



July 2014

Diverse, Responsible & Connected

Issue #7



# Flow of the Peace "Current Eddies"



Treaty 8  
July 2013  
Adam Norris

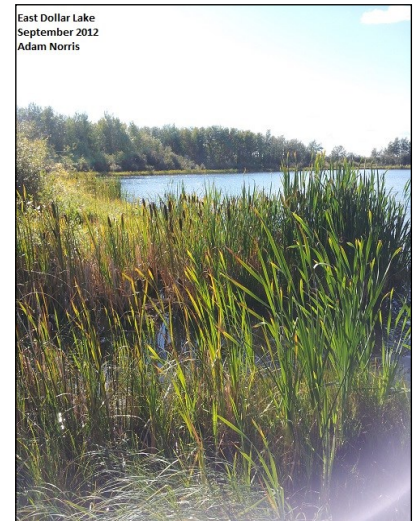
### MPWA is Looking for a Education/ Outreach Coordinator:

- \* Full time until March 31, 2015
- \* Plan, coordinate, execute activities, related to education and outreach to people and Stakeholders of the geographic area of Mighty Peace Watershed.
- \* Includes programs, social media, newsletters, etc.
- \* Light Admin Support
- \* Support board, committees and programs of the MPWA under the directions of the Executive Director
- \* Education, experience and/or interest in working in the area of environment, science, communications, etc.
- \* Check website for more details.



Fort Smith  
June 2013  
Adam Norris

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East Dollar Lake  
September 2012  
Adam Norris



Adam Norris  
Peace River near Fox Lake - September, 2012

**Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance**  
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 Executive Director  
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Newsletter produced with support from ESRD

# New to the Board Of Directors



**Lindsay Stephens (Oil & Gas)**

Lindsay Stephens was born in Ontario, but grew up in Calgary, Alberta. She received her B.Sc. in Civil – Environmental Engineering from the University of Alberta in 2009. Upon graduation Lindsay worked with a small environmental consulting company in Cochrane, focused on remediation and reclamation for the Oil and Gas industry. In 2012 she took a role as an Environmental Engineer for the Environmental Policy branch of the Government Relations team at Encana. Her role at Encana involves assessment of land use planning policy, air emissions policy and water conservation and management policy in both Alberta and BC. She is engaged with the Federal and Provincial governments on policy development in these areas. Lindsay believes a collaborative approach to watershed management is required to meet regional environmental and economic objectives.



Grande Prairie  
March 2013  
Adam Norris



Fort Smith  
June 2013  
Adam Norris



**Catherine Newhook (Watershed Stewardship)**

Natural Resource Technician  
Extensive experience in the silvicultural industry  
President of West County Watershed society  
Long time rural Alberta resident



Adam Norris  
June 1, 2013



John Zylstra  
Mackenzie River



**Elaine Garrow (Rural Municipalities)**

I am currently in my fourth term on the M.D. #133 Council. I live on the original family farm that was established in 1916. For many years my husband Ace and I owned Berwyn Insurance in Berwyn, Alberta. In 2000 we moved back to the farm. In 2001 we sold Berwyn Insurance and I went back to college and took the Horsemanship program at Fairview College.

Today I raise Arabians and Quarter Horses and I am also an Equine Certified Western Riding Instructor. I instruct horsemanship, judge camps, and host clinics, and put on horsemanship camps. My main passions are going green, protecting the environment, health care, and making good contributions to the community and province.



