



*Frog Lake First Nation*

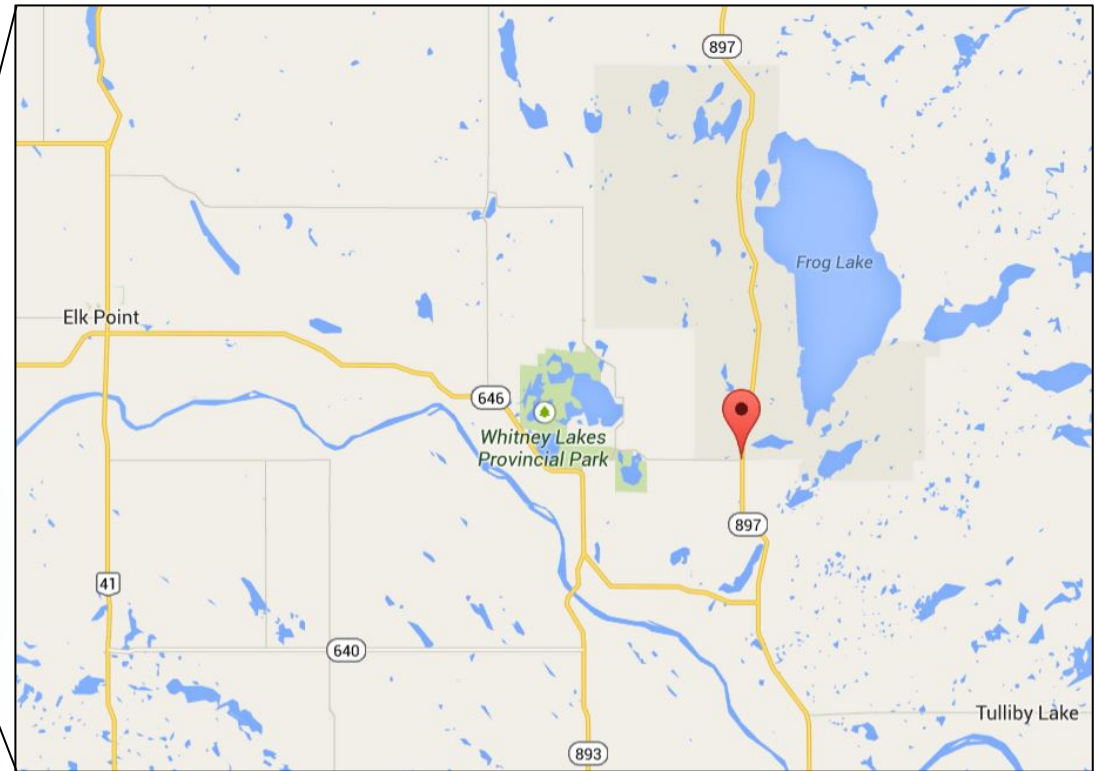
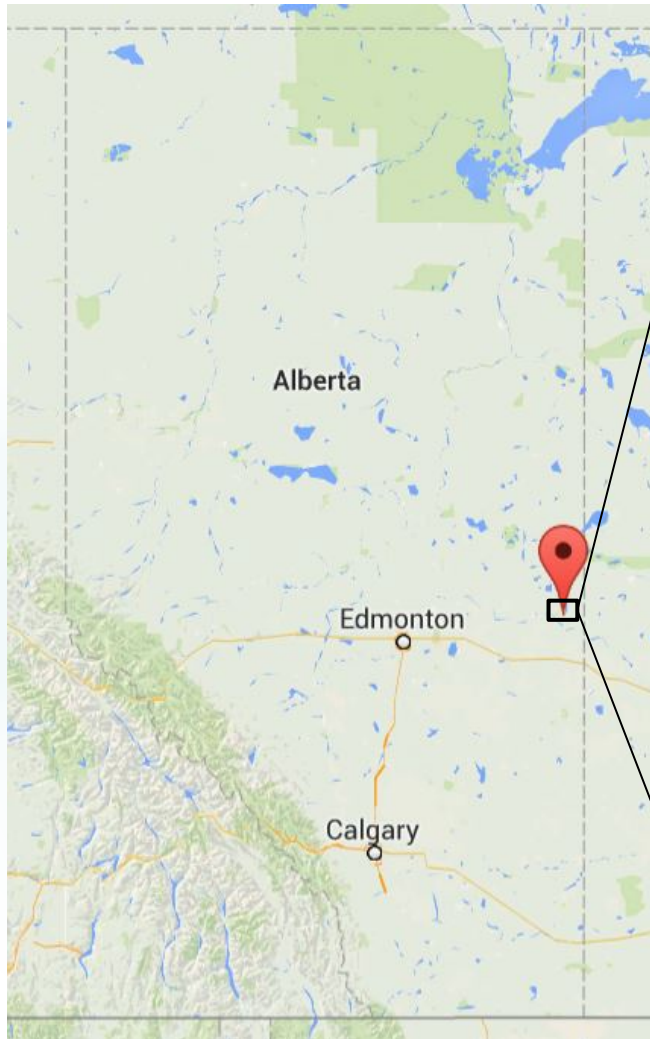
ALBERTA, CANADA

