

Okanagan Basin Water Board Meeting Agenda



DATE: Tuesday, August 1, 2017

TIME: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

PLACE: Regional District of Central Okanagan
1450 KLO Road, Kelowna B.C.

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**
2. **INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS**
3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
4. **DELEGATIONS**
 - 4.1 Mel Arnold, M.P. North Okanagan-Shuswap – discussion of potential invasive species initiatives
5. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**
 - 5.1 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of June 6, 2017 at Summerland Waterfront Resort Hotel, Summerland, B.C. *(page 1)*
 - 5.2 Minutes of the Joint Board-Council Meeting of June 6, 2017 at Summerland Waterfront Resort Hotel, Summerland, B.C. *(page 5)*
6. **CHAIR'S REPORT**
7. **STAFF REPORTS**
 - 7.1 Executive Director Report *(page 7)*
 - 7.1.1 Letter to B.C. Prem. Horgan from SFU-Adaptation to Climate Change Team, etc.
 - 7.1.2 Letter to B.C. Min. Forests, Lands and Nat. Res. Ops from City West Kelowna
 - 7.1.3 Letter to OBWB from RDCO re: informal services review
 - 7.2 Water Stewardship Director Report *(page 18)*
 - 7.3 Operations and Grants Manager Report *(page 23)* *(resolutions requested)*
 - 7.4 Communications Director Report *(page 26)*
 - 7.5 Policy and Planning Specialist Report *(page 30)*
8. **NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - 8.1 New B.C. government –Okanagan water policy priority communications memo *(page 32)*
9. **NEXT MEETING**
 - 9.1 The next meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board will be an abbreviated meeting following our Annual General Meeting on **Friday, September 8, 2017**. At the Lions Club in West Kelowna. Exact time to be determined.
10. **ADJOURNMENT**



Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
August 1, 2017
Agenda No: 4.1

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD
HELD JUNE 6, 2017, AT SUMMERLAND WATERFRONT RESORT HOTEL
13011 LAKESHORE DR. SOUTH, SUMMERLAND, B.C.**

PRESENT

Chair Tracy Gray	Regional District Central Okanagan
Vice-chair Juliette Cunningham	Regional District North Okanagan
Director Doug Dirk	Regional District North Okanagan
Director Rick Fairbairn	Regional District North Okanagan
Director Doug Findlater	Regional District Central Okanagan
Director Cindy Fortin	Regional District Central Okanagan
Director Ron Hovanes	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Director Sue McKortoff	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Director Lisa Wilson	Okanagan Nation Alliance
Alt. Director Bob Hrasko	Water Supply Association of BC
Director Brian Guy	Okanagan Water Stewardship Council

REGRETS

Director Peter Waterman	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
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OBWB STAFF

Anna Warwick Sears	Executive Director
Nelson Jatel	Water Stewardship Director
Corinne Jackson	Communications Director
Kellie Garcia	Policy and Planning Specialist
Alyssa Bougie	Communications & Outreach Coordinator
Nargiz Ragimova	Technical Writer

GUESTS

Janelle Harrison	RDCO Financial Analyst
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1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Gray called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

- 5. Chair Report
- 8.1 Kelowna Chamber of Commerce correspondence re: policy on mussels

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

"THAT the agenda of the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of June 6, 2017 be approved."

CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- 4.1 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of May 2, 2017 at the Regional District of North Okanagan in Coldstream.

“THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of May 2, 2017 at the Regional District of North Okanagan be approved.”

CARRIED

5. CHAIR REPORT

Chair Gray reported on the meeting in Ottawa during the Federation of Canadian Municipalities convention. She was joined by Vice-Chair Juliette Cunningham, Dir. and Past-Chair Doug Findlater, and Dir. Peter Waterman. Also at the meeting was Burnaby North-Seymour MP Terry Beech who is Parliamentary Secretary to the Min. of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Nicholas Winfield – Director General Ecosystems Management for DFO, Ashraf Amlani – DFO Special Assistant for the Pacific - West Coast, and Kelowna-Lake Country MP Stephen Fuhr.

At the meeting, the OBWB delegation pressed the concerns raised by the mussels and asked for stronger federal support, including funding to help provinces with prevention programs and help for mussel-infested provinces for increased containment measures. It was noted that the federal government allocated \$43 mill. in the 2017-18 budget to address invasive species in Canada but there is no spending plan yet. According to Chair Gray, it was agreed that it made sense to consider the mussel issue as part of that plan. Federal officials were also asked to work with Canada Border Services Agency to enhance protection at the Canada-U.S. border. It was acknowledged that there have been some gaps in enforcement and they committed to speak with the minister responsible. The OBWB also received a commitment that the federal government would send a senior official to the July Pacific Northwest Economic Region meeting in Portland where mussels are to be discussed. The OBWB also asked for a follow-up letter to its requests, added Ms. Gray.

Dir. Cunningham added that there appeared to be genuine interest in the issue and a request for as much information as possible. Dir. Findlater added that although the issue is well-known in the Okanagan and Kootenays, it's obvious there has been little attention in other regions. These types of discussions are important in helping get the word out, he added.

Ms. Jackson was asked to send an email as follow-up with federal officials and include copies of the OBWB's Briefing Note and Invasive Mussel Backgrounder.

6. STAFF REPORTS

6.1 Executive Director Report

Dr. Sears noted that the July board meeting is cancelled. The next meeting is August 1. The September meeting will be an abbreviated meeting that will follow the AGM.

The board was provided an update on flooding and told that in the case of Osoyoos Lake it is, in part, being affected by the inflow from the Similkameen River which is slowing down the flow from Okanagan Lake.

The lake is expected to reach historic levels, which will mean a new high water mark and the need to look at how to prepare for future events with climate change, added Dr. Sears.

The board discussed the conditions that led to the flooding, including the lower than normal snowpack and concerns about drought. But with spring came precipitation, with heavy rains in the valley bottom and snow in the upper elevations, followed by a warm spell that melted the late snowpack, adding to the water already running in the creeks.

It was noted that dam operators are releasing the maximum amount of water they can while trying to prevent erosion, but the amount coming in is more than they can release.

Dir. Findlater added that there is still a lot of high elevation snow at Big White, Silver Star, Little White, and Apex mountains.

“THAT the Executive Director’s Report, dated May 31, 2017, be received.”
CARRIED

7. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7.1 Review of the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending March 31, 2017

Dr. Sears and Ms. Harrison answered several clarifying questions from the board.

“THAT the OBWB Audited Financial Statements for the year ending March 31, 2017 be adopted as presented.”
CARRIED

7.2 Contract approval request for Environmental Flow Needs Project – Hydrology Support and Auditing Service

Mr. Jatel introduced the Environmental Flow Needs project and contract to Associated Engineering. The contract is for additional field support and an audit on data, as well as for monitoring equipment that was lost with high flows in Mission Creek.

“THAT the OBWB enter into a service agreement with Associated Environmental Consultants Inc. for the provision of field work related to the Environmental Flow Needs project for the 2017-18 project year in a time and materials contract valued at \$74,000.”

CARRIED

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 Correspondence from Kelowna Chamber of Commerce to OBWB re: federal mussels policy. Ms. Jackson will follow up with the chamber and provide feedback.

“THAT the correspondence to the Okanagan Basin Water Board be received.”
CARRIED

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board will be Tuesday, August 1, 2017 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Regional District of Central Okanagan.

10. ADJOURNMENT

“THAT there being no further business, the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of June 6, 2017 be adjourned at 10:40 a.m. “
CARRIED

Certified Correct:		
Chair		Executive Director

JOINT BOARD – COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, June 6, 2016
11am – 3pm
Summerland Waterfront Resort Hotel, Summerland B.C.

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
August 1, 2017
Agenda No: 5.2

Meeting Notes

Board Chair Tracy Gray and Council Chair Brian Guy welcomed guests to the 2017 joint meeting. Board and Council members introduced themselves. Community flooding and infrastructure issues were thematically raised throughout the introductions. Concerns about post-flood stream and shoreline rehabilitation were raised.

