



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
AGENDA

Thursday, June 6, 2019

<u>PAGE NO.</u>		<u>ACTION</u>
	<u>CALL TO ORDER</u>	
	<u>SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA</u>	Receive
	<u>AGENDA</u> – June 6, 2019	Approve
	<u>MINUTES</u>	
3-11	Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – May 2, 2019	Receive
	<u>DELEGATION</u>	
12-38	<u>MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (1 hour)</u> Sean Staplin, Senior Water Stewardship Officer, Land and Water Section - Smithers Johanna Wick, Regional Hydrogeologist, Land and Water Section-Prince George RE: <i>Water Sustainability Act - Overview</i>	
	<u>REPORTS</u>	
39	Nellie Davis, Regional Economic Development Coordinator – Provincial Nominee Program -Regional Pilot	Direction
40-45	Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services/Acting CAO – RDBN Resolutions to North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA)	Receive
46	John Illes, Chief Financial Officer – Proposed Six Month Budget Update	Receive
47-48	Nellie Davis, Regional Economic Development Coordinator – Futurpreneur/ThriveNorth Letter Of Support	Receive

<u>PAGE NO.</u>	<u>CORRESPONDENCE</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
49	Union of B.C. Municipalities <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ALC No Longer Reviewing Cannabis Production</li></ul>	Receive
<u>INVITATIONS</u>		
50-53	Rio Tinto Re: Water Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Rio Tinto Water Engagement Initiative Update</li><li>- Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – Letter to Rio Tinto</li></ul>	Receive
54-55	University of Northern British Columbia - Cumulative Impacts Research Consortium-Public Presentation: New Tools for Assessing the Cumulative Impacts of Resource Development	Receive

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO****COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING****Thursday, May 2, 2019**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Chair	Gerry Thiessen
	Directors	Taylor Bachrach Shane Brien Mark Fisher Dolores Funk Tom Greenaway Clint Lambert Brad Layton Linda McGuire Rob Newell Mark Parker Bev Playfair Michael Riis-Christianson Kim Watt-Senner
	Director Absent	Jerry Petersen, Electoral Area "F" (Vanderhoof Rural)
	Alternate Director	Roy Spooner, Electoral Area "F" (Vanderhoof Rural)
	Staff	Cheryl Anderson, Acting Chief Administrative Officer/Manager of Administrative Services Debbie Evans, Agriculture Coordinator – arrived at 1:25 p.m. John Illes, Chief Financial Officer Rory McKenzie, Director of Environmental Services – arrived at 1:25 p.m. Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant
	Others	Tom Barnes, CEO, Municipal Insurance Association of BC – left at 11:47 a.m. Agathe Bernard, Stewardship Officer, Nadina, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – arrived at 11:21 a.m., left at 12:47 p.m. Maria Creighton, CFO, Municipal Insurance Association of BC – left at 11:47 a.m. Beth Eagles, Resource Manager, Regional Operations, Nadina, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – arrived at 11:24 a.m., left at 12:47 p.m. Darrell Hill, Councillor, Village of Burns Lake – left at 11:47 a.m. Brent May, District Manager, Regional Operations, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – arrived at 11:24 a.m., left at 12:47 p.m. Brad McRobert, Regional Manager Bulkley-Nechako (Vanderhoof), Regional Economic Operations Branch, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – arrived at 11:24 a.m., left at 12:47 p.m. Diane Nichols, Provincial Chief Forester, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development– arrived at 11:13 a.m., left at 12:47 p.m.

Others (Cont'd)

Atmo Prasad, Manager, Forest Analysis and Data, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development– arrived at 11:13 a.m., left at 12:47 p.m.  
Jim Snetsinger, RPF, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development– arrived at 11:13 a.m., left at 12:47 p.m.  
Qiong Su, Timber Supply/Geomatics Forester, Forest Analysis, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – arrived at 11:13 a.m., left at 12:47 p.m.  
Sheryl Worthing, CAO, Village of Burns Lake – left at 11:47 a.m.

Media

Blair McBride, Lakes District News – left at 11:03 a.m., returned at 11:41 a.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Thiessen called the meeting to order at 10:49 a.m.

**AGENDA & SUPPLEMENTARY**

Moved by Director Greenaway  
Seconded by Director Layton

C.W.2019-4-1

"That the Agenda of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Committee of the Whole meeting of May 2, 2019 be approved; and further, that the Supplementary Agenda be dealt with at this meeting."

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MINUTES**

Committee of the Whole Minutes –April 4, 2019

Moved by Director Layton  
Seconded by Director Bachrach

C.W.2019-4-2

"That the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of April 4, 2019 be received."

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**DELEGATIONS**

**MUNICIPAL INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF BC – Tom Barnes, CEO, Maria Creighton, CFO**  
**RE: Overview**

Chair Thiessen welcomed Tom Barnes, CEO and Maria Creighton, CFO Municipal Insurance Association of BC.

Mr. Barnes and Ms. Creighton provided a video and PowerPoint Presentation.

- Overview of MIA – 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary video
- Not a private insurer... MIABC's goals are its members goals
- Return to MIABC members
- Provide members with more than just insurance
- MIABC exists because communities in BC want to work together and support each other
- Great things are done by a series of small things brought together

**DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)**

**MUNICIPAL INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF BC – Tom Barnes, CEO, Maria Creighton, CFO**  
**RE: Overview (Cont'd)**

- Loose Lips – Sink Townships
  - Reducing Risk Arising from Communications with the Public
    - Where does the liability exposure of elected officials arise?
  - Defamation and Negligent Misrepresentation
    - Cost of claims
      - Direct costs
      - Indirect cost
      - Intangible cost
  - Biggest mistake – negligent misrepresentation – saying something you think is right or sounds like it should be right but isn't right
    - Examples
      - Information relating to future plans
      - Contracts or tender documents
      - Interpretation of bylaws
      - Subdivision requirements
      - Building regulations
      - Business regulations
      - Municipal assets or property for sale
  - Defamation is....
    - Words used had a negative impact on the plaintiff
    - Words referred to the plaintiff
    - Communication made to third party

Mr. Barnes spoke of some local governments having a Reimbursement Bylaw addressing coverage for elected officials when personally sued. He noted the importance of remembering that a Board speaks with one voice after a debate, resolution and a vote. Ms. Creighton commented that a communication plan can provide guidance and contacting the CAO prior to having conversations or discussions will also assist in determining direction.

- Under promise + over deliver = reasonable expectations
  - More tips for managing public expectations
    1. Understand who the party is and what is important to them
    2. Confirming letters/emails
    3. Develop an invariable practice
    4. Keep good notes
    5. Remain professional and take the high road
    6. Avoid doing or saying anything that you would be embarrassed to see show up in an affidavit before a judge.

Director Bachrach spoke of the use of Facebook and personal/corporate business pages. He noted that personal pages provide more opportunity to interact and respond to people. Mr. Barnes commented that risk recognition and managing the risk is important.

Discussion took place regarding MIABC Risk Management Grants. Mr. Barnes provided an overview of the grant process.

Chair Thiessen thanked Mr. Barnes and Ms. Creighton for attending the meeting.



## **DELEGATION (CONT'D)**

### **MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT – Jim Snetsinger, RPF, Diane Nichols, Provincial Chief Forester, Atmo Prasad, Manager, Forest Analysis and Data Management, Forest Analysis and Inventory Branch RE: Lakes Timber Supply Area Timber Supply Review**

Chair Thiessen welcomed Jim Snetsinger, RPF, Diane Nichols, Provincial Chief Forester, Atmo Prasad, Manager, Forest Analysis and Data Management, Forest Analysis and Inventory, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.

Mr. Snetsinger, Ms. Nichols and Mr. Prasad provided a PowerPoint Presentation.

### **Lakes Timber Supply Area Timber Supply Review Discussion Paper**

#### **Presentation Outline**

- Timber Supply Review (TSR) Objectives and Process
- Role of the Chief Forester
- Current Status of the Lakes TSA (Timber Supply Analysis) TSR Process
  - Release of the Discussion Paper
    - Public review and comment requested by July 5, 2019
- Key messages heard to date
- Discussion paper
  - The Forest
    - Crown managed forest land base
    - Timber Harvesting Land Base
  - Lakes Timber Supply Area Context
    - Impact of Mountain Pine Beetle
    - Wildfire Impacts
    - Tenure Changes
    - Harvest History
  - Base Case
  - Alternative Harvest Flows
  - Sensitivity Analyses
  - Socio-economic Analysis
- Engagement.

Chair Thiessen spoke of the importance of the Lakes Timber Supply Area (TSA) Timber Supply Review (TSR) to the region.

Director Riis-Christianson questioned the following:

- The weight and impact of public comments to the Chief Foresters determination of the Allowable Annual Cut (AAC).
  - o Ms. Nichols noted that the sensitivity analysis conducted is based on comments that were received. Community, land base and socio-economic concerns have a strong bearing on her decision.
- An update in regard to the science used for the information package provided to the Chief Forester.
  - o Mr. Prasad provided an overview:
    - Inventory was updated in 2016
    - Different stands are updated annually
    - Permanent sample plots are used to monitor growth of old and young stands to ensure modeling is on track
    - Analysis was conducted by a vigorous peer group using the best minds and the best available information
    - The information used is the most up to date information possible.

**DELEGATION (CONT'D)**

**MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT –RE: Lakes Timber Supply Area Timber Supply Review (Cont'd)**

- Ms. Nichols noted that the following is also included:
  - Aerial and ground forest health surveys
  - Any cumulative effect assessments conducted on the area
  - Wildlife habitat assessments and monitoring
  - Forest and range effectiveness programs results
  - Values of *Forest Range Practices Act* (FRPA)
  - Most completed on an annual/biannual basis
- In regards to socio-economic it has been suggested that job losses are conservative, How and what methodology is used to determine the socio-economic impacts?
  - Utilized FLNRORD staff to determine the cubic meters and the potential impacts to jobs – which will be determined by the forest companies
  - Ms. Nichols noted that wood does flow in and out of the area depending on the trading of wood to support the various mills
  - Socio-economic assessment also looked at primary and secondary jobs and multiplier affects built in the modeling.