**Dave Hay (Recreation/ Tourism/Fisheries)**

Born in Smithers BC September 21st, 1950. Currently lives in Sunset House, East of Valleyview. Widower with two grown sons and six grandchildren. Currently a Councillor for the MD of Greenview representing Ward Four, Sweathouse and Sunset House areas. Previously I was Manager, Operations for the MD of Greenview. Over the course of my time in the workforce I have done many different jobs, the following are from start to present; Logger in BC and Alberta: Heavy Equipment Operator and Faller, Maintenance and Construction Foreman for Alberta Environmental Services. Dickson Dam, On-site Supervisor for Alberta Environmental Services/ Alberta Public Works. Oldman River Dam project, Parks Maintenance Supervisor for Alberta Resources Services Oldman River Dam and Region. At this time I started at NAIT through their Distant Delivery Program to study Water and Waste Water Technology as a requirement of my job in the parks. When they privatized parks I went onto Red Deer County as their Utilities Operator and Co-ordinator, they too privatized and my Wife and I moved to Taber, Alberta where I was the Public Services Director. From there to Ft. Vermillion as the Area Supervisor for Fort Vermillion, High Level Rural and Zama areas. Then a move to Mackenzie, BC as Town Foreman and then back to Alberta where I took the job of Assistant Superintendent of Public Works for the MD of Greenview. I was Elected to Council in the last election. This meant the need for me to resign from my position as Manager Operations. Some of the qualifications I have had over my time in the workforce include Water and Wastewater Certified Operator in Treatment, Collection and Distribution. Successful completion of the Alberta Bridge Inspection Course Certified Public Works, Supervisor Certified Canadian Playground Inspector, Certified Chainsaw Safety Instructor, numerous workshops and seminars on Disaster Management for the Emergency Operations Centre First Aid and other industry Training Certificates.

My hobbies are photography and fishing.

## New to the Board Of Directors cont'd



### Elaine Manzer (Small Urban)

Elaine was born in Peace River where she attended school, then left to earn her Bachelor of Education Degree at the University of Alberta, came back to teach junior and senior high school in Peace River and Grimshaw, returned to the

U of A to earn two Post-Graduate Diplomas in Secondary and Post-Secondary Education. After about 36 years as a teacher and principal Elaine retired from teaching and is now serving her first term as a Councillor for the Town of Peace River.



### Chris Thiessen (Large Urban)

Chris Thiessen is a newly elected official in the city of Grande Prairie. Born and raised in Alberta, Chris has been a resident of the Peace Region for over 15 years. Holding a degree in Digital Arts and Mass Media as well as several years of General Studies at the University of Alberta, Chris has devoted his life to service within his community and to help assist in the raising of consciousness in a variety of social fields (humanitarian, environmental, spiritual). Currently, Chris also works for the Canadian Mental Health Association, helping the at-risk and low-income populations in the city of Grande Prairie. Relevant history of his service in relation to the Watershed includes:

- creation of the Peace Starts At Home not-for-profit local music genre festival (2005-10) which raised over \$50,000 for a variety of charities in Grande Prairie over its operation.
- co-creator and mentor of the youth anti-nuclear advocacy group SPOC (Stop Poisoning Our Community, 2007-09, later reformed to Start Protecting Our Community, 2010-current) which successfully helped to oppose the bid for a nuclear power plant on the Peace River.
- youth educator on environmental awareness and recycling initiatives (K-8)
- community member participant in creation of Grande Prairie's Municipal Development Plan, Cultural Master Plan, Transit Master Plan, and Muskoseepi Park



McLennan  
November 2014  
Adam Norris

## Watershed Coordinator Adam Norris

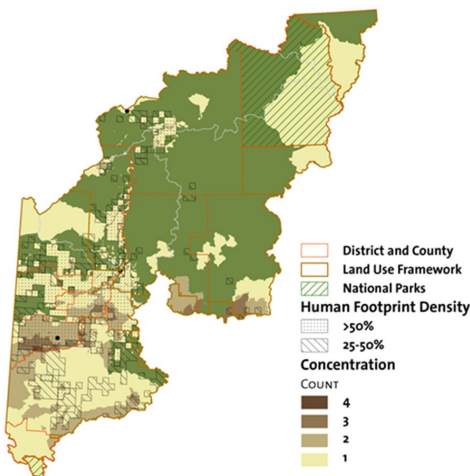
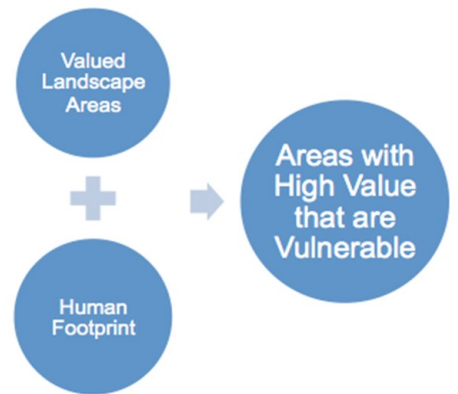
The MPWA has almost has a DRAFT State of the Watershed ready to take out to the public - to you - for validation. There is both an online version and hard copy version to provide a choice of format for all those in the watershed. The State of the Watershed is for the Alberta portions of the Peace and Slave Watersheds and provides the current condition of the watershed. The question we are trying to answer is, "How are things where you live, work and play?"

