

Okanagan Basin Water Board Meeting Agenda



DATE: Tuesday, November 7, 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

1.1 Acknowledgement of First Nations and Traditional Territory

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

3. DELEGATION

3.1 River Film screening – short documentary on the complexities of water management in the Okanagan. Funded by International Joint Commission, Washington State Department of Ecology, and the OBWB

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

5.1 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of October 3, 2017 at the Regional District of North Okanagan ([page 1](#))

6. CHAIR'S REPORT

7. STAFF REPORTS

7.1 Executive Director Report ([page 8](#))

7.1.1 2018 Meeting Schedule

7.2 Water Stewardship Director Report ([page 13](#))

7.2.1 Water Stewardship Council Monthly Report

7.3 Operations and Grants Manager Report ([page 18](#)) ([resolutions recommended](#))

7.3.1 Select Standing Committee on Finance & Government Services Submission

7.3.2 Action Items for B.C. Mussel Prevention to B.C. Min. of Env. & Climate Change

7.4 Communications Director Report ([page 21](#))

7.5 Policy and Planning Specialist Report ([page 28](#))

8. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1 Proposed OBWB budget for 2018-19 - Budget Features Memo ([page 31](#))

8.1.1 Draft Budget

8.1.2 Draft Requisitions

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 Letter from Kelowna-Mission MLA Steve Thomson re: Kelowna Chamber nomination for "Don't Move a Mussel" campaign

10. NEXT MEETING

10.1 The next meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board will be Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen.

11. ADJOURNMENT



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD
HELD OCTOBER 3, 2017, AT THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN
9848 ABERDEEN RD., COLDSTREAM, 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 Cindy Fortin	Regional District Central Okanagan
Director Ron Hovanes	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Director Doug Findlater	Regional District Central Okanagan
Alt. Director Mark Pendergraft	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Director Toby Pike	Water Supply Association of BC
Director Brian Guy	Okanagan Water Stewardship Council

REGRETS

Director Peter Waterman	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Director Lisa Wilson	Okanagan Nation Alliance

OBWB STAFF

Anna Warwick Sears	Executive Director
Nelson Jatel	Water Stewardship Director
James Littlely	Operations and Grants Manager
Corinne Jackson	Communications Director
Kellie Garcia	Policy and Planning Specialist

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

Chair Gray respectfully acknowledged that the meeting was being held on the traditional territory of Okanagan Nation.

2. INTRODUCTIONS OF LATE ITEMS

7.1.1 Verbal discussion re: financial budget hearings

3. DELEGATIONS

3.1 Jennifer Miles, Greater Vernon Water (GVW)'s Water Sustainability Coordinator on Water Supply Communication Efforts with Agricultural Customers

Ms. Miles provided an overview of GVW's agricultural water program, noting there are about 600 agricultural customers who use 52% of the system's water supply. All of these customers have been metered as of 2012, and effective communication has been critical for managing large volumes of water within a complex system, she explained.

In an effort to address over-consumption in this sector, GVW set allocations based on crop and climate. Fees were then introduced for water used beyond the allocation. These are rarely charged, however, suggesting that the allocations are meeting farm needs, added Ms. Miles.

Farmers can apply for over-allocation based on crop type and need, but a small number just pay the extra fee.

In addition, GVW sends letters to property owners that indicate their allocation, volume used and how to track water use. As of 2014, the utility has been using their AgConnect program to communicate, encouraging best practices, irrigation planning – including information to connect to professionals who will make a site visit to help with planning.

Alt. Dir. Baker entered the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

In 2015, GVW introduced remote radio reading to improve meter reading, reduce operation costs, improve frequency of customer communication, and allow the utility to notify of potential leaks.

And, in 2017, GVW became a partner in OBWB's Ag Water Supply Status Outreach pilot project, along with the City of Penticton. The project is intended to improve communication between water providers and farmers regarding water supply, especially important in times of drought.

Responding to questions, it was noted that water demand was high this past summer due to hot, dry conditions and because the Duteau Cr. Reservoir is dependent on rain, the utility went to Stage 1 restrictions. Staff use a decision tree to make these calls, which includes reservoir levels, precipitation, and demand.

Ms. Garcia added that the Water Supply Outreach pilot includes \$8,000 from OBWB and \$42,000 from BC Climate Action Initiative. The project began with the province meeting with producers and developing an adaptation strategy. Once the pilot is completed, the communication tools will be provided to other utilities. The Water Board will be the hub for the software and will house the alerts, but each utility will be able to customize its messages.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was amended to include a re-ordering of staff reports and the addition of a revised letter from Dir. Guy on Water Stewardship Council nominations.

"THAT the agenda of the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of October 3, 2017 be approved as amended."

CARRIED

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

5.1 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of September 8, 2017 at Westbank Lions Community Centre in West Kelowna.

A small change was noted.

"THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of September 8, 2017 at Westbank Lions Community Centre in West Kelowna be approved as amended."

CARRIED

6. CHAIR REPORT

Chair Gray reported on the recent Union of BC Municipalities convention and meetings with B.C. Environment Minister George Heyman regarding invasive mussels and thanked those who attended, including Vice Chair Cunningham, Dirs. Findlater and McKortoff, and Dr. Sears.

The meeting was 45 minutes and the minister seemed well-informed on the matter and wanted to discuss recommendations. He also requested a ranked list of recommendation from the OBWB and noted that he would be interested in doing a video for social media next time he was in the Okanagan.

Dir. Findlater noted that mussel-sniffing dog Kilo was also at UBCM with his handler Staff Sgt. Major Josh Lockwood which helped raise the profile of the issue for those who were unaware.

Dir. Cunningham noted that the concept of a self-funded sticker program, as they have in some U.S. states, has not been discussed for some time by the Water Board but suggested that it be reviewed again as a way to help the province pay for its inspection program.

Dr. Sears added that in addition to the OBWB meeting, additional 15-minute meetings regarding the mussels were held between the minister and the Southern Interior Local Government Assn., the Regional District of North Okanagan, and then the Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Sicamous and Spltasin First Nation. They want to work with the OBWB to push this forward, she added.

7. STAFF REPORTS

7.1 Executive Director Report

Preparing the 2018-2019 Budget

Dr. Sears noted that budget planning is underway for the 2018-2019 fiscal year, looking at building the milfoil equipment reserve and following the asset replacement schedule and continuing the Water Management Program at about the same level. The budget must be adopted by December.

Union of BC Municipalities – Grants & Invasive Mussels

The board was told that federal floodplain mapping funds are available to local governments. Applications are due by Oct. 27.

International Osoyoos Lake Board of Control (IOLBC) Meeting and River Film Premier

Directors were told of the annual IOLBC meeting on Oct. 17 at the Sonora Centre in Osoyoos. The meeting will include the premiere of “A River Film” which showcases the Okana(o)gan River system and the management of competing interests for water in this transboundary watershed.

A second screening is planned at the Oliver Theatre on Oct. 25.

Weather Report

Seasonal forecasts suggest a 55-60% chance for La Nina conditions in the Pacific this winter which has the potential for wetter than normal conditions.

***“THAT the Executive Director’s Report, dated Sept. 27, 2017, be received.”
CARRIED***

7.2 Communications Director Report

Ms. Jackson reported on the wrap up of the Make Water Work, outdoor water conservation campaign and announcement of Kelowna’s Laurie Weisgarber as the grand prize winner of a \$6,000 WaterWise yard upgrade. A photo op was held with prize partners Ken’s Horticultural Services, Bylands Nurseries, and ProSource Irrigation. Eco Turf was unavailable. All prizing is provided in-kind.

The board was also updated on Don't Move A Mussel outreach. Ms. Jackson noted there have been an increasing number of calls from water-related event organizers wanting outreach at events. There have also been a number of calls from the public asking questions about what to do when leaving the region with their watercraft, and what to do when coming back or buying watercraft from mussel-infested areas. The www.DontMoveAMussel.ca website will be updated to provide some of this information.

There was discussion about the need for greater awareness in other regions and a suggestion that the OBWB continue to message for the need for expanded education and support for this by the provincial and federal governments. One idea was to promote this with the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment meeting. The meeting is set for Nov. 3 in Vancouver.

Ms. Jackson reported she has started gathering feedback to promote best practices to prevent the spread of invasive mussels among environmental professions in B.C. and beyond. This is in response to the joint board-council discussion in June and then followed up at council.

The board was reminded that the Kelowna Chamber asked for the Water Board's assistance in preparing a resolution to the Canadian Chamber to press the federal government for stronger action on the mussels. Ms. Jackson reported that the resolution passed Sept. 26.

On Sept. 19, Ms. Jackson attended the Okanagan Valley Destination Development planning session with Destination BC and the Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association. The session looked at the future of tourism in the Okanagan. The OBWB was invited to participate and provide a water perspective. Topics included this year's flooding, foreshore development and boat launches, invasive mussels, increasing water demand with population growth, and the challenges of climate change.

The board was provided a copy of a final report from Ms. Bougie, the Communications and Outreach Coordinator from February to late-September. In part, the report notes her attendance at 37 events and interaction with 2,301 people, as well as outreach in eight classrooms with 472 children and two public presentations.

