

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



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## CHEMICAL FORMULAS AND NAMES

NO <sub>x</sub>	Nitrogen Oxides
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Fine Particulate Matter
O <sub>3</sub>	Ozone
NO <sub>2</sub>	Nitrogen Dioxide
SO <sub>2</sub>	Sulphur Dioxide
H <sub>2</sub> S	Hydrogen Sulfide
TRS	Total Reduced Sulphur
VOCs	Volatile Organic Compounds

## CLEAN AIR STRATEGIC ALLIANCE ACRONYMS

AAC	Alberta Airsheds Council
AAQO	Ambient Air Quality Objective
AQHI	Air Quality Health Index
EPA	Environment and Protected Areas
CAAQS	Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standard
CASA	Clean Air Strategic Alliance
EFR	Electricity Framework Review
GoA	Government of Alberta
GRC	Governance Review Committee
ROVER	Roadside Optical Vehicle Emissions Reporter

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## ABOUT THE CLEAN AIR STRATEGIC ALLIANCE

The Clean Air Strategic Alliance (CASA) is a partnership composed of representatives selected by industry, government, non-government organizations, First Nations, and Métis communities. All members have an interest in air quality. We participate in strategic air quality planning for Alberta by pinpointing key air quality management issues and offering widely supported, evidence-based recommendations, information, and tools. Our approach considers environmental and economic impacts. CASA's 30-year commitment to using a consensus decision-making process to achieve consensus whenever possible has created a unique and trusted forum for air issue discussions and resolutions. We recognize the value in striving for consensus, even if it isn't always reached.

Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (EPA) provides core funding to CASA through a grant. Audited financial statements for fiscal year 2023 are available on the [CASA website](#).

### VISION

The air will have no adverse odour, taste, or visual impact and have no measurable short- or long-term adverse effects on people, animals, or the environment.

### MISSION

CASA is a partnership that brings together a diverse group of representatives from industry, government, non-government organizations, First Nations, and Métis communities that are best positioned to assess and provide strategies to improve air quality for Albertans, using a collaborative consensus process.



### OPERATING PRINCIPLES

**COLLABORATION:** We believe in the power of working together.

**INTEGRITY:** We behave ethically and are open, honest, and fair.

**INDEPENDENT AND INFLUENTIAL ADVISORY BODY:** We serve as an independent and influential advisory body that empowers organizations to make informed decisions.

**TRANSPARENCY:** We are committed to open and honest communication at all levels, both within our organization, with our members, Indigenous communities and Peoples, stakeholders, and interested parties.

**FAIRNESS:** We believe in treating every individual with equity and respect, regardless of their background, beliefs, or abilities.

**INNOVATION:** We believe in fostering a culture of continuous improvement and creativity.

**TIMELINESS:** We prioritize and coordinate our efforts to enable effective and efficient responses to air quality management issues.

**INTEGRATION:** We are dedicated to upholding the highest standards of integrated air-quality management. Our values are rooted in our commitment to

- a. environmental protection to prevent short- and long-term adverse health effects,
- b. economic performance and efficiency, and
- c. continuous improvement and pollution prevention.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This annual report summarizes the activities of the Clean Air Strategic Alliance (CASA) in 2023. CASA advanced work on several air quality management priorities. Additionally, the organization's Operational Plan and Multi-year Communications Strategy were updated and work progressed to renew the organization's strategic plan. Business activities continued to evolve with project teams, working groups, committees, and the board using virtual tools to support either remote or hybrid meetings, events, and other types of engagement.

This year, CASA publicly released its final report on Approaches and Solutions for Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) Achievement in Alberta. The report and supporting materials can be found on CASA's website.

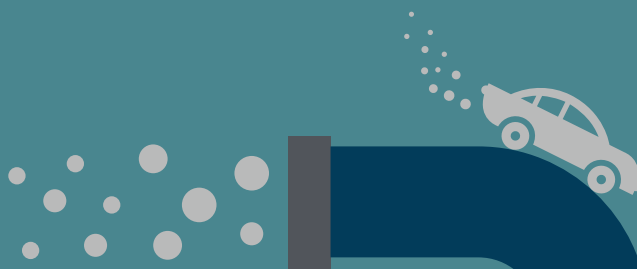
Following the completion of data collection in fall 2022, the Roadside Optical Vehicle Emissions Reporter (ROVER) III Project Team worked with the consultant to finalize a report with key findings. Using these findings, the team started drafting preliminary management actions and recommendations.

