

CASA: Clean Air Strategic Alliance

**2000
Annual
Report**



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Vision

The air will be odourless, tasteless, look clear and have no measurable short or long-term adverse effects on people, animals, or the environment.

Mission

The Clean Air Strategic Alliance is a stakeholder partnership that has been given shared responsibility by its members, including the Government of Alberta, for strategic planning, organizing and coordinating resources, and evaluation of air quality in Alberta through a collaborative process.

"I think one of CASA's strengths is that the consensus-based process levels the playing field. All sectors whether it is government, industry or non-government organizations (environmental and health groups) have an equal voice at the table. Proof that the CASA process works is the fact that the Energy and Utilities Board has come back to CASA for more work on the flaring and venting issue. For us (non-government organizations), access to key decision-makers is a significant benefit. By participating on CASA teams, we can build lasting relationships with decision-makers in government and industry. Gaining that access and keeping the door open is very important when you deal with tough air quality issues."

– Cindy Chiasson, Environmental Law Centre



Ken Smith, CASA President

President's message

The Clean Air Strategic Alliance (CASA) was formed in March 1994, and since that time we have changed to meet the needs and expectations of a wide range of stakeholders. Our stakeholders expect improved air quality by developing trust and credibility.

The formation of three new project teams (flaring/venting project team, particulate matter and ozone implementation planning project team, pollution prevention/continuous improvement project team) and a new airshed (Fort Air Partnership airshed) is evidence that our stakeholders continue to trust and value CASA as an institution.

With a record number of project teams bringing together a great deal of expertise and commitment, CASA is growing like never before and is being recognized as an effective and influential organization.

In 2000 we began the process of developing performance measures to gauge our progress towards achieving those expectations. The newly formed performance measures subcommittee is continuing its work into 2001. The finished result will allow us to better focus the time and effort that stakeholders put into the development of a comprehensive air quality management system for all Albertans.

In this report you will learn what CASA is and how it works. You will also learn about which issues we currently have on our plate and how our stakeholders, in their own words, think CASA makes a difference.

I want to thank all the people and organizations that continue to participate actively in the many teams and groups that make up CASA. Your ongoing support brings us closer to our shared vision of clean air for all Albertans.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K. Smith'.

Ken Smith

What is CASA?

The Clean Air Strategic Alliance (CASA) was established in March 1994 as a new way to manage air quality issues in Alberta. CASA is a non-profit association composed of diverse stakeholders from three sectors. Senior representatives from each sector, government, industry, and non-government organizations (such as health and environmental groups) are committed to developing and applying a comprehensive air quality management system for the people of Alberta through a collaborative, consensus-based process.

All participants in the CASA process work towards a shared vision. Our vision is for the air to be odourless, tasteless, look clear and have no measurable short or long-term adverse effects on people, animals, or the environment.

Our mission statement describes CASA as a stakeholder partnership that has been given shared responsibility by its members, including the Government of Alberta, for strategic planning, organizing and coordinating resources, and evaluation of air quality in Alberta through a collaborative process.

How does CASA work?

All CASA groups, including the board of directors and its committees, working groups, project teams, and implementation teams use a consensus-based process to make decisions and recommendations. Each CASA group has representation from each sector (government, industry, and non-government organizations).

Anyone can bring an air quality issue to the attention of CASA by filing a brief statement of concern/opportunity.

The executive director screens the statement to determine if CASA is the best organization to address the concern/opportunity based on established and specific criteria. The entire process and all criteria are outlined in the Comprehensive Air Quality Management System (CAMS). CAMS is an objective and defensible decision-making tool used by all CASA groups.

CAMS has the following stages and steps:

Stage 1:

Screen and Scope

- Step 1: Receive statement of concern/opportunity
- Step 2: Conduct initial screening
- Step 3: Clarify issues

Stage 2:

Prioritize and task

- Step 4: Set priorities
- Step 5: Delegate tasks

Stage 3:

Design, review, and approve plan

- Step 6: Design action plan
- Step 7: Review problem management plan
- Step 8: Approve implementation plan

Stage 4:

Implement, evaluate, and review process

- Step 9: Implement plan
- Step 10: Evaluate and review process

What is consensus?

The widely accepted definition of consensus is “general agreement.” A consensus exercise is the bringing together of a group of people in an attempt to address the interests or concerns that underlie the parties’ positions on an issue. The focus is therefore on finding solutions to the problems faced by each party so that each participant can agree to a set of recommendations. While participants may not agree with every detail of the overall package, the end result of a successful consensus exercise is a set of decisions that everyone can “live with,” because it reflects the interests of everyone at the table. Agreements reached through a consensus exercise are also likely to be more innovative and more long lasting than one reached through traditional negotiation processes.

CASA teams

The work of CASA is achieved largely through the participation of teams of individuals representing stakeholders who share an interest in a specific issue. Most issues are brought to the board in the form of a statement of concern/opportunity. When the board of directors agrees that CASA should take on a concern/opportunity, a working group is formed to draft terms of reference for a project team. Once the board approves those terms of reference, a project team is formed. The project team is accountable to the board while individual participants are accountable to their stakeholder organizations. Sometimes, recommendations from a project team lead to the formation of an implementation team. In most cases, responsibility to implement the recommendations will rest with an existing mandated agency.

Project teams

- Animal health
- Climate change
- Flaring/venting
- Human health
- Particulate matter and ozone implementation planning
- Pollution prevention/continuous improvement

Implementation teams

- Acidifying emissions management
- Ambient monitoring operations steering committee
- Vehicle emissions

“CASA provides the government sector with access to a broad base of stakeholders with expertise on air quality issues that would be very difficult and expensive to assemble otherwise. The consensus model employed by CASA is credible, inclusive and transparent. It puts everyone on the same footing regarding information and discussions. CASA processes enhance our ability to achieve beneficial environmental outcomes that are effective and efficient.”

– George Murphy, Alberta Environment

Airsheds

With the approval of the CASA board, airsheds are established as a means of dealing with air quality issues in a specific region. Many of Alberta's air quality issues are local, both in their cause and the solutions required. In these cases, province-wide approaches may be inappropriate and inefficient. Stakeholders in a local area drive the establishment of an airshed in their region. CASA provides the framework within which airsheds function but each operates independently as a non-profit society or association. Airshed management plans must be consistent with the vision of CASA and use the consensus decision-making process (CAMS).

At the CASA board meeting on November 23, 2000 the fourth airshed to be formed, called the Fort Air Partnership, was established in the Fort Saskatchewan region.

In 2000 four airsheds operated in Alberta:

- Fort Air Partnership airshed
- Parkland Airshed Management Zone
- West Central Airshed Society
- Wood Buffalo Environmental Association airshed



"CASA provides a forum to bring together all stakeholder organizations that have an interest in air quality issues. With CASA, we can deal with issues that are significant to our utility sector like SO₂ emissions and particulate matter and ozone. We are afforded a valuable opportunity to develop relationships with people in various levels of government and with key people in health and environmental groups. It leads to better communication and understanding of views among stakeholders on key issues and concerns. This leads to better solutions to air quality issues in the province and within our utility industry."

– Joe Kostler, ATCO Power

Funding

The operations of CASA are supported by equal financial contributions from Alberta Environment, Alberta Health and Wellness and Alberta Resource Development.

Industry, government and non-government organizations provide additional funding and in kind support for CASA teams and in kind support for the airsheds.

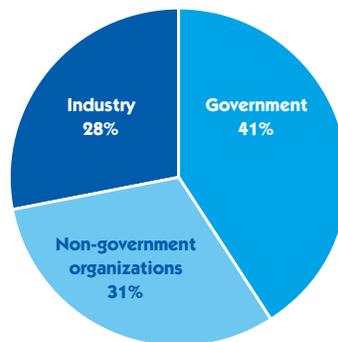
CASA has tried to put an actual dollar figure on the support and assistance provided by each sector. The figures are compiled by examining time and travel costs, as well as cash and in kind contributions. They almost certainly under-record and under-estimate the actual value of stakeholder contributions, but are offered in the spirit of acknowledging and recognizing participant involvement.

Cash and in kind contributions to CASA teams and airsheds

CASA teams

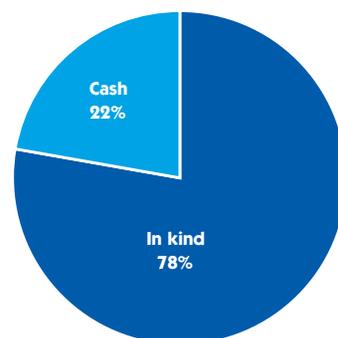
Cash and in kind contributions by sector:

• Industry:	\$173,911
• Government:	\$258,353
• Non-government organizations:	\$196,740
<i>Combined:</i>	<i>\$629,004</i>



Total cash and in kind contributions:

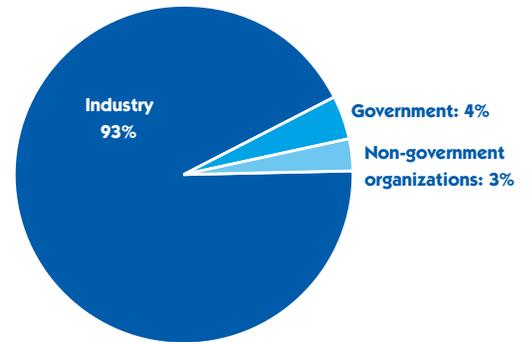
• In kind:	\$491,178
• Cash:	\$137,826
<i>Combined:</i>	<i>\$629,004</i>



Airsheds

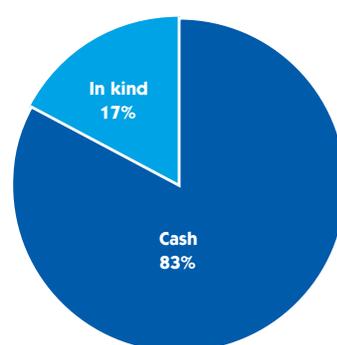
Cash and in kind contributions by sector:

• Industry:	\$4,101,229
• Government:	\$155,523
• Non-government organizations:	\$124,450
<i>Combined:</i>	<i>\$4,381,202</i>



Total cash and in kind contributions:

• In kind:	\$762,908
• Cash:	\$3,618,294
<i>Combined:</i>	<i>\$4,381,202</i>



Note: The airshed figures are provided by the following organizations:

- Fort Air Partnership Association
- Parkland Airshed Management Zone Association
- West Central Airshed Society
- Wood Buffalo Environmental Association.

CASA board of directors

as of December 31, 2000

DIRECTORS

Sector	Stakeholder group	Association/affiliation	Representative
Industry	Agriculture	Alberta Federation of Rural Electrification Associations	Herman Schwenk
Industry	Alternate energy	Alternate energy producers	Ken Newel
Industry	Chemical manufacturers	Canadian Chemical Producers Association	Wil VandenBorn
Industry	Forestry	Alberta Forest Products Association	Successor not yet named
Industry	Mining	Mining industry	Dermot Lane
Industry	Oil and gas (large producers)	Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers	Dave Byler, CASA vice-president
Industry	Oil and gas (small producers)	Small Explorers and Producers Association of Canada	John Squarek
Industry	Petroleum products	Canadian Petroleum Products Institute	Gilles Courtemanche
Industry	Utilities	Utilities	R. H. (Dick) Walthall
Government	Federal	Environment Canada	Jim Vollmershausen
Government	Local	Alberta Urban Municipalities Association	Bob Hawkesworth
Government	Provincial	Alberta Environment	Doug Tupper
Government	Provincial	Alberta Health and Wellness	Successor not yet named
Government	Provincial	Alberta Resource Development	Ken Smith, CASA president
Non-government organization	Consumers/transportation	Alberta Motor Association	Rob Taylor
Non-government organization	Health	Alberta Lung Association	Jerry Hall
Non-government organization	Pollution	Pembina Institute	Tom Marr-Laing, CASA vice-president
Non-government organization	Pollution	Toxics Watch Society of Alberta	Myles Kitagawa
Non-government organization	Wilderness	South Peace Environmental Association	Henry Pirker

ALTERNATES

Sector	Stakeholder group	Association/affiliation	Representative
Industry	Agriculture	Wild Rose Agricultural Producers	Jennifer Bocoek
Industry	Alternate energy	Alternate energy producers	David Baker
Industry	Chemical manufacturers	Canadian Chemical Producers Association	Ken Tsang
Industry	Forestry	Alberta Forest Products Association	Neil Shelly
Industry	Mining	Mining industry	Ron Laing
Industry	Oil and gas (large producers)	Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers	Gord Lambert
Industry	Oil and gas (small producers)	Small Explorers and Producers Association of Canada	Mitch Shier
Industry	Petroleum products	Canadian Petroleum Products Institute	Bill Levy
Industry	Utilities	Utilities	Joe Kostler
Government	Federal	Environment Canada	Tim Goos
Government	Local	Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties	Eugene Wauters
Government	Provincial	Alberta Environment	David Spink
Government	Provincial	Alberta Health and Wellness	Stephen Gabos
Government	Provincial	Alberta Resource Development	John Donner
Non-government organization	Consumers/transportation	Alberta Motor Association	Dan VanKeeken
Non-government organization	Health	Alberta Lung Association	Al Kennedy
Non-government organization	Pollution	Non-government organizations - pollution	Cindy Chiasson
Non-government organization	Pollution	Toxics Watch Society of Alberta	Linda F. Duncan
Non-government organization	Wilderness	Prairie Acid Rain Coalition	Martha Kostuch

Thank you to past board members

CASA gratefully acknowledges the contribution of board members, indicated below, who stepped down in 2000.

