# IN THE ALBERTA COURT OF JUSTICE CRIMINAL DIVISION

**BETWEEN:** 

#### HIS MAJESTY THE KING

-and-

1656758 ALBERTA INC. OPERATING UNDER THE FIRM NAME AND STYLE OF ENVIRO CONTAINER AND CLEANING SOLUTIONS

BEFORE THE HONOURABLE	)	On Tuesday, the 26 <sup>th</sup> day
JUSTICE D. J. Plosz	)	of November, 2024.
AT RED DEER,	)	
ALBERTA	)	
	)	

### ORDER PURSUANT TO SECTION 148(1) OF THE WATER ACT

WHEREAS 1656758 Alberta Inc. operating under the firm name and style of Enviro Container and Cleaning Solutions stands convicted of the following offence contrary to the *Water Act*, to wit:

Count 1: On or between the 12th day of October, 2021 and the 29th day of April, 2022, at or near Blackfalds, Alberta, did commence or continue a diversion of water for any purpose or operate a works except under a licence or as otherwise authorized by the *Water Act* contrary to section 142(1)(n) of the *Water Act*, notice of the offence having first come to the attention of the Director on April 29, 2022.

AND WHEREAS in addition to a fine of \$500.00 as against 1656758 Alberta Inc. operating under the firm name and style of Enviro Container and Cleaning

Solutions, imposed under the *Water Act*, inclusive of victim fine surcharge, and having regard to the nature of the offence and circumstances surrounding its commission;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT, pursuant to the provisions of section 148(1) of the *Water Act*, 1656758 Alberta Inc. operating under the firm name and style of Enviro Container and Cleaning Solutions will comply with the following conditions:

- 1. That 1656758 Alberta Inc. operating under the firm name and style of Enviro Container and Cleaning Solutions shall pay \$11,500.00 to the Canada WaterPortal Society on or before January 28, 2025 for the sole purpose of funding the Canada WaterPortal Society Project as detailed and described in Schedule "X" hereto. The specific address to which the funds shall be forwarded is: Canada WaterPortal Society, 1500, 850 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, SW, Calgary, AB, T2P 0R8, Attn: Andrew Wilson, Executive Director.
- 2. That 1656758 Alberta Inc. operating under the firm name and style of Enviro Container and Cleaning Solutions shall only forward the funds as ordered in paragraph 1 to the Canada WaterPortal Society upon receiving confirmation from counsel for the prosecution that the Canada WaterPortal Society and His Majesty the King, in Right of the Province of Alberta, as Represented by the Minister of Environment and Protected Areas, have fully executed Schedule "X". Should Schedule "X" not be fully executed by January 6, 2025, the funds referred to in paragraph 1 will be forthwith sent to the Clerk of the Court along with a copy of this Order. The Clerk of the Court will then deal with those funds as though they were payment of an additional fine ordered by the Court with respect to Count 1, inclusive of any applicable surcharge.

- 3. All of the reports produced in accordance with the projects described in paragraph 1 shall be available to the public and may be posted on the website of Alberta Environment and Protected Areas or elsewhere.
- 4. If any conditions or requirements of this Order cannot be met, counsel for the Alberta Crown Prosecution Service, Alberta Environment and Protected Areas, 1656758 Alberta Inc. operating under the firm name and style of Enviro Container and Cleaning Solutions, and the Canada WaterPortal Society may resolve any resulting issues by agreement, failing which the parties hereto shall appear before this Honourable court for further direction.
- 5. The term of this Order shall be three years from the date hereof to allow sufficient time for completion of the projects described herein.
- 6. This Order may be consented to in counterpart, by facsimile or otherwise.

DATED this  $\frac{26}{100}$  day of November, 2024, in Red Deer, in the Province of Alberta.