Work toward developing a best practices guide for dust management in Alberta continued. The project team issued a request for bids to retain a consultant to assist with a literature review to inform this work and calls for additional funding to support the project.

The board launched a new committee to support the 2024 Air & Waste Management Conference and Exhibition (A&WMA). This annual event brings together industry, academia, and policymakers from across North America and presents an opportunity for CASA to share information about our collaborative approach to air quality management and highlight specific projects to an informed and engaged audience.

CASA relies on the contributions of its members to succeed. In 2023, over 40 organizations volunteered on our board of directors and project teams, providing 1,081 hours – \$108,100 in estimated in-kind contributions.

CASA continues to operate within its approved budget and audited financial statements are available on the website. Staff and board members remain active in their outreach within Alberta and elsewhere, and share information about CASA, its projects, and the consensus-based process. For more information on CASA and its publications and activities, please visit our [website](#).





# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

This year CASA dedicated considerable effort to our teams and various aspects of their projects, including communications, networking, and outreach. A highlight was the public release of a report with advice on potential options to reduce NO<sub>x</sub> emissions and Alberta's efforts to achieving Alberta's Ambient Air Quality Objectives and Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards. We remain keen to find more ways CASA and other partners can further contribute to this important initiative.

In 2023, the board conditionally approved a new strategic plan to see us through from 2024–2027 with a commitment to revisit our supporting performance measures strategy in the months to follow. Additionally, steps were taken to refresh our Multi-year Communications Strategy and improve reporting on that strategy as well as our operational plan. We continue to strengthen sector relationships around CASA's table by actively seeking ways to share more information and resources internally and externally. Our members have agreed to explore other communication mechanisms that can be leveraged to achieve this.

It was rewarding to see the ROVER III Project Team wrap up its data collection and share key findings with the board after years of delays due to the pandemic. In the coming months our members will review the team's findings and report with recommendations. Preliminary work to create a best practices guide for dust management continued while new work was initiated to support the 2024 Air & Waste Management Annual Conference & Exhibition. I look forward to another productive year as we see these projects move ahead with their various tasks.

This year saw a few staff changes. With Anuja Hoddinott on leave, Katie Duffett continued with the role of acting senior project manager, and oversaw CASA's project work, supervised project managers, and handled internal communications. Upon her return, Anuja's role shifted to support the executive director's work more closely with supporting the board and executive committee and external communications.

It has been my pleasure to work alongside so many committed individuals and I am grateful to those who served on or provided support to the board, project teams and committees for their great work this year. I remain motivated by their dedication of all past and present contributors to CASA's work. I would especially acknowledge the board members who have provided years of service to CASA and stepped away in 2023 to pursue other goals. CASA could not be successful without your contributions, and I thank all our members and staff for offering their time, expertise, and knowledge to this worthy organization.

Andre Asselin



# OUR STAFF

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2023

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Andre Asselin

**OPERATIONS MANAGER**

Anuja Hoddinott

**ACTING SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER**

Katie Duffett

**PROJECT MANAGERS**

Alec Carrigy

Mariem Oloroso

**ACCOUNTANT**

Sunny Yeung



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The following individuals served as members of CASA's Board of Directors as of December 31, 2023. CASA is very grateful for the ongoing commitment and support of these individuals and the organizations they represent.

