

Environment Committee

Mandate

As environmental issues and concerns become increasingly important to business worldwide, the role of the Chamber's Environment Committee continues to grow. As part of its transformation, the committee is attracting the brightest minds in business and academia to create a profitable and sustainable environmental business model.

2008 – 2009 Committee Focus Areas

- Provincial Land Use Framework
- Alternative energy strategies
- Climate change
- Water policy

Summary of Previous Year's Work

The Environment Committee spent much of the year collaborating with the Chamber's Natural Resources Committee on issues related to the energy industry both provincially and nationally. The Committee spent the early half of the season learning about, and making recommendations on the new Provincial Land Use Framework. These recommendations helped to inform the Chamber's Alberta Chambers of Commerce resolution *Provincial Land-use Framework: Achieving Sustainable Development While Improving the Regulatory Environment*.

The balance of the Committee's work was largely spent researching and developing a low carbon energy vision that was presented to the federal and provincial Ministers of Environment. Members of the Natural Resources and Environment Committees heard from a diverse set of speakers including Gerry Protti (CAPP), Leah Lawrence (Clean Energy Capitalists) and Rick Hyndman (CAPP) to help inform this vision. A Climate Change Task Force was also struck to ensure the Chamber's position fully addressed Alberta's needs in a changing energy environment. This initiative also led to the Alberta Chambers of Commerce Resolution *Positioning Alberta to Lead in Energy Innovation*.

Committee Meeting Guest Speakers

Date	Speaker	Topic
October 2008	Sherry Sian, CAPP	Land Use Framework
November 2008	Steve Kennett, Senior Policy Analyst, Pembina Institute	Issues and Recommendations related to the Land Use Framework
December 2008	Terry Antoniuk, Salmo Consulting Ltd.	Cumulative Effects Assessment Land Planning Methodology
January 2009	Gerry Protti, CAPP	Environment and the Oil Sands
February 2009	Michael Ekelund, Assistant Deputy Minister	Provincial Energy Strategy
March 2009	Lorry Wilson, Rocky Mountain Power	Transmission Issues in Alberta
April 2009	Leah Lawrence, Clean Energy Capitalists	Canada-US Climate Change Policy
May 2009	Rick Hyndman, CAPP	Cap & Trade and Alberta's Competitiveness