

Appendix B: Selected Statements/Letters of Support



121457

ALBERTA
ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTED AREAS

Office of the Minister

Mr. Patrick Graillon
Chair
Canadian Heritage Rivers Board
rivieresdupatrimoine-heritagerivers@pc.gc.ca

December 5, 2023

Dear Mr. Graillon:

Thank you for your letter endorsing the designation of the North Saskatchewan River as a Canadian Heritage River.

The Government of Alberta supports this designation. The Government of Alberta understands that the designation is based on the cultural and recreational values of the North Saskatchewan River, and not on the natural value. The designation does not interfere with provincial and local jurisdiction or decision making authority. This letter signifies my approval and can be included with the attached designation document in the board's submission to The Honourable Stephen Guilbeault, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada.

Once Minister Guilbeault's approval is obtained, please contact Mr. Ryan Fournier, Press Secretary, to coordinate a news release issued on behalf of the governments of Alberta and Canada. Mr. Fournier can be reached in Edmonton, at 780-██████████, or at ██████████@gov.ab.ca.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Schulz
Minister



FEB 02 2024

Mr. Kyle Schole
Planning Technician
Smoky Lake County
4612 McDougall Drive
P.O. Box 310
Smoky Lake AB T0A 3C0
kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca

Dear Mr. Schole:

Thank you for your letter of December 5, 2023, regarding designating the North Saskatchewan River as a Canadian Heritage River.

I have reviewed the recommendation for the Canadian Heritage Rivers System Board with respect to the designation of the North Saskatchewan River (Alberta). I am pleased to inform you that, as the North Saskatchewan River (Alberta) meets the selection and integrity guidelines of the Canadian Heritage Rivers System, and its designation has been endorsed by the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board and approved by the Government of Alberta, I have approved its designation as a Canadian Heritage River.

As the driving force behind the multi-year project to designate the North Saskatchewan River (Alberta) to the Canadian Heritage Rivers System, Smoky Lake County has every reason to be proud. I commend you and your partners for your dedication to promoting public appreciation, conservation, and wise use of this important river to current and future generations. I want to thank you personally for your leadership and passion for sharing the story of the river and its significance with all Canadians.

I also offer my congratulations to the team of volunteers and community partners who have played a such a key role in this accomplishment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steven Guilbeault".

The Honourable Steven Guilbeault, P.C., M.P. (il/lui/he/him)

c.c.: Mr. Patrick Graillon, Chair, Canadian Heritage Rivers Board



The Honourable
Amarjeet Sohi
Mayor of Edmonton

2nd Floor, City Hall
1 Sir Winston Churchill Square
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2R7

amarjeet.sohi@edmonton.ca
780-496-8100

October 13, 2023

Reference No.: 484652496-001

Honourable Rebecca Schulz
Minister of Environment & Protected Areas
204 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6
Email: aep.minister@gov.ab.ca

Honourable Steven Guilbeault
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Suite 1010, 800 Boul de Maisonneuve E
Montréal, QC H2L 4L8
Email: Steven.Guilbeault@parl.gc.ca

RE: Designation of the North Saskatchewan River (Alberta) as a Heritage River under the Canadian Heritage Rivers System

Dear Ministers Schulz and Guilbeault,

On behalf of Edmonton City Council, and further to a motion unanimously adopted at the City Council Meeting of September 12, 2023, I am pleased to share with you the City of Edmonton's enthusiastic support for moving forward with the designation of the 718 kilometers of kisiskâciwanisîpiy (North Saskatchewan River) within Alberta's borders as a heritage river under the Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS).

The North Saskatchewan River runs through the heart of Edmonton and has been an important place of gathering, commerce and ceremony for Indigenous peoples since time immemorial. The river has been vital in the development of the city and will be an essential part of its future. The City supports the recognition of the North Saskatchewan River as part of Canada's outstanding river system, which will enhance its significant heritage value for the long-term benefit and enjoyment of Albertans and all Canadians.

My mayoral predecessor, Don Iveson, wrote to then Minister of Alberta Environment and Parks, Honourable Jason Nixon, in August 2021 in *conditional* support of the river's nomination. At that time, Council desired to learn more about the financial and governance implications of the designation. As these details have become better understood, the City confirms its support for the advancement of this initiative, which is led by Smoky Lake County and the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) in partnership with Indigenous nations, leaders, community members, and many dozens of other supporters.



The benefits and opportunities of the designation are complementary with the plans and aspirations of the City, the region, and the province. From an Edmonton perspective, I particularly note the work that the City of Edmonton has done in celebrating and protecting this unique water body through current municipal policies, plans, and projects, including the City Plan, [Breathe - Edmonton's Green Network Strategy](#), Touch the Water Promenade, Ribbon of Green, the ongoing River Valley Planning Modernization project, the River Valley Alliance (RVA) trails system and recent end-to-end naming (Amisko Wacîw Mêskanaw, or 'Beaver Hills Road'), the Explore Edmonton Tourism Master Plan, River Crossing Interpretive Plan, Fort Edmonton Master Plan, and by continuing to explore the designation of the Edmonton River Valley as a National Urban Park.

I echo the views of other supporters on the benefits of this voluntary, community-driven river conservation program that will advance awareness and protection without increasing rules and restrictions along the river corridor.

Designation under the Canadian Heritage Rivers System represents a goodwill commitment to collaborate and work together across communities and rural and urban municipal jurisdictions to the betterment of our rivers and landscapes, with a mind to the past, present and future.

I hope you will support this initiative, which recognizes and protects the North Saskatchewan River as an essential feature of Edmonton, the region and the province.

Yours Truly,



Amarjeet Sohi
Mayor, City of Edmonton

cc: City of Edmonton Council - council@edmonton.ca
Andre Corbould, City Manager, City of Edmonton - andre.corbould@edmonton.ca
Smoky Lake County Council - county@smokylakecounty.ab.ca
Reeve Lorne Halisky, Smoky Lake County - lhalisky@smokylakecounty.ab.ca



Métis
Nation of
Alberta

Office of the Provincial President

100 Delia Gray Building
11738 Kingsway Avenue
Edmonton AB T5G 0X5

Phone: 780 455 2200
Fax: 780 452 8946
www.albertametis.com

December 20, 2019

Kyle Schole
Planning, Development & Heritage Assistant, Smoky Lake County
4612 McDougall Drive
P.O. Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0
Email: kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Letter of Support for Inter-Provincial Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS) from the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA)

Smoky Lake Regional Community Economic Development Committee (RCDC) that extends into other river neighbors and community partners along the North Saskatchewan River Watershed for support on inter-provincial nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

Within the Smoky Lake Region, the River flows past the Victoria District National Historic Site, Victoria Settlement, the Former Fort White Earth (Edmonton House III), and Métis Crossing, a site of extreme cultural significance to the Métis homeland.

The Métis Nation of Alberta supports this nomination of the North Saskatchewan River as it is significant to Métis culture, other community partners and neighbors along the river. The nomination of both the Saskatchewan and North Saskatchewan Rivers will ensure the long-term management of these rivers and that this area, rich in cultural, natural and recreational value, are conserved and protected for the continuing benefits and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada. This nomination will also support the broader spirit of collaboration between our communities to continue to work together towards maintaining ecological integrity along this area, support river health and wellness, and promote local and regional economic growth.

Sincerely,



Audrey Poitras
President
Métis Nation of Alberta



Dan Cardinal
Vice President
Métis Nation of Alberta



March 11, 2021

Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) Board
Attention: Ashley Campbell, Director, Heritage Designations and Programs Branch
Indigenous Affairs and Cultural Heritage Directorate
Parks Canada Agency
3rd Floor, 30 Victoria Street
Gatineau, QC J8X 0B3

Email: Ashley.campbell@canada.ca

Sent by: E-mail

RE: Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River in Alberta to the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)

Tansi,

I am pleased to provide this letter on behalf of the Nations across Treaty No. 6 Territory, to express our enthusiasm in support of nominating and designating the North Saskatchewan River in Alberta to the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS), which would honor its exceptional natural, cultural, recreational and spiritual values.

The North Saskatchewan River, *kisiskâciwan-sîpiy*, ("it flows swiftly") holds substantial traditional significance, being a place of gathering, commerce, and ceremony from time immemorial. *The Great Binding Law* provides a framework to live in harmony with the land for generations to come. It tells us that if we look after the land, the land will look after us. It is also an extension of kindness to newcomers, including regulators and resource developers ensuring that no more polluting of this sacred river will be allowed.

Further, the spirit and intent of Treaty was expressed by Commissioner Alexander Morris at the entering into of Treaty No. 6 at Fort Carlton and Fort Pitt in 1876, when he stated, "*What we speak of and do now will last as long as the sun shines and the river runs, we are looking forward to our children's children, for we are old and have but few days to live.*"

The North Saskatchewan River has always been an integral part of our heritage since time immemorial and continues to be an integral part of our Treaty No. 6. At Fort Pitt when Commissioner Morris indicated "as long as yonder river flows" he was pointing to the North Saskatchewan River. Water is life to the Indigenous Peoples of Treaty No. 6 Territory, as a matter of fact our word for water literally means life; "Nipi" derived from "Niya" My "Pimatisiwin" Life. So much so that when Treaty No. 6 was entered into by our ancestors, the mountains where the headwaters of the rivers are were not even on the table for discussion, these they reserved for all future generations so that the clean/clear life-giving water would always be there for the continued good health and good medicine for all.

