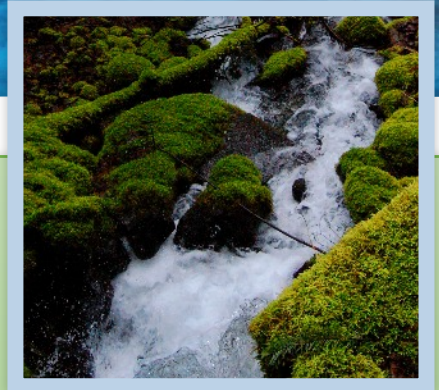


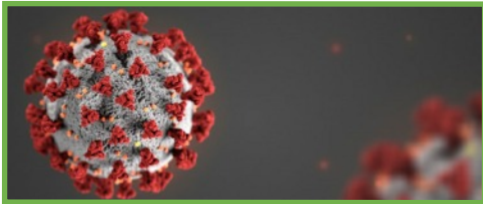
ALBERTA UTILITY OPERATOR

Spring 2020

Issue #41



COVID-19 Updates for Operators



Alberta Environment & Parks has released information and documents to support municipal utility operations of drinking water and wastewater systems during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I want to thank all of you, your teams and your councils for working together to keep the essential services of drinking water and wastewater running without service disruptions. Your efforts are deeply appreciated and essential for Albertans."

Dr. Lyndon Gyurek, Ph.D., P.Eng.
Director, Drinking Water/Wastewater/Stormwater
Environment and Parks

For more details check out page 2.

Save the Date - WATER WEEK CONFERENCE

ALBERTA WATER & WASTEWATER OPERATORS ASSOCIATION
3rd Annual Water Week Conference
November 18-20, 2020 | Edmonton, AB
AWWOA.CA

Save the Date!

Join us for the 3rd Annual Water Week Conference at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in West Edmonton. Delegates will have access to technical sessions, trade show and social opportunities!

Registration opens this summer. For more details check out page 7.

In This Issue

COVID-19 Updates.....	1&2
Save the Date.....	1
Math Corner.....	2
Your New Executive.....	3
Membership Awards.....	4
AWWOA Awards.....	5
Photo Contest Winners.....	6
Water Week Conference.....	6
The Old Operator.....	7
Charitable Donations.....	7
Training Opportunities.....	8

DEDICATED TO THE ESSENTIALS

COVID-19 Updates for Operators

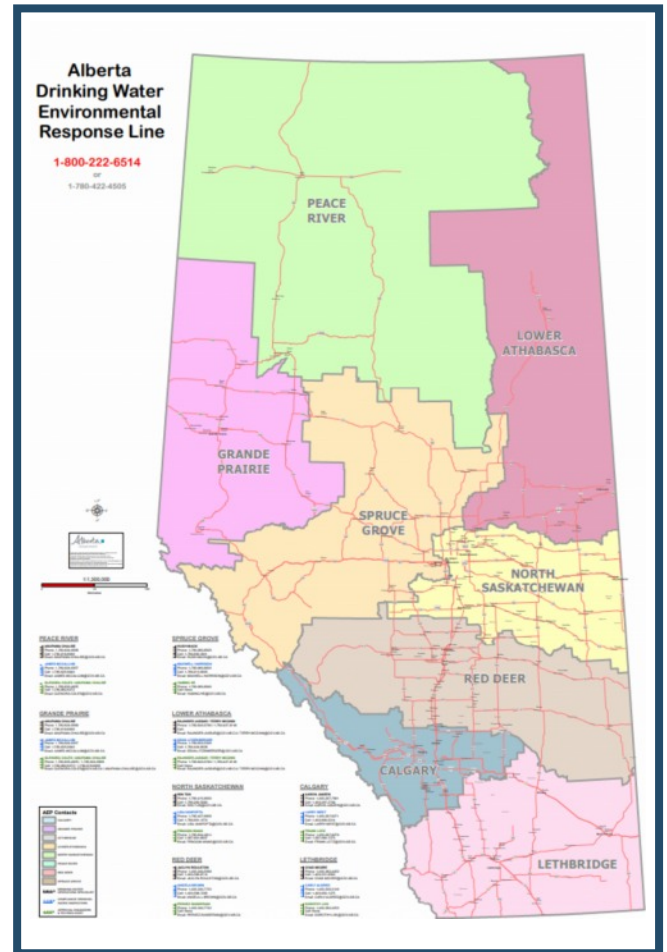
As a critical part of the drinking water and wastewater municipal industry, take all precautions possible to minimize the risk of COVID-19 exposure. Follow the advice from the public health officials for members of the critical infrastructure sectors. It is recommended you stay up-to-date on the latest health advice through reliable sources such as:

- Alberta Health Services (AHS)
- Health Canada
- World Health Organization (WHO)

Guidance Materials

Below are documents provided by AEP to further support municipality utility operations of drinking water and wastewater. All can be viewed at awwoa.ca.

