Resources related to water and wastewater operators

Municipal Examples:

Flagstaff Inter-municipal Partnership Committee	**Consortium Development** In 2010 an engineering firm completed a study of a potential water treatment operator's consortium involving ten municipal water treatment plants within the area of Flagstaff County. The study found that operator cross-training required by the consortium was simplified by the plants using similar technologies. All of the Municipalities agreed that a cooperative model could solve common issues such as providing cover-off for certified operators. In early 2012 the Committee hired another engineering firm to support implementation of the consortium. Click here to learn more about the Committee.
Villages of Dewberry, Kitscotty and Marwayne	**Consortium Cooperation** The Villages of Marwayne, Kitscotty, and Dewberry were having difficulty retaining water operators which threatened their viability as communities in terms of providing citizens a safe, secure supply of drinking water. The villages decided that inter-municipal cooperation was the solution to effectively operating and maintaining their drinking water supply systems. The cooperative solution involved a multi-step approach: Step 1: Complete Operator Consortium Report exploring various models for the project Step 2: Develop a business case which included a governance model Step 3: Implement a supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system Step 4: Hire a regional water operator The regional approach has proven to be more cost effective and resulted in increasing the capacity and competitiveness of the villages involved. The project highlighted the importance of small urban municipalities working together to solve problems. Click here to watch a video on the process.
YOUR MUNICIPALITY HERE	Does your municipality have an operator related initiative that could serve as a model for others to follow? If so, please contact AUMA at water@auma.ca.

Additional Resources:

Alberta Environment	**Water and Wastewater Operator Certification:**

and Parks (AEP)	Alberta legislation requires that specified municipal water and wastewater facilities have one or more certified operators to supervise day-to-day operations. Each facility's operating approval specifies the certified operator requirements. Click here to view more information on the water and wastewater operator certification process and requirements. **Demystifying Certification of Water and Wastewater Operators:** AEP has done a video presentation outlining the essential design and program requirements of the regulated water/wastewater operator workforce in Alberta. This briefing has been designed to help local elected officials and senior staff to understand the model and some of the issues associated with water/wastewater certification in Alberta. Click here to watch the video on YouTube.
Alberta Water and Wastewater Operators Association (AWWOA)	**Supporting Operators** The AWWOA is a non-profit organization established in 1976 to serve as a resource for water and wastewater training, news and events. Its main activities include: • Hosting an annual Operator's Seminar and awards program including the prestigious Operator of the Year award. • Sponsoring training programs that are approved by Alberta Environment and Parks. • Providing entry level training and certification exam preparation training. • Providing Resources, industry news and related links for water and wastewater operators and system owners; • Providing operator input to the Alberta Environment and Parks Water and Wastewater Operator Certification. • Providing Alberta operator input to the Western Canada Water Association. Click here to visit the AWWOA Website and access the latest industry news, events and training opportunities. AWWOA can provide training near you! – email info@awwoa.ca for details or call TF 1-877-454-7745 **Training Subsidy for Classroom Courses For Small Municipalities** The AWWOA offers a 25 per cent discount on registration fees for operators who are AWWOA members and are from small municipalities within Alberta serving fewer than 5,000 people. This subsidy is to encourage attendance by offsetting training costs.

	AAWOA members also have access to the following training subsidies, scholarships, bursaries and discounts: -Subsidy for Small Municipalities -AWWOA Scholarships -Training Bursaries -Member Discounts **Recruiting Toolkit** The AWWOA supports local Alberta employers in their efforts to attract and inform quality candidates by producing customizable recruitment materials which are informed by the current regulatory context as well as the insights of working professionals. Click here to access the materials. **Water and Wastewater Operator Certification Information** The Alberta Water and Wastewater Operators Association provides links to AEP certification requirements, the certification process guidelines, best practices, and other information relevant to water and wastewater operators. Click here to learn more.
Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT)	**Training** NAIT's Water and Wastewater Technician Program provides a high level of training for those desiring employment in the fields of water distribution, water treatment, wastewater collection, and wastewater treatment. The program also provides upgrading for those currently employed in the industry, or for those interested in any of the four specialized areas. The full-time program is a combination of traditional delivery and self-study activities. Full time courses can be taken in Edmonton or Calgary classrooms or through distance delivery options. In order to graduate from the full time program, students must complete 4 months (600 hours) of work experience, generally May-August. Work experience students make great additions to municipalities in the summer to help alleviate pressures from operator vacations. NAIT also offers water and wastewater training through distance delivery options. Click here to learn more.
Western Canada Water (WCW)	**Water Professionals** WCW promotes the exchange of knowledge of water treatment, sewage treatment, distribution of water and collection of sewage for towns and cities in western Canada. The WCW has approximately 4,000 members who work in this industry and for the cities, towns and governments in western Canada and

	provide conferences, seminars, training books and a magazine to promote communications and training in the municipal water and wastewater industry in western Canada. Click here for more information.