Land Use Framework).

The Executive Directors of all WPACs continued to meet quarterly to discuss mutual progress, operational concerns and organize the Annual WPAC Summit.

Alberta WPACs held a Watershed Planning and Management Summit in Cold Lake in September 2013. This brought together representatives from all 11 WPACs, watershed stewardship groups, scientists, educators, municipalities and other stakeholders from across Alberta to discuss the current state of watershed management. The NSWA will host the 2014 WPAC Summit, to be held in Edmonton October 21-23, 2014.

## SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE

NSWA staff continues to use social media in 2013-14 to raise awareness about the organization’s activities. The NSWA Twitter feed was started in May 2010, and by March 31, 2014 the organization had accumulated 1228 followers (up from 1017 followers in 2012-13), ranging from environmental organizations, news media, non-profit groups, individuals and other WPACs. The Twitter feed has been used to disseminate news from other local environment groups and raise awareness about activities within the watershed. An NSWA Facebook page was started in 2011 and as of March 31, 2014 has 323 followers. The NSWA newsletter entitled (*InStream*) was published on a regular basis and posted to the NSWA website as a further initiative for keeping NSWA members informed about issues, events, and activities. The NSWA website was renewed and is continually updated to increase content and promote events and news.



*Brazeau River. Photo by Bill Trout, Images Alberta Camera Club. 2013.*

## NSWA EDUCATIONAL FORUMS

**NGO FORUM:** Over the last few years, NSWA resources were dedicated to the stakeholder engagement needed to complete the Integrated Watershed Management Plan. During that time, significant on-the-ground watershed management work in the NGO and academic communities continued. A review of some of this work was the subject of an NGO Forum in Strathcona County on November 7, 2013. Hosted by NSWA, in partnership with Strathcona County, 70 participants listened to presentations made by eight groups: the Beaver Hills Initiative (BHI); the Sturgeon River Research Project (NAIT); the Edmonton and Area Land Trust (EALT); Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC); the Alberta Wilderness Association (AWA); the Alberta Lake Management Society (ALMS); the Alberta Riparian Habitat Management Society (Cows & Fish); and the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC).

**MUNICIPAL FORUM:** On April 10, the NSWA held its second Educational Forum in Nisku, Alberta. This Forum was geared towards municipalities within the NSR watershed, and was attended by approximately 90 people. Presentations were given by 8 different municipalities including Clearwater County, Brazeau County, Parkland County, the City of St. Albert, the County of Two Hills, the City of Edmonton, the County of Vermilion River, and the Alberta Capital Region Wastewater Commission.



NGO and Municipal Forums. Photos by M. Logan and B. Milholland, NSWA. 2013/14.



## **STRATEGIC GOAL 4: ESTABLISH A STRONG OPERATIONAL MODEL FOR NSWA AND ENSURE THE ORGANIZATION IS SUSTAINABLE, WITH SUFFICIENT CAPACITY AND FUNDING.**

### **NSWA GOVERNANCE**

The NSWA Board of Directors established a sub-committee in 2011-12 to review organizational governance and improve future operations of the NSWA Society. The sub-committee continued work into 2013-14 and recommended new organizational approaches for the NSWA, with the development of new governance protocols for the Board of Directors and new accountabilities for staff. These changes reflect the evolution and organizational learnings of the NSWA since being appointed the WPAC in 2005 and are designed to improve overall effectiveness. They are also reflective of the changing policy and planning environment in Alberta. A key organizational goal for NSWA is to strengthen its role as the primary watershed planning forum for the NSR basin.

### **OPERATIONAL PLAN (2013-14)**

The NSWA Board of Directors and staff worked together in 2013-14 to develop an improved organizational planning document that combines elements of the three-year Strategic Plan, an annual work plan and proposed annual budget. This “Operational Plan” is detailed and identifies the priority activities of the organization for the ensuing year. It will be used at the end of each work cycle to assess organizational performance.

## **OUTREACH HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2014**

### **APRIL 2013**

- April – Planning meetings with Images Alberta Camera Club
- April 4 – Drinking Water Source Risk Project
- April 5 – VRWMP- IT Executive meeting
- April 11 – Future Water Supply presentation, EPCOR Water Treatment Plant
- April 16 – Meeting with Strathcona County staff re: Capital Region tributaries
- April 18 – City of Edmonton Biodiversity meeting
- April 18 – Wastewater Seminar
- April 25—St. Albert Environmental Advisory Committee

### **MAY 2013**

- May 1 – Book Launch of “Great River Road”
- May 1 – Meeting with Mayatan Lake Management Association
- May 2 – Industrial Heartland Implementation Committee Meeting, Twin Atria
- May 4 – Central Alberta Recreational Lakes Workshop, AESRD
- May 10 – Meeting with Wabamun Watershed Management Council
- May 12 – Display at Sturgeon River Clean Up
- May 14 – Gravel Pit Mapping Meeting
- May 15 – Meeting with Sturgeon River Watershed municipalities, St Albert
- May 16 – Meeting with City of Edmonton Drainage and Environment staff
- May 22 – Meeting with City of Edmonton Drainage and Environment staff
- May 23 – Meeting with City of Edmonton, Office of Environment
- May 29 – Vermilion River water quality monitoring teleconference
- May 30 – VRWMP-IT Executive Meeting

**JUNE 2013**

- June 8 – Wizard Lake Annual Meeting
- June 11 – Lakes of Parkland County meeting, AESRD Spruce Grove
- June 14 - Environmental Law Centre Presentation
- June 19 – Mayatan Lake Workshop, Carvel Hall
- June 21 – Meeting with Sturgeon River Watershed municipalities, St Albert
- June 25 – Blackmud Storm Drainage Group Meeting, Leduc
- June 26 – NSWA AGM, Enjoy Centre, St. Albert
- June 27 – AESRD- WPAC Forum, Leduc

**JULY 2013**

- July 8 – AEN Water Caucus Teleconference
- July 16 – Water Wise Teleconference
- July 18 – Sturgeon River briefing, Parkland County
- July 21– Sandy Lake Restoration Society
- July 25 – Sturgeon River partnership Terms of Reference meeting

