

# CURRENT Events

Alberta Branch Newsletter

October 2005

**CWRA ACRH**  
Canadian  
Water  
Resources  
Association  
Association  
Canadienne  
des Ressources  
Hydriques

## *CWRA National Conference 2006 – Upcoming Conference*



### **Working From the Source towards Sustainable Water Management**

<http://www.fromthesource.ca/>

Toronto, Ontario  
June 4-7<sup>th</sup>, 2005

### **SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT THEME**

🍁 Almost 20 years have passed since the concept of sustainability originated from the United Nation's Brundtland Commission Report, and society is still actively working to define benchmarks for sustainable practices: how to "live within its environmental means" and "balance the needs of the environment, the economy, and human society". Mounting evidence suggests that current Canadian practices do not yet produce sustainable results. Typical consumption rates remain among the highest in the world and result in localized shortages in resource supplies, release of contaminants posing health risks, and stress on environmental systems. These unsustainable practices are contributing to global concerns, such as climate change, which will exacerbate our challenge to adopt lifestyles that promote more sustainability. However, significant advancements are being made in science, technology and practice. Are we on the verge of a major shift towards sustainable water management?

🍁 Safe and plentiful water resources are critical to all aspects of our lives. The Canadian Water Resources Association invites a wide range of participants – from the water sector and beyond - to join in discussions aimed at defining benchmarks of sustainable water management and identifying critical strategies for moving forward.

🍁 Set on the shores of Lake Ontario in Canada's largest city, there will be many opportunities at this Conference to share experiences on a range of water initiatives, including a progress review on boundary water issues, drinking water source protection, "green" city planning, regeneration of degraded ecosystems, monitoring and reporting, efficient water use and many more.

#### **Call for Abstracts - Important deadlines**

Deadlines for abstracts, December 9, 2005

Acceptance of abstracts, January 6, 2006

Deadline for papers, March 17, 2006

[http://www.allsetinc.com/cwra2/files/call\\_for\\_abstracts.pdf](http://www.allsetinc.com/cwra2/files/call_for_abstracts.pdf)

## Alberta Branch Conference 2005 - Conference Summary



JUNE 14-17<sup>th</sup>, 2005 – Banff, AB, Canada


The idea for the conference came from our thoughts of Alberta's Centennial and how water management has evolved over the past 100 years in Canada. The conference format was developed to progress from our historic lessons, then to our current practice and finally to our future vision of water management. More than 360 water managers and stewards from all regions of Alberta, 11 provinces and territories, the United States, Mexico and Europe attended the conference.

Conference proceedings are available on CD (included with conference registration package). The proceedings included: 78 abstracts from the speaker presentations, 30 poster abstracts, as well as 55 technical papers that were submitted by conference delegates. In addition, copies of the presentations made at the conference should be available soon on the CWRA website.

Many thanks to the Reflections On Our Future Conference Committee, conference delegates, and keynote speakers for making the Alberta Branch Conference 2005 such a success!

## Alberta Branch Conference – April 2006


### Upcoming Conference – 2006 Alberta Branch Conference

 Edmonton will be hosting the upcoming Alberta Branch Conference in April 2006. We are currently looking for volunteers to begin to plan and coordinate the conference. If you are interested in helping out with the conference, contact the Newsletter Editor. And remember.... much of the conference organization and planning occurs by teleconference and regional meetings. We need your help with this event. Whether you live in Fort McMurray, Edmonton, Calgary, Pincher Creek or Medicine Hat – you can help make this conference a success!

## Canadian Water Resources Journal – Now Online


Canadian Water Resources Journal  
Revue canadienne des ressources hydriques




 Canadian Water Resources Journal is the official journal of the Canadian Water Resources Association (CWRA). The Journal publishes research articles, technical notes, and review papers in areas including watershed planning and management, water economics, water policy, hydrological science, statistical hydrology, eco-hydrology, water quality, irrigation and drainage, and water education.

<http://pubs.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/cwri/cwri.html>

## *Introducing the New Alberta Branch Executive*


 The Annual General Meeting for the Alberta Branch was held by teleconference on August 9<sup>th</sup> 2005. Typically, the AGM is held in conjunction with the Annual Alberta Branch conference. However, this year Alberta hosted the CWRA National conference, and the conference schedule was too full to accommodate an Alberta Branch AGM. The August 9<sup>th</sup> teleconference was limited to the key business of Presidents report, Treasurers report and Elections. The following is your Newly Elected Alberta Executive:

Andrew Szojka	President
John Thompson	Treasurer
Kent Bullock	Vice President
Monica Wagner	Director at Large
Nico Wyngaarden	Director at Large
Robert Harrison	Past President
Sean Douglas	Secretary

 We also owe a huge debt of gratitude to our Past President, Robert Harrison, for his contributions to the Alberta Branch and the CWRA National organization – particularly for his role in the drafting of the new CWRA Bylaws that were recently accepted by the National Board of Directors and await legal review.

## *Water in the news...*

### **Update on Oil spill at Lake Wabamun**

 On August 3, a fuel spill affected Lake Wabamun after 43 CN rail cars went off the tracks near the summer village of Whitewood Sands. The immediate priority has been to contain the oil leak and to protect human health and the environment. Prompted by the incident, Alberta Environment Minister Guy Boutilier announced the formation of an Environmental Protection Commission to review and make recommendations on Alberta's ability to respond to environmental incidents. The Commission has delivered a progress report to the Minister. For more information on Lake Wabamun, the Environmental Protection Commission, or water and sediment quality results and reports for Lake Wabamun, see <http://www3.gov.ab.ca/env/water/WabamunLake.html>

### **Water Seminars – Alberta Branch Seminar Series 2005-06**

 Stay tuned for seminar series presentations posted in this section of the Newsletter...

### **Flood Events of Summer 2005**

 For an archive of advisories and warnings, see <http://www3.gov.ab.ca/env/water/WS/Advisories/Archives.html>

Please forward this to anyone you may think is interested.

If you would like to be added or removed from our list please email the Newsletter Editor at the address below.

#### **SUBMISSIONS AND COMMENTS:**

*Current Events* is always looking for articles on interesting water projects, water issues, and notices. If you have a submission, or if you would like to share your thoughts or questions on issues raised in any *Current Events* article, please contact Newsletter Editor via e-mail at: [CWRA.Newsletter@gov.ab.ca](mailto:CWRA.Newsletter@gov.ab.ca)