

Announcing the...

SWIFT CURRENT CREEK WATERSHED MONITORING PROJECT



The SCCWS can and should take note of their accomplishments this far in its young life. The members of the group continue to demonstrate their interest in the watershed and their commitment to ensuring it's good health for the

future by regularly attending meetings, giving direction, volunteer time and work to the cause. The efforts of the group are to be commended.

The accomplishments of the past year, from education of 300 school children, to major public awareness efforts centered on the watershed, to the development of more Prairie Water Care groups to expanded recognition of the SCCWS within/outside of Saskatchewan are exceptional.

The monitoring project which has attracted major funding for future years is also a high point for the group and should be duly noted. This project fits well with the goals the group set in its early development days starting with education and awareness being the first priority followed by water monitoring as its second.

Finally, the hard work and tireless effort of Cher King, our Watershed Coordinator needs to be recognized. She has done a great job of taking some general ideas generated by the steering committee and turning them into concrete products and actions that have helped make the SCCWS what it is today.

Dan Runcie
Chairperson, 2004

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We are now launching into our first year of our new "Swift Current Creek Watershed Monitoring Project". This is a four-year project that includes:

- water sampling throughout the watershed
- analysis of water quality using the Saskatchewan Water Quality Index
- fish community and population healthy surveys
- water 'bug' surveys

In addition to the new sampling program we will continue with the Water Watchdog workshops, Interactive Map workshops and will also be offering sampling workshops. And of course, we will have all our up-to-date information listed on our website!

CONTACT US:

The SCCWS encourages public participation in all of our meetings, workshops and educational products.

Swift Current Creek Watershed Stewards
Box 1088, Swift Current, SK, S9H 3X3

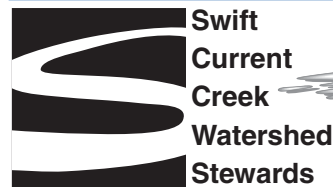
Phone: 306-778-5007
Fax: 306-778-5020
Email: sccws@canada.com

WWW.SCCWS.COM

CREDITS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Apart from the individuals, groups and organizations listed as participants and supporters of our 2003 program (see centre page), I would like to add that the SCCWS has enjoyed working with all of the members of our community who have participated in our events and workshops. I also thank our granting agencies, CARDS and DFO, as well as all of the other organizations and individuals who have contributed their time, effort and money to assisting our 2003 project to its completion. I look forward to working with all of you again in 2004.

Cher King, 2003 Watershed Coordinator



Know Your Watershed

Volume 2 - Issue #3

Know Your Watershed

Spring 2004

2003 ANNUAL REPORT

Swift Current Creek Watershed Environmental Stewardship Program



**Message
from our
co-chair**

SCCWS MISSION
To enhance water quality and stream health of the Swift Current Creek Watershed by promoting awareness and understanding among water users.

Monitor water quality and riparian health to assist in co-operative solutions regarding water management issues.

Educate users of the Swift Current Creek Watershed, on a continuous basis, about issues and impacts which affect water quality.

Foster an attitude of individual responsibility toward watershed stewardship.

The SCCWS representatives have been a pleasure to work with from the first thoughts of organization to present day business. The positive reception of this group in our regional communities has made our achievements exciting and educational. The financial commitment from government programs, local RM's, the City of Swift Current, local organizations and businesses has been overwhelming and is the key to helping achieve our goals. Cher King and her team of volunteers have helped lead the way for our successful watershed steward group. We have much to learn about our watershed and hope to educate the general public along with ourselves as we grow in knowledge. We look forward to the reports generated out of our most recent watershed assessment project.

I would like to say a special thank you to all volunteers and representatives who have helped out at any point in time over the past couple of years. Without your dedication, whether big or small, our stewardship group would not be where it is today. I hope with the leadership of the coordinator and our team, we can continue with our projects and achievements.

Wishing you a good summer,

Doug Smith
Co-chairperson

Swift Current Creek Watershed Stewards



Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et
Agroalimentaire Canada

Canada





Verlynn Alexander and her son Isaac are processing water samples taken as part of the Prairie Water Care Program.

The SCCWS is a non-profit organization incorporated in Saskatchewan and as such, we elect a Board of Directors (*) each year. Unlike many organizations where the board of directors is accountable for financial and organizational decisions, our entire membership is accountable for our decisions. We use a consensus-based decision model where each member present at meetings is entitled to a vote in all decisions.

MEET OUR

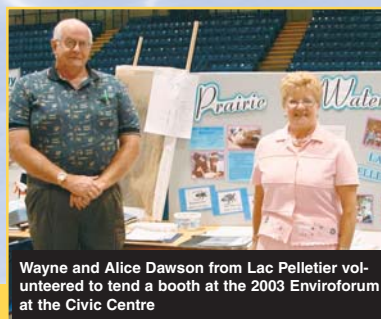
This membership right also asks for that members' full participation and understanding of the programs we are undertaking for informed decisions. To that end, we list all of representatives and members of the SCCWS for 2003:

Verlynn Alexander
Bix Biederbeck
Glenn Bratvold
Frantz Dordy
Larry Faber (*)
Darren Fiddler (*)
Ian George (*)
Jim Graham
Doug Harlick
Robin Hilts
Darcy Kettner (*)

Sean Lopeter
Boyd Nicolson
Bob Parker
Reg Parsons (*)
Judy Rudd
Dan Runcie
Doug Smith (*)
Bob Springer
Arlene Unvoas
Rob Wiebe
Brian Wiens (*)
Joan Williamson

The SCCWS was also fortunate to have the assistance of Jenna King and Matthew Dennis as interns through the Federal Public Sector Youth Internship Program.

