

Cowichan Watershed Board

October 2022

Setting the Course...



Context

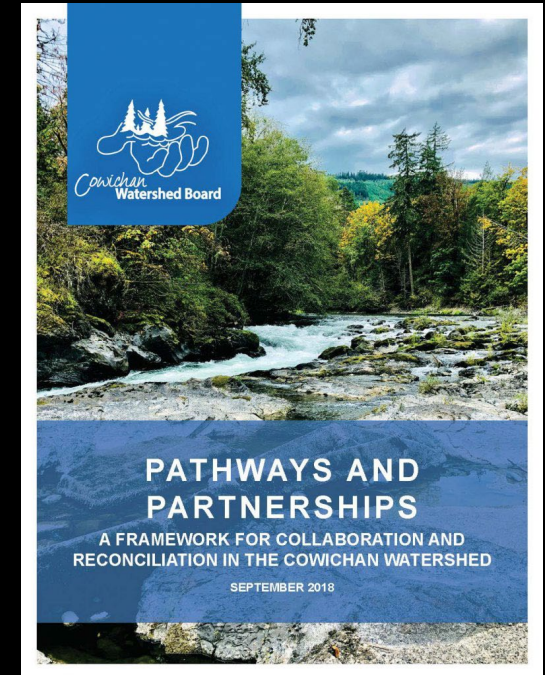
CWB is a unique organization!

- “purpose built” to support water/shed sustainability in the Cowichan/Koksilah Watershed
- Built on a foundational partnership between a local government (CVRD) and a First Nation – Cowichan Tribes
- A Board of Leaders – elected or appointed by people who are elected – not a stakeholders table



Past “Visioning” work ...

- Grant from BC Freshwater Legacy Initiative in 2017-18 allowed us to organize 3 workshops to create a common vision for the CWB
- Workshop participants included CWB members, Senior staff from Cowichan Tribes and CVRD and external advisors
- Products included our Current Governance Manual & Pathways and Partnerships Framework
- Major outcomes:
 - Commitment at political level to work together towards water/shed sustainability – *Nutsamat kws yaay’us tth qa’*
 - Robust recognition statement and Hul’q’umi’num text and teachings in all documents



Shifting Landscape

- Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples ACT in BC
- Cowichan Water Use Plan
- CVRD Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Service
- Progress made on Koksilah WSP
- CWB Membership and Staff Changes
 - *New Senior Staff in CT & CVRD*
 - *New members of CWB*
 - *Tom's role shifted to WSP and Weir*
 - *Lisa added as Business Manager*
 - *Leadership Team Model*



Setting the Course

- Time to touch base – set the course for the next 10 years
- Collectively review and re-affirm the purpose, mandate, and priorities of the CWB



Meet your Facilitator

Jana Kotaska

- Ecologist and Environmental Scientist
- Facilitator of Planning Processes
- PHD in Reconciliation and Resource management
- Indigenous Governance, Protection and Restoration of Ecosystems on BC Coast
- Lives in the Cowichan Watershed



Workshop Objectives

- Strengthen partnerships
- Explore avenues for working together more effectively
- Revisit the CWB mandate and define goals, objectives, and working relationships going forward

What's Next ?

Your Participation!



- Nov 1-10 Short Focus Groups, Interviews, and Survey
- Nov 29-30 In-Person Workshops at Siem Liem Gym, Cowichan Tribes
- Jan 30 Presentation to the Cowichan Watershed Board

Questions?

- What would like to see happen at the workshop?
- Is there anything specific you would like to learn at the workshop?
- Questions for the stewardship community?

Questions?

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