

Water Dispatch

Water information and commentary

Fall 2018

WID's Irrigation Efficiency Program Successfully Concluded

The WID's Irrigation Efficiency Program provided grants to producers for the conversion of 32 pivots from high-pressure to low-pressure. This Program, combined with Growing Forward 2 and the Canadian Agricultural Partnership resulted in a very cost-effective investment in upgrades for irrigators. For every quarter section converted, 15-20 acre-feet of water can be saved each year, depending on the conditions.

In September, Chestermere-Rockyview MLA Leela Aher visited producer Marguerite Watson's land to see first hand how these upgrades



Producer Marguerite Watson, MLA Leela Aher and WID General Manager David McAllister discuss high-pressure to low-pressure pivot conversions - WID photo

The second dry year in a row put the WID's ability to efficiently supply water to its users to the test, and it passed with ease. The season went smoothly, thanks to hard working staff and improved efficiencies.

help irrigators and increase the efficient use of water.

"A lot of water can be saved because the water is applied directly to the land, rather than getting taken

away by the wind," said Watson.

The WID is pleased with the efficiency increases as a result of this program, and thanks all producers who applied.

2018 Water Delivery

Efficiency improvements on farm and to the WID's infrastructure have motivated producers to expand their use of irrigation. Over 73,500 acres were irrigated this year, which is 5000 acres more than in the previous year. This number is expected to continue growing, given

the pace of investment in new irrigation systems.

"We have proven that the significant investment in our infrastructure has paid off," said WID Water Master Brian Sander. "In the last two years we've supplied more acres with approximately the

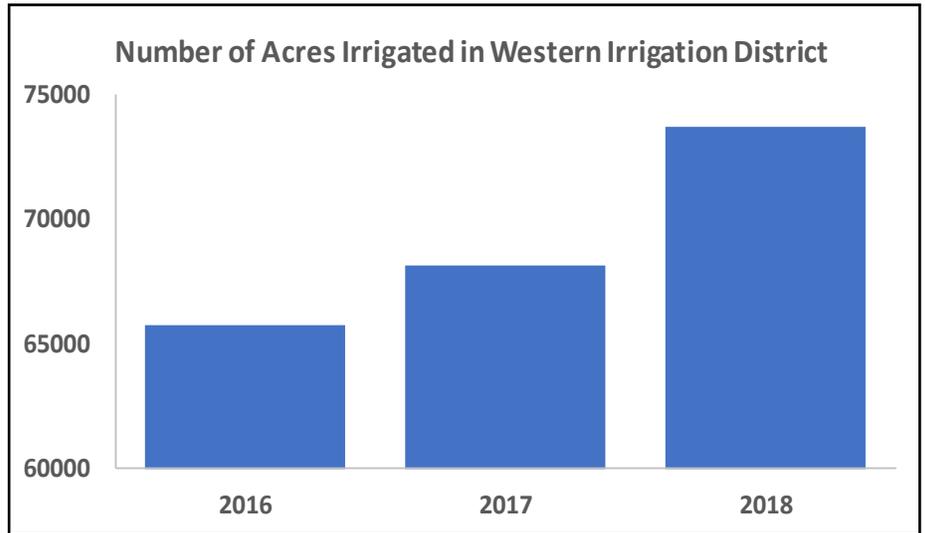
Continued page 2

2019 Marks the 75th Anniversary of the Western Irrigation District!
Watch for upcoming information on special programs and events to celebrate this milestone.

same amount of water. Nowhere did we have to ration anyone with water this year and we never had to delay turn ons.”

Excellent communication between water users and water district supervisors helps ensure effective use of the water and targeted diversion from the Bow.

“My water operations staff has done a really good job. They’re working hard out there to keep people happy and get water where it needs to be. They are a hard working bunch.”



Cooperative Stormwater Management Initiative Reduces Flood Risk and Protects Water Quality

Effective stormwater management is taking on increasing importance as land-use changes, potentially causing significant impact to irrigation water quality. Although land development is occurring throughout Alberta near irrigation districts, the Western Irrigation District (WID), is the most significantly affected given its location. The City of Calgary, City of Chestermere, Rocky View County, Town of Strathmore and Wheatland County each have specific plans for land development that would substantially change the existing water balance for stormwater in the region.