- Cecilie Lord,
Alberta Health and Wellness
- Laura Miller,
Conoco Canada Limited
- Bob Olson,
Weyerhaeuser Canada Limited
- Dan Smith,
Pembina Institute
- James Tweedie, Bert Riggall
Environmental Foundation

Secretariat

Administrative assistants

- Tammy Allsup
(as of May 15, 2000)
- Christa Cruthers
(until May 31, 2000)
- Marlene Parker

Communications officer

- Geoff Williams
(as of March 8, 2000)

Executive director

- Donna Tingley

Graphic coordinator

- Roy Swenson
(until April 28, 2000)

Office manager

- Bernice Lloyd

Project manager

- Kerra Chomlak (as of April 3,
2000)

Science advisor

- Marianne English

Senior project manager

- Christine Macken

News in 2000

Data issues workshop

Source emissions, ambient concentrations, and ecosystem and human health data are all essential to making progress toward the CASA vision of clean air. A number of CASA teams, working on various issues, have identified data gaps and have made recommendations for filling these gaps. For instance, the SO₂ management team identified a need for improved emission inventories and forecasts and the vehicle emissions team and human health team expressed concern about using ambient data as an indicator of human exposure. As well, a number of teams have identified a need for better data/information sharing. With these needs in mind, a CASA workshop on data issues was held on March 13 and 14, 2000. Participants created over 50 recommendations and said the workshop was very useful.

The board of directors endorsed the following overarching recommendations:

- The most critical need identified in this workshop was for commitment, resources and leadership, particularly on the part of the provincial government, to establish and maintain, a better system to collect, manage, distribute and interpret data in a scientifically sound and timely manner. Therefore, a small team of senior CASA stakeholders should develop a strategy for securing commitment from key decision makers in government and industry to provide the resources and leadership to establish and maintain this system.
- A multi-stakeholder team, coordinated by CASA, should compile and review recommendations from the data issues workshop, from CASA teams, and from previous forums on air quality and health issues. The status of these recommendations should be assessed, with the aim of developing an implementation plan to improve the collection of air quality and health data.

"CASA as a process can be beneficial for some issues but not all. We have made some significant progress when there is a true desire from all sectors to solve an issue. By using the CASA process, we usually arrive at the solution with the best chance of success, but only when there is a political will and commitment. I find that CASA provides an excellent forum to build understanding and to realize the concerns of all stakeholders."

– Martha Kostuch, Prairie Acid Rain Coalition

New airshed and three new project teams

The year 2000 saw the formation of three new CASA project teams and a new airshed in the Fort Saskatchewan region.

Fort Air Partnership airshed

The CASA board of directors formally recognized the creation of a new airshed in the Fort Saskatchewan region during its November 2000 board meeting. The Fort Air Partnership (FAP) airshed is home to many large industries and is located adjacent and to the east of the Edmonton urban area. FAP has chosen to focus on the following issues:

- Effects/relevance of air quality on human health
- Cumulative effects on air quality
- Emissions from specific industry facilities – continuous emissions and emissions during upset conditions
- Communication of credible air quality data.

Flaring/venting

The Alberta Energy and Utilities Board presented a statement of opportunity to the board of directors. The Prairie Acid Rain Coalition, Pembina Institute, Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers, Small Energy Producers Association of Canada and Alberta Environment supported the formation of the working group to review the

2001 EUB Guide 60 and develop terms of reference for a flaring/venting project team. Terms of reference were agreed upon and the flaring/venting project team was formed late in 2000.

Particulate matter and ozone implementation planning

Terms of reference were approved by the board of directors for the formation of the particulate matter and ozone implementation planning project team. The focus of the new project team is to reach consensus on recommendations for Alberta's implementation plan for achieving the provisions of the Canada-Wide Standard (CWS) for particulate matter and ozone.

Pollution prevention/continuous improvement

A working group on pollution prevention/continuous improvement (PP/CI) was established at the November 1999 CASA board of directors meeting. At the June 2000 board meeting, terms of reference were accepted and the PP/CI project team was created to promote an environment in which PP/CI is used to protect air quality and to ensure the public contributes to pollution prevention by making clean air friendly choices.

Meeting with the Ministers

In the summer, CASA board members met with two provincial cabinet ministers, Hon. Halvar Jonson, Minister of Environment, and Hon. Mike Cardinal, Minister of Resource Development, to brief them on CASA's past successes and current activities. The discussion was thoroughly engaging.

Providing the briefing to Mr. Jonson were Ald. Bob Hawkesworth, Martha Kostuch, Wil VandenBorn and Jim Vollmershausen. Although very new in his environment portfolio, Mr. Jonson described his priorities in the areas of pollution prevention, continuous improvement, air quality monitoring and climate change.

CASA board members Myles Kitagawa and Joe Kostler conducted the briefing to Mr. Cardinal. Mr. Cardinal was especially interested in topics such as solution gas flaring, the challenges of socio-economic integration and commercial building standards. Mr. Cardinal's Deputy Minister of Resource Development, Ken Smith, who is also president of CASA, provided him with additional insight into CASA's successes.

New look for CASA

CASA unveiled a new visual identity in September 2000. The look is more modern and features a stylized hawk with both the acronym "CASA" and the organization's full name. The new visual identity was developed to modernize the organization's image and to increase visual consistency.

ClimateWise starts

During the fall of 2000, Albertans in four communities had the opportunity to find out how to reduce their natural gas and electricity bills, reduce the costs of operating their vehicles, purchase environmentally friendly Christmas gifts and more. It was all part of the ClimateWise program developed by the climate change project team's public outreach subcommittee. The program was piloted in the communities of Queen Alexandra (Edmonton), Edson, New Sarepta and Vegreville from October 2000 to February 2001.