Justice of the Alberta Court of Justice

APRROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT BY:

Solicitor for the Alberta Crown Prosecution Service,

Specialized Prosecutions Branch

for Jacquelyn Stevens

Solicitor and Agent for 1656758 Alberta Inc. operating under the firm name and style of Enviro Container and Cleaning Solutions

#### Schedule "X"

#### RECIPIENT AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is effective as of the Effective Date.

#### **BETWEEN:**

### HIS MAJESTY IN RIGHT OF ALBERTA

as Represented by the Minister of Environment and Protected Areas

(the "Province")

AND:

### **CANADA WATERPORTAL SOCIETY**

(the "Recipient")

#### WHEREAS:

- A. Pursuant to a court order issued by the Provincial Court of Alberta made on the Effective Date,1656758 Alberta Inc. operating as Enviro Container and Cleaning Solutions, was ordered to pay the Sentencing Fund under the creative sentencing provisions of the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act;
- B. The Province is the administrator of the Sentencing Fund and is responsible for ensuring its proper management and use; and
- C. The Province and the Recipient desire to have the Recipient use the Sentencing Fund to undertake and manage the Project,

### THEREFORE the parties agree as follows:

- 1. Definitions and Interpretations
- 1.1. In this Agreement:
  - (a) "Effective Date" means November 26, 2024;
  - (b) "Eligible Expenses" means an expense for the Project set out in the Funding Proposals;
  - (c) "Funding Proposals" means the Recipient's funding proposal for the Project dated August 29, 2024 and attached as Schedule A;
  - (d) "Minister" means the Minister of Environment Protected Areas and any duly authorized representative of the Minister;
  - (e) "Project" means adding new content, modernizing, updating and promoting access to information on the website by the Canada WaterPortal Society, as more fully set out in Schedule A;

- (f) "Sentencing Fund" means the initial amount of \$11,500.00 and any additions to this amount made in accordance with this Agreement; and
- (g) "Term" has the meaning as set out in Section 6.1.
- 1.2. The following Schedule is incorporated into and form a part of this Agreement:

Schedule A - Groundwater Education Proposal.

- 1.3. In interpreting this Agreement
  - (a) time is of the essence:
  - (b) a reference to any Act
    - (i) unless otherwise stated, is to the Act of the Province of Alberta; and
    - (ii) includes all regulations made pursuant to such Act, as such Act and associated regulations may be amended or replaced from time to time:
  - (c) words importing gender include all genders;
  - (d) words in the singular include the plural and vice versa;
  - (e) the word "include" and its inflected forms are not be to interpreted as limiting:
  - (f) headings are for convenience only;
  - (g) a waiver of any term or condition by one party is only effective if in writing, and any such waiver relates only to the specific breach and instance set out in the waiver;
  - (h) any discretion to be exercised by the Province under this Agreement, including where the Province "may" do something, is at the Province's absolute discretion; and
  - (i) where a time or date for doing something occurs on a Saturday or a day that is a holiday (as defined in the *Interpretation Act*), the time is deemed to be extended to the first following day that is not a Saturday or holiday.
- 2. The Grant and Maintenance of the Sentencing Fund
- 2.1. The Province will arrange to have the initial Sentencing Fund paid to the Recipient within a reasonable time after the Effective Date.
- 2.2. As consideration for the Province arranging for the payment of the Sentencing Fund to the Recipient, the Recipient will undertake and manage the Project in accordance with Schedule A and the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

- 2.3. On receipt of the initial Sentencing Fund, the Recipient will promptly deposit the amount into an appropriate account, acceptable to the Province, and hold the unexpended amounts of the Sentencing Fund in such an account throughout the Term.
- 2.4. In managing and monitoring the Sentencing Fund during the Term, the Recipient will
  - (a) use an accounting system that separately identifies the Sentencing Fund apart from any other amounts held by the Recipient; and
  - (b) allocate any interest earned from the Sentencing Fund to the Sentencing Fund, which becomes a part of the Sentencing Fund and subject to this Agreement.
- 2.5. When managing the Sentencing Fund and incurring Eligible Expense, the Recipient will adhere to investment and business practices that are at least consistent with those followed by a reasonably prudent person who is acting to
  - (a) avoid undue risk of loss;
  - (b) obtain a reasonable return; and
  - (c) receive reasonable value for services, supplies and assets purchased.
- 3. Eligible Expenses
- 3.1. The Recipient will only use the Sentencing Fund for Eligible Expenses.
- 3.2. The Recipient will monitor the expenditure of all amounts from the Sentencing Fund and will promptly notify the Province of any of the following:
  - (a) the improper use of any portion of the Sentencing Fund; or
  - (b) a breach of any environmental law or noncompliance with any permit, licence or approval that is related to any aspect of the Project or an expense incurred using the Sentencing Fund.
- 3.3. If the Province believes a payment from the Sentencing Fund may not have been for an Eligible Expense, the Province will promptly notify the Recipient of its concern.
- 3.4. If the Recipient receives a notice from the Province under Section 3.3, or if the Recipient on its own discovers that an amount paid from the Sentencing Fund may not have been used for an Eligible Expense, then within 30 days the Recipient will
  - (a) subject to Section 6.5, reimburse the Sentencing Fund by the amount of the questioned payment, with evidence to the Province, or
  - (b) deliver to the Province any materials supporting and an explanation for why the guestioned expense should be an Eligible Expense.
- 3.5. If the Recipient provide materials to the Province under Section 3.4(b)

