



# Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority

## Addendum to Regular Meeting Draft Agenda

**Date of Meeting:** Friday March 17th, 2017 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

**Location:** School District Boardroom, 112 Rainbow Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C.

### **ADDENDA and their attachments:**

- 4.11.1 **Graphical workplan for public release**  
- **attached draft for consideration** - Coordinator
  
- 4.13 **021717 4.7.2: CRD outreach program list from Member Green - attached.**  
**For information. Completed.**
  
- 4.14 **Correspondence**
  - 4.14.1 Letter from member of the public re: Minimum lot size received 27-2-2017 - **attached**
  - 4.14.2 Letter from North Cowichan Watershed Conservation Group received 3-3-2017 - **attached**

# Integrated Water Management Program Workplan

## Safe supply - lakes (Tasks 1,2,3)

"Safe yield" model from hydrology data, address climate extremes

surface hydrology data

new monitoring Cusheon watershed - hydrology

## Consumption (Tasks 4, 6)

Agricultural Water Demand Survey (AGRI), Islands Trust

Consumption statistics (property scale, district scale, surface and gw)

## Safe supply - groundwater (Tasks 5, 7)

Well mapping: select well production data analysis

Aquifer mapping and review; water balance model (FLNRO+MOE, contractor)

develop "water budget" as aquifer supply potential

Groundwater quantity (production statistics) at property/water district scales

Local groundwater monitoring program (long term)

## Groundwater supply-utilization analysis report (GIS tool, database of supply +consumption statistics)

## Conservation and Efficiency

assess technologies and alternatives (measure applicability SSI)

assess potential for rainwater harvesting - RRU survey and case examples

assess conservation and efficiency strategies currently in practices - survey and case examples

assess feasibility of reclaimed water re-use

assess policies, incentives and barriers to conservation findings

## Water Quality

develop monitoring in Cusheon watershed (District, CRD, SSI/WPA)

ongoing review of quality data from all island drinking watersheds

## SSI Water Sustainability Plan development

## **Summary of Capital Regional District drinking water related outreach initiatives.**

### **CRD Integrated Water Services - Drinking Water Supply Area Outreach:**

Main Contact: Hailey Dale [hdale@crd.bc.ca](mailto:hdale@crd.bc.ca) & Kathy Haesevoets [khaesevoets@crd.bc.ca](mailto:khaesevoets@crd.bc.ca) for tours.

1. Current & Ongoing - Tours of the Greater Victoria Water Supply Area & Facilities  
Public Tours (3 - 5.5 hours – tour bus provide, guided by staff)  
School Tours (Grade 5, high school & technical/post-secondary, guided by staff)
2. Public outreach booths at community events
3. Current on-line resources:
  - a. General Information defining Greater Victoria Water Supply Areas & Protection
  - b. Sooke Lake Reservoir Level (photos)
  - c. Billing and Payments
  - d. Cross Connection Control & Backflow Prevention (regulations)
  - e. Drinking Water Quality (reports & data)
  - f. CRD-Operated Drinking Water Systems (various system location of services)
  - g. Water System Maintenance (report leaks, maintenance)
  - h. School Curriculum & Resources - Every Drop Counts (Grade 2), Water in our Community (Grade 8-12)

### **CRD Environmental Partnerships - Water Conservation Outreach:**

Main Contact: Angelina Alonso <[aalonso@crd.bc.ca](mailto:aalonso@crd.bc.ca)>

1. Annual promotion of CRD Water Schedule and Water Conservation Bylaw Use Schedule (residential, commercial & public properties)
2. Annually host booth at outreach 17 plus events/year: promotion of below programs and current themed campaigns, audience residents and industry sectors, events range from home shows to festivals (weekdays and weekends).
3. Water Cart at events. Book the outreach team, water cart and/or event speaker - <https://www.crd.bc.ca/service/event-booking>
4. Water Conservation Fact Sheets and General Brochures (audience – Residential & Businesses)
5. Water Efficiency Reports (audience - Residential & Business)
6. Benefits of Rain Water Harvesting information and resources + list of rain barrel suppliers (water conservation says: Although we include Rain water information, it is not a program highlight of ours)
7. Media campaigns to support education & awareness
8. Online resources and free workshops:

#### **Audience- residential properties**

1. Current on-line resources:
  - a. Home water works - CRD water calculator for residents.
  - b. Water Conservation Tips
2. Current Free workshops (ongoing):
  - a. Efficient Irrigation Introductory Residential Workshops – delivered by contractor with professional accreditation
  - b. Native plant gardening workshops – delivered by contractor
  - c. Edible Gardening
  - d. Fix a Leak Week

3. Speaking Engagements to businesses & members of the public

From 1999 to 2009, the CRD offered water efficiency rebates to encourage the purchase of appliances and fixtures that use innovative water-saving technology. These days, the use of such fixtures and appliances has become standard. Provincial codes now require all toilet installations in new residential buildings and renovation projects to use 4.8 litres of water or less per flush and most appliance stores now feature high-efficiency washing machines as industry standard.