BOARD of DIRECTORS



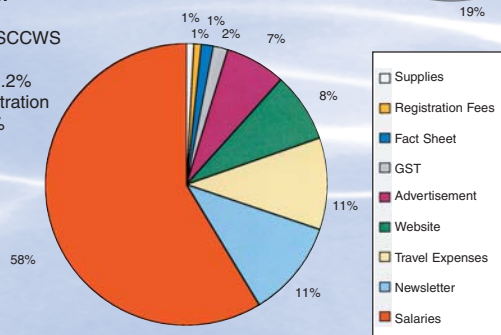
Wayne and Alice Dawson from Lac Pelletier volunteered to tend a booth at the 2003 Enviroforum at the Civic Centre

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Swift Current Creek Watershed Environmental Stewardship Program received \$88,146.98 in cash commitments and \$73,211.56 as in-kind commitments for a total of \$161,358.54. The SCCWS used \$84,873.02 for the project and thus, the project had a surplus of \$3,273.96.

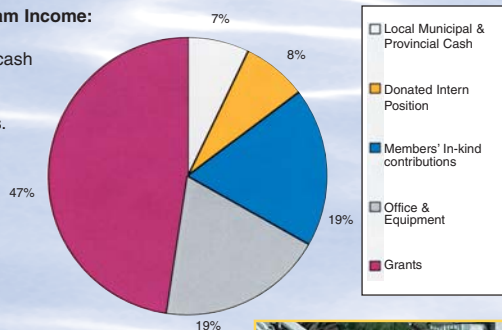
2003 Program Expenses:

The total SCCWS expenses included 1.2% in administration and 98.8% cash-cost program expenses.



2003 Program Income:

This chart includes all cash and in-kind (cash value) contributions.



Judy Rudd created the content seen on our Interactive Map and was key to the publicity for this project.

OUR PROJECTS

2003 was a busy year and we have so many accomplishments to celebrate! We provide some of the highlights to refresh your memory below. Detailed summaries of all of programs and additional copies of our publications are available free of charge through our office.

Know Your Watershed Newsletters
"A Day at the Creek", November 1, 2003
"Riparian Zones and Water Bugs", February 7, 2004

Website (www.sccws.com)
We launched the Interactive Map page and received a total of 8,036 hits on the site.

Community presentations
We gave about 14 presentations to a total audience of 650 people.

Project Partnerships
The SCCWS worked with the Swift Current Downstream and Lac Pelletier Prairie Water Care groups and provided assistance to volunteers for community well and septic tank testing programs at Lac Pelletier.

Public Meetings
We encourage the public to attend any of our meetings by open invitation. We also added several people to our mailing list who can not physically attend our meetings but wish to keep up to date with our progress.

We have a new "Watershed Monitoring" fact sheet available!

This fact sheet includes:

- Summaries of water quality, water bug surveys, fish surveys and riparian zone assessments for our watershed.

- Information on water quality parameters such as Arsenic, Mercury, Manganese, Nitrates, Total and Fecal Coliform bacteria and Total Dissolved Solids. Why are they important to our watershed?

ORDER YOUR COPY BY CALLING THE SCCWS AT 778-5007

Your name will be entered for a draw to be made on June 15, 2004.

SCCWS SUPPORT

Our programs and projects would not be possible without the generous support and contributions of many individuals and organizations. We thank everyone in our support network for helping us reach success:

Supporting groups and organizations:

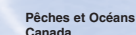
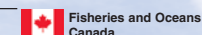
Agriculture and Agri-food Canada, PFRA
City of Swift Current
Computer Solutions
Federal Youth Internship Program
RM of Arlington
RM of Carmichael
RM of Excelsior
RM of Lac Pelletier
RM of Sask Landing
RM of Swift Current
RM of Webb
RM of White Valley
Sask Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization
Saskatchewan Environment
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority
Swift Current Wildlife Federation
Volunteer Watershed Residents

Grants:

Environmental Stewardship Program, Canadian Adaptation and Rural Development Fund in Saskatchewan (CARDS). Funding for CARDS is provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.



Stewardship-In-Action



Sponsors:

Carson Welding and Maintenance Ltd.
City of Swift Current
Farm Credit Corporation
Foothills Pipe Lines Ltd.
Lac Pelletier Cabin Owners
National Manufacturing
Nature Saskatchewan, Living by Water Project
Partners for the Saskatchewan River Basin
Pioneer Grain Company Ltd
REM Manufacturing Ltd.
Saskatchewan Environment
Southwest Credit Union
Southwest Municipal Government Committee
Southwest Naturalists
Stark & Marsh Management Group
The Pioneer Co-operative Association Limited



Camp Elim staff participated in the Water Watchdog program before campers attended their first workshop.

Student Stewardship Workshops

We partnered with Partners for the Saskatchewan River Basin, summer camps and local teachers to provide the Water Watchdog, a half-day at-the-creek workshop to 350 children.