- (a) the Province will, acting reasonably and consistent with the intent of the Project, make a final determination of whether the questioned payment was an Eligible Expense, and
- (b) if the Province determines the question amount paid from the Sentencing Fund was not for an Eligible Expense, the Recipient agrees to be bound by the decision of the Province and, subject to Section 6.5, will promptly reimburse the Sentencing Fund by the amount of the questioned expense and provide evidence to the Province within 30 days.

### 4. Reporting Obligations

- 4.1. The Recipient will prepare an interim report regarding the Project in accordance with Section 4.2 and deliver it to the Province by June 30, 2025.
- 4.2. The interim report is to include the following information:
  - (a) a brief description of all Eligible Expenses incurred during the previous six months:
  - (b) the amount of the Sentencing Fund remaining;
  - (c) any anticipated delays to the Project; and
  - (d) such other information the Province may reasonably request.
- 4.3. The Recipient will prepare a final report for the Project in accordance with section 4.4 and deliver it to the Province within 30 days of the earliest of
  - (a) the completion of the Project,
  - (b) the expiry of the Term, and
  - (c) the earlier termination of this Agreement.
- 4.4. The final report is to include the following information:
  - (a) a detailed description of all Eligible Expenses incurred;
  - (b) whether any amounts remain in the Sentencing Fund;
  - (c) the results achieved by the Project, including its successes and limitations,
  - (d) a description of all final work product produced for the Project, and
  - (e) such other information the Province may reasonably request.
- 4.5. The Recipient will prepare the reports required by Sections 4.1 and 4.3 using such format or template as the Province may reasonable direct.

- 4.6. The Recipient will pay to the Province, without further demand, any portion of the Sentencing Fund remaining at the time the final report is delivered to the Province.
- 4.7. The Recipient acknowledges that the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* applies to all information and records provided by the Recipient to the Province and to any information and records provided to the Province in connection with the subject matter of this Agreement, and which are in the custody or under the control of the Province.
- 4.8. The Recipient will not make any public announcement or issue any press release regarding the entering into of this Agreement or receiving the Sentencing Fund, except in consultation with and the approval of the Province as to the contents of the announcement or press release.

### 5. Conflict Of Interest And Ethical Conduct

- 5.1. In carrying out this Agreement and conducting the Project, the Recipient will comply with all applicable:
  - (a) laws of the Province of Alberta and the federal laws of Canada applicable in the province;
  - (b) bylaws or resolutions of any municipal government; and
  - (c) permits, licenses and approvals.
- 5.2. The Recipient will ensure there are no conflicts of interest or apparent conflicts of interest on the part of the Recipient and its employees in relation to
  - (a) making any expenditure using the Sentencing Fund, and
  - (b) the performance of any work done in relation to the Project, including the selection of any third party contractors or consultants.
- 5.3. Without limiting Section 5.2:
  - (a) the Recipient will not influence, or seek to influence, or otherwise take part in a decision of the Province, knowing that the decision might further the Recipient's private interests;
  - (b) where any work under this Agreement or for the Project involves providing advice or making recommendations to the Province, or exercising discretionary authority that would provide a benefit to any other person, the Recipient will provide it advice or recommendation, or exercise its discretion impartially and without bias:
  - (c) except for payments as set out in this Agreement, the Recipient will not accept any collateral gift, payment, commission or other direct benefit arising from this Agreement or performing the Project;

- (d) the Recipient will not incur any Eligible Expense where the payment would be made to a third party that would result in, or appear to cause, a conflict of interest:
- (e) on request by the Province, the Recipient will deliver copies of all written ethical standards, conflict of interest policies and codes of conduct established or observed by the Recipient in its business practices or in relation to its employees or subcontractors; and
- (f) the Recipient will, and will ensure its employees and subcontractors, comply with the *Lobbyists Act*.
- 5.4. If the Recipient becomes aware of any matter that causes or is likely to cause a conflict of interest, the Recipient will immediately provide notice to the Province and the Recipient will immediately cease the performance of any work relating to this Agreement or the Project unless the Province notifies the Recipient that such work may continue, as the Province may determine.