Director Layton requested clarification on:

- The impacts of moving from volume based to area based salvaging to the AAC in cubic meters.
  - Mr. Prasad commented on the proportion of the Timber Harvesting Land Base (THLB) affected has a direct proportional effect to the AAC.
- Science completed in regard to how much better managed stands are closer to harvest date vs. mother nature?
  - Ms. Nichols spoke of two types of plots:
    - Permanent sample plots
      - In mature timber
      - Sets growth and yield rates
    - Young stem monitoring plot program
      - Going into young managed stands
      - Ensure yield projections are for managed stands – second growth – plantation stands
      - Ensure growth projection and if needed recalculate yield to go into modeling.
- Need to be proactive and is there recommendations to mitigate the intensively managed stands sooner than 60 years
  - Ms. Nichols discussed:
    - Timber Supply Review is most sensitive to fastest rejuvenation
    - Forest Genetics
    - “Results” silviculture program
    - Small amount of fertilization being tried
    - Information built into the growth and yield

Director Bachrach questioned the social choice being asked of the public?

- Ms. Nichols commented that the base graphs show the live volume
- The current practice is utilizing live and dead volumes of fiber
- There is potential dead volume that could be utilized depending on milling and other opportunities and could assist with timber supply
- Some pellet plants utilizing deciduous fiber and some facilities are looking at opportunities moving forward
- Ms. Nichols spoke of being realistic about potential opportunities and a balanced decision making process.



## **DELEGATION (CONT'D)**

### **MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT –RE: Lakes Timber Supply Area Timber Supply Review (Cont'd)**

Director Brien spoke of the 2014 timber swap that occurred with the sawmill in Quesnel and Houston and the apprehension. He spoke of the interest today in the Discussion Paper. He requested that it would be very beneficial to include an acronym definition appendix in the discussion paper. Ms. Nichols commented that it has been excellent to have the interest in the process that is taking place and it is important for people to have an understanding of the process.

Chair Thiessen thanked Mr. Snetsinger in his past role as Chief Forester and Ms. Nichols in her present role as Chief Forester for being open to discussions in regard to issues and concerns.

Director Funk asked:

- Has there been a consideration to the shelf life of the Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB) wood and to harvesting it all until it is no longer salvageable?
  - o Ms. Nichols noted that the shelf life for the MPB is different in different areas of the province
  - o Use the dead wood – not burn it – except for wildfire mitigation and fuel management consideration.
- Take aways from the May 1 Public Meeting in Burns Lake
  - o People looking for information
    - Stewardship in the TSR
    - Job effects
  - o Specific questions of the Chief Forester – how conduct analysis?
  - o Discussion Paper is not the AAC determination – Chief Forester's process moving forward to determine the AAC
  - o Having information explained.

Director Layton requested access to the summary of the fiber available in the TSA. The District FLNRORD office can provide the information.

Ms. Nichols spoke to clarification of the volume base to area base changes, that while the TSA has been reduced, the wood is still available to harvest under different tenures.

Alternate Director Spooner brought forward diversity in regard to the use of fiber. Ms. Nichols mentioned that it is not included in the AAC determination but she does work with researchers from around the world about various opportunities and emerging initiatives for wood fiber. She spoke of the provincial and federal governments programs in regard to research, delivery and commercialization of biofuels. Ms. Nichols noted she has spoken to supporting communities with new initiatives and opportunities concerning the changing wood fiber basket. Chair Thiessen spoke of the importance of having support for communities to develop variations of community energy systems.

The Regional Board thanked Mr. Snetsinger and Ms. Nichols for their engagement and feedback.

Director Newell questioned the influence that FLNRORD has in regard to pipelines and their utilization of fiber on right of ways and access ways. Ms. Nichols noted that the Oil and Gas Commission has a certificate program and that certificate has certain conditions that have to be met. The certificate includes language in regard to the utilization of fiber. She spoke to moving towards developing stronger methods to ensure utilization of fiber.

Chair Thiessen spoke to the regions communities being resource based and the importance of sharing information.



**DELEGATION (CONT'D)**

**MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT –RE: Lakes Timber Supply Area Timber Supply Review (Cont'd)**

The Regional Board thanked Mr. Snetsinger and Ms. Nichols for their engagement and feedback.

Chair Thiessen thanked Messrs. Prasad and Snetsinger and Ms. Nichols for attending the meeting.

**REPORTS**

**First Draft – Updated Purchasing Policy**

Director Bachrach identified that the Village of Cumberland has developed a social procurement policy that may be beneficial to review.

Discussion took place in regard to the Expense Authority Limits and Approval of Expenditures. Chair Thiessen spoke of clearly identifying the approval authorities for expenditures.

**First Draft – Updated Purchasing Policy**

Moved by Director Bachrach  
Seconded by Director Layton

**C.W.2019-4-3**

“That the Committee of the Whole receive the Chief Financial Officer’s April 24, 2019 memo titled “First Draft – Updated Purchasing Policy”; and further, that staff provide a presentation to the Regional Board in regard to the Updated Purchasing Policy at a future RDBN Meeting; and that staff review the Village of Cumberland’s Social Procurement Policy.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Northern Capital and Planning Grant**

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
Seconded by Director Newell

**C.W.2019-4-4**

“That the Committee of the Whole receive the Chief Financial Officer’s April 24, 2019 memo titled “Northern Capital and Planning Grant.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Director Newell commented that he has drafted a distribution model for the Northern Capital and Planning Grant funding that he can provide at a future Rural Directors Committee Meeting. Staff will forward a Doodle Poll to determine a date in July, 2019 to discuss further the Northern Capital and Planning Grant distribution.

**Northern Development Initiative Trust - Building Façade Improvement Program**

Moved by Director Fisher  
Seconded by Director Bachrach

**C.W.2019-4-5**

“That the Committee of the Whole receive the Economic Development Support Assistant’s April 24, 2019 memo titled “Northern Development Initiative Trust – Building Façade Improvement Program.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

### **Manson Creek Landfill -Operations Contract –Tender Results**

Moved by Director Greenaway  
Seconded by Director Playfair

C.W.2019-4-6

1. "That the Committee of the Whole receive the Director of Environmental Services' April 24, 2019 memo titled "Manson Creek Landfill – Operations Contract – Tender Results."
2. Further, that the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors award the Contract for Operation and Maintenance of the Manson Creek Landfill to Lepka Holdings Ltd. for a two year term commencing June 1, 2019 and expiring June 1, 2021 for a total amount of \$36,750 including GST."

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **Canfor – News Release -Canfor Temporarily**

Moved by Director Layton  
Seconded by Director Bachrach

C.W.2019-4-7

"That the Committee of the Whole receive the correspondence from Canfor – News Release – Canfor Temporarily Curtailing Production Capacity in BC."

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **Correspondence**

Moved by Director Layton  
Seconded by Director Bachrach

C.W.2019-4-8

"That the Committee of the Whole receive the following correspondence:  
-Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – Lakes Timber Supply Area Timber Supply Analysis Discussion Paper Summary  
-Northwest Invasive Plant Council – May Proclaimed Invasive Species Action Month (ISAM)  
-North Central Local Government Association – 2019 UBCM Community Excellence Awards – Call for Nominations

#### **INVITATION**

-Species at Risk Program – Pacific Region – Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Public Consultation Sessions."

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Director Parker  
Seconded by Director Layton

C.W.2019-4-9

"That the meeting be adjourned at 1:44 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Gerry Thiessen, Chair

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Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

