



**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**April 24, 2025**  
**Edmonton & Microsoft Teams Conferencing**

**In attendance:**

**CASA Board Directors and Alternates:**

Ann Baran, NGO – Rural  
Brad Dubeau, Agriculture\*  
Brent Korobanik, Mining\*  
Dan Moore, Forestry  
Holly Johnson-Rattlesnake, Samson Cree  
Nation\*  
Leigh Allard, NGO – Health  
Lindsay Campbell, Oil & Gas – Large Producers  
Mark McGillivray, Alternate Energy\*

Martin Van Olst, Federal Government\*  
Melody Garner-Skiba, Agriculture\*  
Michelle Belisle, Petroleum Products  
Rob Hamaliuk, Provincial Government –  
Government  
Rob Hoffman, Petroleum Products  
Ruth Yanor, NGO – Industrial  
Shane Lamden, Chemical Manufacturers  
Andre Asselin, CASA Executive Director

**CASA Staff:**

Alec Carrigy, Anuja Hoddinott, Katie Duffett

**Observers:**

Crystal Parrell, Environment and Protected Areas\*  
Curt Horning, Environment and Protected Areas  
James Guthrie, ATCO EnPower\*  
Joseph Kay, Alberta Municipalities\*  
Karla Reesor, Alberta Airsheds Council\*  
Laura Cline, Sureway Construction Group\*

**Presenters:**

Laura Cline, *Best Practices Guide for Dust Management in Alberta Project Team (Item 3)*  
Ann Baran and Rob Hoffman, *Understanding Vehicle Emission Control System Tampering in Alberta  
Working Group (Item 4)*

**Regrets:**

Amber Link, Local Government – Rural  
David Spink, NGO – Urban  
Mary Onukem, Métis Settlements General Council  
Naomi Tercier, Mining  
Patrick McDonald, Provincial Government – Environment

\*Denotes participants who attended remotely via Microsoft Teams Conferencing

**Clean Air Strategic Alliance  
Board of Directors Meeting  
April 24, 2025  
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**Executive Summary**

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The board reviewed administrative items and approved an updated core operating budget for 2025 following a request from the Government of Alberta to reduce core operating expenses covered by their grant by 10%.

The Best Practices Guide for Dust Management in Alberta project team provided an update and was granted an extension to complete their work from April 2025 to April 2026. The extension was needed due to the delay in raising funding needed to kick off the project with the consultant.

The co-chairs of the Understanding Vehicle Emission Control System Tampering in Alberta working group provided an update on the project progress. There is a call for members that will be active until May 8, and the team is seeking \$60,000 in funding to support a consultant to complete their work. A lack of funding or delays in funding would impact the team's workload and timelines. There is no deadline associated with providing funding.

A series of information reports were provided and there was opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions. The next meeting will be held in Calgary on September 10 and 11 and will include a field tour, in addition to the board meeting.

**Clean Air Strategic Alliance  
Board of Directors Meeting  
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**Meeting Summary**

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Leigh Allard convened the business meeting at 10:48 a.m.

## **1 Convene general business meeting and approve agenda**

Participants were welcomed to the meeting.

Leigh acknowledged the board members for participating in the performance reporting system workshop and annual recognition event that was held the day prior. The workshop was successful in receiving feedback on draft performance measures and identified next steps. The annual recognition event included a social gathering and a session to acknowledge the contributions of board members who have stepped away. Former CASA President Sherri Wilson attended and passed along a message from Minister Schulz acknowledging the work of CASA. Rob Hoffman and the Canadian Fuels Association were thanked for sponsoring the annual recognition event.

The draft agenda was included in the meeting package. There were no changes to the agenda.

***Decision: The agenda was approved by consensus.***

## **2 Administration Items**

### **2.1 Meeting summary from the December 5, 2024, Board Meeting**

Minor clarifying edits on the summary were submitted to staff. These were incorporated in a revised version of the summary which was included in the meeting package.

There were no questions or comments.

***Decision: The board approved the summary of the December 5, 2024, board meeting by consensus and the summary will be posted to CASA's website.***

### **2.2 Review actions from the December 5, 2024, Board Meeting**

A written update on the December actions was included in the meeting package.

#### Discussion

- There was a question from the last meeting as to what the absolute reductions in emissions were from the Chemistry sector update. That number was pulled from a Chemistry Industry Association of Canada annual update, and the absolute reductions are not listed in that report, so there are no data to provide as a follow up.

There were no other questions or comments.

### 2.3 Update on CASA's Core Grant and Budget

The proposed 2025 core operations budget and its supporting assumptions were included in the meeting package. Following the provincial budget announcement in March, EPA requested CASA to reduce core operating expenses covered by their grant by 10%.

Andre gave a brief overview of the core grant and budget.

