



British Columbia, Alberta and Ontario form an Inter-Provincial Partnership to promote Canada-wide use of the Water Balance Model

Leadership team representatives of the [British Columbia Inter-Governmental Partnership](#)¹ (BCIGP), [Alberta Low Impact Development Partnership](#)² (ALIDP), and the [Toronto and Region Conservation Authority](#)³ (TRCA) met in Calgary on October 31 to finalize the framework for an Inter-Provincial Partnership (IPP).

“The Inter-Provincial Partnership will promote Canada-wide use of the national **Water Balance Model** as a tool to facilitate ‘green’ development practices,” announced **Ted van der Gulik**, BCIGP Chair.

Integration of the web-based Water Balance Model with the **QUALHYMO** computational engine was the critical ingredient in the partnership mix, noted both **Liliana Bozic** of ALIDP and **Glenn MacMillan** of TRCA.

Subsequent to the [Water Balance Model Partners Forum](#)⁴ in March, significant time and effort has been invested by [Dr. Charles Rowney](#)⁵ (**Water Balance Model Scientific Authority**) and members of his **Expert Advisory Panel** to fine-tune the QUALHYMO engine, in part to meet the needs of the Inter-Provincial Partnership. Rollout of the completed tool is now scheduled to commence in January 2008. For background on the project, please see the [link below](#)⁶.

The [Water Balance Model powered by QUALHYMO](#)⁷ means engineers will have a runoff-based tool for source control evaluation and stream health assessment. “Because QUALHYMO was developed by the Ontario Ministry of Environment in the 1980s, the integrated tool can truly be called the pan-Canadian tool,” observed **Glenn MacMillan**.

“Our relationship with the BC partnership has already paid dividends,” added **Liliana Bozic**. “Over the past three years, members of the BC team have made numerous [visits to Alberta](#)⁸ to help us raise awareness of the need to change land development practices so that we capture rain where it falls.”

ALIDP is a broad-based consortium of government, private and non-government organizations; and is co-chaired by the cities of Calgary and Edmonton.

The eighteen municipalities within the TRCA are home to one-third of Ontario’s population.

Ted van der Gulik, PEng, Chair
(BC Ministry of Agriculture & Lands)
British Columbia Inter-Governmental Partnership
Ted.vanderGulik@gov.bc.ca

&
Kim A Stephens, MEng, PEng
Program Coordinator
Water Sustainability Action Plan for British Columbia
T: 604-817-4657; kimastephens@shaw.ca

¹ <http://www.waterbucket.ca/rm/index.asp?sid=12&id=246&type=single>

² <http://www.waterbucket.ca/rm/index.asp?sid=12&id=255&type=single>

³ <http://www.waterbucket.ca/rm/index.asp?sid=12&id=255&type=single>

⁴ <http://www.waterbucket.ca/rm/index.asp?sid=44&id=307&type=single>

⁵ <http://www.waterbucket.ca/rm/index.asp?sid=33&id=274&type=single>

⁶ <http://www.waterbucket.ca/rm/index.asp?sid=33&id=274&type=single>

⁷ <http://www.waterbucket.ca/gi/index.asp?sid=16&id=150&type=single>

⁸ <http://www.waterbucket.ca/rm/index.asp?sid=10&id=270&type=single>