# Frog Lake Source Water Protection Planning

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FROG LAKE FIRST NATIONS 121 & 122

# Frog Lake First Nations



# Frog Lake First Nations

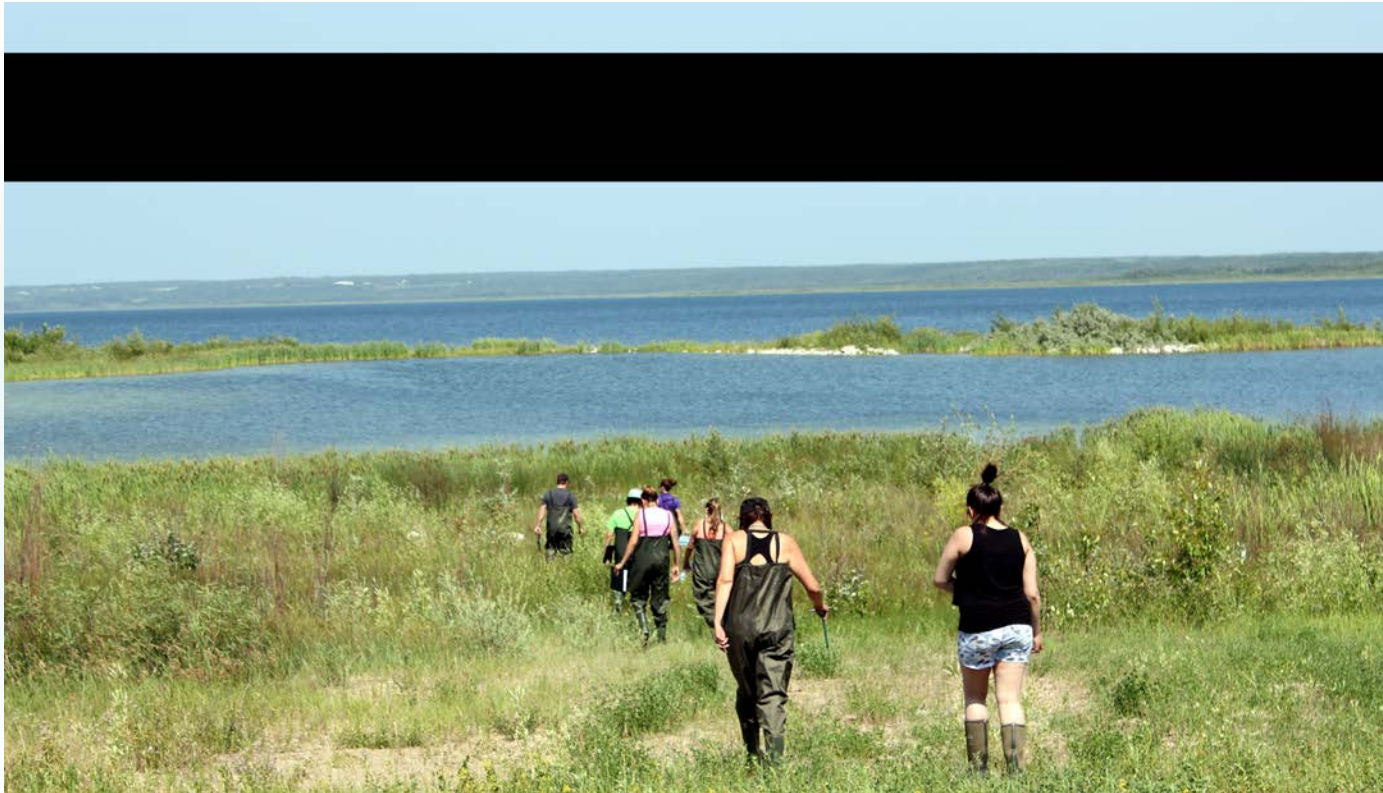
- ▶ Frog Lake First Nations have approx. 1400-1500 members living on reserve
- ▶ Frog Lake is the source water for most houses on reserve



- ▶ Water is primarily delivered to houses via water trucks and cisterns are the primary water storage unit

