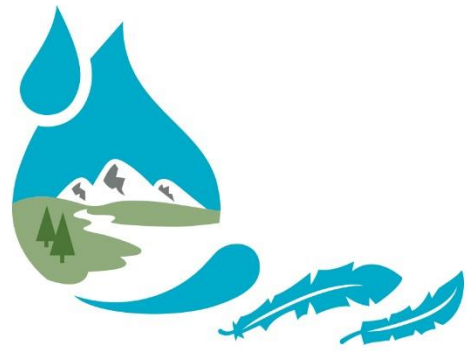




Introduction to Athabasca Watershed Council

Marie Bay Breiner
Outreach Coordinator



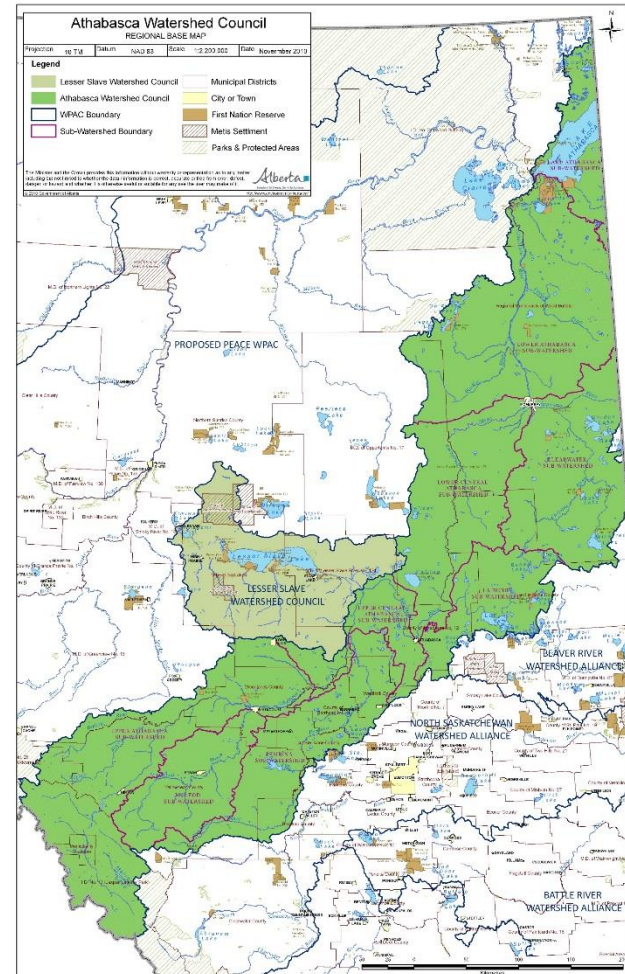
Our Organization

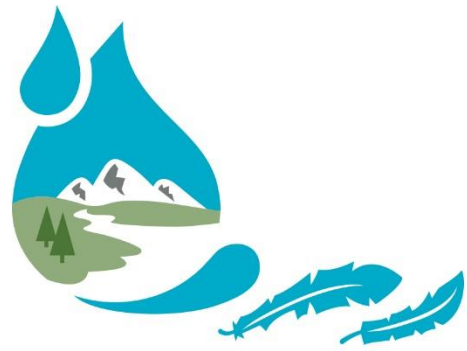
- We are a not-for-profit society mandated by the Government of Alberta to fulfill the role of Watershed Planning and Advisory Council (WPAC) for the Athabasca Watershed
- Our work is based on the *Water for Life* Strategy (2003)
- Managed by a multi-stakeholder, consensus-based Board
 - Industry (5 seats), Governments (5 seats), Non Government Organizations (5 seats), Indigenous peoples (3 seats), Members-at-large (2 seats)
- Our office is located in the historic Train Station in the Town of Athabasca.



The Athabasca Watershed

- The Athabasca River travels 1,231 km, flowing from the headwaters in Jasper National Park into the Peace-Athabasca Delta.
- The watershed covers 159,000 square kilometers, or about 24% of the province.
- The watershed is home to about 5% of Albertans.
- There are 24 Athabasca Watershed Municipalities and within the basin there are also 11 Summer Villages.





The Role of WPACs

- Created under the *Water for Life* strategy, Watershed Planning and Advisory Councils (WPACs) were intended to undertake four foundational activities:
 1. Do public engagement and present educational programs on water-related issues
 2. Bring local issues to the forefront at the Provincial level
 3. Report on the state of the watershed
 4. Develop and implement integrated watershed management plans