**AUGUST 2013**

- August 14 – Meeting with Agro- Forestry and Woodlot Extension Society
- August 19 – AEN Water Caucus Teleconference
- August 19 – Meeting with Mayatan and Wabamun Lake Stewardship Groups
- August 21 – Meeting with AESRD Regional Director
- August 22 – Sturgeon River Partnership meeting, St. Albert

**SEPTEMBER 2013**

- September 3 – NSWA display at Elk Point Trade Fair, Elk Point
- September 16 – Briefing at Alberta's Industrial Heartland AGM
- September 17 – Sturgeon River partnership project meeting
- September 20 – City of Edmonton Biodiversity Committee Meeting
- September 20 – Wabamun Lake Management Council Meeting
- September 26 – 27 - WPAC Summit, Cold Lake
- September 26 – Industrial Heartland Implementation Committee
- September 30 – Science Policy Seminar, Sherwood Park

**OCTOBER 2013**

- October – Living in the 'Shed editorial meetings
- October 1 – Sturgeon River Watershed Technical Advisory Committee meeting, St. Albert
- October 7 – Water Conversations Briefing, AESRD
- October 7-8 – WPAC Manager's meeting
- October 17 – Alberta Environment Network Water Caucus Teleconference
- October 18 – Meeting re: City of Edmonton Master Drainage Plan
- October 23 – Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute Presentation, Royal Alberta Museum
- October 23 – Rural Living meeting, Leduc County
- October 23 – Water Quantity Expert Working group convened to guide IFN project
- October 29 – Capital Region Tributaries meeting, Strathcona County



*Orchids. Photo by K. Albert, Images Alberta Camera Club. 2013.*

## NOVEMBER 2013

- November – Living in the ‘Shed content revision meetings
- November – Images Alberta Camera Club meetings
- November 1 – Presentation of lost creeks information to City & Memory conference
- November 5 – Vermilion River Watershed Management Plan Executive meeting
- November 6 – Mock interview with environmental students at King’s College
- November 7 – NSWA NGO Forum, Strathcona County
- November 12 – Wabamun Lake Management Council meeting
- November 14 – Water Quality Expert Working Group convened
- November 14 – Presentation to Inside Education
- November 16 – Briefing to Town of Stony Plain
- November 18 – Industrial Heartland Implementation
- November 20 – Paul Kane High School Career Fair
- November 25 – WPAC Executive Directors Meeting, Red Deer
- November 26 – Industrial Heartland Implementation Committee
- November 27 – City of Edmonton Biodiversity Committee meeting

## DECEMBER 2013

- December – VRWMP Executive Meeting
- December 12 – Sturgeon River Watershed Technical Advisory Committee meeting, St. Albert
- December 19 – Water Quality Working Group meeting
- December 20 – IFN Project Committee

## JANUARY 2014

- January 7 – Research at Musée Héritage Museum Archives, St. Albert
- January 7 – IFN Project Committee
- January 7 – Blackmud Drainage Project meeting
- January 10 – Sturgeon River Watershed TAC meeting, St. Albert
- January 10 – Meeting with Alberta Parks and Recreation
- January 13 – Water Quality Working Group meeting
- January 14 – Briefing on Lac Ste Cyr to St. Paul County Council
- January 17 – Meeting with River Watch
- January 21 – Industrial Heartland Implementation
- January 21 – Meeting with Mayor Harrison, Onoway
- January 21 – Meeting with Mayor Horner, Gibbons
- January 23 – Blackmud Drainage Project meeting
- January 27 – Alberta Environment Network Water Caucus Teleconference
- January 28 – Sturgeon Watershed TAC meeting, St. Albert
- January 29 – NSWA Board Strategic Planning Retreat, AESRD Spruce Grove
- January 31 – IFN Project Committee
- January 31 – Meeting with Alberta Geological Survey



*Canola field. Photo by C. Rusinek, Images Alberta Camera Club. 2013.*



**FEBRUARY 2014**

- February 1 – Lakes of Parkland County meeting, AESRD Spruce Grove
- February 13 – IFN Expert Workshop, AESRD Spruce Grove
- February 20 – IFN Committee meeting
- February 27 – Sturgeon River Watershed Technical Advisory Committee meeting, St. Albert
- February 28 – Fracking Risk presentation, University of Alberta

**MARCH 2014**

- March – Parkland County Environmental Conservation Master Plan meeting, Tomahawk
- March 4 - WPAC Executive Directors Meeting, Red Deer
- March 7 – Sturgeon River Watershed meeting, St. Albert
- March 10 – Leduc County Environmentally Sensitive Areas Workshop, Nisku
- March 10 – Meeting with Mayatan Lake Management Association
- March 10 – Meeting with Summer Villages of Lac Ste Anne and Lake Isle
- March 18 – Alberta Northern Alberta Waterfowl Management Plan Forum, Nisku
- March 19 – Mayatan Lake Watershed Management Plan Consultation meeting, AESRD Spruce Grove
- March 19 – Meeting with Jackfish Lake Management Society, Spruce Grove AESRD office
- March 20 – Meeting with Wabamun Lake Management Council and TransAlta, Spruce Grove AESRD office
- March 20 – Meeting with Parkland County
- March 21 – Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance meeting, St. Albert
- March 21 – Presentation at Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance AGM
- March 24 – Webinar with AUMA
- March 27 – Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance Steering Committee meeting, St. Albert





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## Agenda Item

<b>Project: NSWA Headwaters Forum Invitation</b>	
<b>Presentation Date: January 27, 2015</b>	
<b>Department: Ag Services and Landcare</b>	<b>Author: Matt Martinson</b>
<b>Budget Implication:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
<b>Strategic Area :</b>	<b>Goal:</b>
<b>Legislative Direction:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) <input type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) _____	
<b>Recommendation: That Council considers attending the NSWA Headwaters Forum in Drayton Valley.</b>	
<b>Attachments</b> <b>Headwaters Forum Invitation</b>	

### Background:

Attached is an invitation to the first public NSWA headwaters forum. Reeve Alexander and I have been attending NSWA headwaters meetings for the past year working with many other municipal and NSWA representatives to initiate a Headwaters Steering Committee and Technical committee to focus on the issues affecting those of us on the top end of the North Saskatchewan River Watershed. I believe Council will find this event to be very informative and will have an opportunity to network with other headwaters municipalities and others who share interest in the North Saskatchewan River.