ClimateWise consists of a series of six two-hour workshops that give participants the tools and information needed to take personal action on climate change. The bonus is that in addition to saving energy and the environment, they can also save money. The workshops featured

guest experts, hands-on activities, take-home materials and chances to win prizes. The design and implementation of the program are based on a study that was completed in March 2000 to gauge how important climate change is to Albertans.

Evaluation of the project is designed to accomplish several things. It will assess program delivery and measure the impact of the program in each location; it will determine if participants' motivation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and understanding of climate change has changed, and if any greenhouse gas emission reductions have resulted. It will also determine whether the participants have moved closer to action even if action has not yet occurred. Further, it will allow comparison of the results of the program with others, making it possible to measure the effectiveness of different delivery models.

The final report is scheduled for release during the spring of 2001.

CASA out in the Community

The secretariat participated in two events to promote CASA to Albertans. The first event was the Commuter Challenge held in Edmonton from June 5 to 9. CASA was involved in the media kick-off and our display was shown to the public. The secretariat went on to make a side challenge with the Environmental Law Centre (ELC) to see which organization had the healthiest commuters during the week. A healthy commuter was defined as teleworkers, walkers, runners, cyclists, rollerbladers, public transit patrons, and carpoolers. Although the ELC won with a participation rate of 93.3 per cent compared to CASA's 82.3 per cent, we were all very proud of the high level of participation.

CASA also participated in a second event put on by the Sierra Club. The Alternative Transportation Fair at West Edmonton Mall was held on October 23 and 24, 2000. There was extensive coverage of the event and interest by the public in the event was high.

"An advantage I see with CASA is that because it is at arms length from government, it is seen as a safe and comfortable forum for solving air quality issues. A lot of the political barriers are removed because everyone is open and honest in their opinions. I see CASA as a process where you can expect something to get done with a high level of credibility. My work with CASA has been very rewarding and I believe it will continue to be rewarding in the future."

— David Reynolds, climate change and strategic initiatives, environmental management, City of Calgary

Target loading subgroup wins award

From 1995 to 1999, the target loading subgroup (TLS) created a management framework to prevent harmful effects of acid deposition in Alberta. The framework puts Alberta in the enviable position of having a management plan in place prior to experiencing any effects of acid deposition.

Implementing the recommendations of the SO₂ management project team is the main goal of the TLS. The Premier of Alberta awarded the team with the 2000 Premier's Award of Excellence (Bronze).

The TLS involved representatives from Alberta Environment, the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board, Environment Canada, the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers, the utility and coal industries, the Prairie Acid Rain Coalition, and Saskatchewan Environment and Resources Management.

This project is a model for how multi-stakeholder teams can work together on a complex issue to achieve significant benefits for all Albertans.

Reports from CASA teams

The work of CASA is achieved largely through those on project or implementation teams. The board of directors wishes to thank the many people who have given their time, expertise and commitment to finding solutions to specific air quality issues.

Project teams

Animal health

Goal:

To prevent short and long-term adverse impacts of air contaminants on animal health.

Objectives:

- Identify key concerns regarding the effects of air emissions on animal health.
- Investigate animal health impacts attributable to air contaminants.
- Develop a management response system to manage identified risks.
- Assess air quality guidelines and objectives and make recommendations to ensure animal health is protected.
- Document and summarize scientific and local/traditional knowledge regarding the effects of air emissions on animal health.
- Identify research gaps and make recommendations to fill the gaps.
- Communicate with stakeholders.

Report for 2000:

The animal health project team is focusing on the potential for a management response system that would be used to address livestock health issues that could be associated with air emissions. The team provides an opportunity to discuss these issues in a supportive, non-confrontational forum with government, industry, and public stakeholders. This forum allows stakeholders to search for commonly agreed solutions to concerns about animal/livestock health.

The team sponsored a survey that has identified some potential areas for further response. The team also covered such diverse topics as, how to improve the credibility of research into animal health, and how to gather information that would be used for a baseline assessment.

The team intends to continue studying the relationship of industrial emissions to animal welfare into 2001, with the aim of making a report and recommendations to the CASA board.

Climate change

Goal:

To contribute to greenhouse gas reductions by developing, assessing, prioritizing, explaining and recommending actions/ measures to government and stakeholders that will broaden the scope of early action and assist in deciding on subsequent action.

Objectives:

- To identify, define, explain and recommend quick-start measures for adoption by Alberta stakeholders.
- To identify the implications for climate change of actions considered by other CASA teams focused on other air issues.
- To enable individual stakeholders to contribute to the design of measures in the national process, by promoting communication and by providing a forum for measures assessment and design from an Alberta perspective.
- To strengthen the Alberta process for responding to the climate change issue by contributing specific greenhouse gas reduction actions to the Alberta Cabinet Committee on Climate Change (C-4) process.
- To identify, define and recommend longer-term climate change response measures, to assist on-going decision-making on climate change.

Report for 2000:

In 2000, the climate change project team (CCPT) had a dual focus. The team worked to rollout its pilot community engagement initiative, ClimateWise, to four pilot Alberta communities. The other main focus for the team was an examination of the medium and longer-term opportunities for greenhouse gas emission reductions within the province. In early 2000, the team completed an assessment of potential opportunities for greenhouse gas emission reductions. From this assessment, the CCPT identified a select number of opportunity areas where further discussion and follow-up could add value. CCPT meetings also provided a mechanism through which stakeholders could become more aware of provincial and national climate change developments. Also in 2000, the CCPT sought to develop a strong working relationship with the newly created provincial government agency, Climate Change Central.

ClimateWise

ClimateWise, a pilot initiative designed by the climate change project team, focused on helping the public overcome personal barriers to taking action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and better understand the climate change issue. The first phase of the initiative was a

CASA sponsored survey of Albertans conducted in early 2000. The survey focus was on identifying personal barriers to action on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Building on the results of the survey, a pilot community engagement program was developed by CCPT members. With the funding of a number of stakeholders, including the federal Climate Change Action Fund, the Alberta Government and industry partners, a pilot community engagement program was initiated in four Alberta communities (Vegreville, Edson, New Sarepta and the Queen Alexandra Community within Edmonton) in late 2000 and early 2001. Within each community, six workshops were provided to participants, allowing them to develop a better understanding of how they can take action to save money, save energy and save the environment. Participants in the pilot valued the information presented and felt they had a stronger understanding of the positive role they can play in addressing the climate change issue.

The final report is scheduled for release during the spring of 2001.

Flaring/venting

Goals:

- To assess the performance and make recommendations regarding the Alberta solution gas flaring management framework.
- To develop recommendations to address a broader range of flaring and gas venting issues in Alberta.