"THAT the Communications Director's Report, dated Sept. 26, 2017, be received."
CARRIED

7.3 Water Stewardship Director Report

Mr. Jatel told the board about a presentation that was given at the September council meeting by Rob Schweitzer from the BC Wildfire Service who talked about the historic scale and impact of the 2017 fire season. A progress report was also presented by the Environmental Flow Needs project team, Elinor McGrath (Okanagan Nation Alliance), Natasha Neumann (OBWB contractor), and Drew Lejbak (Associated Environmental). A significant amount of stream flow data has been collected over the past two seasons and is being analyzed.

Mr. Jatel and Dir. Guy presented recommendations from the Water Stewardship Council regarding inviting individuals who are unaffiliated with a water-related organization to sit on the council. Currently, council members are appointed by organizations. The recommendations are aimed at engaging those who are retiring (emeritus) and young people who may not be part of an organization. The council struck a Nominating Committee to consider the advantages and disadvantages of expanding council membership to include unaligned individuals and provide recommendations.

Mr. Jatel explained that the council mandate, and the number of people sitting on council at any one time, will not change. Council membership will continue to be reviewed every 18 months and the OBWB directors will have final say on membership.

“That the Council Nomination Committee report dated August 31, 2017, be received.”

CARRIED

“That Section 7.2 of Appendix III of the OBWB Governance Manual will be modified to read as follows: “7.2. The Okanagan Basin Water Board will invite selected emeritus members, and selected organizations and jurisdictions to designate a representative to the Council – subject to Board ratification; AND FURTHER:

“That the appointment of Emeritus members be guided by the following principles recommended by the Council Nomination Committee:

- 1. That the OBWB make it possible to approve up to three unaligned members for Council membership;***
- 2. Membership for proposed unaligned members will be considered only after all other possible means have been considered for these individuals to contribute to Council;***
- 3. That Council composition not exceed 10% unaligned individuals;***
- 4. That unaligned members be former members of Council;***
- 5. That unaligned membership will be approved only for individuals in a position to contribute to Council broadly, substantively, and in a leadership capacity; and***
- 6. That the Nominating Committee be changed from an ad hoc committee to a Standing Committee, with Terms of Reference which reflect a mandate to offer advice and guidance to OBWB on recommending Council membership on an ongoing basis.”***

CARRIED

Lastly, Mr. Jatel spoke of the Okanagan historic settler fishing survey project – a collaborative initiative between the OBWB and the Okanagan Nation Alliance fisheries department. The project’s public engagement process captured a small segment of the Okanagan fishing history with information that dates back to the 1880’s. The ONA is also currently working with their community members and knowledge keepers to document important fishing histories, cultural and environmental values, and community narratives.

“THAT the Water Stewardship Director’s report, dated Sept. 27, 2017, be received.”

CARRIED

7.4 Operations and Grants Manager Report

Mr. Littley updated the directors on the issues and concerns around starting a milfoil control program in Vaseux Lake. He provided information on the required permits, the lack of a boat launch large enough to accommodate the machines, First Nations fisheries and cultural/archeological considerations, and potential contaminants that could be released from the sediment by rototilling previously undisturbed areas.

Several directors voiced their agreement that more study needs to be done before deciding whether or not to go ahead with a milfoil control program in Vaseux Lake.

There was discussion as to whether harvesting could be used. Mr. Littley explained that harvesting would not have a great enough impact on the milfoil because only one cut per year could be completed with our current resources and the short timeframe available to harvest. In addition, the operators would need a transfer site along the shoreline, and environmental

permitting would be required to ensure the harvested milfoil left on the shoreline didn't impact sensitive species.

Dir. Findlater asked if adding Vaseux Lake to the milfoil program would result in significant increased costs. Mr. Littley explained that the cost increase would be minimal in the long-term, once a program was up and running, but there would be short-term costs associated with the scientific studies and the permitting required before the program begins, and a cost to the RDOS for the infrastructure needed to get equipment in and out of the lake.

Mr. Littley also updated the directors on recent communications around invasive mussels. He prepared a briefing note and backgrounder for ministerial meetings at UBCM. As directed at the September board meeting, Mr. Littley is preparing open letters from the board to the federal and provincial governments. The letters will contain a comprehensive, prioritized list of requested actions and estimated costs.

“THAT the Operations and Grants Manager’s Report, dated Sept. 27, 2017, be received.”

CARRIED

7.5 Policy and Planning Specialist Report

Ms. Garcia updated the directors on the mainstem drought triggers project. The second draft of the guidelines is finished, and the OBWB will be hosting a workshop on November 6 to gather feedback from water suppliers.

Dir. Pike noted that the challenge with the mainstem lakes is that they are a large common resource. Water restriction responses by water suppliers that draw from mainstem lakes are generally driven by public relations rather than technical information. This project gives everyone the opportunity to use a sound technical base to move between stages, and takes the guess work and public relations aspects out of it.

Ms. Garcia told the directors that the OBWB has partnered with CivicInfo BC to create a database of bylaw toolkits and planning guides. The searchable database will hold approximately 60 documents to begin with and new guides will be added as they are published.

Ms. Garcia updated the directors on the Sustainable Water Strategy Action Plan 2.0, and noted that the editorial board will be meeting on November 2 to review a draft annotated outline for the strategy.

Lastly, Ms. Garcia told the board that the pilot water purveyors involved in the agriculture water supply communications project sent out three text/email alerts over the past few months. The purveyors will now be providing feedback on all aspects of the project, including the usefulness of the communications materials and alert system, and producer response to the messages. The project deliverables will be compiled into a report and offered to other Okanagan water purveyors in early 2018.

“THAT the Policy and Planning Specialist’s Report, dated Sept. 26, 2017, be received.”

CARRIED

8. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board will be Tuesday, November 7, 2017 at the Regional District of Central Okanagan in Kelowna.

9. ADJOURNMENT

“THAT there being no further business, the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of October 3, 2017 be adjourned at 1:15 pm.”

CARRIED

Certified Correct:		
Chair		Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
November 7, 2017
Agenda No: 7.1

File No. 0550.04

To: OBWB Directors
From: Anna Warwick Sears
Date: November 1, 2017
Subject: **Executive Director Report**

2018 Board Schedule

I've provided next year's schedule as an attachment to this report. There are a number of significant dates and milestones, so I've added a column to note these. The municipal election on October 20th affects the timing of our Water Management Review, and our 2019-20 budget approval process, so these are both moved forward. To accommodate these changes, I've also moved the Annual Public Meeting and preparation of the Annual Report to August 10th.

UBCM Floodplain Mapping Grants

This month I worked with Regional District (RD) of Central Okanagan, RD of North Okanagan and the City of Kelowna to develop and submit coordinated applications to the Union of BC Municipalities for floodplain mapping projects. These projects complement and extend proposed floodplain mapping by RDCO and RD of Okanagan Similkameen, and a flood risk assessment proposal by the Okanagan Nation Alliance submitted for federal funding in August (as of yesterday, the federal applications have all passed the first round of review). The total amount of submitted applications, should they be fully funded, is \$1,275,000. Our goal is to have all flood-prone areas in the Okanagan mapped and pieced together through successive funding programs, with the information available for local government planning processes. The OBWB's strategic plan calls for us to increase external funding for water in the Okanagan, and this is an example of OBWB helping local governments obtain grants, rather than the grants coming to OBWB.

International Osoyoos Lake Board of Control (IOLBC) Projects

The Annual Meeting of the IOLBC took place in Osoyoos, in mid-October. There was much discussion about the difficult flow conditions and high water this summer. In the meeting, the Washington State Department of Ecology made a presentation on a bathymetry study recently completed for the mouth of Osoyoos Lake and the Okanogan River channel, flowing down to Zosel Dam. This study shows the contours of the lake and river bed below the water surface, and is done with special sensing equipment. Following the meeting, James Littlely and I provided the state department with maps of milfoil beds in Osoyoos Lake, and other information that could support a proposal to create bathymetry maps for the whole lake. The bathymetry would help the dam operator better understand the volume of water in the lake, and management of the dam. It would help the OBWB with milfoil control, and would support the ONA's fishery restoration work.

The River Film was screened during the public portion of the meeting, and was met with great approval. A second screening took place the following week, in Oliver, to a sold-out crowd of 300. There is a great deal of demand for additional screenings, and we are working with the Washington State Department of Ecology and the filmmaker to support their distribution plans.

Community Water Forum

On November 14 (4-6pm at the Innovation Centre on Doyle Ave. in Kelowna), the UBC Okanagan Office of the VP of Research is presenting the first of two annual **Community Water Forum** events. The forum is designed to provide an opportunity for open, solution-oriented dialogue on topics of shared interest and concern to the community. It's co-hosted by the OBWB, and there will be an advisory meeting for the Water Research Chair (Dr. John Janmaat) before the forum. This is an evolution of our involvement with the university, building links between their research faculty and community needs. Dr. Rehan Sadiq will be making a presentation on Performance Assessment and Benchmarking of Water Infrastructure.