It is important to have an understanding of the watershed at a particular point in time so that we can always see how things are changing. Being able to compare back to a baseline or known state of the watershed, allows us to evaluate the watershed. This will

help in managing our impacts upon the watershed and upon the watershed's abilities to provide us with things such as drinking water, recreational opportunities

and resource for our industries (a.k.a. Ecological Goods and Services).

One thing that we did with the State of the Watershed report was to incorporate evaluation into the process. So this report is not simply a listing of data, eg., amount of dissolved oxygen in lakes, the number of surface allocations or the amount of linear disturbance in the watershed. Rather we took what those in the watershed have told us is important to them (Valued Landscape areas) and assessed that together with the data and numbers that we have (Human Footprint) to determine if there any particular hotspots or areas of concern (Areas with High Value that Vulnerable). This is shown in the diagram.



*From the Executive Director Rhonda Clarke-Gauthier*

We have some exciting news, over the next few months we will be putting forward the components of the **Peace and Slave River DRAFT State of the Watershed (SOW)** for public review and comment. The first major step towards the Integrated Watershed Management Plan is the (SOW) report. The MPWA report has 3 parts: 1. 'Coffee Table' type document with maps, graphs, sub-watershed descriptions, an overview of the entire watershed, a discussion regarding data gaps, and areas where possible recommendations need to be considered. 2. An on-line tool that allows for further information and links to the various reports that are the backbone of the 'coffee table' document. 3. An 8-page summary document, for those who wish to see an overview of the Watershed without all the specific information.

Opportunities for the public and stakeholder groups to make comments on these components will be occurring over the fall. Please keep your eyes open for a chance to participate in these forums.

You will notice that there have been a few **changes to the Board of Directors (BOD)** at our AGM in March. If you do not know the person who is sitting in the seat for your sector, take the time to introduce yourself. For biographies of the board members, please check out the MPWA website ([www.mightypeacewatershedalliance.org](http://www.mightypeacewatershedalliance.org) click on 'Board of

Directors' on the top left of screen). As all members of the BOD are to bring the prospective of the sector they represent to the discussions, please connect with them and take the time to discuss water (issues, concerns, quality, quantity, the resource, conservation) and how that relates to the watershed and the activities that take place in the watershed. To connect with any board member, please send a message to [info@mightypeacewatershedalliance.org](mailto:info@mightypeacewatershedalliance.org) On a final note, at the end of July the MPWA will be saying goodbye to Breann Wells, our very capable Admin Support since March of 2013. We wish her well as she ventures off into the world of advanced education.

Have a tremendous summer!



**Diverse, Responsible & Connected!**  
 \*Diverse group of people representing diverse interests.  
 \*Responsible for bringing those interests together.  
 \*Connected to all stakeholders across the watershed area.

**Board Members**

Government	Industry	Non-Governmental Organizations	Aboriginal Communities
Federal-Transboundary Relations -Abdi Siad-Omar (Alternate - Rod Burr)	Agriculture -Shelleen Gerbig (Alternate- Sebastien Dutrisac)	Conservation/Environment -Bob Cameron	Métis Nation of Alberta -Willard Roe
Provincial -John Zylstra (Alternate - Dan Benson)	Forestry -Ian Daisley (Alternate - Tom Tarpey)	Watershed Stewardship -Cathy Newhook (Alternate - Tony Saunders)	Metis Settlement General Council -Alden Armstrong
Large Urban -Chris Theissen (Alternate - Michelle Gairdner)	Oil & Gas -Lindsay Stephens (Alternate - Jean-Michel Wan)	Research/Education -Jean-Marie Sobze	Upper Watershed First Nation -Vacant
Small Urban -Elaine Manzer (Alternate - Colin Needham)	Utilities -Ashley Parker (Alternate - Michel Savard)	Public Member-at- Large (2) -Richard Keillor -Jaime Rich	Middle Watershed First Nation -Vacant
Rural Municipality -Elaine Garrow (Alternate - Ray Skrepnek)	Mining -Vacant	Tourism/Fisheries/ Recreation -Dave Hay	Lower Watershed First Nation -Jim Webb (Alternate - Lindee Dumas)