The WID has long recognized the importance of proactively addressing the potential issues presented by stormwater rather than waiting for impacts to materialize. The WID has collaborated with the municipalities it serves on a solution that will balance the needs of the municipalities to proceed with approved developments in the contributing stormwater catchments, while simultaneously safeguarding the WID’s irrigation water. The proposed solution, the Cooperative Stormwater Management Initiative

(CSMI), is a dedicated system for stormwater which parallels existing WID canals to convey the stormwater to natural systems.

The municipal benefits for CSMI are significant as having a regional stormwater solution will enable multiple municipalities to save costs via shared infrastructure and safeguard development over a twenty-five-year buildout. Another significant benefit of the CSMI project will be the mitigation of flooding that occurs within the communities being serviced at the present time.

A benefit to the WID from the CSMI project is that stormwater will be completely separated from irrigation water, protecting the quality of water delivered to WID irrigators. A secondary benefit of the CSMI project for the WID will be the reduction in risk associated with flooding events, which have the potential to impact the WID’s canals and pipelines due to the amount of stormwater runoff that occurs.

The CSMI project will be entirely funded by the municipal partners, principally through levies on future development. The WID’s contribution will be the use of its

rights-of-way in areas that would otherwise allow stormwater from new development to flow into the canal. The project also received \$7.6 million through the Alberta Community Rehabilitation Program, recognizing that it significantly reduces flood risk.

The project will be built in phases based on the availability of funds, the receipt of regulatory approvals and construction scheduling. The first phases of the project are expected to be built over the next three to five years. The next steps for the project are to refine the conceptual design, engage in a consultation with stakeholders and apply for approval of the first phase of the project under the Water Act.

The CSMI project represents a significant opportunity for the WID and the communities it serves to demonstrate that development can coexist with irrigation through collaboration. The success of this project has the potential to serve as an example for other irrigation districts in Alberta who will be experiencing increasing pressure from development in the areas they serve.

2018/19 Construction Update

1. North Cluny Canal Rehab

1.25km – Buried liner and armoured banks

This canal ties in with the North Cluny tail out pipeline project. When completed, it will service 545 acres of existing irrigated land, and open up the potential to add 1250 acres. The canal has been constructed, and liner and armour will be added when weather permits.

2. Standard Lateral on Secondary “B” system

4.2km - Buried liner and armoured banks

This section starts at the Rockyford highway and continues east. Addition of an underdrain fill will decrease surface runoff into the canal, increasing water quality.

3. Hayes Spillway – Upper end of North Cluny lateral system

Precast concrete inlet structure with Langemann gate and SCADA

Installing a precast baffled outfall structure and approximately 300m of 900mm diameter pipe. This spillway is strategically located to manage and evacuate operational flows, but also assists with spring runoff.

4. Gleichen Drop 3 repair – Secondary “A” canal

Downstream drop was failing, so the walls of the drop structure are being replaced. This is done in conjunction with the Crowfoot spillway cast-in-place structure to ensure cost-effectiveness.



Hayes Spillway Installation - WID photo



NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS
Irrigation Districts Act
(Sections 54, 58, 59)
Local Authorities Election Act
(Section 26)

WESTERN IRRIGATION DISTRICT in the PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

Notice is hereby given that nominations are open from the date of this publication until 4:00 pm on Wednesday, March 13th, 2019 for the election of candidates for the following offices and will be received at the location of the office of the Western Irrigation District set out below:

Office(s)	Number of Vacancies	Division
Director	1	1
Director	1	4

Electoral Division 1 which comprises Townships 21, 22, 23 and 24 in Ranges 20, 21 and 22.

Electoral Division 4, which comprises Township 24 in Ranges 26, 27 and 28 and Townships 25, 26 and 27 in Ranges 25, 26, 27 and 28.

Nominations must be in the form prescribed by the Irrigation Districts Act and can be obtained from Western Irrigation District; location being 105 - 900 Pine Road Strathmore.