1. For Drinking Water & Wastewater: Up-to-date provincial maps showing key Compliance Approvals, Drinking Water Operations Specialist (DWOS) (pictured right) and Industrial Wastewater Approval contacts for each area.
2. COVID-19 Pandemic Planning for the Water and Wastewater Sector: Business Continuity Planning for Water & Wastewater Systems
3. Frequently Asked Questions: COVID-19 - Drinking Water Facilities



Emergency Contact Information

If you are in contravention or in an emergency state due to loss of operators, chemicals, or unable to produce potable water, please call:

24 Hour Response Line:
1-800-222-6514 or 1-780-422-4505

For more information regarding COVID-19 updates for operators, visit awwoa.ca

Math Corner



David Noack

QUESTION:

An operator was using 1.1 kg of a 65% strength form of Calcium Chloride to treat his town's water but can now only purchase Sodium Hypochlorite in a 12% strength.

How many litres of the NaOCl will the operator need?

ANSWER:

$0.715 / 0.12 = 5.96 \text{ kgs}$
In order to dose 0.715 kgs using a 12% solution we need to reverse the calculation and divide.
 $1.1 \text{ kgs of Calcium Hypochlorite} \times 0.65 = 0.715 \text{ kgs}$
We can calculate the amount of Chlorine in the amount of NaOCl to meet that dosage.

AWWOA Election Results

Meet Your New Executive

In the 2020 election there were 6 executive positions up for nomination. These are your newly elected Directors.



MIKE BUREAUD
Re-Elected by Acclamation
Director
Communities over 150,000
EPCOR Water Services



KATHY ROBERTSON
Re-Elected
Director
Communities 25,001 - 150,000
Aquatera Utilities



TAMMY ELZINGA
Elected
Director
Communities 5,001 - 25,000
Leduc County



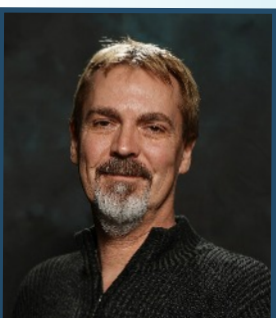
RICK GERVAIS
Elected
Director
Communities 5,000 & under
Smoky River Regional Water
Commission



DOUG THORSON
Re-Elected by Acclamation
Director
Life Member
Retired



DON ERECHUK
Re-Elected by Acclamation
Director
Public Facilities Category
DMJ Environmental



2020/21 Chair
DARRIN WENZEL
Strathcona County



This could be you!
For more information on
the AWWOA Board of
Directors elections visit:
www.awwoa.ca/about-us/our-executive

2020 Seminar Highlights

Membership Awards

AWWOA membership awards are presented annually at the Operators Seminar. Congratulations to the following members for their dedication and support!



10 Year Member Awards

Darrel Anderson	Marc Gath	Ryan McCartney
Jordan Ballard	Ryan Gervais	Ken McClellan
Andre Bedard	Jeff Gray	Stacey McDonald
Craig Bell	Kyrsti Guerin	Mark McLaughlin
Donald Blakey	Barry Gullion	Robert McLellan
Kevin Blatz	Mike Hagstrom	Jenny Metz
Douglas Blindback	Kevin Hahn	Sterling Mitchell
Dave Bourne	Steven Higgs	Alex Munoz
Peter Brattinga	Logan Howes	Trevor Noskiye
George Bunning	Jason Hunt	Remi Pariseau
Darwin Carruthers	John Hussynec	Lawrence Quinney
Adrian Casey	Dustin Jamieson	Arta Rajabi
Pam Cocks	Rene Janisse	Billy Rindero
Brenton Comeau	Bryce Johnson	Ryan Robinson
Clarence Cunningham	Reggie Khumalo	Ginger Rose
Georgina Cuthbert	Keung Lee	Adam Roth
Errin DeBoer	Bing Frank Li	Mostafa Samh
Darby Dietz	Bing Lin	Terry Sapsford
Terry Doerkson	Eric Lowe	Doran Schmidt
Venus Doria	Rick Lowry	Dwayne Sheppard
Greg Dowling	Brian Mack	Dana Shirley
LaNark Duce	Russell Marshall	John Smallwood
Ian Entwistle	Daren Marshall	Shane Still
Corriena Fox	Juan Mateus-Cortes	Brian Thomson
Richard Gaida	Aaron Matters	Aaron Zahn
		Marija Zelembaba