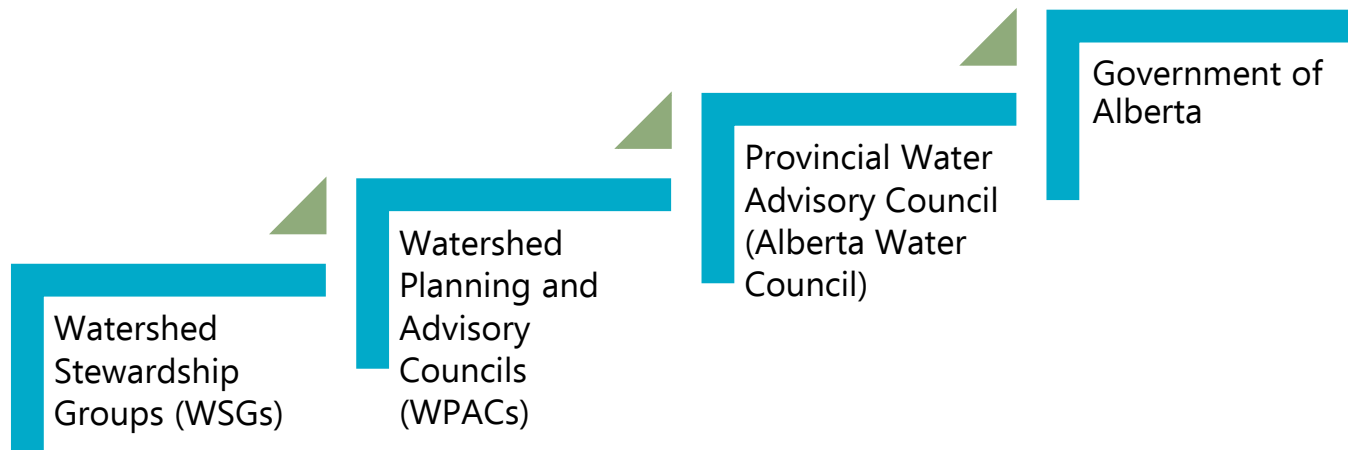
This work is to support the three *Water for Life* Goals

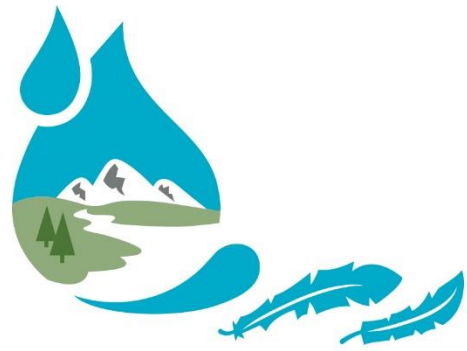
1. Safe, secure drinking water supply
2. Healthy aquatic ecosystems
3. Reliable quality water supplies for a sustainable economy



Stakeholder Engagement in *Water for Life*

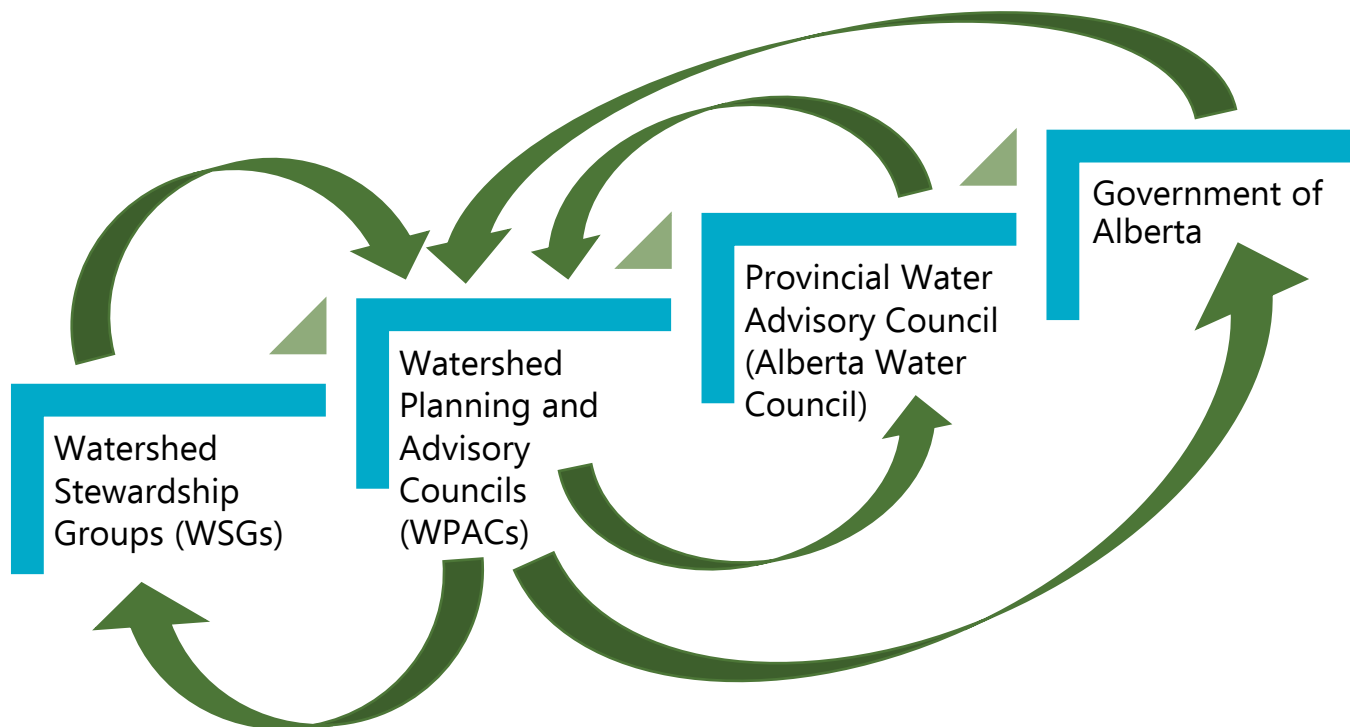
- The *Water for Life* strategy emphasizes stakeholder engagement, information sharing, and collaboration at a range of scales...

