



Press Release

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CEMA releases 2014 Annual Report

Fort McMurray, Alberta –The Cumulative Environmental Management Association (CEMA) has released its 2014 Annual Report. It highlights another year of success stories and milestones in its work on the management of the environmental effects of development on air, land, water and biodiversity.

The report illustrates what can be accomplished when stakeholders with diverse perspectives are willing to embrace strategies that accommodate the ecological, social and economic dimensions of oil sands development.

CEMA's 2014 Annual Report is available for download at the following link:

<http://cemaonline.ca/index.php/news-a-events/cema-annual-reports>

Formed in 2000 by the Alberta Government, CEMA continues to be a key advisor to the provincial and federal governments. It is committed to respectful, inclusive dialogue to make recommendations to regulators on managing potential cumulative environmental effects of all development in the Lower Athabasca Region using an array of management tools. It is comprised of more than 50 members organized in four caucuses: Aboriginal, Government, Non-Governmental Organizations and Industry. The membership includes municipal, provincial, and federal governments, First Nations and Métis communities, environmental advocacy groups, educational institutions, forestry operations, and pit-mining and in-situ oil sands operators. With the help of the field's leading experts, CEMA's working groups have assembled authoritative tools for managing air quality, reclaiming oil sands forests and wetlands, and measuring environmental performance.

In 2014, CEMA had total expenditures of over \$5 million conducting research within six working groups: Aboriginal, air, groundwater, reclamation, sustainable ecosystems and traditional environmental knowledge.

Also, CEMA's sector balanced Board of Directors approved two projects as recommendations to the Government of Alberta. The two are The Stony Mountain 800 Linear Footprint and Access

Management Summary: A Multi-Stakeholder Planning Pilot Project and the Water Management Framework.

An additional highlight for 2014 was the release of the Guidelines for Wetland Establishment in Reclaimed Oil Sands, Third Edition.

“This Annual Report showcases our achievements in the working groups and provides an overview of CEMA’s continued commitment to bringing the best science available to bear on the challenges we face managing the cumulative effects of development,” stated Glen Semenchuk, CEMA’s Executive Director. “Despite ongoing challenges with respect to funding, we have continued to develop recommendations of immense value to the Government of Alberta and our other stakeholders. I’m looking forward to our work in 2015 as we continue, for example, to work with our many aboriginal stakeholders to create a traditional knowledge framework document for the use of aboriginal traditional knowledge in decisions made for managing our environment.

“All our working groups will continue delivering key information to form recommendations, guidance documents and frameworks to members, stakeholders and regulators in 2015.”

CEMA is a multi-stakeholder society that is a key advisor to Government and is committed to respectful, inclusive dialogue in the development of recommendations to manage the cumulative environmental effects of regional development on air, land, water and biodiversity. For more information please visit www.cemaonline.ca

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