



The 45th Annual Operators Seminar – Friday Workshop

Included with Seminar Registration

Impacts of Wild Fires – It Takes a Team!

Friday, March 13, 8:30 – 11:30 am

Part 1 – Presented by Lane Simon and Paul Curtis, Operators with the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

Lane Simon and Paul Curtis present first-hand experiences working in Fort McMurray during the 2016 wildfires. This presentation will focus on impacts and lessons learned including:

- Communications: back up plans, radios, cell phones
- Emergency Plan: review, preparedness, response, recovery, updates
- Auxiliary Systems: power, SCADA, fuel
- Impacts to the System: treatment plant, reservoirs, storm ponds, rural facilities



Part 2 – Wood Buffalo in Recovery: A Threat, A Hug, and a Conversation, Presented by Dana Woodworth, National Practice Lead Community Resilience, Associated Engineering



In May 2016, the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo experienced the largest natural disaster in Canadian History. The 2016 Horse River Wildfire forced the evacuation of 88,000 people, destroyed over 2,500 dwellings, and had an estimated combined direct and indirect monetary impact of \$8.9 billion. NOR-EX Engineering was contracted to lead and plan the Region's recovery from this unprecedented disaster. They provided direct leadership of the newly formed Municipal Recovery Task Force, a dedicated embedded recovery planning team, and expert disaster recovery knowledge and advice.

Dana Woodworth served as the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo's Recovery Team Leader for the Recovery Task Force. As Managing Director of the Alberta Emergency Management Agency, he also led the province's response to the 2011 Slave Lake Wildfire, and as Deputy Minister of Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development, led the environmental remediation approach for the 2013 Southern Alberta Flood and all wildfire operations in Alberta.