# Water Sustainability Act - Overview

Ministry of Forest, Lands, Natural Resource  
Operations and Rural Development

Facilitators: Sean Staplin / Johanna Wick



# WSA - Overview

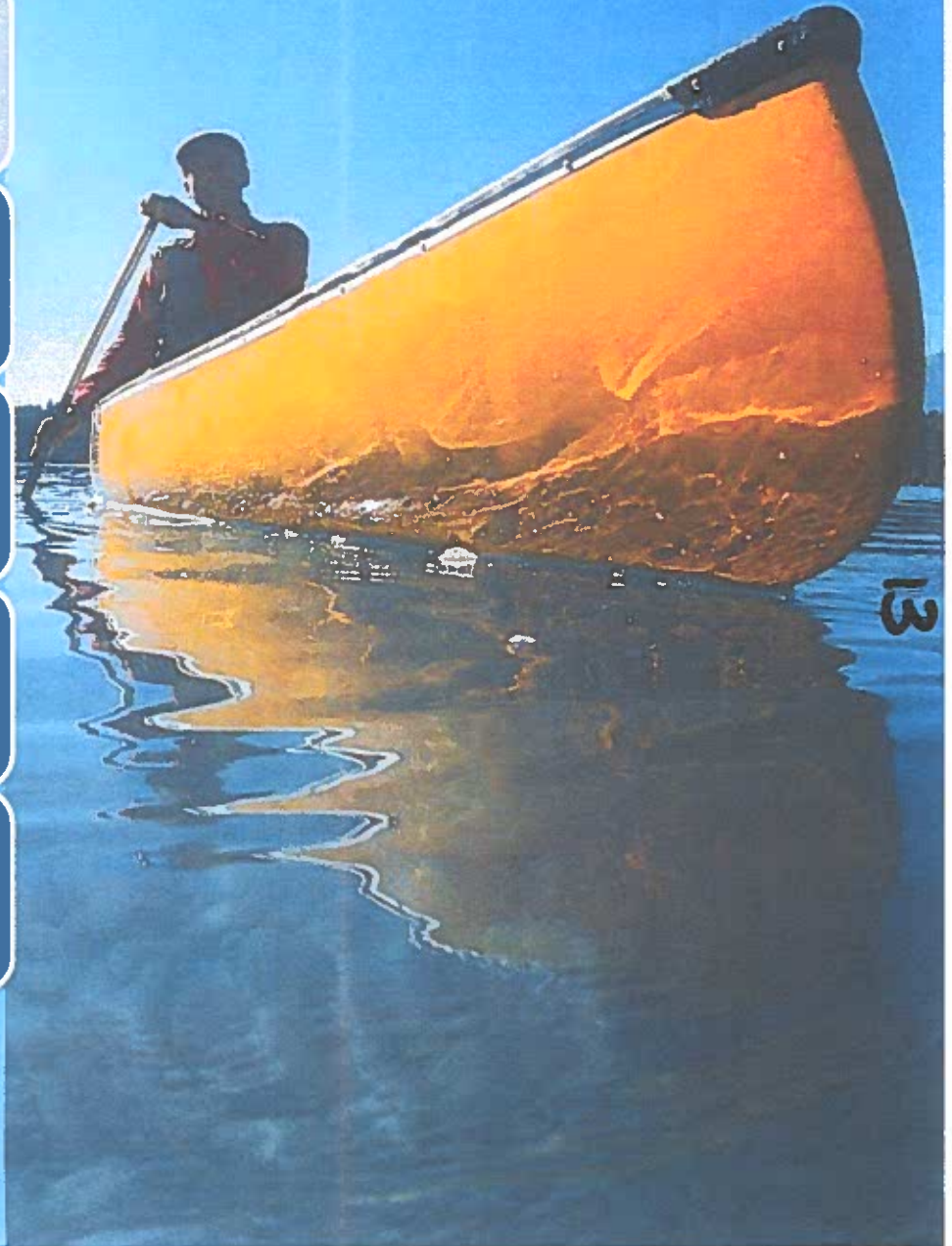
WSA Overview

WSA Authorizations

WSA Application Fees/Rental Rates

Flood Response

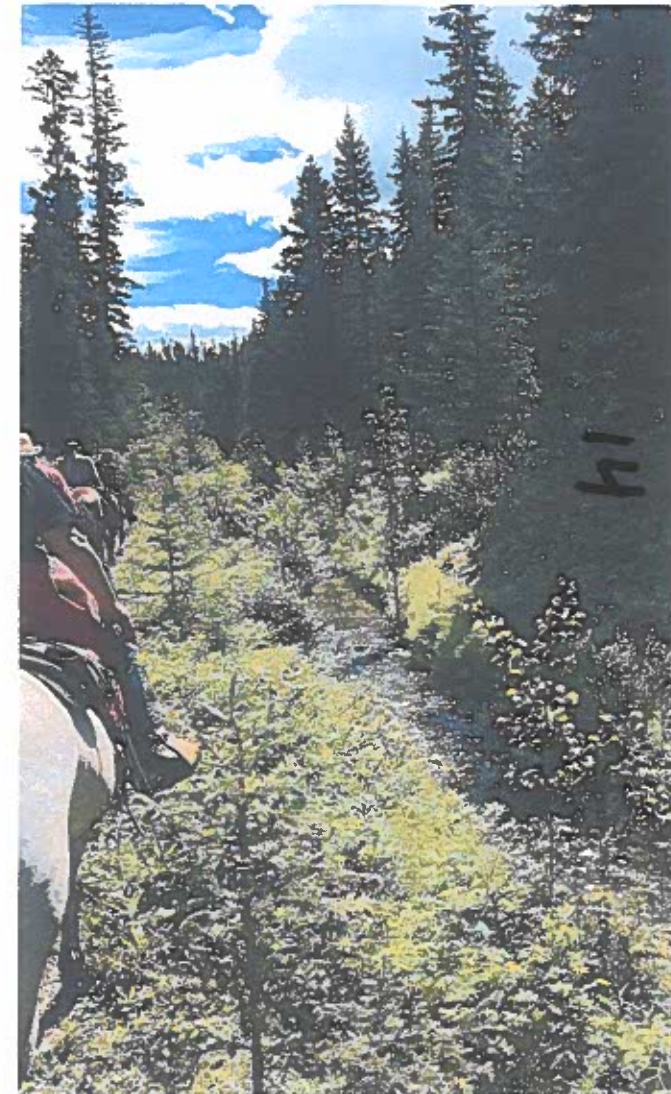
Drought Response





# Water Sustainability Act (WSA)

- What is it?
  - Environmental Basket of Legislation (EAB)
  - Quantity vs Quality
- Water is vested in the Crown
- Regulates the diversion and use of surface and groundwater
- Protection Provisions



Overview

Authorizations

Fees / Rates

Flood  
Response

Drought  
Response

# WSA regulates in three areas

Water Sustainability  
Act

Use

Management

Protection

Authorizations

Permitted  
uses

Reservations

Administration of  
Rights

Protection of  
Rights

Real time  
water use

Wells -CIAS

Environmental  
Flow

Area Based  
Rules

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# WSA - Overview

WSA Overview

WSA Authorizations

WSA Application Fees/Rental Rates

Flood Response

Drought Response





## Section 5- Water Vested in the Crown

**Stream:** natural water course or source of water supply

- lake, pond, river, spring, creek, swamp, glacier, etc.

**Groundwater:** water naturally occurring below the surface of the ground

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# No diversion/use without authorization (or permission)

## Authorizations

- Licence
- Use approval
- Notifications
- Change approval
- Drilling Authorization (not in force)

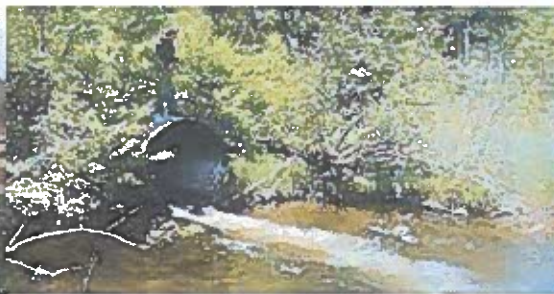
## Allowed by Act

- Domestic groundwater
- Extinguish fire
- Flow or quality test
- Unrecorded stream water for domestic (no right)

## Allowed by Regulations

- Well drilling
- NE deep GW oil & gas
- Mineral Prospecting & Placer
- Drainage

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# Authorizations

- **Section 9- Licences**

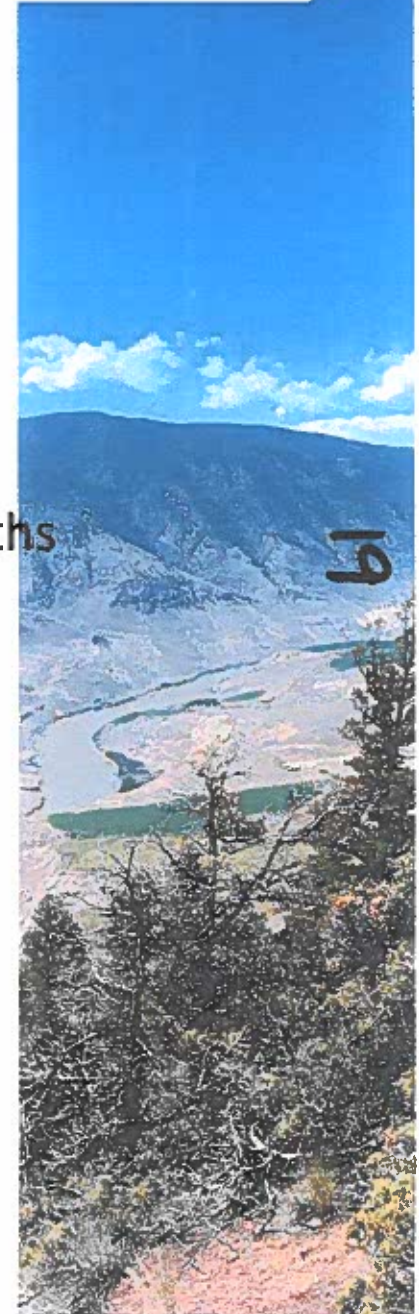
- Describes who may acquire a licence
- [WSA Regulation Sections 3](#)

- **Section 10- Use Approvals**

- Short term use of water for a specific purpose up to 24 months
- May include prescribed terms
- [WSA Regulation Sections 3, 4, 46-50](#)

- **Section 11- Changes in and about a stream**

- Authorizes changes in and about a stream
- May include prescribed terms
- [WSA Regulation Sections 3, 4, 36-45](#)



# Water Licenses : Water Use Purposes

- conservation
- domestic
- industrial
- irrigation
- land improvement
- mineralized water
- mining
- oil and gas
- power
- storage
- water works



# Application Process- Established in Regs

- Name of stream or aquifer
- Purpose of use
- Quantity and point of diversion location
- Timing of use of water ( year, seasonal, restrictions)
- Location description of land, mine or undertaking
- Description of the works
- Drawing of the described land and works (plat)





# Application Process - More Information



FrontCounterBC

- **Phone**

Toll free: **1-877-855-3222**

From outside North America: **++1-778-372-0729**

Monday to Friday: 8:30am-4:30pm Pacific time (9:30am-5:30pm Mountain time)

- **Email**

[FrontCounterBC@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FrontCounterBC@gov.bc.ca)

