



## Draft Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 28th 2024, via Zoom

8:30 am coffee/set up

9:00 am - 11:00 am meeting

**Meeting Chair:** Acting Co-Chair Kate Segall

**Participants:** Christopher Alphonse, Alison Nicholson, Michelle Staples, Shannon Waters, David Slade, David Froese, Tim Kulchyski, Kristine Sandhu, Arlette Malcolm, Jenna Sutherst **Advisor:** Oliver Brandes

**Regrets:** Chief Cindy Daniels, Calvin Swustus Senior, David Anderson

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

**Guest Speakers:** Phaedra Douglass, Intern, Liam Janke, UVic Student Scholar

**Audience members:** Working group members, volunteers, interested public. All welcome.

### Agenda

#### 1. Welcome

- a. Acting Co-Chair Kate Segall opened the meeting.

#### 2. Agenda Review / Revisions

- a. Motioned by Kristine Sandhu; Seconded by Alison Nicholson. Carried.

#### 3. Review September 23rd, 2024 [Draft Minutes](#)

- a. Motioned by David Slade; Seconded by Kristine Sandhu. Carried.

#### 4. Announcements & Correspondence (see below agenda)

- a. Jill reviewed highlights from the announcements and reading materials below. Also see two late entries on the website.
- b. Oliver Brandes, Advisor to CWB has been appointed co-chair to the The International Joint Commission (IJC)'s newly formed International Elk-Kootenay Watershed Study Board. This group convenes experts and knowledge holders to conduct transparent and coordinated transboundary data and knowledge sharing to support a common understanding of pollution within the watershed and its impacts on people and species.
- c. Jenna – was able to provide funding from her department to Cowichan Tribes for WQ low flow monitoring. Lots of issues – heaving rainfall, migration in other systems. Resources on standby – feel free to reach out to Jenna.
- d. Tim – good news. Fri-Sun – CT fisheries staff out in estuary chum fishery with coho bycatch. For the first time in a number of years, the run should easily meet escapement targets. Might even be an economic opportunity for Quw'utsun community members.

## 5. Call for Public Input

None.

6. **Hul'qumi'num Watershed Lesson** Councillor Christopher Alphonse led us through a lesson about weather and greetings. Christopher talked about the disappearing 's' and how a word can be a noun or an adjective sometimes, and verbs even.

## 7. Presentations

Heather introduced 2 interns who have worked with us on important projects to untangle WQ information.

- a) Phaedra Douglass, Intern

[Map of Water Quality Monitoring Locations in the Cowichan and Koksilah Watersheds](#)

Phaedra demonstrated her interactive map of long-term WQ data.

- b) Liam Janke, UVic Sustainability Scholar

Report: [Assessing the Impacts of Nonpoint Source Pollution in the Cowichan River](#)

Liam presented a slideshow and took questions about his study.

## 8. Updates & Discussion on CWB Projects and Initiatives

See the October Staff Report in the Board Meeting package.

Updates:

- Kudos to Board Members who came out to speakers night! Jill shared more about speakers nights and welcomed engagement from the Board for hosting, speaker ideas, etc.
- Board Member Dr. Shannon Waters, Board Advisor Oliver Brandes and Danni are meeting with representatives from the Okanagan Nation Alliance who are looking to develop a similar board structure with their local municipality. If any other Board Members are interested in sharing about the work of the CWB with other Nations and, of course, learning from them about what they have going on in their communities, please let Danni know.
- All Board members who have not yet submitted your photo and bio to Jill for the website, please do!
- This year we plan to tackle a revamp of the website. We will be reaching out to you as Board members for guidance along the way to ensure it is reflective of the diverse knowledge that is brought to this table of leaders.
- CWB was awarded funding from the Watershed Security Fund! This funding will help us to do our core work with a priority on growing the team with Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth as tomorrow's leaders in watershed stewardship. It will allow us to root this unique form of collaborative governance and partnership systems as the foundation of how we work for our

watersheds and the natural world in the Cowichan Valley. Danni acknowledged this was years in the making and a huge effort on the part of current and past Co-Chairs, Board Members and staff.

Decisions/Guidance:

- A. The staff has identified we could support conversations around forestry and the Private Managed Forest Lands within the Xwulqw'selu Watershed Planning process. We would take guidance and leadership from Cowichan Tribes in terms of moving these conversations forward. Is there any objection to us exploring this piece of work?

Guidance: Alison — important for the CWB to be involved; general agreement around the table.

- B. We would like to host a luncheon after the next meeting. Are folks in favour?

Guidance: Majority said yes, then requested to send Danni any dietary requirements.

## 9. Other Business

None.

## 10. Adjourn

Next CWB meeting - November 25th at Si'em Lelum

The meeting was adjourned at 11:03 am.

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After the meeting, the video produced by Phaedra Douglass was shown: "[Why Fish Need People](#)": This video is the third in a series, all available on our website homepage, or here are the direct links.

1. Why Fish Need Water

<https://youtu.be/ZsD4X1zPmTw?feature=shared>

2. Why Fish Need Forests

<https://youtu.be/XYYsfsm0Tc?feature=shared>

3. Why Fish Need People

<https://youtu.be/dRbYyIOt-x8?feature=shared>