



Annual General Meeting

2022





NSWA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, June 22, 2022
The Old Timers Cabin, 9430 Scona Road, Edmonton

AGENDA

REGISTRATION

8:15 – 9:00	Registration and Refreshments	
9:00 – 9:15	Greetings and Welcome	<i>Ken Crutchfield, Chair NSWA</i> <i>Leah Kongsrude, Retiring Executive Director</i> <i>Scott Millar, New Executive Director</i>

Annual General Meeting of the NSWA Society

9:15 – 10:45		
SOCIETY BUSINESS		<i>Ken Crutchfield, Chair</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acceptance of Agenda• Approval of 2021 AGM Minutes	
2021- 2022 Annual Report		<i>Leah Kongsrude, Executive Director</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acceptance of Annual Report	
2021 - 2022 Audited Financial Statement		<i>Stephen Craik, Treasurer</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acceptance of 2021-2022 Audited Financial Statements• Appointment of Auditor for 2022-2023	
2022 – 2023 Operating Plan and Budget		<i>Leah Kongsrude, Executive Director</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acceptance of 2022-2023 Operating Plan and Budget	
2022 – 2023 Board of Directors		<i>Alan Corbett, Vice-Chair</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Election of Directors• Board and Staff Recognition	
Closing Remarks		<i>Ken Crutchfield, Chair</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approval of Meeting Adjournment	

10:45 – 11:00

Break

Guest Speakers

11:00 – 11:20 WaterSHED Monitoring Program Update
11:20 – 11:40 Riparian Health Action Plan Update
11:40 – 12:00 State of the Watershed Update

12:15 – 1:30

LUNCH and NETWORKING

1:30 - 3:00 Board Organizational Meeting

Thank you!



Draft Minutes of 2021 Annual General Meeting

June 23, 2021, 9:00 am – 11:30 am

Zoom Meeting

WELCOME

Executive Director Leah Kongsrude made welcoming remarks to delegates and NSWA staff. The NSWA bylaws indicate that quorum for the Annual General Meeting is 25 members and with it was noted that there were 42 registered members in attendance and therefore quorum was reached. Vice Chair Jacquie Hansen chaired the meeting and acknowledged and thanked the Indigenous Peoples who came before us.

SOCIETY BUSINESS

Vice President Hansen called the meeting to order and informed the membership that all motions today would be approved with a majority vote. There were no motions that required a 75% vote this year.

AGENDA

Corbett/Bruha: That the Agenda for the June 23, 2021, NSWA Annual General Meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

MINUTES

Danielson/Crutchfield: That the Minutes of the NSWA AGM held June 24, 2020, be approved. CARRIED

NSWA ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19

Leah Kongsrude provided an overview of the NSWA's Annual Report for 2020-21. Kongsrude thanked the NSWA Board, Executive and staff for their contributions.

She outlined Alberta's Water for Life Strategy and the three key partnerships. Kongsrude outlined NSWA's four Strategic Goals which focus on collaboration, leadership, information sharing and maintaining a sustainable organization.

She highlighted the work of the three subwatershed alliances including the 5-year Vermilion River Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Project winning a 2021 Alberta Emerald Award, the implementation of the Sturgeon River Watershed Management plan and the work of the Headwaters Alliance on the Riparian Health Action Plan. Kongsrude also mentioned the Expanded Riparian Assessment Project which is expanding the riparian intactness and landscape pressure data from 3 to 8 subwatersheds. Kongsrude also acknowledged the financial contributions from the Province of Alberta, member municipalities and Epcor and thanked them for their support.

Craik/Lemay: That the 2020-21 NSWA Annual Report be accepted as information.

CARRIED

NSWA FINANCIAL REPORT 2020-21:

Stephen Craik, NSW Treasurer, provided a presentation on the final 2020-21 Financial Report. Craik acknowledged and thanked Leah Kongsrude and Ellen Cust as well as NSW's auditor Mr. Cheng Lim of Lim & Associates, Edmonton.

Bruha/Corbett: That the 2020-2021 NSW Audited Financial Statement be accepted as information.
CARRIED

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

Danielson/Crutchfield: That Lim and Associates be appointed as the NSW financial auditor for 2021-2022.
CARRIED

NSWA OPERATING PLAN 2021-2022:

Kongsrude made a presentation on the NSW's 2021-22 Operating Plan. She highlighted the NSW's new Key Strategic Directions (sub-watershed partnerships, quantifying measures of success and identifying key stakeholders) and how they tie into the NSW's strategic goals. Kongsrude also provided a brief overview of the 2021-22 operational budget.

Craik/LeMay: That the 2021-2022 NSW Operating Plan and Budget be accepted as information.
CARRIED

NSWA Board Elections:

Laurie Danielson provided an overview of the updated Board sector representation requirements from the 2020 NSW Society Bylaws. He noted that there were seven nominations for election:

- Municipal (3)
- Academia/Member at Large (2)
- Non-Governmental Organization (1)
- Agriculture (1)

Bruha/Corbett: That the following nominations be acclaimed:

Brazeau County – Bart Guyon

Clearwater County – Jim Duncan

City of St. Albert – Jacquie Hansen

Agriculture – Rhonda King

Academia – Dr. Greg Goss

Member at Large – Kyle Schole

Non-Governmental Organization – Tracy Scott.

NSWA Bylaws (2009) are repealed and replaced by NSW Bylaws (2020).

CARRIED

Danielson also recognized leaving Board members Jacquie Hansen, Leah Hamonic, John McNab and Bob Winship and thanked them for their years of service to the NSW.

CLOSING REMARKS

Vice Chair Hansen thanked the NSW staff for facilitating a remote AGM and acknowledged the hard work and commitment of the board members.

Danielson/Crutchfield: That the June 23, 2021 NSWA Annual General Meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

DRAFT



ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"Change is the only constant in life."

It has been another incredible year of progress and change here at the NSWA! We continued to collaborate with our watershed partners and significant progress was made on advancing our technical and policy work. Some highlights of the last year include:

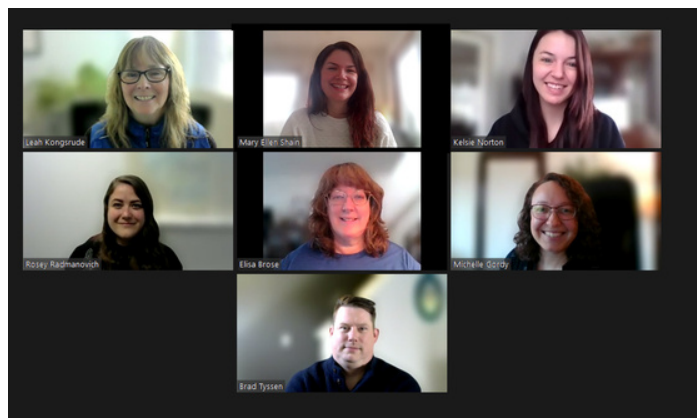
- The [Vermilion River Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Project](#), which was funded by a \$1.45 million Watershed Restoration and Resiliency grant, was successfully completed and won a 2021 Alberta Emerald Award.
- Staff used the new basin wide riparian intactness and pressure dataset to develop a [North Saskatchewan River Watershed Riparian Conservation and Restoration Strategy](#).
- NSWA is a finalist for the fourth year in a row at the 2022 Alberta Emerald Awards for the [Riparian Web Portal project](#)

NSWA also welcomed two new Watershed Planning Coordinators and will be introducing a new Executive Director at the Annual General Meeting in June. After four wonderful years with NSWA, I have decided to retire but will be working with the new staff to ensure a smooth transition !

Leah Kongsrude, Executive Director



NSWA STAFF



NSWA Zoom Staff Meeting 2022

Top row, left to right:

Leah Kongsrude, Executive Director

Mary Ellen Shain, Senior Watershed Planning Coordinator

Kelsie Norton, Watershed Planning Coordinator

Middle row, left to right:

Rosey Radmanovich, Watershed Planning Coordinator

Elisa Brose, Administrative and Key Stakeholder Coordinator

Michelle Gordy, Watershed Planning Coordinator

Bottom Row:

Brad Tyssen, GIS Specialist

OUR APPRECIATION

We are grateful to the many supporters of the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA). We would not be able to facilitate partnerships, complete studies, or share knowledge in our watershed without the time and resources provided by our contributors.

We acknowledge the **Government of Alberta** for providing a multi-year operational grant and important contributions from **EPCOR** and many **municipalities** in our watershed. Our partners contributed \$700,000 of financial support and over \$500,000 of in-kind support to NSWA in 2021-2022.



Counties	Cities and Towns	Villages and Summer Villages
Beaver County Brazeau county Clearwater County Lac Ste Anne County Lamont County Leduc County Parkland County St. Paul County Smoky Lake County Strathcona County Sturgeon County County of Minburn County of Two Hills County of Vermilion River	<u>Cities:</u> Edmonton Fort Saskatchewan St. Albert <u>Towns:</u> Bruderheim Devon Drayton Valley Gibbons Onoway Rocky Mountain House St. Paul Smoky Lake Vegreville Vermilion	<u>Villages:</u> Innisfree Spring Lake <u>Summer Villages:</u> Betula Beach Horseshoe Bay Kapasiwin Lakeview Seba Beach Silver Sands South View Sunrise Beach Sunset Point West Cove Yellowstone

NSWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The NSWA is a multi-stakeholder watershed partnership incorporated as a non-profit society in 2000 and designated as a [Water Planning and Advisory Council](#) by the Government of Alberta in 2005.

The work of the NSWA is guided by an [18 member multi-stakeholder Board](#) that provides strategic direction and advice to the organization to achieve its vision and mission. We appreciate our Board member's ongoing dedication and support.

DIRECTORS 2021-2022

Agriculture

Bill Fox, *Alberta Beef Producers*
Rhonda King, *ALUS Canada*

Forestry

Bob Winship (2021), *Weyerhaeuser*
Ian Kwantes (2022), *Weyerhaeuser*

Industry

Dr. Laurie Danielson, *NCIA*

Member-at Large/Academia

Dr. Greg Goss, *University of Alberta*
John Thompson (2021)
Dr. Stephen Craik (2022)
Kyle Schole

Municipal

Jim Duncan (2021), *Clearwater County*
Daryl Loughheed (2022), *Clearwater County*
Bart Guyon, *Brazeau County*
Jacquie Hansen (2021), *City of St. Albert*
Mike Killick (2022), *City of St. Albert*
John McNab (2021), *Parkland County*
Kristina Kowalski (2022), *Parkland County*

NGO

Ken Crutchfield, *Alberta Chapter Wildlife Society*
Tracy Scott, *Ducks Unlimited*

Government Agency

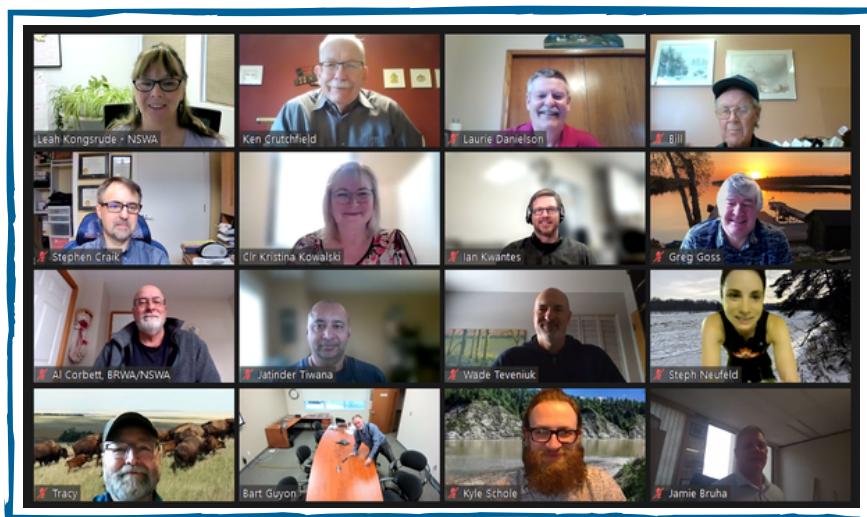
Jamie Bruha, *Alberta Environment and Parks*
Al Corbett, *Alberta Drainage Council*
Tony Lemay, *Alberta Energy Regulator*

Utility

Aleta Corbett, *TransAlta*
Stephanie Neufeld, *EPCOR*
Wade Teveniuk, *Alberta Capital Region Wastewater Commission*

Advisory

Jatinder Tiwana, *City of Edmonton*



Top row, left to right: Leah Kongsrude, Ken Crutchfield, Laurie Danielson, Bill Fox
Second row, left to right: Steve Craik, Kristina Kowalski, Ian Kwantes, Greg Goss
Third row, Left to right: Al Corbett, Jatinder Tiwana, Wade Teveniuk, Steph Neufeld
Bottom row, left to right: Tracy Scott, Bart Guyon, Kyle Schole, Jamie Bruha
Missing: Aleta Corbett, Tony Lemay, Rhonda King, Mike Killick, Daryl Loughheed
Photo taken at a Zoom Board Meeting 2022

**Board Directors volunteered over 665 hours
for an in-kind contribution of over \$56,000
in 2021-2022**

A BRIEF HISTORY OF NSWA 2000 TO 2022

In the late 1990's, [EPCOR](#), [TransAlta](#), [Trout Unlimited](#), [Agriculture and Agrifood Canada](#) and the [City of Edmonton](#) were all working on initiatives related to the health of the North Saskatchewan River. In 1997 they amalgamated to form the [North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance \(NSWA\)](#). In 2000 NSWA became a registered non-profit society.