Dr. Anna Warwick Sears introduced the key note speaker, Renata Claudi, partner and chief scientist at RNT Consulting Inc. Ms. Claudi presented remotely from her office in Ontario. According to her biography Ms. Claudi is an environmental scientist with over 25 years of diverse business and technical experience. After more than 15 years in the electric power industry, where she established the mussel mitigation program for Ontario's largest electricity utility, Ms. Claudi formed RNT Consulting Inc. to respond to the broader industry need for expert mussel support. As aquatic nuisance species became geographically more widespread, Ms. Claudi has provided mussel expertise internationally on the various aspects of alien species invasions, including their economic impact, protection of assets, selection of appropriate control options, and installation of these control options.

Ms. Claudi provided a well-received presentation. Select presentation highlights include:

<p>Okanagan Lake surface water quality (Mackie 2010) vs. dreissenid mussel success</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Alkalinity - total mg CaCO3/L</td><td>108-116</td><td>111.2</td><td>High</td></tr> <tr><td>Calcium - mg/L</td><td>30.7-34.1</td><td>32.1</td><td>High</td></tr> <tr><td>Conductivity- µS/cm</td><td>0.3-300</td><td>185.7</td><td>High</td></tr> <tr><td>Dissolved oxygen - mg/L</td><td>8.6-13.2</td><td>10.6</td><td>High</td></tr> <tr><td>Temperature -</td><td>1.7-23.0</td><td>18?</td><td>High</td></tr> <tr><td>pH</td><td>7.3-8.5</td><td>7.98</td><td>Little to high?</td></tr> <tr><td>Total phosphorous µg/L 2-100 ??</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Chlorophyll a µg/L (mean summer value estimated) 0.0-1400 ??</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Dissolved oxygen, % saturation, 138-141? 134?</td><td></td><td></td><td>High?</td></tr> </table>	Alkalinity - total mg CaCO3/L	108-116	111.2	High	Calcium - mg/L	30.7-34.1	32.1	High	Conductivity- µS/cm	0.3-300	185.7	High	Dissolved oxygen - mg/L	8.6-13.2	10.6	High	Temperature -	1.7-23.0	18?	High	pH	7.3-8.5	7.98	Little to high?	Total phosphorous µg/L 2-100 ??				Chlorophyll a µg/L (mean summer value estimated) 0.0-1400 ??				Dissolved oxygen, % saturation, 138-141? 134?			High?	<p>Increase in Macrophytes</p> 	<p>Fast increase in population density – Lower Colorado River</p> 
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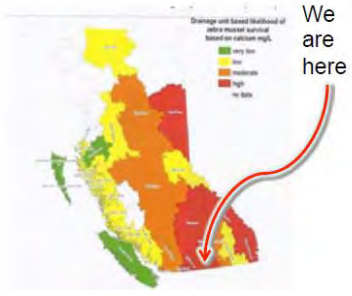

A full copy of Ms. Claudi’s presentation is available at the WSC website here:

<http://www.obwb.ca/about-the-council/presentations-videos/>

- Recommendation: collect pH, temperature, phosphorus, chlorophyll a and dissolved oxygen profiles in multiple locations to determine if there is a potential mitigation factor for the mussel invasion.
- Any instrument in contact with raw water is vulnerable.
- Ecosystem/Social/Economic impacts include: drinking water quality changes, rise of macrophytes, changes in fisheries, changes to benthic environment, impact on tourism, shoreline property values.

Mr. Nelson Jatel introduced the second guest speaker, Heather Larratt of Larratt Aquatic Consulting. Ms. Larratt has 28 years of experience with water quality and reservoir management. Ms. Larratt produced a 2012 report for the OBWB on the impact of invasive mussels to the Okanagan.

Ms. Larratt provided a well-received presentation. Select presentation highlights include:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any lake or stream in red area is at high risk 	<p>What AIS mussels do to a lake can be seen from space...</p> 
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A full copy of Ms. Larratt's presentation is available at the WSC website here:

<http://www.obwb.ca/about-the-council/presentations-videos/>

- All Okanagan mainstem lakes, especially Kalamalka and Wood, are vulnerable to mussels. Upper elevation lakes that are iron-stained, low pH, low calcium are not vulnerable.
- Commit to Clean, Drain, Dry.
- Recommendations (2013) included: public education blitz and private sector involvement.

Recommended actions arising from roundtable discussion:

OBWB Board consider sending letters to B.C. professional organizations to communicate risks associated with professionals involved in water unintentionally spreading the invasive mussels.

Closing remarks from Chairs Gray and Guy.

Meeting adjourned at 3pm.

MEMORANDUM

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
August 1, 2017
Agenda No: 7.1

File No. 0550.04

To: OBWB Directors
From: Anna Warwick Sears
Date: July 26, 2017
Subject: **Executive Director Report**

Upcoming Annual Public Meeting followed by September OBWB meeting

The OBWB's Annual Meeting will be 8:30 am – noon on Friday, September 8th, at the Lion's Hall in West Kelowna. To honour the weird changes in the weather, our meeting theme is "weathering extremes." We are 47 this year. The keynote speaker will be Max Kniewasser, from the Pembina Institute. We've asked him to talk about trends and activities in climate adaptation for B.C. communities, and give us a climate policy update on what's happening in Ottawa and Victoria. The Pembina Institute is a non-profit organization with a focus on clean energy and recently, climate policy. They have an excellent reputation for non-partisan dialogue across the political spectrum and civil society. We will be sharing an advance copy of our annual report and the morning's schedule in the coming weeks.

There will be a (short) regular OBWB meeting immediately following lunch, from 12:30 – 2:00 pm.

Letters to Government

With the change in government in Victoria, we have new ministers who may not be aware of Okanagan water issues. Reading through the Mandate Letters of July 18, there are almost no references to water (mentioned only with respect to fracking). For the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development (FLNRORD), the letter instructs the Minister to "Work with the Minister of Indigenous Relations, First Nations and communities to modernize land use planning and sustainably manage B.C.'s ecosystems, rivers, lakes, watersheds, forests and old growth."

We have some continuity with deputy ministers in key ministries. Wes Shoemaker, with the Ministry of Agriculture was formerly with Environment (MoE), and is familiar with our files; Tim Sheldan remains with FLNR[RD]; and Mark Zacharias has been promoted within MoE from ADM to DM. Nonetheless, the board may want to consider a communication strategy to bring the ministers up to date.

Advocating for Okanagan water issues is part of our Objects and Purpose, given in our legislation: "To present proposals and recommendations to local or senior governments according to jurisdiction and responsibility." Nelson Jatel is providing a separate memo that lists the OBWB's recent letters to

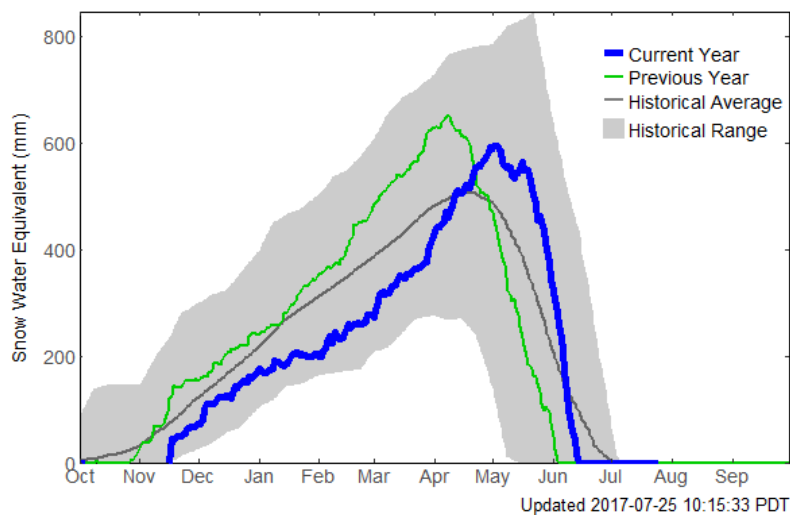
senior government. In late June, I was asked to be a signatory on a letter (attached) with a number of organizations calling for the new government to establish a ministry for Emergency Preparedness, and for investment into preventing damage from extreme weather events. Unfortunately, the mandate letter for Public Safety only addresses criminal justice issues.

