



VOL. 1 | JANUARY 2020

QUARTERLY NEWS BULLETIN

Update from the Chair

Happy New Year to all of the Water North Coalition members! We hope you enjoyed the holiday season and are ready for the year ahead. The new year makes for a perfect time for the first edition of the WNC Quarterly News Bulletin. This news release has been created for the purpose of sharing the great work we do with municipal councils, mayors, reeves, water partners and colleagues. This past quarter we have been working hard on finalizing a resolution to bring to AUMA and RMA and working with our partners in Alberta Environment and Parks on priority issues, to be discussed at the January teleconference. We look forward to continuing to share with you!
Chair, Bob Marshall.



COALITION NEWS:

- Appointment letters have been received. Welcome to new and returning members to WNC! If you haven't yet, please send yours in!
- The position of Vice-Chair will be decided at the January 16th teleconference. Thanks to Corinna Williams of Northern Sunrise County for her contributions as Vice-Chair.
- Members are encouraged to like or follow the WNC social media accounts and to share posts as much as possible.
- Twitter:
<https://twitter.com/WaterNorthCo>
- Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/pg/WaterNorthCoalition/photos/?ref=page_internal

Updates from the Subcommittees

Advocacy:

· The resolution for stable, reliable funding for water and wastewater will be brought forward to RMA and AUMA. Examples of how government regulations around water result in increased expenses are also being collected.

· Bob Buckle, Councillor with the City of Cold Lake, is the chair of this subcommittee. Members who would like to co-chair this subcommittee are encouraged to express their interest.

Education and Awareness:

· The fall fact sheet on septic system tips was shared by members on the WNC social media accounts. Suggested topics for the next fact sheet are managing runoff and ensuring water quality.

· Meghan Payne, Executive Director of the Lesser Slave Lake Watershed Council, has stepped down as chair of this subcommittee. Members who would like to chair/co-chair this subcommittee are encouraged to express their interest.



Recruitment, Training, and Retention:

Efforts are underway to:

· Map levels of operators by location in northern Alberta;

· Address the implications of discipline-specific requirements outlined in the five year strategic plan for water and wastewater operator certification (increases in training budgets, training gaps at post-secondary institutions, renewals coming up simultaneously).

· Grant Dixon of Advanced Technology Applications (ATAP) will co-chair this subcommittee with Jennifer Besinger of the County of Grande Prairie.

**Next meeting update:
May 21, 2020 - Big Lakes County (location to be determined)**

