



Progress Report

March 2017-2018



Background

- **December 2014, Peace River, AB:** Upon conclusion of the Closer to Home initiative (C2H), northern stakeholders anticipated that a water and wastewater forum would be valuable resulted in the formation of the Coalition and adoption of the Terms of Reference.
 - **October 2015, Wembley, AB:** A strategic planning session was conducted and identified several priority areas and actions.
 - **April 2016, Athabasca, AB:** Four subcommittees were officially formed to act on the priorities identified in the strategic planning session.
- ☐ The Coalition meets four times annually in **rotating locations across the north** to exchange information, hear from experts, discuss common challenges, and collaborate on solutions for water and wastewater management. The actions of the Coalition are advanced through its general membership and four subcommittees: **Advocacy, Public Education, Training, and Recruitment and Retention**, each of which have a work plan linked to the Coalition's three year Strategic Plan.

Current state

Re-elected at the January 25, 2018 meeting in Beaverlodge, AB until January 2019:

2017-18 Executive

Chair, Mr. Bob Marshall, County of Grande Prairie;

Vice-Chair, Mr. Ray Skrepnek, M.D. of Fairview

Membership:

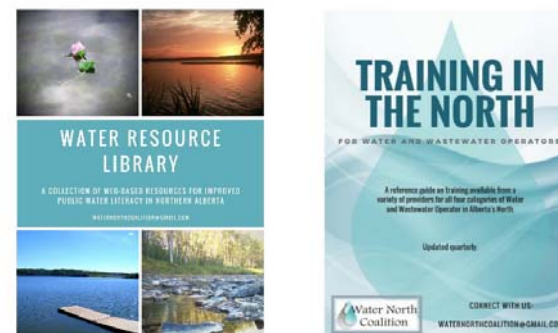
- **Voting membership:** open to all northern municipalities, First Nations, and Metis Settlements within the NADC Boundary
- **Non-Voting membership:** open to water/wastewater commissions, professionals, provincial/federal government, rural water co-ops, owners and operators

Current Membership

Voting	33
Non-Voting	14

Our Subcommittees:

The Coalition produced 2 reports through the subcommittees, which can be found on the NADC website at: <http://www.nadc.ca/our-business/partnerships/water-north-coalition/>



Our Communications Committee:

The WNC communications committee was struck in 2017 and has since created a communications plan to:

- Manage how information is shared to educate members and partners on related topics.
- Grow the WNC network and increase stakeholder engagement.
- Develop a system on Google Drive as a repository of resources for the membership.



2017/2018: A Year in Review

April – June

- May – The quarterly meeting was held in Cold Lake, AB
- Members heard from a panel on Reclaimed and Grey Water from AB Environment and Parks, AB Health Services & AB Municipal Affairs
- Hosted a presentation on support for water management in First Nations from the Technical Services Advisory Group
- The City of Cold Lake conducted a tour of the water treatment plant

July - September

- September – The MD of Opportunity hosted the meeting in Wabasca, AB
- ONEC Group shared a presentation on mobile water treatment systems
- The subcommittees held the first working session at the quarterly meeting and make progress on initiatives
- The NADC created a promotional GoAnimate video for the WNC
- A retractable banner was created and donated by Aquatera for the WNC to exhibit at upcoming events

October-December

- Municipal Elections were held and the WNC membership list was updated with new appointments
- WNC exhibited at Water Week North in Grande Prairie, AB
- WNC, with AWWOA and AUSG, held a teleconference with the Deputy Minister of Environment and Parks on the development of the online operator training database
- Wrote letters to northern MLA's advising on the status of the Coalition and offering the opportunity to share further

January -March

- January - members met in Beaverlodge, AB
- Elections were held for Chair & Vice-Chair appointments for 1 year term.
- A presentation on water and wastewater optimization was hosted by Spartan Controls
- The Training subcommittee published the Training in the North document
- The Public Education subcommittee published the Resource Library document
- Completed an internal survey on the current state of water and wastewater outlining the challenges and opportunities within the region





The Water North Coalition is supported with strategic and secretariat support from the Northern Alberta Development Council (NADC). The Coalition is inclusive of the NADC region.

Contact us:

Northern Alberta Development Council

206 Provincial Building

9621 – 96 Avenue

Bag 900-14

Peace River AB T8S 1T4

T 780.624.6274

TF first dial 310.0000

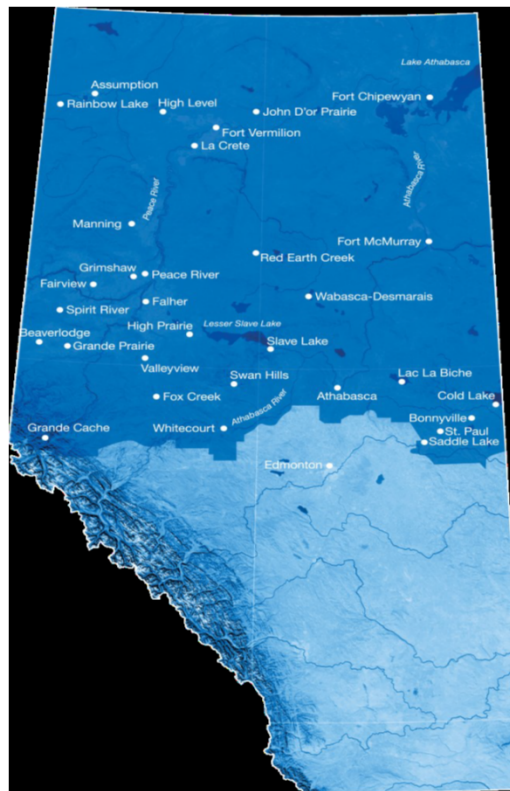
E nadc.council@gov.ab.ca

nadc.ca

[@NADC.ca](https://twitter.com/NADC.ca)

Northern Alberta Development Council

The NADC Boundary Map



Message from the Chair:

On behalf of the members of the Coalition, I am pleased to share an update on the progress of the Water North Coalition for the fiscal year of March, 2017-2018. Much effort has gone into the work of advancing strategic priorities to ensure safe and reliable water systems for the northern communities of Alberta. I wish to thank the members for their continued participation in the committee. To start off the new fiscal year, we will be renewing our 3 year strategic plan; re-evaluating and updating priorities, goals, and actions in Fairview, AB. We invite northern communities to join the Coalition in our efforts to take action on creating a sustainable water future for the northern region.

Sincerely,

Bob Marshall, WNC Chair
Councillor for the County of Grande Prairie