# WSA - Overview

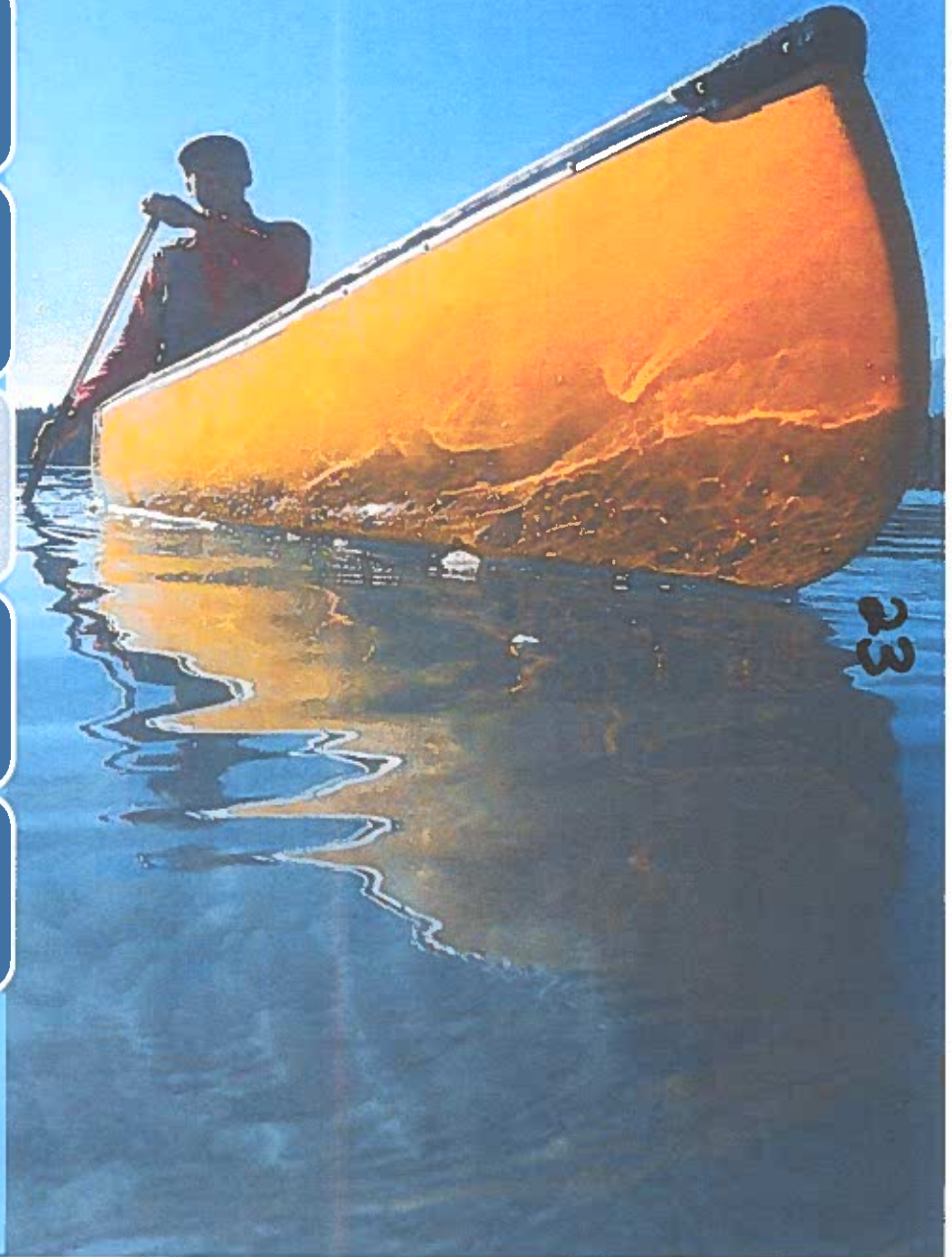
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# Application Fees and Rental Rates

**Pricing B.C.'s Water**

British Columbians consistently rank water as one of the province's most valuable natural assets. This has been a consistent message since 2007 when government began engaging with the public on new water legislation. B.C.'s new Water Sustainability Act will bring in a more comprehensive approach to managing water now and into the future.

To implement the new Act and fully realize its benefits, the B.C. Government is contemplating changes to water pricing. This will likely mean increased costs for surface water users and new fees and rentals for large groundwater users. While pricing changes will help improve services, support sustainable water management, improve program cost recovery and enable new programs and initiatives, any new pricing model must be easy to understand and implement. It must also take into account the implications for water users and the overall benefits to British Columbians.

The government is taking a transparent approach to making changes to water pricing. Before these changes are made, we are seeking public feedback on the principles that will shape how government develops options for water pricing to support sustainable water management in B.C. Water rentals associated with major hydroelectric power generation are linked to B.C.'s energy policy and are not part of this water pricing review.

**Water Sustainability Act**  
On March 11, 2014 the British Columbia Government introduced the Water Sustainability Act into the Legislature. The proposed new Act will update and replace the existing Water Act, and respond to current and future pressures on water including a growing population, a changing climate and expanding resource development.

**Current approach to pricing water in B.C.**  
The current pricing structure and rates for water are laid out in B.C.'s Water Regulation. There are two components to water pricing: a one-time application fee and an annual rental payment. Water users currently pay fees for a new surface water licence application, an amendment to an existing licence, a short-term use approval, and an approval to make changes in and about a stream. Fees and rentals are not currently assessed for using groundwater.

March 2014

BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Fees and rentals increase for all water use purposes
- Same fees apply to surface water and groundwater users
- Based on quantity and water use purpose
- Continue to be based on revenue neutrality
- Changes in effect as of Feb. 29, 2016

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# Rate Comparisons

Purpose	Application Fee (\$)	Volumetric Fee (\$/1000m <sup>3</sup> )	Annual Minimum Fee (\$)
Irrigation	250- 1,000	0.85	50
Livestock and Animal	250	0.85	50
Fresh Water Bottling	1,000 - 5,000	2.25	200
Pulp Mills	1,000 - 10,000	2016 rental - 0.85 2017 onwards - 1.30	200
Placer Mining	500 – 1,000	1.30	200
Hydraulic Fracturing (excluding deep groundwater)	1,000 - 10,000	2.25	200

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Water Rent Estimator:

[http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wsd/water\\_rights/water\\_rental\\_rates/calculator/index.html](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wsd/water_rights/water_rental_rates/calculator/index.html)

# Application Fees and Rental Rates

The screenshot shows the 'Water Application Fees & Rental Rates' page on the BC Water Licensing & Rights website. The page is divided into several sections:

- Water Application Fees & Rental Rates:** Explains that users pay a one-time application fee when applying for authorization to divert and use water, for a permit over Crown land, for a change approval or for a drilling authorization. Fees for amendments are charged after the new licence or approval is issued and will be based on the new allocation quantity. Once your water licence or use approval is granted, you will also pay annual water rentals to divert and use the allocated water.
- Application Fees:** States that most application fees vary based on how much water is requested and how it is used. However, applications for a few specific water use purposes are charged a flat rate fee. Fees are charged for applications for new water licences, use approvals, change approval and drilling authorizations, as well as amendments to existing rights. Fees are also charged on applications for permits over Crown land, and are based on the affected area. You must submit the fees along with your application at FrontCounter BC.
- Water Rental Rates:** Explains that generally, rental rates depend on the quantity of water authorized and on the specific water use. For some water use purposes such as for a conservation purpose, a flat fee is charged regardless of water quantity. Rental fees apply to surface water and groundwater use, as well as to permits over Crown land. Annual water rentals for existing non-domestic groundwater users began to increase starting February 29, 2016, regardless of when an application for a licence is submitted within the three-year transition period. Domestic groundwater users are not required to pay water rentals.

Other sections on the page include 'Estimate Fees and Rentals', 'Fees and Rentals Regulation', and 'Contact Information'.

More information can be found at:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/envi/ronment/air-land-water/water/water-licensing-rights/water-licences-approvals/water-application-fees-rental-rates>

