

CAVI – Convening for Action on Vancouver Island *Leadership in Water Sustainability*

2009 Comox Valley Learning Lunch Seminar Series



Getting Ahead of the Wave: *An Integrated Watershed Approach to Settlement*

Comox Valley is the Provincial Pilot for a 'Regional Team Approach'

We are here today to initiate a dialogue
about the 'Collaboration Challenge'

*“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 a regional stewardship approach to
land and water resource uses.”*

The 'regional team approach' is founded on partnerships and collaboration; and seeks to align actions at three scales – provincial, regional and local.



“Everyone needs to agree on expectations and how all the players will work together, and after that each community can reach its goals in its own way.”

Eric Bonham
CAVI Leadership Team

The 'regional team approach' brings together....

- **The Province** - *those who provide legislative framework*
- **Local Government** - *those who plan and regulate*
- **Developers** - *those who build*
- **Stewardship Sector** – *those who advocate for conservation*
- **Agricultural Sector** – *those who grow food*
- **Academia** - *those who provide research*

Consistency at the front counter !

The Comox Valley Learning Lunch Seminar Series will facilitate inter-departmental alignment and a consistent regional team approach to implementing green infrastructure practices that lead to water sustainability

THE CURRICULUM

- Seminar #1: Understand the Dynamics of Settlement Changes
- Seminar #2: Regional Plans – Pathway to Water Sustainability
- Seminar #3: Commitment to the Regional Team Approach

When 'convening for action', we create a picture of the future that we want:

1. **Vision:** What the Comox Valley will look like in 50 years ~*WHAT*~
2. **Goal:** Implement the 'New Business As Usual' ~*SO WHAT*~
3. **Strategy:** What we are going to do better or differently to get from here to there ~*NOW WHAT*~

Water for Life & Livelihoods: *This deceptively simple equation embodies principles and concepts that we will cover in the 2009 Series*

Over time,
the safety factor has been shrinking:

The Water Balance

$$\mathbf{OUT = IN}$$

IN = f (hydrology, weather, time, infrastructure,...)

OUT = Uses + F_{safety}
= ($U_{\text{essential}} + U_{\text{excess}}$) + F_{safety}

where....

$U_{\text{essential}}$ = f (population, ecology, industry, time, ...)

U_{excess} = f (wealth, society, technology...)

Today you will learn....

1. **WHY** now is the time to 'move from awareness to action' in the Comox Valley
2. **WHAT** drives settlement on the East Coast of Vancouver Island – we have choices!
3. **HOW** we can implement a 'regional team approach' that ensures *'water for life and livelihoods'*