



# Red River Basin Commission

**Vision:** *A Red River Basin where residents, organizations and governments work together to achieve basin-wide commitment to comprehensive integrated watershed stewardship and management.*

**Mission:** *To create a comprehensive integrated basin-wide vision, to build consensus and commitment to the vision, and to speak with a unified voice for the Red River Basin.*

## Roseau River International Watershed

**Project Partners:** Municipality of Emerson-Franklin, RM of Montcalm, RM of Stuartburn, RM of Piney, Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation, Seine Rat River Watershed District, Province of Manitoba, Roseau River Watershed District, Roseau County, Roseau Wildlife Management Areas

### ORGANIZATION AND PURPOSE:

- ◆ RRIW was officially formed in January 2000 as a forum for the exchange of information of common interest in basin water quality and water quantity and to provide the ability to initiate flood alleviation and conservation projects on both sides of the U.S.-Canada border. The watershed frequently experiences flooding and was hit especially hard during the 1997 flood. In fact, due to its frequent flooding, the Roseau River Watershed was one of the first international watersheds referenced by the IJC in 1928.
- ◆ The Roseau River Watershed is an international basin with a total drainage area of approximately 5,818 km<sup>2</sup> (2,246 mi<sup>2</sup>) with portions in south east Manitoba, and northern Minnesota.
- ◆ The RRIW committee is made up of the following representatives from Canada and from the U.S.

| Canada   | U.S.                             |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Municipality of Emerson-Franklin                                   | Roseau River Watershed District  |
| RM of Montcalm   | Roseau County                    |
| RM of Piney  | Roseau Wildlife Management Areas |
| RM of Stuartburn   |                                  |
| Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation                               |                                  |
| Seine Rat River Watershed District                                 |                                  |
| Province of Manitoba (Sustainable Development) - Ex-officio        |                                  |
| Government of Canada (Agriculture & Agri-food Canada) - Ex-Officio |                                  |
| Red River Basin Commission   |                                  |

- ◆ **RRIW Mission:** to promote, provide and conduct an international alliance between Manitoba and Minnesota which will work towards the proper management of the resources of the Roseau River Watershed, including flood control, economic, human, and natural resources, and water quality and quantity.
- ◆ Current activity: The RRIW continues to meet three to four times annually. Meetings are held in the RM of Stuartburn and the Roseau River Watershed District alternately. All meetings are organized and facilitated by the RRBC.

## COLLABORATIONS AND SUCCESSES:

### RRIW Hydrological Model:

- ◆ Minnesota HEC-1 Hydrologic Model: Completed in 2001 (JOR Engineering Inc.)
- ◆ Canadian “Development and Application of a Calibrated Flood Routing Model for the Canadian Portion of the Roseau River Watershed” Completed in January 2003 (UMA)
- ◆ Purpose: to develop and calibrate a Flood Routing Model capable of evaluating various flood control options for the Roseau River Watersheds.

### RRIW Management Plan:

- ◆ U.S. portion of watershed completed a watershed management plan in 1996
- ◆ In 2004, an initiative by the RRBC began the process of completing a comprehensive watershed management plan for the RRIW. The RRBC facilitated this initiative with partner organizations and facilitated the meetings of the Technical Advisory Committee.
- ◆ Goal: to address issues related to ensuring personal safety; reducing flood damage to infrastructure, farmland and property; providing adequate and safe water supply; and facilitating the involvement of government agencies for new economic development by utilizing the resources of the district.
- ◆ Final Watershed Plan was completed in 2007.

### RRIW Conservation District Effort:

- ◆ During the completion of the RRIW Management Plan (in 2006), the stakeholders in the RRIW expressed interest in forming an international Conservation District.
- ◆ After much discussion with the Province of Manitoba, analysis of costs, and analysis of organization required for an international conservation district, all of the Manitoba municipalities within the watershed on the joined the Seine-Rat River Watershed District by 2013. The proposed Roseau River Conservation district is now a sub-district of the SRRWD

### RRIW LiDAR Acquisition:

Minnesota: Completed????

Manitoba: Completed in 2011

The objectives and guiding principals of the RRIW align closely with those of the RRBC and their NRFP goals. By working with the RRIW on programs and initiatives, the RRBC continues to encourage cross-border collaboration and cooperation on issues regarding water protection and water management. The RRBC provides important guidance and connections for smaller watersheds like the RRIW to help them achieve successes and partnerships that would not have been possible without collaboration with other organizations such as the RRBC. The RRIW accomplishments have also served and continue to serve as examples for other watersheds , including the current initiative of using PTMapp for LiDAR data in Canada.

## RECENT/CURRENT INITIATIVES

- ◆ RRIW Tour, spring 2016
- ◆ Roseau River Watershed Distributed Retention Study—completed in Spring 2017
- ◆ Roseau River Watershed PTMapp Pilot Project
  - ◆ SRRWD, IWI, Houston Engineering, RRWD, Ag. Canada, MB Sustainable Development working on pilot project to expand PTMapp (developed by IWI and Houston Engineering) to Canada. In progress.
  - ◆ Once complete, IWI will allow all areas of the Red River Basin in Canada to use their suite of LiDAR tools (PTMapp, LiDAR Viewer, etc) free of charge.
  - ◆ Following the pilot project, the RRBC hopes to provide training in partnership with IWI and other organizations to provide training to Watershed Districts and Rural Municipalities on the LiDAR tools

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