## INDUSTRY

SECTOR	DIRECTOR	ALTERNATE
Petroleum Products	Alison Miller	Rob Hoffman
Mining	Rob Beleutz	Brent Korobanik
Oil and Gas – Large Producers	Don McCrimmon	
Forestry	Dan Moore	
Alternate Energy	David Lawlor	Mark McGillivray
Chemical Manufacturers	Shane Lamden	Kai Horsfield
Agriculture	Rich Smith	Humphrey Banack
Utilities	Jim Hackett (Vice President)	Ahmed Idriss

## NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION (NGO)

SECTOR	DIRECTOR	ALTERNATE
NGO Health	Leigh Allard (Vice President)	
NGO Rural	Ann Baran	Randy Angle
NGO Industrial	Ruth Yanor	
NGO Urban	Bill Calder	David Spink
Consumer Transportation		

## GOVERNMENT

SECTOR	DIRECTOR	ALTERNATE
Federal Government		Martin Van Olst
Provincial Government – Environment	Kasha Piquette (President)	Jamie Curran
Local Government – Rural	Amber Link	
Local Government – Urban		
Samson Cree Nation	Holly Johnson-Rattlesnake	
Métis Settlements	Mary Onukem	

CASA thanks the following directors and alternates, who stepped down in 2023, for their contributions:

- Rich Smith – Industry, Agriculture
- Craig Werner – Industry, Forestry
- Anna Kauffman – Industry, Forestry
- Bill Calder – NGO, NGO Urban



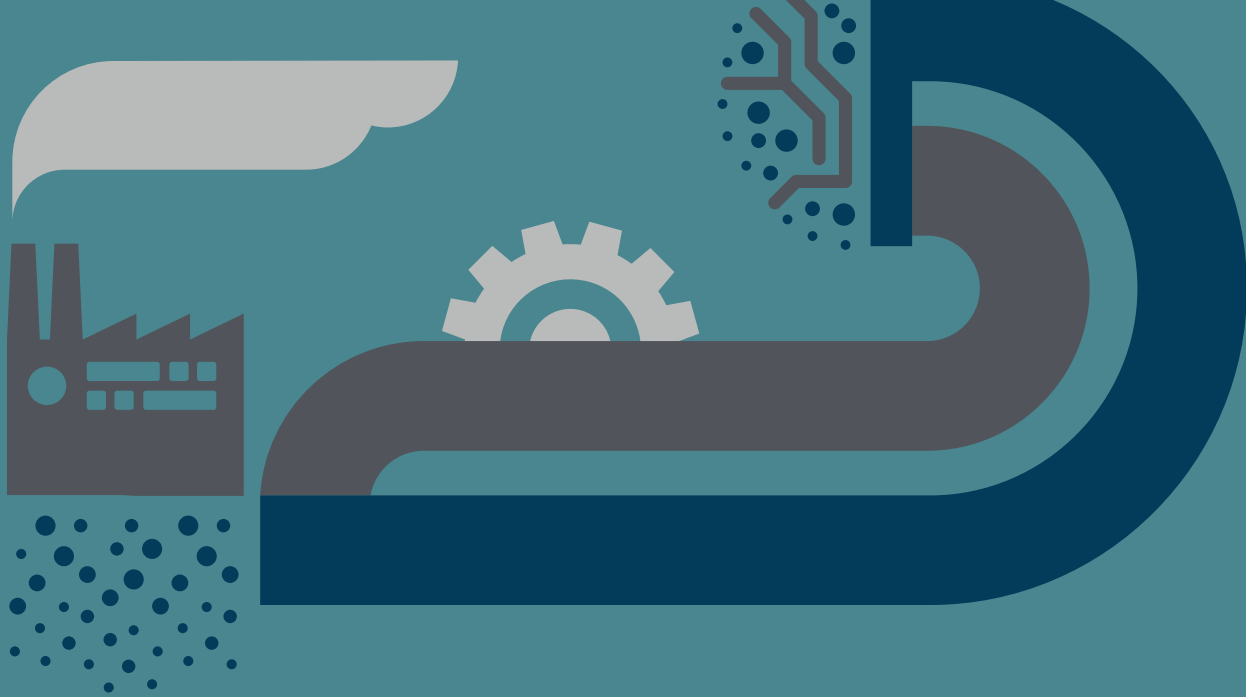
# COMMITTEE, AD HOC GROUP, WORKING GROUP, AND PROJECT TEAM MEMBERS

The following individuals contributed their time and expertise to CASA's committees, ad hoc groups, working groups, and project teams in 2023. CASA gratefully acknowledges their commitment and support. CASA also thanks the many individuals from various partner groups who reviewed documents, responded to surveys, and volunteered their time in support of our activities.

