

In 2011 Whitewood Mine was closed down. Having been the Reclamation Specialist for a number of years at Highvale, I was asked to supervise the reclamation of Whitewood.

Around that time I organized a tour for the Parkland County Council which was very well received.

A paper on the reclamation process can be viewed at

[https://papers.acg.uwa.edu.au/p/1152\\_94\\_Kuchmak/](https://papers.acg.uwa.edu.au/p/1152_94_Kuchmak/)

The reclamation process was substantially completed by 2015 (dates are approximate)

About 3 years ago Shane Getson, MLA for the area went on a tour of the Whitewood Recreational area with me and his assistance has been invaluable.

Last spring, I had a meeting with the TransAlta management of the Highvale Mine at the Highvale Mine which went very well. They brought me up to date with all of the developments that had taken place since my retirement. Also present via ZOOM was the lawyer from Calgary representing the Ethics Committee.

The lawyer asked me if there were any ethical problems and I replied that since TAU saved many millions of dollars by reclaiming the recreational areas to recreational standards instead of to agricultural standards, TAU was bound ethically to ensure that the lands were given to a public body so that they could be enjoyed by society at large. I added that I was satisfied that TAU was working to ensure that was done.

Oct 6 met with the Alberta Conservation Society Dan Sturgess and Terri Perron. Found we had many common interests re: Whitewood and they look forward to further working with us.

Shane Getson arranged for a meeting at the office of Brian Jean at the Legislature on last November 2<sup>nd</sup> which Rob Weideman has summarized for you at the last council meeting.

TransAlta does not need to deal with Parkland County. **The Alberta Conservation Association has been in talks with TAU and have indicated that they would like to receive West Pit Lake for no cost and that they are willing to buy the land between East Pit Lake and West Pit Lake in order to create a wildlife corridor.** The ACA does not want Whitewood Lake as it is more suited to recreational (swimming etc).

**Brian Jean suggested that the people of the county would be better served if Parkland County “controlled the narrative” and took possession of the Reclaimed Land (at no cost) because the mandate of the ACA is to “freeze” the land for any use other than hunting and fishing and related uses.** By taking the initiative the county would open up any other options. (hiking trails, horseback trails, swimming and lots of other options, some of which have been pointed out by Rob Weideman.

Gordon Janssen Reclamation Specialist retired ph 780-718-5010 [gordjanssen@gmail.com](mailto:gordjanssen@gmail.com)

## Contacts – Elected officials

Shane Getson Lac Ste Anne – Parkland and Chief Government Whip  
LacSteAnne.Parkland@assembly.ab.ca

Brian Jean Minister of Energy and Minerals [minister.energy@gov.ab](mailto:minister.energy@gov.ab)

Rob Wiedeman Parkland County councillor [Rob@robwiedeman.com](mailto:Rob@robwiedeman.com)

Natalie Bernie nataliebernie@parklandcouncil.ca

## Alberta Conservation Society

Lance Angley Manager – Specialsuzanne.merrills@parklandcounty.com Projects  
[lance.engley@ab-conservation.com](mailto:lance.engley@ab-conservation.com)

Roy Schmelzeisen Senior Biologist [roy-schmelzeisen@ab-conservation.com](mailto:roy-schmelzeisen@ab-conservation.com)

Terri Perron [terri.perron@ab-conservation.com](mailto:terri.perron@ab-conservation.com)

## Parkland County

Suzanne Merrills [suzanne.merrills@parklandcounty.com](mailto:suzanne.merrills@parklandcounty.com)

## Alberta government

Vitor Marciano Chief of Staff Office of the Minister Energy and Minerals  
[vitormarciano@gov.ab.ca](mailto:vitormarciano@gov.ab.ca)

Melissa Chisholm Lands Management Specialist Lands Delivery and Coordination South Branch  
Forestry, Parks and Tourism [Melissa.Chisholm@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Melissa.Chisholm@gov.ab.ca)

Christen Blakeman Constituency Manager for MLA Shane Getson  
LacSteAnne.Parkland@assembly.ab.ca

## TransAlta Highvale

Stacy Lauder Public Relation Officer Highvale Mine  
(phone number available on request)

Brandon Mine Manager Highvale Mine

Jakob Reclamation Specialist Highvale/Whitewood Mines

Rick Wallace Supervisor Engineering [rick\\_wallace@transalta.com](mailto:rick_wallace@transalta.com)

[ta\\_media\\_relations@transalta.com](mailto:ta_media_relations@transalta.com)

[investor\\_relations@transalta.com](mailto:investor_relations@transalta.com)