Objectives:

- Determine whether the solution gas flaring reduction targets for 2000 and 2001 have been met.
- Determine, based on improved information, firm future reduction targets, timelines and threshold volumes for solution gas flaring.
- Evaluate the royalty treatment of flared and vented gas and cost sharing programs and their implication for achieving future reduction targets.
- Evaluate the approval process and determine if fixed-term approvals are required.
- Review performance requirements and efficiency standards, and determine the feasibility of combustion efficiency standards for all flares.
- Assess research findings and their implication for management of flaring and venting.

- Review information on gas venting and mitigation approaches and recommend a venting management framework, including short-term actions and long-term strategies.
- Review and develop recommendations with regard to EUB Guide 60, and the Guide 60 Updates and Clarifications document.
- Develop recommendations for a strategy to respond to the issues associated with flaring and venting.

Human health

Goal:

To develop recommendations for a system within which the effects of air contaminants on human health can be monitored and addressed.

Objectives:

- Develop a proposal and recommendations for a monitoring system with the potential to identify, manage and address human health effects caused by air contaminants.
- Evaluate the proposed monitoring system.
- Make recommendations for implementation.
- Ensure that the proposed monitoring system is sufficiently robust for appropriate implementation.
- Report to the CASA board at key milestones.

Particulate matter and ozone implementation planning

Goal:

To reach consensus on recommendations for an Alberta implementation plan for achieving the provisions of the Canada-Wide Standard (CWS) for Particulate Matter and Ozone by 2002.

Objectives:

- Recommend strategies to achieve the CWS for Particulate Matter and Ozone.
- Recommend key components of the strategies.
- Achieve stakeholder support for the implementation plan.

Report for 2000:

Since its first meeting in May 2000, this team has become the largest and most diverse multi-stakeholder team ever to form under CASA. With over 30 members representing 10 industrial sectors, five different government departments, five non-government organizations, and other public bodies such as airsheds, municipalities and public health authorities, it is clear that many different interests have a stake in the development of a provincial strategy for particulate matter and ozone. With its terms of reference and work plan now in place, the team's focus is squarely on the substantive issues and strategic components of the implementation plan, identifying the most appropriate and effective means for Alberta to achieve the Canada-Wide Standard.

Pollution prevention/continuous improvement

Goals:

- A working environment in which pollution prevention/continuous improvement (PP/CI) is used to protect air quality.
- The public contributes to pollution prevention by making clean air friendly choices.

Objectives:

- Develop and promote emission reduction strategies for major sources.
- Recommend PP/CI tools that are user friendly and can be implemented to achieve source reductions.
- Provide support and direction to CASA project teams.
- Identify and recommend cost-effective reduction opportunities.
- Encourage innovative reduction opportunities for all sectors and/or airsheds.
- Establish a system of incentives for PP/CI.
- Expand the range of cost-effective options for environmental decision-making.
- Promote and encourage the use of alternative fuels/renewable energy.
- Encourage the use and application of by-product synergies and industrial ecology.

Implementation teams

Acidifying emissions management

Purpose:

- Coordinate the implementation of the recommendations in the report of the former SO₂ management project team.
- Evaluate and report on the implementation of the recommendations and the effectiveness of the enhanced management system.
- Develop recommendations for managing acidifying emissions in Alberta.
- Develop plans for voluntary initiatives for enhanced performance, and management of the differences between actual environmental conditions and environmental limits.
- Review current emissions abatement strategies for NO_x and SO_x sources and make recommendations on the need for improvements.

Ambient monitoring operations steering committee

Purpose:

- To provide overall direction for the cooperative monitoring system by:
 - Tracking progress in achieving the strategic plan.
 - Setting the annual budget for the CASA data warehouse web site at <http://www.casadata.org>.

- Approving the annual work plan.
- Establishing policies and procedures.
- Revising the strategic plan as required.
- Reviewing and evaluating the system.

Vehicle emissions

Goal:

To pilot, monitor and evaluate CASA approved projects related to vehicle emissions reduction.

Objectives:

- Pilot the former vehicle emissions working group's recommendations. This includes project development, fund-raising and project management (e.g. remote sensing project, scrappage program).
- Monitor the outcome and evaluate the programs.
- Liaise with CASA groups and maintain contact with other agencies and organizations that are undertaking related initiatives.
- Encourage continued active participation by Alberta organizations and departments in national and international processes to reduce emissions from all forms of transportation.
- Assess if the tabled options reviewed by the vehicle emissions working group should be brought forward.
- Assess the need for initiatives in the transportation sector outside light-duty vehicles (fleets, trucks, off-road, rail, air etc.).

- Develop and implement an effective communications strategy based on the information gathered by the vehicle emissions working group and focusing on the opportunity for Albertans to take responsibility for reducing their emissions and improving air quality.

Report for 2000:

The vehicle emissions team is unique because vehicle emissions at our level are very much a life style/quality-of-life issue. The federal government largely looks after the vehicle emission standards and fuel quality. When addressing in-use vehicle emissions, the focus should be on the public with respect to how we drive, how much we drive and how we maintain the vehicles we drive. Making progress in this area requires the team to create awareness of the issue and offer practical alternatives to the public. In short, the team needs to influence the attitude and behaviour of Alberta drivers. This is a formidable task and one that will have to be measured over many years.

Reports from the airsheds

Fort airshed

2000 was a momentous year for the Fort Air Partnership (FAP) as several significant milestones were reached as the airshed continued to build and grow.

In 2000:

- The airshed parameters, including size and boundaries, were finalized based on air quality issues and evaluated through air quality modeling. The contours for SO₂ were used in setting the boundaries.
- FAP became a recognized CASA airshed.
- The business plan was approved by all stakeholder organizations, and funding was secured based on work identified in the business plan.
- The monitoring network was designed in 2000 and implementation plans will be developed in 2001.
- A job description for a contracted executive director position was drafted.

FAP was formed in November 1997 as a voluntary partnership of many different stakeholders in the Fort Saskatchewan region. They are working together towards the development of relevant, credible information that can be used to manage regional air quality, protect environmental health and influence policy.

Parkland airshed

The key accomplishments in 2000 for the Parkland Airshed Management Zone (PAMZ) were:

- Comprehensive continuous air quality monitoring began in October using a portable monitoring station. Sites for the portable station were chosen primarily to respond to issues raised by residents within the airshed at a workshop held in April. In 2000 monitoring was undertaken in the Alix, Crossfield-Carstairs, and Rimbey areas.
- In December, the completion of the first full year of operation for the passive monitoring network was achieved. For 2000, the network consisted of 29 stations that provided monthly data on air quality throughout the airshed.
- Expansion of the northeast boundary in March was recognized by the CASA board of directors and now includes the majority of Ponoka County and aligns the boundaries with the David Thompson Health Region.
- In December the airshed initiated a human health issues survey of area residents. The PAMZ human health committee worked with the David Thompson Health Region and Olds College to prioritize issues for address in future years.