Ahmed Idriss	Andrew Read	Brent Korobanik	Jennifer Knievel	Melissa Guglich
Ajeev Ramnauth	Ann Baran	Cameron Robertson	Jessica Sabell	Rahul Shrivastava
Ali Langan	Bob Koch	Courtney Brown	Jim Hackett	Randy Dobko
		Craig Siewert	Kallie Wischoff	Rawnauld Axelson
		Curt Horning	Kamran Faisal	Reg Warkentin
		Danlin Su	Ken Gibson	Rhonda Lee Curran
		David Spink	Kevin Warren	Rob Beleutz
		Donna Kanarek	Kristina Morris	Rob Fragoso
		Douglas Thrussell	Laura Cline	Rob Hoffman
		Elizabeth Bell	Lauren Greenhough	Ruth Yanor
		Gary Redmond	Leigh Allard	Scott (Sheila) Cunningham
		Irene Dahl	Martin Van Olst	Sharon Willianen
		Jamie Curran	Martina Krieger	Tasha Blumenthal
				Terri Johnson
				Tim Dallmann
				Vahid Hosseini
				Wally Qiu
				Warren Noga
				Wendy Birch







# CASA PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

CASA could not operate without the help of the many organizations that support participants on the board and teams. CASA is grateful to these organizations for providing financial and in-kind contributions of time and expertise.

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| Alberta Airsheds Council                         | Canadian Natural Resources Ltd                                  | Mewassin Community Council                    |
| Alberta Beef Producers                           | Canfor Corporation  | Natural Resources Conservation Board          |
| Alberta Chamber of Resources                     | Capital Power   | NextEra Energy Resources                      |
| Alberta Construction Association                 | Chemistry Industry Association of Canada                        | NOVA Chemicals                                |
| Alberta Energy Regulator                         | City of Calgary   | Peace Airshed Zone Association                |
| Alberta Environment and Protected Areas          | City of Edmonton  | Prairie Acid Rain Coalition                   |
| Alberta Forest Products Association              | ENMAX Corporation   | Rural Municipalities of Alberta               |
| Alberta Motor Transport Association              | Environment and Climate Change<br>Canada – Government of Canada | Samson Cree Nation                            |
| Alberta Newsprint Company                        | Graymont  | Simon Fraser University                       |
| Alberta Sand and Gravel Association              | Heartland Generation  | Southern Alberta Group for the<br>Environment |
| Alberta Transportation and<br>Economic Corridors | Heidelberg Materials  | Sureway Construction Group                    |
| Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc.           | Imperial Oil  | Team Alberta Crops                            |
| ATCO Energy Systems                              | Intensive Livestock Working Group                               | TransAlta Corporation                         |
| Canadian Association of<br>Petroleum Products    | International Council on<br>Clean Transportation                | University of Alberta                         |
| Canadian Federation of Agriculture               | LaFarge Canada Ltd  | West Fraser                                   |
| Canadian Fuels Association                       | Lung Association – Alberta & NWT                                |   |

# PROJECT TEAMS

## CAAQS ACHIEVEMENT PROJECT TEAM

In September 2020, CASA approved a project charter for work related to managing NO<sub>x</sub> emissions to prevent possible CAAQS exceedances in Alberta. The project's objective is to promote stakeholder awareness, identify and develop potential solutions, and gather sector perspectives. CASA has since:

- Prepared a written background document providing an overview of NO<sub>2</sub> CAAQS, as well as O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> CAAQS implementation in Alberta.
- Created a base of informed stakeholders who can contribute meaningful solutions to CAAQS implementation in Alberta.
- Compiled a list of collaborative approaches and solutions for NO<sub>x</sub> CAAQS achievement in the province.
- Documented findings in a final report with recommendations.

This project was publicly released in 2023, and its final deliverables are available on CASA's website.

## ROVER III PROJECT TEAM

The board initiated a third phase of the ROVER project in 2017 to measure in-use vehicle emissions using remote sensing technology. Following several delays to its field data collection because of the pandemic, restrictions were lifted, and the field season was successfully completed by the end of fall 2022 with the consultant finalizing their report in spring 2023. The main findings of this work were shared with the board at their September meeting.