With its deceptively slow-moving surface and its ever-shifting features, with its permanence and its continual movement, the river is a suitable metaphor for Indigenous storytelling. Indeed,

traditional stories are the most ancient literature of this land, yet they continue to change and shift and to speak to the realities of people in the present day.

Today, the North Saskatchewan River continues to be of great importance. Designation under the CHRS would serve to encourage enduring respect and stewardship of this landscape and grow relations among river communities. These are values and aspirations we support.

Ay Hy



OKIMAW VERNON WATCHMAKER
GRAND CHIEF, CONDEDERACY OF TREATY 6 FIRST NATIONS

CC: Hon. Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Environment and Climate Change; ec.ministre-minister.ec@canada.ca
Hon. Steven Guilbeault, Minister of Canadian Heritage; hon.steven.guilbeault@canada.ca
Amber Stewart, Integrated Land Use Planner, Jasper National Park; Amber.Stewart@canada.ca
Hon. Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations; carolyn.bennett@parl.gc.ca
Hon. Jason Nixon, Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks; aep.minister@gov.ab.ca
Hon. Leela Aheer, Alberta Minister of Culture, Multiculturalism, and Status of Women;
cmsw.minister@gov.ab.ca
Hon. Rick Wilson, Alberta Minister of Indigenous Relations, ir.ministeroffice@gov.ab.ca
Tracy Draper, Director, Land Management Branch, Alberta Environment and Parks,
Tracy.Draper@gov.ab.ca
Brian Joubert, Senior Parks Planner, Alberta Environment and Parks, Brian.Joubert@gov.ab.ca
Smoky Lake County Council, c/o Kyle Schole, kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca
Edmonton City Council, c/o Kyle Witiw, kyle.witiw@edmonton.ca
Edmonton Historical Board, c/o Dan Ross, dan.rose.yeg@gmail.com



SENATE | SÉNAT
CANADA

THE HON./ L'HON
PAULA SIMONS

SENATOR | ALBERTA
SÉNATRICE | ALBERTA

Dear Members of the Heritage Rivers Board,

As an Independent Senator from Alberta, as a member of the Senate Standing Committee on Energy, the Environment, and Natural Resources, and as a born-and-bred Edmontonian, I'm writing to you in support of the application to have the North Saskatchewan River declared a national heritage river.

I grew up on the banks of the North Saskatchewan River valley. The river has helped to define my life. And it has helped to define my city and my province. I believe the river is a natural candidate for this designation. In the first place, it is an important environmental legacy. Because it has been relatively untouched by industrial development, or heavy transportation, it remains for much of its length a healthy riparian ecosystem. Clean-up efforts over the last decades have seen a return of many of the fish species that historically populate the river. The valley itself is an essential wildlife corridor that connects Banff National Park to the environs of Elk Island National Park. And of course the river is the source of fresh drinking water for many communities large and small all along its banks.

Secondly, it is a much-storied river with a rich multicultural heritage. The Cree called it *kisikâciwanisîpiy*, the swiftly flowing river. For the Blackfoot, it was *omaka-ty*, the big river. For centuries the river sustained the First Nations as a source of water and food and as a corridor that made trade connections. Later, it brought the fur traders west to Edmonton and carried their furs back to Hudson Bay for shipment to Europe. It was the river that brought French-Canadian voyageurs, labourers from the Orkney Islands, and even Alberta's first black resident (a Hudson's Bay Company navigator) who arrived via canoe in 1799. It was the river that helped to give birth to Alberta's Metis Nation, and this river carried the poetic Earl of Southesk west in 1859 to visit Fort Edmonton as the first celebrity tourist. It was the river that brought many of the first settlers to northern Alberta long before the railway arrived, whether they were from Lebanon or Ukraine or Norway. It was the riverside where people farmed or built their mines and brickyards. That history deserves to be recognized and celebrated, not just locally but as part of the Canadian story.



THE HON. / L'HON.
PAULA SIMONS

Senator | Alberta
Sénatrice | Alberta

Finally, I support this effort led by the County of Smoky Lake because it has gained the broad, almost universal support of communities and cultural institutions that line the river. The politicians and planners of Smoky Lake have achieved the near impossible – they have united Albertans all along the river in endorsing this initiative.

Today, the river is seeing a new kind of life as Albertans embrace its recreational potential, whether they are canoeing, tubing, swimming, fishing, or letting their dogs frolic in the water. Declaring the river a national heritage resource could be a boon for all sorts of ecotourism initiatives.

In short, I hope you will give some serious consideration to accepting this application to name Alberta's full-length of the North Saskatchewan River one of Canada's remarkable heritage rivers.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Senator Paula Simons
Senator, Alberta

THE HONOURABLE DOUG BLACK, Q.C.
SENATOR - ALBERTA



L'HONORABLE DOUG BLACK, C.R.
SÉNATEUR - ALBERTA

SENATE | SÉNAT
CANADA

Friday, March 26, 2021

Smoky Lake County Council
c/o Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant
4612 McDougall Dr, Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB, T0A 3C0

Dear Reeve & County Council,

I am pleased to be writing in support of nominating and designating the North Saskatchewan River to the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS), which would honour its exceptional natural, cultural, and recreational values.

The North Saskatchewan River, *kisiskâciwani-sîpiy, omaka-ty*, (“it flows swiftly”) possesses enduring heritage significance and myriad recreational opportunities. The human history surrounding the river corridor is more than sufficient to warrant designation to the CHRS.

As an example, the Métis Crossing Cultural Gathering Centre within the Victoria District National Historic Site is a remarkable place of interpretation, learning, and reconciliation.

A journey along the North Saskatchewan is truly a Canadian ‘paddle into the past’. From coast to coast to coast, heritage rivers offer Canadians and visitors a chance to experience great waterways, learn about their rich history, and share in their stewardship. Designation of the North Saskatchewan River to the CHRS will encourage ongoing use, respect, and stewardship among river communities.

The beautiful North Saskatchewan is currently (and appropriately) designated in Banff National Park, and this cross-province designation is the next logical step.

I commend you on the momentum you have generated in support of the project. Congratulations on taking a leadership role in championing and spearheading this worthy initiative. I look forward to following your progress to successful designation of this important Canadian waterway!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Black".

Senator Doug Black, Q.C.

cc: Hon. Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Hon. Steven Guilbeault, Minister of Canadian Heritage
Hon. Jason Nixon, Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks
Ashley Campbell, Director, Heritage Designations and Programs Branch, Indigenous Affairs and Cultural Heritage Directorate, Parks Canada Agency
Amber Stewart, Integrated Land Use Planner, Jasper National Park
Tracy Draper, Director, Land Management Branch, Alberta Environment and Parks
Edmonton City Council, c/o Kyle Witiw
Edmonton Historical Board, c/o Dan Rose



TOWN OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE

P O BOX 1509 5116 50 AVENUE ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE AB T4T 1B2

June 17, 2020

North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (AB)
202-9440 49 Street
Edmonton, AB T6B 2M9

North Saskatchewan River Basin Council (SK)
Box 458
Hafford, SK, S0J 1A0

**RE: Letter of Support for Inter-Provincial Nomination of the
North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom It May Concern,

Further to the letter submitted by Smoky Lake County Council, dated October 30, 2019, I am pleased to provide this letter of support on behalf of the Town of Rocky Mountain House, Alberta, toward an inter-provincial nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS). Further to the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance *Heritage River Background Study* (2005):

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture between federal, provincial, and territorial governments designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada."

We agree that the River should be nominated on an inter-provincial basis under this program. Indeed, the entire reach of the North Saskatchewan River is rich in cultural, natural, and recreation value. Our communities are greatly enhanced by the health and legacy of the River, which deserves to be both protected and celebrated.

Again, we support the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion into the Canadian Heritage River System, and we are hopeful that other community partners and river neighbors will lend their support as well.

Best Regards,

Mayor Tammy Burke

cc: Smoky Lake County (kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca)
Town Council
CAO





January 26, 2021

Reeve Craig Lukinuk
Smoky Lake County
PO Box 310
4612 McDougall Drive
Smoky Lake AB T0A 3C0
craiglukinuk@smokylakecounty.ab.ca

Dear Reeve Lukinuk:

On behalf of Clearwater County, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River under the Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) designation.

The North Saskatchewan River majestically flows by many campsites, recreation areas and culturally significant locations within Clearwater County. Our communities are greatly enhanced by this River's legacy which deserves to be celebrated and recognized for its unique Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values.

With a CHRS designation, this beautiful scenic river, rich in history and adventure, will be conserved for the enjoyment of residents and Canadian and international tourists, now and forever. Initiatives such as this encourage and support Clearwater County's high regard for environmental stewardship practices that value and protect the natural environment for future generations.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this initiative and Council looks forward to hearing of a successful outcome of the nomination.

Sincerely,


Cammie Laird
Reeve



County of Wetaskiwin No. 10

P.O. Box 6960, Wetaskiwin, AB T9A 2G5

Phone: 780-352-3321

Fax: 780-352-3486

www.county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca

Strong Proactive Leadership • Safe Progressive Communities

January 7, 2021

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

RE: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River
Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)

To Whom it May Concern,

Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and on behalf of the County of Wetaskiwin No. 10, it is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture ...designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada." - from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program. Designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, and no new rules or restrictions are created because of participation.

