



**University  
of Victoria**



**POLIS Project**  
on  
**Ecological Governance**  
University of Victoria

Convening for Action on Vancouver Island  
Leadership in Water Sustainability



## Showcasing Green Infrastructure Innovation on Vancouver Island: The New Business As Usual

### WHEN & WHERE:

Friday, September 12, 2008	Town of View Royal
Friday, September 26, 2008	City of Langford
Friday, October 10, 2008	University of Victoria
2009 (date to be determined)	Bowker Creek Initiative

Each event comprises presentations in the morning and a tour of project sites in the afternoon

### WHO:

The Series will be of interest to Engineering, Planning, Public Works, Development Services, Parks and Environment Departments in Regional Districts and Municipalities

Note: *The Series is eligible for professional development credits!*

### AGENDA:

Refer to page 2 for details of **October 10** program

### TO REGISTER FOR OCT 10:

Contact Jennifer Wong at the POLIS Project at [hydropolitics@gmail.com](mailto:hydropolitics@gmail.com) or Tel: 250-721-8189

There is a Registration Fee of \$30 to cover catering costs at the University Club. Please make cheques payable to the University of Victoria. Please advise if you have special dietary needs.

Attendance will be capped at 40. First come, first served. So respond quickly! Payment will guarantee your seat. To accommodate lunch arrangements, the deadline for registration is **Wednesday, October 8, 2008**

## Showcasing Innovation at the University of Victoria:

### 'Towards a New Infrastructure –

### Integrated and Water-Centric Planning at UVic and Beyond'

Situated at the headwaters of Bowker Creek, the University of Victoria, a community of more than 25,000 people, is a case study for green buildings and compact growth. The primary focus of the day will be on the built environment and implementing approaches and practices that achieve a Design with Nature outcome, and reduce physical impacts resulting from intensive urbanization.

The University and POLIS Project will showcase how each is 'walking the talk' in turning theory into action; also, POLIS will elaborate on how it is engaging local governments in discussions about new strategies for achieving the goal of sustainable water management and reduced 'hydrologic footprints'. Emphasis will be on how water sustainability can be achieved through the 'soft path' for water and complemented by green infrastructure practices that flow from a Design with Nature guiding philosophy; especially when those infrastructure practices reflect a full and proper understanding of the relationship between land and water.

The workshop will cascade in three major sections: *education* (with a focus on broader social and cultural contexts that shape attitudes and behaviour), *engagement* (taking research into the community) and *decisions* (making it work on campus). This will be followed by a walkabout to inspect green buildings and green infrastructure at UVic.

For more information on the Showcasing Innovation Series, contact [sustainabilitycoordinator@shaw.ca](mailto:sustainabilitycoordinator@shaw.ca)

Organized under the umbrella of the Water Sustainability Action Plan for British Columbia

# Showcasing Green Infrastructure Innovation on Vancouver Island: The New Business As Usual

## Showcasing Innovation at the University of Victoria: 'Towards a New Infrastructure – Integrated and Water-Centric Planning at UVic and Beyond'

Time	Program for Friday, October 10, 2008	Speakers
0830	Meet & Greet at University Club	
<b>CONTEXT PRESENTATIONS</b> (Kim Stephens, Moderator)		
0900	Convening for Action on Vancouver Island: Leadership in Water Sustainability & Green Infrastructure	Eric Bonham & Glen Brown
0920	<b>Ecological Governance &amp; Thinking Beyond Pipes and Pumps</b>  The POLIS Project on Ecological Governance fills a unique niche as a place where academic and policy research meets community action, with the objective of identifying how we can 'create a sustainable future' and a clear focus on lasting solutions. The water focus at POLIS is taking this conceptual work and developing tools and practices on the ground that move society from endless supply augmentation to a more balanced "water soft path" approach that situates ourselves in the context of the watershed as the central focus of decision making and action.  POLIS has produced a number of notable publications on water management (see <a href="http://www.waterdsm.org">www.waterdsm.org</a> ) including: <i>Thinking Beyond Pipes and Pumps: Top 10 Ways Communities Can Save Water and Money</i> ; <i>Flushing the Future?</i> ; and <i>The Soft Path for Water in a Nutshell</i> .	Oliver M Brandes POLIS Project Associate Director and Water Sustainability Project Leader
	<b>Turning Research into Action: Water Sustainability Pilot Projects in BC</b>  POLIS is taking its water research into communities across the province to help build capacity for conservation and water stewardship. By working with municipalities and key partners to develop and implement long-term integrated water conservation plans, POLIS is developing water sustainability as part of a broader community vision and seeks to help establish the leaders today that will raise the bar for water management tomorrow. The process of turning research into on-the-ground action creates a self-fulfilling cycle of success and moves case studies into pilot projects to tomorrow's "new business as usual."	Susanne Bopp- Porter  Community Water Coordinator at POLIS
1015	<i>Take a break!</i>	
1035	<b>Campus Planning &amp; Development: An Evolution Towards Sustainability</b>  The campus planning process in 2003 was a significant turning point at the University of Victoria. Through leadership, partnerships, and collaboration, UVic has been able to transition from an incremental approach in planning and resource management to a much more holistic and integrated approach – <i>the new business as usual</i> . This transformational experience resulted in a new vision for constructing water and energy efficient buildings in a built environment that respects the natural environment. This presentation will provide context and background for the afternoon tour.	Sarah Webb, University of Victoria Sustainability Coordinator
	<b>Group Exercise – Water-Centric Planning at UVic</b>  Working groups will get a sneak peek at the University of Victoria's innovative Sustainability Policy and Action Plan (to be released in 2009) and an opportunity to apply a watercentric approach to provide input to the Plan.	Facilitated by Sarah Webb
1145	<b>The Perspective of an Elected Representative on Water-Centric Planning in the Capital Regional District: Application of the "Natural City Vision" to Bowker Creek</b>	Vic Derman, Vice-Chair, CRD Water Commission
1215	<i>A nice sit-down lunch will be served!</i>	
1315	<b>Campus Walkabout – Green Buildings &amp; Green Infrastructure</b>  Delegates will get a chance to tour a number of different LEED buildings, view innovative landscape projects, and learn about the campus waste water treatment system and rainwater management programs.	Sarah Webb
1430	<i>That's all folks!</i>	