



# North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance

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September 8, 2014

Mayor or Reeve

Dear:

I am pleased to send you this update on the planning activities of the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) and to request your assistance in recruiting a new Board Director from your region to represent the municipal sector.

As you are aware, the NSWA was appointed by Alberta Environment in 2005 as the *Watershed Planning and Advisory Council* for the North Saskatchewan River (NSR) basin under *Water for Life: Alberta's Strategy for Sustainability*.

The NSWA has made good progress under this mandate and in 2012 we released the *Integrated Watershed Management Plan for the North Saskatchewan River in Alberta* (IWMP). This major undertaking provides advice and direction to protect the long-term supply and quality of water resources for future generations. Implementation of IWMP recommendations is now underway through watershed partnerships with local authorities and stewardship groups and through expert working groups dealing with scientific issues and needs across the basin.

The NSWA also supported preparation of the 2013 *Vermilion River Watershed Management Plan* (VRWMP). This was the first sub-basin planning project in the North Saskatchewan River basin. We worked closely with rural and urban municipalities in the Vermilion sub-basin to identify local water management issues and to create a locally-developed and supported watershed plan. We are currently working with urban and rural municipalities in the Sturgeon River sub-basin, and in the headwaters of the NSR, to develop watershed partnerships and watershed management plans for those important areas.

We currently have a vacancy on our Board of Directors and hope to appoint a municipal councillor from the downstream of the NSR to fill this position until our next AGM in June 2015. Given the key role of municipalities in our work, we feel that additional representation from this sector would significantly strengthen the NSWA Board.

We ask you to share this letter with your Council and have anyone interested submit an expression of interest (name, title, municipality, short biography and a statement on why they would like to be a Board Member and how they could contribute to NSWA's vision and mission). Response by September 15, 2014 would be appreciated so that an appointment can be made at our September 17 Board meeting.

The enclosed 2013-14 Annual Report provides more information about the NSWA. Please direct any questions and expressions of interest to Gordon Thompson, P.Eng. Technical Director (Phone: 780-496-3010 or email: [gordon.thompson@edmonton.ca](mailto:gordon.thompson@edmonton.ca)).

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours truly,

Reeve Pat Alexander  
President North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance Society  
Reeve Clearwater County

Cc: Chief Administrative Officer