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Best Regards,


Rod Hawken
CAO

e: rhawken@county10.ca / p: (780) 361-6225

cc: Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant,
kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca

November 19, 2020

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River, Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)

Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and on behalf of Parkland County, it is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture ... designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada." -from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program. Designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, and no new rules or restrictions are created because of participation.

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Regards,



Laura Swain, MPA
Interim Chief Administrative Officer

Copy: Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant
kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca



101-1101 5 St., Nisku, AB T9E 2X3
phone: 780-955-3555 fax: 780-955-8866
leduc-county.com

County Manager's Office



May 13, 2021

Our file number: 0440-R05

Smoky Lake County
PO Box 310
4612 McDougall Driver
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

Attention: Reeve Craig Lukinuk

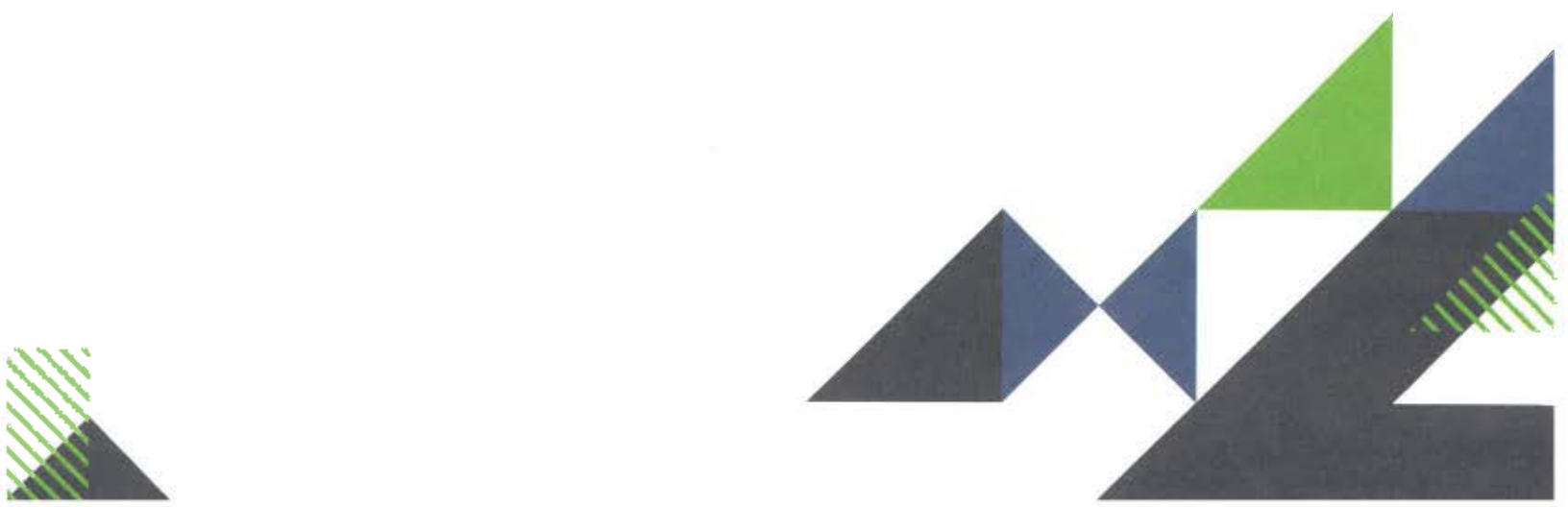
North Saskatchewan Heritage River

Leduc County council, at their May 11, 2021 regular meeting, resolved to provide a letter of support to Smoky Lake County in preparation of the nomination for a portion of the North Saskatchewan River under the Canadian Heritage Rivers System.

Yours truly,



Duane Coleman, CLGM
County Manager



9.4 Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS) Designation

Tony Kulbisky, Chief Administrative Officer			
060/2021 Carried	Moved By Councillor Hugh	In Favour Mayor Ralph Councillor Adams Councillor Hugh Councillor Koroll	Opposed None opposed.
That Council directs Administration to draft letter of support under the Mayor's signature to Smoky Lake County regarding the Town of Devon's support for the possible designation of the North Saskatchewan River to the Canadian Heritage River System as recommended.			

CITY
of
FORT SASKATCHEWAN



Gale Katchur
Mayor

10005 - 102 STREET
FORT SASKATCHEWAN, ALBERTA
CANADA T8L 2C5
TEL 780.992.6220
FAX 780.998.4774
gkatchur@fortsask.ca
www.fortsask.ca

January 13, 2021

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

Sent by: Regular Mail

RE: **Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River,
Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom it May Concern,

Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and on behalf of the City of Fort Saskatchewan, it is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

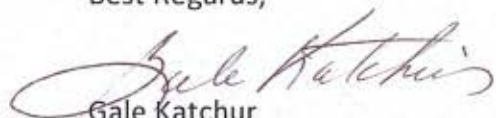
"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture ...designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada." - from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program. Designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, and no new rules or restrictions are created because of participation.

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations.

As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gale Katchur". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Gale Katchur

Mayor, City of Fort Saskatchewan

cc: Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant, <kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>

April 19, 2021



Mr. Craig Lukinuk, Reeve
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

Dear Reeve Lukinuk,

**Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River, Canadian Heritage
River System**

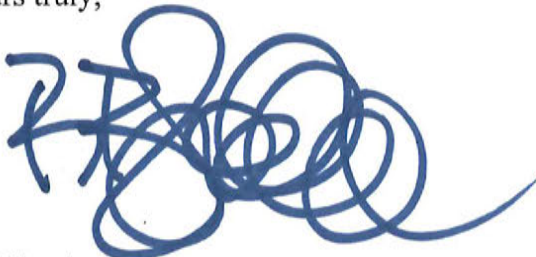
Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from the Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks, Jason Nixon, it is a pleasure to provide this letter of support on behalf of Strathcona County for the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River to the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

Strathcona County supports this nomination to recognize the North Saskatchewan River as an important ecological and recreational corridor, and believes that this nomination to the CHRS will help ensure a long-term commitment to conservation.

Strathcona County understands that the CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program, and that designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, nor does it create new rules or restrictions because of participation.

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As such, Strathcona County supports the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Yours truly,



Rod Frank, JD
Mayor
Strathcona County

cc: Kyle Schole, Smoky Lake County, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant,
<kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>

February 6, 2021

Delivered via Email: clukinuk@smokylake.ca

Reeve Craig Lukinuk, Smoky Lake County
Smoky Lake County
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

Dear Reeve Lukinuk,

RE: Letter of Support for North Saskatchewan River CHRS Nomination

Recently Mr. Jordan Ruegg, Smoky Lake's Planning & Development Manager, presented to Sturgeon County Council on your community's aspiration for the North Saskatchewan River to be designated as part of the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

Sturgeon County deeply values local heritage and our role as stewards of our natural environment. We agree that the North Saskatchewan has a rich cultural, natural and recreational value and should be championed as an outstanding river. I am therefore pleased, on behalf of Sturgeon County, to provide this letter of support for Smoky Lake's endeavour to nominate the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion within the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

We look forward to the various informational reports you may develop, and to news of a successful designation.

Sincerely,

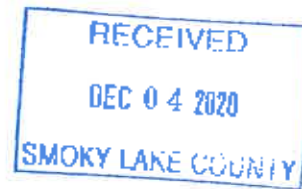


Mayor Alanna Hnatiw
Sturgeon County

cc: Council, Sturgeon County
Reegan McCullough, CAO Sturgeon County



Box 10, Thorhild, AB T0A 3J0
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Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, P.O.Box 310
Smoky Lake, Alberta T0A 3C0

November 27, 2020

Letter of Support for Nomination a Portion of the North Saskatchewan River, Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)

To Whom It May Concern,

Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon and the presentation by Smoky Lake County's Kyle Schole at the Thorhild County Council Meeting on November 24, 2020, Thorhild County Council would like to support the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS.)

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture...designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada." – from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005.)

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program. Importantly, Designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, and no new rules or restrictions are created because of participation.

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Grumetza".

Kevin Grumetza,
Reeve



November 30, 2020

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

To Whom it May Concern,

RE: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River, Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)

Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and on behalf of Lamont County, it is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

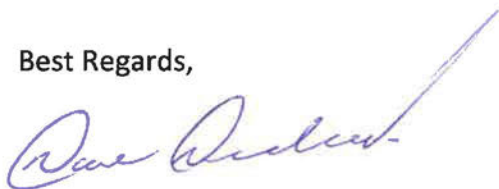
"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture ...designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada." - from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program. Designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, and no new rules or restrictions are created because of participation. Further, Lamont and Smoky Lake Counties are presently working together towards jointly adopting of an Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP), and an Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF). Both documents will enhance and facilitate a spirit of partnership, contemplate future land uses, support agriculture and tourism, as well as the natural, cultural, and recreational values associated with the river corridor.

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.



Best Regards,



David Diduck
Reeve, Lamont County

cc: Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant

COUNTY OF 
TWO HILLS

P.O Box 490, Two Hills AB T0B 4K0
Telephone: (780) 657-3358 Fax: (780) 657-3504

December 16, 2020

Council of Smoky Lake County
4612 – McDougall Drive
P.O. Box 310
Smoky Lake, Alberta, T0A 3C0

Re: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River, Canadian Heritage River System

Dear Council of Smoky Lake County:

This will advise that the Council of the County of Two Hills resolved, at their meeting on December 16, 2020, that the County of Two Hills approve the supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System, with the condition that the County be notified of any future amendments which may impact the County of Two Hills.