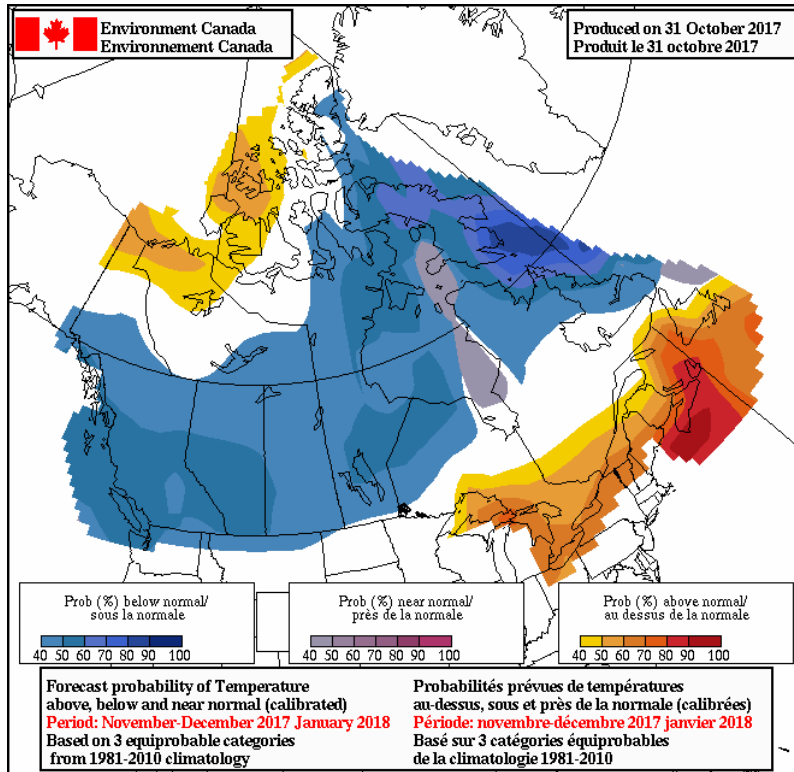
TOTA Biosphere Certification

I've agreed to participate in the Thompson-Okanagan Tourism Association's Interdepartmental Sustainability Steering Committee, supporting their efforts to have the region certified as a sustainable destination through Biosphere Tourism, an international organization. This region would be one of 20 in the world, and the first in Canada to have the certification. The certification process has involved a number of interviews and questionnaires about water management, and I have provided numerous reports and links to data to support TOTA's application. It will require ongoing commitments from TOTA to work with tourism operators to improve water quality and conservation, among other sustainability indicators. The official approval is expected to come today, November 1st.

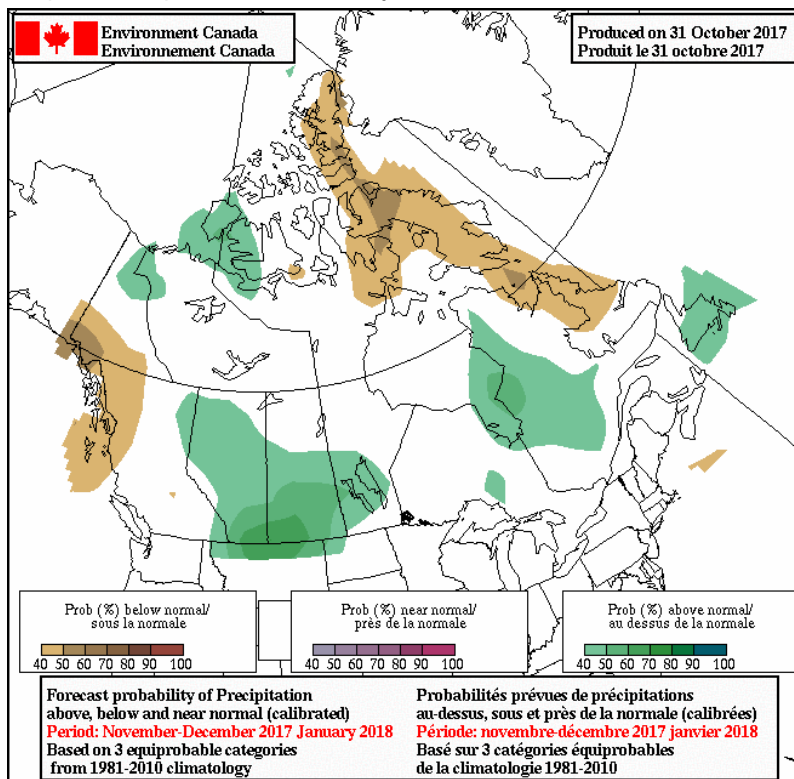
Weather Report

Environment and Climate Change Canada is now predicting moderate below normal temperatures through January 2018 (Map 1, below). The outlook for precipitation is uncertain (Map 2, below). How this plays out will be determined by the developing La Niña conditions in the Pacific Ocean. During La Niña, BC is typically colder and wetter than normal.

Map 1. Temperature Probability



Map 2. Precipitation Probability – white areas are too uncertain to predict.



The latest update of the B.C. Drought Portal shows the Okanagan is still in a moderate drought. Several Okanagan streams still have below-normal streamflows.

2017 DROUGHT LEVELS AT A GLANCE																			
Drought Levels:	1	Normal	2	Dry	3	Very Dry	4	Extremely Dry											
BASINS	31-May	01-Jun	22-Jun	06-Jul	20-Jul	03-Aug	10-Aug	14-Aug	17-Aug	23-Aug	28-Aug	31-Aug	08-Sep	14-Sep	28-Sep	12-Oct	18-Oct	26-Oct	
Northeast	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
East Peace	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	
Peace	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Northwest	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Stikine	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Skeena-Nass	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Nechako	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Upper Fraser West	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Upper Fraser East	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	
Upper Columbia	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Lower Columbia	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	
East Kootenay	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	
West Kootenay	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	
Middle Fraser	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	
North Thompson	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	
South Thompson	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	3	
Nicola	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	
- Coldwater River Basin	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	
- Salmon River Basin	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	
Similkameen	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	3	3	2	
Okanagan	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	
Kettle	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	2	
Skagit	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	4	1	1	
Lower Fraser	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	1	1	
South Coast	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	4	1	1	
Central Coast	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
West Vancouver Island	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	
East Vancouver Island	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	1	
Haida Gwaii	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	

Prepared By: Water Management Branch - Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development
Last Update: October 26, 2017

Board Meeting Schedule for 2018

Month	Date	Location	Notes
January	Tuesday, Jan 2	Cancelled	Day after New Year's STAT
February	Tuesday, Feb 6	Regional District Central Okanagan, Kelowna	Review and approval of Council appointments for May 2018 – October 2019 term.
March	Tuesday, March 6	Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen, Penticton	Approve plan for Water Management Program 4-year Review
April	Tuesday, April 3	Regional District North Okanagan, Coldstream	WCQI grant approvals
May	Tuesday, May 1	Regional District Central Okanagan, Kelowna	Joint OBWB/Council meeting
June	Tuesday, June 5	Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen, Penticton	Adopt audited financial statements and approve Water Management Program 4-year Review
July	Tuesday, July 3	Cancelled	Day after Canada Day STAT
August	Friday, August 10	Regional District Central Okanagan, Kelowna	Annual Public Meeting/OBWB regular meeting
September	Tuesday, September 4	Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen, Penticton	Present draft 2019-20 OBWB budget
October	Tuesday, October 2	Regional District North Okanagan, Coldstream	Adopt 2019-20 OBWB budget
November	Tuesday, November 6	Cancelled	Pending board member appointments following Oct 20 th election
December	Tuesday, December 4	Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen, Penticton	Election of Chair/Vice Chair for 2018

MEMORANDUM

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
November 7, 2017
Agenda No: 7.2

File No. 0550.04

To: Board of Directors
From: Nelson R. Jatel
Date: November 1, 2017
Subject: Water Stewardship Director's Report

Water Stewardship Council (Council) October's meeting

The October Council meeting included two presentations:

- UBCO water (fishery) research
- **Michael Rusello**, Professor, UBC Okanagan

Mr. Russello is with the Biology Department at UBCO. He recently published a paper summarizing his research on Sockeye and Kokanee in the Okanagan. He provided an overview of that paper and his findings.



He also spoke to the work they do in his lab related to the challenges and opportunities for genetics-based fisheries management and specifically cases where stocks are not readily discernible. His research efforts are linked to the collapse of the marine fisheries worldwide. As a result of this collapse and the diversity of threats leading to the decline of fish stocks, innovative and diverse solutions are required. Genetics and genomics are one avenue for innovation.

His report, "Sockeye salmon repatriation leads to population re-establishment and rapid introgression with native kokanee," assessed the success of the hatchery-assisted reintroduction of anadromous sockeye salmon into Skaha Lake, and evaluated the genetic consequences for native kokanee. *The results of the study indicate that the reintroduction is succeeding; however, hybridization with native kokanee is of concern due to the potential for demographic or genetic swamping.* Ongoing genetic monitoring is necessary to assess the long-term effects. (Abstract: Original Article). Mr. Busanich noted that the work being done is very positive and important indicating that if this type of information was available 20-40 years ago, the river types in the Columbia system might still existed.