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# WSA - Overview

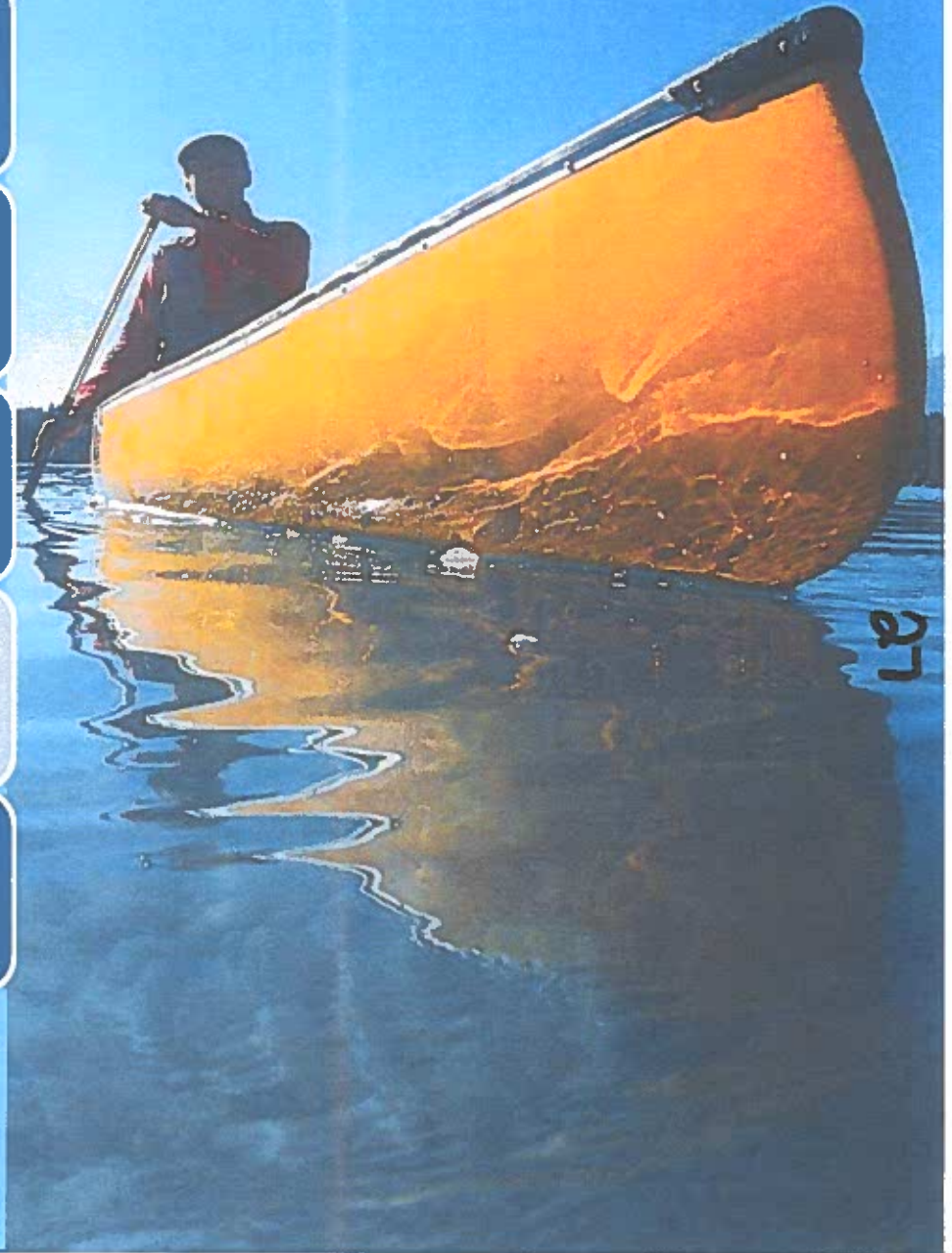
WSA Overview

WSA Authorizations

WSA Application Fees/Rental Rates

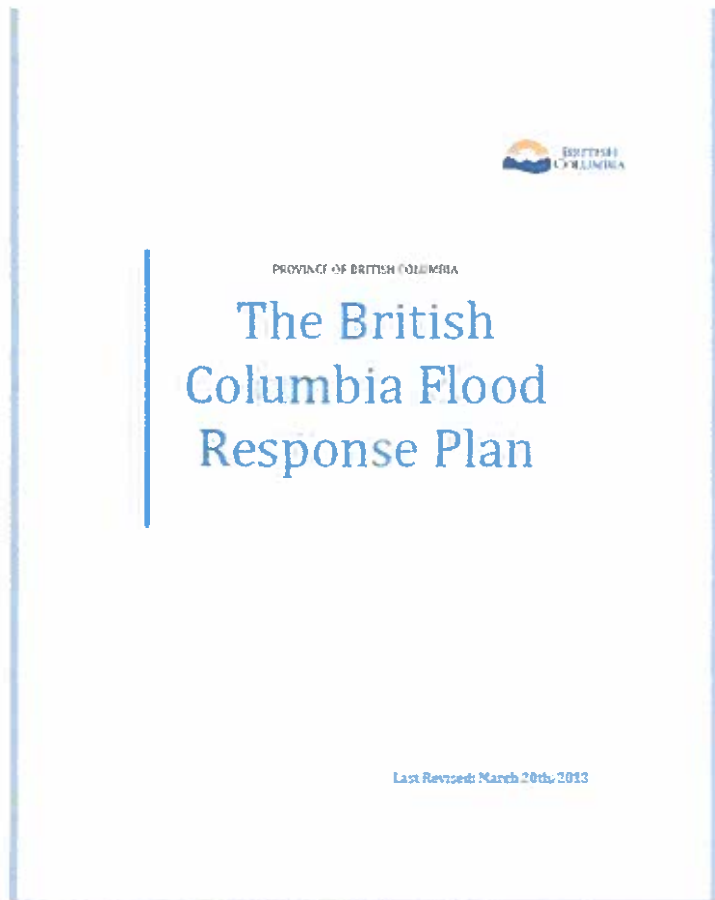
Flood Response

Drought Response





# Flood Response – BC



- Guides Agency Response
- Identifies roles and responsibilities during an event
- Coordinates response activities through the Incident Command System
- In process of an update to:
  - Further clarify roles and responsibilities; and
  - Incorporate the other phases

# Flood Response – Roles/Responsibilities

- Emergency Management BC (EMBC) – Coordinating agency (PECC, PREOC)
- FLNRORD
  - Technical support (assessment/observations), forecasting
- Local Government
  - Respond 1<sup>st</sup> to emergency situations within their jurisdiction (site level command)
  - Have an emergency plan in place

# Post event funding potential

- Flood Mitigation Funding Programs

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/emergency-management-bc/bc-disaster-mitigation/flood-mitigation-funding-programs>

- Disaster Financial Assistance

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/emergency-response-and-recovery/disaster-financial-assistance>

- Flood and Wildfire Recovery Programs

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/emergency-response-and-recovery/recovery-programs>

- Additional Information

[https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/embc/preparedbc/preparedbc-guides/preparedbc\\_flood\\_information\\_for\\_homeowners\\_and\\_home\\_buyers\\_2018.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/embc/preparedbc/preparedbc-guides/preparedbc_flood_information_for_homeowners_and_home_buyers_2018.pdf)

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety>

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# WSA - Overview

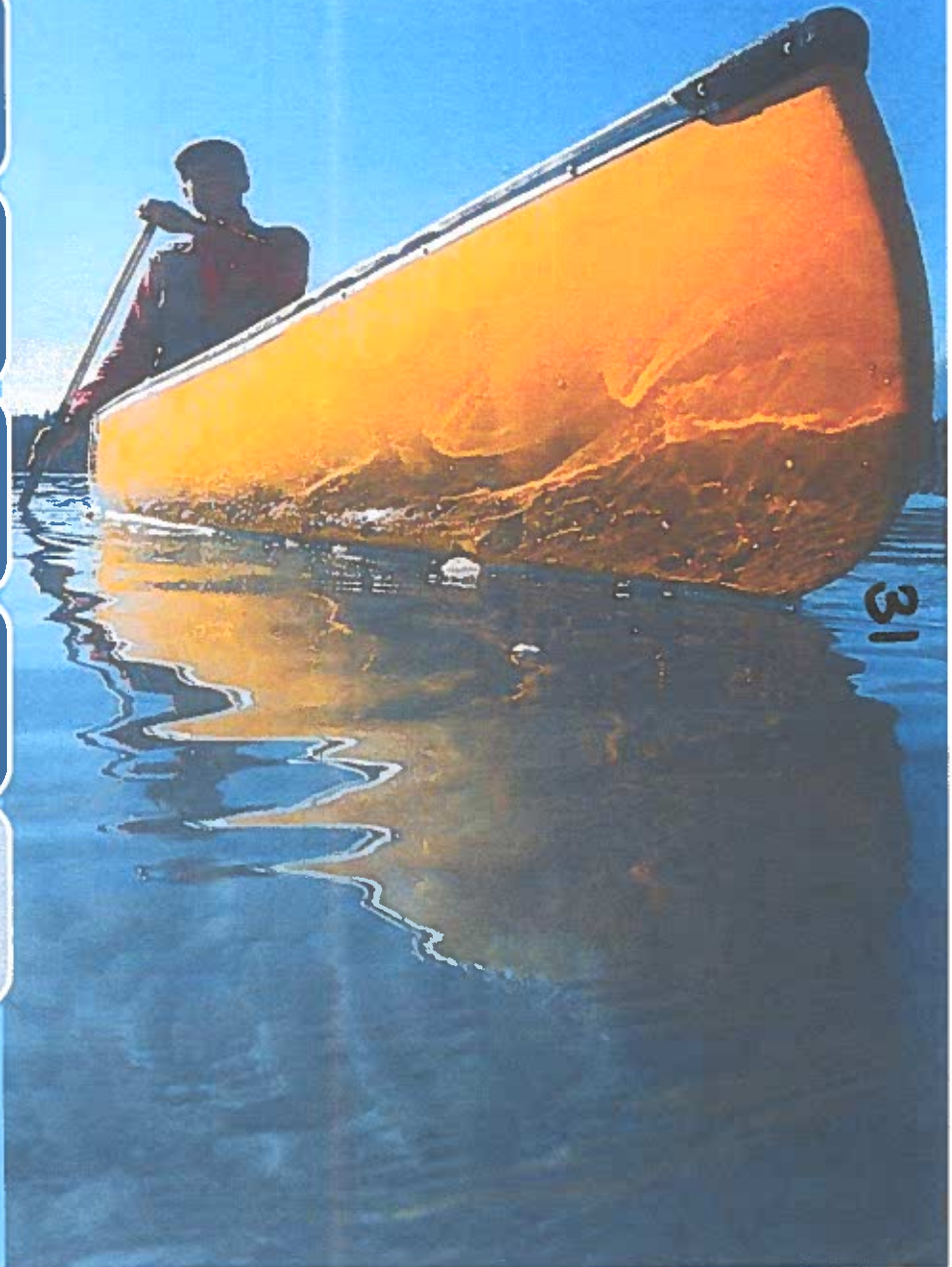
WSA Overview

WSA Authorizations

WSA Application Fees/Rental Rates

Flood Response

Drought Response





# Drought – Info Source

BC Drought Portal - Drought level updates for each major watershed in the province

British Columbia Drought Information Portal

Last Drought Level Update - November 8, 2018

Drought in BC | BC Drought Map | West Coast Stream Watch | BC Angling Closure Map | Historical BC Drought Information | 7-Day Average Streamflow Map

**British Columbia Drought Information Portal**

A geographic drought level information system for the Province of British Columbia

Drought is a recurrent feature of climate involving a deficiency of precipitation over an extended period of time, resulting in a water shortage. The British Columbia Drought Information Portal (DIP) was created as a single source geographic drought level information system for British Columbia. The system uses a set of multiple embedded maps to provide information on provincial drought levels, angling closures, historical drought time-series information and other drought information. Drought levels and other data are updated regularly as it becomes available.