#### 6. Term and Termination

- 6.1. The term of this Agreement (the "**Term**") commences on the Effective Date and expires **December 31, 2025**.
- 6.2. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the Province may immediately and without notice terminate this Agreement, and the Recipient will immediately pay to the Province without further demand all undisbursed amounts remaining in the Sentencing Fund, if any of the following events occurs or if the Province reasonably believes any of the following event may imminently occur:
  - (a) the Recipient is petitioned into bankruptcy or makes an assignment for the benefit of creditors;
  - (b) the Recipient is adjudicated bankrupt or insolvent;
  - (c) the Recipient files a petition or institute any proceedings under any bankruptcy or insolvency legislation;
  - (d) the Recipient has its chattels, equipment or supplies seized under process of law for non-payment of debts; or
  - (e) the Recipient is the subject of an appointment of a receiver or trustee in bankruptcy.
- 6.3. The Recipient will immediately advise the Province if it has reason to believe any of the events in Section 6.2 may occur, in which case the Province is deemed to have a reasonable belief that such event may imminently occur.
- 6.4. If Sections 3.4(a) or 3.5(b) apply after the expiry of the Term or the termination of this Agreement, then instead of reimbursing the Sentencing Fund, the Recipient will pay the amount of the improper expenses to the Province without further demand.

6.5. Any amount that the Recipient is required to pay to the Province under this Agreement is a debt due to the Crown and may be recovered from the Recipient by an action in debt.

#### 7. General

- 7.1. Sections 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 4.3, 4.6, 6.4, 6.5, 7.2 and 7.3 survive the expiry of the Term or the earlier termination of this Agreement.
- 7.2. The Province is not responsible for establishing, operating or supervising the Project, and the Recipient agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Province from any and all third party claims, demands or actions for which the Recipient is legally responsible, including those arising out of negligence or wilful acts by the Recipient and its respective employees, contractors or agents in performing the Project or using Sentencing Funds.
- 7.3. Any notices or communication to be given by one party to the other under this Agreement are to be given in writing and may be delivered to the other party at the following addresses, email addresses or facsimile numbers, or to such other person and contact information as a party may provide by notice:

### To the Province:

# Environment and Protected Areas #304, Provincial Building

4920 - 51 Street

Red Deer, AB T4N 6K8

Attn: Tricia Kirkpatrick.

Environmental Investigations

Liaison

Tele: 403-340-7749

Email: <a href="mailto:tricia.kirkpatrick@gov.ab.ca">tricia.kirkpatrick@gov.ab.ca</a>

### To the Recipient:

Canada WaterPortal Society 1500, 850 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, SW Calgary, AB T2P 0R8

Attn: Andrew Wilson Executive Director Tele: 604-700-8769

Email: Andrew.Wilson@waterportal.ca

### 7.4. This Agreement

- (a) constitutes the entire Agreement between the parties.
- (b) enures to the benefit of and is binding on the parties and their respective representatives, successors and permitted assigns,
- (c) is not to be interpreted or construed as creating a relationship of principal and agent, employer and employee, partnership or joint venture between the parties,
- (d) is to be construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws applicable in the Province of Alberta and the federal laws of Canada applicable therein,
- (e) may only be amended in writing, and
- (f) may not be assigned by the Recipient without the prior written consent of the Province.

### Schedule "X"

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Parties have executed this Agreement to be effective as of the Effective Date.
HIS MAJESTY in Right of Alberta, as Represented by the Minister of Environment and Protected Areas
Tricia Kirkpatrick Environmental Investigations Liaison
CANADA WATERPORTAL SOCIETY
Per: Andrew Wilson Executive Director

# **Groundwater Education Proposal**

Submitted to:

Tricia Kirkpatrick

**Environmental Investigations Liaison** Alberta Environment & Protected Areas

Submitted by:

Andrew Wilson

**Executive Director** 

Canada WaterPortal Society

**Date submitted: 2024-08-29** 

## Conflict of Interest Declaration

The proponents and their staff confirm that they have no conflict of interest with any of the current Environmental Compliance Prosecutions listed on the Government of Alberta website (https://www.alberta.ca/environmental-compliance-prosecutions) at time of writing.