Should you have any questions or concerns, you may contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Sally Dary
Chief Administrative Officer

COUNTY OF ST. PAUL

5015 – 49 Avenue, St. Paul, Alberta, T0A 3A4
www.county.stpaul.ab.ca



Our Mission - To create desirable rural experiences

December 9, 2020

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB
T0A 3C0

Dear Smoky Lake County Council,

**RE: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River,
Canadian Heritage River system (CHRS)**

Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and your presentation at the County Council meeting on December 8, 2020 we are very much interested in supporting the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture... designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada" – from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

Since CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program and designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, with no new rules or restrictions being created because of participation; the County of St. Paul supports the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

We wish Smoky Lake County much success as they work through this process.

Best Regards,

Steve Upham
Reeve

cc:  Kyle Schole
Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant, Smoky Lake County



4912 50 Avenue, Box 69
Kitscoty, Alberta T0B 2P0
Ph: 780.846.2244
Fax: 780.846.2716
www.vermilion-river.com

December 16, 2020

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive
Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

RE: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River, Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)

To whom it may concern,

Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment & Parks, Jason Nixon, and on behalf of the County of Vermilion River, it is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture.....designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural and recreational values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are considered for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada." – from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program. Designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, and no new rules or restrictions are created because of participation.

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Best Regards,

Lonnie Wolgien
Reeve, County of Vermilion River

Cc: Kyle Schole Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant,
<kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>



EDMONTON HISTORICAL BOARD

Prince of Wales Armouries
10440 108 Avenue
Edmonton Alberta T5H 3Z9

Daniel Rose CHAIR
Dominic Schamuhn VICE CHAIR
Stephanie Bailey
Neil Cramer
Anna Gibson Hollow
Carrie-Ann Lunde
Nancy MacDonald
Alison McGavigan
James McTague
David Ryning

February 25, 2021

His Worship Don Iveson and City Councillors,
2nd Floor, City Hall
1 Sir Winston Churchill Square
Edmonton, AB T5J 2R7

Dear Mayor and City Council members,

RE: Support for North Saskatchewan River Canadian Heritage Rivers System application

On behalf of the Edmonton Historical Board, we are pleased to recommend our support for the application proposed by Smoky Lake County to recognize the North Saskatchewan River under the Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS). EHB is pleased to have been consulted on this exciting initiative and support this unique opportunity to celebrate the North Saskatchewan River.

For generations, the North Saskatchewan River has been a place of gathering, commerce, and ceremony. As a defining feature of the natural and cultural heritage of our city, the role of the North Saskatchewan River in shaping the course of growth of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region cannot be understated.

The Canadian Heritage Rivers System is a national program for recognizing, celebrating, and conserving the natural, cultural and recreational values of rivers across Canada. Established in 1984, the CHRS is a model of stewardship, cooperation, and participation among Canada's federal, provincial, and territorial governments. The CHRS works in conjunction with local communities and stewardship groups to give national recognition to Canada's outstanding rivers and encourages their long-term management to conserve their natural, cultural and recreational values for the benefit and enjoyment of Canadians, now and in the future.





**EDMONTON
HISTORICAL
BOARD**

Prince of Wales Armouries
10440 108 Avenue
Edmonton Alberta T5H 3Z9

Designation of the North Saskatchewan River under the CHRS is a fitting opportunity to promote our city's natural heritage and recognize the cultural value of the river to all Edmontonians. We encourage City Council to support this application.

Thank you,

Dan Rose
Chair, Edmonton Historical Board

CC: Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant, Smoky Lake County
Martin Kennedy, Chair, Edmonton Heritage Council
Tim O'Grady, President, Edmonton & District Historical Society





January 27, 2021
United Albertan Paddling Society
PO Box 4930 South Edmonton
Edmonton, AB T6E 5G8

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

Letter of Support:

Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS) Designation – Portion of the North Saskatchewan River

Greetings:

The United Alberta Paddling Society (UAPS) would like to express its enthusiasm and support to Smoky Lake County regarding the designation of the North Saskatchewan River to the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

UAPS is a recreational whitewater kayaking club based out of Edmonton, Alberta. With strong instructional programming for both adults and youth, UAPS has been introducing paddlers to the excitement of whitewater since 1978. On-river activities such as canoe and kayaking are some of the best ways to experience the crown jewel of Edmonton that is the North Saskatchewan River. UAPS members enjoy refining their moving water skills on the North Saskatchewan River in Edmonton and beyond. The series of rapids near the Rocky Mountain House National Historic Site is a popular favourite among whitewater kayakers looking to spend some time surfing and cartwheeling.

As a member of the 2011 Cross Canada Canoe Odyssey I travelled along the North Saskatchewan River from its headwaters at Howse Pass all the way to Cedar Lake in Manitoba. Watching the characteristics of the River change from a braided turquoise stream to a meandering brown prairie river was a highlight of this journey. There was a great diversity of landscapes, wildlife, and cultural features that were distinct from other regions throughout Canada.

UAPS supports the objective to ensure the long-term management of this river in order that its unique values are celebrated and conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Kind regards,

Nathalie Brunet

Nathalie Brunet
Special Director of Facilities
On behalf of the UAPS Executive Committee
n.n.brunet@gmail.com / 780-914-1332





2000 – 10423 101 Street, Edmonton, Alberta
T5H 0E8 Canada
epcor.com

April 28, 2021

Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) Board
Attention: Ashley Campbell, Director, Heritage Designations and Programs Branch Indigenous Affairs
and Cultural Heritage Directorate
Parks Canada Agency
3rd floor, 30 Victoria Street
Gatineau, QC J8X 0B3
Email: Ashley.campbell@canada.ca

Re: Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River in Alberta to the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)

I am pleased to provide this letter on behalf of EPCOR to express our support in nominating and designating the North Saskatchewan River (NSR) in Alberta to the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

The North Saskatchewan River is the sole source of drinking water for over one million people in the Edmonton region. As well the river assimilates treated wastewater from EPCOR's Gold Bar wastewater treatment plant and the stormwater collection system. As the utility who both provides drinking water and manages discharges of storm and wastewater to the NSR, EPCOR is committed to ensuring that the water quality and aquatic ecosystems of the NSR are maintained or improved over time as the City grows.

EPCOR recognizes that collaborative watershed management combined with watershed science, will ensure the NSR will continue to support healthy aquatic ecosystems and maintain the current good water quality and supply that we have come to depend on. As such, EPCOR contributes financially and in-kind to the established Watershed Planning and Advisory Council, the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA). EPCOR also sits on the NSWA's board and Headwaters Alliance group.

Understanding the importance of having a strong scientific foundation for decision making, EPCOR spearheaded the development of a tributary monitoring network for the North Saskatchewan River basin (the WaterSHED project) in 2018 which supports monitoring of 19 tributaries in the NSR watershed. This program was developed and carried out in partnership with the NSWA, City of Edmonton and Alberta Environment & Parks' Monitoring Evaluation and Science Division. To build on this monitoring work, EPCOR is currently leading the development of a ten year basin-wide modelling strategy and tool to look at future growth, climate change, and management scenarios as they effect water quality and quantity. EPCOR also funds University-based research projects to better understand groundwater contributions, climate change impacts and impacts of agricultural beneficial management practices on the NSR.

In the urban watershed, EPCOR has developed an Integrated Watershed Management Strategy to quantify and manage total loads to the NSR from the City of Edmonton's footprint. A highlight of this strategy is the implementation of Low Impact Development (LID) features across the City to reduce urban flooding and runoff to the NSR.

The North Saskatchewan River is integral to the histories of Indigenous people and settlers alike, and the Edmonton reach marks an important gathering place in both pre-contact and post-contact times. The North Saskatchewan River valley at Edmonton has been occupied for at least eight to ten thousand years.

EPCOR has funded archaeological investigations in the River Crossing (Rosssdale) area of Edmonton, and at our E.L. Smith Water Treatment Plant in west Edmonton, which have added to the understanding of the significance of human occupation along the river.

At River Crossing/Rosssdale, EPCOR's utility services stand adjacent to and overlapping with the footprints of several earlier versions of Fort Edmonton (which occupied five locations on the North Saskatchewan River between 1795 and 1915). Several of our buildings there are provincially designated heritage buildings, as is our former power generating plant which was recently transferred to the City of Edmonton for future adaptive reuse.

Rosssdale was a burying ground for Indigenous people and others who lived at Fort Edmonton and in the surrounding area. When human remains were found on the site, a commitment was made to honour those buried there. Part of Rosssdale Road that crossed the burial ground was rerouted around it and the decision was made to build a memorial. The human remains were reburied at a special ceremony in August of 2006 and the site is now legally designated as a cemetery or burial ground. The memorial was designed with input from the City of Edmonton, EPCOR, descendants, stakeholders and community volunteers, including people of First Nations, French Canadian, Métis and European ancestry.

At our E.L. Smith Water Treatment Plant in west Edmonton, archeological investigations have identified seven campsite occupations that ranged between roughly 3,500 and 9,000 years before present. We will be promoting public understanding of this history through upcoming interpretive installations, and have entered into a partnership with Enoch Cree Nation to facilitate the reintroduction of ceremony and cultural practices to this area, which includes their former reserve lands. At both sites, we have protocols with 30 Indigenous Nations and representative groups that includes a process for their participation in monitoring ground disturbance activities.

