



Major breakthroughs happen when decision-makers in government work with grassroots visionaries in the community to create desired outcomes. When 'convening for action', we create a picture of the future that we want.

This interactive session on land development and water sustainability will inform and educate participants about a new form of governance that is taking root in the local government setting on Vancouver Island. It is quiet, silent and very effective. It starts with a vision: settlement change in balance with ecology. It is about turning the whole game around to a new way of doing business. The future desired by all will be created through alignment of federal, provincial, regional and local policies and actions:

This is what we want to collectively and incrementally achieve over time, and this is how we will work together to get there.

The phrase *water for life and livelihoods* conveys the fundamental principles of sustainability of natural systems in their own right and in relation to the health and wellbeing of people who benefit from the use of water for basic life needs and economic activity. Water sustainability can and will be achieved through implementation of green infrastructure policies and practices. Getting there requires a change in mind-set.

Research by the Real Estate Foundation, undertaken by Tim Pringle, concludes that real estate development in the mid-region of the east coast of Vancouver Island is a common market. This one market concept is a significant and material finding. It suggests that communities can choose from among development proposals, and can therefore control their destinies. Communities can establish expectations as to what they want and what they will accept. As communities develop and/or redevelop, it is all about changing the land ethic.

Stepping back to look at the really big picture, an over-arching question is: How will communities from Cobble Hill to Campbell River align their efforts to ensure the right development in the right place in the right time? Answering this question leads to a regional team approach that is founded on broad and inclusive partnerships and collaboration.

WATER FOR LIFE & LIVELIHOODS: WHAT DRIVES LARGE-SCALE REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT IN THE MID-ISLAND REGION



Eric Bonham

Eric Bonham has been proactive on water related issues for 40 years including service within the federal government, provincial government and the private sector. He is an advocate for community action and is involved with stewardship at both the provincial and local level. Eric Bonham has been described as the 'heart and soul' of the CAVI initiative. He is a passionate advocate for a new form of governance that involves decision makers in government working with visionaries in the community to create desired outcomes. He calls this 'mission possible'

Through her company, Kathy Bishop and Associates, Kathy has worked domestically and internationally in the areas of leadership, organizational development and facilitation. She specializes in strategic planning and business enhancement for women entrepreneurs. Kathy sits on the Leadership Vancouver Island's advisory board and is the former executive director of the Parksville & District Chamber of Commerce.

Kathy Bishop



Tim Pringle

Tim served as the long-time Executive Director of the Real Estate Foundation, building it from an idea to a valuable contributor to work done in the province on sustainable land use. His personal contributions to communities in the province are substantial. Tim moved to his current role in 2008 to work more closely with community programs as advisor, researcher, and a contributor to planning and educational services. He has been the key force in the Communities in Transition program which focuses on rural communities and their unique development challenges.

An engineer-planner, Kim Stephens is the 'virtual secretariat' for the Water Sustainability Action Plan for British Columbia, the partnership umbrella for an array of on-the-ground initiatives that promote a water-centric approach to community planning and development. Kim has 37 years of experience encompassing the spectrum of water resource and infrastructure engineering applications. He specializes in public policy and integration of perspectives as they relate to urban watershed planning; and has had a leadership role in a series of Provincial initiatives in British Columbia related to water-

Kim Stephens



John O. Finnie, BSc, MSc, PEng

A professional engineer with nearly 40 years experience in liquid and solid waste management, and water, wastewater and solid waste utility services. Formerly a regulator and manager with BC Ministry of Environment. Currently General Manager, Regional & Community Utilities with the Regional District of Nanaimo. Member of the Project Steering Committee for the Stormwater Planning Guidebook for BC. Facilitated development of the RDN Drinking Water & Watershed Protection Plan initiative. Member BCWWA and founding member and Chair of Convening for Action on Vancouver Island (CAVI). Recipient of the 2010 BCWWA Leadership for Water Sustainability award.