

MESSAGE FROM WEF INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MA Leaders:

I'm writing this note of self-introduction from sunny Virginia Beach where I'm attending WaterJAM, the VWEA annual conference.

WaterJAM, by the way, is going superbly. Their registrations were 27% ahead of last year, as of Sunday! Sessions are great and, like WEFTEC, the machine is well-oiled at WaterJAM. I know you'll join me in congratulating Matt Harrison, Kathy Rabalais, and their teams.

I joined WEF three months ago in a fallow period for conferences. However, with the very able help of Renee Kayal, Dianne Crilley, and the rest of WEF's Governance Team, I'm now turning much of my attention to understanding the MA's and your needs.

Thus, WaterJam is my first MA conference, and I am cementing plans for others. My MA focus will apply at WEFTEC, where I will be attending the following events:

- House of Delegates Breakfast
- House of Delegates Meeting
- House of Delegates Luncheon
- WEF Leaders Reception
- Member Association Leaders Forum
- House of Delegates & Community Leadership Council Joint Activity
- Student Design Competition Reception
- Member Association Professional Staff Luncheon
- Canadian Affairs Council
- WEF Students and Young Professionals Reception
- WEF Awards and Presidential Celebration Ceremony

Please make a point of introducing yourselves and telling me about your experiences, as members and as MA leaders. I'll be there to learn from you.

Next week, we will send you a special edition of the MA News that will be given over to some thoughts, and questions, from me to you. Keep an eye out for that on Wednesday, September 20.

And thank you for your leadership. I'm proud to be your partner in creating a life free of water challenges.

Pat

Pat Nichols, Interim Executive Director
Water Environment Federation
pnichols@wef.org