As an organization that is closely connected to the North Saskatchewan River, and that has invested significantly in advancing management, research, monitoring, modelling, implementation and education for over 30 years, EPCOR welcomes and supports the designation of the NSR as a Canadian Heritage River. Specifically EPCOR supports the CHRS's building opportunities for cooperative river management that unites communities; the celebration and support of the cultural connections of Indigenous Peoples with rivers; the promotion of stewardship and citizen engagement; the engagement of new Canadians and youth in river education, conservation, and recreation; and the encouragement of the protection of water resources to improve public health, well-being and quality of life.

Yours truly,



Shawn Bradford
Senior Vice President Water Canada
EPCOR Utilities Inc.

cc. Martin Kennedy, Director, Public & Government Affairs



4638 - 90A Avenue
Edmonton, AB T6B 2P9

To: Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

**MUNICIPAL
SHAREHOLDERS**

Sent by: Email

May 28, 2021



**RE: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River,
Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom it May Concern,

Further to the letter of support from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and subsequent support from our six municipal shareholders, it is a pleasure to provide this letter on behalf of the River Valley Alliance Board of Directors, supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture ...designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada." - from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

We understand and appreciate that the CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program and designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase development restrictions along the river corridor. However, the program serves to celebrate and

promote the natural, cultural, and recreational values of the river, a designation that the North Saskatchewan River is certainly worthy of.

The River Valley Alliance serves to co-ordinate, preserve, protect, and enhance one of the largest metropolitan river valley park systems in the world – a legacy for generations to come – by connecting 100 kms of trail system and making it easier for all to access and enjoy regardless of age or ability. As such we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Best Regards,



Katherine O'Neill
Chair, Board of Directors
River Valley Alliance



Kristine Archibald
Executive Director
River Valley Alliance

cc: Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant , <kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>



03 June 2021

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

RE: Letter of support to designate the North Saskatchewan River within the Canadian Heritage River System

To Whom It May Concern,

As a leading cultural institution in Alberta, and Canada's largest open air museum, Fort Edmonton Park is a driver within the tourism industry because of its clear cultural relevance to Canada. It is uniquely positioned in the Edmonton River Valley and its history is directly associated with the fur trade. All of its historic locations have had a critical reliance on the North Saskatchewan River.

There are few waterways that have such significance to the emergence of culturally relevant spaces, and the banks of the North Saskatchewan River stands as the very reason Fort Edmonton exists today.

Designation within the CHRS will bolster the historic relevance of Fort Edmonton Park, and the new Indigenous Peoples Experience, which was created in partnership with the Métis Nation of Alberta, and the Confederacy of Treaty 6 First Nations. It is a world class new exhibit with a river running through it; the North Saskatchewan River.

I am pleased to submit my strong support in recommending the North Saskatchewan River be considered for inclusion in the Canadian Heritage River System. Thank you for considering this endorsement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darren Dagleish".

Darren Dagleish
President and CEO, Fort Edmonton Management Company

Cc. Cameron John, Chair of the Board

Dec. 9, 2019

North Saskatchewan River Basin Council (SK)
Box 458
Hafford, SK, S0J 1A0



**RE: Letter of Support for Inter-Provincial Nomination of the
North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom It May Concern,

Further to the letter submitted by Smoky Lake County Council, dated October 30, 2019, I am pleased to provide this letter of support on behalf of Paddle Alberta Society toward an inter-provincial nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS). Further to the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance *Heritage River Background Study* (2005):

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture between federal, provincial, and territorial governments designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada."

We agree that the River should be nominated on an inter-provincial basis under this program. Indeed, the entire reach of the Saskatchewan and North Saskatchewan Rivers are rich in cultural, natural, and recreation value. Our communities are greatly enhanced by the health and legacy of the River, which deserves to be both protected and celebrated.

Again, we support the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion into the Canadian Heritage River System, and we are hopeful that other community partners and river neighbors will lend their support as well.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Karla Handy".

Karla Handy, Program Services Coordinator
Paddle Alberta Society

cc: North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance
Smoky Lake County.



PADDLE CANADA
PAGAIE CANADA

PO Box 126 Station Main
Kingston ON CANADA K7L 4V6
Toll-free: 1-888-252-6292
info@paddlingcanada.com
www.paddlingcanada.com



December ¹⁰12, 2019

North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (AB)
202-9440 49 Street
Edmonton, AB T6B 2M9

North Saskatchewan River Basin Council (SK)
Box 458
Hafford, SK, S0J 1A0

**RE: Letter of Support for Inter-Provincial Nomination of the
North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom It May Concern,

Further to the letter submitted by Smoky Lake County Council, dated October 30, 2019, I am pleased to provide this letter of support on behalf of Paddle Canada toward an inter-provincial nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS). Further to the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance *Heritage River Background Study* (2005):

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture between federal, provincial, and territorial governments designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada."

We agree that the River should be nominated on an inter-provincial basis under this program. Indeed, the entire reach of the Saskatchewan and North Saskatchewan Rivers are rich in cultural, natural, and recreation value. Our communities are greatly enhanced by the health and legacy of the River, which deserves to be both protected and celebrated.

Again, we support the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion into the Canadian Heritage River System, and we are hopeful that other community partners and river neighbors will lend their support as well.

Best Regards,

Michelle McShane
Executive Director
Paddle Canada

cc: Smoky Lake County.



Travel Alberta
400-1601 9 Avenue SE
Calgary, Alberta
Canada T2G 0H4

☎ 403-648-1000
☎ 403-648-1111
🌐 travelalberta.com
🌐 industry.travelalberta.com

January 24, 2020

North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (AB)
202-9440 49 Street
Edmonton, AB T6B 2M9

North Saskatchewan River Basin Council (SK)
Box 458
Hafford, SK S0J 1A0

**RE: Letter of Support for Inter-Provincial Nomination of the
North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom It May Concern,

Further to the letter submitted by Smoky Lake County Council, dated October 30, 2019, I am pleased to provide this letter of support on behalf of Travel Alberta toward an inter-provincial nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS). Further to the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance *Heritage River Background Study* (2005):

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture between federal, provincial, and territorial governments designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada."

We agree that the River should be nominated on an inter-provincial basis under this program. Indeed, the entire reach of the Saskatchewan and North Saskatchewan Rivers are rich in cultural, natural, and recreation value. Our communities are greatly enhanced by the health and legacy of the River, which deserves to be both protected and celebrated.

Again, we support the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion into the Canadian Heritage River System, and we are hopeful that other community partners and river neighbors will lend their support as well.

Best Regards,

Royce Chwin
CEO

cc: Smoky Lake County

EXPLORE EDMONTON

January 25, 2021

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

RE: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)

To Whom It May Concern,

I am pleased to provide this letter of support on behalf of Explore Edmonton, toward the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS). From the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005):

“The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada.”

The North Saskatchewan River, which runs through Edmonton, is our city’s primary natural asset, a special gathering place for our indigenous peoples, generations before first contact and a major attraction for residents and visitors alike. In our efforts to attract national and international visitors to Edmonton, we promote the River Valley as a haven for outdoor adventure, rich in cultural, natural, and recreational value. Our region greatly benefits from the River’s offerings, and I wholeheartedly support shining a new spotlight on the River through this nomination for the Canadian Heritage River System.

I hope you will look favorably upon this nomination. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further help.

Yours sincerely,



Maggie Davison

Interim CEO
780.700.9351 | mdavison@exploreedmonton.com

February 3, 2020

North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (AB)
202-9440 49 St NW
Edmonton, AB T6B 2M9

2ND FLOOR, 10440 – 108 AVENUE
PRINCE OF WALES ARMOURIES HERITAGE CENTRE
EDMONTON, ALBERTA T5H 3Z9

PHONE: 780.429.0166
WWW.EDMONTONHERITAGE.CA

North Saskatchewan River Basin Council (SK)
Box 458
Hafford, SK, S0J 1A0

Re: Letter of Support for Inter-Provincial Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)

To Whom It May Concern,

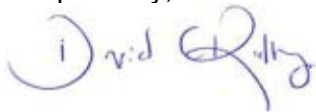
I am pleased to provide this letter of general support for an inter-provincial nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

As an organization, Edmonton Heritage Council's essential work is to connect people to the stories of our city through our leadership, support, and programs. We do this by helping Edmontonians research, preserve, interpret, and advocate for our heritage. Edmonton was forged by the North Saskatchewan River, and it is an essential part of the city's heritage.

This is also the case for many other areas along the North Saskatchewan Rivers in Alberta and Saskatchewan. These communities would not exist as we know them without the legacy of the river. The cultural, natural, and recreation value of the North Saskatchewan is essential to life and culture in the prairie provinces. The Edmonton Heritage Council greatly appreciates efforts in seeking designation under this program to give this river the protection and celebration it so richly deserves.

Again, we support the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion into the Canadian Heritage River System, and we are hopeful that other community partners and river neighbors will lend their support as well.

