

Alberta Water Council Update from the Lake Environment Conservation Sector

Update to the Alberta Lake Management Society Annual General Meeting

Lakedell Community Hall, Pigeon Lake, Alberta

September 28, 2013

As most of our members are aware, ALMS was given status on the Alberta Water Council in 2003 via an appointment by then Environment Minister Lorne Taylor to represent the Lake Environment Conservation Sector, one of the Non-Government Organization Seats on Council. Each Sector is allowed a Director and an Alternate, in the event that the Director is unavailable. Since that time, I have been the Director representing ALMS on Council, and my Alternate has been Judy Stewart until this spring when she was replaced by Stephanie Neufeld.

I was voted to the Executive in 2008 and have held a Vice-President Position with the AWC since then. As a VP, I am also required to chair the NGO Caucus, which meets immediately prior to each regularly scheduled Board Meeting to discuss our Broad Sector Category Interests. Our Broader Sector includes Directors and Alternates from Ducks Unlimited Canada, Trout Unlimited Canada, the Watershed Planning and Advisory Planning Council Collective and 3 Seats from the Alberta Environmental Network (Currently represented by the Alberta Law Centre, Alberta Wilderness Association and one Vacant Seat).

My current activities include:

Representing ALMS on the Executive (Vice-President of the AWC) and Chairing the NGO Caucus.

Representing ALMS on the following Project Teams:

Invasive Species (Jay has completed the training)

Non-Point Source Pollution (final report released June 4, 2013). Stephanie and Jay both on this committee, Stephanie was a co-chair.

Communications Sub-Committee (for the upcoming Symposium "Exploring Water Re-use for Household Municipal and Industrial Applications" to be held in June, 2014).

Membership Review (now disbanded)

As well, Stephanie Neufeld is representing ALMS on the Riparian Land Management and Conservation Management Project Team.

AWC Activities

AWC held a one-day business planning workshop on June 13.

Other AWC activities include a major final release from the Conservation, Efficiency and Productivity Project Team that was preceded by a large media event on June 18.

ALMS submitted a Statement of Opportunity “Managing and Monitoring Alberta’s Lakes: Where are we at and where do we need to go?” in September.

Recent publications from the AWC include:

- *Sector Planning for Water Conservation, Efficiency and Productivity*
- *Recommendations to Improve Non-Point Source Pollution Management in Alberta*
- *Moving from Words to Actions - Recommendations to improve communication, coordination and collaboration between and among Water for Life partnerships*
- *Provincial Ecological Criteria for Healthy Aquatic Ecosystems: Recommendations from the Alberta Water Council*
- *Recommendations for Improving Alberta's Water Allocation Transfer System*

Many more can be found on the Council website (<http://www.albertawatercouncil.ca/>) including annual reports, quarterly newsletters and business plans.

Stephanie has replaced Judy Stewart as the Alternate Director on Council as of May, 2013.

Other Items

Jay represented AWC for 3 days on Alberta Energy’s Design Thinking Policy Workshop to shape the new Single Regulator for Upstream Oil, Gas, Oilsands and Coal on May 7-10, 2013. This work helped shape the new Alberta Energy Regulator.

Most recently, Jay attended a 3 hour information session hosted by Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development Policy Management Branch’s Andy Ridge on the Water Conversations and Wetland Policy on September 27, 2013.

Next Executive Meeting will be on October 3, 2013 in Edmonton and our next regular board meeting will be October 31, 2013 in Calgary.

It has been a pleasure to represent ALMS on the AWC Board of Directors! Thanks again for this opportunity!