

**OKANAGAN WATER STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL**  
*A Technical Advisory Body to the Okanagan Basin Water Board*  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD February 11th, 2021,**  
**VIRTUALLY THROUGH THE ZOOM PLATFORM**

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**COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

**Present**

Emeritus, Chair	Denise Neilsen
BC Wildlife Federation – Region 8	Lorne Davies
Regional District of Central Okanagan	Brittany Lange
Okanagan Shuswap Natural Resource District	Tony Zanotto
Canadian Water Resources Association	Brian Guy
Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada	Kirsten Hannam
UBC Okanagan	Bernard Bauer
UBC Okanagan	Craig Nichol (Alt)
Ministry of Agriculture	Andrew Petersen
City of Kelowna	Rod MacLean
Engineers & Geoscientists BC	Mike Nolan
Engineers & Geoscientists BC	Don Dobson (Alt)

**OBWB:**

Director	Toni Boot
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**STAFF:**

OBWB, Office and Grants Manager	James Littlely
OBWB, Executive Director	Anna Warwick Sears
OBWB, Water Stewardship Director	Nelson Jatel
OBWB, Communications Director	Corinne Jackson
OBWB, Technical Writer and Researcher	Farah Kanani

**GUESTS:**

District of Peachland	Shawn Grundy
Independent	Renee Clark
Okanagan Collaborative Conservation Program (OCCP)	Scott Boswell
MFLNO	Sheena Spencer
MFLNO	Ray Crampton
Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen	Zoe Kirk
Eternal Consultants	Scott Smith
Environment Canada	Doug Lindquist
BC Agriculture Council	Hans Buchler
Northwest Hydraulic Consultants	Joel Trubilowicz
Northwest Hydraulic Consultants	Piotr Kuras
Water Supply Association BC	Patti Meger
Foresight/Vertical Motion	Jason Jones
Regional District of Kootenay Boundary	Kristina Anderson
Environment and Climate Change Canada	Jeremy Fyke
UBCO	Mathieu Bourbonnais
UBCO	Joanne Taylor
UBCO	Renee Larsen
UBCO	Adam Wei
UBC	Dwayne Tannant
Larratt Aquatic Consulting Ltd. (LAC)	Heather Larratt
Larratt Aquatic Consulting Ltd. (LAC)	Jamie Self
RDCO	Jen Miles
FLNORORD	Michael Noseworthy
District of Summerland	Toni Boot
Okanagan College	Allison O'Neill
BC Fruit Growers Association	Glen Lucas
University of Waterloo (Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation)	Natalia Moudrak

## 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Denise called the Zoom meeting to order at 1:03 pm by welcoming members and guests and acknowledging that we are meeting on the unceded territory of the syilx people, the original inhabitants of the Okanagan. Introductions commenced around the table. This is the eighth Zoom meeting of the OWSC.

## 2. APPROVE AGENDA

Agenda was approved as presented.

**Moved by: Bernie Bauer**

**Seconded by: Kirsten Hannam**

***“That the agenda for the February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021***

***meeting of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council be approved.”***

***No objections.***

## 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

**Moved by: Brittany Lange**

**Seconded by: Bernie Bauer**

***“That the minutes from the December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council be approved.”***

***No objections.***

## 4. BUSINESS ARISING (from previous meeting):

### a) **New hydrometric monitoring service (update) (Nelson Jatel)**

The OBWB approved a new service which is to increase hydrometric stations in the Okanagan. We have a modest goal this year of increasing our partnership network that is managed by the ONA by four more stations. We are forging a new partnership with ECC and Hydrometrics Canada. They will be installing two more stations this year. The other part about this service is to encourage everybody who is collecting hydrometric data, whether you are a water purveyor or engineer on a project, and you would like to have that hydrometric information included both within our aquarius database but more importantly on the BC data warehouse which makes it accessible to the public. Looking to bring in as many hydrometric stations into the Okanagan that are isolated that are collecting data for single purpose, and where appropriate sharing it with the general public so it may be of use to others.

The new service starts on April 1<sup>st</sup> of this year. In the process of working with a couple of groups – ONA NHC and AE and a few others – want to get our aquarius database updated and modernized. We have just completely some software updates. Working really closely with Eleanor and some others within the ONA to start gearing us up for what is going to be a busy year for hydrometric station installations. There is also the actual transect measurements – our goal is to do 5 transects per station that we monitor which aligns with what the ECC does and that activity will be carried out by the ONA. I also have a technical advisory committee that hasn't met yet. Looking for that group to meet at least once in advance of the April 1<sup>st</sup> start of the programme and many of you in this group are part of that committee. Happy to answer any questions if anybody has any.