- Communication with the residents is essential to PAMZ's ultimate success. During the year presentations about PAMZ were delivered to numerous municipalities and organizations both within and outside the airshed. In July, the CASA data warehouse (www.casadata.org) began displaying data collected from the PAMZ air quality-monitoring program in a user-friendly format developed jointly with PAMZ.

West central airshed

The West Central Airshed Society (WCAS) is solid proof that the only constant is change. WCAS has changed its operations with clear objectives of improving performance, control and costs. Drayton Valley is now the base of operations. Ambient air operations and maintenance, accounting, secretarial, data review and program management now operate out of the Drayton Valley office and shop which are located at 140 Penn West Building, 50th Avenue West, Drayton Valley, Alberta.

The WCAS contractor status has also changed. Bob Scotten is now managing the program full time. Eric Peake continues to manage the technical program and will do so until his retirement scheduled for the end of May 2001. Greg Swain has been contracted as a senior technician. Greg brings fifteen-years of work experience in the operation

of ambient air monitoring instrumentation. The new instrumentation technician, Jeff McClintock, has five-years ambient air monitoring experience, which was gained mostly in the WCAS network. And finally, Barb Johnson joined the airshed to look after the data and accounting needs. Barb is a petroleum engineer with experience in data management and air monitoring operations.

The agricultural bio-monitoring program experienced an extremely wet growing season. WCAS is currently evaluating the number of data points that will be used in the bio-monitoring program. The results will determine if the program will wrap up in 2001 or 2002.

The WCAS board has agreed in principal to investigate the possibility of expanding its boundaries. Preliminary discussions with TransAlta and EPCOR regarding the extension of the east boundary have taken place. Both companies have expressed interest in concept development. As well, discussions with a potential airshed in the Peace region concerning north boundary development are anticipated in the near future.

WCAS communication activities have included the Drayton Valley trade fair, an AEUB display in Edson, and the production of the 2000 WCAS Annual Report.

Wood Buffalo airshed

As the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo continues to experience growth, both industrially and demographically, the Wood Buffalo Environmental Association (WBEA) has spent the year preparing to meet the challenges inherent in any radical change. To help, new members, Albion Sands and the Athabasca Tribal Council were welcomed to the table. As well, the WBEA ambient air-monitoring network itself, received a valuable addition as two new monitoring stations were put into operation.

While WBEA's primary mandate is to collect scientifically credible data, it is equally important to communicate that data to stakeholders and the public. The year saw the production and distribution of our first video, designed as an introduction to the work of WBEA. Other communications initiatives included participation in local trade shows, numerous presentations, eco-tours of aboriginal communities, one-on-one meetings and open houses. Additionally, two local radio stations continued to report WBEA temperatures throughout the day.

By staying in touch with the public and continuing to meet the challenges of an ever-increasing oil sands industry, the WBEA trusts it is making a real difference to the people of Wood Buffalo and the province of Alberta.

The people

The following people have given their time, effort, goodwill and expertise in the pursuit of the CASA vision. A profound thank you goes out to all our stakeholders and the organizations with which they are affiliated.

Cecil Andersen	Becky Freeman	Brent Korobanik	Henry Pirker	Kent Stuehmer
Randy Angle	Rod Frith	Joe Kostler	Jason Politylo	Roy Swenson
Dana Atwell	Long Fu	Martha Kostuch	David Pollock	Tara Tapics
David Baker	Greg Gabert	Ron Laing	David Pryce	Rob Taylor
Sandra Barnett	Stephan Gabos	Brent Lakeman	Robert Raimondo	Tim Taylor
Randall Barrett	Frank George	Gord Lambert	Rosalyn Reid	Andy Teal
Larry Begoray	Tim Gondek	Dermot Lane	Dave Reynolds	Jack Thompson
Paul Belanger	Verona Goodwin	Mike Leaist	Andy Ridge	Ken Tsang
Bill Boccock	Tim Goos	Jim Leslie	Judy Roschlaub	Doug Tupper
Jennifer Boccock	Geoff Granville	Bill Levy	Sheldon Roth	Reed Turner
Mike Boyd	Mary Griffiths	Ingrid Liepa	Kim Sanderson	James Tweedie
Mark Brostrom	Jerry Hall	Chow-Seng Liu	Warren Sarchuk	James Van Leeuwen
Michael Brown	Lynda Harvey	Cecilie Lord	Gary Sargent	Casey Van Teeling
Alan Brownlee	Bob Hawkesworth	David MacDonald	Mike Sawyer	Wil VandenBorn
Dave Byler	Colin Heath	William MacDonald	Lisa Schaldemose	Joyce VanDeurzen
Lawrence Cheng	Stewart Henderson	Alexander MacKenzie	Marie Schingh	Dan VanKeeken
Shane Chetner	Chris Holly	Jerry MacPherson	Lawrence Schmidt	Srikanth Venugopal
Cindy Chiasson	Martin Holysh	Morgan MacRae	Ron Schmitz	Paul Vickers
Ralph Christian	Brian Hudson	Marcel Maisonneuve	Al Schulz	Jim Vollmershausen
Cheryl Ciona	Bill Hume	Rona Marak	Andre Schutta	Gao Wa
Robert Coppock	Bill Hunter	Tom Marr-Laing	Herman Schwenk	Brian Waddell
Gilles Courtemanche	Judy Huntley	Earl Martin	Bob Scotten	Sarah Waddington
Randal Cripps	Rick Hurdle	David McCoy	Chris Severson-Baker	Darcy Walberg
Christa Cruthers	Rick Hyndman	Kevin McLeod	Neil Shelly	Kevin Warren
Charleen Currie	Dwight Jenkinsen	Barrie McPhalen	Mitch Shier	Eugene Wauters
Peter Darbyshire	Kim Johnson	Leslie Mergaert	Elizabeth Siarkowski	Gary Webster
Peter Dickey	Ila Johnston	Sonja Mihelcic	Dave Slubik	Rick Weidel
Jim Dixon	Les Johnston	Laura Miller	Ken Smith	Cliff Whitelock
Randy Dobko	Wayne Johnston	Larry Morrison	Ralph Smith	Scott Wilson
Wes Dohlun	Gray Jones	George Murphy	Al Smythe	Kathryn Winkler
John Donner	Markus Kellerhals	Bob Myrick	David Spink	Judy Wish-Hamilton
Linda Duncan	Mike Kelly	Abbas Naini	John Squarek	Gary Woloshyniuk
Kim Eastlick	Joe Kendall	Ken Newel	Lidia Stefaniw	Raymond Wong
Jason Edworthy	Wayne Kenefick	Bob Olson	Dennis Stokes	Mary-Frances Wright
Milton Elliot	Al Kennedy	Bob Page	Bonnie Stokowy	Bev Yee
Gerry Ertel	Rob Kennedy	Bob Patrick	Bob Stone	Sharon Young
Graeme Feltham	Murray Kerik	Ron Pauls	Kathryn Strong-Dufferin	Doug Younie
Shannon Flint	Myles Kitagawa	Jeff Pearson		Rudy Zimmer
Ken Foster	Dennis Kohlman			

