

Board of Directors Nomination Form

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Job Title: _____

Employer: _____

1. Identify the sector you would be representing:

- Government of Alberta
- Other Government (Indigenous, federal, municipal etc.)
- Industry
- Other (including individuals, academia, research, non-government organizations)

2. Describe your professional, volunteer and/or work experience, and describe how it relates to our work.

I was the TA for the invasive plant lab at the U of A in 2022 and 2023. I significantly improved the lab curriculum, collected seeds to help build the inventory, pressed herbarium specimens for the collection, and helped grow the greenhouse learning specimens. I have also been an invited lecturer to the 2024 invasive plant class (U of A). I worked as an invasive plant technician with Strathcona County Agriculture/Environment in 2023.

During most of my youth, I worked in weed control in various capacities (family farm, local businesses, community hall). I have contributed to several community weed pulls in St Albert, the Edmonton river valley, and assisting the Alberta Environment's Aquatic Invasive Species program with locating *Phragmites australis australis*, Purple Loosestrife, and Himalayan Balsam.

Through these experiences, I have developed an understanding of the impact and extent of invasive species in Alberta and the importance of public education and awareness regarding invasive species. My time teaching U of A students and Strathcona County Ag/Env staff has allowed me to contribute to improved education in my community and I would love to continue this journey with the AISC. I also think there is room for improvement in the communication of challenges and solutions regarding invasive species between municipal and provincial agriculture/environment divisions and I would love to be involved in improving these ties.

3. What skills, experience or perspectives would be of particular value to the Alberta Invasive Species Council?

I have developed a thorough knowledge of invasive plants through many years of hands-on experience with identifying weeds, teaching weed identification (and differentiation from native species), manual weed control, GIS mapping, and herbicide spraying.

My experience with invasive plants is broad, having worked in natural areas, wetlands, and agriculture.

I am an effective communicator and teacher, especially in terms of plants. This would benefit the public education goals of the AISC.

Lastly, I have experience drafting policy proposals/recommendations for politicians, with my most recent project involving a biocontrol proposal for Canada Thistle for the federal Minister of Agriculture.

4. Describe any relevant experience you have involving non-profit Boards, charities, community groups, professional associations, etc.

I served for 1 year as a Member-at-Large for my local MLA's Electoral District Association, followed by another year as the Vice President. As a U of A graduate student, I served a year on the Equity Diversity Inclusion Committee as well as the Awards Committee. Lastly, I have served a 1.5 year term on the Canadian Agricultural Youth Council (via AAFC). I have experience with committee work, council rules, collaboration on group presentations and documents, and a strong attendance record.

5. Tell us why you want to serve on our Board?

I am passionate about protecting natural areas and agricultural lands from invasive species. During my travels to Australia, Hawaii, and Eastern Canada, I have seen just how devastating invasive species can be to local environments and food production systems. Protecting Alberta from and educating the public about invasive threats is incredibly important to me, the AISC plays a key role in this regard, and I want to be a part of it.

6. Other relevant background or information.

In addition to strong invasive plant identification skills, I am fairly strong with native plant identification and believe this is an important but oft-neglected aspect of invasive species education. One of the changes I made to the U of A invasive plant lab curriculum was adding native look-alike species to accompany each invasive species.

- If elected to the AISC Board of Directors, I will adhere to the AISC's Code of Conduct Policy.



Please send your completed form to execdirector@abinvasives.ca



Board of Directors Nomination Form

Name: Craig Mushens

Email: cjmushen@shaw.ca

Phone: 403-710-0816

Mailing Address: 6127 Dalcastle Cres NW, Calgary AB T3A 1R7

Job Title: Senior Fish Biologist

Employer: Worley Consulting

1. Identify the sector you would be representing:

- Government of Alberta
- Other Government (Indigenous, federal, municipal etc.)
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- Other (including individuals, academia, research, and non-government organizations)

2. Describe your professional, volunteer and/or work experience, and describe how it relates to our work.

As a professional biologist I conduct assessments in aquatic environments and identification and control of invasive species is inherent in all field work. I am also a registered Pesticide Applicator for Aquatic Species (Fish and Invertebrates), and my work focuses on distribution and control of invasive fish, specifically carp.

3. What skills, experience or perspectives would be of value to the Alberta Invasive Species Council?

As a consultant for 24 years, I have knowledge and experience in addressing client and regulatory requirements. This perspective provides a balanced insight into the perspectives of both parties. As a practitioner, I can provide insight into the challenges and needs of conducting the work.

4. Describe any relevant experience you have involving non-profit Boards, charities, community groups, professional associations, etc.

I have been a scout leader for Crowchild 272 Scout Group for the past four years. This involves coordinating and leading meetings and various activities and events including overnight camps. I am a practicing member of the Alberta Society of Professional Biologists (ASPB – P.Biol.) and the College of Applied Biology (CAB – R.P.Bio.).

5. Tell us why you want to serve on our Board.

I was fully introduced to the AIS team in 2023 and respect the knowledge and experience provided by the diverse people that make up the board. I see value in being part of the board with respect to sharing of information and contributing to the input from the perspective of a consultant, professional biologist, and pesticide applicator. Participation in the board will also diversify my professional development credits for my professional designations.