## 5. BOARD REPORT (Anna Warwick Sears):

- We had an election of the chair and vice-chair. Sue Mckortoff, mayor of Osoyoos was re-elected as the chair and Cindy Fortin, mayor of Peachland was re-elected as vice-chair.
- I reported that we are making good progress, thanks to Brian Guy, on the gap analysis and recommendation of studies needed to update the Lake Okanagan Lake Regulations System which is the outcome of all the flood mapping. We were made aware that unless the operation plan for the Okanagan is changed we are going to be at much greater risk for flooding than even the flood maps show. Probably going to take more than 5 years to complete all the studies and before we can begin the process of changing the operating system. Really good for it to get off the ground and there are a variety of factors at play including drought risk, flood risk, damage to fisheries and damage to homes, all the things we have been talking about for years come into play with this overarching project. That report should be out in March.
- We have initiated a letter writing campaign in December to get all local Okanagan governments to write letters to the ministers and tell them that this is a new issue that has come up in the Okanagan and we need a lot of attention for it and funding. Need on-going emphasis on this whole suite of matters. Letters are going to go out at the end of next week.
- The other flood related item – we were fortunate to get approval to be an eligible applicant to the national disaster mitigation programme funding. We put in two applications – one to do flood risk mapping i.e. adding on a risk layer to the existing flood hazard map. Looking at the values whether

it's economic or cultural. Things that are specifically at risk at different levels of flooding in the valley. The second one is for near-shore bathymetry mapping on all the main valley lakes i.e. a topography map that goes under the level of the water. The height of the wave depends a lot of what is happening right under the water near the shore, and how the waves break. Therefore you can have different lake damage depending on the bathymetry is along the lake shore. Both applications have received initial approval from EMBC and have been forwarded to Public Safety Canada. It depends on how competitive compared to other jurisdictions across the country. There was a very short application window and it was during the holiday period is in our favor.

- Regional consultation session for CWA is happening on February 16<sup>th</sup>. Denise, Brian and I are attending. There is a discussion paper that I encourage everyone to read that is available online.
- Report from Nelson about the Stewardship Council which you are already familiar with – starting up the new term, and what groups can be invited to become members of the councils. I will leave that for Nelson to talk about the renewal.
- Reports from James about the invasive mussel update. The OBWB is going to be sending another letter about what the OBWB wants the province to do w.r.t. preventing invasive zebra mussels. A lot of it has to do with funding and maintaining their funding and boat inspection programmes.
- Reported on a meeting that James and I had with new staff from department of fisheries and oceans. They have just established an aquatic species invasive group and given it funding. Little bit of funding but no grant funding but really good to have federal presence in this space. Working on options for a shared data platform and hopefully provide some leadership. Biggest issues we have seen with aquatic invasive species is that there isn't great continuity across the province and hopefully the feds will help tie in all the provincial efforts.
- Letters to the province included - keeping the funding at 2019 levels; introduce pull the plug legislation for voters; update provincial early detection rapid response plan; provide toolkits and resources for local governments to do vulnerability assessments and implement mitigation measures (when they will come here instead of they will never come here); require inspections for all out-of-province water craft and more money for monitoring the local small groups.
- We hired a new company to work on our public outreach campaigns (3-year contract) – company called Habit out of Edmonton, looked for an Okanagan company however they were out of capacity. This company looks more experienced and could be a really good fit for us.
- Kellie presented on source water protection initiatives i.e. SWP toolkit and making a lot of progress on that – in the last home stretch. She has also been participating in the Okanagan Lake Responsibility Planning Initiative – tying in all those pieces.
- Carolina Restrepo presented on the Osoyoos Lake Science Forum – something we have been planning for the fall of 2021 or spring of 2022 depending on how it goes. We have got funding from the IJC, OBWB's committed funding and getting other groups to come together e.g. Environment Canada. It's going to be the fourth conference. Working on aquahacking getting launched. We have a steering committee, four water issues, the challenge has been released: ..
  1. Optimization of drinking water and wastewater treatment plant
  2. On-farm nutrient capture and recycling
  3. Toxic algal blooms
  4. Innovative social technologies for water information.
 High hopes for a great programme this year.

