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The WBEA Announces Leadership Transition: Welcomes New Executive Director

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The Wood Buffalo Environmental Association (WBEA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Emilie Briggs as its new Executive Director, effective June 2, 2025. This leadership transition will follow Sanjay Prasad's departure, who, over the past 21 years, provided dedicated leadership and made lasting contributions to the organization.

Under Sanjay's leadership, the WBEA expanded its reach and influence, becoming a respected voice in environmental monitoring in Alberta. His commitment fostered strong partnerships with local and provincial stakeholders and guided the organization through a period of transformative growth. The Board of Directors extends its sincere gratitude for his decades of committed service.

The Board now welcomes Emilie Briggs as the new Executive Director. Initially joining the WBEA in 2011, Emilie has progressed from field-based roles to senior leadership, most recently serving as Operations Manager. She has demonstrated strategic insight and a strong commitment to the organization's mission. Her deep institutional knowledge, combined with a dedication to scientific integrity and collaborative engagement, makes her exceptionally well-suited to lead the WBEA into its next chapter.

"It was exciting to see, during the recruitment process, the level of interest in the region for environmental monitoring and in the opportunity to lead the WBEA," said Byron Fediuk, WBEA President. "We were truly impressed by the depth of talent among the candidates. We're especially proud that our choice is someone who has grown within the WBEA. With Emilie's skills and leadership experience, the Board is confident that WBEA will continue to achieve outstanding results and meet the expectations of our stakeholders and partners."

As Executive Director, Emilie will build on the strong foundation laid by the WBEA members, with a commitment to enhancing multi-stakeholder collaboration and maintaining the WBEA's reputation for scientific excellence and transparency. "I am honored for the opportunity to lead this organization as the Executive Director. The WBEA plays a critical role in providing trusted, high-quality environmental data to support informed decision-making. I'm excited to continue this important work alongside our talented team and committed members."

For more information about the WBEA or to access air monitoring data, please visit wbea.org.

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