Financial statements

Auditors' Report

To the Members of The Clean Air Strategic Alliance Association

We have audited the balance sheet of The Clean Air Strategic Alliance Association as at December 31, 2000 and the statements of revenue, expenditures and fund balances and cash flow for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Association's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining,

on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as at December 31, 2000 and the results of its operations and changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.



Chartered Accountants
January 26, 2001

**Deloitte &
Touche**



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Balance Sheet

December 31, 2000

	2000			1999	
	Core	External Projects	National Climate Change	Total	Total
ASSETS					
CURRENT					
Cash	\$(859)	\$129,149	\$35,681	\$163,971	\$208,268
Investments	640,000	144,067	388,826	1,172,893	1,039,004
Accrued interest	1,599	68	1,584	3,251	15,106
Accounts receivable	37,059	13,300	-	50,359	7,004
Interfund receivable (payable)	(1,361)	851	510	-	-
Prepaid expenses	2,373	-	-	2,373	2,354
	678,811	287,435	426,601	1,392,847	1,271,736
CAPITAL ASSETS (Note 3)	12,847	-	-	12,847	18,193
	\$691,658	\$287,435	\$426,601	\$1,405,694	\$1,289,929
LIABILITIES					
CURRENT					
Accounts payable	\$9,924	\$11,953	\$ -	\$21,877	\$38,921
Deferred contributions (Note 4)	477,936	275,482	426,601	1,180,019	1,085,494
	487,860	287,435	426,601	1,201,896	1,124,415
FUND BALANCES					
Board restricted	200,000	-	-	200,000	165,514
Unrestricted	3,798	-	-	3,798	-
	\$691,658	\$287,435	\$426,601	\$1,405,694	\$1,289,929

APPROVED BY THE BOARD



Ken Smith, director



Donna Tingley, director

Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Fund Balances

Year ended December 31, 2000

	2000			Total	1999
	Core	External Projects	National Climate Change		Total
REVENUE					
Grants	\$655,401	\$85,970	\$14,874	\$756,245	\$620,310
Interest	38,284	11,223	22,022	71,529	49,913
	<u>693,685</u>	<u>97,193</u>	<u>36,896</u>	827,774	<u>670,223</u>
EXPENSES					
Projects	291,307	-	-	291,307	203,997
Communications	115,472	-	-	115,472	109,093
External projects		97,193	36,896	134,089	141,395
Board support	72,298	-	-	72,298	72,790
General and administrative	174,789	-	-	174,789	96,691
Statement of concern	1,535	-	-	1,535	9,864
	<u>655,401</u>	<u>97,193</u>	<u>36,896</u>	789,490	<u>633,830</u>
NET REVENUE BEFORE THE UNDERNOTED	38,284	-	-	38,284	36,393
LOSS ON SALE OF CAPITAL ASSETS	-	-	-	-	1,615
NET REVENUE	38,284	-	-	38,284	34,778
FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING OF YEAR	165,514	-	-	165,514	130,736
FUND BALANCES, END OF YEAR	<u>\$203,798</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	\$203,798	<u>\$165,514</u>

Statement of Cash Flow

Year ended December 31, 2000

NET INFLOW (OUTFLOW) OF CASH RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES

	2000	1999
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenues over expenditures	\$38,284	\$34,778
Add items not requiring an outlay of cash		
Depreciation	5,346	7,797
Loss on sale of capital assets	-	1,615
	<u>43,630</u>	<u>44,190</u>
Decrease (increase) in accrued interest	11,855	(12,293)
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable	(43,355)	51,037
(Increase) decrease in prepaid expenses	(19)	5,005
Decrease in accounts payable	(17,044)	(36,137)
Increase in deferred contributions	94,525	574,440
	<u>89,592</u>	<u>626,242</u>
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of capital assets	-	(23,904)
Proceed on sale of capital assets	-	2,846
	<u>-</u>	<u>(21,058)</u>
INCREASE IN CASH AND SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS	89,592	605,184
CASH AND SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,247,272	642,088
CASH AND SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS, END OF YEAR	\$1,336,864	\$1,247,272
REPRESENTED BY:		
Cash	\$163,971	\$208,268
Treasury bills with maturities under 90 days	1,172,893	1,039,004
	<u>\$1,336,864</u>	<u>\$1,247,272</u>

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended December 31, 2000

1. DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS

The Clean Air Strategic Alliance Association (“CASA”) is a non-profit organization incorporated March 14, 1994 under the Societies Act of Alberta. The Association is comprised of members from three distinct stakeholder categories; industry, government and non-government organizations. The Association has been given shared responsibility by its members for strategic air quality planning, organizing and coordination of resources, and evaluation of results in Alberta. In support of these objectives, the Association receives cash funding from the Province of Alberta as well as cash and in kind support from other members.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements have been prepared on a fund accounting basis using the deferral method of accounting in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles and include the following significant accounting policies:

Funds Maintained:

Core Project Fund: Funds provided by governments together with interest earned are used to support general operations. The fund balance is an accumulation of interest earned. In 2000, the Board of Directors internally restricted the accumulation of this fund to \$200,000 to pay necessary expenses in the event of the wind down of the association.

External Projects Fund: Funds provided by CASA stakeholders together with interest earned are raised and expended by project teams for specific purposes.

National Climate Change Fund: Funds received from provincial and territorial governments together with interest earned are disbursed under the direction of the National Climate Change Secretariat.

Capital assets

Capital assets are recorded at cost. Depreciation, which is based on the cost less the residual value over the useful life of the asset, is computed using the declining-balance method at the rates disclosed in Note 3.