2017 flood year: review and considerations

- **Brian Symonds**, retired
- **Shaun Reimer**, Section Head, Public Safety and Protection, B.C. government

The unusual combination of spring/early summer weather patterns this past year led to unprecedented conditions and high water levels in the Okanagan. This year was highlighted by a trifecta with floods, fires, and droughts that speaks to where we are at in terms of being symptomatic of climate change. The protection of sockeye and kokanee is one of the guidelines for drawing down Okanagan Lake levels. However, the primary focus of the Okanagan Lake water regulation system this year was flood control.

Early in 2017, when initial snowpack was low and no flooding was anticipated, the focus was on ensuring the survival of fish eggs. Therefore, early decisions regarding lake levels reflected snow conditions at the time. The maximum snowpack remained just above normal and even below in the beginning of the spring. If regulators had known in the third week of April what the levels of precipitation, temperature and melt rates occurring in May were going to be, then the discharge level could have been increased accordingly. This year more water came into the lake in May than any other year. In the first week of May, the watershed was already quite wet from the melting snow in the lower to mid-elevations and the snowpack at higher elevations was quite saturated.

This year the peak was reached around the first week of June which was unprecedented. Because the peak came in such a short time period, coupled with the ability to release water and the design release system out of Okanagan Lake, four-times as much water was coming into the lake as could be released in the same time period. More rain-on-snow events. Not only was the weather extreme this year, the pattern in which it developed was rather unprecedented and the likelihood of experiencing these types of events is probably going to be greater than it ever has been. How do we adapt? Is it time to revisit the river flows and lake levels targets, particularly the management of the Okanagan Lake? What will the consequences be? What is the feasibility of modifying works, i.e. modifying the channel capacity? What about changing outflow targets for the channel because of restoration work that has been done or future restoration work? This year may not be the worst case scenario. It still could have been worse and can be worse.

November 9th Council meeting

All board members are invited and encouraged to attend our November 9th council meeting at the Coast Capri Hotel from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The council recommended having one meeting dedicated to more detailed member updates. November's meeting will support sharing of important water management and governance work under development by member organizations. Speakers include:

Source Water Protection & Regional Collaboration: Grizzly Recreation Site

- **Renee Clark**, North Okanagan Regional District

Summerland Research Program update and climate change-related agriculture initiatives in the Okanagan

- **Denise Neilsen**, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Collaborating for success: foreshore inventory mapping, drought & flood planning, boat zoning

- **Scott Boswell**, Okanagan Collaborative Conservation Program

Active OBWB project: invasive mussels' prevention

- **James Littley**, Okanagan Basin Water Board

Project updates:

EFN Conference planned for October 17-19, 2018

With support from the Gas Tax Strategic Priorities Fund – Capacity Building Stream, the OBWB has been working closely with the Okanagan Nation Alliance Fishery Department (ONAFD) and BC government staff to develop methodology, Environmental Flow Values and Critical Flow Values for 19 pilot streams throughout the Okanagan. Two years of data have been collected and results will be tabulated in early 2018. Hosted by Canadian Water Resource Association and OBWB in partnership with the ONAFD and BC First Nation Fishery Council, this conference's purpose is to bring together researchers, fisheries and water managers, regulators, and policy-makers from a range of organizations (e.g. academia, First Nations, governments, non-profit water organizations, and consultants) to discuss the state of knowledge of EFN-setting in B.C., to showcase recent EFN work in the Okanagan and elsewhere in B.C. and Canada, to address challenges in implementing the B.C. Water Sustainability Act, and to develop recommendations to improve the process of EFN setting, policy-making, and regulation related to EFNs.



Conference background

The environmental flow needs (EFN) of a stream are defined as the volume and timing of water flow required for proper functioning of the aquatic ecosystem. Methods of determining EFNs have been in use in North America for several decades, but in many areas no information on EFNs is available. In B.C. the introduction of the Water Sustainability Act in February 2016 created a need to determine EFNs for water bodies potentially affected by proposed surface or groundwater extractions. In locations where significant demand or competition for water exists, such as the Okanagan, scientists, policy-makers, planners, and regulators are now focused on developing methods of determining appropriate EFN flow regimes. These efforts are also being driven by progressively increased demand for water, and apparently increasing frequency and severity of droughts. CWRA brings a national scope to the conference.

BC Water Use Reporting Centre project

The BC Water Use Reporting Centre (BCWURC) is a web-based software tool designed to enable and support reporting from license holders on their water use. This project emerged from the lack of water use data that was an important requirement to develop an accurate demand model. And the realization that we must use the best available tactics and strategies to manage Okanagan waters. With previous funding support from senior levels of government a pilot prototype was developed in the Okanagan and Nanaimo. The tool was previously hosted at the Regional District of Central Okanagan and today is hosted on a secure Canadian national server.

bcwurc_user, org_manager, org_data_viewer,
rg_data_entry, org_reporter

Growing Forward 2

BRITISH COLUMBIA Canada

v2.0.0 beta 0.6

With additional support from senior government Growing Forward II funding (2017-18), a new interface has been developed to support agriculture water users report their annual water license. This new interface has been completed and simplifies the over-all water use reporting of water use while integrating the water use calculator and an intuitive map-based interface linking agriculture land parcels to water sources. The new interface will be piloted and tested by agricultural user groups throughout B.C. over the next three months.

The BC Oil and Gas Commission is also reviewing the use of BCWURC to support oil and gas water licensee holder reporting needs. Anyone interested in learning more about this locally developed tool for more information can read about this exciting software development at: www.obwb.ca/bcwurc or to see a demo of the product can contact Nelson Jatel (nelson.jatel@obwb.ca).

Okanagan Water Stewardship Council

Technical advisory committee to the OBWB



Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
November 7, 2017
Agenda No: 7.2.1

October 2017

Council Members

(Term 7: November 2016 – April 2018)

Appointed representatives / alternates

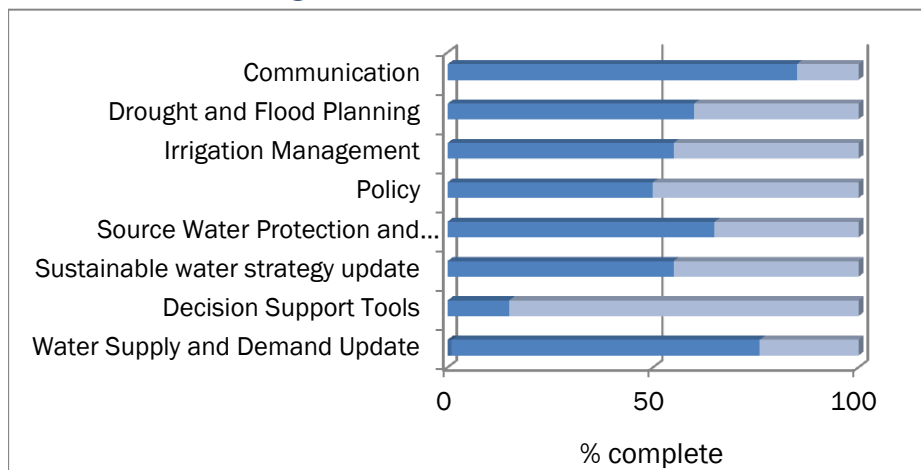
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AAFC, Research Branch Denise Neilsen / Tom Forge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APEGBC Don Dobson / Susan Lapp / Shawn Badasha
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC Agriculture Council Hans Buchler / Christine Dendee
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC Cattlemen's Association Lee Hesketh / Linda Allison
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC Fruit Growers Association Glen Lucas / Kevin Day / Richard McDonald
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC Ground Water Association Marta Green / Remi Allard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC Ministry of Agriculture Andrew Petersen / Stephanie Tam
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC Water Supply Association Bob Hrasko / Patti Meger
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC Wildlife Federation – Region 8 Doug Flintoft / Lorne Davies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canadian Water Resources Association Brian Guy/ Rod MacLean/ Dwayne Meredith
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Kelowna Joel Shaw
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Vernon Ed Stranks / Rob Miles
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisheries and Oceans Canada Doug Edwards
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interior Health Rob Birtles / Judi Eckert
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kelowna Chamber of Commerce Tom Dyas / Jeff Robinson
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IIABC Ted van der Gulik / Bruce Naka
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of FLNRO: Fish/Wildlife Lora Nield
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of FLNRO: Resource Mgmt Robert Warner / Ray Crampton
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Okanagan Collaborative Conservation Scott Boswell / Tanis Gieselman
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Okanagan College Allison MacMillan / Rob St Onge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Okanagan Mainline Real Estate Board David O'Keefe / Howard Neufeld
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RD of Central Okanagan Danika Dudzik
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RD of North Okanagan Renee Clark / Jennifer Miles
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RD of Okanagan –Similkameen Zoe Kirk / Evelyn Riechert
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shuswap Okanagan Forestry Association Murray Wilson / Michael Bragg
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UBC Okanagan Bernard Bauer / Carolina Restrepo-Tamayo
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Okanagan Nation Alliance (observers) Zoe Eyjolfson /Elinor McGrath /Natasha Lukey
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECCC Canada– Pacific&Yukon (observers) Kendall Woo / Ian Rogalski

Council Meeting Highlights*

- Nomination committee proposal approved by the Council in September to support up to three 'unaligned' former council members and the continuation of a standing membership committee was approved by the Board.
- Invasive mussel prevention program continues to be a priority in the Okanagan.
- Member organizations were encouraged to take advantage of funding offered by UBCM to support flood mapping and planning (deadline Oct. 27th, 2017).
- **Dr. Michael Russello, UBCO** presented the summary of studies examining the challenges and opportunities of genetics-based fisheries management. This research has a number of implications for conservation and hatchery management practices including maintaining genetic diversity in line with natural selection mechanisms and supporting natural reproduction processes.
- A report on water management issues in 2017 was presented by **Shaun Reimer** and **Brian Symonds, FLNRO**. The presentation highlighted numerous challenges faced by water managers this past spring/summer and some of the implications for future policy development, resource monitoring and planning.
- Detailed reports as well as member presentations will take place during next Council meeting in November 2017.
- Livestock watering regulations to be signed and released shortly.
- BCWF conservation app for android is available to download.
- Blue Ecology Workshop interweaving western and indigenous thought on water takes place in Richmond on Nov 28
- Wetland Workshop for local governments will be held November 20, 2017.
- The symposium by American Fisheries Society Washington – BC Chapter will be held in Kelowna in early 2018.

