

Nutsumaat kws yaay'us tthqa'

“We come together as a whole to work together to be stronger as partners for the watershed”

Dr. Shannon Waters, MD, MHSc, FRCPC

Okanagan Basin Water Board Webinar

Nov 3. 2021

Shxunutun's Tu Suleluxwtst

Figure 3: Landscape Areas Representing Intensive Traditional Use



Hul'qumi'num Home Territory

Medical Health Officer

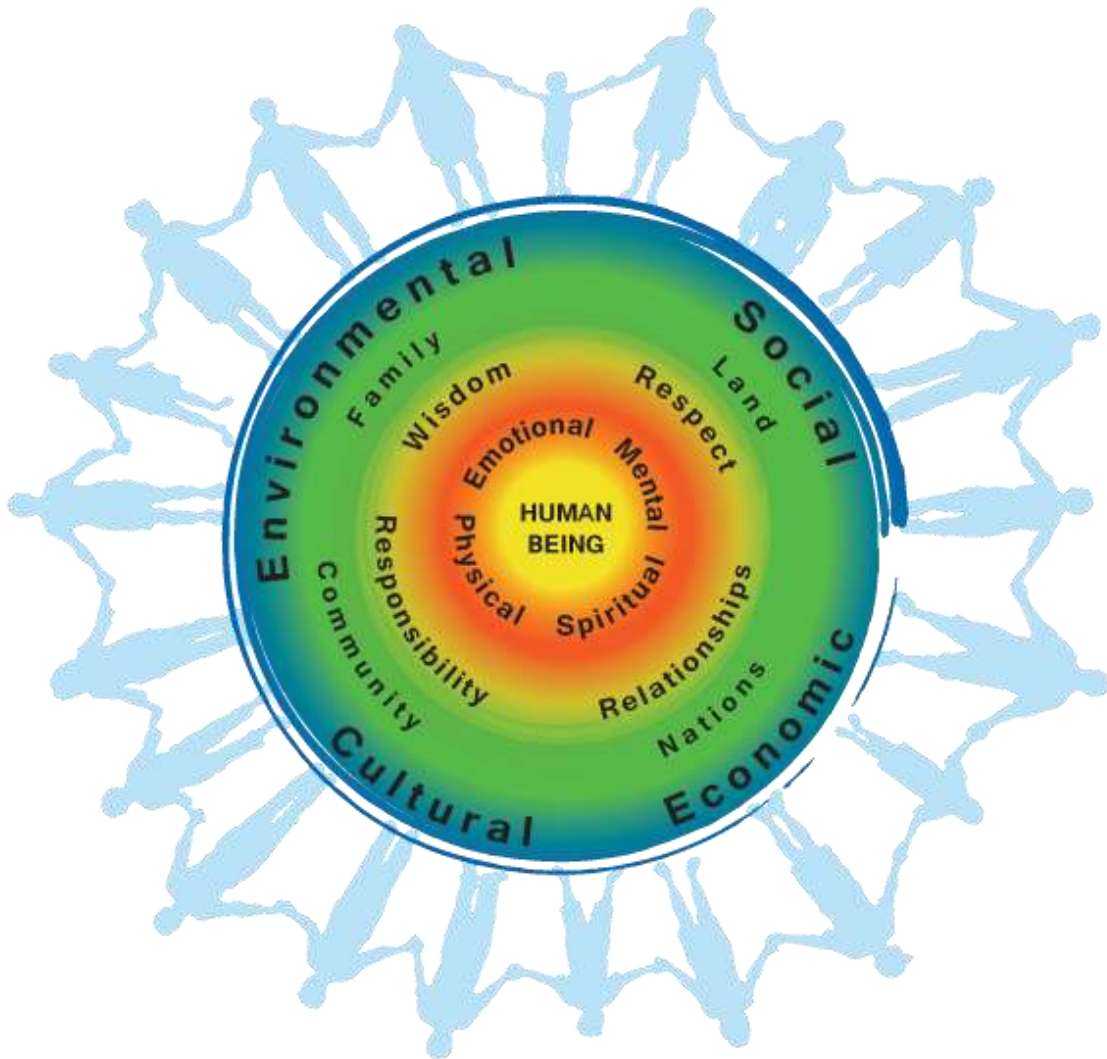
- Health Protection
 - Environmental Health
 - Healthy Built Environment
- Disease/Injury Prevention & Control
- Disaster & Emergency Management
- Health Promotion
- Population Health Assessment
- Health & Disease Surveillance