**6. GUEST SPEAKER: Natalia Moudrak (Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation, University of Waterloo) Getting ahead of the spring 2021 flooding: Practical approaches for reducing risks**

- Denise provided introduction.
- Climate change is real, is happening and is costly – Flooding is the “Elephant in the Room” in Canada: catastrophic insurable losses are on the rise, growing risk of mortgage arrears in vulnerable areas.
  - Examples of practical actions: engaging with homeowners and tenants on flood preparedness, professional training on home flood protection, recognizing value of natural infrastructure assets.
  - Anything that has cost less than \$25 million per event has not even been covered by the chart. The concerning part is that from 1983 to 2009 the insurance industry as a whole used to pay out approx. \$422 million annually associated with these extreme weather events but come 2009 onwards, every year except 2015, a billion dollar mark was exceeded and a few spikes in the last decade. In 2016 the highest spike was the Fort McMurry wildfire at over \$5 billion of insured damage. When you exclude this spike,

what is the driver behind the trend, it is water related damage costing Canadians a lot of loss.

- For every dollar of insured loss, there are \$3-4 that are not insured i.e. losses incurred by government, businesses, and individuals.
- Extreme weather and flooding are particularly problematic and costly. How can we adapt and reduce the associated risks and damages.
- Associated mental health experienced from basement flooding – average time off work following such flooding is 7 days which is another financial impact. Mental stress lingers – 50% of respondents worries when it rains, 3 years after a flood event. Flood insurance maybe limited then you have to pay out of pocket.
- Bankers and insurers are concerned that individuals are having to default on their mortgage which is another area of on-going research based on what we hear from the communities.
- Canada is leading in the world with their national flood risk reduction guidelines and standards. There is a report published for what can be done at a home at the time of new construction or retrofits to boost a home flood resilience.
- New community flood resiliency guideline published by the Intact Centre that outlines how to build new residential communities to be flood resilient and that has been translated into a national standard of Canada by CSA Group.
- Another guideline for commercial real estate owners on how they can get ahead of the challenge. There is a new standard of Canada that is being written and will be released for public comment in a month on how can existing (older) communities identify priority areas of flood risk to guide targeted resiliency retrofit and community engagement efforts.
- A topic that has been receiving a lot of attention as of late is – “how can natural infrastructure or nature-based solutions play a role in communities to boost flood resiliency.”
- All of these guidelines have been summarized in this report – “Under One Umbrella – practical approaches for reducing flood risk in Canada”.
- Key factors that affect basement flood risk – downspouts discharge < 2m from foundation (outside the home), No sump pump back-up power and furniture/electronics at risk of water damage (inside the home).
- We have created two tools for homeowners to do the maintenance work around the house (DIY, low-cost) – an app and this type of infographic is well received – helps them to understand what to do during springtime.
- Case Study 1: Home flood protection campaign in Nova Scotia: set an example that is now being

followed by other governments in Canada as well as local utility companies, conservation authorities, neighborhood authorities, neighborhood associations.

- Case Study 2: Professional training on flood risk reduction: 14-week online home flood risk assessment training course for home and property inspectors, insurance brokers and adjusters, mortgage professionals, engineers and planners, emergency managers and first responders, real estate brokers and agents, landscapers and home builders and renovators offered through Fleming College.
- Case Study 3: Assessing the value on natural assets (e.g. wetlands, forests, ponds, coastal marshes) for flood risk reduction and other benefits. Once the \$ value is assessed, it's easier to make the case for conserving these assets and spending money to maintain them.

## **7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS ARISING FROM WORKSHOP:**

Jeremy Fyke: At regional/national scales, do you have data on what the most damaging flood types (riverine, pluvial, coastal, groundwater...) are, by common metrics (e.g. \$ value)?

Natalia: I will dig up this information for you – it will be national.

Glenn Lucas: I understand the actions the homeowner can take to prevent individual flood damage, but facing a large-scale situation like Grand Forks or Sportsman Bowl floods seem to cause the largest damage and the actions would not protect?

Natalia: Table 1 in the “Under One Umbrella” report includes a long summary which says the ‘whole of society’ approach is needed to meaningfully tackle flood issues. There are things that residents can do, items that are within responsibility of local, provincial, and territorial governments, certain things the federal government should be doing and then certain actions for different stakeholder groups architects, developers, home builders, insurance mortgage brokers, landscaping professionals, neighborhood associations.

