

*Taking Action from Coast to Coast to Coast!*

# ***Canadian Council on Invasive Species***



*Presented by Barry Gibbs, Co-Chair, CCIS*

# Canadian Council on Invasive Species

## Background

- Originally the 'National Invasive Species Working Group,' created after joint meeting in 2009 where 10 provinces and two territories voiced the desire to share knowledge across Canadian borders
- CCIS established in 2012 and formed as Society in 2014





# CCIS Partners

## Who We Are

*Working together to improve coordination among provinces  
and territories across Canada, and beyond borders*



# Canadian Council on Invasive Species

## What We Do

- Link non-government councils and provincial/territory governments coast to coast to coast
- Work on national action plans
- Focus on pathways (ie. horticulture, boaters)
- Educational events (ie. forums, Spotter's Network)
- Improve coordination among provinces and territories, across Canada, and beyond borders



*Weeds Across Borders*



# Strategy

## Programs/Initiatives focus on Changing Behaviour

- Is more than awareness and understanding
- Focuses on creating new behaviours by a key audience
- Seeks a commitment by individuals
- Measures the change



# Priority Actions for 2020 & Beyond

## Feb 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Workshop - Summary

1. Strengthen Leadership and Coordination
2. Establish and Enforce Regulatory Tools
3. Ensure Effective Emergency Response to High Risk Species
4. Ensure Effective Management
5. Increase Financial Resources
6. Increase Effective Education and Extension
7. Increase Research and Ensure Linkage to Practices





# Partnerships & Collaboration

- 1) **Facilitate North American Invasive Species Framework**
- 2) **Develop shared protocols for pathways and emergency responses across Canada and North America**
- 3) Partner with CCIS for education and information
- 4) Support establishment of national website linking governments and private information



# Partnerships & Collaboration

- 5) **Establish centralized database including links to U.S.**
- 6) Support bi-annual National Forum and national level Bulletin or listserve
- 7) Re-invest in partnership programs aligned to national campaigns and priorities (i.e. IASPP)





# Alberta Invasive Species Council

- Not-for-profit
  - Formed 2006
  - 2013



- Diverse Board of Directors; government, industry, NGOs, academia
- Consensus decision making
- Open membership



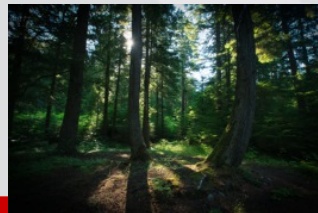
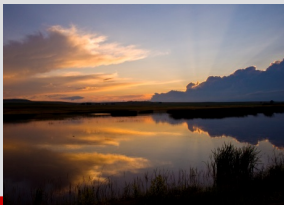
# Alberta Invasive Species Council

## Business Goals:

- Increase the profile of AISC
- Respond to emerging invasive species issues
- Prevent prohibited noxious plants from establishing & spreading in Alberta
- Prevent zebra & quagga mussels from establishing in Alberta
- Promote the reduction of regulated invasive plants
- Explore control options for aquatic & semi-aquatic species
- Explore control options for prohibited noxious plants



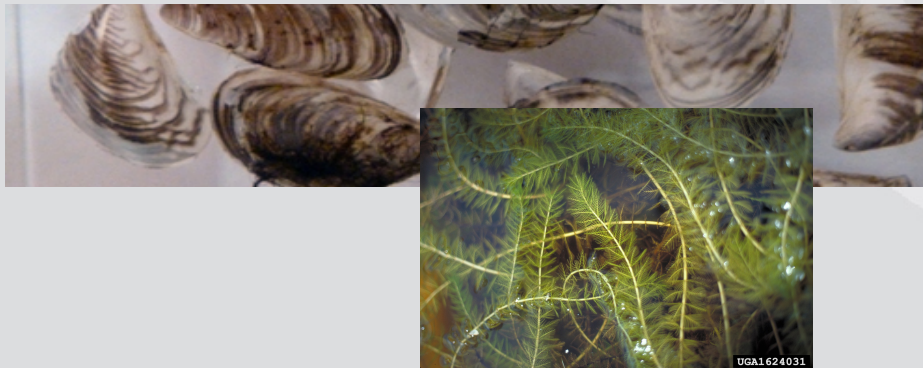
**Vision: Prevention inspired; Alberta Protected**