Flood Review

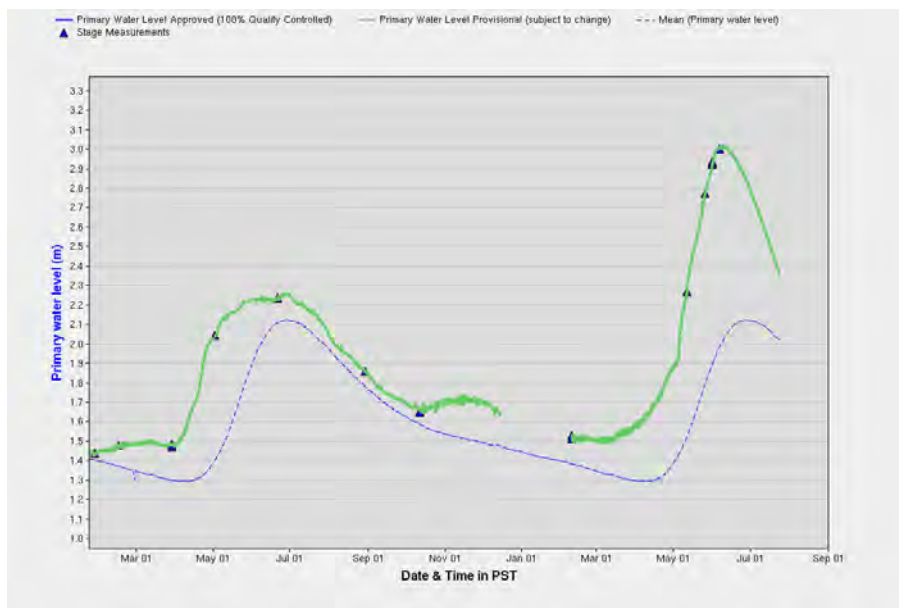
The City of West Kelowna, and the Regional District of Central Okanagan have called on the B.C. Minister of FLNRORD to review all the factors leading to the flooding of Okanagan Lake in 2017. (See attached letter from the City of West Kelowna). I believe a review would be helpful.

According to the Snow Surveys on the River Forecast Centre website, the Okanagan snow pack was 86% of normal on March 1, and 228% of normal on June 1. The peak was significantly lower and later than in 2016 – the variation in conditions are very challenging for water managers.

Mission Creek Snow Pillow – July 25th, 2017 (Elevation 1794m)



Okanagan Lake levels from January 25, 2016 to July 25, 2017



Floodplain Mapping Grant Applications

I've been in contact with staff from all three regional districts, as well as Dir. Lisa Wilson from the ONA about grant applications to the National Disaster Mitigation Program, for floodplain mapping. Okanagan local governments are in a uniquely favorable situation to apply for these funds, given our recent inundation. Emergency Management BC flew LiDAR (<https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/lidar.html>) at the high water mark along all the mainstem Okanagan lake shores, and plans another flight when the water goes down. LiDAR gives detailed information on the height of land, and the path of the water through aerial imagery. LiDAR flights are very expensive, and having that available for floodplain mapping will greatly reduce costs. There is a funding deadline on August 25th.

Logistically, it would probably be simplest for each regional district to apply independently, but with coordinated applications and a stated intention to collaborate. I have offered direct assistance to the regional districts to help them organize and submit the applications. I'm meeting later this week with Dir. Wilson, and with Jim Vanderwal of the Fraser Basin Council to discuss the best approach for ONA's application.

Water Demand Model Internship

In June, the OBWB received a grant from Agriculture and Agri-Foods Canada to support an internship to update the Okanagan Water Demand Model. This model is based on a land-use survey of all agricultural land and all irrigation systems in the valley, and we have recently obtained BC Assessment data to update urban land uses. It provides a way to estimate how much water is used for different crops or different needs in specific areas of the valley, and how these demands may change with climate change. It has been widely used by local and senior governments, consultants and researchers. This update will improve its accuracy. Ms. Alison Thorpe, who worked on the land use survey with the Ministry of Agriculture and who recently received her certificate in GIS from BCIT, will hold the internship until the end of January.

RDCO Service Review of OBWB

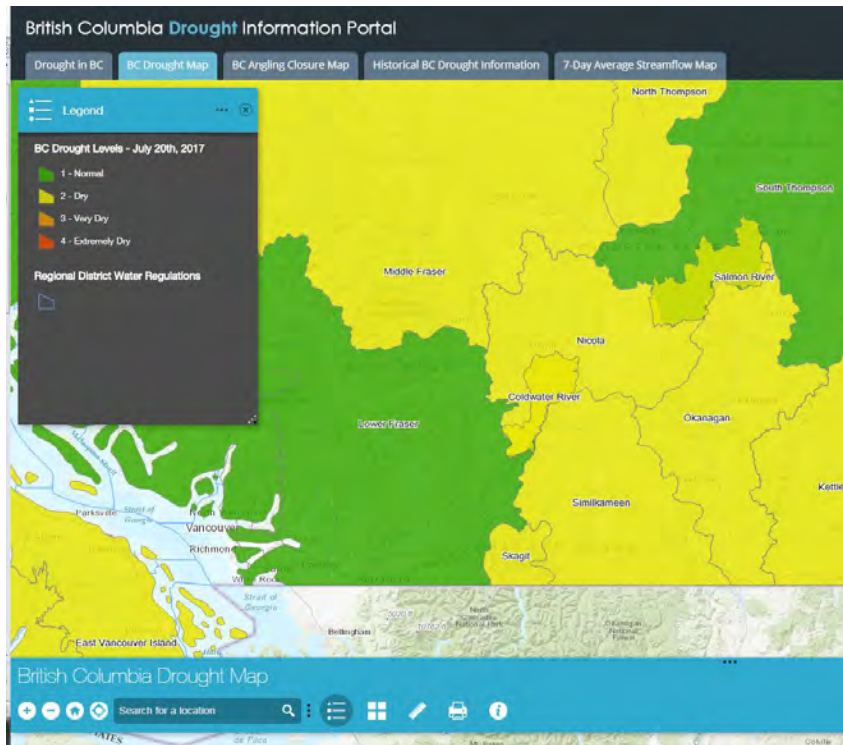
This spring's flooding has delayed the RDCO service review of OBWB. In April, the board requested information about the scope and timing of the review, and the goals of the process. I've attached a recent letter from Mr. Reardon, the CAO, providing this information.

Milfoil Equipment Transfer

The RDCO and RDNO have now approved the transfer of OBWB's milfoil equipment to RDOS. I will be working with RDOS staff to complete the transfer within the next month.

Weather update

From wet weather to dry weather – we are now in a Level 2 drought, with hot and dry conditions expected to persist throughout the summer. However, as of mid-July, when we emailed our water supplier partners, none are on greater than normal watering restrictions.



North American Drought Monitor

June 30, 2017

Released: Tuesday, July 11, 2017

<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/nadm.html>

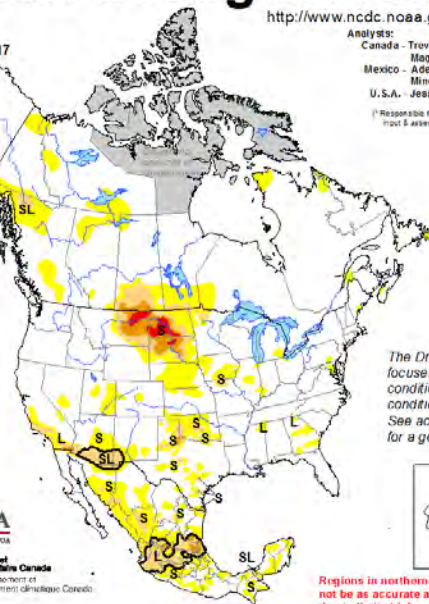
Analysts:
 Canada - Trevor Hadwen
 Magdala Magendrathejan
 Mexico - Adeline Aibani
 Minerva Lopez
 U.S.A. - Jessica Blunden
 (* Responsible for selecting analyst input & assembling the NA-DM map)

Intensity

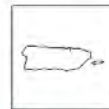
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

Drought Impact Types

- ~ Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically <6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long Term, typically >6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)