### About us

The Alberta WaterPortal Society (Society) was founded in 2006 in the spirit of Alberta's *Water for Life* strategy to provide inclusive research, community engagement, and educational activities to improve the public's understanding of the importance of water in Alberta, and to provide Albertans with the knowledge needed to make better water management decisions. The Society does so by running a web site, the WaterPortal (albertawater.com) dedicated to water education. (Note that the Society is in the process of renaming itself to the Canada WaterPortal Society. This is discussed in more detail at the end of the proposal.)

The protection, allocation and management of water resources is a complex interaction of multiple jurisdictions, stakeholder groups and communities. This complexity presents both challenges and opportunities. Addressing these requires creative mechanisms for dialogue and networking. It also requires focused effort to explore and share information and experiences among water users, managers, and researchers.

As a charitable organization we work closely with private, public and other nonprofit organizations, supported by industry and water experts. We have forged successful partnerships with all levels of government, academic institutions, environmental non-government organizations, corporate partners and advisory councils and irrigation districts. The WaterPortal contributes to how we share and collaborate on water information and knowledge, for the benefit of all Albertans and Canadians more broadly.

Our mission as a charity is to inform Canadians on the value of water as a vital resource by providing objective information to enable better water practices for the environmental, economic, and social benefit of all. Figure 1 below indicates the traffic the WaterPortal received over the twelve months leading up to August 15, 2024. Alberta-origin users made up 62% of the WaterPortal's Canadian users and between them generated 59,900 views of our pages.



Figure 1: Twelve-month site usage

# Why care about groundwater?

Groundwater is a key component in the hydrological cycle. However, being underground, it is all too often ignored or treated as an unlimited supply. It is also difficult to regulate as the effects of over-withdrawal and contamination are not immediately apparent and require difficult-to-obtain data to assess. On a global level, the World Bank's 2023 report *The Hidden Wealth of Nations*<sup>1</sup>, notes that groundwater provides 49% of domestic water and around 43% of water withdrawn for irrigation. The report further notes that "Even in high-capacity settings like Canada, there is always more to learn about how to overcome the difficulties of integrating hydrogeological information into land-use planning activities." (p.49). Recent CBC stories of wells running dry in British Columbia highlight some of the consequences that arise when wells stop working<sup>2</sup>.

Emphasizing the importance of groundwater to Albertans, in 2013 using 1996 data, the Government of Canada estimated that 23.1% of Albertans rely on groundwater<sup>3</sup>. The dates of the underlying data indirectly make the point that data is not easily available. More recently, the Government of Alberta estimated in 2019 that "about 90%" of rural Albertans rely on groundwater<sup>4</sup>.

In 2014, Natural Resources Canada's, *Canada's Groundwater Resources* report<sup>5</sup> identified the Paskapoo Aquifer, north of Calgary and underlying Red Deer, as one of Canada's Top-30 Priority Aquifers (p.661) for further investigation. Alberta's 2020 *Aquifer Vulnerability Index*<sup>6</sup> places the city of Red Deer in an area of medium to high vulnerability.

Taken together, this suggests that educating Albertans on groundwater and groundwater's vulnerabilities is both important and urgent.

### **Project overview**

The Society has operated since 2006 and over that time has generated a collection of groundwater-related material. However, due to lack of funding to maintain and update the content, that content is now old (many dates from 2013) and is missing currently available references.

Therefore, we propose a project with three core deliverables:

- 1. Refreshing, updating and re-working our existing groundwater-related content.
- 2. Adding new content with specific relevance to Alberta and the Red Deer watershed to the extent the information exists and is publicly accessible.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Hidden Wealth of Nations: Groundwater in Times of Climate Change (worldbank.org). Accessed 2024-08-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> A residential drinking well in northern B.C. has run dry, prompting concerns amid unprecedented drought | CBC News. Accessed 2024-08-21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Water sources: groundwater - Canada.ca. Accessed 2024-08-28.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> af-aep-water-wells-that-last-2019.pdf (alberta.ca). Accessed 2024-08-28.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Canada's groundwater resources - NRCan Open S&T Repository. Accessed 2024-08-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Aquifer Vulnerability Index - Open Government (alberta.ca). Accessed 2024-08-28.

