



Capital Region Northeast Water Services Commission

BOARD BRIEF

2026 Mid-Year Update

Infrastructure Reliability & Long-Term System Planning

The Commission continued planning for a reliable and sustainable regional water system. During the first half of 2026, staff monitored key infrastructure, reviewed system capacity, and planned for future repairs and upgrades.

Administration worked with municipal partners and technical advisors to prepare for future water needs, including reviewing options for new river crossings and improving the reliability of the water supply.

The Board also continued planning for future infrastructure investments and funding to ensure the water system can meet the needs of a growing region while providing reliable service.



Regional Water Supply & Member Service Discussions

The Commission continued working with Fort Saskatchewan, Strathcona County, and other partners to plan for future water service, member representation, and how costs are shared.

A Board subcommittee reviewed options for dividing operating and capital costs in a fair and sustainable way. This work will help guide future decisions about regional water service and membership.

Staff also continued planning for future water needs by reviewing system capacity and infrastructure required to support growth across the region.



Governance Modernization & Strategic Planning

The Board continued its work to update and improve the Commission's governance practices. This included reviewing bylaws, policies, and procedures to ensure they meet current requirements and support effective decision-making.

The Board also began reviewing the Commission's Strategic Plan. A workshop and member engagement process will help set priorities and guide the Commission's work over the next several years.



Financial Stewardship & Regulatory Affairs

The Commission maintained a strong financial position through careful financial management, healthy reserves, and ongoing planning for future needs. Regular financial reporting continued to show stable operations while supporting infrastructure planning and regulatory requirements.

Administration continued work on regulatory matters with the Alberta Utilities Commission and the John S. Batiuk Regional Water Commission, including responding to information requests and preparing for future water supply and service agreement discussions.

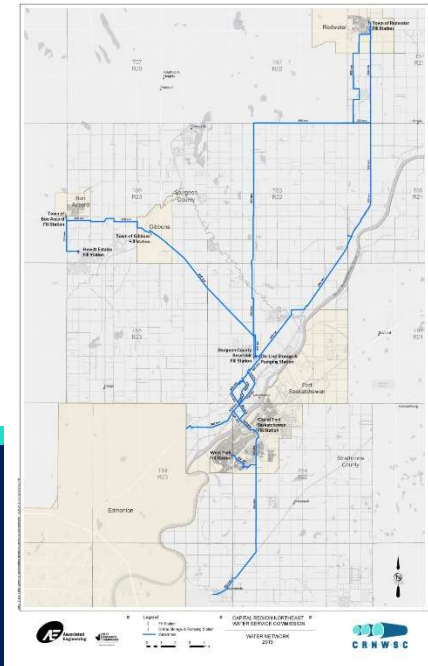
The Board also reviewed future water rate projections and regional cost trends to better understand potential impacts on member municipalities and support long-term rate planning.



Operational Excellence & Continuous Improvement

The Commission continued work to improve operations and build organizational capacity. This included managing crossing agreements, maintaining rights-of-way, reviewing drought response plans, supporting customers, and exploring future service opportunities.

The Commission also looked at ways to improve efficiency and strengthen service delivery by using specialized expertise when needed.



Looking Ahead

Key priorities for the remainder of 2026 include:

- Completion of the Strategic Plan update.
- Finalization of governance and bylaw modernization initiatives.
- Continued member discussions regarding future servicing and rate methodologies.
- Advancement of long-term infrastructure and capacity planning.
- Ongoing Alberta Utilities Commission proceedings and agreement negotiations.
- Water supply resiliency, drought preparedness, and regional growth planning.
- Financial sustainability and long-term rate stability initiatives.