# North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance

Presents:

## *Watershed Management Issues in the NSR Headwaters*

Date: February 5, 2015

Time: 8:00 am—3:30 pm

Where:

MacKenzie  
Conference Center  
5745-45 Avenue  
Drayton Valley, AB

Registration:

[https://  
www.eventbrite.ca/e/  
nswa-headwaters-forum-  
tickets-14487250757](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/nswa-headwaters-forum-tickets-14487250757)



The NSWA is pleased to host this Educational Forum on February 5, 2015 in Drayton Valley, Alberta.

Speakers will present information related to a wide variety of human activities, watershed conditions and watershed management activities in the headwaters region of the North Saskatchewan River (NSR).

The Forum will feature presentations from resource and energy industries, EPCOR, the agricultural sector, recreation groups and ALCES Ltd.

All interested stakeholders are encouraged to attend. There is no charge for registration or display opportunities. Lunch and snacks are provided, and there will be ample opportunity for networking.

The NSWA is a bridging organization, committed to sharing information on watershed knowledge and research, and the promotion of a collaborative approach to watershed management.

Please join us.

**Register by January 31, 2015.**

Sponsored by proud members of NCIA.



# NSWA Educational Forum: *Watershed Management Issues in the NSR Headwaters*

## Agenda

**08:00 - 09:15** Coffee and Display Set-up

**09:15—9:30** Welcoming Remarks - Mayor Glenn McLean (Town of Drayton Valley) and Reeve Pat Alexander (Clearwater County)

**09:30—10:00** Bob Winship, Weyerhaeuser

*Protection of watershed values during forestry operations in the Upper North Saskatchewan River Basin*

**10:00—10:30** Cal Rakach, Project Manager, Clearwater Trails Initiative

*Integration of Recreational Use with the Industrial Footprint in the Upper North Saskatchewan River Basin*

**10:30—11:00** Networking Break

**11:00—11:30** Dr. Kevin Parks, Alberta Energy Regulator

*An Overview of Oil and Gas Industry Activities in the Upper North Saskatchewan River Basin*

**11:30—12:00** Kim Barkwell and Aaron Van Beers, Leduc County

*Agricultural Best Management Practices in Leduc and Wetaskiwin Counties*

**12:00—1:00** Lunch

**1:00—1:30** Vanessa Swarbrick, AESRD

*Surface Water Quality Overview of the Upper North Saskatchewan River Basin*

**1:30—2:00** Stephanie Neufeld, EPCOR

*EPCOR's Source Water Protection Plan for the North Saskatchewan River*

**2:00—2:30** Networking Break

**2:30—3:15** Dr. Brad Stelfox, ALCES Landscape and Land Use Ltd.

*The Upper North Saskatchewan River Watershed: looking back in time with data, looking forward with insight. What can the ALCES Land Use Simulator tell us about risk and opportunity for the NSR Watershed?*

**3:30** Closing Remarks

Time: 8:00 am—3:30 pm

Date: February 5, 2015

Where:

MacKenzie

Conference Center

5745-45 Avenue

Drayton Valley, AB

Registration:

[https://  
www.eventbrite.ca/e/  
nswa-headwaters-forum-  
tickets-14487250757](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/nswa-headwaters-forum-tickets-14487250757)



## Agenda Item

<b>Project: Committee Appointment - Red Deer River Municipal User Group (RDRMUG)</b>	
<b>Presentation Date: January 27, 2015</b>	
<b>Department: Ag Services and Landcare</b>	<b>Author: Matt Martinson</b>
<b>Budget Implication:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
<b>Strategic Area :</b>	<b>Goal:</b>
<b>Legislative Direction:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) <input type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) _____	
<b>Recommendation: That Council appoints a new member to the RDRMUG.</b>	
<b>Attachments</b> None	

### Background:

During its reorganization meeting this past fall council reappointed Councilor Graham to the RDRMUG. Council is aware that Councilor Graham has recently been elected to sit on the AAMDC board of directors which conflicts with his ability to carry on his work with the RDRMUG.

RDRMUG is an association of rural and urban municipalities. The Group Membership is composed of municipalities within the Red Deer River Basin and communities who receive water from the Red Deer River.

This group provides a unique and essential platform for members to work together towards shared goals. By involving only municipalities and representing elected officials the group is able to focus on long term sustainability

This group meets approximately 6 times per year in Drumheller.



## Agenda Item

<b>Project: Mountain View County Proposed Resolution: Landowner Special License for Elk</b>	
<b>Presentation Date: January 27, 2015</b>	
<b>Department: Ag Services and Landcare</b>	<b>Author: Matt Martinson</b>
<b>Budget Implication:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
<b>Strategic Area :</b>	<b>Goal:</b>
<b>Legislative Direction:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> None <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) <u>Hunting Regulations</u> <input type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) <u>      </u>	
<b>Recommendation: That Council considers the following as information.</b>	
<b>Attachments</b> <b>Mountain View County Elk Resolution</b>	

### Background:

Loss of stored feed stocks, swath grazing, and livestock predation due to wildlife is a prevalent and historical issue in Clearwater County and many eastern slopes municipalities. In Clearwater County Deer (White Tale and Mule) Wolves, Elk, Bear (Grizzly and Black) and Cougars all contribute, to varying extents, to Agricultural Losses.

Administration is aware of Historical and Current Elk concerns by agricultural producers in certain areas of the county.

- All private lands west of highway 22,
- Aurora-Carlos-Faraway-Open creek communities,
- James River – Cramond community
- Evergreen-Stauffer-Walstreet communities

Elk live and feed over a large range of land and are constantly on the move, in the eastern regions of Clearwater County herd numbers can range from a few dozen to a few hundred and can consume or destroy stored livestock feed quickly and efficiently when they move through an area.

This resolution, created by Mountain View County (MVC), is asking for the relaxation of the current hunting regulations around landowner special licenses for the removal of Elk.

