

Metro Vancouver Reference Panel presents Final Report on region's Liquid "Resource" Management Plan

Advisory group recommends policy framework for integration
that is keyed to a "regional team approach"

Reference Panel Final Report on the "Draft Liquid Waste Management Plan"



July 2009

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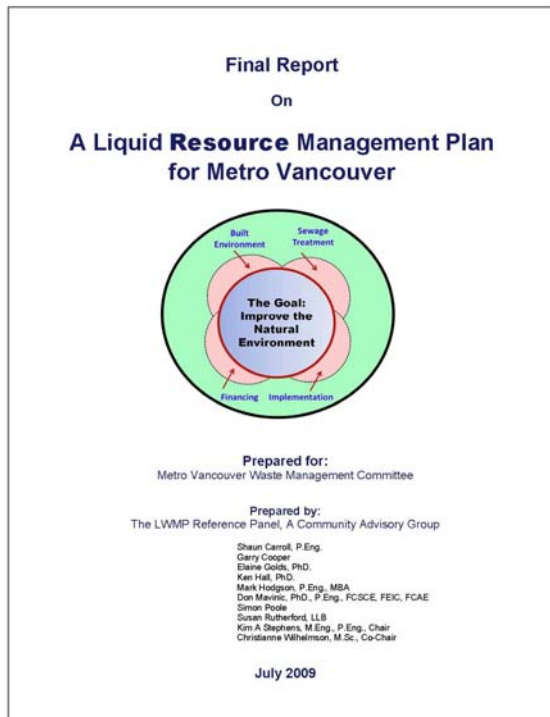
Liquid Resource Management Plan

Appointed by the Metro Vancouver Regional Board in April 2008 to provide independent advice and recommendations regarding the management of liquid discharges and rainwater, the **Liquid Waste Management Reference Panel** presented their **Final Report on A Liquid Resource Management Plan for Metro Vancouver** to the **Waste Management Committee** on July 15, 2009.

"Our Final Report is the culmination of several thousand hours of volunteer time and effort over the past 14 months," **Kim Stephens, Reference Panel Chair**, told the elected representatives.



"As we have progressively absorbed and synthesized information, our understanding has grown and we have identified opportunities to create linkages among the different areas of action – natural environment, built environment, sewage treatment, financing and implementation – thereby helping to create a stronger plan."



A Recommended Policy Framework

"The heart of the report is the three-page table titled **A Recommended Policy Framework for Liquid Resource Management in Metro Vancouver**. It consolidates our 19 recommendations in a reader-friendly format, and is complete with on-the-ground examples."

"The supporting report text serves two objectives. First, it establishes context for the table. Secondly, it elaborates on seven key recommendations so that Metro Vancouver and municipal decision makers will have a clear picture of why the examples are important and/or relevant."

"Our hope is that this set of 19 over-arching recommendations will help strengthen and improve the Plan; will help the Waste Management Committee make informed decisions and provide leadership; and will serve as an effective policy framework that helps the region implement the Plan."

A Recommended Policy Framework for Liquid Resource Management in Metro Vancouver

- Natural Environment - *move from protect to improve*
- Built Environment - *move beyond pilot projects*
- Sewage Treatment - *move from waste to resource*
- Financing – *move to a total system approach*
- Implementation - *move from commitment to action*

Regional Team Approach

The Policy Framework is keyed to an educationally-based **regional team approach**, one that develops a common understanding and results in consistent expectations region-wide.

"Commencing in 2007, Vancouver Island has been the pilot region for a regional team approach that is water-centric and precedent-setting, and seeks to align local actions with provincial goals. Metro Vancouver and Vancouver Island are learning from each other, and are moving in the same direction," observes **John Finnie** (General Manager, Water & Wastewater Services, Regional District of Nanaimo) and Chair of **Convening for Action on Vancouver Island**.



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The New Business As Usual

Metro The Reference Panel Final Report highlights that **Living Water Smart** and the **Green Communities Project** provide an over-arching provincial policy framework for Metro Vancouver's Plan.

"We are using the slogan **The New Business As Usual** to convey the message that, for change to really occur, practices that until now have been viewed as the exception must become the norm moving forward. We have to build regulatory models and develop models of practice and expertise to support *The New Business As Usual*", stated **Dale Wall, Deputy Minister** (Community & Rural Development) when he announced the launch of both the new Water Balance Model and the Vancouver Island Learning Lunch Seminar Series at the Gaining Ground Summit in May 2008.



Previous stories about the Reference Panel

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE COI: [Metro Vancouver appoints Reference Panel to provide input to Liquid Waste Management Plan](#)

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE COI: [Metro Vancouver Reference Panel calls for Liquid "Resource" Management Plan](#)

RAINWATER MANAGEMENT COI: [Metro Vancouver Reference Panel raises questions about ISMP process and outcomes to date](#)

WATER-CENTRIC PLANNING COI: [Metro Vancouver Reference Panel shares water-centric vision with Regional Engineers Advisory Committee](#)

WATER-CENTRIC PLANNING COI: [Nutrient Recovery: Metro Vancouver Reference Panel looks into the future - Magic crystals point the way to a sustainable future](#)

WATER-CENTRIC PLANNING COI: [Metro Vancouver Board Aligns Regional Planning Vision with "Living Water Smart, BC's Water Plan"](#)

CONVENING FOR ACTION COI: [Metro Vancouver Reference Panel presents Progress Report on region's Liquid "Resource" Management Plan](#)

RAINWATER MANAGEMENT COI: [Water-Centric Development at the University of British Columbia informs Metro Vancouver Reference Panel](#)

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE COI: [World class innovation at Southeast False Creek informs Metro Vancouver Reference Panel](#)

CONVENING FOR ACTION COI: [Metro Vancouver Reference Panel presents Interim Report on region's Liquid "Resource" Management Plan](#)

RAINWATER MANAGEMENT COI: [Re-Focus Integrated Stormwater Management Plans on outcomes, recommends Metro Vancouver Reference Panel](#)