



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
DRINKING WATER AND WATERSHED PROTECTION
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
HELD ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2016 AT 12:30 PM
RDN BOARD CHAMBERS**

Present:

Chris Midgley, CHAIR.....	Manager, Water Services & Asset Mgmt, RDN
Anne Fiddick.....	Environment Community Representative
Kate Miller.....	Manager, Environmental Initiatives, CVRD
Bill Sims	Manager, Water Resources, City of Nanaimo
Ken Epps.....	Forest Industry Representative, Island Timberlands
Alan Gilchrist.....	Academic Community Representative, VIU
Gilles Wendling	Hydrogeologist Representative
Peter Law	General Public Representative (North)
Bob Weir	Director of Engineering, Town of Qualicum Beach
Harriet Rueggeberg.....	General Public Representative (South)
Leon Cake.....	Water Purveyors' Representative
Mike Squire	Operations Manager, City of Parksville
Chris Cole	Forest Industry Representative, TimberWest
Gary Anderson	Island Health Representative (for Lynne Magee)
David Vincent.....	Hydrologist Representative
Pat Lapcevic	Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Regrets:

Sonja Zupanec.....	Islands Trust Representative
Fred Spears	Director of Public Works, District of Lantzville
Ryan Evanoff	Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure Representative
Deb Epps	Ministry of Environment Representative
Oliver Brandes	Academic Community Representative
Nick Leone	Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada Representative
Lynne Magee	Island Health Representative
Pam Shaw	Mt Arrowsmith Biosphere Region Research Institute

Also In attendance:

Julie Pisani.....	Drinking Water & Watershed Protection Program Coordinator, RDN
Gerald St. Pierre	Project Engineer, RDN
Randy Alexander	General Manager, RDN
Joe McCallum	Special Projects Assistant, RDN
Glenn Gibson.....	Island Health
Rebecca Graves.....	Recording Secretary, RDN

CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 12:39 PM and respectfully acknowledged the Coast Salish First Nations on whose traditional territory the meeting took place.

MINUTES

MOVED H. Rueggeberg, SECONDED B. Sims, that the minutes from the regular meeting of the Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Advisory Committee held July 7, 2016 be adopted.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MUNICIPAL UPDATES

Updates were given by City of Parksville, City of Nanaimo, Regional District of Nanaimo and Partners on projects, current water levels, and update on various water systems.

PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION

REPORTS

USHP Stream Assessments – Holden Creek, Millstone River. (Julie Pisani)

J. Pisani gave a brief presentation summarizing reports for the stream assessments on Holden Creek and Millstone River that took place this June. The focus now is looking at recommended actions for water quality and habitat improvement, and identifying partners and priorities to move forward with.

Area 'H' OCP Update Hydrogeology Review Report. (Bernadette Lyons, Waterline)

B. Lyons gave an overview of Waterline's report on aquifers in Electoral Area 'H' which updated hydrostratigraphy from the GSC study, reviewed data gaps and inconsistencies in Provincial data, discussed recharge mechanisms and areas, and offered conclusions and recommendations.

Area 'E' Draft Water Monitoring Plan. (Mark Bolton, Golder)

M. Bolton presented the draft plan. The objective is to identify where more data is needed on water resources in Area 'E' and work collaboratively with partners to develop a monitoring program that will support detailed analysis i.e. numerical water budget models to assess supply and demand, which will provide the technical basis to guide land use decisions in the area and support the development of a Water Sustainability Plan.

Phase 2 Water Budget Scoping for French Creek, Cedar-Yellowpoint. (Arnd Burgert, Piteau)

A. Burgert presented Piteau's draft scoping of the Phase 2 Water Budget for the French Creek and Cedar-Yellowpoint areas, which included required data and proposed collection methods. The next draft will include prioritization of each of the proposed elements for data collection and will assist the RDN in implementing further monitoring where required for the French Creek and Cedar-Yellowpoint areas.

UPDATE PRESENTATIONS / DISCUSSION**VIU Wetland Research Update.** (Kayla Harris and Ashley Van Acken, Vancouver Island University)

A brief update on the wetland mapping and monitoring project was provided by student researchers. Predictive mapping was completed in the first steps of this project, to predict where wetlands are present across our region based on remote sensing data. Now researchers are "field truthing" to ascertain if the predictive mapping was accurate and to collect more on-the-ground data using an adapted version BC Wildlife Federation data sheet. Considerations at this stage include private property accessibility, site evaluation and interpretation of connection to groundwater. So far, a total of 10 wetland sites have been ground-truthed and mapped across four water regions with the majority of sites residing in the Little Qualicum water region.

Gabriola Groundwater Modelling. (Ryan Burgess, Simon Fraser University)

R. Burgess gave a brief summary on the model he has developed, estimating groundwater recharge on Gabriola Island. This model is applicable to similar bedrock aquifers in the region.

"What would you like to see from the DWWP program in 2017?" (Group Discussion)

- Integrate water quality into different region models and translate to the public
- Keep working at ground-truthing, collecting high quality data to input into numerical models understand/predict water resource availability i.e. well level monitoring program, stream flow monitoring, surface water quality data
- Identify aquifers, surface water link studies, missing interflow, more focus on aquatic health of small streams
- Look at developing tools that land owners can use and understand how to manage water on their property
- Outreach and reporting out – how information is used for land use decisions
- Have a planner present how info gets into OCP
- Surface water flow monitoring
- More First Nations engagement and participation
- Concerned with coastal areas and interchange between fresh and salt water,
- More focus on decisions that go into OCP's
- Smaller wetlands should be mapped too

ADDENDUM**NEW BUSINESS****BUSINESS ARISING FROM COMMUNICATIONS**

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting is adjourned.

Time: 3:40

Chairperson