



**TERMS OF REFERENCE UPDATE – DWWP TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board endorse the updated Terms of Reference for the Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Technical Advisory Committee.

**BACKGROUND**

The RDN's Drinking Water and Watershed Protection (DWWP) program has been guided by its multi-stakeholder Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) since its inception in 2009. The TAC is comprised of technical experts from municipal departments, academia, senior government agencies, professional associations, community, and industry, who contribute their expertise and share information to assist with planning and enacting regional water initiatives under the DWWP Action Plan.

As the DWWP program proceeds into the second decade of its implementation, the updated TAC terms of reference (Attachment 1) will ensure the committee membership and structure best serves the program moving forward. The updates to the terms of reference include minor refinements to language and membership updates. These changes were informed by input received during the DWWP Action Plan update process that took place in 2018-2019. The updates also represent alignment with document formats of similar RDN advisory committees' terms of reference (ToR) such as the Liquid Waste Management Plan Monitoring Committee.

Beyond the minor language and format updates, the following updates to membership are proposed in the updated ToR:

<b>Position</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
Agriculture Community representative (Application)	Add 1 member	Water and agriculture are inextricably linked. Agricultural water supply is a key issue in the region, as is agricultural water stewardship.
Professional Hydrologist representative (Appointment)	Add 1 member	Expertise in streamflow dynamics will aid discussions on environmental flows and rainwater management.
Indigenous Community representatives (Appointment)	Add 3 members	In recognition of the importance of water and watersheds to Indigenous communities, we welcome representatives to participate in the advisory committee discussions.



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Forest Industry (Appointment)	Reduce 1 member	Membership changed from 2 to 1 to reflect the merger of the two companies that were previously represented (Island Timberlands and TimberWest) into one entity: Mosaic Forest Management.
Academic Community (Appointment)	Reduce 1 member	Changed from 2 to 1 member from Vancouver Island University, based on relevance and participation.

The Board will continue to receive the meeting minutes of the DWWP TAC by way of the Committee of the Whole, and are welcome to attend as observers at DWWP TAC meetings.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

N/A

**STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT**

The recommendation advances the following strategic priorities related to 2.0 Environmental Stewardship and 7.0 People and Partnerships, respectively:

- Update the Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Program Action Plan.
- Seek opportunities to partner with the provincial and federal governments, other government agencies, and community stakeholder groups in order to advance strategic plan goals and objectives.

**ATTACHMENT**

1. Terms of Reference – RDN Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Technical Advisory Committee – Updated January 2021