* Council meeting minutes are posted at: www.obwb.ca/wsc

Active council working committees



For more information contact:

Nelson Jatel, Water Stewardship Director
Okanagan Basin Water board

nelson.jatel@obwb.ca

(250) 469-6295

www.obwb.ca/wsc

17

MEMORANDUM

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
November 7, 2017
Agenda No: 7.3

File No. 0550.04

To: OBWB Directors
From: James Littley
Date: October 31, 2017
Subject: Operations and Grants Manager Report

Milfoil Control Program Update

We have had a good start to the rototilling season this year, with Osoyoos Lake being treated since the beginning of October, and Wood and Okanagan Lake (North) started in mid-October. In Osoyoos, we have coordinated with the Zosel Dam operator for the lake level to remain higher than normal until mid-November, allowing us to treat more area before a potential freeze-up.

Our operators are also reporting thick growth in areas that we were unable to treat last year due to freezing. They have also noted that the lake bottom at the south end of Rotary Beach in Kelowna is changing from hard-packed sand, to silty and muddy. This may be due to the influence of the substantial dock building on the nearby foreshore over the last few years. If the bottom becomes permanently muddy, we will not be able to use the shallow-water tiller, as we risk getting stuck.

We are also working to identify and address issues around rototilling in Vaseux Lake. Once these issues are addressed, I will provide the board with an update, including a timeline and plan for potential rototilling to begin.

Invasive Mussel Update

On Monday October 16th, we provided a written submission regarding invasive mussels to the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services (attached). On October 20th, we followed with a letter including Action Items to Hon. George Heyman, B.C. Minister of Environment (attached). Since the June Federation of Canadian Municipalities meeting in Ottawa, we have yet to receive any reply from the federal government regarding the invasive mussel file. I recommend the following motion:

THAT staff prepare a follow-up letter to federal ministers regarding the urgent need for more federal action, and a news release referencing both provincial and federal actions over the last summer.

WCQI 2018-19 Call for Applications

The WCQI program provides between \$3,000 and \$30,000 in seed funding to projects by local governments, improvement districts and non-profits.

The total available for each Regional District is based on the percentage of tax requisitioned from each regional district. The board may wish to consider changing this approach when the program has its four-year review and renewal in 2018.

	2018	2017
RDNO	\$54,119 (18.0)	\$55,800 (18.60%)
RDCO	\$185,442 (61.8%)	\$182,760 (60.92%)
RDOS	\$60,439 (20.2%)	\$61,440 (20.48%)

The deadline for applications this year is Friday, February 16th at 4 p.m.

Process

The process for awarding grants was adopted by the Board during the December 2013 meeting and is as follows:

1. Board approves scoring criteria and annual themes;
2. Applicants receive support from local government based on that government’s water- related objectives, community values and other normal considerations;
3. Staff review the applications independently based on Board-approved scoring criteria;
4. Staff meet to determine recommendations based on individual assessments; and
5. Recommendations are forwarded to the Board for approval. Board discussion and voting on grant awards should occur as any other regular business, with input from all Directors. Board may award, not award, or alter funding within project and program limitations.

Scoring Criteria

The basic, weighted criteria of the grant program are included in the program guide for all applicants:

20	Basin-wide benefit
20	Complements current OBWB initiatives
15	Focus on action
15	Promotion of best practices
10	Collaboration
10	Innovativeness of project
10	Quality of proposal
100	

Annual Theme

Each year, in addition to approving scoring criteria, the Board approves and weights an annual theme or themes, for staff to prioritize during the application review process. This allows the Board to pre-determine

171107_OGM_memo

which type of projects should score higher, while also meeting the regular criteria of the grant program. I recommend that the following three categories of projects are prioritized as the annual theme as they address the Key Strategies as outlined in the 2014-2019 Strategic Plan as well as key gaps identified during the 2017-18 fiscal year:

Drought and flood preparedness – projects that assist communities in creating drought plans and drought and flood preparedness such as floodplain mapping; Example: Drought and Flood Risk Management and Mitigation Plan.

Mapping – projects that gather mapping data, such as sensitive habitat inventories, foreshore inventories or aquatic habitat indices, to inform better riparian and shoreline management.

Water Quality Assessments – projects that increase understanding of water quality issues related to bacterial source tracking, algae blooms, water source assessments, and land use-water quality interactions. Example: Land Use and Water Quality Assessment of Swan Lake.

Other categories for consideration:

1. Education
2. Irrigation
3. Groundwater Studies
4. Metering
5. System Improvement
6. Water Treatment Study
7. Water Management Planning
8. Source Water Protection
9. Xeriscape
10. Water Flow Monitoring
11. Restoration

Recommendation: *THAT for the 2018-19 WCQI grant competition annual theme, the OBWB seeks projects focussed on drought and flood preparedness, mapping, and water quality; and*

THAT applications in these categories are prioritized for funding during staff review with the awarding of up to ten extra points toward the total score; and

THAT the process and scoring criteria for the grant competition be approved as outlined.

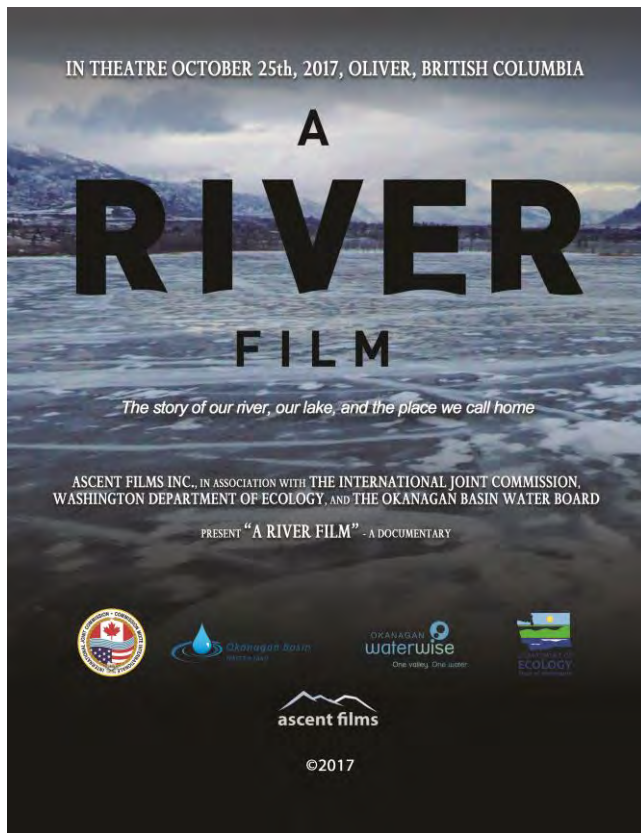
MEMORANDUM

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
Nov. 7, 2017
Agenda No: 7.4

File No. 0550.04

To: OBWB Directors
From: Corinne Jackson
Date: November 1, 2017
Subject: Communications Director Report

The River Film



“A River Film,” a co-production of the OBWB and OkWaterWise with the International Joint Commission and Washington State Department of Ecology, had its official premiere Oct. 17 as part of the International Osoyoos Lake Board of Control meeting. There was also a sold-out screening at Oliver Theatre on Oct. 25.

The documentary, created by the Okanagan’s Ascent Films, tells the story of Okana(o)gan River and the issues that result from being a transboundary waterway, looking at the many competing needs for the water and how this is managed.

There has been great interest in holding additional screenings, including from B.C.’s Deputy Auditor General for Local Government. We will be holding a screening during Canada Water Week (March 18-24) and are collecting information from those who wish to hold additional events. We will also be purchasing DVD copies of the film to be shared with community groups and schools. Once the film has completed the film festival and awards circuit we will be posting a link to the film on our Okanagan

WaterWise website. Those who are interested in a DVD copy can contact me directly.

Directors will have an opportunity to see the film at the November board meeting. You can find a trailer here: <https://vimeo.com/235960865>.



