

# OIL SPILL COOPERATIVE BULLETIN

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lois Garrett recently announced her retirement from both Husky Energy and the WCSS Board of Directors. Lois has served on the WCSS Board for nearly 15 years, including the last ~2 years as Board Chair. We'd like to thank Lois for her outstanding commitment, enthusiasm and support of WCSS and wish her all the best during her retirement – she will be missed! A new Chairperson will be nominated during the Board's Annual General Meeting in May.

We are happy to announce that the winner of a new set of Equipment Deployment Banners is.....**Charity Hagen!** We hope that you find these to be an effective visual tool for your internal response group.



We would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have participated in providing feedback to help shape the design of these bulletins and continue to welcome your comments through the [Bulletin Survey](#). This Cooperative continues to demonstrate its strength through the agile minds of our membership, lending to all those involved a means to collaborate and steadily improve the quality of spill preparedness. Keep up the great work!

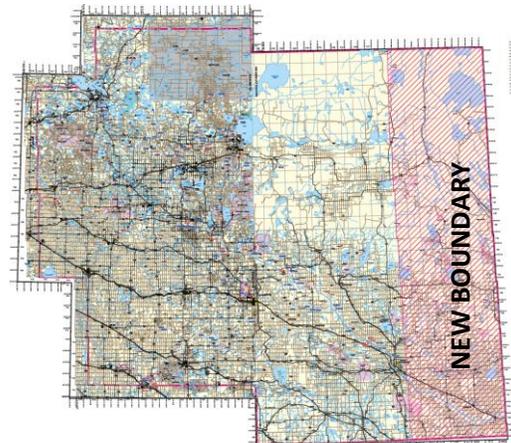
[Membership Packages](#) and invoices have been distributed – check our [Members in Good Standing](#) listing to ensure your fees have been paid.



Member companies are now encouraged to review and have the correct signing authority execute the online [Equipment Lease Agreement](#) and receive a counter-signed copy electronically.

To further efficiency, the Members in Good Standing list will also indicate those companies that have a signed copy of the Equipment Lease Agreement filed with us.

Upon review of the WCSS Cooperative jurisdictional area, the VR-1 Steering Committee recommended an extension of the eastern boundary in Saskatchewan from Range 16 up to and encompassing Range 8. It has been identified that this expansion will address WCSS member equipment needs due to heavy oil production targeted for this area. Saskatchewan Coops were consulted and have indicated that they are in agreement with the boundary change.



## OIL SPILL AND INDUSTRY CONFERENCES 2019

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Multi-Industry Preparedness & Response Symposium took place in Abbotsford, BC, with several of our member companies presenting and in attendance. This is an exciting new chapter for Western Canada and industry. As we continue to seek ways in which to better serve our member companies, particularly in British Columbia where the preparedness and response objectives are being reviewed and redeveloped, it is essential that WCSS be available to learn and to provide historical information that may be used to improve such plans.

[Clean Waterways](#) has just wrapped up its third year in Cincinnati, Ohio, and WCSS was in attendance on behalf of the membership. Some of the highlights that we found similar and/or familiar to our overall mission were:

- Geographic Response Planning
- Non-floating Oil Containment & Recovery
- Communication and Messaging During a Release
- Swift / Shallow Water Response Challenges and Techniques
- Winter Response
- Leveraging Technologies for a Response
- Equipment trade show

WCSS attended the second annual [EnviroTech](#) conference hosted by the Environmental Services Association of Alberta. Although EnviroTech features water as a key theme, the program also includes other key components of the environment industry including air, alternative energy, climate change, laboratory, regulatory and waste management. WCSS exhibited at the conference with the goal of increasing awareness of our industry's emergency response capabilities and to promote the various training programs we have available to our industry partners.

WCSS monitors and participates in many [conferences and trade shows](#) throughout the year. If there is an event happening near you where you believe there would be a benefit in having a presence, please contact [shannon.jarrell@wcss.ab.ca](mailto:shannon.jarrell@wcss.ab.ca).

## EQUIPMENT

Between the hours of 17:30 Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup> and 20:00 Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, one of the Area Q Turner Valley Initial Spill Response Units was stolen from a secured yard. Access was gained by cutting a lock on the main gate. Recovery efforts are underway, and we would like to remind our member companies in [Area Q](#) that the closest equipment custodians are located in Pincher Creek (ISRU), Lethbridge in [Area S](#) (Regional) and Calgary (Regional) in [Area P](#).