The NSWA became the designated Watershed Planning and Advisory Council for the North Saskatchewan River (NSR) in 2005, two years after the Alberta [Water for Life Strategy](#) was adopted by the province.

The NSWA produced the [State of the Watershed](#) report in 2005 and the [Integrated Watershed Management Plan](#) in 2012. In total, NSWA has completed over 60 studies and published the [North Saskatchewan River Watershed Atlas](#) and the book [Living in the Shed](#).

NSWA has provided a forum for sharing knowledge and collaborating on issues affecting the North Saskatchewan River watershed in Alberta for over 20 years.



NSWA STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2024

The NSWA Board has a 3-Year Strategic Plan that has **four goals to achieve the vision and mission** of the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance. The goals also align with the mandate of the Watershed Planning and Advisory Councils set out by Alberta Environment and Parks.

STRATEGIC GOALS

Goal 1: *The NSWA supports Collaborative Watershed Planning*

Goal 2: *The NSWA provides Leadership in Watershed Management*

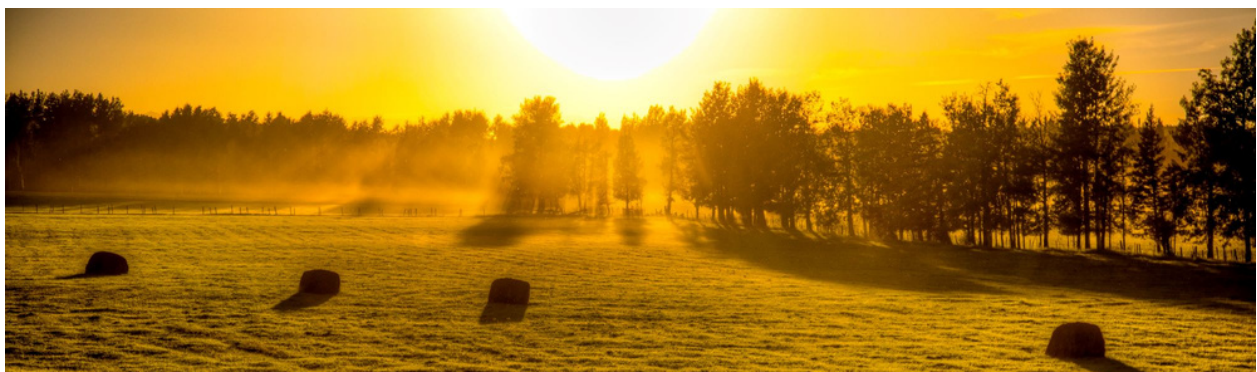
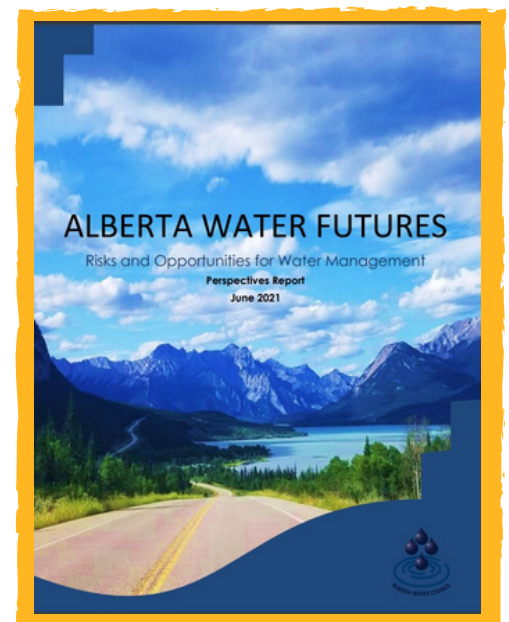
Goal 3: *The NSWA promotes Watershed Knowledge Sharing*

Goal 4: *The NSWA remains a Functional and Sustainable Organization*

The Strategic Plan was updated in 2021 by the NSWA Board through a series of six online facilitated sessions. The recommendations of the Alberta Water Council's [Water Futures \(2021\)](#) report were used to guide the discussions.

Three strategic priorities for 2022-2024:

1. **Focus collaborative efforts** on partnerships that can most effectively address the directions and actions of the Integrated Watershed Management Plan.
2. **Complete a 2025 State of the Watershed report** to provide an update on watershed health and implementation status of the Integrated Watershed Management Plan of the NSWA.
3. **Focus and align communications efforts** on key stakeholders who have the greatest influence on watershed health.





Collaborative partnerships are the core to successful watershed planning for the NSWA. Our strong relationships with **government agencies, municipalities, industry, non-governmental organizations** and **watershed stewardship groups** provide us with the ability to align our work with our key stakeholder's watershed issues and projects.

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

HEADWATERS ALLIANCE	STURGEON RIVER WATERSHED ALLIANCE	VERMILION RIVER WATERSHED ALLIANCE	LAKE PARTNERSHIPS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brazeau County • Clearwater County • Leduc County • Parkland County • Wetaskiwin County • Town of Devon • Town of Drayton Valley • Town of Rocky Mountain House • EPCOR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lac Ste Anne County • Parkland County • Sturgeon County • City of Edmonton • City of St. Albert • City of Spruce Grove • Town of Gibbons • Town of Morinville • Town of Onoway • Town of Stony Plain • Village of Alberta Beach • Summer Villages of Lac Ste Anne & County East • Alexander First Nation • Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation • Metis Nation of Alberta • Big Lake Environmental Support Society • LILSA - Lake Isle Lac Ste Anne Water Quality Management Society • Wagner Natural Area Society • Alberta Environment and Parks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beaver County • Lamont County • County of Minburn • County of Two Hills • County of Vermilion River • Town of Two Hills • Town of Vegreville • Town of Vermilion • Village of Holden • Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada • Alberta Environment and Parks • Alberta Drainage Council • Alternative Land Use Services Canada (ALUS) • Ducks Unlimited Canada • Holden Drainage District • Lakeland College 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parkland County • Strathcona County • Antler Lake Stewardship Committee • Hubbles Lake Stewardship Society • Jackfish Lake Management Association • Lake Isle Lac Ste Anne Stewardship Association • Mayatan Lake Management Association • Wabamun Watershed Management Council • Wabamun Watershed Management Plan Implementation Committee • Wizard Lake Watershed and Lake Stewardship Organization • Lakes of Parkland County Group • Alberta Lake Management Society (ALMS) • Alberta Environment and Parks

SUBWATERSHED ALLIANCES:

33 Municipalities
11 Non-governmental Groups
5 Government Agencies

*PROVIDED
OVER 800
IN-KIND
HOURS*

HEADWATERS ALLIANCE

The [Headwaters Alliance](#) is a municipally-led watershed stewardship group that works in partnership with the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA).

The Headwaters Alliance was formed in 2014 and is guided by a Steering Committee of elected officials and a Technical Advisory Committee of technical staff and volunteers. Following the municipal elections, the Headwaters Alliance welcomed **six new councilors** onto our Steering Committee.

The Headwaters Alliance is guided by their [2019-2024 Strategic Plan](#) that has six goals:

1. Organizational Sustainability
2. Well-supported Initiatives
3. Awareness
4. Knowledgeable Stakeholders
5. Adaptive Management
6. Policy and Plan Alignment



In 2021, the Headwaters Alliance set a Riparian Health Target of 65% High Intactness.

RIPARIAN HEALTH ACTION PLAN (RHAP)

The RHAP continues to be the top priority for the Headwaters Alliance. The three phases of the RHAP project include:

Phase 1: Assessed the overall **condition of riparian health** in the Modeste and Strawberry sub-watersheds. **Municipal Report Cards** are being presented to elected councils throughout the spring of 2022.

Phase 2: Developed a **Riparian Conservation & Restoration Strategy** which set objectives for priority riparian areas. We are now developing **policy advice and tools** to support the advancement.

Phase 3: Launched the **Riparian Web-portal** in February 2021.



NATURAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

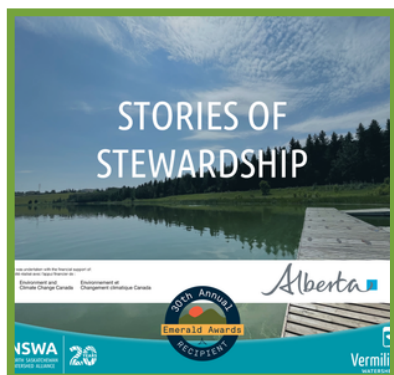
The Headwaters Alliance continues to be a partner in the **Modeste Natural Infrastructure Project**.

In 2021, the project team released an interim report, **An Economic Framework to Measure Natural Infrastructure Impacts from Watershed Restoration**, available on the NSWA website.

Parkland County is taking the study to the next level and developing a Municipal Hotspot Natural Infrastructure Assessment which will help them to potentially address localized flooding issues with natural infrastructure solutions.

VERMILION RIVER WATERSHED ALLIANCE

STORIES OF STEWARDSHIP



What does Stewardship mean to landowners in the Vermilion watershed?

The Vermilion River Watershed Alliance (VRWA) developed a video highlighting some of the landowners who completed projects as part of the Vermilion River Watershed Restoration Project in the last five years. The [Stories of Stewardship video](#) can be found on NSWA's YouTube webpage.

In November, the VRWA hosted a two hour [Stories of Stewardship webinar](#), featuring landowner stories, and presentations from [Ducks Unlimited Canada](#) and the [Land Stewardship Centre](#) on future conservation opportunities.



Left: Grade 4 students from Two Hills School planting in the EcoBuffer.
Middle: Two Hills School students, with Teachers, AWES staff Bob Underschultz and Megan Andre, and NSWA staff Danielle Barry standing next to the EcoBuffer sign at Geleta Park in Two Hills.
Right: EcoBuffer Demonstration site sign.



Left: Jillian, Samantha, and Michelle holding saplings they are about to plant in the EcoBuffer.



Right: Sam and Jill planting wildflowers.

EDUCATION and OUTREACH

Finishing the Two Hills Eco-Buffer

In June and October 2021, the VRWA partnered with the [Agroforestry and Woodlot Extension Society \(AWES\)](#), to complete the planting of wildflowers and replacement trees for their Eco-Buffer demonstration site at Geleta Park in Two Hills which is adjacent to the Vermilion River.

NSWA Summer staff joined in to help plant 60 native wildflower plugs and 200 tree saplings of a variety of native tree species.

In October, students from the [Two Hills School](#), grades 4 and 7, helped with planting and learned more about the importance of watersheds, Eco-Buffers, and pollinators.

Both Eco-buffer demonstration sites have signs that provide the public with information about Eco-buffers, what they are and what they do.

VERMILION RIVER WATERSHED ALLIANCE

RESTORATION PROJECTS

Dry Grass Lake Restoration in Lamont County

- Fenced off Dry Grass Lake, an area of 80 hectares (~200 acres).
- Installed rig mats for moving cattle and equipment across pastures and installed a portable solar watering system.
- Conducted a Cows and Fish Riparian Assessment.

Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village Beaver Management

- Installed a pond leveler and educational signage that explains how landowners can coexist with beavers using the right tools.

Rat Creek Ranch - Vermilion Landowner Project

- Fenced a portion of Rat Creek using 1000 metres of electric fence and installed an offsite watering system.
- The 50 metre buffer adjacent to the creek can still be used as riparian pasture with sustainably managed grazing outside of sensitive time periods.
- The central watering system will service multiple livestock paddocks including the creek buffer zone.
- The project protects 3.5 hectares (~8.5 acres) of riparian buffer and 1 hectare (~2.6 acres) of creek.

Protecting Irish Creek from Livestock Impacts – Vermilion Landowner Project

- 500 metres of fencing and an off-stream watering system were installed along a portion of Irish Creek that protected 3.2 hectares (~8 acres) of riparian buffer and 1.4 hectares (~3.5 acres) of creek.

VRWA WINS AN EMERALD AWARD!



This year, the greatest success for the VRWA and NSWA was receiving an **Alberta Emerald Award** in the Shared Footprints category from the Alberta Emerald Foundation.

This award recognizes the hard work that has been completed over the last five years through the [Vermilion River Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Project](#). We cannot say thank you enough to the many landowners and partners involved in the project.

We also greatly appreciate the grant funding (2015-2022) from our project funders.

