

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

APRIL 1, 2023 TO MARCH 31, 2024

Air quality monitoring and reporting
for communities, industries, and
governments that support a healthy
environment in the Peace River area.



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PEACE RIVER AREA MONITORING PROGRAM



EXECUTIVE MESSAGE

PRAMP's Commitment to Air Quality and the Community

Wildfires and smoke from wildfires were prominent features of 2023 for all of Alberta, including the Peace River area. PRAMP's portable Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) station **provides data to establish the AQHI every hour, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.** During wildfire smoke events, PRAMP increased the frequency of sharing AQHI data on social media and provided additional information about the health risks associated with air quality. Schools, local governments, and citizens relied on the AQHI data to plan their outside activities.

Extended periods with smoke-filled skies reinforce the need for the air quality monitoring provided by Alberta's ten Airshed organizations. PRAMP relies on a grant provided by Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (AEPA) to support air quality education and outreach. Funding from heavy oil operators through the Oil Sands Monitoring Program sustains the ongoing monitoring of industrial emissions and community monitoring. On March 31, 2024, PRAMP concluded year one of four in the multi-year agreements for Oil Sands Monitoring and Education and Outreach. Consistent, **predictable funding enables efficient and effective long-term monitoring.**

To align with PRAMP's role in monitoring industrial emissions and community monitoring, **a revised Vision and Mission** were developed by the Board in December 2023. The Executive appreciates the diverse views among Directors, and their commitment to work together in support of healthy air quality for the Peace River area.

EXECUTIVE

Doug Dallyn, Co-chair, Community

Amanda Peardon, Co-chair, Industry

Garrett Tomlinson, Co-chair, Government

Shelly Shannon, Secretary/Treasurer

VISION

Air quality monitoring and reporting for communities, industries, and governments that support a healthy environment in the Peace River area.

MISSION

Operate an ambient air quality monitoring program in the Peace River area that provides credible and comprehensive data for the community, industry, and governments.

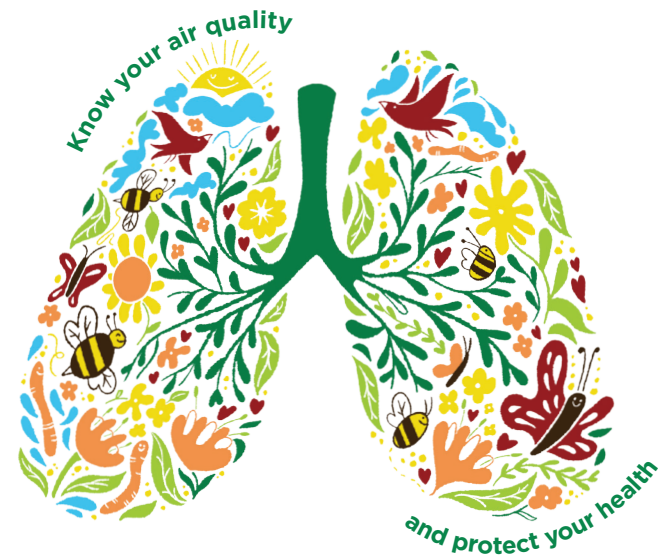


OUTREACH & EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

At events in spring 2023, PRAMP conducted a survey to gauge the impact of PRAMP's outreach efforts and to understand what people would like to know about air quality. Learning about health information related to air quality was the number one priority for those who completed the survey.

To respond to this need, PRAMP developed new materials to help people assess their risk related to air quality and to offer strategies to limit exposure to wildfire smoke. The materials and presentations are available for schools and community groups and will help Airshed residents interpret and respond to AQHI data.

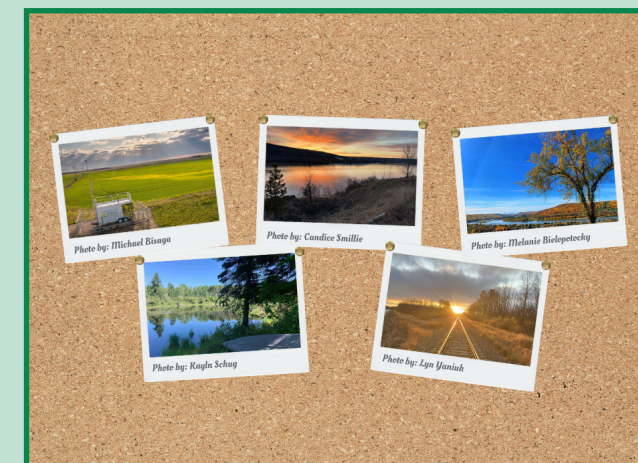
Workshops on bean growing using vermicompost, handmade papermaking, and vermicomposting were delivered to classrooms and libraries. The presentations encouraged students and residents to reduce materials in landfills and raised awareness about air quality.