6. Other relevant background or information.

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Board of Directors Nomination Form

Name: **Sebastien Dutrisac**

Email: **Work :** sdutrisac@thcounty.ab.ca **Home:** boondocker@live.ca

Phone: **780-617-3435**

Mailing Address: **Box 254, Willingdon, AB T0B 4R0**

Job Title: **Councilor and agriculturally self employed**

Employer: **County of Two Hills**

1. Identify the sector you would be representing:

- Government of Alberta
- ★ Other Government (Indigenous, federal, municipal etc.)**
- Industry
- Other (including individuals, academia, research, and non-government organizations)

2. Describe your professional, volunteer and/or work experience, and describe how it relates to our work.

My career in the Agricultural industry evolved from farm worker to consultant to agricultural officer to municipal director of agriculture. Through those years, that experience has taught me how to manage teams, vegetation, and programs while attempting to raise awareness and educate the public on Agricultural issues and concerns.

3. What skills, experience or perspectives would be of value to the Alberta Invasive Species Council?

I have 40 years of board governance ranging from member, director, treasurer, secretary, vice president (vice and co-chair included) as well as president and/or chair. Currently, I sit on over 18 boards and committees that are local, regional, provincial and federal in nature.

4. Describe any relevant experience you have involving non-profit Boards, charities, community groups, professional associations, etc.

List of some committees and association through the years

- **Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee,**
- **Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldman (Provincial and Regional)**
- **Joint Legislative and Pest Committee (including provincial Fg and clubroot committee)**
- **CFIA Seed Regulation Modernization Task Team**
- **Peace River Ag Society, Willingdon Ag Society, Hairy Hill Elks, Hairy Hill Rodeo**
- **Alternate Land Use Services - Producer Advisory Committee**
- **Adult Learning Council, Economic Development Committee (local and regional)**
- **Toastmasters,**
- **Casino Angel**

5. Tell us why you want to serve on our Board.

To give back to the board that I relied on for information distributed to our producers. The cost benefit ratio shows prevention is less costly than control or eradication. Extension, education, and prevention are crucial activities to assure environment, industry, and public well-being.

6. Other relevant background or information.

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Board of Directors Nomination Form

Name: Emma Stroud, P. Biol

Email: emma@friendsoffishcreek.org

Phone: 403-470-2151

Mailing Address: 721B 14A Street SE

Job Title: Ecology & Conservation Team Lead

Employer: Friends of Fish Creek Provincial Park Society

1. Identify the sector you would be representing:

- Government of Alberta
- Other Government (Indigenous, federal, municipal etc.)
- Industry
- Other (including individuals, academia, research, and non-government organizations)

2. Describe your professional, volunteer and/or work experience, and describe how it relates to our work.

I have been managing the invasive species and grassland restoration programs for the Friends of Fish Creek since 2020, creating an EDRR and integrated pest management plan for the park. We use every strategy in the toolbox including bio-controls, mechanical removal (hand-pulling, weed-whipping and mowing), herbicide and planting native plants to combat invasive species. Prior to my career with the Friends, my work was more aquatic based, and I have worked with invasive green crabs on the BC coast and invasive brook trout in alpine lakes in Kananaskis. My experience working with a range of different invasive organisms in a variety of environments has driven my passion for native biodiversity and I am looking forward to further collaborating with likeminded people in the Alberta Invasive Species Council.

3. What skills, experience or perspectives would be of value to the Alberta Invasive Species Council?

- The ability to engage and leverage community action
- Marketing/communication with backyard gardeners/community gardens/commercial greenhouses
- Native plant growers and seed collaboratives

4. Describe any relevant experience you have involving non-profit Boards, charities, community groups, professional associations, etc.

- I am on the Technical Advisory Board with the Grasslands Restoration Forum (new member as of late 2023)
- I am a registered biologist with the Alberta Association of Professional Biologists since 2022
- I am a member of the Youth Nature Keepers, part of the Canadian Invasive Species Council

5. Tell us why you want to serve on our Board.

I am passionate about the threat of invasive species to our native ecosystems. I would love to share knowledge and collaborate with other people who are fighting the war against invasive species, and to leverage the power of the community to help. I am eager to continue to learn and execute best practices in integrated pest management and raise community awareness and participation in our endeavors.

6. Other relevant background or information.

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6. Other relevant background or information.

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Please send your completed form to execdirector@abinvasives.ca

Name: _____ Jay Byer _____

Email: _____ jaylbyer@gmail.com _____

Phone: 403-741-6706 _____

Mailing Address: ___ Box 1321 Stettler, T0C 2L0 _____

Job Title: _____ Soil Conservation Analyst _____

Employer: _____ Gateway Research Organization _____

1. Identify the sector you would be representing: Government of Alberta
Other Government (Indigenous, federal, municipal etc.)
Municipal : ASVA (Association of Summer Villages of Alberta)
Industry :
Other (including individuals, academia, research, non-government organizations)

2. Describe your professional, volunteer and/or work experience, and describe how it relates to our work.

With a lifelong career in agriculture, I have always been exposed to the impact of invasive species on livelihoods, the soil and the environment. All of this related directly to AISC and its activities. Through these professional as well as voluntary activities, I have developed linkages, connections, experience over a wide variety of disciplines impacted by invasive species. Recently with GRO we have been able to:

- help arrange and support research into expansion of herbicide registrations on specific invasives,
- support college activities as they study in a course dedicated to the identification and eradication of listed noxious and prohibited weed species,
- raise awareness of serious species and their concerns to Summer Villages and their associations. These villages are often on the forefront of the war against a variety of invasive species of all types, and
- support awareness of the biocontrol program and help folks make connections with this program.

As past president of the AISC I am very proud of its continued development and expansion. I support its efforts in continuing to raise awareness of vertebrate pests such as wild boar at large, prohibited and noxious weeds, and the impact of invasive biota on soils.

As a supporter of summer village life, awareness efforts have been made to increase awareness of various programs relation to invasives as it pertains to lakeside living. Helping to ensure environmental health within the boundaries of these villages continues to be a priority within our cluster of communities and beyond.