



**Okanagan Basin**  
WATER BOARD

**BOARD REPORT: March 8, 2018**

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[www.obwb.ca](http://www.obwb.ca)

### **OBWB Directors**

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**Juliette Cunningham - Vice-  
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North Okanagan

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**Cindy Fortin,** Regional District  
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Similkameen

**Lisa Wilson,** Okanagan Nation  
Alliance

**Toby Pike,** Water Supply  
Association of B.C.

**Brian Guy,** Okanagan Water  
Stewardship Council

**The next regular meeting of the  
OBWB will be 10 a.m.  
April 3, 2018 at the Regional  
District of North Okanagan in  
Coldstream.**

## **Okanagan Basin Water Board Meeting Highlights**

**Preparations underway for Canada Water Week movie night:** The OBWB's Okanagan WaterWise is hosting a free, fun and engaging movie night to celebrate UN World Water Day and Canada Water Week on Wed. March 21, 6 - 8:30 p.m. at Rotary Centre for the Arts in Kelowna. "Shared waters. Shared conversations. ... Keeping the Okanagan River flowing" features a special Okanagan welcome from Krystal Lezard. There will be a screening of the award-winning *A River Film*. Breathtaking film footage profiles our Okanagan/Okanogan rivershed, a transboundary waterway that straddles the Canada-U.S. border, and explores the complex relationships between people, fish, upland species, the wider Columbia Basin, and how this is managed. The film will be followed by a Q&A with some of those featured in the film. Visit displays from local organizations working to protect our waters, and enjoy light refreshments. This is a free event but registration is required at <https://okwaterwise-cww2018.eventbrite.ca>.

**Toolkit for planning sustainable communities to be unveiled:** The Water Board and Fraser Basin Council are co-hosting a free webinar to introduce a new online resource with more than 60 planning guides to help build climate resilient communities. The "Getting to Know the Guides and Toolkits for Sustainable Land & Water Use Planning," webinar, on March 13, 11 am – noon, will be of interest to local government and consulting planners, engineers, biologists, environmental consultants, conservationists and electeds. Register at <http://bit.ly/2D9KMA3>.

**Feds respond to OBWB call for stronger mussel action:** The Board of Directors received a letter from Canada's Minister of Fisheries and Oceans which notes they will be meeting with the B.C. Government and other key stakeholders, including the OBWB, to discuss collaboration on zebra and quagga mussels and other invasive species. The board looks forward to continuing to work with both senior levels of government to move forward on this issue.

**Water-related event organizers reminded - Don't Move A Mussel!:** The board discussed water-related events in the Okanagan, such as fishing derbies and watercraft races, and the potential to bring in invasive species, including mussels. In several cases, the OBWB's Okanagan WaterWise program has been contacted through its [Don't Move A Mussel](#) campaign. Staff have helped event organizers coordinate with provincial authorities and provided outreach support at the event. Organizers are urged to contact the OBWB well in advance of such events at [okwaterwise@obwb.ca](mailto:okwaterwise@obwb.ca).

**State of the basin focus of upcoming webinars:** The OBWB is holding a Water Supply Webinar on April 16 and May 8 at 11 a.m. These free hour-long online meetings provide a status update on current and forecasted water supplies in the Okanagan. This is the sixth year the Water Board has hosted the event. The meetings typically include water experts from Environment and Climate Change Canada, BC River Forecast Centre, B.C. Ministry of Environment and others. Additional details to come.

**For more information, please visit: [www.OBWB.ca](http://www.OBWB.ca)**