PRAMP continued to share air quality information through its quarterly newsletters, ads on local radio stations, and through social media. PRAMP also shared seasonal air quality messages in partnership with Alberta's other nine Airsheds and the Alberta Airsheds Council.



To mark Clean Air Day 2023, PRAMP held a photo contest and showcased selected photos in its 2024 calendar. Calendars were available free through libraries and municipal offices.



Participating in local events is a highlight for PRAMP staff. 2023-24 events included: Duncan's First Nation Treaty Days, Mighty Peace Teachers' Convention, Peace River Chamber of Commerce Trade Show, Grimshaw Chamber of Commerce Trade Show, Grimshaw FCSS Parade of Programs, and Grimshaw Municipal Library Popcorn in the Park event.

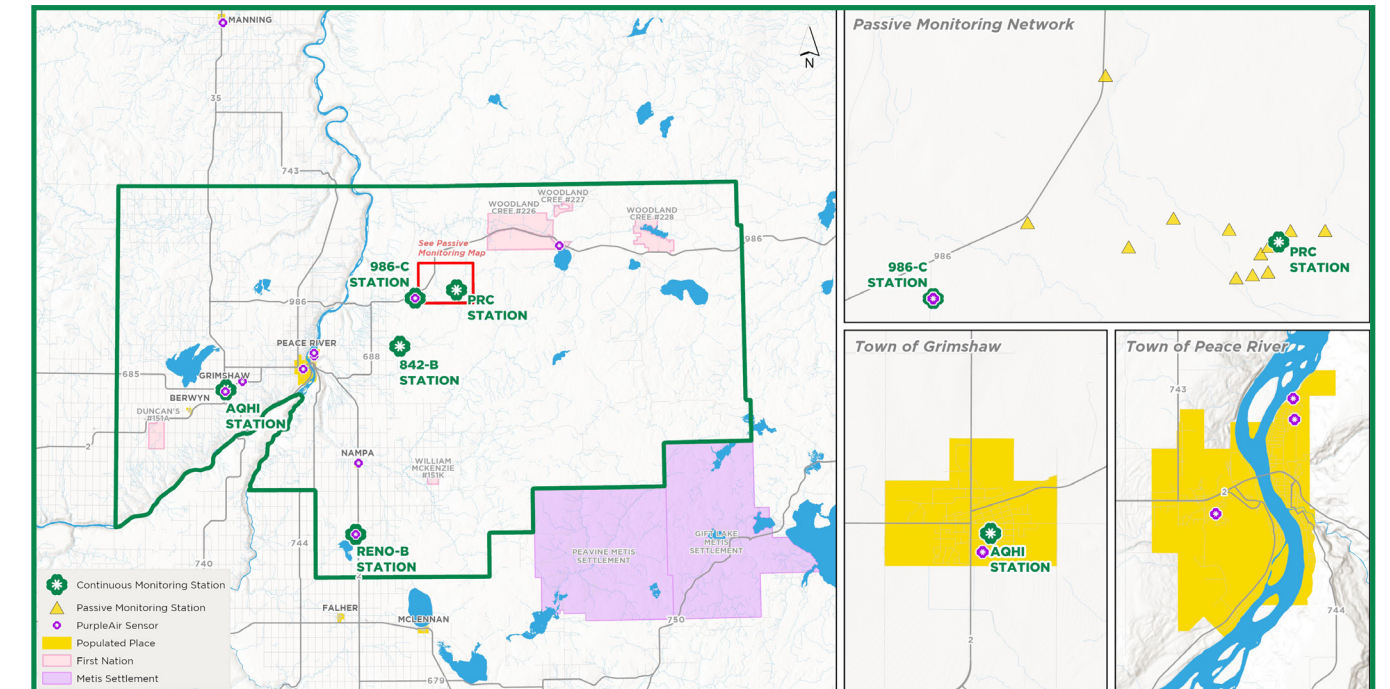


MONITORING PARAMETERS

Monitoring Method	Parameter	Station Name				
		986-C	842-B	Reno-B	PRC	AQHI (Grimshaw)
Continuous	Sulphur Dioxide	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Hydrogen Sulphide				✓	
	Total Reduced Sulphurs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Hydrocarbons <i>Total, Methane, & Non-Methane</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Oxides of Nitrogen <i>Total, Nitric Oxide, Nitrogen Dioxide</i>					✓
	Ozone					✓
	Fine Particulate Matter <i>Particles ≤ 2.5 Microns in Diameter</i>					✓
	Wind <i>Speed & Direction</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Precipitation	✓	✓	✓		
	Climate Variables <i>Temperature, Relative Humidity, Barometric Pressure</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) <i>Third-Party Calculated Multi-Parameter Index</i>					✓
Intermittent	Non-Methane Hydrocarbon Canister	✓	✓	✓		
Passive	Polycyclic Aromatic Compounds	✓				