WaterSmart Innovations (WSI)

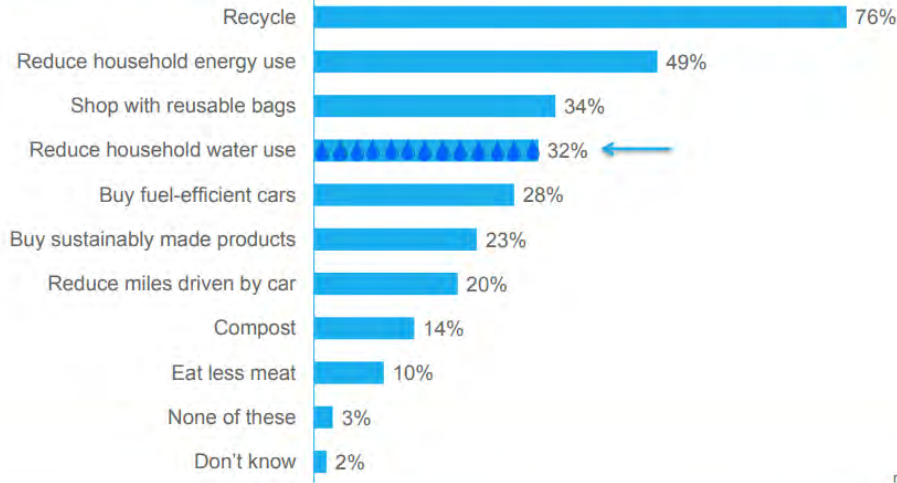
I attended the 10th annual WSI conference, Oct. 4-6, put on the Southern Nevada Water Authority. This is the world's largest water conservation conference, this year attracting over 900 professionals in marketing and outreach, education, drought management, landscaping, codes and policy rates, and more. In addition to many Americans and some Canadians, attendees came from as far as away as Argentina, France, Italy and the UK, Nigeria, Mongolia, India, Sri Lanka, and South Korea.

As at previous conferences, there are some fabulous ideas that I'm looking forward to exploring further for possible adoption in the Okanagan. I have attached just a couple of slides from the conference that I thought may be of general interest. The presentation, delivered by the polling company Shelton Group, looked at "Why consumers don't care about wasting water. And what we can do about it." You can find the whole presentation here: <https://www.watersmartinnovations.com/documents/sessions/2017/T-1725.pdf>.

I would be happy to discuss the conference further with those who are interested.

The conference keynote was delivered by Catherine Greener, Vice President of Sustainability for Xanterra Parks & Resorts, which has a large contract in U.S. national parks. For more on the conference, including a video of the keynote address, please visit <https://www.watersmartinnovations.com/>.

Less than one-third prioritize water conservation to reduce their environmental impact.



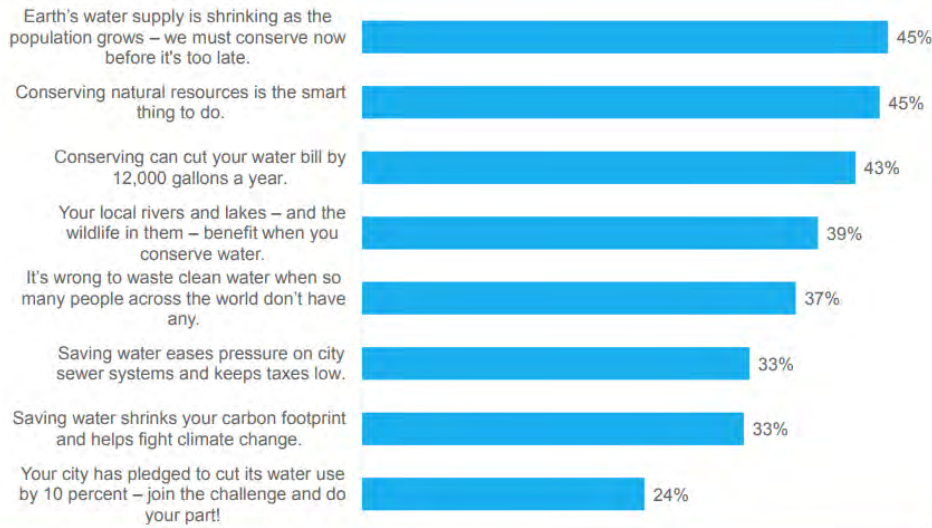
Q3 – Choose the three most important things you should do if you want to minimize your environmental impact.

ecopulse™
2016

Shelton™

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Both a “serious wake-up” and a pragmatic message might help.



Q52 – Assuming all of the following statements are true, which is most likely to convince you to reduce your water use? Choose the three statements that appeal to you most.

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Left: Inventor Bill Wales with his water-saving Shower Flower, at the WSI trade show. Above: Tour of 180 ac. Springs Preserve, a showcase of sustainable living.

More at <https://www.springspreserve.org/>.

Below: the new WaterWorks exhibit at the preserve.





Above: Security at Hoover Dam.



Above: Lake Mead and its infamous bathtub ring.

Invasive Mussel Outreach and Inspection 2107 Wrap-up

The province held a conference call on Oct. 26 with agencies in B.C. who are conducting invasive species outreach (aquatic and terrestrial). Twelve groups participated in the call, including myself for the OBWB and Lisa Scott from the Okanagan and Similkameen Invasive Species Society (who we have a contract with to help deliver additional Don't Move A Mussel outreach).

It was interesting to hear that aquatic invasives, let-alone zebra and quagga mussels, have not been a high priority for invasive species groups in the Metro Vancouver area or in the Northwest part of the province.

The board may recall last March's provincial mussel program announcement included \$450,000 over three years to the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (HCTF) to increase mussel monitoring in B.C. lakes. Until now, the OBWB has been funding OASISS to place and monitor plankton tows and deliver water samples to a lab for testing. The province is in talks with HCTF to provide funding for such monitoring in time for next year.

A wrap-up from the province's own inspections was also provided.

- As of Oct 16, 2017 over 35,000 watercraft have been inspected and the crews have interacted with approximately 73,000 people to promote Clean, Drain, Dry.
- Of the total watercraft inspected, 2,000 were identified as high risk and 276 Decontamination Orders were issued, and 192 watercraft were issued quarantine periods to meet the required 30-day drying time.
- Of the more than 35,000 watercraft inspected, 24 were confirmed to have adult invasive mussels. These came from Ontario (14), Michigan (2), Texas (2), Quebec (2), Arizona (1), Ohio (1), Illinois (1), and New York (1) and were destined for the Lower Mainland (11), Okanagan (7), Vancouver Island (3), Kootenays (1), Thompson-Nicola (1) and Alaska (1).
- The Program receive advanced notification on 20 of the 24 mussel fouled boats either from another jurisdiction (e.g., AB, MT, Idaho, WA) or by Canada Border Services Agents (CBSA).
- A total of 121 watercraft have been inspected at night (10 p.m. to 5 a.m.) at the Golden inspection station. Of those, seven were identified as high risk and came from Saskatchewan (4), Manitoba (2), and Ontario (1). No mussel fouled watercraft have been intercepted during nighttime operations.
- BC/AB Passport pilot program: A total of 1,389 passports have been issued at the BC inspection stations since the pilot program was launched in July.

Kelowna Chamber Business Excellence Awards

Chair Tracy Gray, Dr. Sears and I attended the Kelowna Chamber's 30th annual Business Excellence Awards on Oct. 12 as a finalist for "Marketing Campaign of the Year" for our Don't Move A Mussel

campaign. A short video was produced for the awards banquet that profiles the Don't Move A Mussel campaign and the work of the Okanagan Basin Water Board. You can watch it here: <http://bit.ly/2gP5D3h>



Other Communication Initiatives:

The Okanagan Basin Water Board is sponsoring the upcoming Building Sustainable Communities Conference, Nov. 21-24, 2017 at the Delta Grand Hotel & Conference Centre in Kelowna.

The theme for this year's gathering is "Innovation Through Collaboration," with sub-themes that include climate action, water stewardship, food security, and community capital/infrastructure. Other topics include active transportation, community health, comprehensive wealth, collaborative change, pollution solutions, sustainable development, leadership and governance, and local prosperity.

A number of OBWB staff are involved, presenting and/or moderating sessions on various water topics.

Find more information at <https://freshoutlookfoundation.org/sessions/>.

I attended West Kelowna's open house on Oct. 19. It was a great opportunity to talk with residents about water in general in our valley, but there was also considerable interest in conservation and invasive mussels.

The BC Wildlife Federation has now launched an android version of the Conservation App, allowing people in the backcountry to provide real-time geo-referenced reporting of environmental infractions for follow-up enforcement. The app was funded in part through the Water Board's Water Conservation and Quality Improvement Grant Program. We have been providing communications support to the project and are pleased to see a version now available to all mobile users. The app can be downloaded here: <https://itunes.apple.com/ca/app/conservation-app/id1151528829?mt=8>.

Dr. Sears and I have now submitted a funding application to the UN Association of Canada – Green Corps Program to assist with another placement to provide additional communications and outreach support.