#### Discussion

- How did we land on the dollar value for the coordination services provided by Alberta Lung Association?
  - There is no agreement in place yet, so the cost is not known. There was previously a budget of \$21,000 for the contract with the Alberta Environmental Network (AEN) to coordinate meetings amongst CASA's NGO members but that amount was never achieved.
  - CASA has always included budget to support the NGO caucus to ensure they can participate effectively at CASA's tables.
  - The \$13,000 is an artifact of previous spends on AEN, amounts available in the reduced budget and needing to provide a budget in time for the board meeting.
- Can you describe the AEN for new board members?
  - AEN is a non-profit comprised of several organizations with different environmental focuses. They are a small staff who for many years, had contracts with CASA to administer and support various caucuses, and CASA would pay for their staff time. Alberta Lung Association and their staff have the expertise and experience to take on the work of AEN as AEN has not been providing NGO coordination. Apparently, AEN is now more advocacy-focused and is less interested in providing coordination services.

***Decision: The board approved the updated 2025 core budget by consensus.***

### 3 Best Practices Guide for Dust Management in Alberta Project Team

Industry co-chair Laura Cline provided an update on the project status and a decision request for the board to extend the project timeline.

Updates on the team's work since the last board meeting included:

- A draft table of contents for the Best Practices Guide (the Guide) has been created and was reviewed by the team; the consultant is starting to populate the sections.
- A survey is currently out to better understand dust issues and concerns in Alberta.
- Focus groups will be held after the surveys are completed to collect additional information and context on dust issues.
- The information from writing the guide, the surveys, and focus groups will feed into a virtual workshop. The workshop is intended to validate the guide content and identify any gaps.

The team requested a timeline extension for one year, extending the project deadline from April 2025 to April 2026. The extension request is not related to the team taking more time than

expected to complete its tasks but is instead due to the delays in acquiring funding. The bulk of the consultant's tasks are expected to be complete by September, followed by the team writing the final report over the winter. Sector and board review of the team's materials are expected to take place in early 2026, with final approval planned for April 2026.

### Discussion

- How many survey responses do we have?
  - As of earlier in the week, we received 29 responses. The consultant circulated the survey, so we don't have direct access to the results yet.
  - We sent the survey to about 80 people directly. In some cases, we asked recipients explicitly to send to others, for example, we asked some of the Airsheds to pass the survey along to the Indigenous communities they work with.
- Are people asking for a timeline extension?
  - Only Alberta Municipalities. The project manager will send a reminder and specify that more time can be provided to complete the survey if needed.

***Decision: The board approved amending the Dust project charter to extend the timeline until April 2026.***

## 4 Understanding Vehicle Emission Control System Tampering in Alberta Project Team

Working group co-chairs Ann Baran and Rob Hoffman delivered an update on the project's progress and provided reminders that the project team is actively seeking membership and funding for their work.

This project came from a recommendation from the ROVER III report related to forming an expedited project team to undertake a study to fill information gaps related to tampering in Alberta and the reliability of installed emission control devices.

This project is largely information gathering, looking at both light- and heavy-duty vehicles. It will compile existing information, identify data gaps, and fill gaps through research and stakeholder engagement. There will be no emission data collection in the field or vehicle inspections. The project will provide advice on the methods to address data gaps and air quality issues in the province but will not make any formal recommendations.

The team is seeking \$60,000 to cover the project costs and requested that the board members ask their sectors whether they can contribute funding to the project. The funding would be used to hire a consultant to address information gaps around vehicle emission control system tampering and conduct stakeholder engagement and outreach. Delays in funding or not receiving funding would impact the project timelines and workload of project team members.

The deadline for putting forward names for project team membership is May 8, 2025. There is no deadline for the call for funding. The project team is expected to begin meeting in May or June 2025. An update on the team's progress and funding status will be provided at the September board meeting.

### Discussion

- The Petroleum Products Sector is investigating potential funding opportunities. Emissions Reduction Alberta can't fund the project as it is not in their scope. There might be other federal funding available.
- The Alberta Motor Transportation Association (AMTA) would be worth looking into as a potential funder.
- If there is a funding shortfall, would CASA be able to contribute?
  - Andre will look into it.
- Having a consultant will be very beneficial for this project. They will have better access to better information and more staff capacity. For surveys, people may be more willing to be open with consultants which will be important, as tampering is a sensitive topic.
- CASA does not have the staff capacity to do the work of the proposed consultant. Team members would need to be taking on much of the work.

**Action: Andre to determine whether there is CASA funding available for the Understanding Vehicle Emission Control System Tampering in Alberta project.**

## 5 Information Reports and Opportunity for Questions

### **5.1 Executive Director's Report**

The Executive Director's Report was provided in the meeting package.

### Discussion

- The ROVER III report will be publicly released in the next couple weeks. There will be an initial embargo period where board members will receive the report but asked not to share publicly, followed by a public release soon after.
- CASA's ROVER III project was nominated for an Alberta Emerald Award. The ceremony will be at the Timms Centre for the Arts on June 5. There are a couple of tickets available for board members who would like to attend.
- The International Council on Clean Transportation is formally releasing a modeling report using CASA's data from the ROVER III project soon. The report will be shared with board members when released.
- CASA is trying to backfill a position for a project manager; more information will be passed along on the position soon. Board members are encouraged to share the job ad with their networks.