This project was undertaken with the financial support of:
Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier de :



Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada

Alberta
Government

STURGEON RIVER WATERSHED ALLIANCE

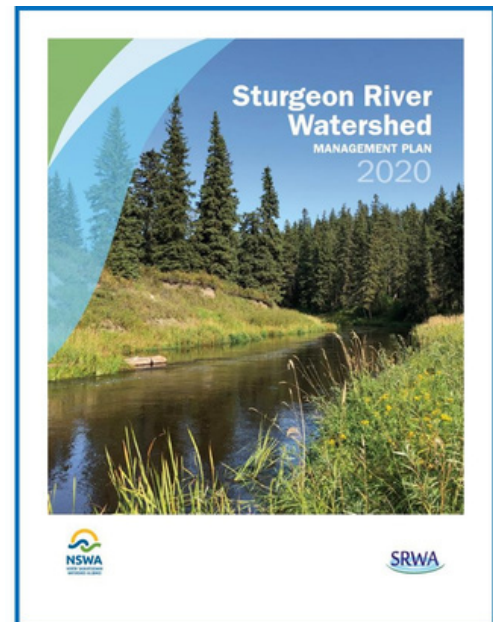
The Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance ([SRWA](#)) includes a Steering Committee of elected officials and a Technical Advisory Committee of municipal staff, non-governmental organizations and technical experts.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

The [Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan](#) was completed in 2020 and endorsed by the 12 participating municipalities of the SRWA. The watershed management plan includes **six outcomes**:

1. **Policies and Plans** are well-informed and align to support a healthy watershed.
2. All residents have access to **safe, secure drinking water** supplies, whether they are on public or private systems or draw from surface or groundwater.
3. **Aquatic Ecosystems**, including our rivers, lakes, wetlands and other water bodies, are healthy.
4. The importance of water quantity is recognized and **reliable, quality water supplies** are available for people, livestock and a sustainable economy.
5. **Wise land use** ensures the cumulative effects of growth and development are mitigated, the land is resilient to climate change and individuals and communities are well prepared for flood and drought events.
6. **Residents and stakeholders** support the Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan and are willing to participate in local and regional initiatives to improve watershed health.

The SRWA received a \$200,000 Alberta Community Partnership Grant for implementation of the Watershed Management Plan.



SRWA ACTION ITEMS 2020-2023

The SRWA will be focusing on several key action items for the next three years:

- **Riparian Health Strategy** using riparian intactness data from [Riparian Assessment](#) data
- **Wetland Strategy** using provincial and SRWA resources
- **Planning Alignment** for key areas identified by the Technical Advisory Committee such as Environmental Reserve, riparian and wetland conservation and environmental sensitive/risk areas.
- **Planning Overlay Maps** such as flood and groundwater hazard areas and riparian setback
- **Water Quality Monitoring Program**
- **Communications** such as educational forums, SRWA webpage and promotional materials.

LAKE STEWARDSHIP GROUPS

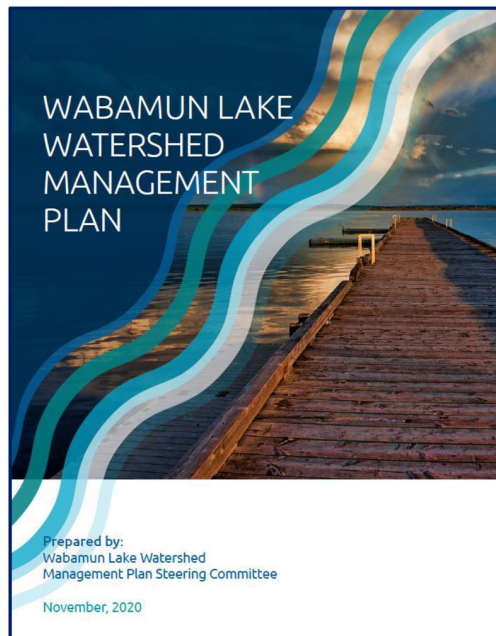
The important partnerships the NSWA has with Watershed Stewardship Groups under the *Water for Life Strategy* is reflected in our work with many lake groups.

LAKE MANAGEMENT STUDIES

The NSWA along with many partners finalized the development of the [Wabamun Lake Watershed Management Plan](#) with a Steering Committee consisting of:

- Local Lake Stewardship groups
- Municipalities
- NSWA
- Alberta Environment and Parks

More information can be found on the [Wabamun Watershed Management Council](#) website.

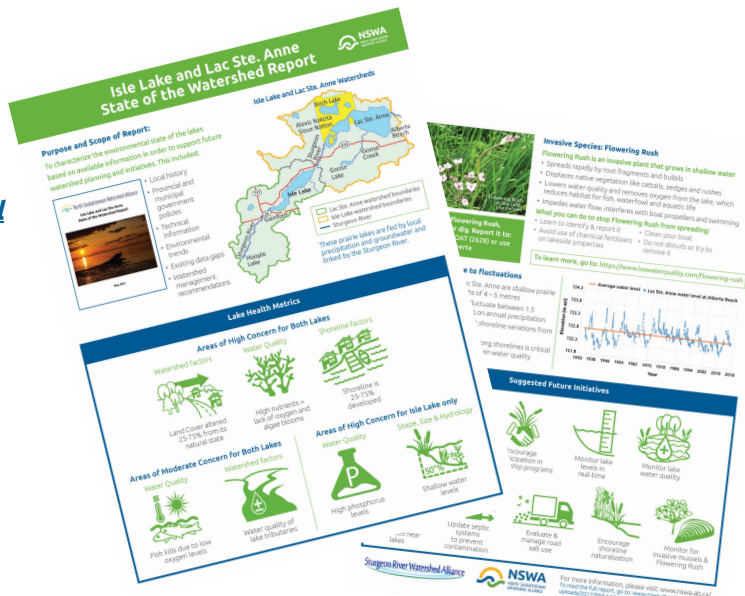


There are over 680 named lakes in the NSR Watershed

LAKE STEWARDSHIP RESOURCES

The NSWA works with Alberta Environment and Parks, ALMS and the Land Stewardship Centre to share lake stewardship information and support.

NSWA has also developed lake watershed report summaries for local watershed stewardship groups to use for their communications and education programs.



NSWA summer staff visited several lakes (Hubbles, Wabamun, Lac Ste Anne) in the summer of 2021, taking water and aquatic plant samples to support ALMS projects

GOAL 2: LEADERSHIP IN WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

The NSWA reviews and prioritizes watershed management projects to maximize partnership opportunities and use of resources. In addition to the three subwatershed Alliances, this includes providing advice on Government of Alberta policy, framework and guidelines projects.

DESIGNATED INDUSTRIAL ZONE PILOT PROJECT



The [Designated Industrial Zone \(DIZ\)](#) in Alberta's Industrial Heartland will establish a best-in-class regulatory framework that will help attract new investment and create good jobs for Albertans while realizing environmental outcomes.

NSWA is participating in two of the five working groups for the DIZ pilot project including:

- Water quality and quantity outcomes
- Cluster infrastructure which includes coordinated wetlands and storm water management programs

The water quality outcomes are linked closely to the work of the [Industrial Heartland/Capital Region Surface Water Quality Working Group](#) that NSWA has been a member of since 2007.

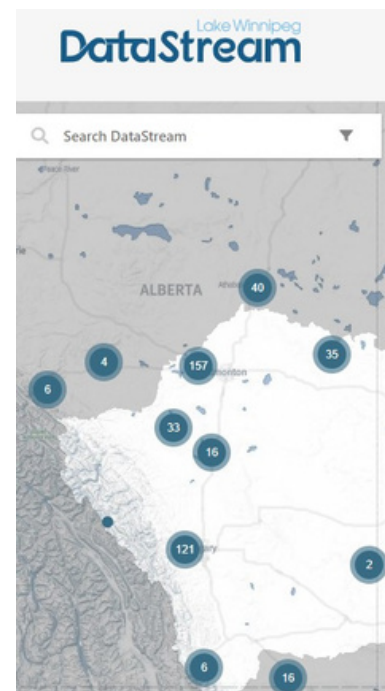
NORTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVER WATERSHED MONITORING PROGRAM

The [WaterSHED Monitoring Program](#) is a unique partnership between:

- *Alberta Environment and Parks*
- *EPCOR*
- *North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance*
- *City of Edmonton*

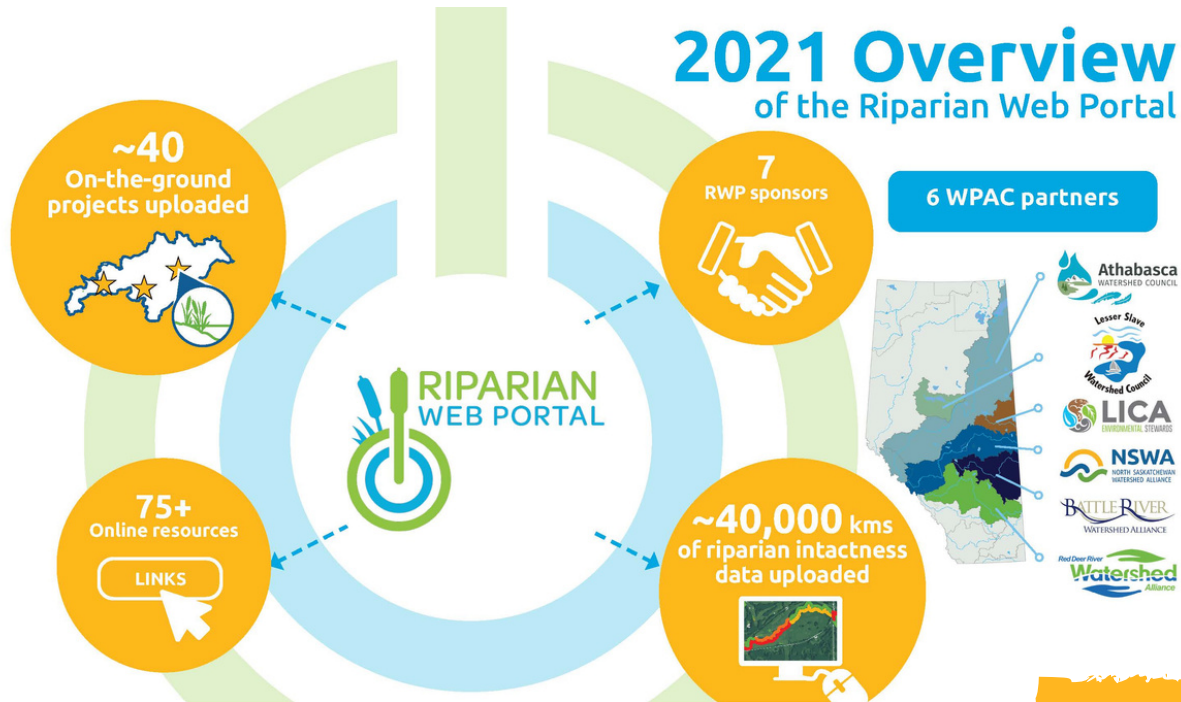
By combining and coordinating resources this collaborative partnership has created the North Saskatchewan River's most comprehensive river monitoring program.

The first [Technical Progress Report](#) for the program was published in 2021. The data from the project is now available publicly on the [DataStream website](#).



Check out the [DAILY PHOTOS](#) from the 19 WaterSHED water quality monitoring stations .

RIPARIAN WEB PORTAL



The [Riparian Web Portal \(RWP\)](#) was officially launched in 2021. This website encourages Albertans to conserve and improve riparian health today for the benefit of future generations. The Riparian Web Portal:

1. Provides access to riparian data and summary tools
2. Shares examples of on-the-ground restoration and conservation projects
3. Provides links to riparian programs and grants and offers recommendations for best management practices.

Exciting News!

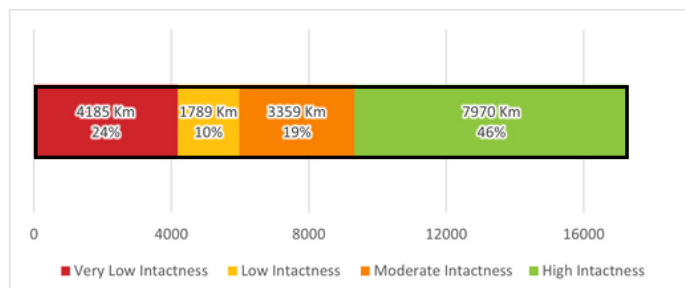
The RWP is a finalist for the 2022 Alberta Emerald Awards!

The NSWA and [Battle River Watershed Alliance](#) developed a workshop series to train “ambassadors” of the Web Portal. As of March 2022, the **workshop series ran 11 times and trained over 250 participants.**

The NSWA and BRWA also developed a **5-part video series on riparian areas**. The videos premiered at the Bailey Theatre in Camrose on April 7, 2022.

