

April 2009

Mark Your Calendars

CASA Board Meeting Dates

The CASA Board of Directors have four remaining meeting dates in 2009:

- May 7, half-day workshop, Edmonton
- June 24, Calgary
- September 23, Calgary
- December 9, Edmonton

Alberta Airsheds Council 3rd Zones Conference

The Alberta Airsheds Council is hosting the third zones conference on October 19-20, 2009 at the Mayfield Inn in Edmonton. Registration information will be available at: www.albertaairshedsCouncil.ca shortly and on the CASA website.

News

CASA's 15th Anniversary

CASA was recognized in the Alberta Legislature on March 17, 2009. The executive committee was introduced by Environment Minister, Rob Renner and the announcement of CASA's 15th anniversary was made by MLA Wayne Drysdale. Alberta Energy sponsored the request through Minister Knight's office.

Welcome to Clean Air Bulletin!

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Clean Air Bulletin is a publication of the Clean Air Strategic Alliance (CASA). Opinions expressed do not necessarily represent those of the CASA board of directors or CASA member organizations. Past issues are available on the CASA website at the link below.

Please send feedback and suggestions to casa@casahome.org.

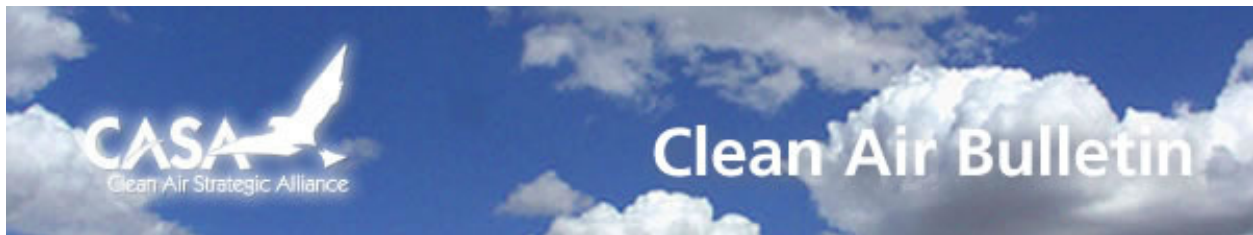
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Contact CASA

[Clean Air Strategic Alliance](#)
10th Floor,
10035 – 108 Street NW
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 3E1 Canada

[Website](#) | [Email](#)

Phone: (780) 427-9793
Fax: (780) 422-3127



Ambient Monitoring Strategic Plan

The Ambient Monitoring Strategic Plan (AMSP) Project Team presented to the CASA Board in March with respect to a few challenging issues related to funding and implementing a proposed new monitoring system. The overall strategic plan—the vision, goals, monitoring sub-programs, funding principles, and the data and information management process has a high degree of support from stakeholders. It was agreed to revisit the issue at the June board meeting with input from specific stakeholders on short and long-term funding solutions. For more information, please visit <http://www.casahome.org/?cat=59> or talk with the AMSP Project Team co-chairs and team members.

Clean Air Strategy

At the March board meeting, the Government clarified the scope and process for the Clean Air Strategy (CAS). The board was advised that CASA recommendations for the CAS will undergo analysis by all affected provincial government ministries and that the Government of Alberta will then draft the actual strategy. The board will hold a workshop May 7 to provide its input to the team. The final report and recommendations for a Clean Air Strategy will be presented to the CASA board in June.

Measuring CASA's Performance

Every year CASA reviews the implementation rate of its recommendations as part of its performance measurement. Forty-seven substantive recommendations made in 2004 from five CASA teams were evaluated this year, with the overall rating of implementation of 91%. This is the second highest on record, with this level of success due mainly to recommendations by the Flaring and Venting team being addressed by the ERCB's Directive 60.

Last year, the degree of recognition of CASA by the public was also notable. More than 8,000 individuals made repeat visits to the CASA website last year. CASA was mentioned 109 times in Alberta news stories, which is the highest value since we started tracking in 2003.

Priority Setting on Ambient Objectives

The board approved terms of reference for a team to organize the third Priority Setting Workshop. These workshops are held every few years to assist Alberta Environment in prioritizing substances for which Ambient Air Quality Objectives should be developed and reviewed. Feedback will be gathered from the public and background information on substances in Alberta's air will be provided to participants prior to the workshop. No date has been set yet for the workshop.



People

Board Member Changes

Tom Burton has been appointed by the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties to replace Carolyn Kolebaba as the director representing Government – Rural.

David Lawlor of ENMAX Corporation has been appointed as the alternate director representing the Alternate Energy sector.

Ruth Yanor with Mewassin Community Council has been appointed as the alternate director for NGO Pollution.

Tim Goos Retires

Tim Goos, a long-time CASA board member, has retired from his position as Acting Regional Director with Environment Canada. CASA will miss Tim's humour and insights on the CASA process and his commitment to "The CASA Way." We wish him well in his retirement.

Sharon Hawrelak departs CASA

On March 27, CASA said farewell to communications manager Sharon Hawrelak, who has served CASA with enthusiasm and professionalism since 2005. The board and staff extended thanks and good wishes to Sharon in her new position with ATCO in Edmonton.

CASA Remembers Martha Kostuch

Martha Kostuch, former CASA NGO Vice President and active team participant, passed away one year ago. Martha's legacy is that of collaboration and fostering relationships between stakeholders from different sectors. She encouraged us to be "tough on the problem, not on the people." CASA is planning a Consensus Building Workshop in Martha's honour. Watch our website for more information.