Boat checks and the Spring Maintenance run are underway; water testing for the boats and equipment inventories for units will be carried out in Lethbridge and Red Deer this week and will continue for the next few weeks.

WCSS has ordered a new 16' response boat, which is scheduled to be complete and ready for service by the end of May. This will be the first jet boat of its kind for WCSS, in that it will be powered by a BRP-Rotax 4-stroke engine, rather than our typical Mercury SportJet 2-stroke setup. This switch to this new setup was prompted by the news that Mercury may soon be discontinuing the SportJet engine lineup, therefore WCSS would like to proactively assess suitable alternatives.

The new 0.5m (shallow draft) [BoomVane](#) has been added to the fleet, as well as the Elastec Groove Skimmer and Aquaguard Power Pack. Each will be stored at DWC in Acheson, the [Area I/J](#) Regional Custodian's yard.

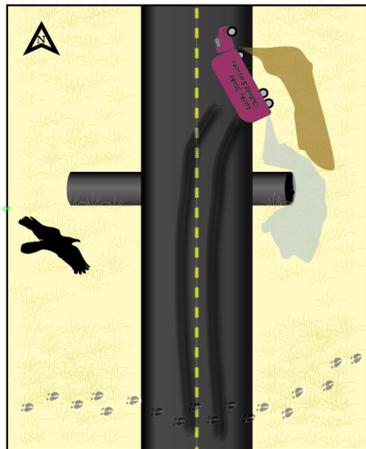
### TRAINING

WCSS has uploaded several videos to [YouTube](#) – we recommend that you review them with your team at your next safety meeting!

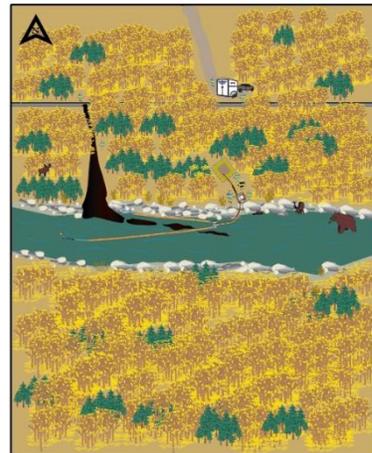
Following the final 2 winter exercises of 2019 in [Area C](#), 2 new Awareness topics have been explored in Areas [O](#), [H](#) and [D](#):

- Tank Truck Rollovers
- Wildlife Mitigation

While both topics present issues that extend beyond WCSS initial response, each provides a unique opportunity to hear guest speakers describe what can be done (and what cannot be done without regulatory approval) with our equipment in a collaborative workshop setting.



Awareness training will always include a dryland equipment deployment where attendees have the opportunity to examine the equipment closely. If your company experiences issues local to your area and there is some potential to discuss various options in a tabletop setting, contact your [Chairman or Alternate Chairman](#) today and make a suggestion for the next Awareness exercise in your area. Better yet, inquire about joining the Steering Committee in your Coop Area to gain knowledge and experience with spill response equipment and exercise planning.



**VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION SERIES**

After receiving overwhelming support to continue with our Volunteer Recognition program, we are more than pleased to continue to introduce you to the individuals who continue to donate their time on behalf of their companies to keep WCSS running smoothly for our members.



**Name:** Chris Labrie

**Companies Represented:** Unocal, Plains Midstream

**Number of Years Volunteer Service:** 24

**Positions Held:** Steering Committee, Alternate Chairman, Chairman, ESC Zone 4 Rep

**Reason for Volunteering:** originally voluntold, but over the years I have grown to love what I do for WCSS. My company sees the value in making this a part of my job, and the ability to multi-task and work with protective

services has made a positive difference in my life and to WCSS. It really came down to being in the right place at the right time.

**Name:** Trent Myck

**Companies Represented:** Imperial Oil

**Number of Years Volunteer Service:** 17

**Positions Held:** Steering Committee, Alternate Chairman, Chairman, ESC Zone 5 Rep

**Reason for Volunteering:** Imperial was always a big supporter of WCSS and the current rep was transferring to a new assignment, so I took on his role in the Coop.



Archived versions of previous newsletters may be found in our new [Archives Page](#), which also hosts updates for the [Oil Spill Contingency Manual](#).

We welcome and encourage all comments: [info@wcss.ab.ca](mailto:info@wcss.ab.ca)