REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO
DRINKING WATER AND WATERSHED PROTECTION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA

Thursday, October 25, 2018

11:30 A.M.

RDN Board Chambers

Pages

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

That the agenda be approved as presented.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Technical Advisory Committee Meeting - April 19, 2018 3

That the minutes of the Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Technical Advisory Committee meeting held April 19, 2018 be adopted.

4. INVITED PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Committee Roundtable Updates
Committee Members will discuss.

4.2 Monitoring Station Update
Staff will provide presentation.

4.3 Water Trax Demo – Groundwater Quality Data
Staff will provide presentation.

4.4 Rebate Program Update
Staff will provide presentation.

4.5 Update on Team WaterSmart Activities
Staff will provide presentation.

4.6 Econics - 10 Year Action Plan Review
Staff will provide presentation.

5. DELEGATIONS

6. CORRESPONDENCE

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8. REPORTS

8.1 Ecoscape – Surface Water Quality Trend Analysis

Link to report provided.

https://cloud.rdn.bc.ca/s/gfcF5TyFj4c4HAw

9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 2019 Projects

- DWWP Action Plan Update
- Area F Update Support

  -French Creek Water Budget

  -Groundwater Quality Risk Analysis
- Proposed C2C Forum on Water Governance with First Nations.

11. ADJOURNMENT

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

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MINUTES OF THE DRINKING WATER AND WATERSHED PROTECTION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, April 19, 2018
12:30 P.M.
RDN Board Chambers

In Attendance:	S. De Pol	Chair
	A. Gilchrist	Academic Community Representative (VIU)
	P. Lapcevic	BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Ops
	K. Miller	Cowichan Valley Regional District
	H. Rueggeberg	General Public Representative (South)
	B. Sims	Municipal Representative (City of Nanaimo)
	F. Spears	Municipal Representative (District of Lantzville)
	L. Cake	Water Purveyors (Coastal Water Suppliers Association)
	C. Cole	General Public Representative (North)
	K. Epps	Forest Industry Representative
	N. Leone	Department of Fisheries and Oceans
	P. Jorgenson	Forest Industry Representative
	A. Barroso	Hydrogeologist Representative
	W. Shulba	Islands Trust Representative
Regrets:	A. Fiddick	Environment Community Representative
	L. Magee	Island Health
	B. Silenieks	Municipal Representative (City of Parksville)
	B. Weir	Municipal Representative (Town of Qualicum Beach)
	G. Wendling	Hydrogeologist Representative
	O. Brandes	Academic Community Representative (POLIS)
	D. Epps	Ministry of Environment
	P. Shaw	Mt Arrowsmith Biosphere Region
Also in Attendance:	R. Alexander	Regional District of Nanaimo
	J. Pisani	Regional District of Nanaimo
	J. McCallum	Regional District of Nanaimo
	L. Fegan	Regional District of Nanaimo
	C. Bruggs	Regional District of Nanaimo
	G. Henderson	BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Ops
	A. Van Acken	Vancouver Island University

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order and respectfully acknowledged the Coast Salish Nations on whose traditional territory the meeting took place.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Technical Advisory Committee Meeting - October 18, 2017

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Technical Advisory Committee meeting held October 18, 2017, be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Update on Water Data Management

J. Pisani updated the committee on the data management initiatives for:

- Well Water Quality Data from Well Testing Rebate Program Voluntary Submissions (WaterTrax)
- Groundwater Level Data from Volunteer Observation Well Program (Prov. Aquarius portal – third party data submission)
- Hydrometric Data from RDN/Partner Stations (Prov. Aquarius portal – third party data submission)

Surface Water Quality Trend Analysis - Upcoming Project

J. Pisani updated the committee on the upcoming consultant project on the comprehensive trend analysis of the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) Community Watershed Monitoring Network's water quality dataset (2011-2017). The surface water quality data will be analyzed along with climate data, streamflow data and land use data to identify trends and determine recommended actions to address surface water quality moving forward.

Drinking Water Watershed Protection Action Plan Review and Update - Upcoming Project

J. Pisani informed the committee of the status of an upcoming project to review and update the Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Action Plan, which will straddle 2018-2019, and is proposed to commence this summer.

Cowichan Valley Regional District's Proposed DWWP Referendum

Committee member K. Miller presented on the Cowichan Valley Regional District's (CVRD) proposed Drinking Water and Watershed Protection service and the outline of work to-date and proposal moving forward. Staff will be taking a draft service area bylaw to the CVRD Board in May and that may result in a referendum question on the October ballot to gain elector assent for the service.

VIU Wetland Research Update

VIU representative Ashley Van Acken presented on the multi-year research agreement between VIU and the Regional District of Nanaimo's Drinking Water and Watershed Protection to map wetlands in the region and investigate connection to groundwater hydrology. 31 wetlands have been mapped so far, with more field work lined up for 2018. RDN Get Involved webpage is coming soon to encourage more public engagement on the project.

Update on Team WaterSmart Activities

J. McCallum updated the committee on Team WaterSmart outreach activities in 2018, including the Water to Earth month series, school watershed field trips, and upcoming community events.

Update on Rebate Programs

L. Fegan updated the committee on DWWP rebate programs including: rainwater harvesting, well water testing, wellhead upgrades, and efficient irrigation & soil improvements.

Provincial Groundwater Quality Data Consolidation Pilot

G. Henderson presented a pilot project proposed by the Ministry of Forests Lands Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNR) to consolidate existing data for 'one-stop' access to water quality information from specific aquifers to track spatial trends over time. This would involve partnership with Island Health Authority, Community Water System Operators and Accredited Laboratories. Framework would be piloted in the RDN and then potentially expanded to other regions in the Province.

Englishman River Watershed Recharge Study

G. Henderson presented his Vancouver Island University directed research project on the Englishman River Watershed Recharge Study, integrating various methods including GIS layers and remote sensing data. The committee noted that a worthwhile follow up would be to look at recharge in relation to the mapped aquifers that underlie the Englishman River watershed; to essentially quantify where recharge within the watershed goes in terms of geologic unit (aquifer).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

J. Pisani informed the committee that the *Policy B1.21 Groundwater assessment requirements for rezoning applications for subdivision in un-serviced areas* update is complete internally and is now at the expert review stage, engaging three professional hydrogeologists. The final revised policy is targeted to go to the RDN Board later this summer for approval.

REPORTS

Irrigation Check-Up Evaluation Report

J. Pisani spoke to the Team WaterSmart Irrigation Check-Up Evaluation Report, which determined if a change in participant's water consumption was observable, comparing average summer water use for the periods before and after participation in the Irrigation Check-Up Program. The majority (65%) of participants reduced their water use after their Team WaterSmart Irrigation Check-up. The report was circulated to committee members in the agenda package.

RDN Water Conservation Evaluation Report - Draft for Comment

J. Pisani provided information on the draft RDN Water Conservation Evaluation Report which is in progress. The draft was not circulated but figures were presented followed by verbal discussion. The committee was asked for feedback and ideas on water conservation measures moving forward. There was a discussion around promoting greywater re-use.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TIME: 3:30

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CHAIR