**Audience – commercial properties**

1. Current on-line information and resources:
  - a. free water use audits to facilities in the Industrial/Commercial/Institutional sector in Greater Victoria.
  - b. Once-Through-Cooling Equipment Ban (effective Jan. 2019)
  - c. Industry Education (Water Conservation staff to speak at an industry event or to display at your trade show)
  - d. Promotion of current research and reports

**CRD Climate Action Program - Drinking Water conservation related outreach:**

Main Contact: Katie Pearson [kpearson@crd.bc.ca](mailto:kpearson@crd.bc.ca)

Audience- food industry

1. free water and energy assessment, and installation of pre-rinse spray valves and high efficiency faucet aerators

Audience- residents and students:

1. Climate action to go kits include water and energy saving tools

**CRD Integrated Watershed Management – Rain Water Harvesting – Drinking water conservation related outreach:**

Main Contact: Natalie Bandringa [nbandringa@crd.bc.ca](mailto:nbandringa@crd.bc.ca)

1. On-line Resources: Rainwater Harvesting Information (local and out-of-region)
2. Past Outreach on Rain Water Harvesting (audience – residential)
  - a. 2010-12 Rainwater Harvesting (brochure) + campaigns that gave away rain barrels
  - b. 2014 – cistern/barrel subsidy + free workshop (funded by external grant) (see attachments)  
IWM hired the Compost Education Centre to:
    - Promote & deliver free workshops on DIY Rain Water Harvesting - introduced the regional issues and correct methodology for sizing and hooking up a rain barrel or cistern on a residential property.
    - Promote & manage the ordering and subsidised sale of cisterns and rain barrels

To:  
SSIWPA STEERING COMMITTEE  
GEORGE GRAMS  
WAYNE MCINTYRE

27 February 2017.

**Drinking Water Demand:  
Minimum Lot Size**

Please mark this as SSIWPA Steering Committee Letter of Record received, & discuss with relevant committee chairs for comment as it may relate to SSIWPA planned work. Though directed to the LTC, this is also of parallel interest to SSIWPA, and is copied as follows:

When I spoke as a delegate at the Feb. 09, 2017 LTC meeting on the subject of demand management, one constructive response you made George is that while empathetic to the limits of demand question, you were personally reluctant to consider downzoning as a response in that it could trigger a major devaluation of some properties.

While such is exactly the reality, and incentive required to motivate future subdivision/development off surface water onto rainwater or groundwater, the reality is this will happen regardless, if demand exceeds sustainable supply.

I would like offer another approach to consider to achieve this:  
**minimum lot size.** As a means of addressing both known and unknown supply wherever it may currently or in future present stress. Have staff consider the matter of reflecting this in a future bylaw or policy shift as a contingency or general conservation planning tool.

Another matter: **Onus of Proof/Responsibility.** Given new demand is a constant with potential to backlog due to sustainable supply, given that it takes years to acquire a peer-reviewed confidence in future projections of supply/demand, given that climate change remains a constant revelation continually impacting supply/demand and relevant assessment/management responses, therefore it is safe to assume all the definitive answers / projections are not achievable, that water management will remain a trend-based, more general 'forest-not-the-trees' level of detail management approach. Risk management dealing

with knowns, unknowns and changing constants.

Given this reality, staff consider a review of the question of onus of proof/responsibility. Should 'onus' be on the regulator/manager or on the developer / subdivision applicant **to ensure** sustainable water supply for ALL densities proposed to a level of risk less than a peer-reviewed 1% over time?

Unrealistic? Unaffordable? Yes. So are the consequences for error born by others. In other words development and subdivision *must* adopt cooperative precautionary approaches where warranted, such as:

-trial and error, small step provisional approvals which include requirement for cooperative developer/user ongoing assessment work,(eg metering,reporting, site access) to help facilitate / inform of issues of new demand.

-the imperative of foreknowledge. It is imperative. Buyers must be informed, be aware, prior to purchase of any relevant water caveats carrying risk to a sustainable supply which is not **assured**, that best practice options can be exercised in making such a decision (eg. rainwater storage, water efficiency design, standards and user practices). One accepts the risk and sole responsibility that should climate preclude supply in future, the owner accepts full responsibility with no liability.

The above are my personal views, -- recommendations bearing on substantive questions which I hope will provide food for thought and meaningful discussion.

Signed,  
Member of the public

cc. S.Cermak  
SSI Manager of Planning

Received March 3, 2017-03-14

Via email

From: Erik Pikkila, Cowichan North Watersheds Conservation Group

To George and Shannon.

