



Draft Board Meeting Agenda

Monday, January 27th, 2025

Comeakin Hall at Quw'utsun Cultural & Conference Centre (200 Cowichan Way, Duncan)

Meeting Chair: Chief Cindy Daniels

Expected Participants: CVRD Chair Kate Segall, Christopher Alphonse, Calvin Swustus Senior, Alison Nicholson, Michelle Staples, Shannon Waters, David Anderson, David Slade, David Froese, Tim Kulchyski, Kristine Sandhu, Arlette Malcolm, Jenna Sutherst

Advisor: Oliver Brandes

Regrets:

Staff/Project Leaders: Danielle Paydli, Heather Pritchard, Tom Rutherford, Jill Thompson

Guest Speakers: Lydia Hwitsum, Former Cowichan Tribes Chief and CWB CoChair and current Co-Commissioner for the First Nations Water Caucus, and Co-Chair for the BC-First Nations Water Table

Audience members: First Nations Fisheries Council's Water Table and Caucus members, Working group members, volunteers, interested public. All welcome.

Agenda Items

8:30am Coffee and Conversation

- 1. Welcome and Roundtable (9:00 am)**
- 2. Agenda Review / Revisions**
- 3. Review November 25th, 2024 Draft Minutes**
- 4. Announcements & Correspondence (see below agenda)**
- 5. Hul'q'umi'num Watershed Lesson (9:20 am)**
Councillor Christopher Alphonse to lead us through a lesson.
- 6. Staff Presentation (9:35 am)**
Staff team to present the Top 10 Moments of 2024 at the Cowichan Watershed Board.
- 7. Presentation by the First Nations Fisheries Council's Water Caucus and Water Table (10:05 am)**
Presentation by Lydia Hwitsum to share more about the work of the FNFC's Water Caucus and Water Table.

8. Updates & Discussion on CWB Projects and Initiatives (10:30 am)

Executive Director to provide key updates and questions for consideration and guidance to put before the Board. Please see the Staff Report in the meeting package.

9. Other Business (10:45 am)

Recognition of David Anderson's commitment and service to the Cowichan Watershed Board.

10. Adjourn (11:00 pm)

Early adjournment at 11am; Private Tour for First Nations Fisheries Council Members to follow.

Next CWB meeting - February 24, 2025 at Si'em Lelum Dining Hall

Materials referenced below can be found at: <https://cowichanwatershedboard.ca/meetings/>

Correspondence

- Invitation to the January 20th Quw'utsun Steelthun (Salmon) Friendship Project celebration, welcoming the giant salmon puppet (Salmy!) to the Duncan library.

Announcements/Events

- Journey of our Generation workshop. Feb 24
- Pacific Salmon Foundation Knowledge Exchange Workshop Series - Large wood applications in River Restoration. Feb. 13.
- Process-Based Restoration of Riverscapes Winter Series. Online. Jan 7-Feb 18. Hosted by Waters Edge Biological
- Cowichan Estuary Nature Center is now open 11-3 on Saturdays and Sundays, including a gift shop. If you haven't been lately, go check it out. 1845 Cowichan Bay Rd <https://www.cowichanestuary.ca/>
- Saturday March 22 - World Water Day. "Walk the Weir" tours. Details to follow at cowichanlakeweir.ca

Optional Reading

- "Cowichan River Watershed: Water Quality Report for the 2023/24 Wet Season", by Cowichan Tribes and Raincoast Conservation Foundation
- "Assessment of Glass Fiber in the Cowichan Estuary and its Impact on Benthic Fauna and the Food Chain. Phase I: Glass Fiber Assessment of Estuarine Sediment and Biofilm" CERCA Research Project
- Green Bylaws for the Sunshine Coast, UVic Environmental Law Centre
- Tye Article RE Halalt lawsuit for damage from upstream land management
- BC Ministry of Agriculture "Stewarding Agricultural Watercourses" update.
- 6PPDQ Presentation Overview from BC Conservation Foundation (BCCF) and Vancouver Island University's Applied Environmental Research Labs (VIU AERL)