

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

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

Wednesday, October 18, 2017

12:30 P.M.

RDN Board Chambers

In Attendance:	S. De Pol	Chair, Regional District of Nanaimo
	K. Epps	Forest Industry Representative
	L. Magee	Island Health
	H. Rueggeberg	General Public Representative (South)
	B. Sims	Municipal Representative (City of Nanaimo)
	G. Wendling	Hydrogeologist Representative
	P. Lapcevic	BC Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations
	A. Fiddick	Environment Community Representative
	P. Law	General Public Representative (North)
	B. Weir	Municipal Representative (Town of Qualicum Beach)
	L. Cake	Water Purveyors (Coastal Water Suppliers)
P. Jorgenson	Forest Industry Representative	
N. Leone	Department of Fisheries and Oceans	
Regrets:	K. Miller	Cowichan Valley Regional District
	F. Spears	Municipal Representative (District of Lantzville)
	M. Squire	Municipal Representative (City of Parksville)
	A. Gilchrist	Academic Community Representative (VIU)
	O. Brandes	Academic Community Representative (POLIS)
	P. Shaw	Mt Arrowsmith Biosphere Region
	W. Shulba	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
	R. Alexander	Regional District of Nanaimo

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order and respectfully acknowledged the Coast Salish Nations on whose traditional territory the meeting took place.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Technical Advisory Committee Meeting - March 21, 2017

That the minutes of the Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Technical Advisory Committee meeting held March 21, 2017 be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Technical Advisory Committee Meeting - July 18, 2017

That the minutes from the Drinking Water and Watershed Technical Advisory Committee meeting held July 18, 2017 be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Roundtable Updates

Committee members provided roundtable updates on current activities.

Update on Policy B1.21 Review

J. Pisani updated the committee on the work done so far to review and update this policy for groundwater assessment requirements for rezoning applications. One key addition is a comprehensive checklist with requirements of the professional report. Comments from the committee included that it was a major improvement over the current policy in terms of clarity.

Update on Hydrometric Monitoring

J. Pisani updated the committee that two lake level gauges are to be installed in November. One on Holden Lake and one on Quennell Lake, as part of the expanded water monitoring in the Cedar-Yellowpoint area, a priority area for Phase 2 of the Water Budget study. Streamflow and level monitoring on Holden Creek will also be implemented as part of this expansion.

Update on Volunteer Monitoring Well Network Expansion

J. Pisani updated that 15 new volunteer observation wells were added to the DWWP network this August in three priority areas: 4 in Nanoose; 5 in French Creek and 6 in Cedar. The expansion focused on stressed aquifers. Comments from the committee included that 5-10 years of records are needed to draw conclusions on groundwater level data collected.

State of our Aquifers - Reports & Newsletter

J. Pisani requested feedback on the draft newsletter circulated before the meeting. Feedback on images and content was given by committee members. The main challenge noted was to balance having the newsletter be easily understood by an average reader with no subject matter expertise, while still reporting some technical information of interest. A mail-out is planned for early November.

DWWP Data Management Framework

J. Pisani requested feedback on the draft Data Management Framework report circulated before the meeting. Comments included suggestions to work closely with the Province to ensure compatibility and learn what has worked well for them with managing similar data. The Provincial representative noted that their agency is struggling with implementing something similar. Suggestions to move away from an Excel based format to a more integrative software or database program were well-taken, to integrate with GIS is important and to consider real-time measurements. It is Important to know what data you need for what end purpose.

GIS Water Map

J. Pisani presented the newly updated internal GIS Water Map. The aim is to launch before December 1st. Comments from committee included that this will be an important resource for the Groundwater Assessment policy (B1.21).

Upcoming GSC Workshop at VIU

J. Pisani requested committee members to 'save-the-date' for an upcoming workshop at VIU which would be a knowledge transfer from the Geological Survey of Canada based on their study of the Nanaimo Lowlands Aquifers.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter Dated July 17, 2017 re A. Fiddick

A. Fiddick brought forward a letter included on the agenda, but the Chair reflected that it was not an appropriate topic for discussion at the Technical Advisory Committee meeting as it pertains to land use regulations on an individual parcel. The group that wrote the letter is planning to make a delegation to the Board, and that is the more appropriate venue.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TIME: 2:50 PM

CHAIR