# Why Source Water Protection Planning?

- ▶ Frog Lake water levels have been dropping



# Why Source Water Protection Planning?

- ▶ Increased oil and gas activity



# How SWPP began?

- ▶ 2013 Lands Dept. partnered with TSAG on the Young Water Monitors Project
- ▶ 2013 Lands Dept. met Bob Patrick who expressed an interest in working with Frog Lake on developing SWPP
- ▶ 2014 Frog Lake Lands Dept. began a thorough traditional land use study (TLU)
- ▶ 2014 feasibility study alternative drinking water sources for Frog Lake First Nations



# Working Committee

- ▶ Lands Department
- ▶ Water Treatment
- ▶ Health Center
- ▶ Elder
- ▶ Youth



# Benefits of SWPP

- ▶ Can form part of the community infrastructure plan
- ▶ List of risks to source water
- ▶ Ability to focus resources based on priority
- ▶ Pro-active approach to potential contamination from oil and gas
- ▶ Brainstorm of who can be partnered with to work on which challenges to source water
- ▶ Having a plan!
  - ▶ Funding





# Limitations of SWPP

- ▶ Not enough resources:
  - ▶ Time
  - ▶ Money
- ▶ Limited control outside reserve boundaries
  - ▶ Do not know where aquifers are located
  - ▶ Large SAGD project going in 5 km west of the reserve
- ▶ Lack of examples of what works
  - ▶ Second Nation in AB to follow this template

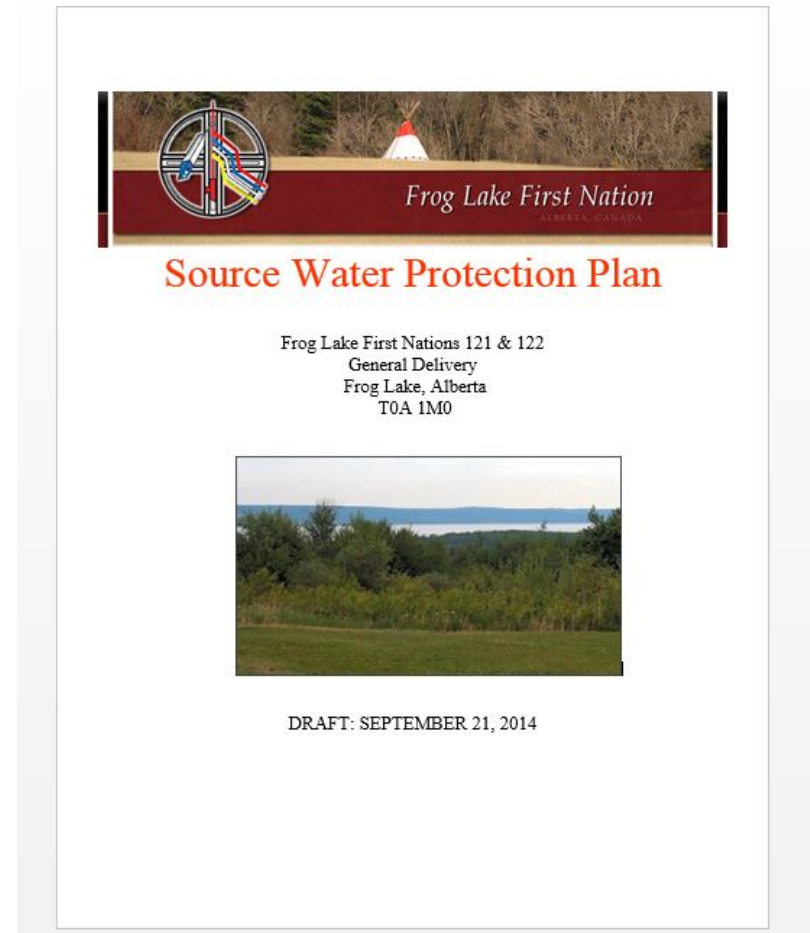
# Limitations of SWPP

- ▶ Lack of representation from a diverse number of Nations' departments
- ▶ Small land base
  - ▶ Resulting in less control over water bodies



# Accomplished

- ▶ Draft copy of the Source Water Protection Plan
- ▶ Discussions with Chief and Council about having a buffer around the lake
- ▶ Cleaned up large barrels dumped at landfill that are close to water sources



# Accomplished

- ▶ Involved the local school and hosted youth events to inform and engage Frog Lake First Nations' youth in water and environmental issues
- ▶ Survey of Frog Lake First Nations' landfill to increase understanding of potential risks to source water
  - ▶ i.e. potential seepage



# Next Steps

- ▶ Within the next two weeks drilling test wells to better understand surrounding aquifers
- ▶ Completing the feasibility study on alternative drinking water sources
- ▶ Working through the top priorities on the SWPP



# Recommendations

- ▶ Involve youth! They are the future leaders of the community
- ▶ Do it! Source Water Protection Planning!



# Take away message

- ▶ Building on water monitoring skills, source water protection planning is another step towards having healthy water bodies for future generations!

# Questions?

