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October 15, 2024

*Reeve Baker and Council,
County of Vermilion River*

RE: Partnering for the County of Vermilion River's Sustainable Water Future

I hope this message finds you well. I'm writing on behalf of the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) to thank you for your past contributions and to request your continued support in 2024. Your ongoing partnership is crucial to maintaining the environmental health of the County of Vermilion River and the entire watershed.

Water management is central to the County of Vermilion River's well-being. Clean drinking water, protection from floods and droughts, and effective stormwater systems are vital to your community's prosperity. The wetlands, streams, and lakes in and around the County of Vermilion River are all connected to the larger North Saskatchewan watershed, meaning water issues can't be managed in isolation. **What happens upstream affects you, and your actions affect your neighbors downstream.** That's why regional cooperation through the NSWA is so essential.

For 25 years, the NSWA has been at the forefront of water management in our region, bringing together municipalities, government bodies, and experts to address complex water challenges. Last year, the County of Vermilion River was one of 47 municipalities that joined forces to support this essential work.

This year, we ask for your continued collaboration and a contribution of **\$ 4,796.40** to sustain these efforts. Your support enables:

- **Practical, science-driven water management** tools to inform local decision-making;
- **Collaborative solutions** for water quality, flood risks, and drought preparedness;
- **Cutting-edge projects** like the State of the Watershed update, using the global-standard Freshwater Health Index, will offer a comprehensive view of the North Saskatchewan River's health. This will help Beaver County set priorities and provide tools to communicate water health to residents. Your contribution makes this possible."

We invite you to explore our [latest Annual Report](#) or visit www.nswa.ab.ca for more information. If you'd like further details, I'm happy to meet with you, and our Executive Director, Scott Millar (scott.millar@nswa.ab.ca), is also available for presentations or questions.

We sincerely appreciate your ongoing commitment to water stewardship and look forward to continuing our partnership into 2025.

Warm regards,

Steph Neufeld

Chair, North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance