

## **2008 CONFERENCE REPORT**

The ASPB hosted a conference titled “Engaging Aboriginal Communities in Natural Resource Management” on April 21-23, 2008 at the Capri Centre in Red Deer. The conference was well attended and surveys showed it to be a success, particularly from the quality of the conference and speakers. As a specialty conference it drew good attendance (113) and was a financial success (\$19,552). Attendees and presenters included Canada-wide representation from governments, the corporate sector, consultants, First Nations and non-governmental organizations.

The 2008 ASPB Conference encompassed themes pertaining to effectively consulting with aboriginal people, including: sharing knowledge, building relationships and capacity, and recognizing common interests. Topics included the legal framework for aboriginal engagement, gaps in the consultation process, environmental assessment and cumulative effects, research and monitoring, conservation and protected areas management, and case studies.

The folders within this compilation are categorized by conference session and contain those presentations that were provided to ASPB for conference proceedings distribution. Not all of the conference presentations were made available. The presentations are numbered in the order that they are presented within the ASPB 2008 Conference Program.