EXPANDED RIPARIAN INTACTNESS STUDY

The NSWA received a \$500,000 grant from the [Canadian Agricultural Partnership](#) program to expand the riparian assessment from 3 to 8 of our subwatersheds. This includes over 17,300 km of riparian shoreline assessed and the results reveal that **46% of riparian areas are rated as highly intact.**



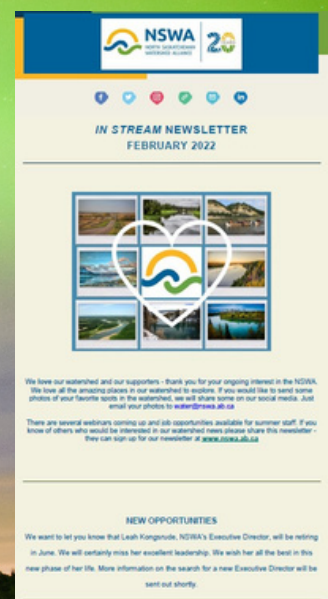
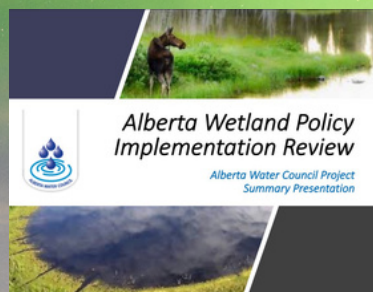
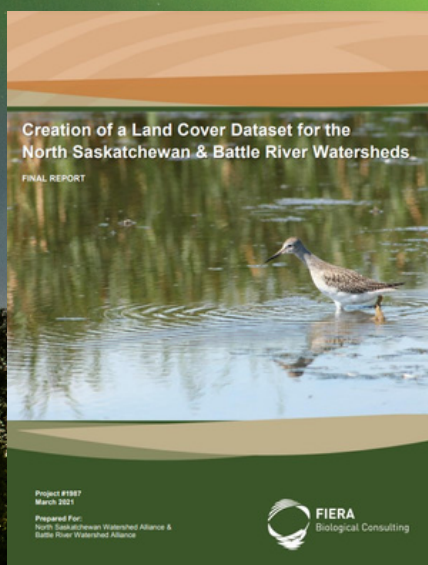
As part of the [NSWA Riparian Conservation and Restoration Strategy](#), a **Riparian Health Goal of 65% High Intactness** was adopted.

RESOURCES

The NSWA has a [Resources](#) web page dedicated to sharing over 60 [technical reports and management plans](#), as well as:

- *Presentations from our [Educational Forums](#) and Annual General Meetings*
- *Past [Newsletters](#)*
- *Maps including the [NSWA Atlas](#)*
- *The [Discovers page](#) which includes [watershed educational resources](#)*

The [Atlas of the North Saskatchewan Watershed](#) contains over 25 maps.



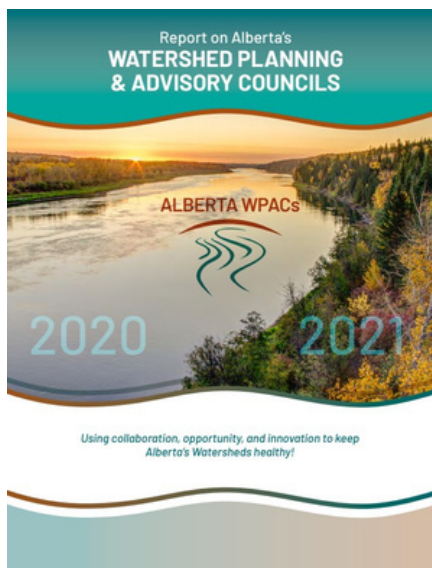
WATERSHED PLANNING AND ADVISORY COUNCILS

The NSWA is one of 11 [Watershed Planning and Advisory Councils \(WPACs\)](#) that work across Alberta to support watershed management guided by the provincial [Water for Life Strategy](#). The WPACs have been working collaboratively on several projects to leverage the strengths and expertise of each of our unique groups.

ANNUAL SUMMARY REPORT

The WPACs create an [Annual Summary Report](#) that highlights our success stories related to our four key roles:

1. Convener and Collaborator
2. Planning and Policy
3. Monitoring and Reporting
4. Education and Outreach



The WPACs also created a [2-page information sheet and brochure](#) on the roles of WPACs in Alberta that complements the Annual Report.

ALBERTA WATERSHEDS VIDEOS

The WPACs are creating a series of five animated videos on Alberta watersheds that is supported by a generous \$75,000 Community Investment Grant from Plains Midstream.

ONLINE WEBINARS

The 11 WPACs collaborated on a lunch hour webinar on [Watershed Planning in Alberta](#) to provide many of our newly elected municipal representatives with information. We had over 50 attendees from across the province.



WORLD WATER DAY 2022

World Water Day is an international day to recognize the importance of water to all species of our planet. The theme designated by the United Nations for this year was [Groundwater: Making the Invisible, Visible.](#)

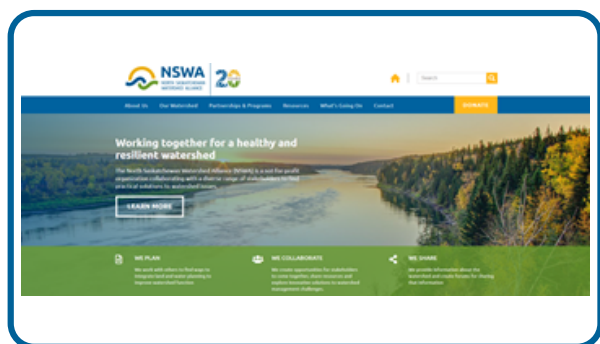
The 11 WPACs planned and coordinated a province-wide event for [World Water Day on March 22, 2022](#) that attracted over 175 participants. The event had three speakers who provided their perspectives on groundwater and water resources from a science, Indigenous and cultural perspective.



GOAL 3: WATERSHED KNOWLEDGE SHARING

The NSWA is a key resource for watershed information on the North Saskatchewan River watershed and focuses its communications efforts on strategic issues with its key stakeholders. We align and compliment the communications efforts of Alberta Environment and Parks, and other watershed organizations to reinforce watershed knowledge and stewardship messages.

NSWA WEBSITE



Events, reports, presentations and other information are on our website www.nswa.ab.ca

MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS

Our **newsletters** keep over 950 **subscribers** informed of watershed news and upcoming events.



2022 NSWA CALENDAR

NSWA published a 2022 calendar with **watershed photos and information**, and distributed it to municipal leaders, MLAs and other partners in the watershed.



SOCIAL MEDIA

Twitter: 2760 followers
Facebook: 997 followers
LinkedIn: 610 connections
Instagram: 550 followers

WATERSHED ADVENTURES

A highlight of our social media feeds were the '**Watershed Adventures**' posts for the 12 subwatersheds in the North Saskatchewan River basin. These posts encouraged people to explore and discover unique features of the entire watershed. These are now featured on our website's subwatershed information pages.



SUMMER STUDENTS

6 ONLINE FORUMS
16 SPEAKERS

300+
Participants

3600 +
Social Media
Followers

2 MONTHS
12 COMMUNITY EVENTS
6 SUMMER VILLAGES
5 SUBWATERSHEDS
5 LAKES
2 STEWARDSHIP GROUPS



1
YOUTUBE CHANNEL
7 PLAYLISTS
23 VIDEOS

12
NEWSLETTERS
950
SUBSCRIBERS



NSWA
NORTH SASKATCHEWAN
WATERSHED ALLIANCE

2021-2022

100 +  **Meetings**
WITH WATERSHED LEADERS

\$260,000 GRANT
FOR 3 YEARS

from Edmonton Community Foundation
to support NSWA Operations and Staff

60 +
Watershed
Reports on
NSWA
Website



1

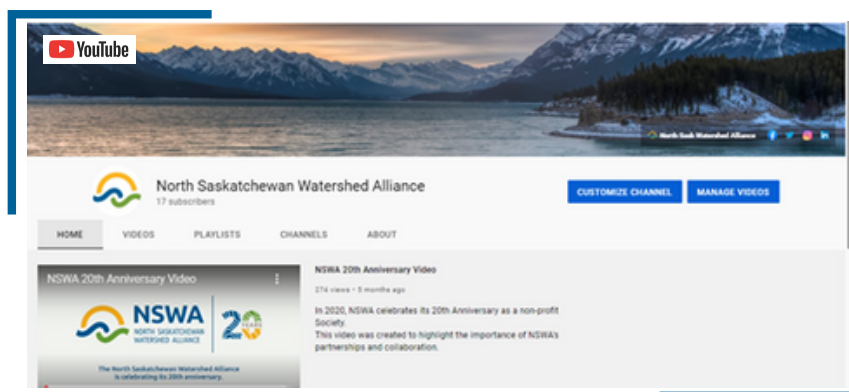
**ALBERTA EMERALD
AWARD**



EDUCATIONAL FORUMS

In 2021-2022 NSWA held several online educational forums

- **Watershed Wednesdays** - a series of five lunch hour webinars held on Wednesdays in October, November, December, February and March had over **325 participants**.
- **WPAC World Water Day event** - March 22, 2022 - **195 people** attended this collaborative province wide online event



NSWA YouTube Channel

You can find recordings of our online forums and our 20th Anniversary video on our [YouTube Channel](#).

Our 23 videos have had over 1300 views to date!

WATERSHED EVENTS

In 2021-2022, with the help of our two summer students, Samantha and Jillian, the NSWA visited Farmers Markets, Family Nature Nights and supported events for our local Watershed Stewardship Groups. They were able to **engaged over 850 people at 16 events** held across the watershed.

The summer students were also able to assist the [Alberta Lake Management Society](#) (ALMS) with weekly water sampling at three lakes in the watershed:

- Lac Ste Anne
- Isle Lake
- Hubbles Lake



NSWA Outreach Tent at Alberta Beach - summer of 2021

ALBERTA WATERSHED VIDEO SERIES

NSWA received a multi-year \$75,000 Community Investment (CARE) grant from [Plains Midstream Canada](#) to create a series of five videos on watersheds in Alberta. The themes of the videos will include topics such as:

- What is a watershed?
- How is water managed in Alberta?
- What can you do to protect and conserve water?



GOAL 4: FUNCTIONAL AND SUSTAINABLE ORGANIZATION

The NSWA is a registered non-profit society guided by an 18-member multi-stakeholder board and currently has five full time staff. We rely on funding from Alberta Environment and Parks, EPCOR and municipal contributions to fund our core operations. Watershed management specific project work is funded through separate federal and provincial grants, and municipal and watershed stewardship group contributions.

BOARD GOVERNANCE

The Board continued to work on key strategic directions of the organization through the work of five standing committees:

- *Executive*
- *Communications and Engagement*
- *Finance*
- *Governance*
- *Strategic Planning and Priorities*

A major accomplishment for the Board was the approval of the 2022-2024 NSWA Strategic Plan which identified three key priorities to address in the next three years.

The Board also updated 15 of their 55 Board policies as part of their annual review.

OPERATIONAL FUNDING

The NSWA receives **core funding** from:

- *An operating grant from the Government of Alberta*
- *A contribution from EPCOR Water Services Canada*
- *Municipal contributions equivalent to \$0.50 per capita*

NSWA STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2022-2024



Focus collaborative efforts on partnerships that can most effectively address the directions and actions of the *Integrated Watershed Management Plan*.

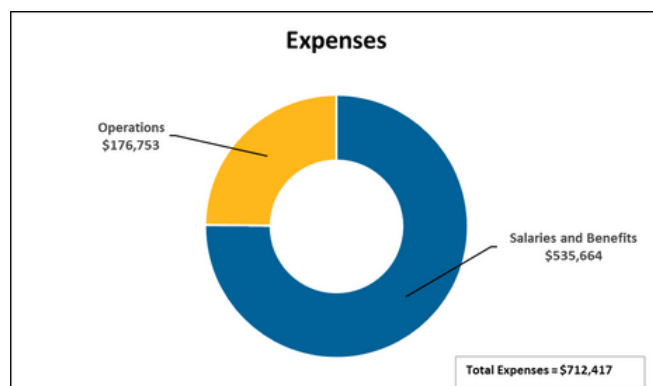
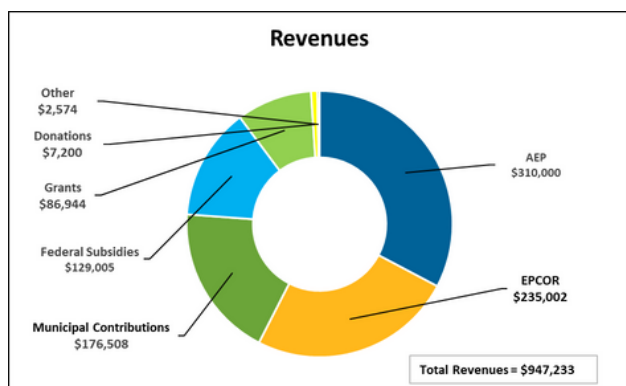


Complete a 2025 State of the Watershed report to provide an update on the watershed health and implementation status of the *Integrated Watershed Management Plan* of the the NSWA.



Focus and align communication efforts on key stakeholders who have the greatest influence on watershed health.

For every \$1.00 NSWA receives in operational funding we have generated over \$3.00 in grant funding.



FUNDING SOURCES

The NSWA applies for grants from **Federal and Provincial government programs** for watershed project specific work such as technical studies and on-the-ground restoration projects. Over **\$3.0 million** worth of grants have been awarded to the NSWA in the last five years.