We sent out the following email to 120 conservation and watershed groups across BC included the BC Outdoor Recreation Coalition that has 250,000 members and the big name conservation organizations such as David Suzuki Foundation, Western Wilderness Committee, Sierra Club, Dogwood Institute, and the Ancient Forest Alliance.

That should give our concerns an audience of almost a million people in BC.

I would be happy to discuss this effort with you.

Please read the text of the email and more importantly take the Word doc, localize it and send it to all of your local riding candidates.

- Have an All Candidates Meeting (mid April) just about Watershed Issues in your Riding during the campaign.
- Submit the questions to the three major Provincial Party Leaders.
- Collect all of the answers from all candidates.
- Release the questions to the local media now and answers from candidates in early April.
- Push local and party leaders to discuss Watersheds during the campaign.

Erik

PS. I might also like to contact you about getting a small conservation group going (we are trying to do that here in Ladysmith).

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Hi there everyone.

We are the North Cowichan Watersheds Conservation Group  
(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/735241109911505>) located in Ladysmith on Eastern Vancouver Island.

We believe and know watersheds in BC are impacted daily by many factors, many of which are damaging watersheds. People, resource consumption and urban development are the primary factors that are degrading and destroying watersheds and these impacts are being compounded by the effects of climate change. These human created primary factors are also driving climate change. Watersheds provide habitat for many varieties of flora and fauna and clean drinking water for people at the very least. But Watersheds and their ecosystems are struggling to provide just even these basic Ecological Goods & Services!!

**We want to make a detailed discussion with politicians about Watersheds, a key feature of the 2017 BC Election Campaign. We also want Watershed issues to be a part of an ongoing discussion and dialog between citizens, governments and industries.**

**The intent of this email is to get these questions to every riding and riding candidate and the Provincial Party Leaders, who in turn will provide thoughtful answers that can guide citizens as they vote in May.**

**To create maximum impact, we plan to release the questions and answers to the local and provincial media (Time Line of Events).**

The attached Word document is meant to be shared with every group, organization, and NGO that are interested in and concerned with Watershed Conservation and Management across British Columbia .

**I have sent this email to 120 organizations across BC.**

**We would like every group/environmental organization to submit the questions by revising the Word doc to reflect local environmental group(s), riding identifiers and the first paragraph under Questions for Local Candidates.**

**We would like every organization to submit the full Watershed Questions Word doc to each of the Provincial Party Leaders, so they can address their questions but also see what the local questions are in each riding!**

We feel the template shouldn't see wholesale changes, because it will be difficult to compare the answers from the riding candidates and provincial party leaders if there are drastic revisions by every ENGO, in every riding.

ENGOS might want to co submit these questions to candidates in their riding.



But separate submissions by multiple organizations will allow candidates and parties to see the number of concerned groups/organizations involved and perhaps an indication of the size of the electorate these organizations represent.

## **Time Line of Events:**

**Confirm between Feb. 22 - 28** that your organization **will submit the Watershed Questions** the questions to your riding candidates and Provincial Party Leaders.

We would like to **launch these questions on February 28** to all candidates and party leaders.

On **February 28**, we would also like to **plan a coordinated Media Blitz** to announce the **submissions of the questions**.

**Deadline for responses from Riding Candidates & Party Leaders is March 28.**

On **April 11** (4 weeks until election day), we would like to **plan a coordinated Media Blitz** to **announce the answers from the Candidates and Party Leaders**.

**During the weeks of April 10 or 17, hold an All Candidates Meetings on Watershed Issues in each Riding.**

**On April 25** (2 weeks until election day), **publish Op-Ed Pieces in Local and Provincial media outlets to summarize take home messages from local candidates and Provincial Party Leaders about their plans for watershed conservation and management.**

There may have to be some flexibility in the Time Line of Events due Leadership Debates. We will want our announcements or press releases to precede a debate, to capitalize on timing and perhaps get our Watershed concerns discussed at a debate.

We are hoping that all environmental organizations could help us coordinate the provincial level press releases and the Op-Ed piece via email but a core group may have to be selected because a cast of 111+ may be too much of a good thing. Could you please CC the North Cowichan Watershed Conservation Group ([espcwd@yahoo.com](mailto:espcwd@yahoo.com)) as you forward this email to like minded organizations.

Not all groups will want or be able to participate for a variety of reasons, especially direct, indirect or perceived links to various levels of government.

If you have any other questions please contact me at: [espcwd@yahoo.com](mailto:espcwd@yahoo.com). If a question appears that it needs to be viewed by all, I will share it.

Thank you.  
Erik Piikkila  
Cowichan North Watersheds Conservation Group  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/735241109911505>