20 Year Awards

Graham Backus
Jim Blades
Gary Blades
Devin Boudreau
Blair Brandenburg
Dwayne Cikaluk
Ron Doore
Joe Duplessie
Wes Fletcher
John T Garvin
Duane Guzzi
Al Hogarth
Barry Huebert
Preston Iverson
Brendon Jenner
George Kewley
John Michalopoulos
Darran Murphy
Robert Pilsworth
Craig Praskach
Gary Rusaw
Don Saari
Brent Schapansky
Ian Schmidt
Petr Sipek
Chris Sproule
Jeff Sturgess

30 Year Awards

Lawrence Allen
Gary Couch
Joe Luchka
Robert Proulx
Jocelyn Thibeault
Dwayne Van Schaick



AWWOA Awards

Every year at the Operators Seminar, AWWOA is proud to acknowledge the accomplishments of its members by recognizing them with the following awards. Congratulations to all the award recipients!

Gerald Samuel Operator of the Year Award

Congratulations to Marta Olivares from EPCOR for receiving the 2019 Gerald Samuel Operator of the Year Award!

“Marta deserves this award because of her dedication - she is always willing to take the time to help people and provide the right information even when they are not sure what they need.”

“Her primary focus is always what’s best for operators in terms of their understanding of the plant processes and systems. She ensures that she takes the time to provide operators with answers to their questions and keeping them informed of changes or updates.”



AWWOA Chair Paresh Dhariya presenting the 2019 Gerald Samuel Operator of the Year Award to Marta Olivares, EPCOR.

Achievement Highlights

- Planned and lead the Water Treatment Plant Operations section of the first EPCOR Career Fair.
- Created a script and starred in a video explaining the Rossdale Water Treatment Plant Process.
- Presented her personal story of working as a female operator at EPCOR’s annual Herstory Event.

AWWOA’S NAIT Achievement Awards

JEREMY PRICE - FALL INTAKE
ASHLEY SMITH - WINTER INTAKE



Ron Bayne Service Award

DOUG THORSON





The Old Operator

DETERMINATION AND WILLPOWER; THE PARTNERS OF SUCCESS

On life's highway, few things are certain. We start out with aspirations for one thing, life interjects, a door opens and we are off in a new direction. As hard as we work at something, life doesn't always allow us to continue. What's important is that whatever we tackle, we do the best we can, and learn from our mistakes while always keeping our eye on the goal.

In every trial there is a (gem) blessing. Determined people find this gem, adjust course and allow it to re-fuel them.

Determination is doing and achieving even when things get tough and others quit. Willpower is self-control over thoughts and behaviour complimented with the ability to change and adapt under difficult circumstances. Patricia Neal says it this way,

"A strong positive attitude will create more miracles than any wonder drug."

Here is a short story of determination and willpower. Harry, since the age of seven played the piano and by fifteen he was excelling. It was obvious he would one day play in great halls around the world. Within one year disaster befell on his family. Their fortune was gone and there was no money for piano lessons. By sixteen Harry was working to assist his family just to survive. His future career as a pianist faded into the daily grind of work. The determination and willpower that allowed Harry to excel at the piano helped him to succeed as the 33rd President of the United States: Harry S Truman.

While Harry never played great music, he did become the President of the United States of America. Why? Because his willpower started with a resolved mind, was propelled by ambition and furnished with perseverance, at least that's how I see it, the Old Operator.

By Doug Thorson.



Charitable Donations Update

Supporting The Water School

Our Operators Seminar in Banff, Alberta for 2020 was a success on many fronts while being partially overshadowed by the COVID-19 virus. We carried out several activities to collect donations for our 2020 water project. Some of the activities included our candy guess jar, watch and wood model, Monday and Tuesday 50/50 draws (both claimed), speakers gift donations and our great silent auction. I want to say a special thanks to our members, suppliers and guests who most graciously donated items for the silent auction. Without your generosity there would be no silent auction.