Specifically –

- Remove the requirement of entering into the regular draw process for elk and the subsequent chance denial of a tag.
- Remove the 160 acre requirement which disqualifies quarter sections with a subdivision (first parcel outs)
- Remove the requirement that landowners must remove the elk from one specific quarter section and allow the permit holder to remove the elk from any lands within the Wildlife Management Unit. (WMU)
- Remove the requirement that landowner special permit holders remove the elk in one specific declared elk season, and allow removal within all declared elk seasons.

It is administrations understanding that virtually all privately held land in Clearwater County could potentially qualify for a landowner special license for elk, though the season varies throughout the many WMU's within the County.

The changes recommended in the MVC resolution could possibly provide short term benefits to many Ag. Producers in Clearwater County. As pointed out in the resolution the outlined restrictions in the Current permit process make it difficult for producers to utilize this management tool.

Recognizing the short term benefits this resolution may provide a broader all-encompassing Wildlife Management Strategy for Agriculture, focusing on all the wildlife mentioned above, would provide long term and sustainable benefits to agriculture, as well maintain biodiversity in the vacant crown land / agriculture interface regions of the province.

Seconded by: Clearwater County

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WHEREAS Alberta ungulate populations, primarily Elk, are increasing rapidly due to current Wildlife Management Policies; and

WHEREAS the increased Elk population is responsible for damage to hay land, pasture, forages and other crops primarily located in Agricultural areas; and

WHEREAS the introduction of an Antlerless Elk Season in many of the Wildlife Management Units (WMU), was to control elk populations; and

WHEREAS landowners are currently required to apply in the regular draw process if they wish to obtain an Antlerless Elk Licence; and

WHEREAS if the landowner is unsuccessful in the draw, they may apply for a Landowner Special Licence which requires ownership of a minimum of 160 acres and is only valid for the single season applied for; and

WHEREAS first parcel out subdivisions restrict the landowners ability to obtain a Landowner Special Licence.

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties request that Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development (ESRD), amend the Landowner Special Licence criteria to remove the requirement to enter in the draw process and that landowners of Agricultural property with less than 160 acres qualify for the special licence; and further, that the AESRD permit Landowner Special Licences to be used in any declared season within that Wildlife Management Unit.

**Background:**

Non-migrating herds of Elk are becoming established in Alberta's Agricultural areas. These local populations are destroying both standing and stockpiled forages intended for use as cattle feed. The damage is compounded by the fact that the elk trample and defecate on unconsumed forage rendering it unpalatable.

Limited effective control measures are available for producers dealing with the dilemma of these non-native herds. Amending hunting regulations in Agricultural zones will reduce the number of non-native Elk, while having no effect on Elk populations in their traditional habitat.

Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development is responsible for preventing and mitigating ungulate damage by providing producers with deterrent, intercept feed, temporary fencing, and in chronic cases, permanent fencing materials. While these techniques are effective for small areas such as stored feed areas, this approach does not work over large areas.

It is assumed that the introduction of an Antlerless Elk Season in many of the Wildlife Management

Units (WMU), was to control increasing elk populations. Presently, landowners are required to apply in the draw process if they wish to obtain an Antlerless Elk Licence. If they are unsuccessful in the draw, they may apply as a person named on title on a parcel of 160 acres or more. They may then be eligible for a Landowner Special Licence. This licence is only useable on the titled land and during the season applied for. With multiple hunting seasons available in many WMU's, the Landowner Special Licence should be valid during any identified season.

With increasing growth and development pressures in Alberta it is common for 160 acre quarter sections to be subdivided with a first parcel out. First parcel out subdivisions typically only remove 5-10 acres from the Agricultural quarter. The remaining parcel (150 acres plus) is typically utilized for agricultural purposes in the production of crop or forage. These landowners would no longer qualify to apply for a Landowners Special Licence on the 150 acre parcel which could be directly affected by depredation by elk.

As the licences are only valid on one parcel of titled land, landowners would not be inclined to apply if Elk were not an issue on their land, however, as Elk herd movement is unpredictable landowners who did not apply for the regular draw often experience Elk depredation. It is suggested that the requirement for landowners to apply for the draw be removed, and allow landowners more flexibility to apply for the special licence when it is needed. In the main Elk WMU's the Antlerless Elk Special Licence is only valid in one of the specified seasons, however there are 2-5 seasons depending on the WMU. If the object of the draw is to reduce the elk population it would make sense that measures should be in place to provide every opportunity for success. From reviewing the 2013 harvest estimates (see reference link) it is clear that success rates can be quite low, and current regulations may not be achieving the desired level of Elk population management in Agricultural areas.

REFERENCES:

[www.albertaregulations.ca/pdfs/hunt-draws/Landowner-Special-Licence.pdf](http://www.albertaregulations.ca/pdfs/hunt-draws/Landowner-Special-Licence.pdf)

[www.mywildalberta.com/Hunting/documents/ElkHunterHarvest-2013.pdf](http://www.mywildalberta.com/Hunting/documents/ElkHunterHarvest-2013.pdf)



## Agenda Item

<b>Project: Mountain View County Proposed Resolution: Resource Extraction within Municipal Boundaries– Section 618</b>	
<b>Presentation Date:</b> January 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	
<b>Department:</b> Planning & Development	<b>Author:</b> Rick Emmons / Keith McCrae
<b>Budget Implication:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
<b>Strategic Area #2:</b> <i>Council will achieve this goal regional initiatives (e.g. Central Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (CAAMDC) meetings) activities and educational events.</i>	<b>Goal #7:</b> Council will actively pursue opportunities to discuss with the Premier, Cabinet Members, and Deputy Ministers issues concerning provincial legislation, programs or initiatives.
<b>Legislative Direction:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) _____	
<b>Recommendation:</b> For Council to review and accept the information as presented by Administration.	
<b>Attachments List:</b> 1) Resource Extraction Resolution	

### Background:

During Council's January 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, Administration advised Council that Mountain View County was requesting Clearwater County's endorsement of their resolution regarding resource extraction (oil sector) for the upcoming District 2 AAMDC meeting on February 6<sup>th</sup>. A brief overview of the resolution was presented and the request made to Council for its evaluation on whether the issue identified in the resolution is of regional or provincial significance. Council agreed to endorse the resolution to provide councillors an opportunity to amendment and/or debate for or against the resolution at the February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Zone 2 AAMD&C meeting. Administration was directed to provide an administrative recommendation on this resolution at the January 27<sup>th</sup> regular council meeting if the resolution is approved by the resolution committee.



