



Bowker Creek Forum: A Celebration of the 100-Year Blueprint for Watershed Restoration

Water Bucket Storyline & Publication Schedule



Published on the Water Bucket Website – January 2010

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The Story of the Bowker Creek Forum

Leading up to the Bowker Creek Forum, a set of four stories will progressively foreshadow and/or elaborate on what will be covered at the Forum. A fifth story will document the Forum outcomes. The publication schedule, titles and scope are listed below:

1. **Week of January 25, 2010:**

Story #1 titled ***Convening for Action in the Georgia Basin: Bowker Creek Blueprint establishes precedent for moving from awareness to action*** will describe the Bowker Creek Blueprint, summarize the process that culminated in the 100-Year Action Plan, and synthesize lessons learned.

2. **Week of February 1, 2010:**

Story #2 titled ***Convening for Action in the Georgia Basin: Bowker Creek Forum*** promotes inter-regional sharing and collaboration will introduce the vision for collaboration among the three regions (CRD, north of the Malahat, Metro Vancouver); and will describe the 'regional team approach' to achieving water sustainability through implementation of green infrastructure.

3. **Week of February 8, 2010:**

Story #3 titled ***Shared Responsibility: Community Perspectives on Developing and Implementing the 100-Year Action Plan for Watershed Restoration*** will describe the role played by community groups and associations; and will explain how community values influenced the plan development process and are reflected in the Bowker Creek Blueprint.

4. **Week of February 15, 2010:**

Story #4 titled ***Shared Responsibility: Local Government Perspectives on Developing and Implementing the 100-Year Action Plan for Watershed Restoration*** will elaborate on what on-the-ground implementation will mean for municipal staffs which are tasked with making things happen.

5. **Week of March 1, 2010:**

Story #5 titled ***Call to Action: Bowker Creek Forum provides advances a 'regional team approach' to watershed restoration in the Georgia Basin*** will summarize what was accomplished by the Forum, and will foreshadow where the outcomes may lead.

These stories will serve as resource materials for participants; and as a publicly accessible record of the Forum process.

About the Bowker Creek Blueprint

The Bowker Creek Blueprint provides member municipalities, the Capital Regional District, the community and other land stewards with information and guidance to manage and restore the Bowker Creek watershed and creek corridor over the long term.

Having a plan in place will ensure that positive changes can happen incrementally, and that opportunities for major improvements can be achieved as they arise, in order to achieve the Bowker Creek Vision.

Need for Regional Team Approach

Achieving the Bowker Creek Vision entails a 'regional team approach' that is founded on the notion of shared responsibility.

In December 2009, the Water Sustainability Action Plan released *Backgrounder: Shared Responsibility Underpins a Regional Team Approach to Creating Our Future in British Columbia*

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Communication via Water Bucket

The Water Bucket website is the communication platform for the Water Sustainability Action Plan for British Columbia; and for regional initiatives and programs such as Convening for Action on Vancouver Island (CAVI).

Water Bucket is used to support/publicize "convening for action" events such as the Bowker Creek Forum.

Desired Outcomes

According to **Kim Stephens, Program Coordinator** for the Action Plan, publishing a series of stories on Water Bucket is intended to achieve three outcomes:

- progressively establish expectations;
- enable participants to tell their stories in their own words; and
- provide a written record of our "convening for action in BC" history as we create it.

"By publishing weekly stories on Water Bucket, this provides groups such as the Bowker Creek Steering Committee with flexibility to issue news releases (complete with web links) to inform target audiences," states Kim Stephens.



Format for Information Delivery

"The format for information delivery is a downloadable PDF document accompanied by a short web story. These are not technical documents. Although the layout is report-style, the documents are written in a journalistic style with emphasis on use of quotes. These personalize the stories and make them reader-friendly. Our experience shows that this approach is proving effective in communicating key messages," adds **Mike Tanner, Chair** of the Water Bucket Website Partnership.