Jeremy, I did look up national statistics for water-related damages in Canada for the home, 60% is due to faulty in-door appliances, 25% heavy rain and flooding (over-land), 11% sewer, 4% other. In terms of expenses it is usually the sewer backup flooding.

Anna: Hard to believe that sea level rise wouldn't be the most costly. It certainly would be in BC.

Natalia: We are in the process of writing guidelines for coastal flood resiliency for Canada, BC and Atlantic coasts, supported by NRCC and Standards Council of Canada (SCC). We are describing the challenges some of which Anna you have eluded to and some of the solutions we have historically implemented in communities. We have a collection of case studies that are detailed about solutions, why have they been collected, alternatives etc. we are going to make the focal point of that report that Canada needs to do a better job integrating grey and natural infrastructure solutions to help address coastal challenges. One of the struggles I am having in writing this report, getting access to actual performance results and costs post-implementation data (monitoring) to demonstrate value for money. Expected publication of this report is September 2021. If there is anyone interested in taking a look at the draft and sharing insight, we would really appreciate it.

Doug Lundquist: This is incredible valuable research and info. MSC can point Canadians there during severe weather events too and EMBC I suspect. We do find lots of impacts and costs are due to people not preparing. Can I have access to the presentation and your email to know what we can do for you from ECCC.

Natalia: We would really appreciate it.

Mathieu: Based on your information campaigns, expensive retrofits and we see it for fire for something might happen or not. Do you have any numbers or follow-ups for how to get everyone to get on these retrofits and what is effective?

Natalia: We cannot afford to build wrong when we are building new. We are actually working with FireSmart Canada and Canadian Homebuilder's Association to develop a checklist on how to build new homes to be more fire resilient. We are soliciting feedback from builders to understand what it costs and in terms of mortgage it is negligible. It is also important to get to homeowners at critical times when they are doing renovations.

Mathieu: It's hard to convince existing homeowners to invest. The point to build better new is a good one.

Natalia: We have developed the same infographic that we did for flood resiliency for fire resiliency that might help.

Bernie: Most of your presentation focused on homeowners. Can you speak a little bit to what municipalities and cities are doing? How does the insurance work for those?

Natalia: The big one that gets a lot of discussion – some communities are providing a lot more up-to-date information to their members to entice proactive actions for flood risk management. We are seeing some communities who are taking a look at the standards on flood resilience. Canadian Red cross volunteers were engaged (pre-covid) in door-to-door engagement with homeowners on flood risk reduction actions– 70% took some form of action after a month compared to 6% up-take in city of Toronto just by advertising subsidies available. In relation to a new standard that is coming out from CSA on existing community flood resiliency retrofit to objectively prioritize areas of vulnerability. Large infrastructure updates are more community specific based on actual needs and hazards.

Bernie: How much activity do you use nationally by way of municipalities being proactive buying out people who are high-risk because you can retrofit as much as you want but rivers do what they want to do which is flood naturally and we have not learnt that lesson historically.

Natalia: Not allowing new residential development in known flood-risk areas, this is where the standard starts. I appreciate that the existing communities is difficult - very challenging the political action – we are seeing more however it isn't popular.

Kirsten Hannam: Is there guidance or resources for municipalities to help them prioritize areas for natural assets protection versus restoration?

Natalia: I would recommend speaking to MNAI and I can get you in touch with their team to help guide you through this process of how to prioritize areas. KPMG, MNAI and Intact Centre are working on something to write a submission to the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB), which sets standards for how public sector entities prepare financial position statements. PSAB currently prohibits for public sector to recognize natural assets as assets in the books which results in quite a lot of issues. We are encouraging for this prohibition language to be lifted, so that in the future if you were a municipality that has undertaken the process of assessing the value of natural assets you would be able to recognize it as an asset your financial position statements. We will



be submitting this by May 12<sup>th</sup>. If you would be interested in signing or reviewing the draft please let me know.

Brian Guy: This issue is huge and probably the single biggest barrier for municipalities to allow them to value their natural assets properly.

Rod MacLean: We had interesting discussions with our financial director and they always talk about land not being an asset and that it is the improvement to the land that is the asset. That brings into question things like stormwater ponds and ecological things that we do to enhance something that isn't natural but looks natural. Anything that requires maintenance which is valid under PSAB because it actually depreciates and this is where the challenge is. The important thing is to make sure our definitions are correct. I know that MNAI includes lakes and stormwater ponds as natural assets and yet we don't look at it that way. We are trying to modify these definitions so that we are all on the same boat.