3. Improving the accessibility of the information. This will include 1) reworking our site navigation and content to make the groundwater component more easily accessible, and 2) ensuring that our groundwater content is accessible to assistive tools.

# Project scope and rationale

As noted in the Subject Matter Background section above, Albertans heavily rely on groundwater. Educating Albertans on groundwater issues is an important public service but it is not easy to find relevant information suitable for a general audience. At various times over the years, the WaterPortal has created collections of pages addressing various groundwater issues. This content is valid but has several key areas in which it can be improved:

- 1. While the content was based on the best information available at the time, there may now be better or more updated information available.
- 2. Long-standing web content suffers from "link rot" in which references stop working due to changes in web sites and material being removed, replaced or moved. The content needs a review to identify and fix links that no longer work. In many cases, the material may no longer be available and so new material will need to be found and integrated into the content.
- 3. Due to the episodic and project-based nature of the content creation, the material's navigability can be improved. Best practice in web navigation is for content to be easily accessible and require minimal searching through multiple topics.
- 4. There is a growing recognition of the need to optimise web content to support assistive devices which help people to access digital products and services.

The project we are proposing addresses these opportunities.

# **Project objectives**

- 1. Modernize and update our existing content with current publicly accessible references.
- 2 Include new content specific to Alberta.
- 3. Make groundwater a more visible part of our site's content and improve the accessibility of our existing content through device-responsive delivery and by optimising content in alignment with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines<sup>7</sup>.

## Project methods

Our project will consist of three major parts.

1. We will conduct an in-depth review, refresh and update of our existing content. This will ensure that all material is current and all references link to currently publicly available sources.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.2, 2023, https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG2/. Accessed 2024-08-28.

- 2. We will conduct a detailed search for new publicly accessible material related to groundwater in Alberta, with a particular focus on the Red Deer basin. Since most of such material is likely to be in the form of technical hydrogeological reports, this will require abstracting material suitable for the general public and, where suitable, developing content for use in schools.
- 3. We will improve the navigability and accessibility of the content. The navigability aspect will require a revised site navigation structure which will highlight groundwater as a top-level topic along with our other core topic domains such as flood and drought. As part of improving the navigability of the material, we will also ensure that the material is delivered in a device-responsive manner to optimize the user's experience regardless of whether they are accessing our content via desktop or mobile devices. The accessibility of all our groundwater material will be brought into compliance with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (v2.2) issued by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) in 2023. All groundwater content will be delivered in a device-response manner optimized for the user's type of device (i.e. desktop, tablet or mobile).

### Schedule

The Society proposes a twelve-month project, starting in January 2025 and ending by December 31, 2025. This will provide the Society time to conduct the necessary research, revise existing content, generate new content, complete the navigability improvements, web content accessibility review and produce the necessary reports.

## **Budget**

The proposed budget is for \$11,500. This amount will enable the Society's team to address the three parts discussed above:

- 1. Reworking and updating existing content.
- 2. Researching publicly-available groundwater-relevant resources and producing new site content specific to Alberta.
- Reworking our site navigation to highlight groundwater and improve the materials' accessibility.

# References to other similar Alberta projects (if applicable)

The Society has a long history of delivering on similar content updating and generation projects. Most recently, our Water Connections: Water & Agriculture project explored the connections of water and agriculture. We are developing the content for the next phase of the Water Connections project focused on the interactions of communities, ecosystems, and water. Prior to that, we delivered on the "Water Nexus" – a multi-year, multi-phase project which explored the intersection of water, energy, and food in Alberta.

## Additional relevant information

### Society name change and rebranding

In early 2024, the Society updated its name and purpose by replacing "Alberta" with "Canada" to become the Canada WaterPortal Society. These changes reflect the growing traffic the WaterPortal is receiving from the rest of Canada and the world. At time of writing, this process is underway and awaits final approval from the Canada Revenue Agency. Approval has already been received from the Alberta Registrar of Corporations. Once the final approval is received, the rebranded WaterPortal will launch using the new name.