DATED at the Town of Strathmore in the Province of Alberta, this 7th day of December, 2018

David McAllister, P. Eng, MSc, MBA
Returning Officer



FORM 1
Irrigation Districts Act
 (Section 45(2) (b))

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

TAKE NOTE that the annual meeting of the irrigators of the Western Irrigation District will be held at the Strathmore Travelodge, Strathmore, Alberta, on the 3th day of April, 2019, beginning at 1.30pm.

- (a) Present annual reports of:
 - (i) the chair on behalf of the Board
 - (ii) the manager
 - (iii) the auditor of the district, and
 - (iv) the maintenance of irrigation works of the district, and
- (b) conduct any other business

Dated at the Town of Strathmore, this 7th day of December, 2018

David McAllister P (Eng), MSc, MBA
 General Manager
 Western Irrigation District

PLEASE BRING YOUR ANNUAL REPORT WITH YOU

Wheatland Resiliency and Restoration Program Wraps Up

The Wheatland Resiliency and Restoration Program (WRRP) has reached a successful conclusion. The partnership between the Western Irrigation District and Wheatland County enabled 7km of permanent fencing to be constructed, keeping livestock away from water channels.

The primary purpose of the WID-Wheatland program was to improve and restore the riparian function and watershed resiliency of the Crowfoot Creek Watershed. Provincial funding was made available to land-owners through this program.

The WID and Wheatland County are grateful to all who accessed the program and aided with protection of the Crowfoot Creek Watershed.



Exclusion fencing keeps livestock away from water channels, improving riparian health - WID photo

WID RATES 2019

AGMNT	RATE	TYPE	GST	TOTAL
Irrigation Acres (IA)	\$18.32	acre	\$0.92	\$19.24
IA - Min Charge	\$458.00	flat	\$22.90	\$480.90
Pressure - IA & Term	\$0.31	psi	\$0.02	\$0.33
Term	\$20.11	acre	\$1.01	\$21.12
Term-Min Charge	\$502.75	flat	\$25.14	\$527.89
Household	\$509.00	flat	\$25.45	\$534.45
Household Reduced	\$305.40	flat	\$15.27	\$320.67
Household Yard & Garden	\$361.39	flat	\$18.07	\$379.46
Capital Assets Charge	\$770.00	acre	\$38.50	\$808.50
Comm. Convey	\$69.00	acre/foot	\$3.45	\$72.45
Group Conveyance	\$270.79	Member	\$13.54	\$284.33
Ann. IA	\$20.11	acre	\$1.01	\$21.12
Ann. Term	\$20.11	acre	\$1.01	\$21.12
Ann. Off Creek	\$16.03	acre	\$0.80	\$16.83
Rural Water Use Agreement	\$1,380.00	flat	\$69.00	\$1,449.00
Screening Fee	\$0.60	acre	\$0.03	\$0.63
Sleeping Annual Agreement	\$20.11	acre	\$1.01	\$21.12
Oil & Gas	\$1,500.00	wellsite		\$1,500.00
Domestic Water Hauling	\$180.70	flat	\$9.04	\$189.73
Commercial Water Hauling	\$763.50	flat	\$38.18	\$801.67
Alternate Parcel new	\$254.50	flat	\$12.73	\$267.23
Alternate Parcel renewal	\$50.90	flat	\$2.55	\$53.44

WID Board of Directors

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Doug Brown | Div 1 |
| Henry Colpoys | Div 2 |
| Rick Page | Div 3 |
| Dan Shute – Vice Chair | Div 4 |
| Ray Kettenbach - Chair | Div 5 |

Water Supervisor Contacts

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Brian Sander | Water Master | 403-325-0493 |
| Joey Mordy | Assistant Water Master | 403-325-0244 |
| Derrick McGougan | Chestermere | 403-899-4638 |
| Don Brownlee | Carseland | 403-899-4641 |
| Joe Friedman | Gleichen/Cluny | 403-325-4642 |
| Wes Sproule | Rockyford | 403-325-4640 |
| JR Dunbar | Crowfoot | 403-325-4639 |
| Jaye Wegener | Strathmore | 403-325-4601 |