Administration has the following concerns with the proposed resolution:

- 1) The proposed resolution pertains solely to the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER). As 618 deals with other approvals (e.g. Natural Resources Conservation Board (NRCB)) that would affect Clearwater County's Municipal Development Plan; why such a narrow focus? In terms of desired outcomes, broadening this resolution past just AER approvals would better meet the goals being sought.
- 2) Municipalities do not have expertise to balance the sub-surface owner rights and needs against surface landowner's rights and needs. Similar to some perspectives with gravel pits, this may be viewed as best left with the province or considered municipalities seeking out additional downloading.
- 3) Oil & gas developments are already heavily regulated and this would duplicate some of the approvals in place and/or add additional complication for "developer" in terms of environmental and philosophical opposition.
- 4) Adding municipalities into the approval process would create the ability to politicize the installation of oil infrastructure.
- 5) Administratively, current staffing levels could not deal with the quantity of oil and gas referrals that would be received.

CAAMDC 2015 Spring Resolution  
**Resource Extraction within Municipal boundaries**  
Mountain View County

Seconded by Clearwater County

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WHEREAS Section 618 of the Municipal Government Act states, among other things, that municipal regulations or bylaws made under this part do not apply when a development or subdivision is effected only for the purpose of a well or battery within the meaning of the Oil and Gas Conservation Act, or a pipeline or an installation or structure incidental to the operation of a pipeline;

AND WHEREAS Section 619 of the Municipal Government Act specifically states that authorizations granted by the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) prevail over municipal development plans;

AND WHEREAS section 632 of the Municipal Government Act requires municipalities with a population over 3500 people to adopt a Municipal Development Plan that must address future land use within the Municipality and the co-ordination of land use and future growth patterns.

AND WHEREAS the Government of Alberta has committed to reviewing its policy regarding energy extraction within municipal boundaries;

AND WHEREAS municipalities develop long term plans for municipal development which provide for compatible land uses;

AND WHEREAS the population of the province of Alberta continues to grow creating an increasing need to balance the needs of residential growth with energy development within municipalities;

AND WHEREAS Albertans are expressing concern about energy extraction in close proximity to residential areas;

AND WHEREAS energy extraction setbacks effectively sterilize municipal development and disrupt municipal development plans

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties adopt the following positions on energy extraction in Alberta municipalities:

1. That legislation governing the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) be amended to require a statement from the local municipality for each application pertaining to the suitability and compatibility of all new applications for resource extraction within the jurisdiction of said municipality;
2. That legislation governing the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) be amended to ensure the municipality is granted standing in hearings for all new applications for resource extraction within the jurisdiction of said municipality, with the option to participate being at the discretion of the municipality;
3. That all applications for resource extraction to the Alberta Energy Regulator for energy extraction address issues of compatibility with local municipal development plans and existing development.

**BACKGROUND:**

Municipalities are directly affected by all resource extraction applications. This resolution requests that the local municipality be given an opportunity to provide comments in response to all resource extraction applications within the municipal boundary. The municipal input received should be considered by the approving authority (AER) and should be addressed in the decision. This consultation process would be very similar to already established communication protocols established by the province, that are used by the Natural Resources Conservation Board (NRCB) to obtain municipal input for confined feeding applications. It is requested that the AER require the first point of consideration in any resource extraction application to be the review and sign off that the resource extraction will be consistent with the Future plans of the Municipality as identified in the current Municipal Development Plan.

In discussion with Synergy groups comprised of both Industry members and Landowners, there is consensus that enhanced communication with the Municipality would be beneficial. It is important for Industry to receive Municipal input on proposed facility locations prior to approaching landowners. The Alberta Energy Regulator has demonstrated a willingness to work with municipalities in the past, however municipalities would benefit from strengthening the status of Municipal Development Plans.

The Alberta Energy Regulator does take into account the concerns of residents and municipalities at its discretion. In 2012, the regulator denied 5,400 applications out of a total 36,000 submitted. The Alberta Energy Regulator (AER), at its discretion, may grant a municipality intervener status in a matter affecting its municipal jurisdiction, however more often than not; municipalities are provided very short notice to apply for intervener status.

The Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) has exclusive jurisdiction over energy extraction applications and its decisions are not subject to appeal. Considering that decisions of the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) may adversely impact municipal planning and provide for incompatible land uses contrary to local municipal plans it is important that Municipal Development Plans are given greater consideration in the planning phase of resource extraction.

**REFERENCES:**

AUMA Resource Extraction Resolution, 2014:

<http://www.auma.ca/live/AUMA/Document+Library/Resolutions>



## Agenda Item

<b>Project:</b> Physician Recruitment and Retention Society Request for Additional Funds	
<b>Presentation Date:</b> January 27, 2015	
<b>Department:</b> Community & Protective Services	<b>Author:</b> Katie Lutz
<b>Budget Implication:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
<b>Strategic Area:</b> Quality of Life	<b>Goal:</b> Ensure future needs of the community and an aging population (hospital, physician recruitment, EMS)
<b>Legislative Direction:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) _____	
<b>Recommendation:</b> That Council approves \$8,000 in additional funding for the Rocky/Clearwater/Caroline Physician Recruitment and Retention Society.	
<b>Attachments List:</b> N/A	

### Background:

The Rocky/Clearwater/Caroline Physician Recruitment and Retention Society is seeking \$8,000 in additional funding from Clearwater County as only \$4,000 was assigned in the 2015 budget.

The Society is requesting from both the Town and County a yearly amount of \$4,000 for retention and \$8,000 for accommodations.

Staff is recommending that Council approve funding for this request, which will come from the Community Services budget. Council currently commits \$12,000 annually towards physician recruitment for the region of which \$4,000 is distributed to the Rocky Mountain House program and \$8,000 to the Caroline Chamber of Commerce to help operate the Wellness Centre.



