

November 3, 2006

## **\$30 million flows to water research**

Onoway... The Alberta government is allocating \$30 million to begin implementing a water research strategy, which focuses on safe drinking water, efficient water use, and healthy watersheds.

"Developing knowledge and new technologies for effective water management is very important for Alberta's future," said George VanderBurg, Acting Minister of Alberta Innovation and Science. "This strategy ensures we will have different experts working together on specific questions, and the various ideas and approaches will strengthen the research process and provide for well-informed water management decisions".

The water research strategy was developed by the Alberta Science and Research Authority, the Alberta Water Council, the provincial government and other research partners. It outlines goals, priorities and strategies for building on the scientific knowledge gained to date through the Alberta Research Council, the Alberta Ingenuity Centre for Water Research, the, post-secondary institutions, industry, utility companies, municipalities, water basin councils, water managers and stewardship groups and other Alberta government departments.

"The water research strategy is another example of Alberta's commitment to finding science-based solutions to protect our watersheds," said Alberta Environment Minister Guy Boutilier. "One of the key directions of *Water for Life* is to translate our knowledge into action - in order to continue to have safe drinking water, efficient water use and healthy watersheds."

The fund will be managed through Alberta Ingenuity, which will coordinate provincial water research with national and international efforts to ensure the long term safety, quality and sustainability of Alberta's water resources.

"The Alberta Water Research Institute will support research and knowledge development for applications in areas of water management and water use," said Peter Hackett, President and CEO of Alberta Ingenuity. "This supports the goals of *Water for Life*, and future generations of Albertans will continue to enjoy a safe and reliable water supply."

In announcing implementation of the strategy at a meeting of leaders from 15 municipalities held November 3, 2006 in Onoway, VanderBurg noted, "Municipalities all over Alberta, both large and small, understand and recognize the importance of safe, secure water supplies, just like the municipalities gathered today".

For a copy of ASRA's *Water Research Strategy*, visit: [www.asra.ab.ca](http://www.asra.ab.ca)

For more information about *Water for Life*, visit: [www.waterforlife.gov.ab.ca](http://www.waterforlife.gov.ab.ca)

For information on Alberta Ingenuity, visit: <http://www.albertaingenuity.ca>

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