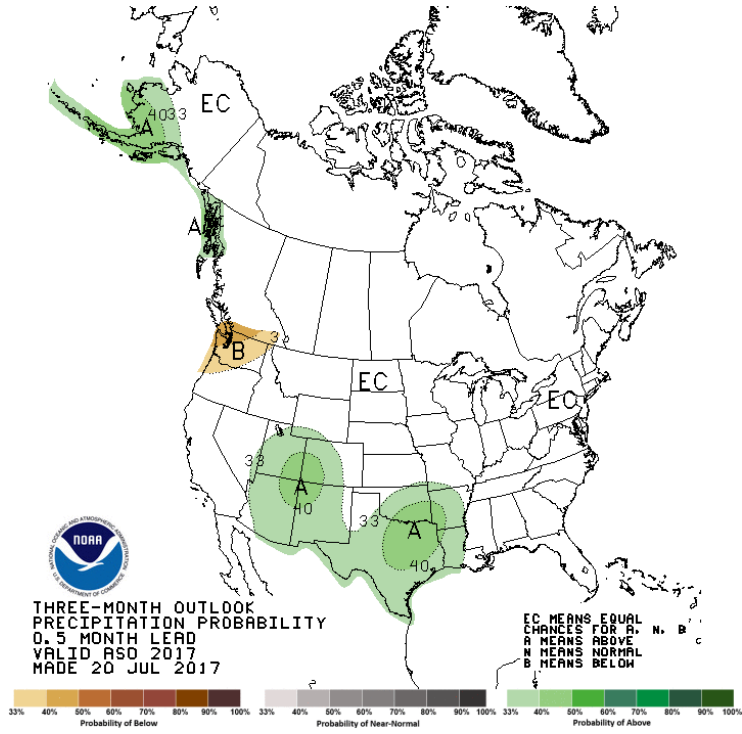
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text for a general summary.



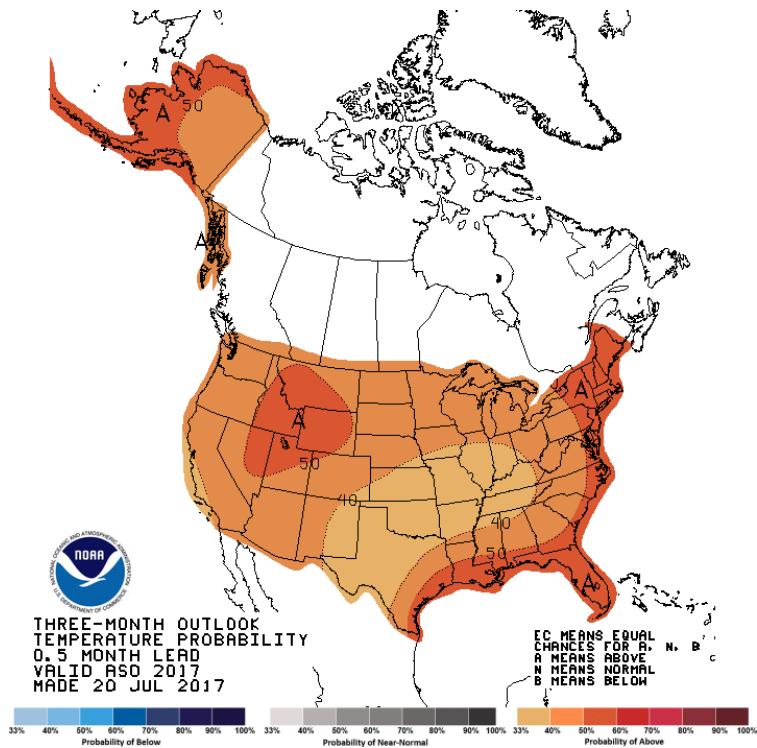
Regions in northern Canada may not be as accurate as other regions due to limited information.



Three month **precipitation** outlook (dry)



Three month **temperature** outlook (hot)



June 30, 2017

John Horgan, MLA, Langford-Juan de Fuca
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Sent by email: john.horgan.mla@leg.bc.ca

Dear Mr. Horgan

Re: Provincial cabinet organization and emergency preparedness

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, congratulations to your party on a hard-fought election campaign.

This is an exciting and important time for British Columbia, and the next government's forthcoming cabinet decisions are of the utmost importance. The significant flood events that are currently occurring throughout the province are the latest demonstration of the need for increased investment in efforts that build resiliency and better prepare individuals and communities for the risks they face. As organizations committed to proactive action on emergency preparedness and building resiliency to a changing climate, we would like to highlight the importance that any new government must place in ensuring that British Columbians are protected from natural disaster.

As our climate changes, the frequency and severity of extreme weather events is on the rise, and is having an increasing impact on individuals across the country. Insured losses due to severe weather, which averaged \$400 million annually until 2009, have been at or exceeded \$1 billion every year since. In fact, 2016 set a new record for insured losses in Canada due to severe weather, totalling \$5.2 billion, driven by the Fort McMurray wildfire. Governments are also bearing the increasing costs, with federal disaster assistance payments totalling over \$600 million annually, 74% of which is due to flood. Dwarfing both of these would be the impact of a major earthquake striking southwestern BC, the likelihood of which continues to grow as we better understand its nature.

Clearly, the risk facing BC from events such as a major earthquake, flood and wildfire is on the rise, and ensuring a robust disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness program has never been more important to the safety of all British Columbians. To respond to this increasing need, the next government's cabinet must retain a Ministry, or Ministry of State, for Emergency Preparedness. A dedicated Minister responsible for emergency preparedness will help ensure a robust emergency preparedness program, and closely aligns with the recommendations made previously by British Columbia's Auditor General, as well as Henry Renteria in the BC Earthquake Consultant Report.

John Horgan
Page 2
June 30, 2017

The new government must also increase financial and other resources for both climate change mitigation and adaptation. As our climate changes, BC is experiencing a new weather reality, and the impact this is having on individuals across the province reinforces the need to improve our resiliency, to better understand the risks we face, and to increase and reap the benefits of investments in adaptation measures to help communities respond. Specific measures include increased support at the local level for better land use planning and floodplain mapping, improvements in flood resilience infrastructure, restoration of natural capital, and increased investment in storm and waste water infrastructure. Efforts must be extended broadly such that climate adaptation and low-carbon thinking is included in all future infrastructure planning, and a robust public education and communication campaign should be undertaken to inform British Columbians about the risks they face and the steps they can take to better prepare.

All government ministries must consider emergency preparedness and climate adaptation in their long-term planning. Ministries responsible for emergency preparedness and the environment have clear links to adaptation, but other ministries should also prepare for the impacts they will experience, such as new and expanded health risks, changing infrastructure and land use implications, and new opportunities and challenges for trade and the economy. Integrating adaptation across ministries will ensure a consistent approach across government, increase efficiency, and maximize communities' resilience to risk.

Congratulations again on your success in the last election. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss these important issues further, and our contact information is provided below.

Sincerely,

The undersigned, in alphabetical order:

ACT (Adaptation to Climate Change Team)

Deborah Harford, Executive Director
604.671.2449
adapt@sfu.ca



BC Earthquake Alliance Society

Dave Cockle, President
250.592.9121
dcockle@oakbay.ca



British Columbia Real Estate Association

Robert Laing, Chief Executive Officer
604.742.2787
rlaing@bcrea.bc.ca



John Horgan
Page 3
June 30, 2017

Insurance Brokers Association of BC

Jeremy Lebsack, President
604.606.8000



Insurance Bureau of Canada

Aaron Sutherland, Vice President, Pacific
604.684.3635 ext. 223
asutherland@ibc.ca



Okanagan Basin Water Board

Anna Warwick Sears, Executive Director
250.469.6251
anna.warwick.sears@obwb.ca



Partnership for Water Sustainability in British Columbia

Ted van der Gulik, President
604-825-3877
tvandergulik@watersustainabilitybc.com



Planning Institute of British Columbia

Christine Callihoo, Sr. Community Resilience Planner,
Member of PIBC Climate Action Task Force
778.887.6764
christine.callihoo@shaw.ca



Urban Systems

Glen Shkurhan, Senior Engineer and Partner
604.235.1701 ext. 6226
gshkurhan@urbansystems.ca





Office of the Mayor

2760 Cameron Road, West Kelowna, British Columbia V1Z 2T6

Tel (778) 797.2210 Fax (778) 797.1001

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
August 1, 2017
Agenda No. 7.1.2