## Agenda Item

<b>Project: Invitation from Visions West Outreach School</b>	
<b>Presentation Date: January 27, 2015</b>	
<b>Department: Municipal</b>	<b>Presented by: Ron Leaf</b>
<b>Budget Implication:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
<p><b>Strategic Area: Governance and Intergovernmental Relations</b> to support Council's relationship and communication with its residents, neighboring municipal councils, federal and provincial officials and key stakeholders.</p>	<p><b>Goal: Council will promote a collaborative regional services philosophy and enhance provision of regional services to the greatest extent possible.</b></p> <p><i>Strategy 1: Council will continue to support regional service delivery (e.g. recreation, fire, FCSS, Assessment Review Board) and will continue to investigate opportunities to develop further regional partnerships with the Town of Rocky Mountain House and the Village of Caroline or other municipal governments or with the Wildrose School Division, adjacent municipalities (e.g. Red Deer County) or other non-government agencies (e.g. Rocky Rural Electrical Assoc.).</i></p>
<p><b>Legislative Direction:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) _____</p>	
<b>Recommendation: That Council authorizes a Councillor to attend the Visions West Outreach School Grand Opening on February 6, 2015</b>	
<b>Attachments List: 1. Email from Nathan Moore, Wild Rose School Division 2. Invitation from Visions West Outreach School</b>	

### Background:

Visions West Outreach School invites Reeve Alexander to attend it's grand opening on February 6, 2015 and also share a short congratulatory message. Regretfully, Reeve Alexander is unable to attend as he is chairing the AAMDC District 2 General Meeting in Three Hills on that day.

Does Council wish to authorize one member of Council to attend the Visions West function and share a congratulatory message on Council's behalf?

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**From:** Nathan Moore <[nathan.moore@wrsd.ca](mailto:nathan.moore@wrsd.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 16, 2015 1:17 PM  
**To:** Division Seven  
**Subject:** Grand Opening of Visions West Outreach School

Dear Mr. Patrick Alexander,

The Students and Staff of Visions West Outreach School welcome you to attend our Grand Opening, scheduled for February 6, 2015. Visions West Outreach School was founded 15 years ago this February, and we are celebrating the opening of our new location. We are sending a formal invitation separately, but this may help to get it onto your calendars quickly. As County Reeve of Clearwater County we would also invite you to take 2-5 minutes during the ceremonies to share some thoughts/congratulations with the audience. We hope you will be able to join us and share in our celebration.

Sincerely,  
The Students and Staff of Visions West Outreach School



Attn: Pat Alexander

H1

You are invited to join us for the Grand Opening of  
Visions West Outreach School

When: Friday, February 6, 2015.

Where: Visions West Outreach School - 4934 50 Street  
Rocky Mountain House, Alberta (Old Provincial Building-Lower Level)

*Itinerary*

11:30 Doors Open, Refreshments

12:30 Grand Opening Ceremonies

1:00 Ribbon Cutting and Cake

1:30 - 3:30 Open House

Visions West

Grand Opening



## Agenda Item

<b>Project: Alberta Order of Excellence</b>	
<b>Presentation Date: January 27, 2015</b>	
<b>Department: Municipal</b>	<b>Presented By: Ron Leaf</b>
<b>Budget Implication:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
<b>Strategic Area:</b>	<b>Goal:</b>
<b>Legislative Direction:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) _____	
<b>Recommendation: That Council accepts the information as presented.</b>	
<b>Attachments List: Correspondence from Chair, Alberta Order of Excellence Council</b>	

### Background:

Nominations are now being accepted for the Alberta Order of Excellence. The following is an excerpt from the Alberta Lieutenant Governor website:

*“The Alberta Order of Excellence is the highest honour the Province of Alberta can bestow on a citizen. Members of the Alberta Order of Excellence come from all walks of life. Their careers range from medicine, science, engineering, law, and business to politics, education, agriculture and the arts. The one thing all members have in common is that they have made an outstanding provincial, national, or international impact.*

*The Alberta Order of Excellence is about more than simply doing one’s job well. It’s about recognizing Albertans who have made a difference, who have served Albertans with excellence and distinction, and whose contributions will stand the test of time.*

### Members

*Members of the Alberta Order of Excellence careers range from medicine, science, engineering, law, and business to politics, education, agriculture and the arts. The one thing all members have in common is that they have made an outstanding provincial, national, or international impact in these categories: Agriculture; Arts; Athletics; Business; Community Service; Education; Engineering; Health; Law; Military; Politics; and/or Science & Research.*

## Nominate

The Alberta Order of Excellence Council receives and considers the nominations of candidates for future induction into the Alberta Order of Excellence. The Council is made up of volunteer representatives appointed by Order-in-Council from across Alberta.

### *How it works*

- *Nominations are accepted and considered year-round.*
- *Nominations must be received by February 15 to be considered for induction in the same calendar year.*
- *The Council makes its selections no later than June each year. New members are inducted into the Order in a special ceremony in October.*
- *Nominations remain under consideration for up to seven years. Candidates might not be selected in the year the nomination is received.*
- *Successful nominees must be able to attend the investiture ceremony.*
- *The Alberta Order of Excellence cannot be awarded posthumously.*

### *Who is eligible?*

- *Outstanding Albertans who have made significant contributions.*
- *Canadian citizens who live in Alberta.*
- *You cannot nominate yourself, your spouse, or a member of your immediate family.*

### *Nomination Procedure*

- *Identify an outstanding Albertan who has made significant contributions that will stand the test of time.*
- *Download a nomination package or order a package from the [Council](#).*
- *Complete the nomination package in full. Materials submitted with the nomination cannot be returned. All nominations are confidential.*

### *Package should include:*

*A nominator and a seconder.*

*Completed [AOE nomination form](#) (PDF).*

*Detailed information about the nominee including:*

- *resumé or curriculum vitae of nominee.*
- *brief biography outlining his or her contributions and accomplishments.*
- *demonstration of nominee's impact on others and leadership abilities.*
- *rationale for why the nominee should be recognized.*
- *up to five letters of support from community members.*
- *newspaper clippings and other relevant information about awards, honours and achievements.*

