January 2019

Happy New Year

We Would Love to Hear from You

Welcome to the Alberta Land-use Knowledge Network’s new monthly newsletter in which we share information and resources about land use planning in Alberta.

If this newsletter was forwarded to you, please consider subscribing to our monthly publication.

Review past issues of our newsletter

The Land Use Planning Hub is an informal network that supports the implementation of Alberta’s regional plans.

Currently on the Land Use Planning Hub

What Water for Life means for Alberta’s Municipalities

Municipalities have a large role in managing water resources and aquatic ecosystems, but their efforts cannot be done in isolation. Water for Life identifies the goals, actions and timelines for managing water at a provincial level. From there, Alberta’s municipalities are a key player in this strategy.

For more information about the Land Use Planning Hub, contact the website’s coordinator, Jeff Wiehler
The North Saskatchewan Region contains a diverse landscape encompassing Rocky Mountain, rolling foothill and prairie parkland ecosystems. The North Saskatchewan Region includes headwaters forests that provide clean water to downstream communities, mountains foothills, and parkland that support a diversity of habitats that provide homes for species at risk and serves as a major source of recreation and tourism.

The North Saskatchewan Regional Advisory Council

Read Jeff Wiehler’s post entitled Preparing for the next regional plans

The Land-use Knowledge Network was launched in 2011 and the Land Use Planning Hub in 2018. These two tools continue to grow and support research-based land use decision making throughout the province.

Check out our resource list related to the North Saskatchewan Regional Planning process.

Recommendations Document from the North Saskatchewan Regional Advisory Council

**Calls for Input**

**Biodiversity Stewardship Area – Wildland Provincial Park**

Proposal Open for Feedback


**Webinars on Land Use Planning: Call for Presentations**

fRI Research hosts a monthly webinar series on research, news and updates on natural science, conservation and land use topics. Webinars are hosted by fRI Research and available to the public. Presentation ideas on land use planning in Alberta are being accepted. fRI Research will manage the promotions, recording and facilitation of the webinar to a target audience of land use professionals in the province.

**Have your say on the Big Horn Country Consultation before January 31, 2019**

To ensure the right balance of Indigenous, economic, environmental, and social values and goals, all interested parties can provide input on the future of the Bighorn Country through an online survey available from Nov. 23, 2018 to Jan. 31, 2019.

Please review the site profiles, boundary maps, glossary and Bighorn Country overview for details and information on the proposal before you respond.
In March 2018, LuKN relaunched our monthly newsletter and we’d love to hear from you on how we are doing. To do that we will include quick poll surveys (between 1 to 3 questions) in our newsletters and on social media and you can help us make the Land-use Knowledge Network and the Land Use Planning Hub resources that contribute to your planning needs. The first poll is only two questions.

Miistakis Institute is a research institute, a conservation charity, and a social enterprise that takes knowledge from the realm of academia to the realm of land and resource management. Miistakis scientifically investigates conservation dilemmas, analyzes policy implications, develops decision support tools, and catalyzes community conservation action.

Miistakis identifies six research areas where their skills and expertise might have the greatest impact. Some research areas are tightly focused on a critical issue, while others reflect a common thread binding several issues. These research areas are:

- Conservation Planning and Policy
- Citizen Science
- Human Wildlife Coexistence
- Private Land Conservation
- Municipalities and Conservation
- Transportation Ecology

The Land-use Knowledge Network is a repository of a wide variety of resources to support your land use and planning research. Take a look at these items...

Least Conflict Lands: Municipal Decision Support Tool for Siting Renewable Energy Development (Miistakis Institute)

The Miistakis Institute partnered with the County of Newell and Wheatland County to develop a least conflict lands decision support tool to inform planning of renewable energy development. This process and decision support tool was modeled after the Least Conflict Lands for Solar PV development in the San Joaquin Valley of California developed by Conservation Biology Institute, UC Berkeley School of Law, and Terrell Watt Planning Consultants.
The report was the conclusion of a six-month project with the County of Newell and Wheatland County. The two Alberta municipalities were the test regions for developing this tool that identifies high value agriculture, ecology and cultural and scenic resources. By identifying the high value sites, solar and wind developments can be sited away from areas that have important value to residents, wildlife and businesses.

Join the discussion on the Land Use Planning Hub about this report.

If you have an event that you would like to see included in our monthly newsletter, please email Linda with the details.

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**EVENTS**

**January**

**Deadline**

Have your say on the Big Horn Country Survey
31 January 2019, Online

**February**

Shelterbelt Workshop in Northern Sunrise County
6 February 2019, St. Isadore

Northern Sunrise County Bumblebee House Building Workshop
7 February, St. Isadore

**March**

Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) Spring 2019 Convention and Trade Show
18-20 March, Edmonton

Apply for Funding
Improve your municipality with FCM’s capital project funding
31 March (deadline)

**April**

Registration Opens 2 January
LGAA 2019 Conference Strength Through Networking
2-5 April, Red Deer

Environmental Services Association of Alberta (ESAA): EnvroTech 2019
23-25 April 2019, Calgary

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**May**

Registration Opens 10 January
Canadian Water Network: Blue Cities 2019
7-8 May, Toronto

**June**

Save the Date
Canada’s Oil Sands Innovation Alliance (COSIA): 2019 Oil Sands Innovation Summit
3-4 June, Calgary

**September**

Save the Date
AUMA 2019 Convention and AMSC Trade Show
25-27 September, Edmonton

**October**

Call for Papers/Save the Date
Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation 2019 Sustainable Communities Conference
1-4 October, St. Johns, NL
If you have an announcement that you would like to see included in our monthly newsletter, please email Linda with the details.

**Alberta Wetland Replacement Fee: Changes Coming**
On December 1, 2018, Alberta Environment and Parks announced that it would be changing the interim wetland replacement process.
19 Dec 2018, Government of Alberta

**Canmore council approves plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions**
17 Dec 2018, Marie Conboy, Bow Valley Crag & Canyon

**Anderson Confirmed for January Mid-Size Cities Meeting Here**
Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) funding is among the topics mayors hope to discuss with Municipal Affairs minister Shaye Anderson during the Alberta Mid-Cites Mayors’ Caucus meeting being hosted by Cochrane, Jan. 30-31.
17 Dec 2018, Noel Edey, Cochrane Now

**Sylvan Lake moving towards greener future with Fogdog contract**
17 Dec 2018, Megan Roth, Sylvan Lake News

**Alberta gets federal disaster mitigation funding**
17 Dec 2018, Government of Alberta

**Happy trails ahead for active Albertans**
17 Dec 2018, Government of Alberta

**Beaumont to receive city status on Jan. 1**
14 Dec 2018, Caley Ramsay, Global News

**Grande Prairie highway projects boost local economy**
14 Dec 2018, Government of Alberta

**Agreement secures Slave Lake forestry jobs**
A new agreement will safeguard sustainable forestry in the Slave Lake region for the next two decades.

**Collaboration to protect boreal forest**
An innovative agreement between Indigenous communities, energy companies and federal and provincial governments is expected to conserve more than 166,000 hectares of boreal forest.

**Amended Brownfield regulation in effect January 1**
Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) has amended the Remediation Regulation, which will come into effect on January 1, 2019. The amendments were developed jointly with major stakeholders including AUMA, and the amendments streamline existing processes that were deemed as barriers by municipalities in the past.
12 Dec 2018, AUMA

**Premier seeking industry interest in oil refining**
In response to strong industry encouragement, Alberta is taking action to explore interest from the private sector in building a new oil refinery in the province.