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CAVI releases program details for 2009 Vancouver Island Learning Lunch Seminar Series

Drought creates a 'teachable moment' for water-centric planning
and climate change adaptation in the Comox Valley

The 2009 Learning Lunch Seminar Series is a collaboration of four local governments in the Comox Valley, the Comox Valley Land Trust, CAVI - Convening for Action on Vancouver Island, the Water Sustainability Action Plan for British Columbia, the Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia, two provincial Ministries and the Green Infrastructure Partnership.

The 2009 Series comprises a set of three seminars. The first one is on September 25. For an overview of the program curriculum, click on [CAVI releases program details for 2009 Vancouver Island Learning Lunch Seminar Series](#)

"Commencing in 2007, Vancouver Island has been the pilot region for a water-centric educational program that is founded on partnerships and collaboration, and seeks to align local actions with provincial and regional goals," states **Glen Brown, Executive Director** with the Ministry of Community & Rural Development.

"How we will simultaneously work together as staff within a municipality and as a region AND externally with the stewardship sector, developers and other private sector players, to ensure we implement sustainable approaches to development"

"In 2008, the pilot **Vancouver Island Learning Lunch Seminar Series** successfully demonstrated how to inform, educate and inspire local government practitioners about making 'green choices' to create liveable communities and protect stream health. This created the springboard for a **regional team approach**," continues **John Finnie, CAVI Chair**.

"In 2009, the extreme dry weather conditions being experienced raise questions and concerns about the way we have been building our communities; and furthermore, the climate impacts on the water cycle have created a *teachable moment* for water-centric planning."

"The 2009 Series is outcome-oriented, draws on the experience of those in local government, and will focus on how to implement a regional team approach to balance settlement and ecology. We will connect the dots that will help those in the frontlines lead change and succeed," concludes **Glen Brown**.

The Province's [Living Water Smart, BC's Water Plan](#) and [Green Communities Project](#) provide context for the 2009 Series. They are complementary initiatives, and together provide British Columbians with a vision of what the province can look like if local governments prepare communities for change, choose to be water smart, and strive to achieve settlement in balance with ecology.

During the August – September period, a series of stories will be published on Water Bucket. These will progressively describe the elements of the seminar program in order to establish participant expectations. To stay informed as the storyline unfolds, click on [The Story of the 2009 Vancouver Island Learning Lunch Seminar Series](#).

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