### *After You Apply*

*The Council may contact nominators to clarify information provided, but will not otherwise contact them regarding the status of their nomination unless their candidate is selected.*

*If your candidate makes a significant contribution, or wins an award or honour after you have submitted the nomination package, please notify the Council in writing.”*



# THE ALBERTA ORDER OF EXCELLENCE

January 6, 2015



Reeve Pat Alexander  
Clearwater County  
PO Box 550  
Rocky Mountain House, Alberta T4T 1A4

Dear Pat Alexander,

*On behalf of the Alberta Order of Excellence Council, I would like to invite you to nominate a deserving Albertan to become a member of the Alberta Order of Excellence.*

*The Alberta Order of Excellence is the highest honour that can be bestowed on a citizen of this province. I trust that you might know a special citizen who has made significant contributions to the lives of other Albertans and that deserves to be considered for this honour.*

*This remarkable Albertan must be a Canadian citizen, live in Alberta and have made a significant contribution provincially, nationally and/or internationally. For more information on the Alberta Order of Excellence and a nomination form, please visit our website at [www.lieutenantgovernor.ab.ca/aoe](http://www.lieutenantgovernor.ab.ca/aoe). You may now submit your nomination package online.*

*It is my hope that you know someone that can be considered for the 2015 Alberta Order of Excellence. The nomination deadline is February 15, 2015.*

Yours sincerely,

J. Angus Watt  
Chair, Alberta Order of Excellence Council  
(780) 412-6645



## Agenda Item

<b>Project: CAAMDC District 2 FCM Committee Appointment</b>	
<b>Presentation Date: January 27, 2015</b>	
<b>Department: Municipal</b>	<b>Author: Ron Leaf</b>
<b>Budget Implication:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
<b>1. Strategic Area: <u>Governance and Intergovernmental Relations</u></b>	<b>Goal: Council will actively pursue opportunities to discuss with the Premier, Cabinet Members, and Deputy Ministers issues concerning provincial legislation, programs or initiatives.</b> <i>Council will achieve this goal regional initiatives (e.g. Central Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (CAAMDC) meetings) activities and educational events</i>
<b>Legislative Direction:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) _____	
<b>Recommendation: That Council considers nominating a member of Council at the upcoming February 6 District meeting.</b>	
<b>Attachments List: 1. Correspondence from Mountain View County 2. FCM Standing Committee Listing</b>	

### Background:

At the October CAAMDC District 2 meeting Mountain View County (MVC) put forward a proposal that District 2 municipalities nominate an elected representative from the District for consideration by the FCM Board for appointment to one of FCM's committees. The rationale put forward for this initiative was that there is a need for more rural representation on FCM Committees and, more specifically, an Alberta rural perspective. MVC's proposal included the provision that should a District 2 member be appointed to a FCM Committee that District 2 municipalities would share in the costs incurred by the "District 2 rep" relating to travel, meals and registration. Costs associated with per diem would be borne by the candidate's municipality. The proposal was accepted in principle by the members and the District Directors were tasked to determine how the program would "work" and report back at the February central District meeting.



This past Friday the Directors discussed this program and have asked that the District membership be advised that nominations for appointment to the FCM Board will be considered at the February 6, 2015 meeting.

While the specific terms of reference are still being developed I believe the following criteria are agreed upon:

- 1) A councillor's nomination must be formally endorsed (motion) by his/her Council;
- 2) The councillor's nomination is to be submitted at the Spring District 2 meeting for consideration by elected members present at the District meeting;
- 3) One candidate will be selected by the District 2 membership, this name will be forwarded/presented to the FCM Board for that Board's consideration during the annual FCM conference in June; (I believe the FCM appointments occur in July/August)
- 4) Should the District 2 candidate be selected by the FCM their municipality will be responsible for covering per diem costs; (neither the FCM or AAMDC provide per diem for committee attendance)
- 5) The successful candidate maybe assigned to more than one FCM committee
- 6) Costs associated with the candidates travel, meal and registration will be cost shared by participating District 2 members. This cost is estimated at \$5,000 - \$7,000/year. (There are 14 municipalities in District 2 however not all have confirmed their willingness to participate.)
- 7) The candidate's municipality will invoice all participating District municipalities a pro-rated share of these costs.
- 8) The candidate is to provide report to the CAAMDC and, potentially the AAMDC, on Committee work, outcomes, or recommendations.

I request direction from Council on whether they wish to have staff prepare a nomination for consideration by the CAAMDC membership at the upcoming February 6 meeting.



# Mountain View C O U N T Y

August 29, 2014

Mr. Ron Leaf  
CAAMDC Zone 2  
c/o Clearwater County  
4340 47 Avenue, Box 550  
Rocky Mountain House, AB T4T 1A4

Dear Mr. Leaf:

Re: FCM Committee Appointments

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) annually appoints both a Board member and Committee member. Their mandate is to carry out the policy directions of the members by setting the basis for administration to follow in the creation of new policies. A potential member to the FCM Committees must submit their name with a motion of support from their Municipal Council to the FCM in late May or early June for consideration by the newly elected President.

Mountain View County supports the concept of a person from the Central Zone of AAMDC being elected annually at the spring meeting to submit their name as a potential Committee member as we believe it benefits all rural municipalities.

We are requesting that the AAMDC Central zone support a process whereby CAAMDC member municipalities would contribute to the costs (travel and lodging) with any per diem being covered by the Councillor's municipality. In this process the individual municipality would pay its fair share of the costs.

As a part of this support, the appointed individual would be expected to submit a written report of FCM meetings attended to the CAAMDC for distribution to the member municipalities prior to being compensated for costs incurred.