	Hydrogen Sulphide, Sulphur Dioxide				✓	

Monitoring Method	Parameter	Station Name
		986-C, Reno-B, Peace River (above valley), Peace River (in valley), Nampa, Roma Drive, Woodland Cree (Cadotte Lake), Good Shepherd School, Holy Family School, Rosary School
Small Sensor	Fine Particulate Matter <i>Particles ≤ 2.5 Microns in Diameter</i>	✓
	Climate Variables <i>Temperature, Relative Humidity</i>	✓
	Air Quality Health Index Plus (AQHI+) <i>Third-Party Calculated Single-Parameter Index</i>	✓

PRAMP MONITORING NETWORK



MONITORING HIGHLIGHTS

The 2023 wildfire season in Canada was one of the worst on record. Starting early and ending later than usual, the fires burned an estimated 18.4 million hectares. The environmental impact, particularly on air quality in both Canada and the United States, was profound. The scale of the wildfires led to the release of massive amounts of smoke and particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) into the atmosphere. This resulted in high health risk air quality levels across large regions. Communities across the country experienced days with Air Quality Health

Index (AQHI) values reaching risk levels that were unsafe for both sensitive groups and the general population.

PRAMP's Grimshaw-based portable air quality monitoring station can determine the AQHI. Throughout the summer months, PRAMP monitoring found that the AQHI had a high or very high-risk level upwards of 25% of the time. In terms of particulate matter measurements, PRAMP detected 687 exceedances of the 1-hour Alberta ambient air quality guideline and

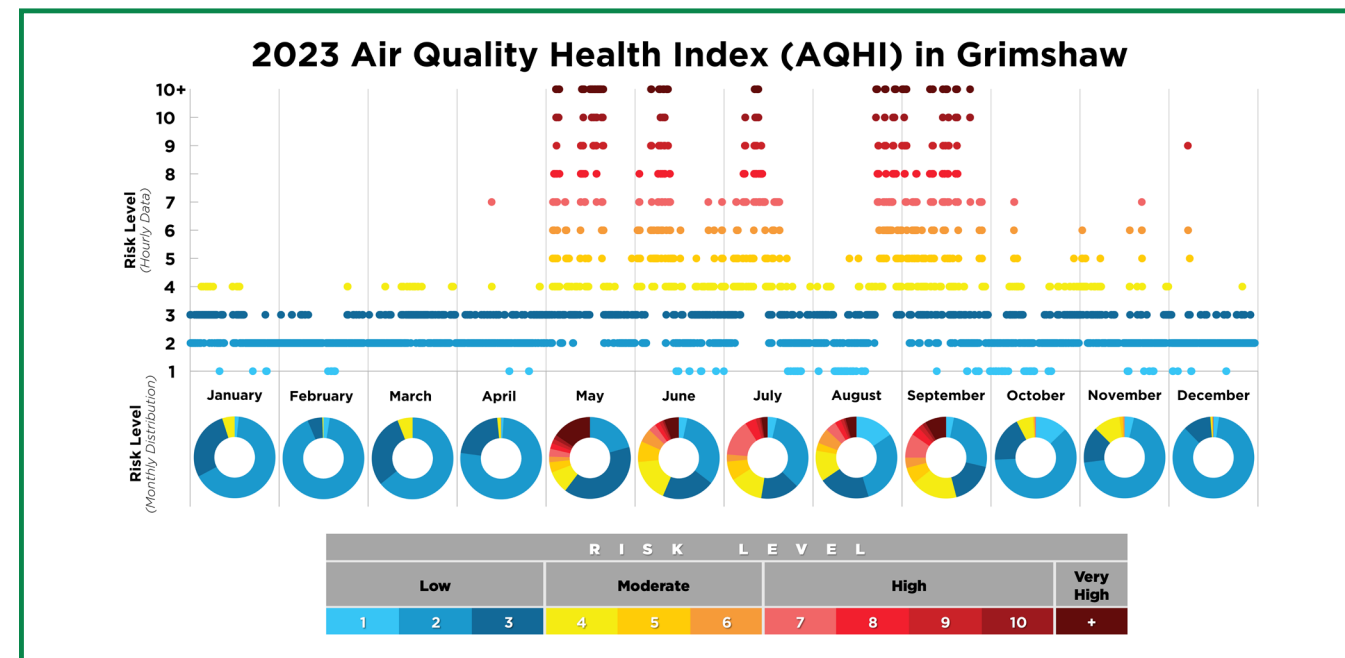
71 exceedances of the 24-hour Alberta ambient air quality objective for PM_{2.5} during the 2023 wildfire season.