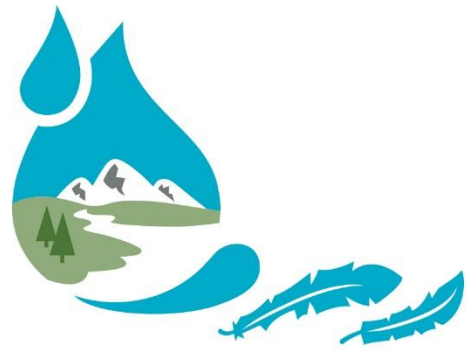




Stakeholder Engagement in *Water for Life*

- The *Water for Life* strategy emphasizes stakeholder engagement, information sharing, and collaboration at a range of scales...





Successes and Projects

- We have:
 - Built a network of technical and sector water experts
 - Published four State of the Watershed reports
 - Published a Traditional Knowledge Overview of the Athabasca watershed
 - Developed a non-technical summary of our State of the Watershed reports
- We are:
 - Broadening our network with governments, industries, communities and Indigenous peoples
 - Working on our Integrated Watershed Management Plan (IWMP)
 - Supporting local stewardship and sub-basin initiatives
 - Hosting a Municipal Forum – November 17, 2018



Integrated Watershed Management Plan

An IWMP is a 'roadmap' for watershed management.

- Will strive to meet GOA "Water for Life" strategy goals:
 1. Safe, secure drinking water supply
 2. Healthy aquatic ecosystems
 3. Reliable, quality water supplies for a sustainable economy
- Will be completed by Nov. 2019.
- Will provide support and advice for regional and municipal policy and planning in order to ensure water and land management is integrated for the Athabasca watershed.



Municipal Forum

As an Athabasca Watershed Municipality, you are invited to our Municipal Forum.

A key focus is to hear from you and learn about the innovative programs and best management practices already happening within the Athabasca Watershed.



YOUR COUNCILLORS, CAOS AND STAFF ARE INVITED
TO THE ATHABASCA WATERSHED COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL FORUM

NOVEMBER 17, 2018
WESTLOCK INN, ALBERTA
10AM-4PM

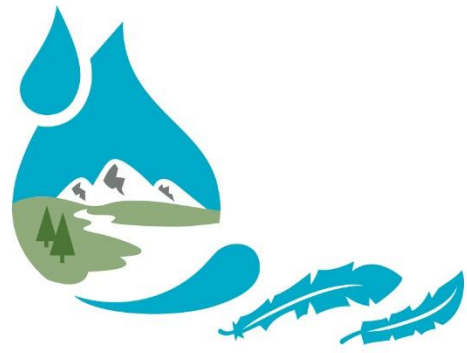
Topics:

- Your good news water stewardship stories
- Integrated Watershed Management Planning
- Tourism in the watershed
- Source water protection planning
- History of the Athabasca Watershed
- Economic study and movie making

RSVP: October 19, 2018 to admin@awc-wpac.ca



ATHABASCA WATERSHED COUNCIL
PO BOX 1058, 5101 50 AVE,
ATHABASCA, AB T9S 2A8
WWW.AWC-WPAC.CA

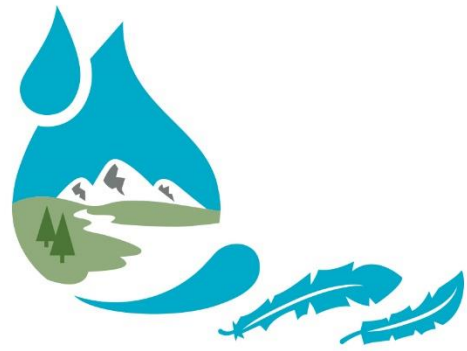


How can we help you?

How can we support you in your current water related programs?

- What water-related challenges are you facing?
- Are you prepared for the future?
- What would you like to learn more about?
- What could you bring to the Municipal forum?

How would you like to be engaged in the Integrated Watershed Management Plan (IWMP)?



Thank you!

Acknowledgements

- We thank Alberta Environment and Parks for their ongoing support.



Contact Information

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