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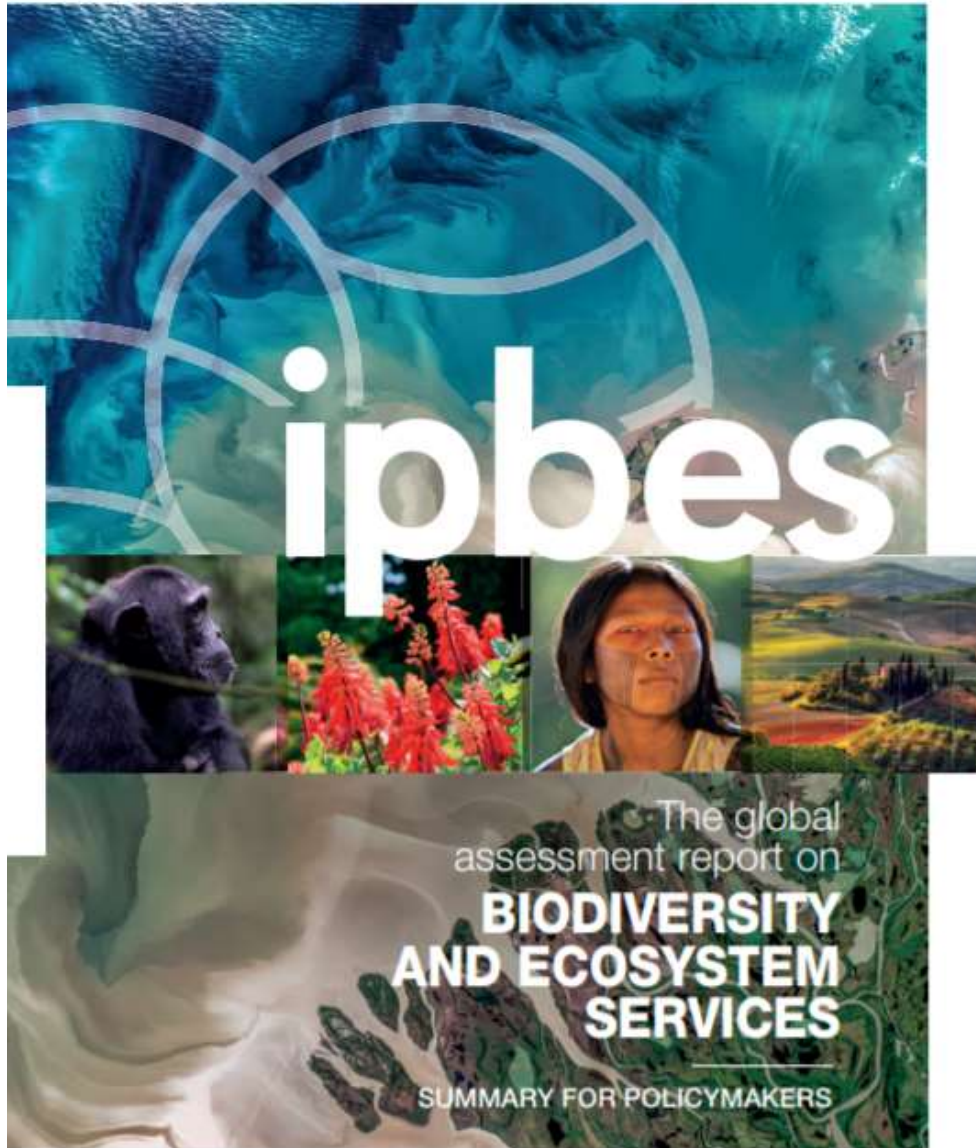
WATERSHED PROTECTION