July 19, 2017

Honourable Doug Donaldson
Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
P.O. Box 9049
Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Honourable Donaldson,

At its July 11, 2017 meeting Council unanimously agreed to request the Province of BC to conduct a review of all possible factors leading to the flooding and mitigation efforts after this spring's flooding event and passed the following motion:

WHEREAS the Okanagan Basin experienced widespread localized flooding of lakes and streams in the spring and early summer of 2017;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council express our deep and sincere gratitude to the Province of BC for their assistance through Emergency Management BC and the BC Wildfire Service Crews; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Council request the Province of BC to conduct a review of all possible factors leading to the flooding and mitigation efforts to include, but not limited to, timing of the spring freshet in relation to the release of waters from the Okanagan Lake system at various dams; need for additional data collection stations related to weather, snowpack and stream flow; climate change impacts and freshet management; fishery needs, flood plain building; upland logging impacts; the banning of power boats during times of declared state of emergency; and the capacity of municipalities and first nations to respond to emergencies.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Doug Findlater
Mayor

cc West Kelowna Council
Christy Clark, MLA Kelowna-West
Jim Zaffino, Chief Administrative Office



Office of the Administrator

1450 K.L.O. Road
Kelowna, B.C. V1W 3Z4

Telephone: (250) 469-6235
Fax: (250) 763-0606
www.regionaldistrict.com

July 25, 2017

Okanagan Basin Water Board
1450 KLO Road,
Kelowna, BC, V1W 3Z4

Anna Warwick Sears
Executive Director

File No: 0360-20-OBWB

Okanagan Basin Water Board Regular meeting August 1, 2017 Agenda No. 7.1.3

RE: Informal Service Review for OBWB – Request for Information

Thank for yesterday's email reminder about the Regional District of Central Okanagan's informal service review of the Okanagan Basin Water Board and your request for an update on where we are with this initiative. In a nutshell, our 2017 work plan has been significantly impacted by the 2017 Freshet Flood Event in the Central Okanagan and has already resulted in delays. I anticipate this matter getting back on track in the coming days being advanced in October or November, 2017.

That said, I wish to address a number of points contained in your letter dated April 24th, 2017. Firstly, this is an administrative (informal) service review falling outside of *Part 10, Division 6 – [Dispute Resolution in Relation to Services]* of the *Local Government Act*. Instead, this service review forms a part of our regular 5 year cycle of reviewing all regional district services as directed by the Board. This has proven to be a healthy process for our organization both politically and administratively.

In our service review we will confirm the authority to provide the service, verify the scope of the service contained in the establishment bylaw or statutory letters patent, whichever the case may be, confirm the participants in the service along with voting rights, and describe the cost allocation/recovery mechanisms. Once this information is clear, we verify if the service is operating within its legislated authority and mandate. If any gaps are identified we explore options on how to best address them. A report is provided to the Regional Board for their consideration. The goal of the service review process is to raise the level of awareness of the service to the Board of Directors and provide an opportunity for them to discuss the value the service brings to the region and answer any questions they may have.

This service review process is intended to be collaborative. You will be provided an opportunity to address any questions raised in the report and be part of the presentation to the Board.

Yours truly,

Brian Reardon
Chief Administrative Officer

MEMORANDUM

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
August 1, 2017
Agenda No: 7.2

File No. 0550.04

To: Board of Directors
From: Nelson R. Jatel
Date: July 25, 2017
Subject: Water Stewardship Director's Report

Water Stewardship Council (Council)

Every year the Council and Board get together in a joint meeting to support communication between the two groups. This year the Council and Board met on June 6 at the Summerland Waterfront Resort Hotel. Board Chair Tracy Gray and Council Chair Brian Guy provided introductory comments.



Dr. Guy noted a number of important considerations that the Council is mindful of including:

- Working at the pleasure of the Board, the Council is a unique platform to support and enable water experts and knowledge keepers to provide input into contemporary and future water management and governance issues.
- The Council was conceived at the formation of the Board in 1971 – yet never materialized in any concrete form. The current form/function of the Council was realized in 2007 with an emphasis on organizational membership and supporting the Board with community input.
- The Council continues to have a strong membership from community and government organizations, with a track record of strong leadership. Past chairs include Tom Siddon, Bernie Bauer, Don Dobson, and Rob Birtles - a tradition that continues into this current 7th, 18 month Council term.
- Council successes worthy of celebration include:
 - **Water research:** endocrine disruptors, water supply and demand, water values, environmental flow needs
 - **Water policy:** opposition to sale of Okanagan reservoir lots, input into new BC Water Sustainability Act, groundwater regulations
 - **Water management:** municipal bio-solids, irrigation management, invasive mussels, drought and flood management, water allocation, wetland protection and enhancement, source water protection

- Future looking: developing new Sustainable Water Strategy (updated from 2007); developing a conference in 2018 to showcase (nationally) the Okanagan environmental flow needs project; supporting collaborative management initiatives between governments; focusing on improving water science to support integrated water management in the Okanagan.
- Water management is better off because of the Board's leadership – and the Council is an important part of that leadership structure.

Two speakers presented at this year's joint Board/Council meeting: Renata Claudia (remotely) and Heather Larratt. They presented on management considerations for the potential of introduced mussels in Okanagan waters. Speakers provided practical insights with respect to management issues relevant to the Okanagan, should invasive mussels be introduced into our lake systems. The water chemistry in Okanagan mainstem lakes are well-suited for zebra and quagga mussel introduction.

One noted observation from the joint meeting was the need to have qualified environmental professionals be made aware of the threat of introducing invasive mussels through their field work. Having the Board write a letter to the B.C. professional associations would increase awareness and reduce the risk of an inadvertent introduction by a professional.

Council Chair Dr. Brian Guy hosted an informal BBQ on June 23rd, at his home in Vernon. Participation was excellent with over 20 council members, friends and colleagues joining us for a potluck dinner and opportunity to informally discuss water issues and enjoy an Okanagan summer evening.

Throughout the summer Council does not meet but committees are continuing to meet including the bi-weekly leadership team meetings. Projects involving communication, water allocation, irrigation management sustainable water strategy, drought/flood planning, source water and wetlands and policy are ongoing.

All board members are encouraged to attend our September 7th (first Thursday of September) Council meeting at the Coast Capri Hotel from 12:30pm – 4:30pm.

Project updates

Okanagan Environmental Flow (EFN) project

The 2nd year of this OBWB-led project are in full swing with ongoing stream transect data being collected at multiple sites in 19 Okanagan streams. The high flows this year caused damage at four of our sampling sites requiring some repairs and replacement of lost equipment.

Naturalized Flows: A report documenting how to calculate naturalized flows in 18 Okanagan streams was authored by AE Consulting and the document has now been reviewed by ONA Fishery Department and FLNRO ministry staff. A pilot project developing Okanagan specific EFNs based on the new naturalized flow calculations will be developed this summer to test the proposed Tennant and WUW methods and data.



Mission Creek - June 2017 flood conditions



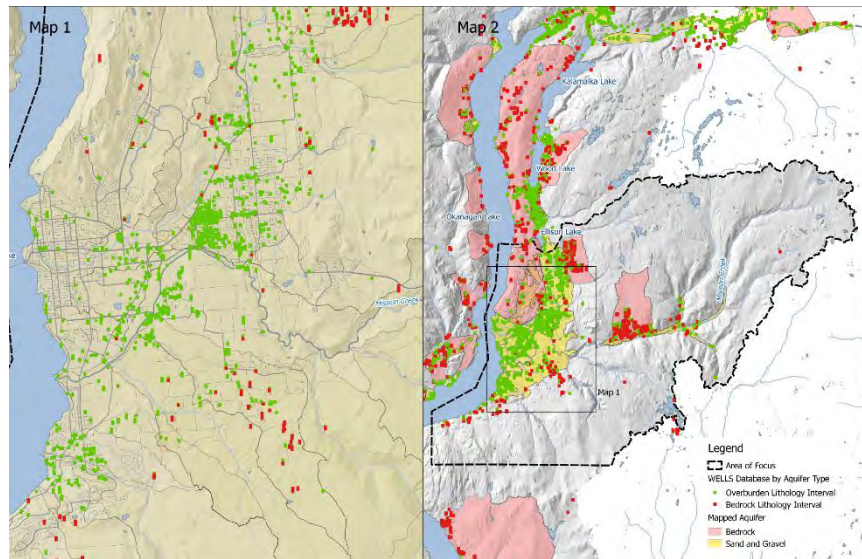
Sampling flow data in Mission Creek

Background: Under the new BC Water Sustainability Act (2016) EFNs must be considered. The OBWB in partnership with the ONA Fishery Department and FLNRO are working on this two year project, funded by the Canada-BC gas tax fund, to determine flow needs for Okanagan streams. Methods to determine Okanagan EFNs were developed by a team of experts with review by ONAFD, FLNRO and other agency staff. Environmental Flow Needs refer to the volume and timing of water flow that is optimal for the proper functioning of the aquatic ecosystem of the stream.

