

<b>Cowichan Watershed Board Meeting</b>	<b>DRAFT Minutes</b> Mon. April 25, 2016 / 9:15am  Location: CVRD Boardroom, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, 175 Ingram, Duncan, BC	
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**Participants:** Cowichan Watershed Board members, TAC, and guests  
**Co-Chair:** CVRD Chair Mayor Jon Lefebure  
**Minutes:** Jill Thompson

		Decision / Action
1) Welcome; Introductions, Opening Remarks		
2) Approval of Agenda		Approved
3) Approval of Minutes of April 4, 2016. Business Arising from Minutes.		Approved.
4) Correspondence	Funding confirmed for UVic “Water Laws: Lessons from Indigenous and Colonial Stewardship” project. See below <a href="#">LINK</a>	
5) Coordinator recruitment update	Tom Rutherford was offered the position of Coordinator/E.D. and accepted as of Fall 2016. Will continue to work for DFO and represent DFO interests until his retirement in Oct.	
6) Watershed Governance Pilot Proposal	<p>R. Hunter- continuing to seek input. Has met with POLIS, UVic Law, MoE Water Quality. Circulated confidential draft of pilot proposal with briefing note. Requested CWB member feedback by next Monday – responding as individuals not as Board.</p> <p>Full Board discussion requested.</p> <p>Requests for clarity RE funding plans and decision timelines, time to communicate the proposal to communities before committing.</p> <p>Question RE whether or not local control has majority favour.</p> <p>Concern RE where the money will come from.</p> <p>R. Hunter- if green light from MoE then we develop a communications strategy. Generally local governance has strong local support as shown by One Cowichan surveys. Objectives would be set locally. Economy of scale important for science –need to take on only what is affordable and appropriate at a local scale.</p> <p>O. Brandes –Take time to discuss. Board needs</p>	Decision to have a full Board discussion at next Board meeting.

	to support the proposal.	
7) TAC Target Working Groups - brief updates (if any)	<p>Fish/Flows - C. Ayers presented Fish Flows work plan and timeline RE determining optimal flows, what infrastructure is needed, and what impacts that would have. <a href="#">[LINK]</a> Need to establish who is doing the pieces in yellow – beyond Fish Flows work. Need funding as indicated.</p> <p>Conservation – BC Drinking Water Week hosts circulated Water Woman conservation videos with elementary school curriculum BC-wide.</p> <p>Riparian – 3 yr project ending Mar 2017. Reviewing what is next</p> <p>IQ - Speaker Series continuing; need more public schools engaging in watershed field studies.</p> <p>Water Quality- garbage pickup planned for Low Tide Day in estuary.</p>	<p>Fish/Flows work plan approved subject to funding being available.</p> <p>Society will look into funding available to support.</p>
8) 2016 Draft Communications Plan	Circulated for information. Send any feedback to Jill. <a href="#">[LINK]</a>	
9) Other	Snow pillow photo update given by R. Hunter from David Thompson's recent field inspection. See photos. <a href="#">[LINK]</a>	
10) Next meeting	<del>May 30, 9:15am</del> (Subsequently cancelled due to timing conflicts)	
Adjourn	Meeting adjourned at 11:40	

## Correspondence

[Email received from Deborah Curran, 4 April 2016]

Hi Jon, Jill and Rodger -

After two kicks at the funding can, Val Napoleon and I are pleased to let you know that our applications to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council and the Real Estate Foundation of BC were successful. We found out on Friday that we received full funding for the project Water Laws: Lessons from Indigenous and Colonial Stewardship.

We are delighted to be working with you, along with Cowichan Tribes, the Lower Similkameen Indian Band, the Tsilhqot'in National Government, and a range of non-Indigenous local governments and organizations.

We anticipate turning on the tap for the project within six weeks, and look forward to talking with you then.

All the best,

Deborah Curran  
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