

Convening for Action on Vancouver Island



**A WORKSHOP: TOWARDS
WATER SUSTAINABILITY
ON VANCOUVER ISLAND**

<p>When:</p> <p>Where:</p> <p>What Time:</p> <p>Why:</p>	<p>Sunday, September 17th 2006</p> <p>Victoria Conference Centre Saanich Room</p> <p>1200 until 1630</p> <p>Registration at 1200 ‘Meet, Greet and Eat’ at 1215 ‘Convene for Action’ promptly at 1300</p> <p><i>Lunch provided by:</i></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div>
<p>Desired Outcomes:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ By 2010, be well on the way to achieving water sustainability on Vancouver Island. ▪ As a regional pilot program for <i>Convening for Action in British Columbia</i>, and as a program deliverable, develop a voluntary framework that could be adapted province-wide by local governments and environmental agencies for recognizing innovation and facilitating water-centric land development approvals. ▪ On September 17, take the first step in the process to coalesce a broad-based coalition of stakeholders under the banner of <i>Convening for Action on Vancouver Island</i>.

Convening for Action on Vancouver Island



A WORKSHOP: TOWARDS WATER SUSTAINABILITY ON VANCOUVER ISLAND

The landscape and livability of Vancouver Island is being transformed by settlement, economic growth and a limit on the natural supply of potable water. To accommodate the expected population growth over the next 50 to 100 years, the supply of potable water will need to increase and/or we must use the available potable water in a more sustainable manner to ensure an adequate water supply (for the growing communities). Although there are technological solutions to this problem the most economical solutions are based on integrating land development with watershed ecological systems.

The following Vision and Mission Statements have been developed to set a course for Convening for Action on Vancouver Island for land development to occur on a sustainable water-centric basis which balances how humans manage the full water cycle in harmony with nature.

VISION STATEMENT

- All municipal land development on Vancouver Island is carried out in a manner that integrates and harmonizes the development footprint within the watershed context to achieve water-centric sustainability as a condition of land development approval.
- Land development undertaken in balance with the approved sustainability principles and especially the ecological systems, that create the desired outcomes, is rewarded.
- Land development projects that demonstrate integrated planning and design processes using “designing with nature” principles will quantify how the project integrates and harmonizes the development footprint within the watershed ecosystem.
- Water conservation, water resource sustainability and demand-side management are fundamental components of our planning and actions regarding development and water use practices.

MISSION STATEMENT

To facilitate moving Vancouver Island towards a water sustainable future by:

- Engaging governments, the development community, the public and others about water-centric planning and development, water conservation and water sustainability.
- Providing opportunities for networking, information exchange and learning experiences on water sustainability for practitioners, bureaucrats, politicians and other water interest communities.
- Raising awareness and promoting discussion on water-centric development practices and experiences and water conservation successes in the development and consumer communities.
- Promoting a water balance way of thinking and acting.

Water - Choosing Sustainability for Life & Livelihoods

CONVENING FOR ACTION IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

is an element of the Water Sustainability Action Plan, and is outcome-oriented. It is being implemented through collaboration and regional partnerships. The desired outcome is to bring the vision for *Communities in Balance with Water* to fruition. Conversations with elected officials are an essential ingredient in developing a shared understanding of what the vision looks like on the ground. The goal is to implement changes in the way we develop land and use water.

Through partnerships with the Province and the Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia, the Water Sustainability Committee of the BCWWA is providing the leadership, facilitation and organizational services for delivery of the Water Sustainability Action Plan implementation program.

The Water Sustainability Action Plan for BC....



BCWWA
British Columbia Water
& Waste Association



THE REAL ESTATE
FOUNDATION
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Water - Choosing Sustainability for Life & Livelihoods: Convening for Action in British Columbia

Vancouver Island

Commencing with the Rainwater Harvesting Series in June 2005, there has been a series of outreach events on Vancouver Island over the past year where the unifying theme has been sustainability and/or a water-centric approach to community development.

- **Meeting of the Minds Workshop Series:** Workshops were held by invitation in Parksville in September 2005 and May 2006. The first was sponsored by BCWWA. It was the consensus of



the participants that the dialogue initiated at the first workshop continue in the future with the goal of building an effective long-term communications network addressing issues facing both the public and the water and wastewater industry on Vancouver Island. As an interim step, an ad hoc committee was formed to establish future directions. The Meeting of the Minds initiative has evolved into **Convening for Action on Vancouver Island.**

- **Water in the City Conference:** Under the umbrella of Convening for Action in British Columbia, a consultation workshop is being held in conjunction with the conference. This is a direct outcome of the second Meeting of the Minds Workshop. Participation is by invitation.



Titled *Towards Water Sustainability on Vancouver Island*, the workshop is intended to coalesce a broad-based coalition of stakeholders under the banner of **Convening for Action on Vancouver Island.** The structure that proved so successful in inspiring participants at the 2005 Greater Vancouver Workshop will again be applied.

WIC Workshop: The purpose of the Water in the City (WIC) Workshop is to initiate the process for development, through dialogue, of a *Framework for Recognizing Innovation & Facilitating Water-Centric Land Development Approvals.* This voluntary Framework could be used by local governments to assess whether land development projects are in balance with ecology.

The Framework would provide a way to reward innovation. The assessment process would quantify how a project integrates and harmonizes the development footprint within the watershed context, and achieves water-centric sustainability as a condition of land development approval.

Desired Outcome in Rewarding Innovation:

Enhance community livability, improve watershed and stream health, build/restore aquatic habitat, reduce infrastructure costs, and eliminate wasteful water use, and reduce rainwater runoff volumes.