[Drought Information Bulletins](#)

[Angling Closure Information Bulletins](#)

**2018 DROUGHT LEVELS AT A GLANCE**

For more information on drought in British Columbia, please visit the [Drought Information Page](#). Do you have feedback on the Portal? [Let Us Know](#)

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# BC Drought Response Plan(s)

Drought Classification			
Level	Conditions	Significance	Objective
1 (Green)	Normal Conditions	There is sufficient water to meet natural and ecosystem needs	Prevention
2 (Yellow)	Dry Conditions	First indications of a potential water supply problem	Voluntary conservation
3 (Orange)	Very Dry Conditions	Potentially serious ecosystem or socio-economic impacts are possible	Voluntary conservation and restrictions
4 (Red)	Extremely Dry Conditions	Water supply insufficient to meet socio-economic and ecosystem needs	Voluntary conservation, restrictions and regulatory action as necessary

- BC Drought Response Plan
  - Establish Criteria/levels
  - Focus on hydrological drought
  - Outlines regulatory tools
- Each region also has a Drought Response Plan
  - Outlines streams/AOC's
  - Drought Response Teams

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# Drought Indicator Summary

Table 3: Drought Indicators Criteria Summary

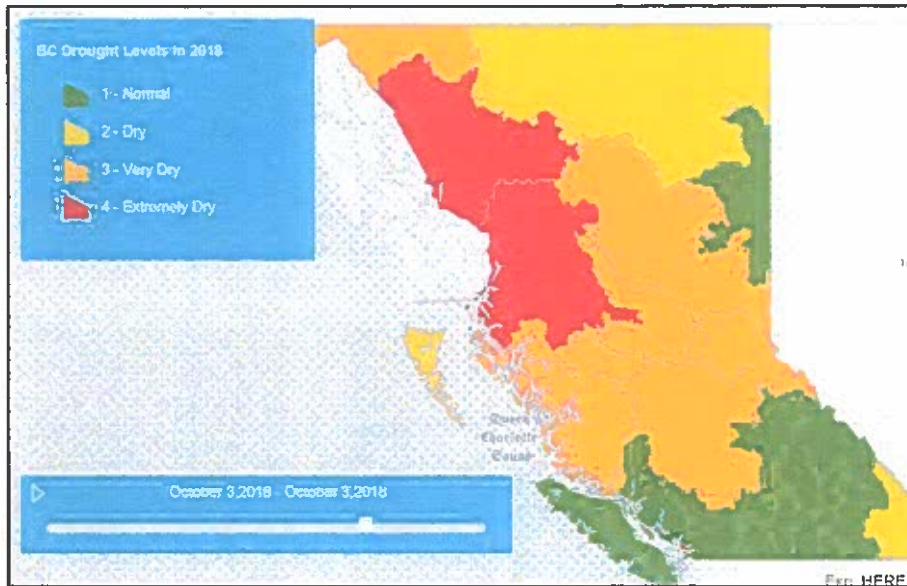
		Timing of Use	
		Early Season (Jan-May)	Seasonal (June-Oct)
Indicator	Core Indicators	Basin Snow Measures Seasonal Volume Runoff Forecasts	7-Day Average Streamflow 30 Day Percent of Average Precipitation
	Supplemental Indicators	Aquifer Levels Individual Indicator Hydrometric Station Results Multi-Year Trends Reservoir Inflows Wildfire Danger Class Ratings	

Table 4: Core Indicator Thresholds

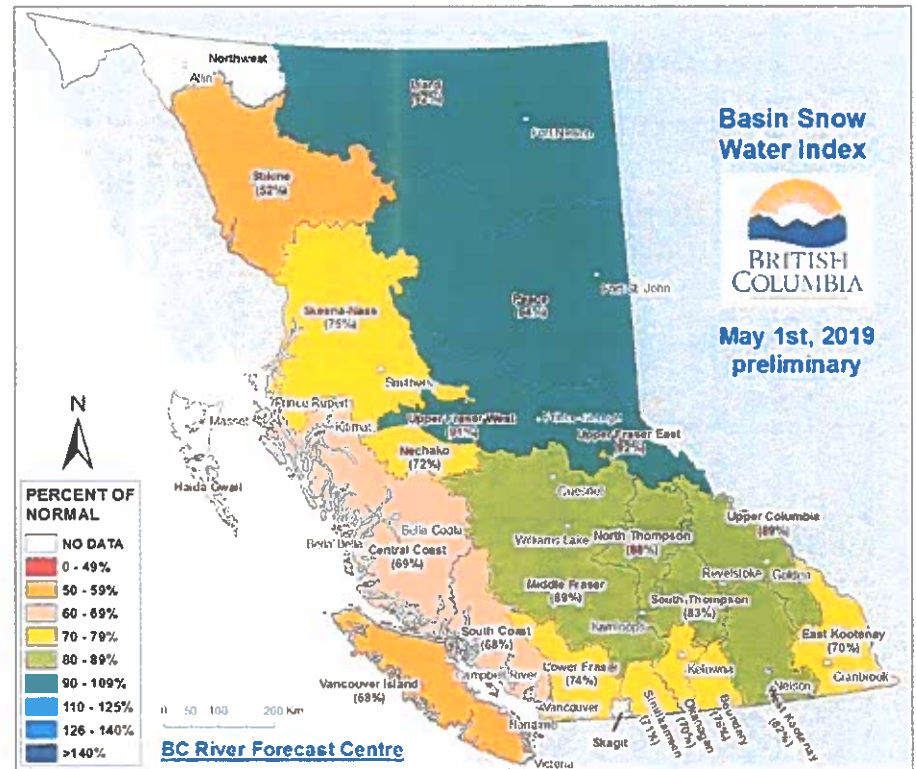
	Level 1 (Green)	Level 2 (Yellow)	Level 3 (Orange)	Level 4 (Red)
Basin Snow Measures±	>80%	80-65% of normal	<65% of normal	
Seasonal Volume Runoff Forecasts	>80%	80-61% of normal	60-45% of normal	<45% of normal
30 Day % of Average Precipitation ¥	>80%	80-51% of average	50-25% of average	<25% of average
7-Day Average Stream flow	>25 percentile	11-25 percentiles	6-10 percentiles	<6 percentiles

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### Drought Levels – Fall 2018

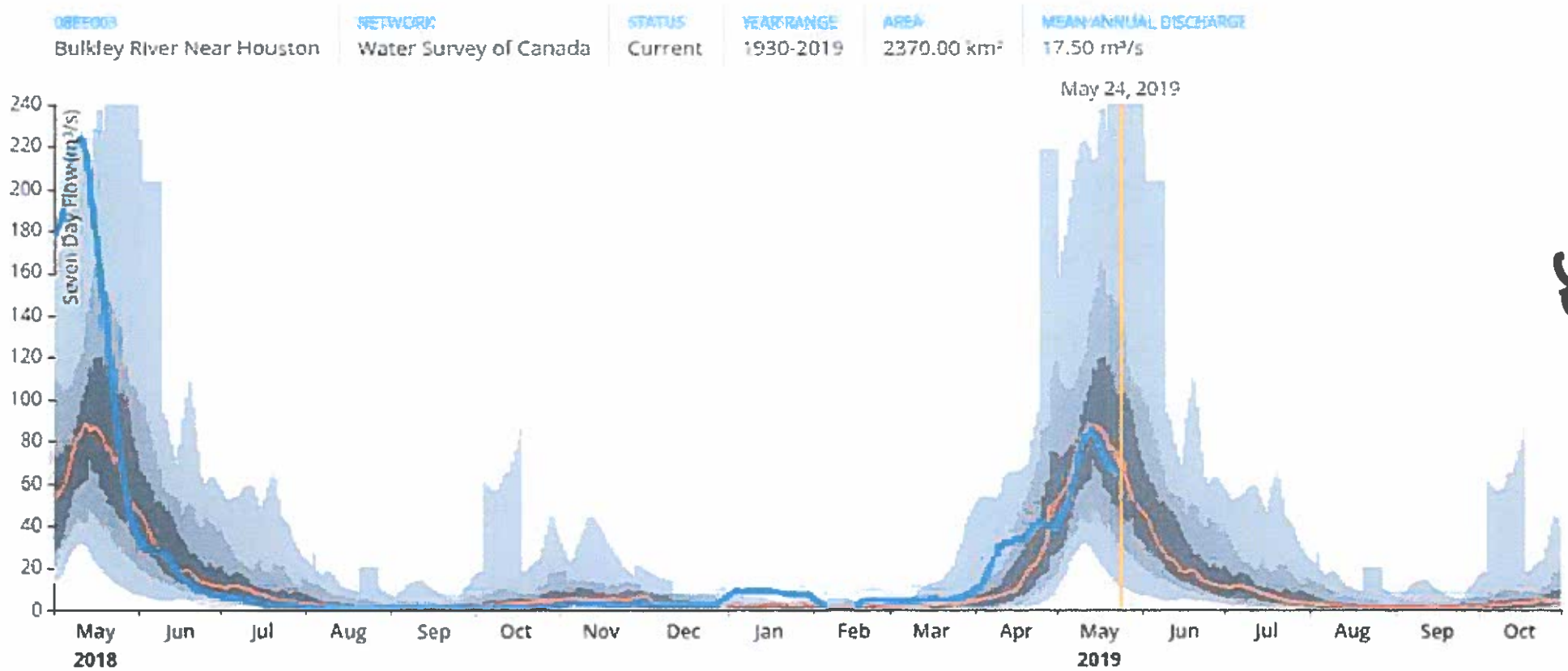


### Snow Map - May 1, 2019



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# Current Streamflow – Upper Bulkley



\*Unverified data

Legend	Current Year	Past Year Flow	Max	90th %ile	75th %ile	Median	25th %ile	10th %ile	Min
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# Key Early Messaging

- Extremely dry fall of 2018
  - No aquifer/stream recharge prior to winter freeze up
- Below average snow pack in RDBN (70 - 79 % of normal as of May 1<sup>st</sup>)
- Median Peak freshet for Bulkley Upstream of Houston (timing and peak)
- Elevated risk of low stream flows – precipitation dependent
- = **Early conservation preparation**

# Questions ?





**Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako  
Board of Directors  
June 6, 2019**

To: Chair Thiessen and the Board of Directors  
 From: Nellie Davis, Regional Economic Development Coordinator  
 Date: May 21, 2019  
 Regarding: Provincial Nominee Program – Regional Pilot

---

The BC Provincial Nominee Program (BC PNP) Entrepreneur Immigration – Regional Pilot (EI – Regional Pilot) is focused on attracting entrepreneurs from around the world to establish businesses in regional communities. This will help meet the communities' economic development needs and encourage investments outside urban areas.

