Alberta Environmental Network

Update on Strategic Plan 2016 - 2020

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Why do we exist?
What do we want to see?

AEN Vision

A healthy, sustainable Alberta with an influential environmental community and environmentally mobilized Albertans.

AEN Mission

To bring together and strengthen Alberta's environmental community:

- To strategically and proactively address environmental issues in Alberta; and to
- generate awareness and motivate action on environmental issues among Albertans and at all levels of government

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2016 - 2020 Strategic Goals

1. "Build and sustain the organizational capacity of the AEN"

2. "Create, maintain and improve relations among stakeholders to further shared environmental goals"

3. "Support the needs of AEN members and strengthen and expand the network"

4. "Develop an internal communications plan (internal use)"

5. "Strengthen external communications and outreach"

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Recap of AEN priorities until January 2018

Initial focus of the AEN for 2016 - 2017 was to:

1. "Build and sustain the organizational capacity of the AEN"
   - *Built staff capacity by hiring a new Network Director*
   - *Acquired new funding to diversify opportunities and expand organizational capacity*
   - *Pursued for seven new funding opportunities (three secured; fourth in progress)*
   - *Reallocated staff duties*
   - *Brought in a summer student*

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Recap of AEN priorities until January 2018

Initial focus of the AEN for 2016 - 2017 was to:

2. "Create, maintain and improve relations among stakeholders to further shared environmental goals"

- *Build "proactive engagement" for AEN membership (CEMF, Methane WGs, presentation to Integrated Resource Management System (IRMS) of GoA, MSEAC)*
- *Host several meetings with the Deputy Minister of Alberta Environment and Parks*
- *Connecting with AB Ecotrust, Progress AB, academia, First Nation climate groups; new umbrella members Next Up and Edmonton River Valley Conservation Coalition.*

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Progress on these goals since last AGM

GOAL 1: "Build and sustain the organizational capacity of the AEN"

Progress

- Brought on Executive Director and Network Administrator as permanent employees with contracts, benefits.
- Contract with communications specialist
- Reallocated staff duties to better match skills and experience
- Brought in a summer student for second year in a row
- Research in to donor landscape, building donor relationships
- Pursuing personal donations

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Progress on these goals since last AGM

GOAL 2: "Create, maintain and improve relations among stakeholders to further shared environmental goals"

Progress

- Further build relationships with first nation partners (Treaty 8 First Nations on climate issues)
- Explored partnership arrangements for AEN member events (Water Governance Workshop with Keepers of the Athabasca)
- Building relationship with academics
- Adapting to new mandates of government - AER, AEP, CASA/AWC, election cycle

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Progress on these goals since last AGM

GOAL 3: To support the needs of AEN members and strengthen and expand the Network. Build organizational capacity to serve our members.

Progress

- Creation of new caucus (Climate)
- Creation of Youth Advisory Council
- Sat on Advisory board for Skills for Change
- Building governance infrastructure to further effectiveness and role of caucuses
- Decreased membership fees for individuals - from $50 to $25 for individuals
- Expanded membership to 49 AEN members; 41 organizations, 8 individuals
- Bringing in non-traditional members to expanding
- Strategic workshops/skills development/discussion (ToC, T&R, Political landscape).

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Progress on these goals since last AGM

GOAL 4: Develop an internal Communications plan for Internal use

GOAL 5: Strengthen external communication and outreach

Progress

- Contract communications specialist brought on
- Regular monthly communications to members, general public
- Contracted a digital campaign specialist for the methane campaign (Protect AB).
- Expanding Protect Alberta for broader AEN purposes
- Development of a communications plan
- Updating the website to modernize, making accessible

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