

Cowichan Watershed Board Meeting

DRAFT Minutes



November 3, 2011

Location: Cowichan Tribes Chief and Council Chambers, 5760 Allenby Road, Duncan, BC

Participants: Chief Lydia Hwitsum, Mayor Rob Hutchins, David Anderson Mayor Ross Forrest, Lori Iannidinardo, Tim Kulchyski, Klaus Kuhn, Lorna Medd, Don Radford, David Slade

Guests: Dr. Nicole Vaugeois (Vancouver Island University) and students, Pat Lapcevic (Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations), Lynn Magee, Vancouver Island Health Authority.

Regrets: Bruce Fraser, Darin George

Meeting Chair: Chief Lydia Hwitsum

1. Welcome; Introductions, Invocation; Opening Remarks	Chief Lydia Hwitsum welcomed the Board and guests and David Anderson offered the invocation.
2. Approval of Agenda	The agenda was approved as presented.
3. Approval of Minutes of Oct. 6, 2011 meeting and update on Business Arising from Minutes:	The minutes were approved with a correction to an error involving attendees. Rob Hutchins reported on a productive meeting with Catalyst Paper between several Watershed Board members and senior managers which took place on October 28, 2011 and also noted that the Coordinator had provided an update on the Watershed Board's activities to the CVRD Regional Services Committee on October 26, 2011.
4. Consideration of Tourism Circle Route and rural economies in the watershed.	Dr. Nicole Vaugeois made a presentation on and evaluation of the Pacific Marine Tourism Circle Route. The evaluation project took place during the week of October 24, 2011 and was carried out by Dr. Vaugeois and 10 Tourism graduate students from VIU. LINK .
5. Groundwater Update	Pat Lapcevic provided an update on the groundwater assessment that the MFLNRO has been conducting on behalf of the Watershed Board. LINK The work will continue to the end of February at which time a final report will be completed. The Board hopes that it will be successful in its request for Regional Priorities and Innovation Gas Tax funding so that it can continue to assemble much needed groundwater information including an understanding of the interaction between

	surface water flows and groundwater levels.
6. General Discussion on Targets including proposed Public Health Target	<p>Lynne Magee VIHA representative on the Technical Advisory Committee led a discussion based on a discussion paper developed by Steve Baumber (MOH) with input for TAC members. The target focused on monitoring and reporting related to drinking water quality. Discussion focused on the feasibility of establishing an outcome as opposed to an action based public health target. It was noted that due to lack of data it may be difficult to establish a public health target to meets to criteria on which other watershed targets are based but the public health target setting initiative was considered to be very important.</p> <p>Decision: The TAC is encouraged to continue to work on establishing a public health related target of targets focusing on what we are able to influence.</p>
7. Update on Watershed Survey	Item deferred to a future meeting.
8. Salmon return update	Don Radford provided an update on preliminary salmon return numbers noting that although not finalized yet it is clear that both Chinook adult and jack numbers were up this year and relatively high jack numbers represent a positive sign for 2012 returns.
9. General Information -Upcoming Meetings, events, time and date of next meeting etc.	The Coordinator will contact members regarding the optimal date for the December meeting.