You can find a full copy of the NSWA 2021-2022 Audited Financial Statement on our website under [Our Society](#)

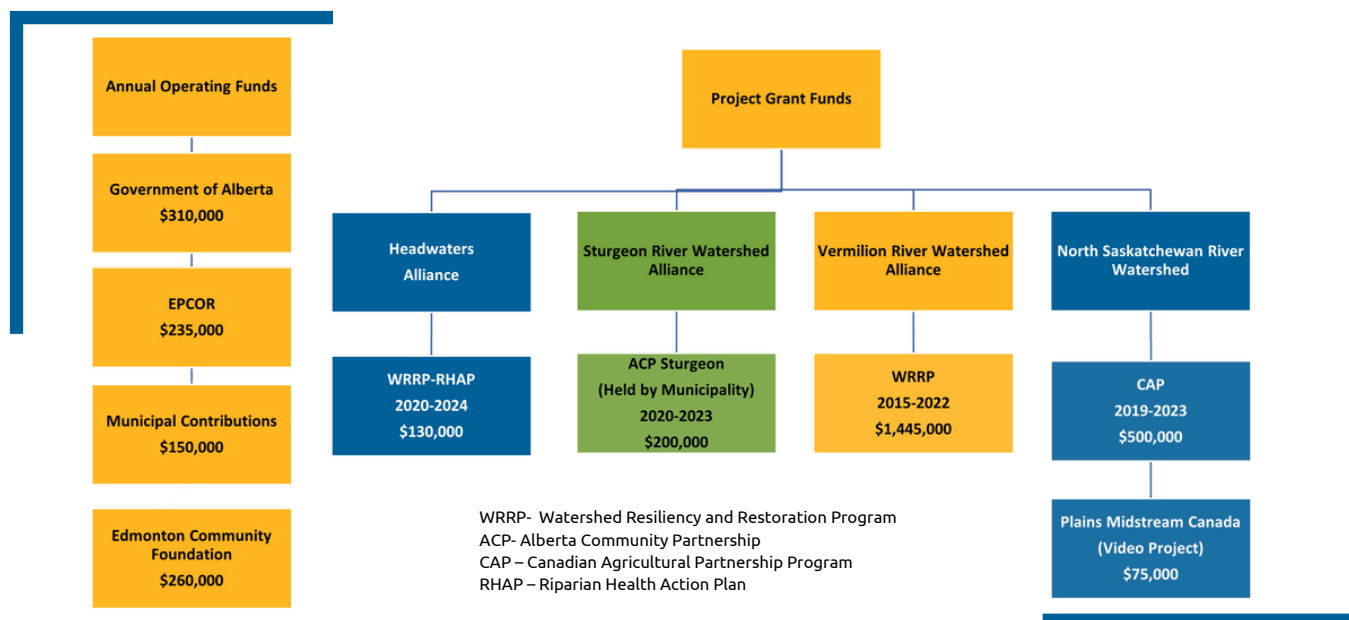


PHOTO CREDITS:

Cover Page: *Sunrise near Waskatenau*, Steve Ricketts, Images Alberta

Page 6: *Hay Bales*, Bill Trout, Images Alberta

Pages 7, 13, 17, 20: *Airscapes*

Page 9, 10: *River Bend*, Bill Trout, Images Alberta

Page 11: *Sturgeon Bridge*, Karen Albert, Images Alberta

Page 12: *Lac Ste Anne sunset*, Bill Trout, Images Alberta

Page 15: *Aurora over Chickakoo*, Bill Trout, Images Alberta

Page 21: *Clifford E. Lee sunset*, Bill Trout, Images Alberta

Back Cover: *Abraham Lake sunset*, Bill Trout, Images Alberta

Other photos: NSWA



OUR MISSION

To protect and improve water quality, water quantity (instream flow) and the health of our watershed by:

- *Seeking, developing and sharing knowledge;*
- *Facilitating partnerships and collaborative planning; and,*
- *Working in an adaptive management process.*

OUR VISION

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

Keep in Touch!

water@nswa.ab.ca

www.nswa.ab.ca

587 525 6820

FACEBOOK: [NorthSaskRiver](#)

LINKEDIN: [North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance](#)

TWITTER: [@NorthSaskRiver](#)

INSTAGRAM: [@north_sask_river](#)

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN WATERSHED ALLIANCE
Financial Statements
Year Ended March 31, 2022

Index to Financial Statements

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (the society), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2022, and the statements of revenues and expenditures, changes in fund balances and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the society as at March 31, 2022, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNPO)

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the society in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with ASNPO, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the society or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the society's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

(continues)

**Operates through Cheng S. Lim Professional Corporation.*

Suite 101, 14805 - 119 Avenue NW Edmonton, AB T5L 2N9 P. 780.484.8803 F. 780.761.0688 E. info@limcpas.com

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (*continued*)

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the society's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the society's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the society to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Lim & Associates

Edmonton , AB
May 20, 2022

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN WATERSHED ALLIANCE

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures

Year Ended March 31, 2022

	WRRP - Vermilion	Canadian Agricultural Partnership	Riparian Health Action Plan	Alberta Community Partnership & Riparian Web Portal	Educational Videos for All	General Fund	Reserve Fund	2022	2021
<i>Schedule 1</i>									
REVENUES									
Contributions - municipal funding	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,621	\$ -	\$ 405,253	\$ -	\$ 424,874	\$ 441,630
Contributions - grants	64,223	164,911	31,878	-	-	396,944	-	657,956	604,131
Contributions - In kind (<i>Note 10</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	477,906	-	477,906	449,155
Donations	-	-	-	-	6,099	7,187	-	13,286	848
Interest income	108	330	150	79	61	1,987	-	2,715	6,215
Publication sales	-	-	-	-	-	586	-	586	1,276
Reimbursements	-	-	-	27,500	-	-	-	27,500	9,418
	64,331	165,241	32,028	47,200	6,160	1,289,863	-	1,604,823	1,512,673
EXPENSES									
Accounting and legal fees	-	-	-	-	-	60,070	-	60,070	51,137
Amortization	-	-	-	-	-	12,560	-	12,560	1,907
Communications and promotions	6,659	783	236	-	5,044	5,457	-	18,179	12,931
Fieldwork and assessment	-	-	-	-	-	225	-	225	25,913
In-kind expenses (<i>Note 10</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	477,906	-	477,906	449,155
Insurance	-	-	-	-	-	5,782	-	5,782	4,285
Meetings and conventions	106	-	-	-	-	169	-	275	428
Office expenses	-	205	-	94	-	26,853	-	27,152	29,010
Promotional publications	-	-	-	-	-	3,131	-	3,131	27,087
Rent and utilities	-	-	-	-	-	38,512	-	38,512	34,734
Restoration work	55,540	-	-	-	-	209	-	55,749	6,820
Salaries and benefits	465	80,133	18,792	4,706	1,116	535,664	-	640,876	520,156
Technical and consulting fees	-	84,120	13,000	22,700	-	9,488	-	129,308	186,937
Telephone and internet	-	-	-	-	-	7,151	-	7,151	7,012
Travel and accommodation	330	-	-	-	-	3,320	-	3,650	3,207
Website costs	2,000	-	-	19,700	-	3,538	-	25,238	48,518
	65,100	165,241	32,028	47,200	6,160	1,190,035	-	1,505,764	1,409,237
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS	(769)	-	-	-	-	99,828	-	99,059	103,436
OTHER INCOME									
Canada Emergency Wage and Rent Subsidy	-	-	-	-	-	129,013	-	129,013	178,662
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ (769)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 228,841	\$ -	\$ 228,072	\$ 282,098

See notes to financial statements

Lim & Associates, Chartered Professional Accountants

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN WATERSHED ALLIANCE

Statement of Changes in Fund Balances

Year Ended March 31, 2022

	WRRP - Vermilion	Canadian Agricultural Partnership	Riparian Health Action Plan	Alberta Community Partnership & Riparian Web Portal	Educational Videos for All	General Fund	Reserve Fund	2022 Total	2021 Total
FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 628,973	\$ 280,000	\$ 908,973	\$ 626,875
Excess of revenues over expenses	(769)	-	-	-	-	228,841	-	228,072	282,098
Interfund transfer	769	-	-	-	-	(325,769)	325,000	-	-
FUND BALANCES - END OF YEAR	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 532,045	\$ 605,000	\$ 1,137,045	\$ 908,973

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN WATERSHED ALLIANCE

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2022

	WRRP - Vermilion	Canadian Agricultural Partnership	Riparian Health Action Plan	Alberta Community Partnership & Riparian Web Portal	Educational Videos for All	General Fund	Reserve Fund	2022	2021
ASSETS									
CURRENT									
Cash	\$ -	\$ 85,913	\$ 66,864	\$ 44,808	\$ 43,910	\$ 600,882	\$ -	\$ 842,377	\$ 1,081,483
Short term investments (Notes 3, 8)	-	-	-	-	-	-	605,000	605,000	280,000
Contributions receivable	-	-	-	-	-	82,280	-	82,280	240,299
GST rebates receivable	-	-	-	-	-	3,945	-	3,945	4,530
Interest receivable	-	-	-	-	-	436	-	436	377
Prepaid expenses	-	-	-	-	-	2,919	-	2,919	2,919
Interfund receivable	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	894
	-	85,913	66,864	44,808	43,910	690,462	605,000	1,536,957	1,610,502
CAPITAL ASSETS (Note 4)	-	-	-	-	-	34,755	-	34,755	6,898
	\$ -	\$ 85,913	\$ 66,864	\$ 44,808	\$ 43,910	\$ 725,217	\$ 605,000	\$ 1,571,712	\$ 1,617,400
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES									
CURRENT									
Accounts payable	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41,643	\$ -	\$ 41,643	\$ 67,550
Fund held in trust - CWRA	-	-	-	-	-	6,054	-	6,054	11,054
Employee deductions payable	-	-	-	-	-	13,094	-	13,094	13,579
Deferred contributions (Note 6)	-	85,913	66,864	44,808	43,910	132,381	-	373,876	615,350
Interfund payable	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	894
	-	85,913	66,864	44,808	43,910	193,172	-	434,667	708,427
FUND BALANCES	-	-	-	-	-	532,045	605,000	1,137,045	908,973
	\$ -	\$ 85,913	\$ 66,864	\$ 44,808	\$ 43,910	\$ 725,217	\$ 605,000	\$ 1,571,712	\$ 1,617,400


LEASE COMMITMENTS (Note 9)

SUBSEQUENT EVENT (Note 12)

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

DocuSigned by:

President

DocuSigned by:

Treasurer

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN WATERSHED ALLIANCE**Statement of Cash Flows****Year Ended March 31, 2022**

	2022	2021
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 228,072	\$ 282,098
Item not affecting cash:		
Amortization of capital assets	12,560	1,907
	<u>240,632</u>	<u>284,005</u>
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Contributions receivable	158,019	(127,430)
GST rebates receivable	585	(4,530)
Inventory	-	26,346
Interest receivable	(59)	1,009
Accounts payable	(25,908)	19,342
Fund held in trust - CWRA	(5,000)	-
Employee deductions payable	(485)	750
Deferred contributions	(241,476)	(235,600)
	<u>(114,324)</u>	<u>(320,113)</u>
Cash flow from (used by) operating activities	<u>126,308</u>	<u>(36,108)</u>
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of capital assets	(40,415)	-
Proceeds on disposal of short term investments	280,000	280,000
Purchase of short term investments	(605,000)	(280,000)
Cash flow from (used by) investing activities	<u>(365,415)</u>	<u>-</u>
DECREASE IN CASH FLOW	(239,107)	(36,108)
Cash - beginning of year	<u>1,081,484</u>	<u>1,117,592</u>
CASH - END OF YEAR	\$ 842,377	\$ 1,081,484

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN WATERSHED ALLIANCE

Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2022

1. PURPOSE OF THE SOCIETY

North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (the "society") is a not-for-profit society, incorporated in 2000 under the Societies Act of Alberta and registered as a charity on September 11, 2015 under the Income Tax Act. As a registered charity the society is exempt from the payment of income tax under Subsection 149(1) of the Income Tax Act.

The society operates to protect and improve water quality and ecosystem functioning in the North Saskatchewan River Watershed within Alberta. The society is governed and guided by the Board of Directors elected by members within the watershed. The day-to-day operations are run by the Executive Director and staff.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of presentation

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNFPPO).

Fund accounting

North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions.

The General Fund accounts for the society's operating and administrative activities and surplus or deficiency of revenues over expenditures from any completed project(s). This fund reports contributions for general purposes.

All other funds are externally restricted for the activities that are indicated by the fund description.

The Restricted Fund is internally restricted for the purposes described in Note 7.

The society may refund the Restricted Funds surplus from completed projects to the funder(s) at the end of the grant agreements.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are comprised of cash on hand and bank balances, net of cheques issued and outstanding at the reporting date.

Short term investments

Short term investments are comprised of guaranteed investment certificates with maturity dates of less than one year.

