



## PRAMP Board Decision Document Agenda Item 6

Meeting Date: August 14 2017

### **Decision Required:**

The PRAMP Committee has been planning to hold a community open house in September. The Board is asked to decide whether to postpone the community open house until a decision is received on the PRAMP Engagement and Knowledge Translation grant request.

### **Background:**

The PRAMP Committee applied to AEP for an Engagement and Knowledge Translation grant in February 2017. The amount requested for 2017-18 was \$44,000 and was intended for developing an engagement plan, hosting and participating in community events, enhancing the website, and community-focused quarterly and annual reports.

Several other Airsheds also applied to AEP for grants. AEP has not announced grant decisions to PRAMP or any other Airshed yet, and we do not know when a decision may be provided.

Without the grant funding, the PRAMP Committee does not have designated funds for costs associated with an open house (room rental, hospitality, advertising).

### **Recommendation:**

The Executive Committee recommends that PRAMP not hold a community open house until funds are confirmed from the AEP grant or other sources, and that the September Board meeting and Annual General Meeting be held by teleconference. The Baytex tour of the Reno facilities would also be postponed.

In addition, the attached draft letter to the Minister of Environment and Parks has been prepared for Board approval, to keep her informed on the change in plans for the AGM, and to request a decision on the grant as soon as possible.

August xx, 2017

Honourable Shannon Phillips  
Minister of Environment and Parks  
Minister Responsible for the Climate Change Office  
Office of the Minister  
Environment and Parks  
208 Legislature Building  
10800 – 97 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

By email: aep.minister@gov.ab.ca

**Re: Peace River Area Monitoring Program Committee Community Engagement**

Dear Minister Phillips,

On June 23, 2017, we extended an invitation to you to the Annual General Meeting for the Peace River Area Monitoring Program (PRAMP) Committee. Our intention was to hold the AGM in Peace River in September, along with a community open house. We had hoped to pay the open house costs using funds from an Engagement and Knowledge Translation grant from Alberta Environment and Parks that we applied for in February 2017. Since we have not received a decision on our grant, we have decided to postpone our community open house, and to hold our AGM by teleconference.

We appreciate that there are many demands on the Government of Alberta's financial resources, and look forward to a decision as soon as possible on our grant request. Community engagement and knowledge translation are key elements for all of Alberta's Airsheds and help to ensure that air monitoring programs are meeting local needs, and to build confidence in the science-based air monitoring being done. PRAMP's 2015 Annual Data Review and our soon-to-be-released 2016 Annual Data Review demonstrate that there have been some improvements in air quality in the Peace River area, and that further assessment is needed in some areas. These messages are valuable for community members to learn about, and public events are an important opportunity to share and discuss the information.

In addition, the PRAMP Committee is working toward the Goals set out in Decision 2014 ABAER 005: Report of Recommendations on Odours and Emissions in the Peace River Area (March 31, 2014). One of the Goals states that *"The air quality program would operate transparently and give residents and stakeholders timely access to data and information in a manner that is readily understood."* The Engagement and Knowledge Translation grant will enable the PRAMP Committee to achieve that goal.

Alberta Environment and Parks has been an important partner and supporter for the PRAMP Committee. We welcome any questions you may have, and look forward to a decision on our Engagement and Knowledge Translation grant request.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Doug Dallyn in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Doug Dallyn – Community Co-Chair

Handwritten signature of Dave Hill in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Dave Hill – Industry Co-Chair

cc. The Honourable Margaret McCuaig-Boyd, Minister of Energy  
Ms. Debbie Jabbour, MLA for Peace River