Municipalities in the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako have successfully applied to participate in the BC PNP Regional Pilot Program. The Village of Burns Lake has identified a Nominee for whom a rural property is more appropriate than a property within the Village boundaries.

The Village of Burns Lake is inquiring if the RDBN is interested in applying to the BC PNP Program to support this candidate. There is the potential that additional candidates may be identified in other RDBN communities as well.

Pilot-specific training is offered to community representatives and must be completed before a community confirms their enrolment in the pilot. Communities will then be able to host exploratory visits and issue referrals for foreign entrepreneurs. For this reason, initial host duties for the identified candidate will be fulfilled by trained staff at the Village of Burns Lake. It is possible that additional training sessions will become available later in the year should it make sense for the RDBN to train their own staff for the Pilot.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**(All/Directors/Majority)**

Direction.

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO****MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Chair Thiessen and Board of Directors

**FROM:** Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services/Acting  
CAO

**DATE:** May 27, 2019

**SUBJECT:** RDBN Resolutions to North Central Local Government  
Association (NCLGA)

---

Attached are the RDBN Resolutions that were endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association. The Association will submit them to the Union of B.C. Municipalities for consideration at its 2019 Convention.

**RECOMMENDATION:** (All/Directors/Majority)

Receive.



**Community Resilience Investment  
Program - FireSmart Community Funding**

**Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako**

**WHEREAS** the Community Resilience Investment Program's funding model for FireSmart related activities on private property is capped at \$100,000 per local government regardless of population or geographic area;

**AND WHEREAS** the funding model and funding eligibility requirements put geographically large regional districts at a notable disadvantage compared to local governments with significantly less wildfire interface areas;

**THEREFORE BE IT** resolved that the Province develop eligibility requirements for Community Resilience Investment Program funding, and a funding model, that are equitable and based on local government need.

***Municipal Solid Waste******Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako***

**WHEREAS** local governments in the Northwest of British Columbia spend over \$20 million annually on municipal solid waste;

**AND WHEREAS** there are opportunities for collaboration and to share best practices but rarely a chance to discuss these opportunities;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Central Local Government Association sponsor a forum for elected officials to discuss solid waste management issues until needed;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the North Central Local Government Association also ensures that there be a minimum of one municipal solid waste session at all future conventions.

**Permitting Entry into an Evacuation  
Order Area****Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako**

**WHEREAS** wildfire events are increasing in frequency, intensity, and duration, and local governments and the BC Wildfire Service are required to implement an efficient, effective, and coordinated approach to address the demand for persons, equipment, and supplies requiring entry into an evacuation order area;

**AND WHEREAS** the BC Wildfire Service does not have a comprehensive permitting process to facilitate the entry of support personnel, equipment, and supplies into an evacuation order area, and the *Emergency Program Act* and British Columbia Emergency Management System do not address, recognize, or provide any direction regarding the permitting of residents, farmers, or persons working in coordination with the BC Wildfire Service to enter into an evacuation order area;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Province work with local governments to develop a permitting system and associated policy, procedures, and best practices that facilitate the necessary entry of persons, equipment, and supplies into an evacuation order area;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Province consider the need for legislation that addresses the risk management issues associated with allowing entry into an evacuation order area.

***Provincial Download******Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako***

**WHEREAS** Section 2 of the *Community Charter* states that the Provincial government must not assign responsibilities to municipalities unless there is provision for resources required to fulfill the responsibilities;

**AND WHEREAS** legislated changes have shifted responsibility for managing a wide range of complex issues, including but not limited to the significant impact of emergency response services onto local governments placing notable strain on local government resources;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Central Local Government Association lobby the Provincial government to ensure that adequate resources and funding are provided to local governments to fulfil the responsibilities that have been assigned to local governments.



**Stay and Defend Policy****Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako**

**WHEREAS** wildfire events are increasing in frequency, intensity, and duration, and local governments and the BC Wildfire Service are increasingly required to deal with the issues created by residents who stay within an evacuation order area to defend their property and farmers who stay to look after livestock sheltering in place;

**AND WHEREAS** the *Emergency Program Act* and the British Columbia Emergency Management System do not address, recognize, or provide direction regarding the management of issues created by persons choosing to stay and defend their property from wildfire;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Province work with local governments to develop policy and best practices regarding stay and defend issues with consideration given to formally recognizing a person's right to stay and defend their property from wildfire.



## Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Committee Agenda June 6, 2019

**To:** Chair Thiessen and Board of Directors  
**From:** John Illes, Chief Financial Officer  
**Date:** May 14, 2019  
**Re:** Proposed Six Month Budget Update

---

This memo is to give the Board advance notice that the finance department will be bringing forward a budget amendment to the June board meeting. The purpose of this amendment will be as follows:

- Recognize successful grant revenue for the Economic Development Department (\$134,554).
- Recognize increased grant revenue realized in Emergency Preparedness (approximately \$3,453) over what was expected.
- Recognize the Northern Infrastructure and Planning Grant. Currently the unallocated funds will be allocated to a newly created planning reserve account as a temporary measure. When the funds are fully allocated by the Board, a further budget amendment will be completed.
- Adjust the capital expenditures for government services to reflect the planned installation of the LED lighting project; and for Environmental Services to reflect the construction of the Burns Lake, Ft. St. James and Houston recycling centres utilizing the Northern Infrastructure and Planning Grant.
- Eliminate the borrowing from own reserves (\$700,000) and the capital expenditures associated with the delay of the Houston Transfer station construction to future years.
- Minor updates associated with the change in property assessments from the Completed Assessment (early January) to the Revised Assessment (early April).

I would be pleased to answer any questions.

Recommendation:

(All/Directors/Majority)

"That the Board receive the Chief Financial Officer's memo dated May 14, 2019 titled "Proposed Six Month Budget Update".



**Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako  
Board of Directors Memorandum  
June 6, 2019**

To: Chair Thiessen and the Board of Directors  
From: Nellie Davis, Regional Economic Development Coordinator  
Date: May 29, 2019  
Regarding: **Futurpreneur / ThriveNorth Letter of Support**

---

Staff received a request and provided a letter of support for Futurpreneur’s application to the Peter Gilgan Foundation to provide continued support for more remote, rural and indigenous young entrepreneurs in Northeast and Northwest BC through ThriveNorth’s proven model of targeted outreach, training, financing, mentoring and support.

Staff’s involvement with Futurpreneur over the last two years has been positive and collaborative. Staff were happy to provide a letter of support for this program, which is expanding into Northwestern BC, and provided the draft letter to the Acting CAO and RDBN Board Chair for review prior to submitting.

The letter that was provided is attached for your information.

<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b>	<b>(All/Directors/Majority)</b>
Receive	

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37, 3RD AVE PO Box 820  
BURNS LAKE, BC  
VOJ 1E0

REGIONAL DISTRICT  
OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO  
"A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN OUR REGION"

May 29, 2019

**Re: Futurpreneur's Application to the Peter Gilgan Foundation to Support Rural and Indigenous Young Entrepreneurs through ThriveNorth**

To the Peter Gilgan Foundation:

I am writing this letter in support of of Futurpreneur's application to the Peter Gilgan Foundation to provide continued support for more remote, rural and indigenous young entrepreneurs in Northeast and Northwest BC through ThriveNorth's proven model of targeted outreach, training, financing, mentoring and support.

As a collaborative partner on the ThriveNorth initiative, we are familiar with this work. As the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako's (RDBN) Economic Development Department, we provide leadership in the diversification and development of the regional economy in the Bulkley-Nechako area of Northwest British Columbia.

We assist local community groups in accessing funding opportunities for community initiatives and economic development and support other economic development organizations that bring needed programming and services to residents in our region.

The RDBN's Economic Development Department will support Futurpreneur by

- Helping to promote ThriveNorth programs, services and resources to aspiring entrepreneurs in our network;
- Partnering with Futurpreneur to deliver workshops or other programming as relevant for members and stakeholders in our network

We look forward to working with Futurpreneur to provide access to the education, financing, support and programming that young entrepreneurs need to contribute to the strength and resiliency of their communities.

Sincerely,

*Nellie Davis*

Nellie Davis  
Regional Economic Development Coordinator  
Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

**MUNICIPALITIES:**

Bethers FT. ST. JAMES  
VANDERHOOF FRASER LAKE  
HOUSTON TELWINA  
BURNS LAKE GRANVILLE

**ELECTORAL AREAS:**

A-SIMENIS RURAL F-VANDERHOOF RURAL  
B-BURNS LAKE RURAL E-FRANCOIS & COSTA LAKES  
C-FORT ST. JAMES RURAL G-HOUSTON RURAL  
D-FRASER LAKE RURAL





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## ALC No Longer Reviewing Cannabis Production

May 23, 2019

The Ministry of Agriculture has undertaken legislative and regulatory amendments that change provincial policy on cannabis production in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR). A key change is the classification of all cannabis production in the ALR as farm use. As a result, applications to the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) are no longer required for any form of cannabis production in the ALR.

The ALC made this information public in its *Revised Information Bulletin 04 – Cannabis Production in the ALR*, released in May. The bulletin indicated that, effective February 22, 2019, the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* and the ALR Use, Subdivision and Procedure Regulation (now the ALR General Regulation) were amended, and the ALR Use Regulation was created.