### **5.2 CASA Sector Updates (including the GoA update)**

CASA sector updates were provided to staff in advance of the meeting. The document is on SharePoint and included in the meeting package. There was a call to members to ensure that they are providing regular updates in the spirit of collaboration and looking for opportunities to share knowledge and identify shared priorities, challenges, and solutions.

### Discussion

- It was noted that some sectors have been more actively participating in this exercise than others. The updates are of value to all CASA members, and everyone should be participating.
- The Industry Caucus agrees that sector updates are valuable. One undercurrent for why Industry members have provided less detailed updates recently is due to the release of Bill C-59. Part of the Bill essentially states that speculative information regarding environmental claims could be subject to investigation and penalty from the Competition Bureau. The reaction from many companies has been to remove information from their website to avoid scrutiny.
  - This has been a challenge for companies as they are trying to improve their methods of reporting, but they are relying on publicly available published data from the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) and GoA.
  - In June 2024, the Bill was passed. Consultations ended recently on how the Bill could be improved. It's expected that more information will come out over the summer with final guidance on how companies are expected to report under the Bill, and the results of any associated legal challenges may be available.
  - Lindsay Campbell is willing to deliver a presentation on the effect of Bill C-59 at an upcoming board meeting if she can get permission to do so.
- Referring to the GoA update: What happens to the old MAML after decommissioning? Can it be used elsewhere in the province to enhance monitoring?  
*Post-meeting note: GoA provided a response shortly after the meeting which reads:*  
*"EPA's Mobile Air Monitoring Lab (MAML) is near end-of-life and will be replaced over the next few years. Air Monitoring equipment that has reached end-of-life (and has been replaced) is generally sent to surplus and may show up on the GOA surplus site eventually: [Alberta Online Auction :: Item Search](#). We have to follow specific procedures with regards to the surplus/disposal of government assets."*
- Referring to the GoA update: Why was Camrose chosen as the location for the next sensor to report the AQHI?

*Post-meeting note: GoA provided a response shortly after the meeting which reads:*  
*"EPA conducted a monitoring network gap analysis as part of our [Five-year provincial air quality and deposition monitoring, evaluation and reporting plan](#). Camrose was in the list of top ranked communities for adding AQHI reporting (based on population, nearness to an AQHI station, emissions and air quality). In expanding our pilot project to build a sensor-based network to expand AQHI reporting, EPA also wanted to choose a location that was near staff in Edmonton who would be implementing the pilot in collaboration with the Alberta Capital Airshed (similar to what was done with the Leduc sensor). Once the pilot is complete and EPA provides guidance on operation of a sensor-based network for AQHI reporting, we plan to expand the sensor network in collaboration with airshed partners.*

- Why did the annual solution gas flaring volume exceed limits in 2023 and 2024?
  - To deal with excess natural gas, the options are flaring, incinerating, and venting. There are trade-offs for each of these approaches in potential emissions. There has been a focus on reducing methane emissions and one approach to achieve that is to flare the emissions rather than vent them. The requirements for these activities for the upstream petroleum industry are laid out in AER's Directive 60, which CASA helped inform through a project many years ago. It's hard to say why the limits were exceeded based on the information provided.
  - The AER recently released an updated version of Directive 60 – it can be found on their website.

**Action: Lindsay Campbell to confirm whether she can present on the effect of Bill C-59 at the next board meeting.**

### **5.3 Performance Reporting System Committee Update**

An update on the committee's work was provided in the meeting package.

#### Discussion

- The workshop went well and there was excellent feedback.
- The plan is to compile the feedback and revise the draft Performance Reporting System based on what was heard. The revised document will be sent to the board for review over the summer with the intent to approve the document at the September board meeting.

### **5.4 AWC Update for CASA Board**

An update on the AWC's projects was provided in the meeting package.

#### Discussion

- In Southern Alberta, there is expanded irrigation yet limited water resources. Why are allocations being expanded when water is unavailable?
  - AWC doesn't have a role in this, but Andre will connect with Ann to discuss.

### **New/ Other Business**

No new or other business was identified when the agenda was approved.

Evaluation forms for the meeting will be sent out electronically; please fill them out as they help the executive committee and staff set up future meetings.

The next meeting will be held in Calgary on September 11, 2025, at a venue to be confirmed. A field tour is planned for the afternoon of September 10 in the Calgary area. More details will be shared as the meeting approaches.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

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The following action items arose from the meeting:

**Action: Andre to determine whether there is CASA funding available for the Understanding Vehicle Emission Control System Tampering in Alberta project.**

**Action: Lindsay Campbell to confirm whether she can present on the status of Bill C-59 at the next board meeting.**

The following decisions were made at this meeting:

***Decision: The agenda was approved by consensus.***

***Decision: The board approved the summary of the December 5, 2024, board meeting by consensus and the summary will be posted to CASA's website.***

***Decision: The board approved the 2025 core budget by consensus.***

***Decision: The board approved amending the Dust project charter to extend the timeline until April 2026.***