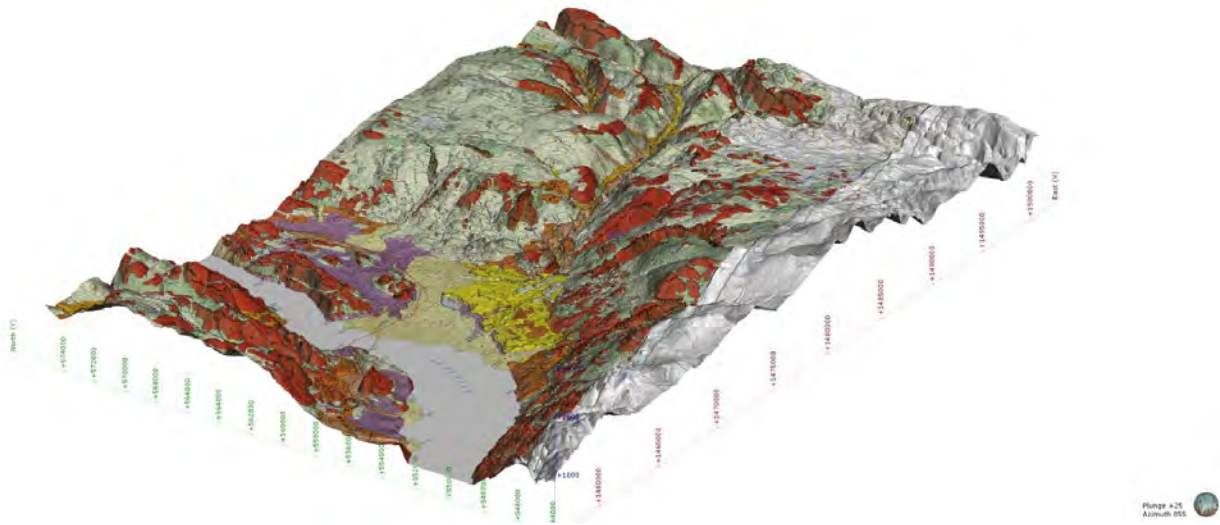
Okanagan Groundwater: Mission Creek surface-groundwater interaction project

On July 20th, the OBWB hosted a workshop exploring the recently completed pilot modeling efforts of the Kelowna groundwater aquifers. A software package, Leapfrog 3D, was used to help better understand groundwater boundaries.

The successful workshop brought together the consulting team led by Ecoscape Environmental and the B.C. groundwater team members from Penticton and Victoria.



Project study area



Leapfrog 3D rendering of Kelowna-Mission Creek topography and surficial geology from the Geological Survey of Canada (Paradis 2009).

The Mission Creek Groundwater Project (MCGP) is an initiative to understand the interaction between surface water and groundwater along Mission Creek in the Kelowna Area. The study will meet multiple objectives: to better understand groundwater supplies, for infrastructure planning by water suppliers, for FLNRO licensing decisions, for environmental flow needs determinations, for the Mission Creek Restoration Initiative, for the ONA's ongoing fisheries enhancement activities, for research by faculty and students at UBCO, and by piloting this approach for other drainages.

A number of groundwater modeling efforts have previously been undertaken in the Okanagan valley. However, many of these models used limited historical data. In order to ensure that bias wasn't introduced to the aquifer modeling project, historical data and models from previous projects were not used as a starting point for development of the datasets. For example, data from the BC Aquifers maps were not used. Rather, this project used the original well drilling data to characterize aquifers in the study area. Given the computer technology currently available, it is possible to develop a new framework for a groundwater model.

This project completed its objectives to update and standardize the BC Government WELLS database and all project deliverables were developed and reviewed by multiple hydrogeologists, and will serve as the backbone of future modelling exercises in the Mission Creek basin. This project is a partnership between the B.C. Government groundwater hydrology team, OBWB, ONAFD, City of Kelowna, SEKID, and RWW.

MEMORANDUM

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
August 1, 2017
Agenda No: 7.3

File No. 0550.04

To: OBWB Chair and Board

From: James Littley

Date: July 24, 2017

Subject: **Operations and Grants Manager Report**

Milfoil Control Program Update

Both harvesters are currently working on our summer treatment, following a short-delay to operations from the spring flooding. One machine has been working full-time in Osoyoos Lake, and the other has completed Tugboat Bay in Kelowna, and is now treating public beaches in Wood Lake. Once Wood Lake is complete, the second harvester will move into the north arm of Okanagan Lake for the remainder of the summer. We have received a high number of calls for control again this summer adjacent to private property. Despite the winter freeze and spring floods, we are on track to have a fairly normal milfoil situation this year in most areas.

RFP for New Aquatic Rototiller

In early May, we released a Request for Proposals for the design and build of one new aquatic rototilling vessel for milfoil removal. The proposal window closed on June 30th. The top-ranked proponent is Multi-Power Products Ltd. of Kelowna, B.C. Their proposal meets our RFP criteria and they have experience manufacturing aquatic rototillers, having previously supplied one to OBWB in 2005, and also having been an OBWB supplier for numerous years. Multi-Power Products Ltd. proposes to work with Grand Marine Ltd., a Naval Architecture, Engineering and Consulting Company based in North Vancouver, with extensive experience in meeting Transport Canada requirements.

Recommended Resolution: THAT the OBWB award the contract for the Design and Build of Aquatic Rototilling Vessel for Milfoil Removal to Multi-Power Products Ltd. of Kelowna B.C., pending final contract Terms and Conditions acceptable to OBWB.

AND THAT the Operations and Grants Manager be authorized to finalize the Terms and Conditions with Multi-Power Products Ltd. with the final approval of the Executive Director.

AND THAT the final contract price excluding GST, shall not exceed \$350,000 (Final amount to be reported verbally in person at meeting).

Invasive Mussel Update

On July 26th, I will be attending the PNWER Invasive Species Working Group session. The meeting will include updates on the mussel situation and prevention efforts across the region. The working group will also re-visit action items. I will report back to the Board on any progress or new activities with a verbal report at the board meeting. Following is a list of highlighted speakers for this session:

Lee	Heider	Senator	Idaho State Legislature
Kate	Wilson	Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist	Alberta Environment & Parks
Jon	Trapp	Assistant Chief	Red Lodge Fire Rescue
Bryce	Christiaens	Weed District Manager	Missoula County Weed District
Tom	Woolf	Aquatic Invasive Species Bureau Chief	Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks
Mike	Cuffe	Representative	Montana State Legislature
Tim	Counihan	Research Fishery Biologist	United States Geological Service
Tim	Dykstra	Environmental Stewardship Program Manager	US Army Corps of Engineers
Stephen	Phillips	AIS Program Manager	Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
Mark	Sytsma	Associate VP of Research	Portland State University
Becky	Cudmore	Manager, Aquatic Invasive Species	Department of Fisheries and Oceans
Martina	Beck	Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator	Government of British Columbia
Arnie	Roblan	Senator	Oregon State Legislature
Clinton	Burfitt	Insect Pest Prevention & Mgt Program Manager	Oregon Department of Agriculture
David	Brock Smith	Representative	Oregon State Legislature
Peter	Daugherty	State Forester	Oregon Department of Forestry
Sarah	Navarro	Forest Pathologist	Oregon Department of Forestry
Jim	Marra	Pest Program Manager	Washington Department of Agriculture
Joseph	Maroney	Director of Fishery and Water Resources	Kalispel Tribe of Indians
Brian	Heise	Associate Professor	Thompson Rivers University
Justin	Bush	Executive Coordinator	Washington Invasive Species Council
Jamie	Reaser	Executive Director	National Invasive Species Council
Amy	Amrhein	Southern OR Field Representative	Office of U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley
Jeff	Stone	Executive Director	Oregon Association of Nurseries

Water Conservation and Quality Improvement Grant Process

In November 2013, staff completed a comprehensive review of the WCQI grants program, including the Terms of Reference, process, and each grant issued between 2006 and 2013. Several recommendations were adopted by the board (see original memo, attached).

