From Stormwater Management to RAINwater Management: Implementing a Course Correction in Metro Vancouver



Kim A Stephens, Chair

Metro Vancouver LWMP Reference Panel

The Metro Vancouver Reference Panel.....

- reports directly to regional politicians to contribute:
 - expert knowledge and relevant experience in liquid waste/resource and rainwater management
 - a blend of technical, legal, scientific, academic, business, industry and community perspectives
- provides independent review and recommendations













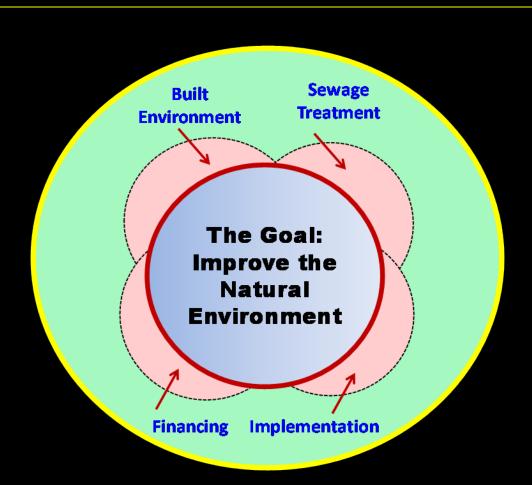


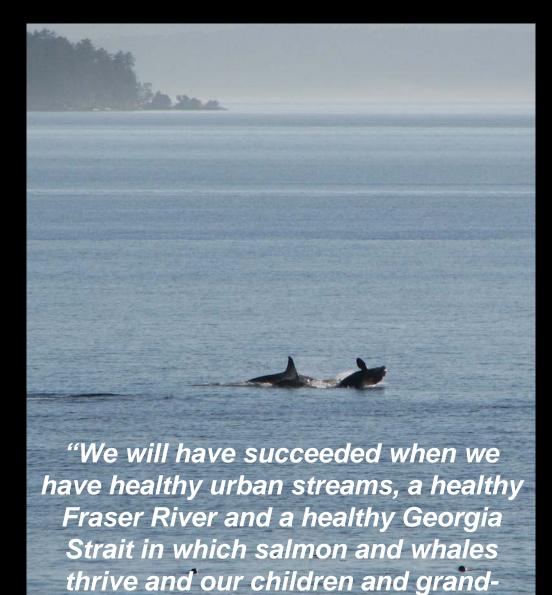






The Reference Panel emphasized: "Value liquid discharges and rainwater as resources, and focus on the GOAL"





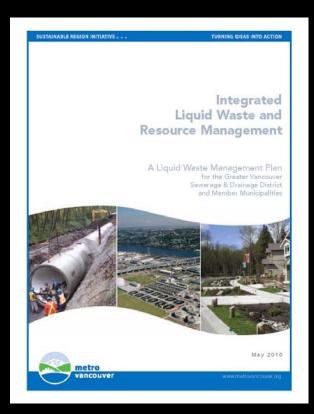
children can recreate safely."

The Reference Panel's 19 recommendations constitute a policy framework for achieving Metro Vancouver's Sustainable Region Vision

- Natural Environment (3) move from protect to improve
- Built Environment (4) move beyond pilot projects



- Sewage Treatment (5) move from waste to resource
- Financing (4) move to a total system approach
- Implementation (3) move from commitment to action



Strategies and actions in the *Integrated Plan* provide a starting point for:

- 1. embracing a "regional team" approach;
- 2. implementing "integrated solutions"; and
- 3. making the Sustainability Vision real.

Why a Course Correction:

"The elephant in the room" is unfunded municipal liabilities resulting from....



Course Correction - Policy Recommendations

For Getting Green Infrastructure Built Right



- 5. Re-focus ISMPs on watershed targets and outcomes
- 6. Mandate a 'new SILG' to lead a regional team approach
- 7. Implement a consistent & integrated approach region-wide

'Table 2' in Beyond the Guidebook 2010 provides a framework for the course correction

Develop outcome-oriented watershed plans that protect and/or improve stream health

- e) establish mechanisms to ensure continued performance of on-site rainwater management systems; and
- work with senior governments and industry to develop codes of practice, certification, guidelines and standards which support this plan.
- Decrease liquid waste volumes through complementary initiatives in the Metro Vancouver Drinking Water Management Plan to reduce potable water consumption. Orgoing

MUNICIPALITIES WILL

1.1.14 Review and enhance sever use bylaws to reduce liquid waste at source, induding contaminants identified by the Canadan Environmental Protection Act, 2012.



- Continue existing programs of permitting and inspection to support and enforce sewer use bylaws. Ongoing
- Identify and regulate pesticides and lawn care products which negatively affect rainwater runoff quality and urban stream health. 2014
- 1.1.17 Continue outreach plans to support liquid waste source control programs. Ongoing Inflow and Infiltration and Rainwater Management.
- 1.1.18 Develop and implement inflow and institution management plans, using the Metro Vancouver template as a guide, to ensure vest wester inflow and inflitution volumes are within Metro Vancouver's allowances as measured at Metro Vancouver's flow metering stations.
- Enhance enforcement of sewer use bylam prohibition against the unauthorized discharge of rainwater and groundwater t sanitary sewers. 2010
- Update municipal bylaws to require on-site rainwater management sufficient to meet criteria established in municipal stormwater plans or bases, criteria, 2014.
- 1.1.21 Update municipal utility design standards and neighbourhood design guidelines to enable and encourage on-site rainwater management 2014

Action #1.1.20:

"Municipalities will update municipal bylaws to require **on-site rainwater management** sufficient to meet criteria established in municipal integrated stormwater plans or baseline region-wide criteria."

Set watershed-specific performance targets that protect and/or improve stream health, and implement targets at the development scale

(from Table 2 in Beyond the Guidebook 2010)

- What target will achieve watershed health objective?
- What needs to be done to make target achievable?
- Do 'green' infrastructure solutions meet the test of affordability and multiple objectives?

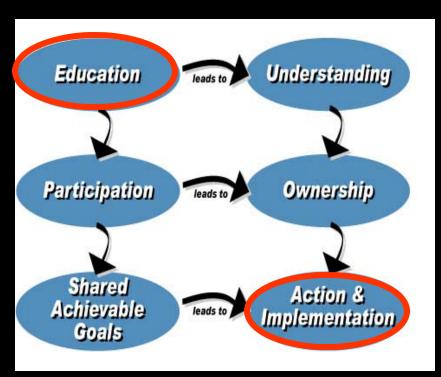
Implementation: Move from Commitment to Action

When the Minister of Environment approves the Integrated Plan, it becomes a regulation.

Then, an over-arching Integrated Utility Management Advisory Committee (IUMAC) will be established.

IUMAC will steward the Integrated Plan, ensure ongoing action and implementation occurs and stays true to the vision

This is what needs to happen to achieve integration that leads to action



Critical Success Factors:

- Commitment to take action & deliver
- Champions to provide energy & drive
- Accountability to deliver at all levels
- Resources to get the job done

Inform, Educate & Inspire

Source:

Stormwater Planning: A Guidebook for British Columbia, 2002

Metro Vancouver's *Integrated Liquid Waste & Resource Management Plan* is a success story because...

"The Metro Vancouver Reference Panel process has demonstrated what can be accomplished when local government staff and community representatives respect each other, share a vision for the region, and are motivated by the common good. It is a powerful example of collaboration in action."

Johnny Carline
Chief Administrative Officer
Metro Vancouver
June 2010