One of the highlights of the Seminar opening was a presentation by Dave Ericson, representing The Water School. He spoke to a packed auditorium on some of the Association's past successful projects and the positive impact our donations make on children and parents in Uganda. While we normally choose projects (Primary Schools) in water and wastewater, we decided, along with The Water School, to share in a slightly different project.

This year our donations will go to drill two Solar Bore holes in the centre of three villages. The villages are in a rain-shadow area, that is they receive little or no rain. The bore holes will be approximately 80 meters deep and solar energy will power the pumping of water to the surface and then gravity to all three communities. This will offer clean safe drinking water to several thousand people. A water committee will be set up in each village to manage the maintenance and operation. The Water School has already received a good chunk of funding for this project. With the addition of our funds, The School feels assured the remainder of funds for the project will be forth coming shortly.

I saved the best news till last. You raised approximately **\$19,300** this year for our Charitable Donations project. Thank you all very much. Please stay safe and healthy, until we meet again in these pages.

Doug Thorson
Charitable Donations Committee Chair

2020 Seminar Photo Contest

Seminar Photo Contest Winners

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in the 45th Annual Operators Seminar Photo Contest! A wide range of photos were submitted and the AWWOA is happy to announce the winners.

First Place



Vegreville Water Board North Saskatchewan River Crossing
Submitted by Dale Lefebvre,
Town of Vegreville

Second Place



Wooden Stave Pipe
Submitted by Scott Baillie,
Municipality of Crowsnest Pass

Third Place



Root Monster
Submitted by WWC,
City of Red Deer

3rd Annual Water Week Conference



DATE: NOVEMBER 18 - 20, 2020

LOCATION: DOUBLETREE BY HILTON HOTEL - EDMONTON, AB

Delegates will have access to technical sessions, trade show and valuable networking opportunities. The event offers 0.9 CEUs. Register for one of three pre-conference workshops for an additional 0.3 CEUs.

- Nov 18 - pre-conference workshops, delegate lunch, and technical presentations
- Nov 19 - trade show with lunch and technical presentations
- Nov 20 - half-day technical presentations

AWWOA.CA

*Do you have a topic you would like to present at the conference?
Contact us at connect@awwoa.ca for more information.*



Online & Correspondence Training



Under the current circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, the AWWOA is unable to offer in-class training. As stewards of public health and the environment, the health and safety of operators is most important. The AWWOA anticipates in-class training to return to normal with our new calendar starting in September.

AWWOA has introduced an initiative to help operators continue to obtain needed CEUs and prepare for certification exams during isolation times. All AWWOA online training options are being offered at a 50% reduced rate. This initiative will continue until classroom training resumes.

Register online at: AWWOA.CA

Online Training Options

All AWWOA Certification Preparation courses can be completed online. After registering, you will receive confirmation and will have access to the course right away.

- Entry Level Training 1.2 CEUs
- Level I Certification Prep 5.0 CEUs
- Level II Wastewater Collection Cert Prep 1.2 CEUs
- Level II Water Distribution Cert Prep 1.2 CEUs
- Level II Water Treatment Cert Prep 1.5 CEUs
- Level II Wastewater Treatment Cert Prep 1.5 CEUs
- Level III/IV Water Distribution Cert Prep 1.2 CEUs
- Level III/IV Wastewater Collection Cert Prep 1.2 CEUs
- Level III/IV Water Treatment Cert Prep 1.2 CEUs
- Level III/IV Wastewater Treatment Cert Prep 1.3 CEUs
- Small Water Systems Operations - 0.6 CEUs
- Small Wastewater Systems Operations - 0.6 CEUs

Correspondence Options

The following courses are offered through correspondence (home study) only. Once registered, materials will be mailed within 1-3 business days.

- Pumps: Theory, Operation and Maintenance 3.0 CEUs
- Mathematics Correspondence 9.0 CEUs
- Water Treatment Plant Operations 15.0 CEUs

Connect With AWWOA

Toll free: 1-877-454-7745 Local: 780-454-7745
Email: info@awwoa.ca Website: awwoa.ca
Visit us on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube



PM 41796530

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