One of the most important aspects of our program is to maintain transparency and fairness for all grantees. Our process addresses this in two primary ways.

Transparent rules: Each year, the process for the grant competition is presented to the board, prior to the public call for applications. This allows the board to review the process, approve an annual theme, and set funding priorities for that year. The updated process and scoring criteria are then made available to applicants on the OBWB website. This creates a transparent process for all applicants.

Avoiding perceptions of bias: OBWB directors are appointed from local governments and non-government organizations which are eligible applicants. Some grantees may be concerned that they need access to lobby their local director, to have a project approved. Having OBWB staff independently score and make recommendations – voted on by the board as a whole – avoids the perception that the process is biased.

In 2016, directors raised questions about how staff rank applications, and the feedback available to the board for their deliberation process. Directors also requested that unsuccessful applicants be given sufficient feedback to improve future applications. The following recommendations are intended to address these concerns, while maintaining the fairness and integrity of the competition process.

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Recommendation 1: THAT the WCQI program guide be amended to include detailed information about the scoring criteria and the grant competition process.

Recommendation 2: THAT all questions about specific applications received by directors or staff relating to the WCQI grants program between the time of the Call for Applications, and the final award of grants be directed to the Grants Manager as the appropriate point of contact.

Recommendation 3: THAT the Grants Manager provide, upon request, a thorough debrief to any unsuccessful applicant, including any considerations that affected the recommendations.

Recommended resolution: THAT the OBWB adopt the three recommendations to update the WCQI process, as presented.

Sewerage Facilities Assistance Grants Process

The purpose of this item is to recommend changes to the application process for local governments pursuing new sewer grants. The current process calls for a technical provincial review of new projects, even where the local government is not applying for provincial grants. This process was intended to ensure that applicants were following best practices since OBWB does not have expertise to conduct engineering and cost-estimate reviews. However, it has proven to be arduous and time-consuming on the local government, OBWB staff, and provincial staff, and may not be necessary to meet the desired outcomes.

The province, in-part, bases funding decisions on the results of a community survey which reports the number of failing septic systems in an area. That program requires that 25-50% of homes indicate that the septic systems are failing in order to be eligible. The OBWB sewer grant program does not require failing septic systems to fund eligible projects. The intent of the OBWB program is to encourage the transition of lots created prior to 1978, from septic to sewer. Further, while a provincial technical review assures that best practices are being followed, it is highly unlikely that any Okanagan local government would not already comply when installing new sewer systems. Other non-technical criteria of our grants program can be reviewed by the Operations and Grants Manager, without the need for provincial review.

The recommended change to the program would eliminate the provincial review for new sewer grant applications, and require the following:

1. Proof of the one-hectare zoning bylaw, including a prohibition on the development of accessory dwellings (carriage houses) on lots less than 1.0 hectare that rely on onsite sewage disposal.
2. A detailed cost estimate of the project.
3. Calculation to determine the percentage of lots that were developed pre-1978 in the proposed project.

All other aspects of the Terms of Reference and applications for this program would remain unchanged.

Recommended resolution: THAT the OBWB changes the SFA grant program requirements for provincial review as presented.

MEMORANDUM

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
August 1, 2017
Agenda No: 7.4

File No. 0550.04

To: OBWB Directors
From: Corinne Jackson
Date: July 26, 2017
Subject: Communications Director Report

Make Water Work

The official start of Make Water Work, our annual valley-wide water conservation campaign, was initially delayed because of flooding, but was successfully launched on June 14 with several mayors and elected officials in attendance. Thanks to board members who attended the event. Clippings from the event are noted below, with a few hyperlinked for more information.

New this year, we followed up the launch with “Make Water Work Week” events at our garden centre partners throughout the valley. Our OkWaterWise Outreach Coordinator Alyssa and the Okanagan Xeriscape Association’s Eva Antonejivic visited each of the garden centres and discussed the Make Water Work Plant Collection with customers, encouraging wise water use this summer. A few photos from the garden centre events have been attached below..





A fun secondary launch was held by our partners at RDOS on July 6. It appears they are angling to take the Make Water Work Championship title this year.

Additional photos from the mayor's launch, the garden centre events, the South Okanagan launch, plus more can be found at:

https://www.facebook.com/pg/OkWaterWise/photos/?tab=album&album_id=446934352004094

Don't Move A Mussel campaigns

Staff have also been busy with the launch of Don't Move a Mussel, with radio ads, a new look for our billboards, buses, rack cards, posters, and new outreach items including DMM floating keychains and smartphone card holders. This is in addition to outreach by ourselves, but also our partners at OASISS and NewCap and Bell Media radio stations.

I participated in a call on June 29 between the provincial mussel inspection program staff and various agencies conducting public outreach on invasive mussels. Because we were between governments at the time, a number of issues could not be discussed or shared publically. However, we did learn that there have been mussel-infested watercraft stopped at B.C. inspection stations. While not unexpected it does reinforce the importance of the inspection stations and strong outreach programs.

Also of interest, I had a call from the Saskatchewan's Ministry of Environment, interested in more information on the success of our DMM campaign and the potential to replicate it in their province.

Other communication initiatives:

We were invited to come and speak to the Kelowna Newcomers Club about water conservation and invasive mussels in mid-May, in the midst of flooding. The response was excellent with most attendees having moved here from Alberta, but also from Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, the Maritimes, and California. There was great interest in both issues, but especially the mussels since some had experience with them.

A news release was sent regarding the significant milfoil growth and the issues in controlling the invasive weed this year. A number of the articles can be found noted below.

We assisted Regional District of Central Okanagan and Okanagan Collaborative Conservation Program (OCCP) with its communications roll-out of the recent Foreshore Inventory Mapping survey. Stories can be found below for this as well.

We have had requests to assist with outreach at various events, including help to line up inspections for sailboats coming in from across Canada for a race in the fall, including from mussel-infested regions.

In May, I attended the testing of the Okanagan WaterWise Water Education Curriculum at a Vernon Professional Development Day with staff from OCCP who are our partners on the project. Once testing is complete and the curriculum is ready for schools it will be posted to our [Okanagan WaterWise](#) website to be accessed by teachers and eco-educators.



(Left) Teachers build a sample watershed and look at various uses and possible pollutants, to better understand the importance of protection and conservation. (Below) Teaching about evapotranspiration.



The OBWB received some good news in May! The Don't Move a Mussel and Make Water Work campaigns have been nominated for a Kelowna Chamber of Commerce *Business Excellence Award* for marketing campaign of the year. Finalists will be announced in October.

Also of note, we want to acknowledge our partner at RDOS, Zoe Kirk. In addition to her work helping promote water conservation through MWW and mussel prevention through DMM, Zoe is also on the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council and is well-recognized for her enthusiasm and efforts to help address regional water issues. Ms. Kirk and RDOS were awarded a Water Canada 'Water's Next' award for Innovation and Customer Service for their work on the West Bench Homeowner Leak Detection Program. Congrats to Zoe and RDOS!