The infographic below shows the 2023 AQHI in Grimshaw, represented both hourly and monthly. Each dot on the upper part of the graph represents an hourly AQHI measurement, with different colors indicating varying health risk levels. The lower section of the infographic contains “donut” charts displaying the distribution of risk levels during each month.

Throughout the year, the graph indicates that the air quality was generally good from January to April, with most AQHI values in the low-risk category. However, starting in May,

the frequency of moderate, high, and very high-health risk levels increased significantly, a pattern that was prevalent throughout the summer months and continued into September. This period coincides with the peak of the wildfire season, highlighting the direct impact of wildfires on air quality. The proportion of high and very high-risk levels decreases from October onward, returning to predominantly low-risk levels by December.

The visual representation underscores the severity of air quality deterioration during the wildfire season, emphasizing the need for continuous monitoring and effective mitigation strategies to protect public health.



PRAMP SUMMARY OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024

REVENUE 2023-24	
Oil Sands Monitoring Service Contract	853,380
Education and Outreach Grant	67,339
MONITORING AND REPORTING EXPENSES	
Monitoring Expenses	111,792
Station Management	267,519
Program Management	195,600
Report Production	78,648
Amortization	129,960
Society (Office) Management	54,054
Capital Acquisition	146,857
Total Contract Expenses	984,430
EDUCATION AND OUTREACH GRANT EXPENSES	
Outreach Materials and Promotion	7,594
Planning and Delivery	38,798
Advertising	5,122
Community Events and Travel	9,165
Printing and Supplies	5,965
Total Grant Expenses	66,644

THANK YOU MEMBERS & SUPPORTERS

GOVERNMENT

- Alberta Energy Regulator
- Alberta Environment and Protected Areas
- Alberta Health
- Alberta Health Services
- Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 6
- MD of Smoky River
- MD of Peace, No 135
- Northern Sunrise County
- Town of Falher
- Town of Grimshaw
- Woodland Cree First Nation

COMMUNITY

- Public Members
- NAIT Centre for Boreal Research
- Grimshaw Municipal Library
- Holy Family Catholic Regional Division
- Peace River Public Library

INDUSTRY

- Baytex Energy
- CNRL
- Headwater Exploration
- Obsidian Energy
- Islander Oil and Gas
- Tamarack Valley Energy

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- **Doug Dallyn**
Co-chair, Community
- **Amanda Peardon**
Co-chair, Industry (Baytex Energy)
- **Garrett Tomlinson**
Co-chair, Government (Métis Nation of Alberta)
- **Shelly Shannon**
Secretary/Treasurer, Community
- **Colleen Skalpsky**
Director, Government (Town of Grimshaw)
- **Art Laurin**
Director, Industry (Obsidian)

- **Arlen Hogg**
Director, Industry (CNRL)
- **Jason Javos**
Director, Government (Northern Sunrise County)
- **Kevin Kemball**
Director, Community (NAIT Centre for Boreal Research)
- **Krista Park**
Director, Government (Alberta Health Services)
- **Sarah Stockley**
Director, Community
- **Elvis Thomas**
Director, Government (Woodland Cree First Nation)
- **Andy Trudeau**
Director, Government (MD of Smoky River)





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PEACE RIVER AREA MONITORING PROGRAM

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Visit prampairshed.ca for air quality information. Sign up for our quarterly newsletter!