

Working Toward Sustainable Communities

“Water - Choosing Sustainability for Life & Livelihoods”

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Water - Choosing Sustainability for Life & Livelihoods

“ Community success does not come from size or opportunity alone, but from meeting challenges and adversity, seizing and maximizing possibilities, and developing a collection of creative solutions to apparently insoluble problems.”

From Restless Communities to Resilient Places:
Building a Stronger Future for all Canadians

2006



Challenges

- Pressures on land / water resources and aquatic ecosystems
- Tools & approaches not keeping pace
- Attitude / behaviour gap

Possibility

~ Re-think governance models & management tools

- How decisions are made, who's involved, who's accountable
- Social sciences
 - community-based social-marketing
 - remove barriers that inhibit sustainable behaviors
- Communication





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Possibility

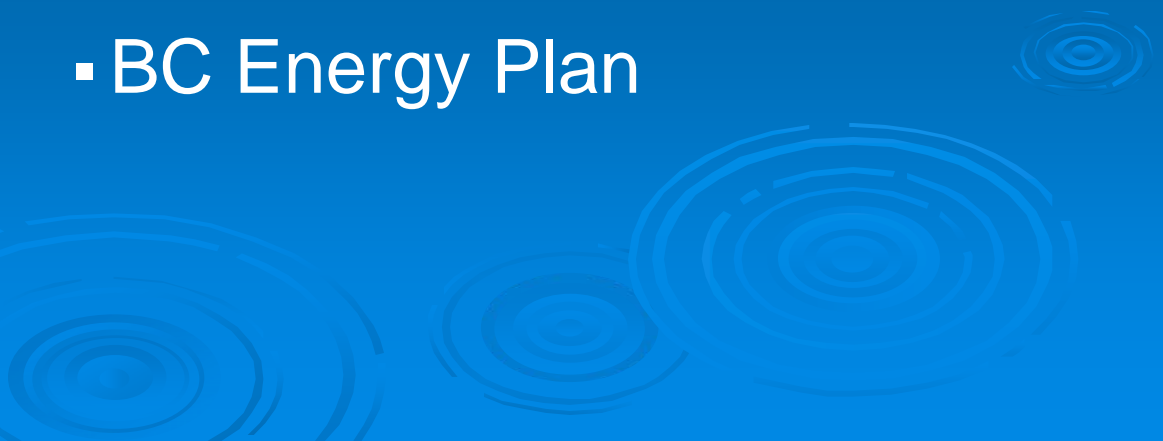
**~ Act on our own
account to become
water stewards**

- Stewardship is about replacing self interest, dependency and control with service, responsibility and partnership
- Community leadership in water sustainability



Water - Choosing Sustainability for Life & Livelihoods

Provincial Initiatives


- Green Cities
 - Towns for Tomorrow
 - Gas Tax Agreement Program
 - Integrated Community Sustainability Planning
 - Green Building Code
 - BC Energy Plan
- 

A photograph of two hikers on a dirt trail. The hiker in the foreground is wearing a blue shirt, dark shorts, a pink hat, and a blue backpack. The hiker behind is wearing a light blue shirt, pink shorts, a white hat, and a blue backpack. They are walking away from the camera on a dirt path. In the background, there is a large body of water (a lake) and a range of rugged, snow-capped mountains under a cloudy sky. The right side of the image is overlaid with a blue graphic containing text.

- *Choosing Sustainability for Life & Livelihoods*

Vision

***“Water for B.C. ~
Safe, sustainable and
valued by all”***

- BC Water Action Plan
 - WSD Outreach Strategy - *“from awareness to action”*
 - Partnership with WSC
- 
- A decorative graphic in the bottom right corner of the blue overlay, consisting of several concentric, light blue circles that resemble ripples in water.

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Partnership with BCWWA's Water Sustainability Committee!