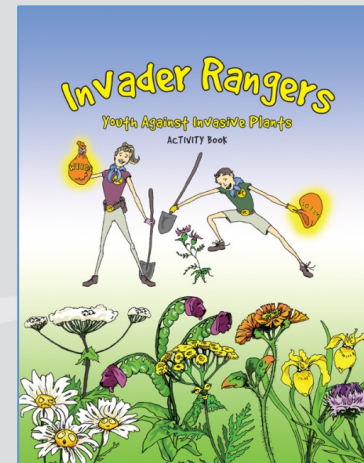
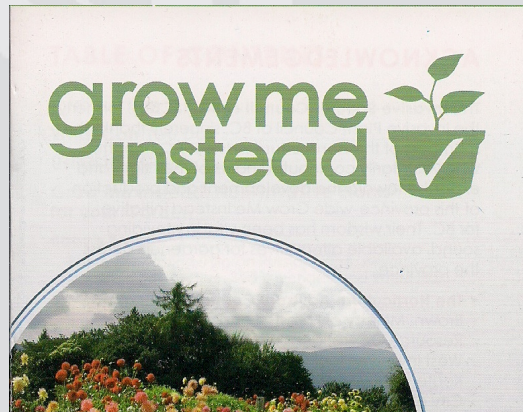
# Plants vs Species

- 3 times now
- \$\$, Efficiency and Effectiveness
- Prevention orientation
- Pathways and Behavior change
- Example:



# Invasive Species Council of BC

- Past Chair, Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer
- Gail Wallin; Executive Director of ISCBC
  - Other Co-chair of CCIS
- Working hard to increase collaboration between Alberta and British Columbia



# Collaboration is hard work

- Busy
- Different priorities
- Both parties must be committed
- Win-win Partnership





# Opportunity

- Montana develops cross-border collaboration with surrounding states & provinces
- An important objective: formal agreements between governments

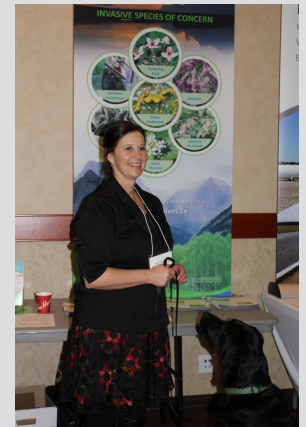


# Challenges

- Champions to lead process
- Forum to start those discussions (PNWER)
- Canada/US Border – need to involve Federal agencies
- Collaboration requires investments of resources and money

# Opportunities

- Build on existing collaborations and organizations
  - Crown Managers Partnership
  - PNWER
  - NAISMA
  - Transboundary Water, Weeds, & Stewardship Tour, Aug 8-10
  - North American Invasive Species Forum (Weeds Across Borders) 2017
  - Biocontrol consortiums
  - Sniffer dogs





# Good Neighbours

- Don't give each other problems.



# Opportunity

- Montana-Alberta Invasive Species Framework
  - Major transportation route:
    - Interstate 15
    - Road to Alaska
  - Climate change
- Worth pursuing .....



# Opportunities

- Demonstrate the value of collaboration to funders
  - One boat inspection station at Coutts
  - Financial impact of a particular species invading and the investment required to stop it
    - Oregon Dept. of Agriculture





# Closing

- Consider investing in collaboration and partnerships on a broader scale ... with your neighbours
- What you are doing here is awesome!!!



# CCIS Key Contacts

- **Barry Gibbs**, CO-CHAIR, CCIS, *Alberta Invasive Species Council*
- **Gail Wallin**, CO-CHAIR, CCIS, *Invasive Species Council of British Columbia*
- **Chet Neufeld**, TREASURER, CCIS, *Saskatchewan Invasive Species Council*
- **Kellie Sherman**, SECRETARY, CCIS, *Ontario Invasive Plant Council*

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