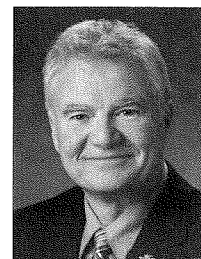


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**Province of
British Columbia**
Legislative Assembly



John Slater, M.L.A.
Burnaby-Similkameen
Parliamentary Secretary
for Water Supply and Allocation

December 17, 2009

Mayors, Councillors and Regional District Chairs:

Living Water Smart is the provincial government's plan to keep our water healthy and secure for the future. A key commitment in the plan is to consider amendments to the *Water Act* to improve the protection of ecological values, provide for more community involvement and provide incentives to be water efficient.

Over the coming months, we will be using a new *Living Water Smart* blog to encourage water stewardship in BC, share ideas and stories and celebrate our water smart successes. The blog will also be used to support dialogue on modernizing the *Water Act* and will complement a public discussion paper and a series of regional meetings to be announced early in 2010. You and your staff can access the blog at www.livingwatersmart.ca.

We recognize that water touches many aspects of local government's business and responsibilities. We will engage with you directly to gather your views and feedback on proposed policy options. We will be working with UBCM and following up with you in the New Year with details on engagement opportunities.

If you require further information please contact Ted White, Ministry of Environment, Water Stewardship Division at 250-356-2791.

I look forward to working with you on this important initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Slater'.

John Slater, MLA Boundary-Similkameen
Parliamentary Secretary for Water Supply and Allocation

Attachments: - Summary of Living Water Smart Commitments related to *Water Act* Modernization
- Water Act Modernization Backgrounder

cc: Honourable Bill Bennett, Minister of Community and Rural Development
Jared Wright, UBCM