BCWWA
British Columbia Water
& Waste Association



The Best Place on Earth



Water - Choosing Sustainability for Life & Livelihoods

Water Sustainability Committee

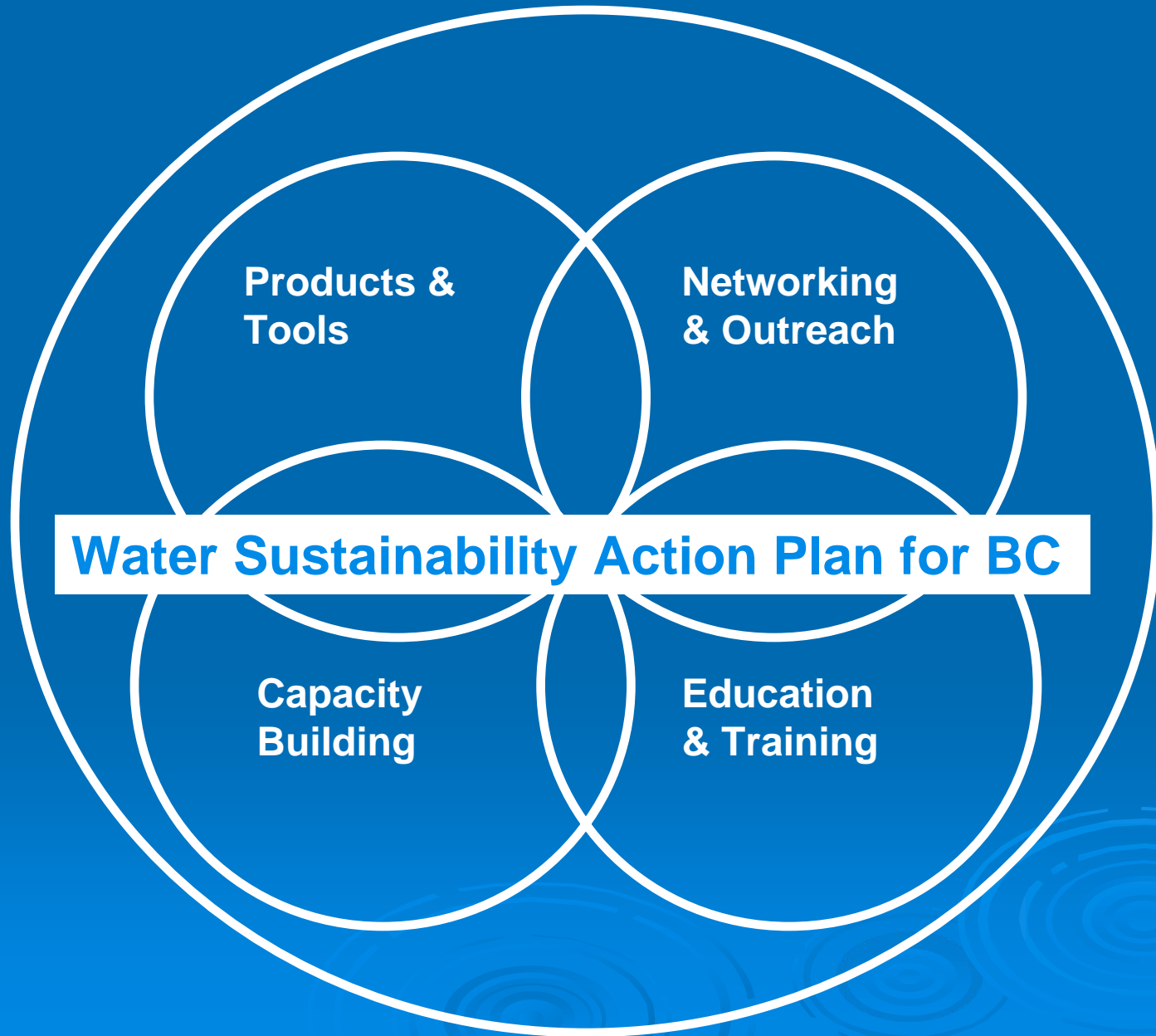
- WSC Vision

Stewardship of a limited and vital resource, water, actively supported by an aware and educated citizenry

- WSC Mission

Facilitate the move toward a more sustainable approach to water resource management – at all levels from the province to the household

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Water Sustainability Action Plan for BC

**Products &
Tools**

**Networking
& Outreach**

**Capacity
Building**

**Education
& Training**

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4. Then what?

Replicate in other communities

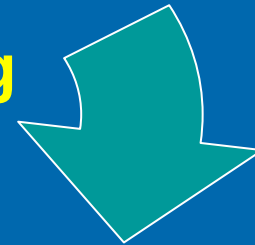


1. What is the issue?

Land development determines how water is used and how water runs off the land.

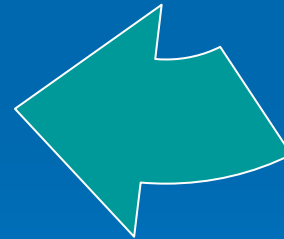


**Convening
for Action**



3. Now what can we do?

Implement a Water Sustainability Action Plan for BC



2. So what can be done?

Influence practitioners...



Networking & Outreach

- Convening for Action on Vancouver Island




Education & Training

- Showcasing Innovation: Celebrating Green Infrastructure Series



Capacity Building

- Convening for Action in the South Okanagan



**Communities in Transition:
Convening for Action in the South Okanagan**

**Moving Towards a Water Balance
Way-of-Thinking and Acting
in the South Okanagan:**
A Synthesis of Conversations With
Okanagan-Similkameen Residents

An Initiative of the
**Water Sustainability Committee of the
British Columbia Water & Waste Association**

In Collaboration with the
**The Town of Oliver
Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia
Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen
Okanagan Water Board
Province of British Columbia**

First Release: November 2005
Updated: February 2006



Reclaimed Water Applications:

- 18 hole golf course
- Vineyard
- Hobby Farm
- Municipal Park
- Municipal Cemetery
- Public Works Yard
- Hayfield on Airport

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Products & Tools

• www.waterbucket.ca



Convening For Action

- Challenge
- Inform
- Enable

** Stay for remaining presentations in this half day session*