The CAAMDC Directors, at the August 15, 2014 meeting supported the recommendation. Following are expenses for the past year for Councillor Kemmere to attend FCM Committee Meetings which were paid for by Mountain View County are as follows:

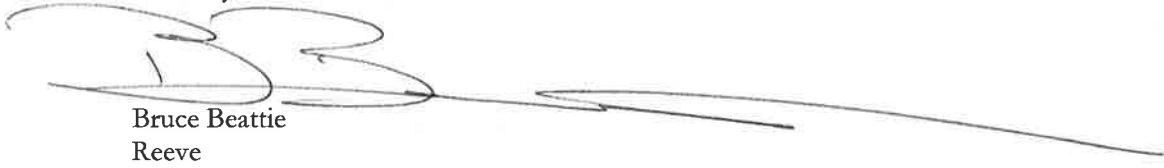
Hotel, meals, taxi, mileage, parking	\$ 2783.19
Air Travel	\$ 2090.24
Per Diem	<u>\$ 3269.56</u>
	<u>\$ 8142.99</u>

The expenses for which the Zone Directors considered sharing would not include the \$3,269.36 per diem costs. Therefore, in this example the amount shared would be \$4,873.43.

....2

Mountain View County looks forward to receiving zone support for this initiative as we believe that participation on the FCM Committees is of great benefit to all rural municipalities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Beattie', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bruce Beattie  
Reeve

BB/ge



## Standing Committees and Forums

FCM's Board of Directors has established ten standing committees and forums to facilitate more detailed debate and provide the board with recommendations on priority policy and program issues. These committees are comprised of both Board members and other municipal elected officials.

You are encouraged to apply to participate as a committee member if you are interested in contributing to FCM's policy, advocacy and programming work. Only elected municipal officials from FCM member municipalities may apply to sit on Standing Committees and Forums.

### To apply

The FCM President makes yearly committee appointments based on your preferences and experience, as well as the need to balance regional, community size and gender representation on each committee. Not all of those who apply will be appointed.

### Current membership lists:

#### Community Safety and Crime Prevention

*Policing, crime prevention, community corrections, emergency preparedness and management.*

#### Conference Planning Committee

*Oversight of the Sustainable Communities Conference and Annual Conference agendas.*

#### Environmental Issues and Sustainable Development

*Green economy, climate change adaptation, clean air, water, waste, wastewater, brownfields, toxic substances (including pesticides), energy, invasive species, green infrastructure.*

#### Increasing Women's Participation in Municipal Government

*Advocacy supporting greater participation of women in municipal government, including development of strategies to raise the profile of the issue.*

#### International Relations

*Global networks and advocacy, decentralization, good governance, local capacity development.*

#### Municipal Finance and Intergovernmental Arrangements

*Municipal powers, roles and responsibilities, federal-provincial/ territorial-municipal relations, municipal fiscal tools, international trade rules and disputes, GST and other tax issues.*

#### Municipal Infrastructure and Transportation Policy

*Municipal infrastructure and federal funding programs, small and regional airports viability, marine policy, railway and municipal proximity issues, highway and border infrastructure issues, urban transit, telecommunications.*



#### Northern and Remote Forum

*Infrastructure investments, economic development in the North, natural resources and northern communities. Membership criteria: Membership is open to municipal representatives from the territorial or provincial North.*

#### Rural Forum

*Infrastructure investments, rural economic development, diversification of resource-based communities, interdependencies between rural and urban communities. Membership criteria: Membership is open to representatives from municipalities that are rural in nature or urban communities that have a significant rural component or interest.*

#### Social Economic Development

*Housing and homelessness; cultural and community infrastructure, immigration and municipal-Aboriginal relations, aging.*

#### Non-Board Committee Members

*This feature of our governance enables broader membership participation in our committee deliberations and brings expertise that strengthens the debate and helps create the most informed recommendations to the Board of Directors. They do not have voting rights at the Board of Directors meeting.*





## Agenda Item

<b>Project: 1:15 P.M. Delegation – Sarah Cox, Senior Conservation Program Manager, Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative</b>	
<b>Presentation Date: January 27, 2015</b>	
<b>Department: Delegation</b>	<b>Presented by: Ron Leaf</b>
<b>Budget Implication:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
<b>1. Strategic Area: Land and Economic Development</b> – To manage current and projected growth and to respond to the various trends, impacts and demands, land development pressures and the economy within Clearwater County.	<b>Goal:</b> Council will participate to the greatest extent possible with other municipalities and public committees involved with the study of sustainability of the public lands/eastern slopes area of the County.
<b>Legislative Direction:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) _____	
<b>Recommendation: That Council accepts the information as presented.</b>	
<b>Attachments List: Correspondence from Sarah Cox</b>	

### Background:

Sarah Cox, Senior Conservation Program Manager from the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative, will attend Council to introduce the organization to Council and make a presentation regarding the organization's perspective on the North Saskatchewan Regional Plan.

Please refer to the following link for further details.

Y2Y Conservation Initiative [8-minute video](#)



December 9, 2014

Councillors  
Clearwater County, Alberta

Dear Clearwater Council,

I'm sending this letter to open a dialogue about the land-use plan currently underway for the Clearwater County region. The next public comment period for the North Saskatchewan Regional Plan is anticipated in January, and I would welcome an opportunity to make a 20-minute presentation to your council to highlight our aspirations for the plan and to hear about yours.

The Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative (Y2Y) is an internationally-recognized large-landscape conservation effort, with a Canadian office based in Canmore. We work with a variety of partners, including industry and municipalities, to connect and protect landscapes so that people and nature can thrive. Our efforts are informed by science and target crucial processes like watershed protection and wildlife migration. See this new [8-minute video](#) that summarizes our work.

The North Saskatchewan Regional Plan (NSRP) represents a timely opportunity to balance future population and economic growth with environmental protection. We would like to see increased protection for our headwaters in order to reduce the likelihood or impacts of flooding, and to help resolve growing land-use conflicts. We are interested in working with municipalities and counties across the region to ensure that the final NSRP contains concrete measures to protect our headwaters, community water supplies and biodiversity, and to ensure that it will help strengthen local economies.

Please contact me at 403-609-2666 x 7 or by email at [sarah@y2y.net](mailto:sarah@y2y.net) to arrange a time to meet, at your earliest convenience, in January or February.

Yours respectfully,

Sarah Cox  
Senior Conservation Program Manager  
Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative



Phone: 403.609.2666

Fax: 403.609.2667

Toll-free: 1.800.966.7920



Unit 200, 1240 Railway Ave  
Canmore, AB T1W 1P4  
Canada



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USA

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