

# Cowichan Watershed Board Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

## Minutes



February 17, 2011

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

**Participants:** Alison Garnett, Cheri Ayers, Brooke Hodson, Paul Fletcher, Brian Houle, Kathy Lachman, Dave Lindsay, Eric Marshall, Lynne Magee, Tom Rutherford, Sean Wong

**Guests:** Eric Morris Kerr Wood Leidal Associates

**Regrets:** Tom Anderson, Geneen Russo, Craig Wightman, Mike Zemanek

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks	Cheri Ayers welcomed guests and thanked members for their ongoing commitment to betterment of the watershed.
2. Approval of Agenda	<b>Decision: The agenda was approved as presented.</b>
3. Approval of Minutes of January 2011 meeting and Business Arising from Minutes	<p><b>Decision: The minutes of January 20, 2011 were approved as presented.</b></p> <p>As part of discussion arising from the minutes it was noted that the Watershed Board had received verbal approval of \$150,000 in Gas Tax Funding and was waiting for written approval and any related terms and conditions.</p>
4. Land Use Application Cowichan Lake	<p>Alison Garnett of the CVRD presented a land use application related to building a house below the mean high water level in the Honeymoon Bay area at Cowichan Lake and sought input from the committee. It was generally agreed that unless addressed carefully the issue could result in the introduction of various forms of pollutants to the lake and have significant access and safety issues associated with it.</p> <p><b>Decision: Lynne Magee, Brooke Hodson, Cheri Ayers and Rodger Hunter are to form a working group that will recommend possible policy options regarding this and similar proposed developments.</b></p>
5. Presentation of Cowichan Lake Erosion Study	<p>Eric Morris of Kerr Wood Leidal and Associates presented the results of the erosion study that was conducted under his leadership through funding from Living Rivers. (A link to the study will be posted on the Watershed Board website when the minutes are posted.)</p> <p><b>Decision: Eric should be requested to make his presentation to the Watershed Board and interested parties at the Board's April meeting in Lake Cowichan.</b></p>

6. Target Setting for the Watershed	<p>It was noted that Geneen Russo, Craig Wightman, Tom Rutherford, and Rodger Hunter had met to discuss possible targets regarding establishment of targets to address specific issues affecting the watershed. Targets that are currently being explored include, steelhead numbers as and indication of fish populations, an increase in angler opportunity for the lake fishery, a safe to consume date for clams, water quality related targets, reversal of trend in aquifer decline, or reduced per capita use of water for domestic purposes and increased community water IQ ...</p> <p><b>Decision: Work should continue over the coming weeks with updates to the Committee and Board.</b></p>

The next meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee will be held on March 17, 2011.