

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

MINUTES OF THE DRINKING WATER AND WATERSHED PROTECTION TECHNICAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, July 18, 2017

12:30 P.M.

RDN Board Chambers

In Attendance:	C. Midgley	Regional District of Nanaimo
	M. Leine	Forest Industry Representative (for Ken Epps)
	L. Magee	Island Health
	K. Miller	Cowichan Valley Regional District
	H. Rueggeberg	General Public Representative (South)
	B. Sims	Municipal Representative (City of Nanaimo)
	F. Spears	Municipal Representative (District of Lantzville)
	G. Wendling	Hydrogeologist Representative
	M. Squire	Municipal Representative (City of Parksville)
	P. Lapcevic	BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Regrets:	A. Fiddick	Environment Community Representative
	A. Gilchrist	Academic Community Representative (VIU)
	P. Law	General Public Representative (North)
	B. Weir	Municipal Representative (Town of Qualicum Beach)
	O. Brandes	Academic Community Representative (POLIS)
	Leon Cake	Water Purveyors (Coastal Water Suppliers)
	C. Cole	Forest Industry Representative
	D. Epps	Ministry of Environment
	R. Evanoff	Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
	N. Leone	Department of Fisheries and Oceans
	P. Shaw	Mt Arrowsmith Biosphere Region
	D. Vincent	Hydrologist Representative
	Sonja Zupanec	Islands Trust Representative
Also in Attendance:	J. McCallum	Regional District of Nanaimo
	J. Pisani	Regional District of Nanaimo
	G. St. Pierre	Regional District of Nanaimo
	J. Holm	Regional District of Nanaimo
	H. Cao	City of Nanaimo

CALL TO ORDER

Quorum not present.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Adoption of Minutes will be deferred to next DWWP TAC meeting as Quorum was not present.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Update on Policy Review - RDN Policy B1.21

TAC sub-committee assisting with policy review (on Groundwater Assessment requirements for re-zoning) has met twice. Draft for feedback to be provided at next TAC meeting.

Update on State of our Aquifers Project

Draft circulated for comment prior to meeting. Feedback includes minimize technical language for the mail-out version of the report; elaborate on the “why” behind trends (acknowledged that may be answered in follow up studies); refer to names of Aquifers not just numbers.

Englishman River Groundwater / Surface Water Study Phase 2 Report

Dr. G. Wendling provided an overview of the findings on how the river gains and loses flow between different bedrock fault lines in the channel.

Update on Rebate Programs

Rebates to date (Jan. 1 – July 18, 2017):

- 46 well water testing rebates and 5 wellhead upgrade rebates;
- 28 rainwater harvesting rebates allocated of 55 available;
- New rebate program for efficient irrigation upgrades and soil amendments launched in June; 5 applications received to date.

Update on Water Monitoring - Water Budget Phase 2 Recommendations

There are 15-18 new Volunteer Observation wells planned for 2017 in Electoral Areas A, E, F, G.

Update on Stream Assessments - Cat Stream and Annie Creek

Summary of Cat Stream and Annie Creek Assessments provided in advance of final reports. Riparian cover, stormwater inputs and dumping were all concerns. Cat Stream report will be shared with City of Nanaimo environment, drainage and planning staff.

CWMN Data Trend Analysis proposed for 2018

Consultant project proposed for 2018 supported by the TAC. Involve MoE insofar as they can advise on Water Quality Objectives framework. Maintain focus on land use impacts within jurisdiction of RDN.

Watershed Roundtables and Watershed Governance Models

Discussion on watershed governance; existing governance structures; summary of Nanaimo River Watershed Roundtable’s work to date and upcoming transition to new convener as NALT has to step down. General support for investigating options of watershed-specific roundtables coordinated under DWWP umbrella. Will await specific correspondence requesting this. Maintaining high level of public

involvement is important. Recognition that work being coordinated on the watershed scale in our region is informing provincial decision makers.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Flow Chart

Inquiring about notification to adjacent or downstream landowners was provided by C. Midgley. Beaver dam removal requires Provincial notification / authorization and must follow best practices. Consultation with nearby landowners is not part of that process.

Video Project moved to 2018

DWWP Video project deferred to 2018. City of Nanaimo suggested partnering with their in-house videographer where appropriate.

ADJOURNMENT

CHAIR