Summary of Recent Media

- Sept. 29 ["Municipal politicians push mussel message,"](#) *Kelowna Capital News, Vernon Morning Star, Salmon Arm Observer*
- Oct. 13 "Year's disasters dominate UBCM: Shafer," *Oliver Chronicle*
- Oct. 16 "Osoyoos Council highlights... Environmental concerns addressed," *OsoyoosToday.ca*
- Oct. 17 "Documentary tells of balance between competing needs on Okanagan River," *Osoyoos Times*
- Oct. 18 "Editorial: Beyond the headlines - Making waves," *Vernon Morning Star*
- Oct. 18 "Milfoil treatment delayed," *Castanet*
- Oct. 20 ["Engineers honour Vernon man,"](#) *Vernon Morning Star*
- Oct. 20 "Milfoil removal on Vaseux Lake delayed," *InfoNews*
- Oct. 25 "Vaseux Lake milfoil harvest on hold as concern arises," *Oliver Chronicle*
- Oct. 26 ["New film depicts competing interests in BC watershed,"](#) *CBC BC, Daybreak South*
- Oct. 26 ["Vaseux Lake residents demand timely response on milfoil,"](#) *Global Okanagan*

Recent Presentations

- Oct. 18 "Water governance in B.C. Okanagan case study" panel to Canadian Freshwater Alliance – Nelson Jatel
- Oct. 24 "Emerging water issues in B.C." roundtable at B.C. Water Leadership Workshop – Nelson Jatel
- Oct. 26 "Getting Ready for Drought in the Okanagan: An Update on OBWB Initiatives" to Water Supply Association of B.C. Conference – Kellie Garcia

Upcoming Presentations

- Nov. 22 "Fighting Invasive Species With the 'Don't Move a Mussel' Campaign," to Building Sustainable Communities Conference – James Littlely and Corinne Jackson
- Nov 22 "Water-Food Nexus" panel at Building Sustainable Communities Conference – Anna Warwick Sears
- Nov 22 "Building social capital through water stewardship networks" panel at Building Sustainable Communities Conference – Nelson Jatel

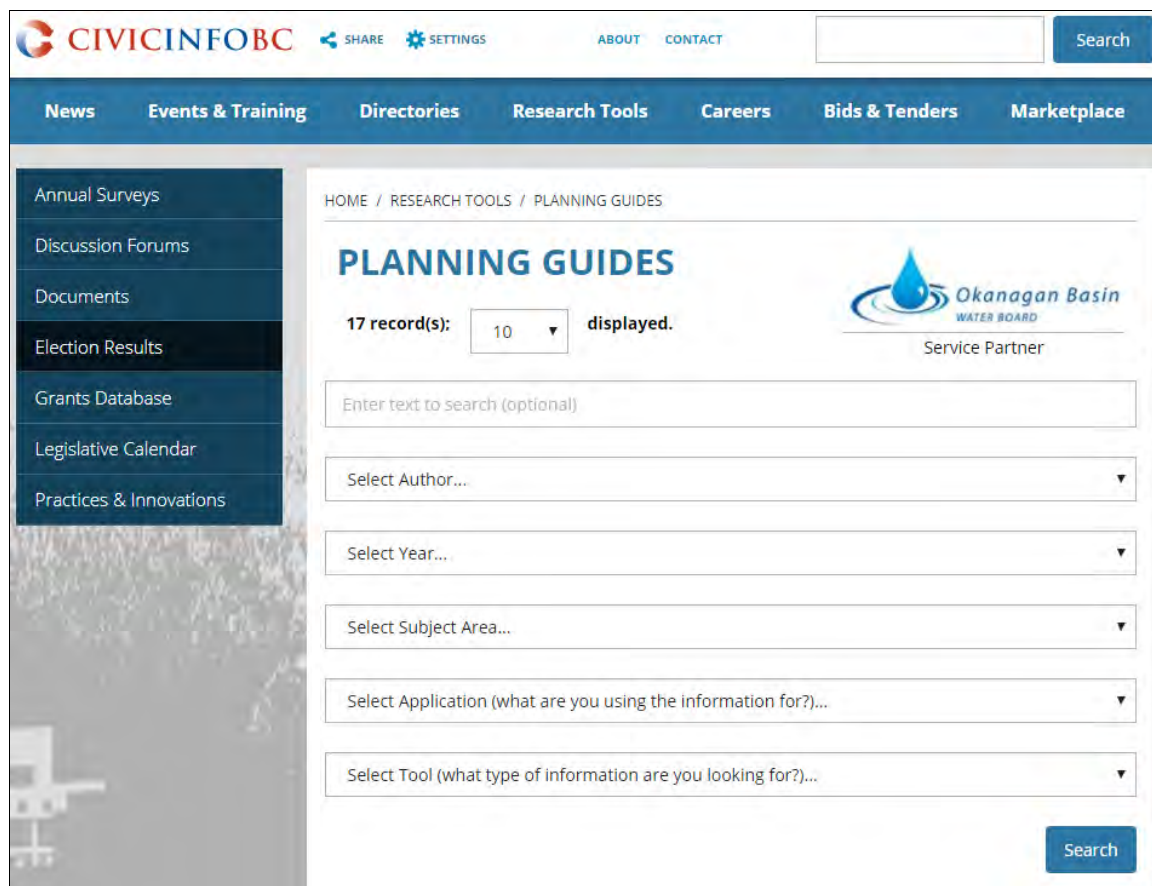
MEMORANDUM

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
November 7, 2017
Agenda No: 7.5

To: OBWB Directors
From: Kellie Garcia
Date: October 31, 2017
Subject: Policy and Planning Specialist Report

Planning Toolkits and Guides Project


CiviciInfo BC has developed a first version of the planning toolkits and guides database (see screen shots). The database is searchable by Author, Year, Subject Area, Application, and Tool; and each document record has a brief description about what it is, why it is useful, and a link to the PDF file and HTML location. I will be gathering feedback on the layout, content, and functionality of the database before we launch it in the new year.



The screenshot shows the CiviciInfoBC website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for News, Events & Training, Directories, Research Tools, Careers, Bids & Tenders, and Marketplace. Below this is a search bar and a 'Search' button. The main content area is titled 'PLANNING GUIDES' and features a search bar with the text 'Enter text to search (optional)'. Below the search bar are several dropdown menus for filtering results: 'Select Author...', 'Select Year...', 'Select Subject Area...', 'Select Application (what are you using the information for?)...', and 'Select Tool (what type of information are you looking for?)...'. A 'Search' button is located at the bottom right of the search area. The page also displays '17 record(s): 10 displayed.' and includes the Okanagan Basin Water Board logo and 'Service Partner' text.

HOME / RESEARCH TOOLS / PLANNING GUIDES

PLANNING GUIDES



Planning Guide 1 of 2 [Next >](#)

Groundwater Bylaws Toolkit

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Published: 2009
PDF: [View PDF](#)
Link: [View Link](#)

The purpose of the toolkit is to provide local government with practical land management tools to support the protection of groundwater resources. The toolkit provides information on:

- The role of local government in groundwater protection
- Jurisdiction for managing groundwater
- Basic principles of hydrogeology and data management
- Scenarios on how local government can combine land use planning and regulatory tools to manage groundwater
- Conducting groundwater studies

The toolkit explores a number of objectives for groundwater protection with associated potential local government action. The key objectives are to: minimize impacts on water sources; sustain aquifers at healthy levels; maximize infiltration; reduce groundwater use; and protect groundwater quality.

The information, scenarios, sample tools and policy wording in the toolkit can be used to implement groundwater protection measures. The information and direction can also assist in developing a scope of work for consultants and communicating the importance of groundwater protection action by local government.

Subject Area(s):

- Groundwater
- Land Use
- Mapping/Inventory
- Water Management
- Water Quality

Application(s):

- Official Community Plan
- Regional Growth Strategy
- Watershed Plan
- Zoning Bylaw
- Development Permit Area
- Well Protection Plan

Tool(s):

- Best Practices
- Case Studies
- List of Resources
- Sample Bylaw Language
- Sample Goals/Objectives/Actions
- Sample Plans/Policies/Strategies

Planning Guide 1 of 2 [Next >](#)

B.C. Ministry of Forest, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development (FLNRORD) - Drought Response Team

I participated on the FLNRORD Thompson Okanagan Region Drought Response Team this summer. The team is comprised of provincial staff, including aquatic ecologists, fisheries biologists, ecosystems officers, hydrogeologists, and hydrologists, and district water officers. Technical advisors from the B.C. Ministry of Agriculture, the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans, First Nations, and other groups (e.g. OBWB, Kettle River Authority) are also invited to participate.

The team had weekly calls in August and September, where we would receive updates from provincial staff on current streamflows and aquifer levels, and the response measures underway or needed. We had our final call on October 5 to discuss what went well in 2017 and what could be improved. Most team members felt that internal and external communications were stronger this year, but that there is still room

for improvement. Provincial staff acknowledge that more work needs to be done to customize their response in the Okanagan, and limit the confusion caused by provincial drought levels versus local drought stages. The drought response team will reconvene in early May 2018.

Water Supply Association of BC (WSABC)'s Annual Conference

Last week, I gave a presentation at the WSABC's annual conference in Salmon Arm. I updated the group on the OBWB's drought preparedness and response initiatives, including the mainstem drought triggers and agriculture water supply communication projects. I also talked about the status of local drought planning in the Okanagan and the importance of having a plan in place. The conference is always well-attended, and is a great opportunity for me to build relationships with the water suppliers and hear about what support they need.