Natalia: Please e-mail to provide feedback and be engaged, that would be very helpful as we are working on this PSAB submission. What we have received yesterday from KPMG is how assets are considered from an accounting standpoint. It's very early days in this. The way we want to create a business case for why natural infrastructure is important, why natural assets could be considered as assets and provide some methods that are recognized to assess the economic value of natural assets that are already being used on the ground (examples) and to make it an action-oriented submission.

Andrew Petersen: Across the country, does the consideration for compensation get pulled into that?

Natalia: We haven't really done a lot of work with agriculture except for water use with farmers. There are some NGOs in Canada that compensate agricultural landowners who do additional work for stormwater storage. We are not directly engaged in that.

#### Actionable Items:

(1) Define water problems and priorities, economic feasibility of solutions, responsibility, necessary legislation and required action.

(2) Communicate and coordinate between levels of government.

(3) Present proposal and recommendations to government.

(4) Advise local government when proposed actions, bylaws are contrary to the Okanagan Basin Study.

#### **8. VIRTUAL COFFEE BREAK**

#### **9. COMMITTEE BREAK-OUT SESSIONS**

#### **10. SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES**

##### Flood and Drought Management committee (Scott Boswell)

This committee started a long time ago and will be ending next month. I would like to give some highlights of the community and the work we have done. We set out to look for ways to secure funding for updating flood management plans and also looking to increase consistency and planning for flooding and looking at ways to improve communications across all levels of government. The staff at OBWB did a fantastic job in delivering on these objectives. Completed mapping for the entire valley, OWA, securing funding for flood risk assessment and other flood mapping projects.

Hosted workshops on how LiDAR mapping can be used by various different governments including forestry, mining, and grizzly bear monitoring. All the great work that has been put into the flood story website which is a great asset for local governments and for the residents. It was really well received by the real estate industry association and committee is continuing to do communication work – two more workshops - looking at the ecology of the OK river system and bringing back the salmon project. It's been a great journey and watching how the committee can actually influence and help support the OBWB staff.

##### Dams and Reservoirs committee (Bernard Bauer):

We are at the end of our lifetime. We have put in a couple of deliverables. One of them was frequently asked questions and answers document that the WSC reviewed 6-7 months ago that is now in Nelson's hands and will be posted to the website. We have assembled a reading list with a whole series of documents that we will share. The most substantive piece is a white paper that is now on its final stages of technical editing and will be circulated to you for a final review before it moves to the board. It was a specifically difficult task as when you think of dams and reservoirs in the region you can't escape also considering water

management issues including climate change, usage and risks downstream from dams and the regulatory environment which we need to think about this infrastructure and what jurisdictions are doing. You have a landowner who happens to have a dam on their property and automatically become the dam owner and have to manage it according to regulations right up to municipalities and large water purveyors who have sophisticated operations and they all have different challenges.

Recommendations in the white paper – range of issues and perspectives. The audience that we are speaking to is the OBWB. We can't be speaking to the province and what they should or shouldn't be doing. In part we are speaking to the public through the OBWB what only thinking of actionable items only. All of these are carefully phrased:

1. To initiate and lead with local provincial governments and ideally First Nations discussions with the goal of exploring and implementing financial mechanisms in support of long-term infrastructure maintenance.
2. OBWB should continue to lobby the provincial governments to expand regional capacity for measuring and modelling hydroclimatic trends in the near and distant future.
3. Encourage commissioning and co-sponsor a range of scientific and technical studies focused on the future role of dams and reservoirs within a valley-wide management strategy.
4. OBWB should collaborate with local governments and the province to explore possible mechanisms to achieve efficiencies and economies of scale associated with coordinated reservoir operations.
5. OBWB should collaborate with the province and water industry organizations to address eminent gaps in existing outreach and education programmes.
6. OBWB should investigate the extent to which land surrounding existing and yet to be developed reservoirs to be protected against future development privatization.

Source Water Protection committee (Renee Clark):

Had a meeting today, well attended. Working on our position paper which we presented in January. The province is moving forward on watershed security. It has showed up on a number of ministries mandate letters. The province is working on a plan for this and how it is going to be laid out. They are looking at very similar outcomes from our position paper. The watershed security agenda have very similar ideas and reassuring. Suggested protecting drinking water sources, creating a water security fund, which has always been difficult, investing in climate adaptation and resilience for flood and drought.

