

Data Collection and Integration

Jollin Charest

Jollin graduated in Bio-agronomy from Laval University in Quebec City and got his master degree from McGill University in 2000. He worked as an agronomist for the MAPAQ (Quebec Ministry of Agriculture) for 5 years before to join the Irrigation Branch of Alberta Agriculture and Food in Lethbridge last September as a Water and Soil Specialist.

Wendell Koning

Wendell Koning is a Limnologist working for Alberta Environment. His responsibilities include river and lake water quality monitoring in the Oldman and Milk River basins. Previously employment included BC Environment, Watershed Restoration Program in Vancouver, as well as consulting in Canada and overseas. His post-secondary education was obtained at the University of Alberta, and in Delft, the Netherlands.

Karen Emde – Sean Robison

- Have a BSc in Microbiology (University of Alberta), B.EH (Concordia University College of Alberta), MSc in Soil Microbiology (University of Alberta), diploma in Occupational Safety (University of Alberta), and am in process of writing thesis (PhD in Environmental Science “*Public Health Significance of Municipal Infrastructure Disturbances*” University of Alberta)
- Currently working as a Senior Advisor – Water Quality Specialist for Capital Health Region in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
- Have more than 28 years experience in drinking water issues, surface and groundwater issues, water infrastructure issues, and laboratory methods for waterborne organisms.
- Have published more than 40 research papers, 10 book chapters and 15 technical reports in the past 10 years. Am the co-author of two American water works Research Foundation reports (*Waterborne Gastrointestinal Disease Outbreak Detection*, and *Estimating Health Effects of Infrastructure Failure*)

COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

Janna Casson

Janna is currently working as a Soil and Water Specialist with Alberta Agriculture and Food. This year she is a water quality team lead on a new BMP Evaluation project and she is continuing work on Perennial Cereal Rye Water Management, Sugar Beet Nutrient Dynamics, and Irrigation District Water Quality projects. Janna obtained her Bachelor’s degree in Agriculture Biotechnology from the University of Lethbridge and a Master’s degree in Natural Resource Sciences from McGill University. She enjoys hiking, curling, camping, skiing, and fishing with her husband and 2-year old son.

Rural Team

Andrea Kalischuk

Andrea is co-chair of the Rural Team and currently Acting Head of the Resource Conservation Section with Alberta Agriculture and Food. She conducts research on water quality in Alberta's Irrigation Districts and works with producers to assess the effectiveness of BMPs.

Dennis Lastuka

Dennis was born and raised in the Lethbridge area. He grew up on a mixed irrigated farm and has since moved his cow-calf operation to south of Pincher Creek. He has been employed with Agriculture and Agri-food Canada for the majority of his career and currently works in the Ag-land and Agro-forestry team within PFRA. He has worked closely with the Environmental Farm Plan and Canada Alberta Farm Stewardship programs in Alberta. He has also worked diligently with other partners in establishing numerous watershed groups in the Oldman watershed and is currently working with the Oldman Water Council on the Rural Team.

SOW

Shane Petry

Shane has held several different positions in the resource management , land use and biology fields. He has attended both Lethbridge Community College and the University of Lethbridge as well as the University of Northern British Columbia. Shane has worked in numerous places throughout Canada including the northern Yukon and eastern Canada. In 2001 Shane moved his family back to Lethbridge and is currently the senior biologist for the local office of Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

AIWR – Andy Hurly

Dr. Dennis Fitzpatrick

Dr. Dennis Fitzpatrick is Professor of Biochemistry and Vice-President for Research at the University of Lethbridge. He previously held positions at the University of Manitoba where he was head of the Department of Foods and Nutrition for ten years and at Agriculture Canada where he worked as a research scientist in the Animal Feed Safety and Nutrition Program on the Central Experimental Farm research complex in Ottawa.

Dr. Fitzpatrick is a biological scientist by training, holding degrees in biological sciences, nutrition and biochemistry. His research program focused on the environment, nutrition and human health. He maintained an active research program for over twenty years working in two major areas, nutritional toxicology sponsored by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada and Andean Foods Systems, a multi-centred agriculture and environmental science network sponsored by the International Development Research Centre of Canada.

Dr. Fitzpatrick has served on the executive of a number of scientific societies including President of the Canadian Federation of Biological Societies and the Canadian Society for Nutritional Sciences. He served as Chair of the Council of Congress for the International Union of Nutritional Sciences 16th International Congress held in Montreal. Dr. Fitzpatrick serves on several national boards including the Biotechnology Human Resources Council, the National Research Council Committee on International Science, Engineering and Technology as well as a number of important regional initiatives.

The University of Lethbridge is committed to meeting the education and research needs of Albertans. As part of this commitment, Dr. Fitzpatrick serves a number of key associations such as Alberta Value Added Corporation, the Agriculture and Foods Council, the Western Watersheds Institute and the organizing committee for *The Confronting Water Scarcity Conference* hosted by the University of Lethbridge. Dr. Fitzpatrick is founding Board Member for the Alberta Ingenuity Water Research Institute.