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Theme for Water Balance Model Partners Forum is '*Beyond the Guidebook: The New Business As Usual*'

The Inter-Governmental Partnership (IGP) has released the **Preliminary Agenda** (refer to the accompanying attachment) for the Water Balance Model Partners Forum on February 29. The Forum will be the formal launch of the [Water Balance Model powered by QUALHYMO](#), and will be hosted by the District of North Vancouver in a 'Town Hall' setting.

The Forum centrepiece will be an online demonstration of the integrated tool, and the program will comprise three parts to provide 'structured flexibility' for effective interaction among Partners and guests:

- **Part 1 - Demonstrate** → how the integrated modeling tool works
- **Part 2 - Feed Back** → how the integrated tool can be used to influence land use planning
- **Part 3 - Inform** → how *The New Business As Usual* will be implemented provincially

Today's Expectations are Tomorrow's Standards

The **Water Balance Model powered by QUALHYMO** is a supporting tool for [Beyond the Guidebook: The New Business As Usual](#), a provincial initiative to advance implementation of green infrastructure policies and practices.

The [Ministry of Community Services is a lead Ministry for rainwater management and green infrastructure](#). According to **Chris Jensen**, a Ministry representative on the IGP steering committee, "The Ministry has an increasing role in ensuring that local governments are advancing and changing the ways they plan and design their communities for the better. The mandate of the Ministry has changed somewhat in recent years. Our mission is to promote sustainable, liveable communities. And rainwater management is a key element of green solutions."

[At the Beyond the Guidebook Seminar held in November 2007](#), Chris Jensen described how the Ministry is leveraging the Green Communities Project to advance green infrastructure province-wide. He presented a road map that foreshadowed how **today's expectations are tomorrow's standards**. He noted that [the Province made a conscious decision to create change through practitioner education, and after a decade this approach is now paying dividends](#).

Create Liveable Communities and Protect Stream Health

The vision for the **Water Balance Model powered by QUALHYMO**...as a decision support tool that bridges engineering and planning...is that it will help communities [create neighbourhoods that integrate both good planning and innovative engineering designs](#), for overall greater sustainability (environmental, social, economic).

The Partners Forum will preview the pending Vancouver Island regional pilot for building local government capacity. This entails a soft educational approach to facilitate inter-departmental alignment. The pilot program will focus on how tools underpinning **Beyond the Guidebook: The New Business As Usual** can be applied to create liveable communities and protect stream health.

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Inter-Governmental Partnership

Preliminary Agenda for 2008 Partners Forum
Friday, February 29, 2008

Changing the Way We Develop Land to Create Liveable Communities and Protect Stream Health		
Council Chambers, District of North Vancouver, 355 West Queens Meet and greet will start at 0930. Refreshments will be served.		
Beyond the Guidebook: <i>The New Business As Usual</i>		
1000	Report from the Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Overview • The New Business As Usual • Inter-Provincial Partnership • Rolling 3-Year Plan 	Ted van der Gulik, Ministry of Agriculture & Lands
PART ONE - DEMONSTRATE		
1015	Rainwater Management & Green Infrastructure: Today's Expectations are Tomorrow's Standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Community Services Green Mandate • Beyond the Guidebook Seminar (Nov 2007) 	Chris Jensen, Ministry of Community Services Corino Salomi, Fisheries & Oceans Canada
1030	Online Case Study Demonstration: Water Balance Model powered by QUALHYMO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting Stream Health • Site Scale Solutions • Watershed Scale Solutions 	Jim Dumont, Engineering Applications Authority & Doug Backhouse, Website Architect
1200	Lunch and refreshments (note: the cost is \$20 per person, payable at the door)	
PART TWO – FEED BACK		
1300	Applying the Water Balance Model to Change the Way We Develop Land: What Else Would You Like to Know or Share?	Co-moderated by Ted van der Gulik & Laura Maclean, Environment Canada
PART THREE - INFORM		
1400	Implementing <i>The New Business As Usual</i> : Vancouver Island Pilot Program & Beyond	Kim Stephens, Water Sustainability Action Plan Jay Bradley, Chair, VI Coordinating Team
1445	Rainfall Interception by Trees in Urban Areas: Preliminary Findings of UBC Research Project	Richard Boase, District of North Vancouver
1530	That's All Folks!	



Inter-Governmental Partnership

Program Overview for 2008 Partners Forum
Friday, February 29, 2008

	<h2>Changing the Way We Develop Land to Create Liveable Communities and Protect Stream Health</h2>
Location:	Council Chambers, District of North Vancouver, 355 West Queens
Duration:	1000 to 1530 hours (<i>note: to accommodate those traveling from outside Metro Vancouver</i>)
Theme:	Beyond the Guidebook: <i>The New Business As Usual</i>
Context:	<p>The British Columbia landscape is being transformed by settlement and economic growth. While the province has been experiencing a development boom, the desire to mitigate environmental impacts has provided a driver for the 'green infrastructure' movement that is water-centric and is founded on a natural systems approach.</p> <p>The Water Balance Model has emerged as the <i>rainwater management tool of choice</i> in making land development decisions that meet the test of being sustainable, affordable and achievable. Because it demonstrates how to achieve a <i>light hydrologic footprint</i>, the Water Balance Model helps practitioners wrap their minds around how to implement 'green solutions'.</p>
Key Messages:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Integration of the Water Balance Model and QUALHYMO means we now have a 'runoff-based tool' for source control evaluation and stream health assessment that supports land use planning. A 'mind map' is described by these sound-bites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2002 Stormwater Guidebook: "<i>thinking like a site</i>" – i.e. reduce runoff volume QUALHYMO: "<i>one-stop shopping</i>" – i.e. so engineers can model what overflows Beyond the Guidebook: "<i>thinking like a watershed</i>" – i.e. protect stream health The 'runoff-based approach' holds the key to assessing environmental impacts in watercourses and the effectiveness of mitigation techniques.
Structure:	<p>The Forum will comprise three parts to provide 'structured flexibility' for interaction among the WBM Partners and guests, and the program centrepiece will be an online demonstration of the <i>Water Balance Model powered by QUALHYMO</i>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part 1: Demonstrate → how the integrated modeling tool works Part 2: Feed Back → how the integrated tool can be used to influence land use planning Part 3: Inform → how <i>The New Business As Usual</i> will be implemented provincially
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Participants will be informed re the capabilities of the '<i>WBM powered by QUALHYMO</i>' Participants will be informed re '<i>Beyond the Guidebook: The New Business As Usual</i>'
Websites:	www.waterbucket.ca www.greeninfrastructure.ca www.rainwater-management.ca
Reference Documents:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Beyond the Guidebook: Context for Rainwater Management in British Columbia</i>, released in June 2007. To download a copy: http://www.waterbucket.ca/rm/sites/wbcrm/documents/media/37.pdf <i>Integration of Rainwater Management & Green Infrastructure in British Columbia: The Province's Perspective</i> http://www.waterbucket.ca/qi/index.asp?sid=10&id=330&type=single <i>Moving from Stormwater Management to RAINwater Management: A Federal Fisheries Perspective</i> http://wbm-bc.lanarc.ca/sites/wbm-canada-template/documents/media/3.pdf