Capital assets

Capital assets are stated at cost or deemed cost less accumulated amortization and are amortized over their estimated useful lives on a declining balance basis at the following rates and methods:

Computer equipment	55% declining balance method
Furniture and fixtures	20% declining balance method

(continues)

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN WATERSHED ALLIANCE

Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2022

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(continued)*

The society regularly reviews its capital assets to eliminate obsolete items. Government grants are treated as a reduction of capital assets cost.

Capital assets acquired during the year but not placed into use are not amortized until they are placed into use.

On July 1, 2019 the society adopted the new accounting standard ASNPO 4433 - Tangible capital assets held by not-for-profit organizations. This standard is applied on a prospective basis. As a result of the implementation of this new standard, the society has updated their policy as it relates to the impairment of tangible capital assets as follows:

When conditions indicate a tangible capital asset is impaired, the carrying value of the tangible capital asset is written down to the asset's fair value or replacement cost. The write down of the tangible capital assets is recorded as an expense in the statement of operations. A write-down shall not be reversed.

Revenue recognition

North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions.

Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Restricted investment income is recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted investment income is recognized as revenue when earned.

The society recognizes revenues when they are earned, specifically when all the following conditions are met:

- services are provided or products are delivered to customers
- there is clear evidence that an arrangement exists
- amounts are fixed or can be determined
- the ability to collect is reasonably assured.

Donated services and materials

Volunteers contribute time each year to aid the Society in carrying out its service delivery activities. Because of the difficulty in determining the fair value of contributed services and meetings, the financial value of contributed services and meetings are recognized as an estimation in the financial statements.

Contributions in-kind are recognized only to the extent that they would have been purchased in the normal course of operations and their fair value is reasonably determinable. The continued operation of the organization is depending on the continued support of members, volunteers and board of directors.

(continues)

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN WATERSHED ALLIANCE

Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2022

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(continued)*

Financial instruments

Measurement of Financial Instrument

Financial instruments are financial assets or liabilities of the Society where, in general, the Society has the right to receive cash or another financial asset from another party or the Society has the obligation to pay another party cash or other financial assets.

The society initially measures its financial assets and liabilities at fair value.

The society subsequently measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash, short term investments, and accounts receivable.

Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

Impairment

Financial assets measured at cost or amortized cost are tested for impairment, at the end of each year, to determine whether there are indicators that the asset may be impaired. The amount of the write-down, if any, is recognized in operations. The previously recognized impairment loss may be reversed to the extent of the improvement, directly or by adjusting the allowance account. The reversal may be recorded provided it is no greater than the amount that had been previously reported as a reduction in the asset and it does not exceed original cost. The amount of the reversal is recognized in operations.

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. Such estimates are periodically reviewed and any adjustments necessary are reported in earnings in the period in which they become known. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

3. SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Non-redeemable guaranteed investment certificates bearing interest from 0.50% per annum to 0.75% per annum maturing between September 2022 and March 2023.	\$ 605,000	\$ -
Non-redeemable guaranteed investment certificates bearing interest from 0.50% per annum to 0.70% per annum maturing between May 2021 and March 2022.	-	280,000
	<u>\$ 605,000</u>	<u>\$ 280,000</u>

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN WATERSHED ALLIANCE

Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2022

4. CAPITAL ASSETS

	Cost	Accumulated amortization	2022 Net book value	2021 Net book value
Computer equipment	\$ 48,489	\$ 19,103	\$ 29,386	\$ 188
Furniture and fixtures	21,573	16,205	5,368	6,710
	\$ 70,062	\$ 35,308	\$ 34,754	\$ 6,898

5. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE OF GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

The society receives substantial revenues from the Government of Alberta and the City of Edmonton and is financially dependent on the governments for funding.

	Abbreviation	Project fundings	Start Date	End Date
Alberta Environment and Parks	General Fund	310,000	01/04/2021	31/03/2022
EPCOR	General Fund	235,000	01/04/2021	31/03/2022
Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program - Vermilion	WRRP-Vermilion	1,445,000	01/04/2015	31/03/2022
Canadian Agricultural Partnership Environmental Stewardship and Climate Change Group Program Grant	CAP	500,000	31/01/2019	31/12/2022
Riparian Health Action Plan	RHAP	130,000	01/04/2019	31/03/2024
Total		\$ 2,620,000		

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN WATERSHED ALLIANCE

Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2022

6. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS

Deferred contributions represent unspent externally restricted contributions for the projects and unrestricted contributions for the NSWA's operations. The changes in the deferred contributions balances are summarized for 2021 - 2022 as follows:

	20-21 Deferred Revenue	21-22 Revenue Collected	21-22 Revenue Recognized	21-22 Deferred Revenue
EPCOR	-	\$ 235,000	\$ (235,000)	-
Municipal contributions	126,124	176,508	(170,251)	132,381
Canadian Agricultural Partnership	250,824	330	(165,241)	85,913
Riparian Health Action Plan	98,742	150	(32,028)	66,864
WRRP - Vermilion	64,223	108	(64,331)	-
Alberta Community Partnership	-	27,501	(27,501)	-
Riparian Web-Portal	50,429	14,078	(19,698)	44,809
Educational Videos for All	25,008	25,061	(6,160)	43,909
Total	\$ 615,350	\$ 478,736	\$ (720,210)	\$ 373,876

7. CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MAJOR SOURCES

Contributions from major sources recognized as revenues are as follow:

	2022	2021
Restricted funds		
Canadian Agricultural Partnership	165,241	207,144
WRRP - Vermilion	64,331	63,483
Riparian Health Action Plan	32,028	16,358
Riparian Web-Portal	19,698	13,074
Educational Videos for All	6,160	-
Restricted funds	287,458	300,059
General funds		
Alberta Environment and Parks	310,000	310,000
EPCOR	235,000	235,000
Municipal contributions	170,251	186,059
Edmonton Community Foundation	77,600	-
Watershed Stewardship Groups	-	7,500
General funds	792,851	738,559
Total contributions from major sources	\$ 1,080,309	\$ 1,038,618

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN WATERSHED ALLIANCE

Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2022

8. RESERVE FUND

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Operating Reserve Fund	\$ 400,000	\$ 100,000
Society Dissolution Reserve Fund	<u>205,000</u>	<u>180,000</u>
	<u>\$ 605,000</u>	<u>\$ 280,000</u>

The Operating Reserve Fund is internally restricted and designated by the Board for costs associated with managing annual operating budget surpluses and deficits and providing funding to support special projects or new opportunity initiatives.

The Society Dissolution Reserve Fund is internally restricted and designated by the Board for costs associated with winding down if the society is dissolved or emergencies.

9. LEASE COMMITMENTS

The society has long term leases with respect to its rent premises and computer equipment. The premises lease contains renewal options and provides for payment of utilities, property taxes and maintenance costs. Future minimum lease payments as at March 31, 2022, are as follows:

	<u>Premises</u>	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Total</u>
2023	\$ 38,972	\$ 6,487	\$ 45,459
2024	37,722	6,487	44,209
2025	37,722	6,487	44,209
2026	<u>31,435</u>	<u>3,220</u>	<u>34,655</u>
	<u>\$ 145,851</u>	<u>\$ 22,681</u>	<u>\$ 168,532</u>

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN WATERSHED ALLIANCE

Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2022

10. CONTRIBUTED SERVICES IN-KIND

The EPCOR provided the in-kind contribution of staff time, developing and monitoring activities.

During the year, the society held numerous Board meetings and Steering Committee meetings on various projects. Contributed services by EPCOR are valued based on an average cost of \$85.00 per hour times meeting and preparation time in hours. The average cost of \$85.00 per hour is agreed upon and approved by the society and EPCOR.

	2022	2021
EPCOR	274,932	265,677
	274,932	265,677
Riparian Health Action Plan	60,690	25,734
Board meetings - NSWA	56,482	51,892
Vermilion River Watershed Management Project	30,977	33,432
Sturgeon River Watershed SC and TAC	21,165	25,670
Headwaters Alliance	13,430	23,630
Watershed Videos	13,324	-
Lake Watershed Stewardship Groups	5,419	21,590
Communication	1,487	1,530
	202,974	183,478
Total contributed services In-Kind	\$ 477,906	\$ 449,155

11. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The society is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments and has a comprehensive risk management framework to monitor, evaluate and manage these risks. The following analysis provides information about the society's risk exposure and concentration as of March 31, 2022.

(a) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. Cash and short term investments are in place with major financial institution. Accounts receivable consists of receivable from municipalities and accrued interest on investments. The society does not believe it is subject to any significant concentration of credit risk.

(b) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The society is exposed to this risk mainly in respect of its receipt of funds from its members and other related sources, long-term debt and accounts payable. It is the society's opinion that there is no significant liquidity risk as of March 31, 2022.

(c) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument might be adversely affected by a change in the interest rates. In seeking to minimize the risks from interest rate fluctuations, the Program manages exposure through its normal operating activities. The society is exposed to interest rate risk primarily through its floating interest bearing assets. The society minimizes the risk by investing in guaranteed investment certificates bearing interest from 0.50% to 0.75% per annum. The guaranteed investment certificates are in place with a major financial institution.

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN WATERSHED ALLIANCE

Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2022

12. SUBSEQUENT EVENT

Subsequent to year end, the society received a one-time grant payment of \$109,000 from Alberta Environment and Parks for Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program - Building Capacity for Wetland Conservation and Restoration in the North Saskatchewan River Watershed (the project). The project shall commence March 31, 2022, and be completed on or before March 31, 2026. There was no expense incurred for the project before year end.

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN WATERSHED ALLIANCE
Alberta Community Partnership and Riparian Web Portal **(Schedule 1)**
Year Ended March 31, 2022

	Alberta Community Partnership	Riparian Web Portal	2022	2021
REVENUES				
Contributions - municipal funding	\$ -	\$ 19,621	\$ 19,621	\$ 13,071
Interest income	-	79	79	3
Reimbursements	27,500	-	27,500	9,418
	27,500	19,700	47,200	22,492
EXPENDITURES				
Communications and promotions	-	-	-	5,366
Office expenses	94	-	94	-
Salaries and benefits	4,706	-	4,706	377
Technical and consulting fees	22,700	-	22,700	14,499
Website costs	-	19,700	19,700	2,250
	27,500	19,700	47,200	22,492
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -



ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN AND BUDGET

2022-2023

May 2022

Acronyms

ACP	Alberta Community Partnership (grant)
AEP	Alberta Environment and Parks
AGM	Annual General Meeting
ALMS	Alberta Lake Management Society
ALUS	Alternative Land Use Services (non-profit organization)
AUMA	Alberta Urban Municipalities Association
AWC	Alberta Water Council
CAP	Canadian Alberta Partnership (program and grant)
DIZ	Designated Industrial Zone
EMRB	Edmonton Metro Region Board
GOA	Government of Alberta
HA	Headwaters Alliance
IHCRWQF	Industrial Heartland Capital Region Water Quality Framework
IWMP	Integrated Watershed Management Plan
LSC	Land Stewardship Centre (non-profit organization)
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NSR	North Saskatchewan River
NSWA	North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance
RMA	Rural Municipalities Association (Alberta)
SC	Steering Committee
SOW	State of the Watershed
SRWA	Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
UoA	University of Alberta
VRWA	Vermilion River Watershed Alliance
WQM	Water Quality Monitoring
WMP	Water Management Plan
WPAC	Watershed Planning and Advisory Council
WSG	Watershed Stewardship Group
WRRP	Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program (grant)

About NSWA

The North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) is a multi-stakeholder watershed protection partnership formed in 1997, incorporated as a non-profit society in 2000 and designated as a Water Planning and Advisory Council (WPAC) by the Government of Alberta (GoA) in 2005. The NSWA was granted charitable status in 2016.

The NSWA provides a forum to recognize and address issues affecting the North Saskatchewan River (NSR) watershed in Alberta. It encourages and facilitates collaborative partnerships, watershed studies and watershed knowledge sharing.

The NSWA is comprised of both individual and organizational members including:

- Municipal, provincial, and federal governments
- First Nations and Metis organizations
- Industry and utility corporations
- Agricultural and drainage associations
- Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
- Educational and research institutions
- Members at large

The NSWA has a broad and diverse membership of about 150 individual members and the 50 sectoral organizations including over 30 rural and urban municipalities. The organizational structure of the NSWA includes the general membership, a Board of Directors, Board Committees, the Executive Director, and staff.