Non-monetary support

Association members contribute non-monetary support including staff resources, meeting space and publication support. The value of this non-monetary support is not reflected in these financial statements.

3. CAPITAL ASSETS

	Depreciation Rates	2000		1999	
		Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Net Book Value	Net Book Value
Computer equipment	30%	\$26,825	\$14,595	\$12,230	\$17,472
Furniture and equipment	30%	4,092	3,475	617	721
		\$30,917	\$18,070	\$12,847	\$18,193

4. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS

Core Fund: During the period, the Association received grants totaling \$578,605 (1999 - \$710,000) from the Province of Alberta. The purpose of the grants is to provide core funding in support of the Association's objectives as described in Note 1. The regulations to the Department of the Environment Act, the Department of Energy Act and the Department of Health Act, under which the grants have been provided, specify that grants must either be used for the purposes specified in the grant, be used for different purposes if such different purposes are agreed to by the applicant and the respective Minister, or be returned to the Province. Accordingly, in the event that the Association does not utilize the funds in pursuit of its objectives, any unexpended grant monies remaining may have to be repaid to the Province of Alberta.

	2000	1999
Deferred grant revenue, beginning of year	\$554,732	\$353,476
Grant monies received	578,605	710,000
Revenue recorded based on allowable expenditures	(655,401)	(490,744)
Transfer of funds to external project fund	-	(18,000)
Deferred grant revenue, end of year	\$477,936	\$554,732

External Projects Fund: Deferred external project contributions is comprised of monies received for specific external projects which have not been expended for the purposes specified in the mandates of the projects.

	2000	1999
Deferred external project revenue, beginning of year	\$206,437	\$157,578
Grant monies received and interest earned	166,238	135,560
Transfer of funds from core fund	-	18,000
Revenue recorded based on allowable expenditures	(97,193)	(104,701)
Deferred external project revenue, end of year	\$275,482	\$206,437

DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS (continued)

National Climate Change Fund: Included in the above are financial contributions in the amount of \$139,172 (1999 – 324,325) received by the Association to be held to provide funding for the National Climate Change Process.

	2000	1999
Deferred National Climate Change Process, beginning of year	\$324,325	\$ -
Financial contributions received	139,172	364,325
Expenditures on behalf of National Climate Change Process	(36,896)	(40,000)
Balance, National Climate Change Process, end of year	\$426,601	\$324,325
	2000	1999
Total – all funds	\$1,180,019	\$1,085,494

5. NON-MONETARY SUPPORT

During the year, the Association received non-monetary support in the form of office space valued at \$25,900 (1999 - \$25,900) from the Province of Alberta - Alberta Environment. This amount has not been reflected in these financial statements.



NOTES

NOTES

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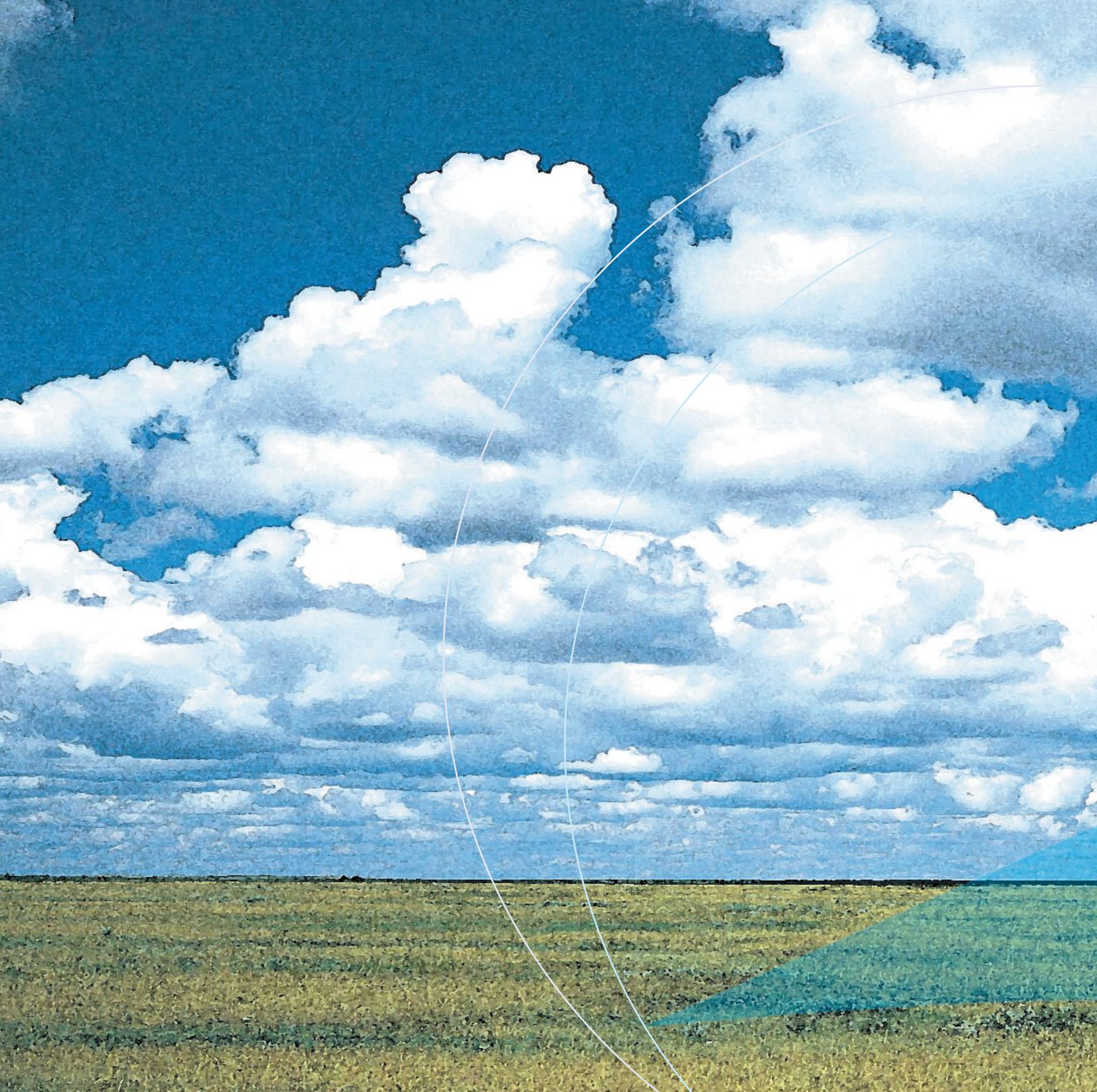
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