Provincial Pilot: The proposed Framework will be the first deliverable under Convening for Action on Vancouver Island, and will have province-wide application. Because the Framework dovetails with the *Streamlined Environmental Approvals Protocol* as envisioned by the Green Infrastructure Partnership, the two can be viewed as one and the same.

To provide certainty and reward those who are implementing green infrastructure, the Framework would promote linkages between the 'time is money' principle and the opportunity to use the savings in interest costs to finance environmental restoration.

For complete information on Convening for Action in BC, go to this link on the WaterBucket Website:

<http://www.waterbucket.ca/cfa/index.asp?sid=10&id=61&type=single>



Convening for Action in British Columbia

“A Workshop: Towards Water Sustainability on Vancouver Island”

Held in Conjunction with the Water in the City Conference on Sunday, September 17, 2006



Time	Theme	Speaker/ Facilitator	Scope of Discussion: <i>Help Us Help You Help Us</i>
1300	Convening for Action: Context is Everything	Mac Fraser, Eric Bonham & Kim Stephens	<p>Setting the Scene - context & desired outcomes for workshop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Issue: How will Vancouver Island accommodate a doubling of the population; and what will the Island look like in 50 years? ▪ Context: <i>Meeting of the Minds</i> initiative has morphed into a <i>Convening for Action</i> pilot
1315	Roundtable Sharing: Water-Centric Innovation - Who is Doing What & What Has Worked (or Not)	Facilitated by John Finnie & Cori Barraclough	<p>What is an example of water-centric innovation in your community?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Many Island communities are implementing infrastructure practices that embody a <i>design with nature</i> way-of-thinking. Our objective in compiling and sharing information on case studies is to understand and learn from the experience of our neighbours. Case studies could range in scale from a rain garden to a complete community.
1415	<i>Pause & Refresh</i>		
1430	Implementing Change: If You Can Measure It, You Can...	Erik Karlsen	<p>So What are the ways we inform, inspire and enable people to work together through partnerships to act now?</p>
1455	Breakout Groups & Roundtable Input: Framework for Recognizing Innovation & Facilitating Water- Centric Land Development Approvals	Facilitated by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kim Stephens ▪ Cori Barraclough ▪ Meggin Messenger ▪ Susan Rutherford ▪ Eric Bonham ▪ Graeme Bethell ▪ Tim Pringle ▪ Ray Fung 	<p>Now What would a water-centric framework look like in order to provide certainty and reward innovation? Any time a land use decision is made, it creates a legacy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What can Vancouver Island communities do better or differently to achieve <i>water-centric sustainability</i>? ▪ What can new developments on Vancouver Island do to integrate and harmonize the development footprint within the watershed context and achieve water sustainability as a condition of land development approval? ▪ How could local governments implement a water-centric framework to reward innovation?
1530	Plenary – Report Out	Facilitated by Cori Barraclough	
1625	Next Step: A Workshop for Local Government	John Finnie	<p>Then What - moving from concept to policy to implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implementing new practices will need clearly defined standards and regulatory models. ▪ Willing municipalities will be invited to pool resources under a partnership framework.

ELEMENTS OF A FRAMEWORK FOR RECOGNIZING INNOVATION & FACILITATING WATER-CENTRIC APPROVALS

Are sustainability principles in place for the following water-centric elements?	Is information available to establish performance standards and guide best management practices in accordance with stated principles?	Are development approval and management practice standards in place to guide development and operations?	Are projects meeting development and management practice standards?
Aquatic, estuarine and near-shore marine species and habitat	Inventory of keystone species presence and listed species status. Assessment of habitat proper functioning conditions.	Performance standards for the protection, restoration and maintenance of species diversity and associated habitat requirements.	Does the project proposal meet approval requirements?
Traditional territory interests and obligations and other cultural and community values related to water	Identification of First Nations interests and obligations and other cultural and community values.	Requirements and considerations codified to facilitate compliance.	Does the project effectively address water related heritage, cultural and community interests?
Water supply	Inventory of water supply availability and water needs for ecosystem support, resource production, industrial, commercial, institutional and residential uses.	Water supply and water use-specific conservation standards and measures.	Does the project respect area water supply conditions and apply use-specific conservation standards?
Water quality	Water quality assessments and determination of opportunities for the use of non-potable sources for specified uses.	Source control, reuse and wastewater management standards to ensure human and environmental health.	Does the project protect surface and ground water commensurate with human health and environmental standards?
Rainwater management	Water-balance modeling to determine standards for rainwater management.	Standards for retention, infiltration and run-off management.	Does the proposal achieve rainwater management standards?
Service planning	Performance and cost-effective off-site water supply distribution and liquid waste management systems.	Standards for and acceptable approaches to the relationship between on-site and off-site water supply, rainwater management and liquid waste management systems.	Does the project make effective use of on-site approaches and is it effectively integrated with off-site systems?
LEED	Policies and programs to encourage and support LEED compliance.	LEED principles.	Does the project comply with LEED Certification standards?
Construction and post-construction management	Construction and post-construction best management practices guidelines.	Requirements for monitoring, reporting and compliance during and after construction.	Are commitments and security requirements in place to ensure construction completion and post-construction best management practices?
Capital, operations and maintenance financing	Assessment of capital, O&M financing options including P3.	Alternative capital and O&M financing options.	Does the project use financing options?
Triple-bottom line innovative practices	For example, is on-site treatment and conversion of sewage sludge and solid wastes to bio-fuels encouraged and supported?	Support for and removal of impediments to innovation.	Does the project include waste-based energy options such as bio-gas and bio-fuels?