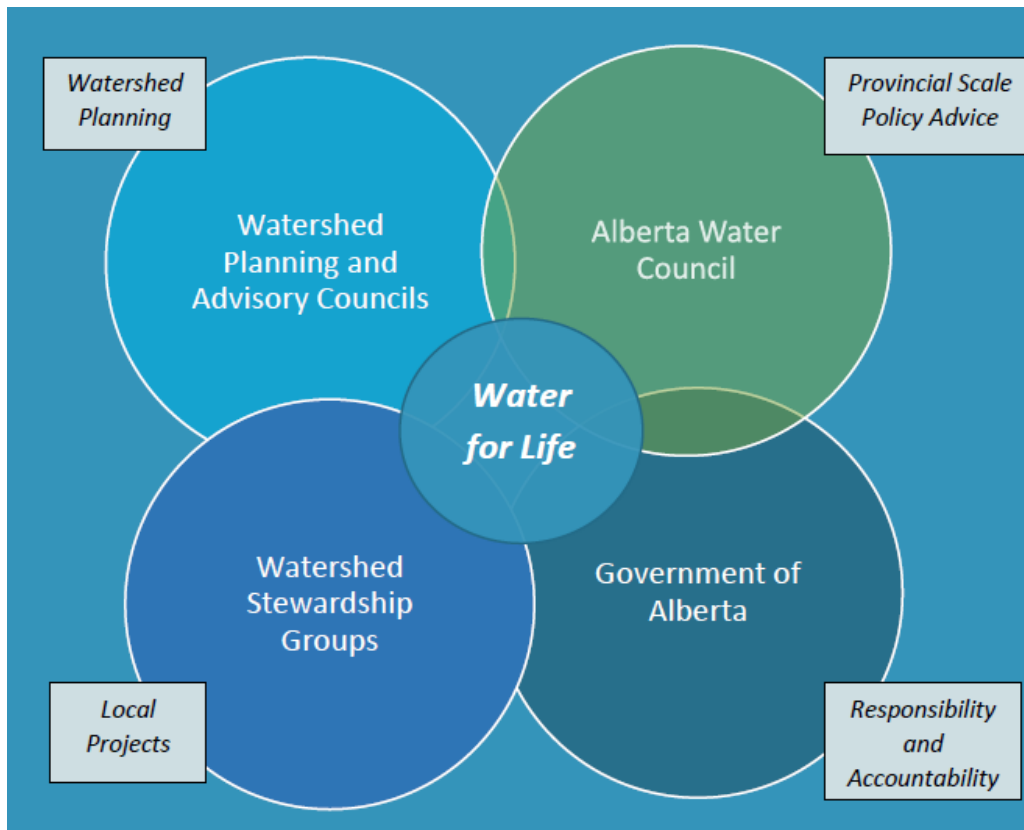


In 2005, the NSWA was appointed by the Government of Alberta as the Watershed Planning and Advisory Council (WPAC) for the North Saskatchewan River watershed under the [Water for Life: Alberta's Strategy for Sustainability \(2003\)](#). The three goals of the Water for Life Strategy are:

1. Safe, secure drinking water supply
2. Healthy aquatic ecosystems
3. Reliable, quality water supplies for a sustainable economy

The NSWA is an independent, non-profit organization that is designated by Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) to report on the health of the watershed, lead collaborative planning, and facilitate education and stewardship activities.

As one of the partnerships under the Water for Life Strategy, the NSWA works closely with the other groups including the Government of Alberta (GoA), Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP), the Alberta Water Council (AWC), the 10 other WPACs and Watershed Stewardship Groups (WSG).



NSWA 3-Year Strategic Plan 2022-2024

To achieve the NSWA's Vision and Mission the Board regularly updates a strategic plan which includes Goals, Priorities and Actions. The Goals of the NSWA are:

Goal 1: *The NSWA supports Collaborative Watershed Planning*

Goal 2: *The NSWA provides Leadership in Watershed Management*

Goal 3: *The NSWA promotes Watershed Knowledge Sharing*

Goal 4: *The NSWA remains a Functional and Sustainable Organization*

The NSWA Board set three strategic priorities in January 2022 to advance the organization towards our vision and mission and desired outcomes. These are summarized in the following tables along with specific activities or projects related to the workplan for 2022-2023.

NSWA STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2022-2024



Focus collaborative efforts on partnerships that can most effectively address the directions and actions of the *Integrated Watershed Management Plan*.



Complete a 2025 State of the Watershed report to provide an update on the watershed health and implementation status of the *Integrated Watershed Management Plan* of the the NSWA.



Focus and align communication efforts on key stakeholders who have the greatest influence on watershed health.

NSWA Annual Operating Plan 2022-2023

This workplan provides the basis for the NSWA's 2022-2023 budget and allocating staff and financial resources for the next year. The NSWA is an adaptable organization and recognizes that this workplan may evolve as opportunities or challenges present themselves throughout the year.

Goal 1: *The NSWA supports Collaborative Watershed Planning*

PRIORITY: *Focus collaborative efforts on partnerships that can most effectively address the directions and actions of the Integrated Watershed Management Plan.*

Collaborative partnerships are the core to successful watershed planning for the NSWA. For the next three years we will be focusing our efforts on partnerships that address the directions and actions of the IWMP including water quality, water quantity, aquatic health and land use.

NSWA participates in or provides input for many provincial and partner committees to advance watershed planning actions as outlined in the IWMP including:

- [North Saskatchewan Regional Plan: Surface Water Quality Framework](#)
- Alberta Water Council projects including the [Water for Life Action Plan Update](#)
- [WaterSHED Water Quality Monitoring Project](#)
- [Modeste Natural Infrastructure Project](#)
- Work with [ALUS Canada](#), [Cows and Fish](#) and AEP on the [Riparian Web Portal](#)
- Many local ALUS Partnership Advisory Committees (PAC) including [Brazeau](#), [Lac Ste Anne](#), [Parkland](#), [Sturgeon](#), [Two Hills](#), [Vermilion River](#) and [Wetaskiwin-Leduc](#)

Our three sub-watershed partnerships specifically allow us to study and address local watershed issues with local solutions:

- [Headwaters Alliance](#)
- [Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance](#)
- [Vermillion River Watershed Alliance](#)

We are also working on pressing lake issues with the [Wabamun Lake Watershed Management Plan](#) Implementation Committee, [Alberta Lake Management Society](#) and local Watershed Stewardship Groups (WSGs).

May 1, 2022

North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance

OPERATING PLAN AND BUDGET 2022-23

Objectives	Actions
Work with provincial, regional, and municipal levels of government on water and land use focused projects.	NSWA provides advice to the GoA on water management plans, regional planning, and government policy such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Saskatchewan Regional Surface Water Quality Framework. • Industrial Heartland/Capital Region Water Quality Framework. • Designated Industrial Zone Project (DIZ)
	Work with EMRB , RMA and AUMA to investigate potential for municipal policy alignment projects on watershed protection.
	Work with Alberta Water Council , other WPACs and AEP on the update of the Water for Life Action Plan and other projects.
Partner with industry/utilities on watershed projects.	Participate in WaterSHED Long Term Water Quality Project with EPCOR, AEP, and the City of Edmonton.
Support academia on research related to the NSR watershed.	Support academic research projects related to watershed health of the NSR such as the University of Guelph/ALUS Natural Infrastructure Project .
Work with NGO and WSG partners to promote on the ground actions related to NSWA Integrated Watershed Management Plan (IWMP), strategies and subwatershed priorities.	Continue to work with NGOs such as ALUS , Cows and Fish , AWES and others on the implementation of Riparian Conservation and Restoration Strategy .
	Provide information via the Riparian Web Portal to NGOs to encourage on the ground projects.
	Work with NGOs on the development of new Wetland Strategy including promotion of on the ground restoration projects on wetlands.
	Work with NGOs such as ALUS, Ducks Unlimited and Edmonton Area Land Trust to promote the conservation of riparian areas and wetlands.
	Support the volunteer work of Watershed Stewardship Groups in using the resources from the Riparian and Wetland Strategies.
	Leverage work of Alberta Lake Management Society and the Land Stewardship Centre to support landowner and WSG projects.
Facilitate and support subwatershed alliances to address directions and actions of the IWMP.	Support and facilitate the development of the Headwaters sub-watershed group to encourage watershed planning at a local scale.
	Complete deliverables for the Riparian Health Action Plan Watershed Restoration and Resiliency Program (WRRP) grant (\$130,000) by December 2024 including literature review, setback calculator, policy alignment and riparian web portal.
	Support and facilitate the development of the Sturgeon River sub-watershed group to encourage watershed planning at a local scale.
	Complete deliverables for the Sturgeon River Watershed Priority Implementation Projects Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) grant (\$200,000) by December 2023 including wetland strategy, overlay maps, policy alignment and communications plan.
	Support and facilitate the development of the Vermilion River sub-watershed group to encourage watershed planning at a local scale.
	Facilitate Vermilion River Watershed Alliance on prioritizing next priority action items from to advance Vermilion River Watershed Management Plan and apply for grants if needed.
	Support and facilitate the development of other sub-watershed groups such as Beaverhill and White Earth .

Goal 2: The NSWA provides Leadership in Watershed Management

PRIORITY: Complete a 2025 State of the Watershed Report to provide an update on the watershed health and implementation of the Integrated Watershed Management Plan of the North Saskatchewan River Watershed.

The foundational watershed planning documents of the NSWA are the [State of the Watershed Report](#) (2005) and the [Integrated Watershed Management Plan](#) (2012). The NSWA has used the recommendations for these reports to guide our watershed planning work for the last decade.

The Board has given direction to do a 20-year review of the State of the North Saskatchewan River Watershed, assess the progress we have made on the IWMP and challenges the watershed could be facing in the future. This project will take 2-3 years to complete and will include engagement with our key stakeholders including the board members and sectors and indigenous communities.

NSWA will also continue work on basin wide watershed planning through its subwatershed alliances and riparian and wetland strategies.

Objectives	Actions
Complete an updated State of the Watershed report.	Meet with key stakeholders including AEP and board members to discuss the scope and details of the update.
	Review watershed health data available and select a suite of high integrity, long-term indicators for update.
	Develop an online based GIS Story Map to host update of State of the Watershed information.
	Meet with key stakeholders at key milestones to gather feedback and input.
Provide a status update of the Integrated Watershed Management Plan .	Review five goals, 20 watershed management directions, and 51 actions of the IWMP and report on progress.
Continue to work on recommendations of Riparian Conservation and Restoration Strategy .	Increase public awareness via education and outreach.
	Provide greater support to private stewardship initiatives.
	Facilitate policy alignment and integrated water and land use policy.
	Advocate for restoration efforts on publicly owned lands.
	Promote research and knowledge building.
Develop inventory and education programs as part of the NSWA Wetland Strategy .	Use updated landcover data to develop a wetland inventory.
	Enhance the capacity to implement a provincial wetland replacement program.
	Host educational forum on wetlands.

Goal 3: The NSWA promotes Watershed Knowledge Sharing

PRIORITY: Focus and align communication efforts on key stakeholders who have the greatest influence on watershed health.

The NSWA is a key resource for watershed information on the North Saskatchewan watershed and focuses its communication efforts on strategic issues with its key stakeholders. We align and complement the communication efforts of AEP, NGOs and other organizations to reinforce watershed knowledge and stewardship messages.

Objectives	Actions
NSWA Communications and Engagement Plan focuses efforts on key stakeholders.	Work with Communications and Engagement Committee to update Communication and Engagement Plan annually.
Information sharing is aligned between Water for Life Partners including AEP, Alberta Water Council, other WPACs and WSGs.	<p>NSWA works with Government of Alberta departments that promote issues related to watershed health, such as Water for Life, Water Literacy and Respect our Lakes programs.</p> <p>NSWA participates with Alberta Water Council on provincial wide watershed studies and projects.</p> <p>Support WPAC Education/Outreach staff meetings which focus on shared communications such as WPAC annual summary.</p> <p>Support watershed stewardship groups with communications and on the ground efforts.</p>
Watershed related communications resources are leveraged from NGOs.	Promote NGO resources related to watershed health programs, such as Land Stewardship Center, Alberta Lake Management Society, ALUS Canada, Cows and Fish, Ducks Unlimited and others
Promote the NSWA and watershed resources through multiple communications mediums.	<p>Promote and optimize the use of the NSWA website for sharing information on the North Saskatchewan Watershed.</p> <p>Provide information on NSWA and partners activities, reports, events, and milestones through emailed newsletter.</p> <p>Organize Educational Forums to highlight work of NSWA and partners to membership and others.</p> <p>Use printed materials such as the Living in the Shed and NSWA Calendar to promote NSWA's mission and vision.</p> <p>Provide timely updates and reminders through Social Media channels.</p> <p>Use the NSWA Annual Report to summarize work and accomplishments of organization and partners.</p> <p>Utilize Summer Students to support communications efforts of NSWA.</p>

Goal 4: The NSWA remains a Functional and Sustainable Organization

The NSWA is a registered non-profit society organization guided by a 20-member multi-stakeholder Board and is run by an Executive Director and five staff. The Board meets six times a year and the Annual General Meeting (AGM) is held in June.

The operating budget of the NSWA is approximately \$800,000 with major contributions provided by:

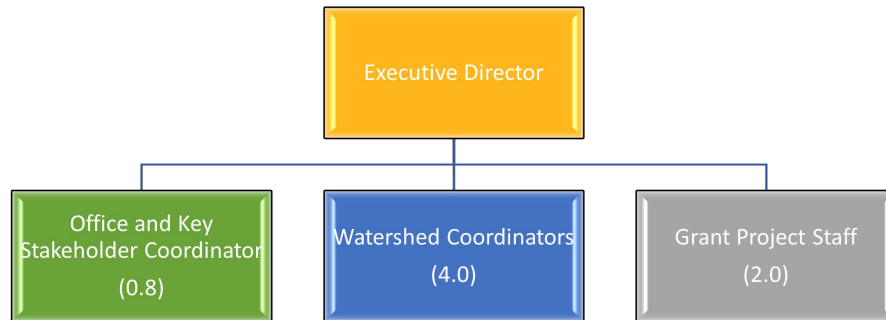
- Alberta Environment and Parks
- EPCOR
- Municipal Partners

Specific watershed management technical projects are funded through separate federal and provincial grants and municipal and watershed stewardship group contributions.