Looking at appointing a provincial water security officer. An agency that will be looking at water, modernizing the Water Sustainability Act, building accountability into watershed protection. A number of things that are overlapping. We will make sure our position paper wording aligns with the watershed security agenda, before it goes to the board. Very interesting to look at the ministry mandate letters. We are looking at our second draft of the source water protection toolkit, meeting on February 18<sup>th</sup> to go through the details on that.

Policy committee (Brian Guy):

We had a breakout session with only a few people. I will remind you of the mandate of what the policy committee works on. Three elements:

1. Help OBWB respond when we receive requests for review and input from higher levels of government on policy and regulatory issues. For example something we are working on now is providing input to the federal Canada Water Agency.
2. Be more proactive in pursuing opportunities to influence upcoming legislation without being asked. An example of that is the input we have provided to the province on multiple accounts without being asked on the WSA and helping them overcome the challenges on implementing it including getting existing groundwater users into the system.
3. To work with other committees and help turn some of their work into policy recommendations to federal and provincial governments. An example of this would be working with the relatively new agricultural committee to convey some policy concepts to the province.

Helped the OBWB respond on livestock water regulation for the province, BC Wetland Policy, agricultural waste regulations. We were asked to comment on the provincial effort to modernize the emergency programme act in the summer and fall. We provided some input on Osoyoos Lake water quality objectives, provincial climate adaptation strategy - we are still waiting for their final product on that and source water drinking water quality guidelines.

Did something with an internal focus which was to develop some recommendations for the OBWB itself – how it can implement principles of UNDRIP and The Truth and Reconciliation Committee report. Thank you to all committee members for their contributions.

The two items that are on our schedule is the CWA – there was a discussion paper that was published

in December. The WSC and the board are planning on commenting on that and I have asked the committee for their comments by the end of February. You can find that discussion paper online and get your input on it to put together a cohesive document for review by the council and then the board before sending it off the feds by May. We kicked off an initiative to maintaining access to the data that is being created over the long careers of they're retiring researchers. Right now it is a bit of an ad-hoc process.

Agriculture and Water committee (Kirsten Hannam):

Thank you everyone in all committees including this one who have been providing hard work. We have been working since April 2020 and since that time we have focused on how the WSA is being implementing with regard to groundwater licensing. Producing a summary document, a state of knowledge summary of our understanding of groundwater licensing as it being conductive presently within the Okanagan Valley and province in general and we will have that ready by the end of the term.

We had a good discussion with the committee this morning with regards to the work we plan on doing in the next term. Some of these ideas include: a comparison of water use as calculated by BC Ag water calculator vs. historical annual use, to get a better understanding how this has changed through time and extreme events; developing some tools for agricultural producers that they can use to respond to drought events and we would tailor these tools for the crop and the phenological stage of the crop at the point at which drought or water restrictions are issued. Ultimately we would like to do work that helps to contribute to an agricultural reserve within the OK valley and all of the work we expect to do will be taking us in that direction, despite being a long-term goal.

**11. MEMBER UPDATES: ROUNDTABLE**

Patti: Save the date for our spring conference on Zoom – April 9<sup>th</sup> and October 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> for our AGM.

James Littlely: Quick reminder, the deadline for water conservation quality improvement grants is on 26<sup>th</sup> February at 4 pm.

Corrine Jackson: Have been working on education guides since 2016 for Okanagan teachers are available on the OK Waterwise website. Building outdoor working spaces guide and another one that focuses on the Okanagan watershed and climate. There were many partners that helped with these.

Mike Nolan: The new professionals governance act was implemented last week by the province which will affect many of your employers. That sets a new professional governance standard for all of us working in the natural resources and building, forestry fields. It will be interesting to see what it's like to work in that environment. Applies to firms and municipalities and provincial ministries involved in these activities. Interesting training courses – watershed risk assessments, emergency contaminants in the environment and how's and why's of First Nations land acknowledgments.

**12. CHAIR REPORT**

We would like to know how you enjoyed this longer meeting and this new format with breakout sessions.

**13. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting date of the OWSC is to be confirmed for Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by Denise at 4:01 pm.

***“That there being no further business,  
the meeting of the Okanagan Water  
Stewardship Council of February 11<sup>th</sup>  
2021 be adjourned.”***

***Moved by Andrew Petersen and seconded  
by Brian Guy.***

**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

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**Chair**

**Executive**

**Director**