Respectfully,



David Ridley
Executive Director
Edmonton Heritage Council
dridley@edmontonheritage.ca
tel: 780 429-0166 ext. 232

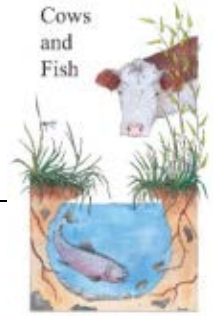
CC: Kyle Schole, Smoky Lake County

Cows and Fish

Alberta Riparian Habitat Management Society

2nd Floor, Avail Building
530 – 8th Street S
Lethbridge, AB T1J 2J8

Telephone (403) 381-5538
Email: nambrose@cowsandfish.org
www.cowsandfish.org



November 17, 2020

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, P.O. Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB
T0A 3C0

Via email to: Kyle Schole <kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>

RE: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River, Canadian Heritage River System designation.

To Whom it May Concern,

The Alberta Riparian Habitat Management Society (Cows and Fish) is pleased to provide this letter supporting the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS), following up from the Oct 23, 2020 letter from the Alberta Minister of the Environment and Parks, Jason Nixon.

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-drive program, which is consistent with our mandate to encourage and promote community led initiatives, including to take local ownership of stewardship efforts for our water, riparian areas and watersheds. The focus of the CHRS to work cooperatively and ensure long-term management of rivers to conserve them for future generations is a goal we support.

Now more than ever, strategic, long-term efforts to support improved drinking water supplies, support natural infrastructure and healthy watersheds through thoughtful land use are important. Increasing land use pressures and population growth, coupled with highly variable climate and cumulative impacts of past land and water use decisions means we need to shine a light on our use and care of these places. As such we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognised watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Norine Ambrose'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Norine Ambrose, Executive Director
Alberta Riparian Habitat Management Society-“Cows and Fish”



Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

Sent by: Regular Mail

December 13, 2020

**RE: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River,
Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom it May Concern,

It is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture ...designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada." - from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program, and represents an opportunity for river communities to share, promote, and celebrate the Natural, Cultural, and Recreational values of the river. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Best Regards,

Elisa Brosseau,
Chair
Alberta Bilingual Municipalities of Alberta
p: (780) 573-9846

cc: Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant, <kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

Sent by: Electronic Mail

December 16, 2020

**RE: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River,
Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom it May Concern,

Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and on behalf of Lakeland Agricultural Research Association, it is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

“The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture ...designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada.” - from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program. Designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development or agricultural restrictions along the river corridor, and no new rules or restrictions are created because of participation. The program, however, serves to celebrate and promote the natural, cultural, and recreational values of the river, including agricultural uses.

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Best Regards,

Kellie Nichiporik
Environmental Program Manager
Lakeland Agricultural Research Association
e: sustainag.lara@mcsnet.ca / p: (780) 812-1036

cc: Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant , <kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>

Ceyana Canoe Club
P.O. Box 4545
Edmonton (South), AB
T6E 5G4



December 18, 2020

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

Sent by: E-Mail

**RE: Letter of Support
Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River, Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom it May Concern,

Rivers and Canoeing are large part of our Canadian Heritage. Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and on behalf of the Ceyana Canoe Club, it is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

“The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture ...designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada.”

- North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program, and serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As such, we support the nomination of a greater portion, and if possible all of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System. This river has historically tied the three prairie provinces together and was the original gateway to western Canada. We paddlers feel that not having all or most of it within the CHRS is a great error.

We strongly support the nomination of a greater portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Best Regards,

Mark Lund
President, Ceyana Canoe Club

cc: Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant <kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

Sent by: EMail

December 22, 2020

**RE: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River,
Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom it May Concern,

Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and on behalf of N.E. Muni-Corr Ltd., it is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS). N.E. Muni-Corr Ltd. is a part nine not for profit company who own the 300km. long abandoned CN right of way in northeast Alberta. The organization is comprised of representatives from the ten municipalities the right of way traverses.

“The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture ...designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada.” - from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program. Designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, and no new rules or restrictions are created because of participation.

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Best Regards,



Dwayne Yaremkevich,
President
North East Muni-Corr Ltd.

cc: Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant, <kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

Sent by: EMail

December 22, 2020

**RE: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River,
Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom it May Concern,

Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and on behalf of Riverland Recreational Trail Society, it is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS). Riverland Recreational Trail Society is a non-profit organization made up of representatives from the regions five snowmobile clubs, horse and wagon club and other trail enthusiasts. The organization leases the middle 33 feet of the 300km. abandoned CN right of way and operates it as Alberta's Iron Horse Trail in partnership with the ten municipalities it passes through.

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture ...designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada." - from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program. Designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, and no new rules or restrictions are created because of participation.

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Best Regards,



Marvin Bjornstad

President
Riverland Recreational Trail Society

cc: Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant , <kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>



17507 Fort Road
Edmonton, AB T5Y 6H3

Phone: 780-643-6732
Fax: 780-422-6096

Reeve Craig Lukinuk
Smoky Lake County
PO Box 310
4612 McDougall Drive
Smoky Lake AB T0A 3C0
craiglukinuk@smokylakecounty.ab.ca

December 23, 2020

Regarding: Canadian Heritage River System North Saskatchewan River Nomination

Mr. Reeve Lukinuk:

On behalf of the Agroforestry & Woodlot Extension Society (AWES), I would like to extend our support of the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River to the Canadian Heritage Rivers System. Thank you and the Smoky Lake County for bringing together this nomination and for extending the opportunity to AWES to support the Canadian Heritage Rivers System. A heritage river designation would reflect the care and stewardship that local governments, stakeholders, and landowners have taken along the river to promote the conservation, restoration and care of the North Saskatchewan River basin.

AWES understands the importance of encouraging landowners to develop practices and environments to improve and maintain freshwater resources. AWES is aware of the importance of the Canadian Heritage River Designation and is grateful for the efforts of all the organizations that have come forward to support this process.

For any questions please contact me at the numbers or email below.

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive, which appears to read 'Megan Andre'.

Megan Andre, P.Ag.
Executive Director
Agroforestry & Woodlot Extension Society
780-242-9855
m.andre@awes-ab.ca
www.awes-ab.ca

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

Sent by: EMail

January 4, 2021

**RE: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River,
Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom it May Concern,

Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and on behalf of Portage College, it is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

“The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture ...designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada.” - from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program. Designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, and no new rules or restrictions are created because of participation.

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Sincerely,



Nancy Broadbent
President & CEO

cc: Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant , <kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>

50230 Range Road 200
Beaver County, AB
T0B 4J2
(780) 632-7699

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

Sent by: Regular Mail

DATE March 18, 2021

**RE: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River,
Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom It May Concern,

Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and on behalf Go East of Edmonton Regional Tourism Organization, it is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

“The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture ...designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada.” - From the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program. Designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, and no new rules or restrictions are created because of participation.

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As the driving force for tourism in the region, Go East of Edmonton Regional Tourism feels strongly about the value and importance of the North Saskatchewan River. The beauty and recreational opportunities are a vital part of our region for the health and quality of life for Canadians. It effects tourism which in turn has an economic impact on local businesses and communities. We are pleased to support this as well as be involved in any future opportunities that showcase the river and our region for its natural splendour. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Best Regards,



Jennifer Filip
Chair
(780) 632-7699

cc: Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant, <kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>



North Battleford

City of North Battleford
1291 - 101st Street
P.O. Box 460

North Battleford
Saskatchewan
Canada S9A 2Y6

PH: (306) 445-1700
FAX: (306) 445-0411

April 12, 2021

Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport
Box 607, 1 – 101 Railway Place
Meadow Lake, SK S9X 1Y5

Attention: Colette Schmalz, Senior Park Advisor

Dear Ms. Schmalz:

Re: Interprovincial Nomination – North Saskatchewan River Heritage River Designation

On behalf of Council and the City of North Battleford, I would like to express our sincere pleasure in supporting the interprovincial nomination of the North Saskatchewan River as a Canadian Heritage River. The City of North Battleford and the Town of Battleford (herein the Battlefords) comprise our immediate area and are located directly across from one another on the North Saskatchewan River which has instilled a deep sense of community connectedness within our region.

The River's history in the Battlefords pre-dates European settlement, where the ancestors of our surrounding Indigenous people lived, hunted, and raised their families. Following settlement, the Battlefords region contributed significantly to the fur trade, the telegraph and railway lines, immigration, and the development of Western Canada. The Town of Battleford was incorporated in 1907 and the City of North Battleford followed in 1913. The River signifies a deep cultural connection with our past and present while representing our rich cultural history and the evolution of our culturally diverse population leading up to the present day.

Today, the river is a natural feature of significance not only in our region but in Canada. It represents the cultural, natural, and recreational values that are important to our nation and significant in meeting the criteria for heritage designation.

In Closing, we believe the designation of the North Saskatchewan River as a heritage River will provide invaluable opportunities for Canadians to learn more about the River's cultural and natural values, the history of our indigenous peoples, the history of the Battlefords and the Rivers' role in the development of Western Canada.

¹ McPherson, A., 1966, A history of the Battlefords to 1914



North Battleford

City of North Battleford
1291 - 101st Street
P.O. Box 460

North Battleford
Saskatchewan
Canada S9A 2Y6

PH: (306) 445-1700
FAX: (306) 445-0411

Designation of the North Saskatchewan River can only serve to emphasize its meaningful history in the evolution of our nation, while also highlighting the natural, recreational and tourism related opportunities available along its banks. Council and the City of North Battleford support the North Saskatchewan River Basin Council in the designation process.

Should you have any questions or require clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me at mayor@cityofnb.ca or at 306-441-1728.