Objectives	Actions
NSWA is a functional organization with a strong multi-stakeholder society and board structure.	NSWA Society obligations are met annually such as annual general meeting , financial audit , record keeping and reporting.
	NSWA Board of Directors has regular meetings to discuss watershed issues, provide strategic direction and support to the NSWA Society .
	NSWA Board of Directors reviews Society Bylaws and Board Liability Check list annually.
	NSWA Board of Directors to review Governance Manual and policies regularly.
NSWA is a sustainable organization with predictable core funding and well supported staff	Review and report on the progress of Strategic Priorities annually.
	Draft and approve a 1-year operational plan and budget .
	Work with key funders (Alberta Environment and Parks, EPCOR and municipalities) to ensure core funding and in kind support is sustained.
	Apply for grants for key project areas such as basin wide studies and subwatershed focused work.
	Partner with other organizations on projects that would increase watershed knowledge.
	Review staff organizational and compensation structure to ensure effective delivery of the NSWA strategic priorities.
	Review staff succession planning to ensure organizational sustainability.

NSWA Staff

The day-to-day operations of the NSWA are managed by the Executive Director and five permanent staff. Grant contract staff and consultants are hired to support projects or provide technical expertise if grant resources are available.



Work Plan Timelines

The annual strategic planning process for the NSWA begins in the fall with the Board reviewing its strategic planning priorities for the upcoming fiscal year (April 1 – March 31). Once the Board Strategic Plan is approved it provides the foundation for the operational workplan and budget. Key dates include:

- November – Strategic Planning Session
- January – Strategic Plan Approved
- March – Annual Work Plan and Budget Approved
- June – Annual General Meeting

Confirmation of funding from the Government of Alberta, EPCOR, and municipal contributions is spread out throughout the year and the budget may require updates based on final numbers.

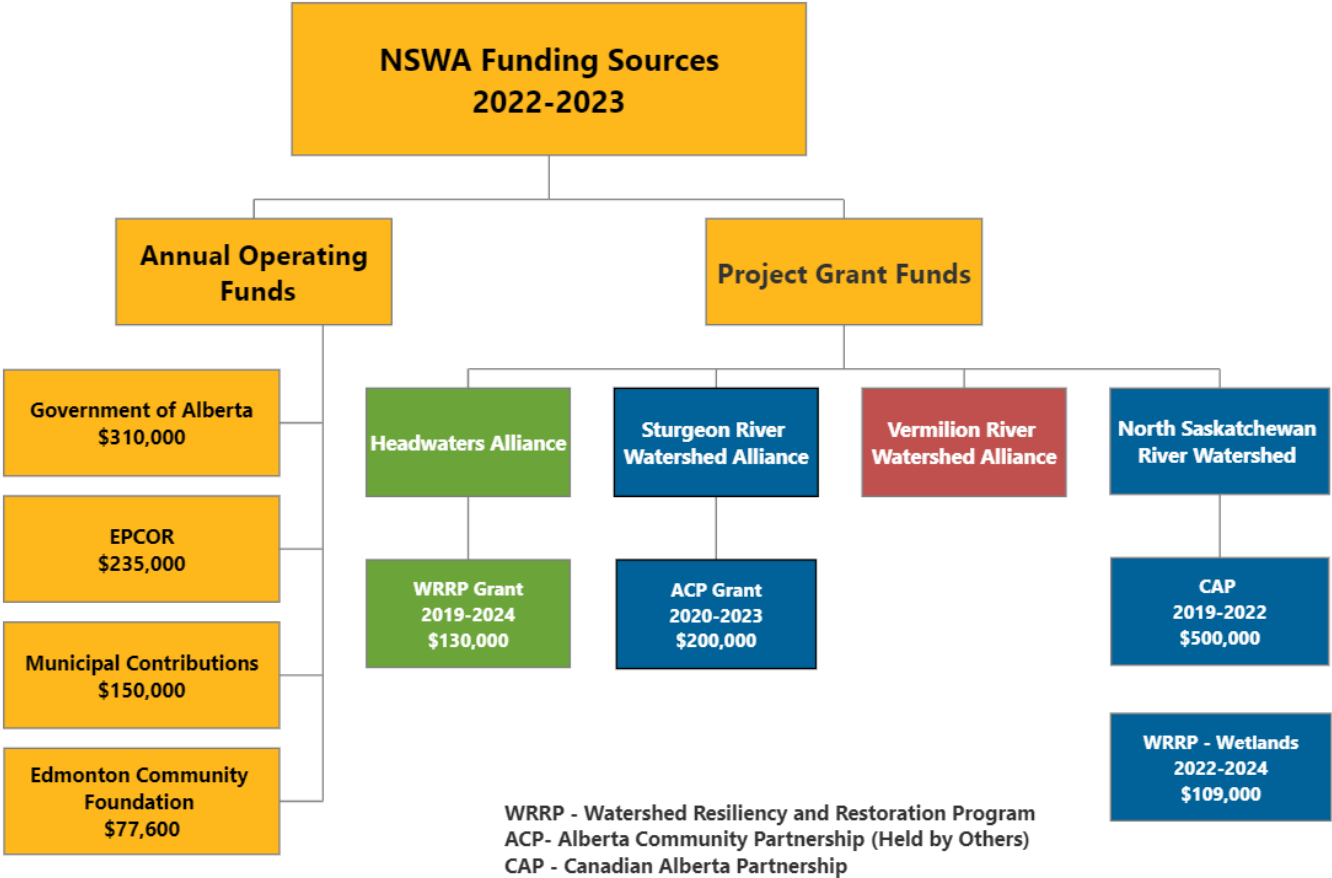
NSWA Funding Sources

Operational funding for the NSWA is provided by:

- Government of Alberta
- EPCOR
- Municipal contributions
- Edmonton Community Foundation Operational Grant
- Others (training/summer student grants, donations, interest)

The NSWA also receives grants from federal and provincial government programs for project specific work, such as technical studies and on the ground projects. See Figure 2.

Figure 2: NSWA Funding Sources

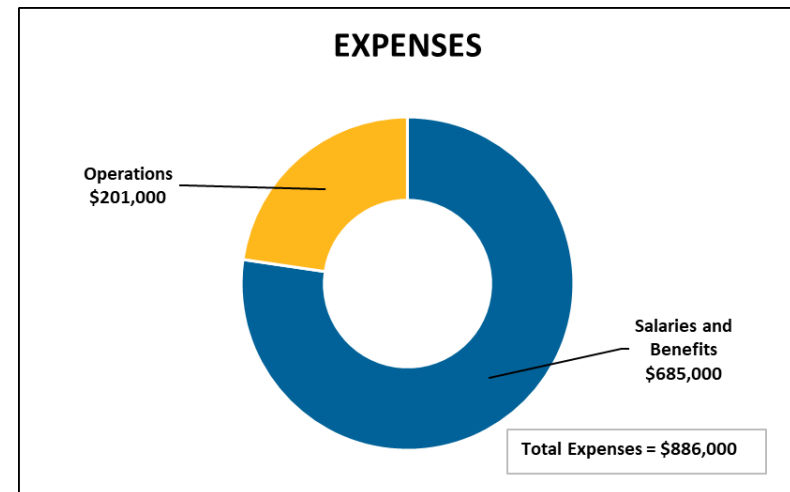
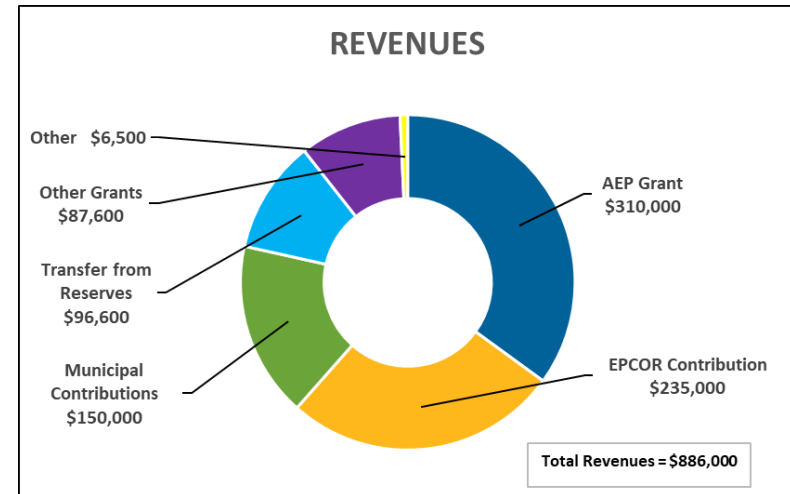


2022 – 2023 Operating Budget

REVENUE	
AEP Grant	310,000
EPCOR Contribution	235,000
Municipal Contributions	150,000
Transfer from Operational Reserves	96,600
Other Grants	87,600
Other	6,500
TOTAL	\$886,000
EXPENSES	
Salaries and Benefits	685,000
Operations	201,000
TOTAL	\$886,000

Operating Funds	
Operating Fund Balance March 31, 2022	\$588,765
Projected Balance March 31, 2023	\$492,165

Other Funds	
Operational Fund Reserve	\$205,000
Future Opportunities Fund	\$400,000





VISION:

People working together for a healthy and functional North Saskatchewan River watershed – today and tomorrow.

MISSION:

To protect and improve water quality, water quantity (instream flow) and the health of our watershed by:

- *Seeking, developing and sharing knowledge*
- *Facilitating partnerships and collaborative planning*
- *Working in an adaptive management process.*



2022 NSWA Board of Directors Nomination Summaries

[Dr. Laurie Danielson](#) - Northeast Capital Industrial Association (Sector: Industry)

Why are you seeking a position on the NSWA Board?

I have been a member of the NCIA board for about 15 years now representing 23 industrial entities in Alberta's Industrial Heartland. NSWA, as the Water Policy and Advisory Committee for the NSR Basin provides a great multi-stakeholder forum for evolving information and policy around water and wastewater in the basin that is important to industry.

Briefly outline the experience you have and the contributions you hope to make to the NSWA Board.

I have a lot of experience on boards and bring a wealth of knowledge related to engagement with government. I am also currently the chair of the NSWA Governance Committee and a member of the NSWA Finance Committee.

[Adam Polzen](#) – Pembina Pipeline (Sector: Industry Sector Oil and Gas)

Why are you seeking a position on the NSWA Board?

It was brought to my attention that the previous Oil and Gas representative on the Board has recently departed. With Pembina's assets and operations within the NSR Watershed, there is a benefit to the corporation to have a voice at the table to represent industry, and more specifically the Oil and Gas sector.

Briefly outline the experience you have and the contributions you hope to make to the NSWA Board.

I have worked within and supported the Oil and Gas industry from an environmental management perspective for over 15 years, with my recent experience focused on upstream project permitting and planning. I am familiar with the upstream O&G industry demands on a watershed; both related to consumption as well as discharge.

I hope to bring to the Board a voice that represents the O&G industry, coupled with a background in Biology and understanding of watershed ecosystem dynamics.

[Dr. Steve Craik](#) (Sector: Member at Large)

Why are you seeking a position on the NSWA Board?

I am a drinking water professional with a keen interest in Source Water Protection as the first key step in ensuring safe drinking water and public health protection. I would like to ensure



2022 NSWA Board of Directors Nomination Summaries

that Source Water Protection continues to be an important aspect of the Alberta Water for Life Strategy and of watershed management within the province.

As an avid outdoorsman (canoeist, kayaker, cyclist, hiker) and I am also interested in maintaining the health and beauty of the river for all uses.

Briefly outline the experience you have and the contributions you hope to make to the NSWA Board

I have been a member of the NSWA Board since 2012 and have been the Treasurer and on the Executive since 2016. I have 22 years of experience in the drinking water industry, both in academia and with a large utility company (EPCOR). As a result, I am fairly knowledgeable about watershed issues and watershed management in the province. I have recently taken on a new professional role as a Drinking Water Specialist with Alberta Environment and Parks.

Although I won't be representing AEP on the board officially, I will continue to represent the drinking water and source water protection perspective.

Kristina Kowalski – Councilor, Parkland County (Sector: Municipal)

Why are you seeking a position on the NSWA Board?

As a 17 year resident in the Big Lake community, I have a deep respect for the health of environment in and around Big Lake. My hope to better understand the watershed.

As an elected member of Parkland County Council, I plan to gain tools and knowledge to better advocate and inform policy decisions that impact the environmental assets we our stewards of in the County.

Briefly outline the experience you have and the contributions you hope to make to the NSWA Board.

I have extensive Board experience on a local, municipal and provincial level in areas of education, municipal government and the arts.

I also have Advocacy experience on a provincial scale. Policy making experience. Fundraising, project funding, granting. I have the full support of my Council.