The project team spent the rest of the year drafting preliminary management actions, recommendations, and their report.

This work will likely be completed in 2024.





## BEST PRACTICES GUIDE FOR DUST MANAGEMENT IN ALBERTA

In 2023, the project team kicked off initial tasks to develop a best practices guide for dust management in the province. The project hopes to provide guidance that would enable Albertans to reduce and mitigate particulate matter emissions from anthropogenic non-point sources to help improve local air quality management in Alberta and support regional CAAQS achievement.

The team selected a consultant to support them in completing the project objectives, but was not officially retained due to a funding shortfall. The team is actively seeking funds and will continue with the project once funding is secured.

The project team anticipates work to be finished in 2024.

## AIR & WASTE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

The board launched new work this year to support CASA's participation in the 2024 Air & Waste Management Association's Annual Conference & Exhibition in Calgary. The Air & Waste Management Association (A&WMA) hosts an annual conference and exhibition to bring together industry, academia, and policymakers from across North America.

There is an opportunity for CASA to host a session during the conference to share information on the organization and our work.

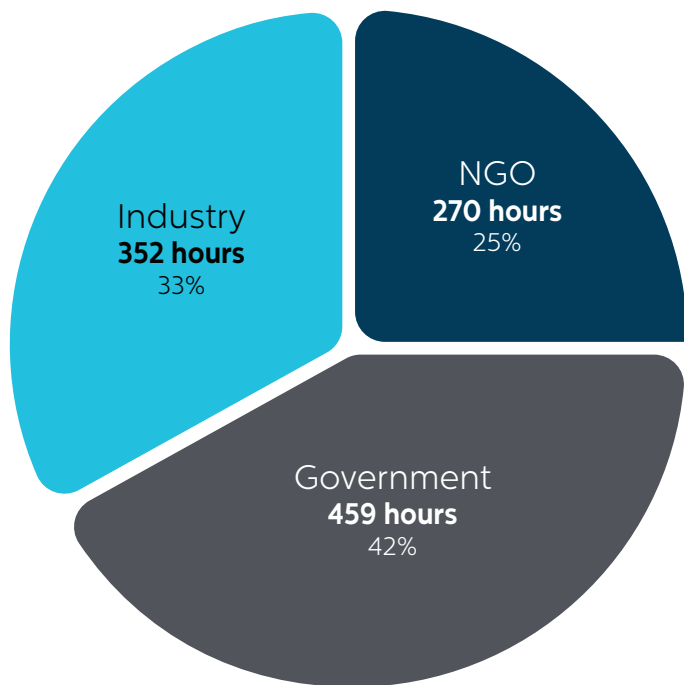
This work will likely wrap up in 2024.

# CASH AND IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

In-kind support is a cornerstone of CASA's ability to address complex air management issues and is extremely valuable in completing its work. Industry, governments, and non-government organizations have all provided such support. CASA has tried to assign a dollar value to this but can confidently say that the true value of these contributions is both under-recorded and underestimated. The total in-kind contributions of time for 2023 amounted to 1,081 hours which represents about \$108,100 in donated time. The GoA also generously provided office space as an in-kind contribution in 2023. The chart below shows the in-kind cash equivalent contributions from the three broad sector groups.

Cash contributions are also critical to the success of the organization. CASA gratefully acknowledges EPA for providing a generous grant which covers core operating expenses as well as a grant for supporting the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Objectives Achievement Project Team.