Sincerely,

David Gillan,
Mayor

¹ McPherson, A., 1966, A history of the Battlefords to 1914

February 7, 2020

North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (AB)
202-9440 49 Street
Edmonton, AB T6B 2M9

North Saskatchewan River Basin Council (SK)
Box 458
Hafford, SK, S0J 1A0



**RE: Letter of Support for Inter-Provincial Nomination of the
North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom It May Concern,

Further to the letter submitted by Smoky Lake County Council, dated October 30, 2019, I am pleased to provide this letter of support on behalf of the Edmonton and District Historical Society toward an inter-provincial nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS). Further to the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance *Heritage River Background Study* (2005):

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture between federal, provincial, and territorial governments designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada."

We agree that the River should be nominated on an inter-provincial basis under this program. Indeed, the entire reach of the Saskatchewan and North Saskatchewan Rivers are rich in cultural, natural, recreation, and historical value. Our communities are greatly enhanced by the health and legacy of the River, which deserves to be both protected and celebrated.

Again, we support the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion into the Canadian Heritage River System, and we are hopeful that other community partners and river neighbors will lend their support as well.

Best Regards,

Tim O'Grady
President, Edmonton and District Historical Society

cc: Smoky Lake County

Letter of Support
Inter-Provincial Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River
Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)

Kyle Schole

From: Raquel Feroe [REDACTED]
Sent: April 16, 2021 9:42 AM
To: council@edmonton.ca
Cc: Kristine Kowalchuk; Kyle Schole
Subject: Re April 19th 8.2 (Our support for heritage river designation.)

Dear Councillors,

re [April 19th](#) Agenda item 8.2 Initiative to Designate the North Saskatchewan River a Heritage River (M. Walters) Designation

Endorsement letter from ERVCC.

The Edmonton River Valley Conservation Coalition (ERVCC) understands there will be a motion made [on April 19](#) that the Mayor, on behalf of City Council, write a letter to the Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks supporting the initiative being led by Smoky Lake County in collaboration with other river municipalities and Indigenous groups, to nominate 818km of the North Saskatchewan River across Alberta as a Heritage River under the Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS). This designation is Canada's nationally recognized program conserving and celebrating the natural, cultural, and recreational values of exceptional Canadian Rivers.

The ERVCC has attended two webinars on this subject and read through the original report prepared by Billie Milholland of the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance, as well as spoken with Kyle Schole, planner and Heritage Assistant for Smokey Lake. As we see it, the designation will serve as vehicle for collaboration and conversation among governments, residents, and landowners. We feel by celebrating and telling the stories of our collective heritage and culture we can further learn for the river and honour the river. Designation will help the river tell its most important stories. The ERVCC **endorses the designation.**

Thank you,
Rocky Feroe on behalf of Edmonton River Valley Conservation Coalition (ERVCC)



VILLAGE OF WASKATENAU

Box 99, Waskatenau, Alberta T0A 3P0

Phone: (780) 358-2208
Fax: (780) 358-2208
Email: waskvillage@mcnet.ca
Website: www.waskatenau.ca

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, Alberta
T0A 3C0

December 21, 2020

**RE: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River,
Canadian Heritage River System(CHRS)**

Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and on behalf of Village of Waskatenau, it is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture ...designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada."-from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005)".

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program. Designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, and no new rules or restrictions are created because of participation.

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

C. Caron

Casey Caron, Mayor
Village of Waskatenau

cc: Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant, <kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>

"Country living at its Best"



HISTORIC VILNA

A true Alberta boomtown...

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0



Sent by: Regular Mail

December 17, 2020

**RE: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River,
Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom it May Concern,

Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and on behalf of Village of Vilna, it is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture ...designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada." - from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program. Designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, and no new rules or restrictions are created because of participation.

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Best Regards,

Leo Chapdelaine,
Mayor

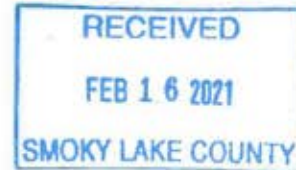
leochapdelaine.icloud.com
780-636-3620

cc: Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant, <kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>

File No. 21-03

January 25th, 2021

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB
T0A 3C0



To Whom it May Concern,

RE: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River, Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)

Further to the letter dated October 23rd, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and on behalf of the Town of Elk Point, it is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture... designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada." – from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program. Designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, and no new rules or restrictions are created because of participation.

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lorne Young".

Lorne Young
Mayor
Town of Elk Point

LY/cp

C.c Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant



Office of the Mayor

December 19, 2019

North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (AB)
202-9440 49 Street
Edmonton, AB T6B 2M9

North Saskatchewan River Basin Council (SK)
Box 458
Hafford, SK S0J 1A0

**RE: Letter of Support for Inter-Provincial Nomination of the
North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom It May Concern,

Further to the letter submitted by Smoky Lake County Council, dated October 30, 2019, I am pleased to provide this letter of support on behalf of the City of Spruce Grove toward an inter-provincial nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS). Further to the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance *Heritage River Background Study* (2005):

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture between federal, provincial, and territorial governments designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada."

We agree that the River should be nominated on an inter-provincial basis under this program. Indeed, the entire reach of the Saskatchewan and North Saskatchewan Rivers are rich in cultural, natural, and recreation value. Our communities are greatly enhanced by the health and legacy of the River, which deserves to be both protected and celebrated.

Again, we support the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion into the Canadian Heritage River System, and we are hopeful that other community partners and river neighbors will lend their support as well.

Sincerely,

Stuart Houston
Mayor

c: City of Spruce Grove Council
Smoky Lake County

The Community of Choice



Town of Marshall
17 Main Street, Box 125
S0M 1R0

December 18, 2019

North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (AB)
202-9440 49 Street
Edmonton, AB T6B 2M9

North Saskatchewan River Basin Council (SK)
Box 458
Hafford, SK, S0J 1A0



**RE: Letter of Support for Inter-Provincial Nomination of the
North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom It May Concern,

Further to the letter submitted by Smoky Lake County Council, dated October 30, 2019, I am pleased to provide this letter of support on behalf of **Town of Marshall** toward an inter-provincial nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS). Further to the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance *Heritage River Background Study* (2005):

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture between federal, provincial, and territorial governments designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada."

We agree that the River should be nominated on an inter-provincial basis under this program. Indeed, the entire reach of the Saskatchewan and North Saskatchewan Rivers are rich in cultural, natural, and recreation value. Our communities are greatly enhanced by the health and legacy of the River, which deserves to be both protected and celebrated.

Again, we support the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion into the Canadian Heritage River System, and we are hopeful that other community partners and river neighbors will lend their support as well.

Best Regards,

Mayor, Town of Marshall

cc: Smoky Lake County

**Letter of Support
Inter-Provincial Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River
Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**



December 23, 2019

North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (AB)
202-9440 49 Street
Edmonton, AB T6B 2M9

North Saskatchewan River Basin Council (SK)
Box 458
Hafford, SK, S0J 1A0

**RE: Letter of Support for Inter-Provincial Nomination of the
North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom It May Concern,

Further to the letter submitted by Smoky Lake County Council, dated October 30, 2019, I am pleased to provide this letter of support on behalf of the Town of Stony Plain toward an inter-provincial nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS). Further to the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance *Heritage River Background Study* (2005):

“The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture between federal, provincial, and territorial governments designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada.”

We agree that the River should be nominated on an inter-provincial basis under this program. Indeed, the entire reach of the Saskatchewan and North Saskatchewan Rivers are rich in cultural, natural, and recreation value. Our communities are greatly enhanced by the health and legacy of the River, which deserves to be both protected and celebrated.

Again, we support the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion into the Canadian Heritage River System, and we are hopeful that other community partners and river neighbors will lend their support as well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "William Choy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mayor William Choy

cc: Smoky Lake County



December 12, 2019

North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (AB)
202-9440 49 Street Edmonton, AB T6B 2M9

North Saskatchewan River Basin Council (SK)
Box 458 Hafford, SK, S0J 1A0

**RE: Letter of Support for Inter-Provincial Nomination of the
North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom It May Concern,

Further to the letter submitted by Smoky Lake County Council, dated October 30, 2019, I am pleased to provide this letter of support on behalf of the Northeast Alberta Information HUB (Alberta HUB) toward an inter-provincial nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS). Further to the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance *Heritage River Background Study* (2005):

“The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture between federal, provincial, and territorial governments designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada.”

We agree that the River should be nominated on an inter-provincial basis under this program. Indeed, the entire reach of the Saskatchewan and North Saskatchewan Rivers are rich in cultural, natural, and recreation value. Our communities are greatly enhanced by the health and legacy of the River, which deserves to be both protected and celebrated.

Again, we support the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion into the Canadian Heritage River System, and we are hopeful that other community partners and river neighbors will lend their support as well.

Best Regards,

Steve Upham
Chair Northeast Alberta Information HUB (Alberta HUB)

cc: Smoky Lake County



Serving our Residents since 1914

January 20, 2020

North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (AB)
202-9440 49 Street
Edmonton, AB T6B 2M9

North Saskatchewan River Basin Council (SK)
Box 458
Hafford, SK, S0J 1A0



**RE: Letter of Support for Inter-Provincial Nomination of the
North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom It May Concern,

Further to the letter submitted by Smoky Lake County Council, dated October 30, 2019, I am pleased to provide this letter of support on behalf of the Village of Clyde toward an inter-provincial nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS). Further to the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance *Heritage River Background Study* (2005):

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture between federal, provincial, and territorial governments designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada."