UBCM was not contacted by the Ministry of Agriculture in advance of these amendments and has followed up with Ministry staff for background information on the changes. The UBCM Executive discussed this issue at their May 2019 meeting and conveyed a letter to the Province outlining concerns and a number of questions. These include: lack of consultation, delay in informing local governments and implications for local monitoring and enforcement.

Under the updated regulation, local governments retain the ability to prohibit and/or regulate provided that cannabis production is not: outside, in a structure with a soil base; or in a structure constructed (but not altered to increase its size); or authorized for construction before July 2018.

However, as applications to the ALC are no longer required for cannabis production in the ALR, the removal of this safeguard means that it is incumbent upon local governments to regulate ALR land within their boundaries if they wish to prohibit certain forms of production.

UBCM will provide an update to the membership once we have received a response from the province.

### Follow Us On

- Twitter: @ubcm

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RioTinto

Rio Tinto's BC Works  
Box 1800  
1 Smeltersite Road  
Kitimat, BC V8C 2H2

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako  
37 3rd Avenue, PO Box 820  
Burns Lake, BC  
V0J 1E0

RECEIVED

MAY 30 2019

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF  
BULKLEY-NECHAKO

28 May 2019

Dear Chair and Directors

**Re Rio Tinto Water Engagement Initiative update**

Further to our previous exchange of letters, and conversations, I am writing this letter to provide you with an update about our Water Engagement Initiative (WEI). Over the past months we have hosted several information sessions about the WEI. We are very pleased that participation in the WEI has been confirmed by four First Nations, non-profit organizations, local governments, provincial and federal government representatives as well as members of the public.

We will be hosting the first roundtable meeting of the WEI on 13 June 2019 in Vanderhoof. The WEI Independent Facilitator has sent an invitation to this meeting to your Acting CAO Cheryl Anderson. I hope a representative from RDBN will be able to participate in this meeting and initiative. Please contact me if you have any questions about the WEI or any aspect of our operation.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Czornohalan, Acting General Manager

cc: Justus Benckhuysen, Nechako Operations Coordinator  
Danielle De Kay, Communities and Communications Advisor  
Rahul Ray, Facilitator, Environmental Dynamics Inc.

**Wendy Wainwright**

---

**From:** Wendy Wainwright  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 30, 2019 10:15 AM  
**To:** Wendy Wainwright  
**Subject:** FW: Rio Tinto Water Engagement Initiative: Main Table meeting, Thursday, June 13, 10 am to 4 pm

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** "Rahul Ray" <[rray@edynamics.com](mailto:rray@edynamics.com)>  
**Date:** Wed, May 29, 2019 at 2:23 PM -0700  
**Subject:** Rio Tinto Water Engagement Initiative: Main Table meeting, Thursday, June 13, 10 am to 4 pm  
**To:** "Rahul Ray" <[rray@edynamics.com](mailto:rray@edynamics.com)>  
**Cc:** "Benckhuysen, Justus (RTA)" <[justus.benckhuysen@riotinto.com](mailto:justus.benckhuysen@riotinto.com)>, "De Kay, Danielle (RTA)" <[Danielle.DeKay@riotinto.com](mailto:Danielle.DeKay@riotinto.com)>, "Jason Collier" <[jcollier@edynamics.com](mailto:jcollier@edynamics.com)>, "Jayson Kurtz" <[jkurtz@ecofishresearch.com](mailto:jkurtz@ecofishresearch.com)>, "Trinda Elwert" <[Trinda.Elwert@avison.ca](mailto:Trinda.Elwert@avison.ca)>

Hello,

Below (and attached) is a draft agenda for the first Main Table meeting of the Rio Tinto Water Engagement Initiative (WEI). The meeting will be held on **Thursday, June 13** at **Scott's Grille**, located at **189 Columbia St E, Vanderhoof, BC** from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The intent of this meeting is to:

- Enable participants to introduce themselves
- Present an overview of Rio Tinto operations in the Nechako region
- Discuss the purpose of the WEI planning process
- Introduce and discuss draft guiding principles
- Discuss roles
- Confirm next steps and future meeting dates

A draft agenda is below, but participants are encouraged to suggest revisions to me ahead of the meeting or at the start:

9:30 - 10:00 am: Participant arrival

10:00 - 10:15 am: Welcome and introductions

- Participants are asked to introduce themselves, and discuss their interests in the Nechako region

10:15 - 11:00 am: Present an overview of Rio Tinto operations in the Nechako region

11:00 – 12:00 pm: Discuss the intent and key steps in the planning process

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12:00 - 12:30 pm: Lunch (provided)

12:30 – 2:30 pm: Discuss and refine the draft guiding principles for the planning process

2:30 – 3:30 pm: Discuss the role of the Main Table and Technical Working Group, as well as discuss available resources

3:30 – 4:00 pm: Discuss next steps and confirm future meeting dates

Thank you to those who have already confirmed your attendance. For others planning on attending, please send me a quick email.

Thanks,

Rahul

**Rahul Ray**, MRM, MCIP, RPP  
Lead Facilitator and Senior Environmental Planner  
t. 250.590.0072 | c. 250.893.3830  
[www.edynamics.com](http://www.edynamics.com)



**EDI Environmental Dynamics Inc. | Down to Earth Biology**

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<Draft\_Rio\_Tinto\_WEI\_Agenda\_Meeting\_1\_Thursday\_June\_13\_2019.pdf>





Reference: 246979

March 25, 2019

**VIA EMAIL: [justus.benckhuysen@riotinto.com](mailto:justus.benckhuysen@riotinto.com)**

Justus Benckhuysen, Nechako Operations Coordinator  
Rio Tinto  
PO Box 25  
Vanderhoof, British Columbia  
V0J 3A0

Dear Justus Benckhuysen:

The Water Engagement Initiative is a positive step to address concerns in the Nechako River and to increase engagement and transparency around Rio Tinto's water management operations, and inform a new water management plan.

I am pleased to provide support on behalf of the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development through staff input on the initiative and the incorporation of any outcomes into authorizations as necessary.

The Province of British Columbia's support is tied to Rio Tinto's commitment to:

- fulsome engagement with First Nations in the process;
- potential water licence changes as a result of the outcomes of the process;
- provision of an independent consultant to lead this engagement; and,
- provision of technical resources regarding the availability and understanding of hydrological information to the community, interested parties, and Indigenous nations. This technical support is critical to increasing the understanding of the local communities and to better enable them to meaningfully contribute to this initiative.

I encourage you to continue with the development of the Water Engagement Initiative and to implement operational changes that may come out of it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Manwaring'.

Richard Manwaring, R.P.F.  
Associate Deputy Minister

**Geraldine Craven**

---

**From:** circ-list-bounces@unbc.ca on behalf of Marieka Sax <Marieka.Sax@unbc.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 21, 2019 6:13 PM  
**To:** 'circ-list@unbc.ca'  
**Subject:** [Circ-list] Public Presentation: New tools for assessing the cumulative impacts of resource development  
**Attachments:** UNBC public presentation poster June 2019.pdf

The University of Northern British Columbia's (UNBC) Cumulative Impacts Research Consortium (CIRC) is hosting a series of presentations to report on the findings from a three-year research project to provide new, integrative tools and processes that measure environmental, community, and health values to take action on the cumulative impacts of resource development across northern BC.

Presentations will include an overview of what was heard in the previous community workshops, an introduction to the tools and processes under development, and opportunities for community feedback.

These presentations are free and open to the public! Most of the presentations are scheduled over the noon hour, and a light meal will be provided. Community locations and times are confirmed as follows:

- Fort Nelson: June 3, 2019, 12-1 pm, Northern Lights College
- Fort St. John: June 4, 2019, 12-1 pm, North Peace Cultural Center
- Dawson Creek: June 5, 2019, 12-1 pm, Kiwanis Performing Arts Center
- Tumbler Ridge: June 5, 2019, 6-7 pm, Tumbler Ridge Community Center
- Hudson's Hope: June 6, 2019, 12-1 pm, Pearkes Centre
- Chetwynd: June 7, 2019, 12-1 pm, Chetwynd Recreation Center
- Vanderhoof: June 11, 2019, 12-1 pm, Integris Community Centre

RECEIVED

MAY 22 2019

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF  
BULKLEY-NECHAKO

An event poster is attached. Please share this information with anyone you think may be interested in attending.

Feel free to contact me if you have any comments or questions.

Warm regards,

Marieka

(PS. You are receiving this email because you previously attended a CIRC event. If you would like to be removed from this list, please email me.)

**Cumulative Impacts Research Consortium**

University of Northern British Columbia  
 3333 University Way  
 Prince George, BC V2N 4Z9  
 250-960-5994

*Traditional Territory of the Lheidli T'enneh*

[www.unbc.ca/cumulative-impacts](http://www.unbc.ca/cumulative-impacts)

# New Tools for Assessing the Cumulative Impacts of Resource Development

Come out to hear what UNBC's Cumulative Impacts Research Consortium has learned about the community, health, and environmental impacts of resource development, and to see the tools we've piloted to support local monitoring and decision-making processes.



June 3, 2019 | 12 pm - 1 pm | Fort Nelson | Northern Lights College

June 4, 2019 | 12 pm - 1 pm | Fort St. John | North Peace Cultural Center

June 5, 2019 | 12 pm - 1 pm | Dawson Creek | Kiwanis Performing Arts Center

June 5, 2019 | 6 pm - 7 pm | Tumbler Ridge | Tumbler Ridge Community Center

June 6, 2019 | 12 pm - 1 pm | Hudson's Hope | Pearkes Centre

June 7, 2019 | 12 pm - 1 pm | Chetwynd | Chetwynd Recreation Center

June 11, 2019 | 12 pm - 1 pm | Vanderhoof | Integris Community Center

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**FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!**

**FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO RSVP CONTACT:**

**MARIEKA.SAX@UNBC.CA**