Mainstem Drought Triggers Guidelines

We are holding a workshop on November 6 to gather feedback from water purveyors on the second version of the mainstem drought trigger guidelines developed by our technical consulting team. I will give a verbal update on workshop participation and outcomes at the board meeting.

MEMORANDUM

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
November 1, 2016
Agenda No: 8.1

File No. 0550.04

To: OBWB Directors
From: Anna Warwick Sears, Executive Director
Date: November 1, 2017
Subject: **Budget Features 2018-2019 Memo**

OBWB's philosophy is to run a lean organization, delivering the highest level of service at the greatest value to the community. The following recommendations build on current services and operations. The OBWB's budget must be adopted by December 5th, 2017.

Attachments

- The OBWB Budget for the year ending March 31, 2019 is attached, showing the breakdown between the Sewage Assistance Grants, Watermilfoil, and Water Management programs. The dark blue column "2019 Consolidated Budget" is the proposed budget for the coming year. The light blue "2018 Consolidated Budget" is for the current fiscal year, and the "2017 Consolidated Audited Year End" reflects actual expenditures for our programs in the audited year-end for March 31, 2017. The yellow highlights show a mid-year change in expenditures for the new milfoil rototiller, approved by board resolution.
- The Requisitions attachment shows the total requisitions from each regional district.

Budget Overview

The 2018-19 budget focuses on priority programs and services. Our most recent audited financial statements (2016-17) were presented at this year's Annual Public Meeting in West Kelowna, and are provided on the OBWB website.

The draft 2018-19 budget for Board consideration has the following features:

- The overall OBWB requisition is \$3,450,733, a small decrease over the 2017-18 requisition (\$3,451,500).
- As a percentage of assessments, the requisition decreased to 4.8 cents/\$1,000, from 5.3 cents in 2017-18 because of higher assessment values.
- We have not had a requisition increase since Fiscal Year 2011-12.

Sewage Facilities Grant Program

The requisition for sewage facilities grants is 1.9 cents/\$1,000 assessment; down by 0.4 cents from 2017-18. The reserve fund for sewage facilities grants is expected to be approximately \$1,200,000, as at March 31, 2019. We are required by legislation to hold a reserve to buffer mid-year changes in grant obligations (such as increased interest rates). As the reserve is currently large enough to provide reasonable protection from fluctuations, the budget includes a transfer of \$220,000 to reduce requisitions for this program. The requisition ceiling for sewage grants is 21.0 cents/\$1,000.

Watermilfoil Control Program

The requisition for watermilfoil is 1.2 cents/\$1,000 assessment, down 0.1 cents from 2017-18, as a percentage of assessments. This year's budget covers anticipated new costs for milfoil mapping and permitting, including Vaseux Lake. After planned equipment expenditures and transfers per our asset management plan, we will have \$221,000 in the equipment reserve, on target for our plan. Our Supplementary Letters Patent gives a ceiling of 3.6 cents/\$1,000 assessment for the combined budgets of the Milfoil and Water Management programs.

Water Management

The requisition for Water Management is 1.6 cents/\$1,000 assessment, down by 0.1 cents as a percentage of assessments. There is a 2 cents/\$1,000 ceiling for the program. The Water Management program has an operational reserve balance of \$62,000 for unanticipated mid-year operational costs, and a project reserve of \$367,000 (per the audited financial statements of March 31, 2017) earmarked to specific, ongoing projects and matching funding requirements. In 2018, we will have our 4-year review of the program, and request reauthorization by the three regional districts.

As in previous years, we anticipate additional matching grants for our projects from senior government agencies. Our planned work this year closely aligned with OBWB's strategic plan. They include continuation of the outreach programs for water conservation and zebra mussels; building surface and groundwater assessment programs; continuing to work with large water users and utilities on drought and flood preparedness; and developing new water quality improvement projects. The OBWB currently has grant proposals pending to the Gas Tax, for hydrology modeling (\$392,500), and to FCM for Water and Climate Adaptation Support to provide extra planning capacity to local governments (\$250,000). We also have a grant pending with the United Nations Association of Canada, for their Green Corps Internship Program (\$10,000) which supported our Okanagan WaterWise internship in 2017.

Budget for the year ending March 31, 2019

	Water Management	Water Milfoil	Sewerage Assistance	2019 Consolidated Budget	Consolidated 2018 Budget	Consolidated 2017 Audited Year End
Revenues						
Requisitions	\$ 1,188,250	\$ 889,756	\$ 1,372,727	\$ 3,450,733	\$ 3,451,500	\$ 3,444,221
Grant income	0	0	0	0	0	267,772
Interest income	5,000	4,000	18,000	27,000	35,000	36,175
Other Income	0	0	0	0	0	1,500
Transfer from reserve	0	0	220,000	220,000	450,000	0
	1,193,250	893,756	1,610,727	3,697,733	3,936,500	3,749,668
Expenses						
Assistance grants	300,000	0	1,570,727	1,870,727	1,891,054	1,884,030
Amortization	0	40,000	0	40,000	40,000	51,963
Transfer amortization to tangible capital assets	0	(40,000)	0	(40,000)	(40,000)	(51,963)
Contract services	268,000	35,000	0	303,000	242,000	693,646
Director's remuneration and expenses	11,450	11,450	0	22,900	22,440	21,418
Stewardship council expenses	20,000	0	0	20,000	15,000	5,702
Equipment costs	3,100	139,000	0	142,100	128,100	108,078
Insurance	4,200	27,000	0	31,200	31,000	29,666
Interest charges	200	100	0	300	100	167
Office	24,400	11,506	0	35,906	32,056	41,129
Outreach and publicity	73,000	5,000	0	78,000	55,700	142,379
Administrative allocation	(20,000)	(20,000)	40,000	0	0	0
Professional fees	39,300	39,000	0	78,300	78,000	84,126
Rental costs	10,100	22,400	0	32,500	32,500	30,946
Safety	2,000	6,500	0	8,500	8,600	12,415
Travel, conferences and meetings	55,700	4,300	0	60,000	63,150	46,683
Utilities, yard supplies and maintenance	0	15,500	0	15,500	13,500	15,658
Wages and benefits	401,800	447,000	0	848,800	823,300	762,218
Capital Purchase (as per Asset Replacement Plan) (1)	0	0	0	0	350,000	0
Transfer to equipment reserve	0	150,000	0	150,000	150,000	0
	1,193,250	893,756	1,610,727	3,697,733	3,936,500	3,878,261
Net (deficiency of) revenues over expenses (2)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	(128,593)

Note (1): as per 2018 Board Resolution, for purchase of Rototiller, increase budget from \$250K to \$350K

Note (2): the balance given reflects the timing of project expenditures and grants per the audited financial statements. In the past 12 years, this has been a positive number 7 times, and a negative number 5 times.



Okanagan Basin Water Board
 Regular meeting
 Nov. 7, 2017
 Agenda No: 8.1.2

**Regional District Provisional Assessment
 Budget For The Year Ending March 31, 2019**

	Central Okanagan	Okanagan Similkameen	North Okanagan	Total
2017 Revised Roll	\$ 44,828,549,520	14,610,423,682	13,082,718,397	72,521,691,599
Percentage Share	61.81%	20.15%	18.04%	100.00%
REQUISITION				
Water Management	734,505	239,388	214,357	1,188,250
Water Milfoil	549,994	179,253	160,510	889,756
Sewerage Assistance	848,537	276,553	247,636	1,372,727
Total	\$ 2,133,036	695,194	622,503	3,450,733
<i>Total Prior Year Requisition</i>	\$ 2,102,847	706,819	641,835	3,451,500



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
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Steve Thomson
M.L.A. Kelowna - Mission

October 20, 2017

Anna Warwick Sears, Executive Director
Okanagan Basin Water Board
1450 KLO Road
Kelowna BC V1W 3Z4

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
Nov. 7, 2017
Agenda No: 9.1

Re: 2017 Business Excellence Marketing Campaign of the Year Award - Finalist

Dear Anna:

It is my pleasure to congratulate you and your team at Okanagan Basin Water Board on being selected as a finalist for the **2017 Business Excellence Marketing Campaign of the Year Award**, sponsored by Pushor Mitchell LLP. To be selected as a finalist your company has been rigorously reviewed by a panel of judges. I understand that this year you were one of three very successful businesses nominated for this award.

The Okanagan Basin Water Board (OBWB) is key in water stewardship in our community, advised by an innovative cross-disciplinary Water Stewardship council. OBWB delivers programs and activities to promote best practices and coordinates water management such as water science projects, grant programs, invasive milfoil control program, and public outreach such as its most recent Don't Move a Mussel campaign. The OBWB is a most deserved nominee for this award.

Since 1987, the Kelowna Chamber of Commerce has been awarding the Business Excellence Awards to celebrate outstanding businesses that excel in our community. There is a long list of finalists and the OBWB is a worthy member of this very distinguished group. I wish you continued success.

Sincerely,

Steve Thomson, MLA
Kelowna Mission