## 2023 IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS



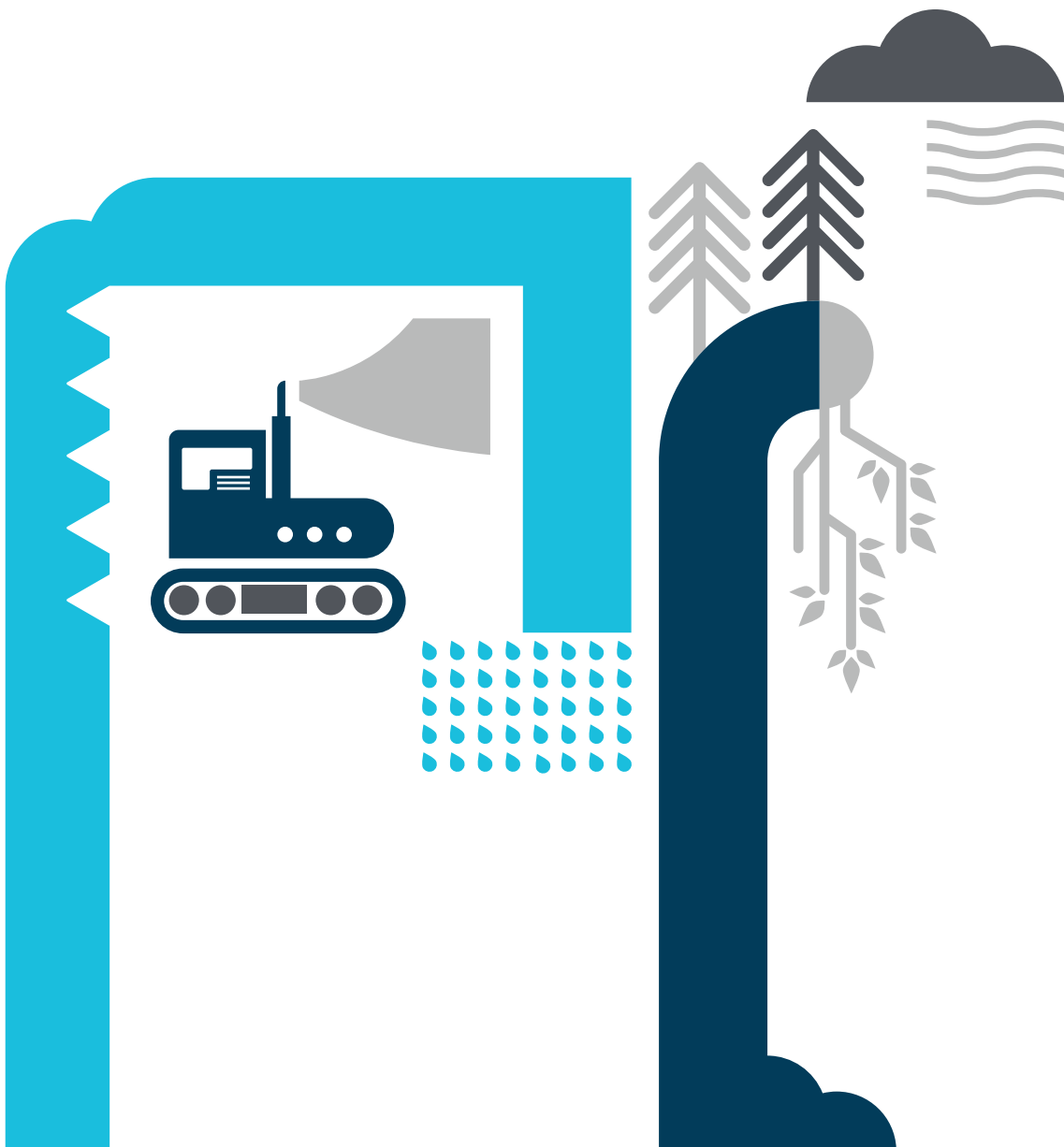
# ALBERTA AIRSHEDS COUNCIL AND ALBERTA AIRSHEDS

CASA would like to recognize our mutually beneficial working relationship with the Alberta Airsheds Council (AAC) and its members, Alberta's 10 airsheds. The primary role of the airsheds is the monitoring, assessing, and reporting of ambient air quality, and together they manage most of the monitoring in Alberta. Airsheds are also actively involved in education and community outreach and help raise awareness and understanding of the benefits of good air quality; they often support initiatives that address local air quality issues. While the AAC and CASA are not formally affiliated, airshed representatives often contribute valuable knowledge and expertise to CASA's project teams. Their partnership and in-kind support is greatly appreciated.

Notably, the AAC releases an annual Air Quality Report to provide a summary of the air quality data monitored and collected in the province by Alberta's airsheds. They are a valuable resource and available here.

For more information about the AAC, visit here:  
[www.albertairshedsCouncil.ca](http://www.albertairshedsCouncil.ca)









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