Summary of Recent Media

- April 26 "Invasive species forum today," *Castanet Penticton*
- May 11 "Flexing federal mussels," *Castanet*
- May 16 "Flood watch 2017 - Why the Okanagan will be on flood watch for at least another month," *InfoNews Vernon*
- May 18 "Snow pack, boaters both concerns for flood watchers," *Vernon Morning Star*
- May 25 "Boaters urged to protect waters as mussels move closer to BC," *Okanagan SunCruiser*
- May 25 "New evacuation alerts in and near West Kelowna," *Global Okanagan*
- May 31 "Water quality at risk - boat impact study," *Kelowna Capital News*
- June 6 "[Water board preparing for mussels.](#)" *Vernon Morning Star, Summerland Review*
- June 7 "UBCO gets federal funds for irrigation research," *Lake Country Calendar*
- June 9 "Feds to look at help prevent invasive mussels," *1075 KissFM Vernon*
- June 9 "Invasive mussels meeting - OBWB seeks help from federal government," *Salmon Arm Observer*

June 13 [“OBWB calls on feds to step up efforts to stop mussels.”](#) *Osoyoos Times*

June 14 “Editorial - Avoiding invasive mussels,” *Summerland Review*

June 14 [“WATCH - Make Water Work.”](#) *Castanet*

June 14 “WATCH - Mayors kick off Make Water Work campaign,” *KelownaNow*

June 14 “Water Still At Premium Despite Lake Levels,” *1075 Kiss FM Vernon*

June 14 [“WATCH - Okanagan mayors urge water conservation despite flood.”](#) *Global Okanagan*

June 14 “Water Board brings back conservation challenge,” *AM1150*

June 14 “LISTEN - Water restrictions - Make Water Work,” *CBC Radio - Daybreak South*

June 15 “Facing weather extremes - Okanagan residents encouraged to conserve water,” *Kelowna Capital News*

June 15 “Water conservation still critical despite record-high spring run-off,” *Vernon Morning Star, Salmon Arm Observer*

June 15 “Extreme weather challenges - Water conservation still critical despite record-high spring run-off,” *Penticton Western News*

June 16 “In the midst of historic flooding officials asking you to conserve water,” *InfoNews Kelowna*

June 16 “Water conservation still key this summer,” *Kelowna Capital News*

June 18 “Aboriginal Day celebrated in the community - includes Social Life of Water exhibit,” *Keremeos Review*

June 23 “Cold winter and flooding helping spread invasive plant in Okanagan lake,” *InfoNews Kelowna*

June 23 “Opinion - From the Mayor's desk - Returning to normal,” *Peachland View*

June 23 “Significant milfoil bloom predicted this summer in Okanagan lakes,” *Global Okanagan*

June 23 “Weather puts Okanagan milfoil control program behind schedule,” *Kelowna Capital News, Vernon Morning Star, Penticton Western News*

July 6 “From floods to drought - Make Water Work in S. Okanagan,” *Castanet Penticton*

June 23 [“Milfoil program playing catch-up as weather conspires to make problems worse.”](#) *Osoyoos Times*

July 6 “Diapers help with all kind of moisture problems,” *Penticton Western News*

July 13 “High lake level brings North Okanagan septic concerns to the surface,” *InfoNews Vernon*

July 15 “Natural foreshore continues to give way to development,” *KelownaNow*

July 15 “Shoreline needs saving,” *Kelowna Daily Courier*

July 19 “Bumper year for milfoil,” *Castanet*

July 19 “Educating Okanagan Lake shoreline property owners,” *Vernon Morning Star, Lake Country Calendar*

Recent Presentations

April 24 WaterWise school presentation,” Summerland Elementary - Alyssa Bougie

May 18 “Making Water Work in the Okanagan/Don't Move A Mussel,” to Kelowna Newcomers Club - Corinne Jackson

May 25 “Water and the Okanagan Economy,” RDCO Economic Development Commission - Anna Warwick Sears

MEMORANDUM

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
August 1, 2017
Agenda No: 7.5

To: OBWB Directors
From: Kellie Garcia
Date: July 25, 2017
Subject: Policy and Planning Specialist Report

Okanagan Sustainable Water Strategy Update

In April, we surveyed the Water Stewardship Council to inform the strategy update. First, we ran through the actions in the 2008 strategy and asked people to indicate progress made and whether or not the action should be included in the update; then we asked for suggestions for new priorities and actions.

The survey showed that most of the original themes, priorities, and actions are still relevant and should be brought forward to the 2018 strategy, but need to be revised to reflect the current situation. New topics include the *Water Sustainability Act* and regulations and invasive mussels. We also need a greater emphasis on climate change impacts and adaptation.

The Editorial Board met on June 19 to work on the Guiding Principles and annotated outline. The outline maps out the document (table of contents), and provides a brief explanation for each section and its sub-sections. It identifies where new content is required, and pinpoints information needs and potential sources for that content. The completed draft outline will be brought forward to the council for their input in the fall, and the bulk of the strategy rewriting will be done over the winter.

Agriculture Water Supply Communications Project

The objective of this project is to improve communication between purveyors and producers about local water supplies, particularly during times of drought. The pilot is running now, with 39 producers registered for water supply alerts in the City of Penticton and only 7 in Greater Vernon Water (we are working closely with GVW to improve their numbers). The purveyors will be sending out alerts (text, email, and voice messages) to the registered producers every couple of weeks until the end of the irrigation season. The content of the alerts will be copied from the Key Messages documents developed for the purveyors as part of the project.

Mainstem Drought Triggers Project

The objective of this project is to prepare drought trigger guidelines for the Okanagan mainstem system that can be incorporated into local drought plans to support a rational and coordinated process for moving between watering restriction stages.

Our technical team convened again last week to discuss more refinements to the proposed guidelines. The final draft report is almost ready to distribute to water suppliers, and will be followed up by a workshop to get their feedback. After that, I will work with the water suppliers to integrate the drought trigger guidelines into their drought plans.

Toolkits and Guides Project

The objective of this project is to get the many climate resilience/water sustainability/green bylaw guides and toolkits better incorporated into local government policy and planning. We are partnering with CivicInfo BC to set up a resource hub on their website, and are working with a retired local government planner to prepare the background information for the hub. In late-fall, we'll be hosting three small workshops for municipalities and regional districts (in the north, central, and south Okanagan) to promote the hub, talk about how the toolkits can be integrated into plans and policies, and gather more feedback on how

Dr. Sears and I are applying to the FCM Climate Adaptation Partner Grant program to further our work on this project. The purpose of the grant is to provide funding to deliver training and support that will help municipalities adapt to the impacts of climate change. The program offers grants of up to \$250,000. We would use the money for long-term extension and outreach around the toolkits and guides, which would include periodic workshops and webinars, but also one-on-one advice and support from a dedicated resource person.

MEMORANDUM

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
August 1, 2017
Agenda No: 8.1

File No. 0550.04

To: Board of Directors
From: Nelson R. Jatel
Date: July 25, 2017
Subject: New B.C. government – Okanagan water policy priority communications

Background

The OBWB has a mandate from the three Okanagan regional districts to communicate with the B.C. Government about Okanagan water priorities. The recent change in provincial government has resulted in new ministers and in some cases new senior managers involved in water issues. This change in senior decision makers may cause an institutional memory gap with regards to Okanagan water issues.

Staff has reviewed correspondence between the Board and the Province as a starting point to identify themes that may require re-communication to the government.

OBWB-BC Government communication themes

A review of correspondence between OBWB and the Province (see Table 1) spotlights the following themes:

- Water Act Modernization – OBWB recommendations
- Provincial action required to prevent zebra/quagga mussels infestation in B.C.
- Reservoir lots
- Water Use Reporting Centre
- Milfoil control regulations
- Reducing livestock impact on drinking water sources
- Reservoir lots – opposed sale of lots surrounding drinking water reservoirs

Action Item(s)

- i. Review recent provincial correspondence, and
- ii. Develop one or more correspondence to the appropriate ministries and managers to ensure Okanagan water issues inform new policy and management decisions by the province.

Table 1. OBWB correspondence with B.C. Government

Theme	Date Range	To	Requested Actions	Number of correspondence
Water Act Modernization	April 2010 – Nov. 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MoE • M. Coell, MoE • C. Clark, premier • T. Lake, MoE • M. Polak, MoE • S. Thomson & N. Letnick 	Yes	6
Invasive mussel prevention	April 2013 – Feb. 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T. Lake, MoE • C. Clark • M. Polak, MoE • S. Thomson, FLNRO 	Yes	18
Water Use Reporting Centre	July 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N. Letnick • S. Thomson • FLNRO • MoA • MoE 	Yes	1
Milfoil control regulations	Jan 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Thomson, FLNRO 	Yes	1
Impacts on drinking water sources	July 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T. Lake, MoH • M. Polak, MoE 	Yes	1
Reservoir Lots	Oct. 2011 – Feb. 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Thomson, FLNRO • N. Letnick • P. Bell, MoA 	Yes	3