We agree that the River should be nominated on an inter-provincial basis under this program. Indeed, the entire reach of the Saskatchewan and North Saskatchewan Rivers are rich in cultural, natural, and recreation value. Our communities are greatly enhanced by the health and legacy of the River, which deserves to be both protected and celebrated.

Again, we support the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion into the Canadian Heritage River System, and we are hopeful that other community partners and river neighbors will lend their support as well.

Best Regards,

Jaye Parrent
Finance and Assistant CAO

cc: Smoky Lake County



Village of Marwayne
Box 113, 210 2nd Ave N
Marwayne, AB T0B 2X0
780-847-3962 P
780-847-3324 F
marwayne@mcsnet.ca
marwayne.ca

November 18, 2019

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN WATERSHED ALLIANCE
202, 9440 – 49 STREET
EDMONTON, AB T6B 2M9

**RE: Letter of Support for Inter-Provincial Nomination of the
North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom It May Concern,

Further to the letter submitted by Smoky Lake County Council, dated October 30, 2019, we are pleased to provide this letter of support on behalf of the Village of Marwayne toward an inter-provincial nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS). Further to the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance *Heritage River Background Study* (2005):

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture between federal, provincial, and territorial governments designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada."

We agree that the River should be nominated on an inter-provincial basis under this program. Indeed, the entire reach of the Saskatchewan and North Saskatchewan Rivers are rich in cultural, natural, and recreation value. Our communities are greatly enhanced by the health and legacy of the River, which deserves to be both protected and celebrated.

Again, we support the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion into the Canadian Heritage River System, and we are hopeful that other community partners and river neighbors will lend their support as well.

Best Regards,


Cheryl Eikeland
Mayor, Village of Marwayne

cc: North Saskatchewan River Basin Council (Saskatchewan)

January 16, 2020

North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (AB)
202-9440 49 Street
Edmonton, AB T6B 2M9

North Saskatchewan River Basin Council (SK)
Box 458
Hafford, SK, S0J 1A0



RE: **Letter of Support for Inter-Provincial Nomination of the
North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom It May Concern,

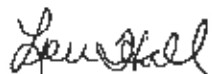
Further to the letter submitted by Smoky Lake County Council, dated October 30, 2019, I am pleased to provide this letter of support on behalf of Westlock County toward an inter-provincial nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS). Further to the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance *Heritage River Background Study* (2005):

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture between federal, provincial, and territorial governments designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada."

We agree that the River should be nominated on an inter-provincial basis under this program. Indeed, the entire reach of the Saskatchewan and North Saskatchewan Rivers are rich in cultural, natural, and recreation value. Our communities are greatly enhanced by the health and legacy of the River, which deserves to be both protected and celebrated.

Again, we support the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion into the Canadian Heritage River System, and we are hopeful that other community partners and river neighbors will lend their support as well.

Sincerely,



Lou Hall,
Reeve

cc: Smoky Lake County

Kyle Schole

From: Matthew Ferris <mferris@lsac.ca>
Sent: January 17, 2020 3:02 PM
To: Craig Lukinuk
Subject: North Saskatchewan River as a Canadian Heritage River System

At our January 9th 2020 Council meeting Council passed motion 11-2020 supporting the application of the North Saskatchewan River as a Canadian Heritage River System

Matthew Ferris | Manager of Planning and Development
Lac Ste. Anne County
Box 219 | Sangudo AB, T0E 2A0
Tel **(780) 785-3411** | Toll Free **1 (866) 880-5722**

This email communication is CONFIDENTIAL AND LEGALLY PRIVILEGED. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify me at the telephone number shown above or by return email and delete this communication and any copy immediately. Thank you.

 **Think about our Environment. Print only if necessary.**



January 12, 2021

To Whom it May Concern,

RE: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River,
Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)

Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and on behalf of Yellowhead County, it is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada." - from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program. Designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, and no new rules or restrictions are created because of participation.

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Best Regards,



Mayor Jim Eglinski
Yellowhead County

/tp



Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

Sent by: Regular Mail

January 13, 2021

**RE: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River,
Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom it May Concern,

Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and on behalf of Camrose County, it is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

“The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture ...designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada.” - from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program. Designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, and no new rules or restrictions are created because of participation.

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Best Regards,

Cindy Trautman, Reeve
Camrose County

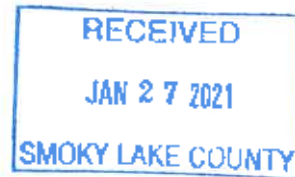
e: ctrautman@county.camrose.ab.ca / p: (780) 672-4446

cc: Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant , <kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>



BEAVER COUNTY

Box 140
Ryley, Alberta T0B 4A0



Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

January 11, 2021

**RE: Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River,
Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom it May Concern,

Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and on behalf of Beaver County, it is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture ...designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada." - from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program. Designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, and no new rules or restrictions are created because of participation.

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Best Regards,

Gene Hrabec
Deputy Reeve
Beaver County



January 20, 2021

Attn: Reeve & Council
Smoky Lake County
4612 McDougall Drive,
PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

To Whom it May Concern,

RE: Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River to the Canadian Heritage River System

Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and on behalf of the M.D. of Bonnyville No. 87, it is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

"The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture ...designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada." - from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program. Designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, and no new rules or restrictions are created because of participation.

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Yours truly,

Greg Sawchuk
Reeve

/ja

cc: Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant, kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca



107863

ALBERTA
ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS

OCT 23 2020

*Office of the Minister
Government House Leader
MLA, Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre*

Reeve Craig Lukinuk
Smoky Lake County
PO Box 310
4612 McDougall Driver
Smoky Lake AB T0A 3C0
craiglukinuk@smokylakecounty.ab.ca

Dear Reeve Lukinuk:

Thank you for your letter regarding the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River under the Canadian Heritage Rivers System.

Alberta Environment and Parks supports your group's effort to nominate this river and, as the jurisdictional representative, we will make the formal nomination on your behalf. A heritage river designation would reflect the care and stewardship that local governments and stakeholders have undertaken along the river corridor, and help local municipalities and businesses promote the natural beauty, rich cultural history, and myriad recreation and tourism opportunities in your region.

Once the nomination is endorsed by the Canadian Heritage Rivers System Board of Directors, the next step is for Smoky Lake County to prepare a nomination document with relevant information and background studies. The Canadian Heritage Rivers System is a grassroots, locally driven program in Alberta. Alberta Environment and Parks will support your efforts where possible, and share available data about natural, cultural and recreation/tourism values pertinent to the river.

I applaud your efforts in pursuing this nomination, and for assembling substantial local and regional support in this regard.

Sincerely,

Jason Nixon
Minister

cc: Tracy Draper, Alberta Environment and Parks
Brian Joubert, Alberta Environment and Parks



ALBERTA

CULTURE, MULTICULTURALISM AND STATUS OF WOMEN

Office of the Minister

January 29, 2021

Mr. Kyle Schole
Planning, Development, and Heritage Assistant
Smoky Lake County
4612 McDougall Drive
PO Box 310
Smoky Lake AB T0A 3C0

Dear Mr. Schole:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your application to have the North Saskatchewan River designated as a Canadian Heritage River.

The North Saskatchewan River, Rivière Saskatchewan Nord, *kisiskâciwani-sîpiy, omaka-ty*, is one of the great rivers of western Canada. From time immemorial, the river has been an essential conduit for economic and cultural exchanges among Canada's Indigenous peoples. In the post-contact period, the river remained a central travel route for Indigenous people, while also accommodating an increasing number of European explorers, traders, and settlers. Until supplanted by the transcontinental railroads in the late-1800s, the North Saskatchewan River was the primary transportation corridor through north-central Alberta, and some of Alberta's major urban centres were established upon its banks.

The North Saskatchewan River continues to be of great social and natural significance. It affords recreational opportunities to the many domestic and international visitors who enjoy the river valley's parks and trail systems, and remains an essential water source for agricultural, industrial, and municipal users.

Sincerely,

Leela Sharon Aheer
Minister



Mr. Kyle Schole
Planning, Development and Project Assistant
Smoky Lake County
P.O. Box 310
Smoky Lake AB T0A 3C0

2022-06-29

Dear Mr. Schole:

I am pleased to inform you that I have reviewed the recommendation from the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board with respect to the nomination of the North Saskatchewan River (Alberta) to the Canadian Heritage Rivers System.

As the North Saskatchewan River (Alberta) meets selection and integrity guidelines, I have approved its nomination to the Canadian Heritage Rivers System for further consideration in order to conserve and celebrate Canada's rich river heritage.

As the driving force behind the multi-year project to nominate the North Saskatchewan River (Alberta) to the Canadian Heritage Rivers System, Smoky Lake County has every reason to be proud.

I commend you and your partners for your dedication to promoting public appreciation, conservation, and wise use of this important river, and I offer my congratulations to the extended team of volunteers and community partners who have played such a key role in this accomplishment.

I wish to thank you personally for your leadership and passion for sharing the story of the river and its significance with all Canadians.

I look forward to seeing progress by Smoky Lake County on a designation document that further builds a shared vision and strategic direction for management of the river.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steven Guilbeault".

The Honourable Steven Guilbeault, P.C., M.P. (il/lui/he/him)