

Worth Every Penny: An Introduction to Conservation-Oriented Water Pricing and Sustainable Service Delivery

Beyond the Guidebook 2010: Water for Life and Livelihoods

Draft Agenda for 'Nanaimo Water Pricing Workshop'

Part of the rollout to stimulate a national dialogue on sustainable water management, the *Nanaimo Water Pricing Workshop* program is a unique blend of research and practice. The workshop will connect the dots between three initiatives:

- In November 2008, the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) established a British Columbia precedent by creating a drinking water and watershed protection service area with taxation authority in an electoral area.
- In May 2010, the University of Victoria's *POLIS Project on Ecological Governance* published **Worth Every Penny: A Primer on Conservation-Oriented Water Pricing**.
- Released in June 2010, **Beyond the Guidebook 2010: Implementing a New Culture for Urban Watershed Protection and Restoration in British Columbia** describes how water sustainability can and will be achieved through implementation of green infrastructure policies and practices.

The desired outcome for the workshop is that participating practitioners will understand why 'conservation-oriented water pricing' is a tool to achieve a larger end, that is: 'sustainable service delivery'.

Establishing Expectations – This is what we want!

1030 -
1215

1. Convening for Action: Why Does 'Water Pricing' Matter?

(John Finnie) (20 minutes)

- Introduce the RDN's *Action for Water: Drinking Water & Watershed Protection Program*
- Introduce the *Water OUT = Water IN* mind-map to frame the big picture
- **DESIRED OUTCOME:** The audience will understand the context for the workshop

2. Worth Every Penny: An Introduction to the Water Pricing Primer

(Kirk Stinchcombe & Oliver Brandes tag-team) (55 minutes)

- Introduce participants to a national dialogue about conservation-oriented water pricing;
- Provide participants with a "road map" on how to implement pricing improvements.
- **DESIRED OUTCOME:** The audience will understand the value of the Primer

3. Town Hall Sharing & Learning Session:

Beyond the Guidebook 2010: Connecting Dots and Building Blocks

(facilitated by Kim Stephens & John Finnie tag-team) (30 minutes)

- Ask the question: *What is your reaction to what you are hearing & what do you wonder?*
- **DESIRED OUTCOME:** The audience will be energized for the afternoon session

Lunch

Take a break and continue the conversation! (45 minutes)

Delivering on Expectations – This is how we can/will get there!

Sharing and learning will be facilitated in a town hall setting. In each part, a lead-off presentation (~20 minutes) will provide the audience with a mind-map and set the tone for interaction.

1300 -
1500

4. Water for Life & Livelihoods on Vancouver Island:

Part 1 Sharing & Learning - Water Pricing Experience & Insights We Have Gained

(led by Mike Donnelly; supported by Kim Stephens) (55 minutes)

- Elaborate on the RDN's *Action for Water* to provide structure
- Emphasize that water pricing is a 'dropdown' within the overall strategy
- **DESIRED OUTCOME:** The audience will understand the value of regional consistency

5. Water for Life and Livelihoods on Vancouver Island:

Part 2 Sharing & Learning – What Does 'Sustainable Service Delivery' Mean to You?

(led by Glen Brown; supported by Kim Stephens) (55 minutes)

- Connect dots between financial accountability, infrastructure sustainability and service delivery.
- Elaborate on a set of five principles to provide a mind-map for 'asset management'
- **DESIRED OUTCOME:** The audience will understand why an over-arching goal is to deliver a cost-effective service AND sustain the water resource.

6. Connecting the Dots to the '2010 State of the Island Economic Summit'

(John Finnie) (5 minutes)