



ALBERTA INNOVATES

CLEAN RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL INNOVATION

WATER INNOVATION PROGRAM

FUNDING DETAILS

North Saskatchewan River Basin Project: Collaborative Assessment of Water Management Opportunities

This project will create an operational model of the North Saskatchewan River Basin (NSRB) that incorporates surface water quantity and quality and available groundwater information. When combined with operational knowledge of the basin, this will create a tool for making data-driven decisions for managing future development and growth. The model and scenario results will be combined in a comprehensive roadmap for development in the NSRB that incorporates climate change projections and municipal and industrial growth strategies.



RECIPIENT:

North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance



PARTNERS:

City of Edmonton, City of Spruce Grove, EPCOR, GoA, PrairiesCan, WaterSMART Solutions



TOTAL BUDGET:

\$1,065,488



AI FUNDING:

\$250,000



PROJECT DATES:

FEB 2024 –

MAY 2025

APPLICATION

The roadmap and online water management tool will help municipalities, industry, agriculture, the public sector and the general public understand water challenges and opportunities in the region and create awareness of proposed developments that may impact or benefit the basin. Implementation of the Integrated Water Management Plan and ongoing work to update the State of the Watershed Assessment will also be supported by the outcomes of this project.



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PROJECT GOALS

The overall goals of the project are to develop:

- An operational model of the NSRB, including water quantity, water quality and climate change impacts.
- A comprehensive roadmap for development in the NSRB that incorporates climate change projections and municipal and industrial growth strategies and provides a high-level economic assessment for the various mitigations and adaptation strategies identified by the project team.

BENEFITS TO ALBERTA

The project will allow provincial authorities, and other water users, to:

- Identify, understand, and manage water quantity and quality risks.
- Provide an understanding of how much water is available in the basin system currently and how it will be impacted by climate change.
- Provide an opportunity to understand how development in the basin and climate change will continue to impact water quality and allow water users to make more informed decisions to protect the basin.
- Engage local experts in water management to enable sustainable economic development, including energy transformation projects like hydrogen.
- Communicate publicly regarding climate change impacts on water resources.



**10 New Practices
Informed**

**CURRENT
STATUS**

MAR 2024

Project kicked off.