The First Nations Perspective on Health & Wellness



- Overarching values that supports & uphold wellness
- Wisdom
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Relationships

Indigenous Sovereignty



- B6** Nature managed by indigenous peoples and local communities is under increasing pressure. Nature is generally declining less rapidly in indigenous peoples' land than in other lands, but is nevertheless declining, as is the knowledge of how
- D5** Recognizing the knowledge, innovations, practices, institutions and values of indigenous peoples and local communities, and ensuring their inclusion and participation in environmental governance, often enhances their quality of life and the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of nature, which is relevant to broader society. Governance, including customary institutions and management systems and co-management regimes that involve indigenous peoples and local communities, can be an effective way to safeguard nature and its contributions to people by

Nov. 25, 2019



WE ARE NOT OF THE LAND



WE ARE THE LAND

muhw stem 'o' s'aa'lh

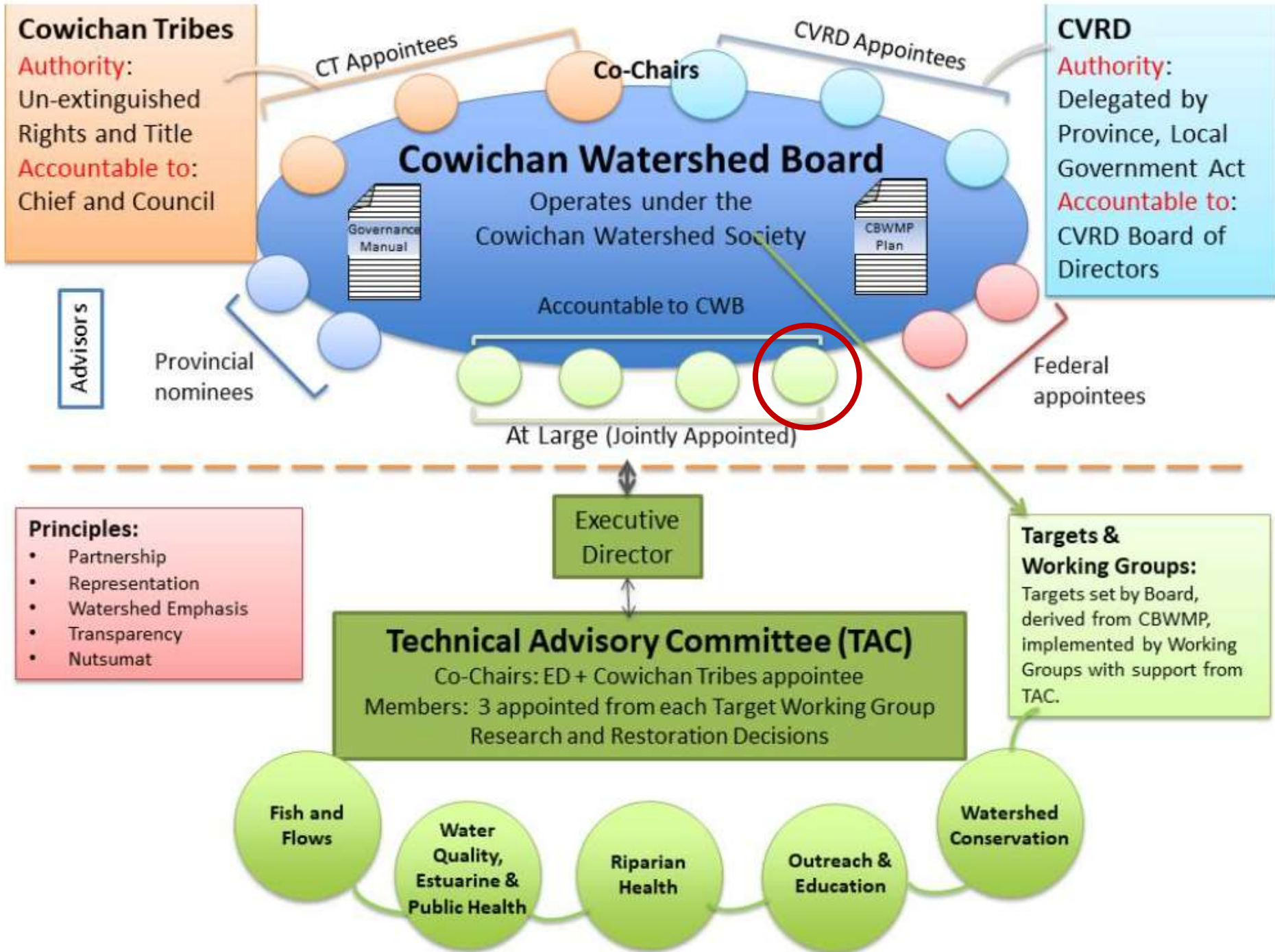
*Our law making authority will
empower us to be the architects of
a sustainable future for our lands.*

**Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group
2005**

Cowichan Watershed Board



- Co-chaired by Cowichan Tribes & Cowichan Valley Regional District



Recognition of Cowichan Tribes' Statement on Inherent Rights

Quw'utsun mustmuhw, ni' 'o' ni' tthusht'esulhkws 'itst 'u tun'atumuhw, 'i 'o' hwunst'e. Nilh 'o' thu-'it syuw'entst, tun ni' 'u kwthuhwun'amustimuhw 'iwutl'uts' 'i 'u tun'atumuhwtst. Ni' yuxtse'tumtthu Quw'utsun 'u tthu-itumuhw, qa', kw'atl'kwatthuni' pupin' 'u tthutumuhw, ttho' mukw' stem ni' hakwni' 'u tthustl'ulnuptst. Kwuthushtun-ni' 'iwststni' yuxtse'tum 'u ttho' mukw' stem ni' ha'kwkwssthuthi'skwshuli-s. O' nilhtthu Quw'utsun mustumuhw, nilemuxutunstum 'u tthuni' snuwuntewut 'u tthushtunaalhtun, tst. Uwutumtem-us 'i' ni' tsttsmem't 'aanlhkwskwun-etewut, hwayumtun'as'aalhtl'ulnup. Quw'utsun Mustimuhw, ha'kwushtst kw' stutul'na'mutxetsul's kw' shtuhimstthustl'ulnuptst. Mukw' stem 'o' slhilukw'tul 'i' nilhni' shkw'akw'umstthusulsuli'tst.

Cowichan Peoples have existing inherent rights. Cowichan as the original Peoples of this territory within which the Cowichan Watershed is included continue the right and responsibility to make informed decisions to manage and organize based on our history and continued connections. As told through time by our ancestors; the lands, waters, seas, minerals, air and all elements interconnected within the territories provided for and can provide a good sustainable life for Cowichan Peoples. Cowichan has never given away this right and continues to govern and make decisions to support the well-being and sustainability of our Peoples and territories.

What does this look like? Connection

- Water quality monitoring
- E-flow development
- Habitat restoration
- Salmon stock assessment



What does this look like? Cowichan Weir

- Engineering, feasibility & design work - July 2021
 - Quantitative assessment of upstream impacts - March 2022
- Facilitated process to identify license holder - 2022
 - Federal partnership funding in place through Infrastructure Canada
- Construction - ~\$12M federal infrastructure in place, estimated cost ~\$20M-23M



What does this look like? Koksilah WSP

- Interim Letter of Agreement signed in 2020 by then Minister Donaldson & Chief Seymour
- Cowichan Tribes & FLNRORD staff have been working hard on that process for the past 16 months
- Recommendation to Chief & Minister



Huy Tsap q'a

