

# Nanaimo River Watershed Roundtable

**Bowen Park Complex, Conference Room, 500 Bowen Road.**

**June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – 1:00 pm**

## **Meeting Notes**

**Participants in Attendance:** Gail Adrienne (NALT), Larry Bell (Recreational Paddlers), David Bramley (Harmac), Colin Brown (VIU), Rick Bryan (RCABC), Paul Chapman (NALT), Don Cohen (VIU), Bob Colclough (Nanaimo River Estuary LSA), Deryck Cowling (NALT/Community), Jessica Dorzinsky (RDN), Ken Epps (IT), Teunesha Evertse (VIU), Wayne Harling (Nanaimo Stewardship Society), Molly Hudson (TW), Bob Kissinger (IWFF), Rob Lawrance (CoN), Dave O'Brien (DFO), Julie Pisani (RDN), Louise Shuker (Community), Bill Sims (CoN), Marjorie Stewart (Community/Facilitator).

**1. Approval of Agenda** – Approved with additions, under NEW Business:

- **Concerns arising from Newspaper Article re: *Voices of the River***
- **Letter from Vancouver Island and Coast Conservation Society (VICCS)**
- **Recruitment for Communications Committee**
- **Watershed Petition**
- **DFO Chum Fishery Management**
- **TimberWest Open House**

**2. Review of Notes from Last Meeting, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013** – Approved as amended - to reflect that the water testing on the Nanaimo River has shown the water to be good water, which is healthy to drink.

### **3) Business Arising from Notes**

- **Committee Updates:**
  - **Communications Committee – Scott Akenhead**
    - An email from Scott has indicated that he needs to withdraw from his commitment with the Roundtable.
  - **Education and Awareness Committee – Deryck Cowling**
    - **Rivers' Day Planning**
      - The committee has met a couple of times to plan for activities associated with Rivers' Day.
      - Once the watershed tour details are confirmed, the information will be promoted in the City of Nanaimo's *Activity Guide*.
      - Louise Shuker indicated that the Friends of Morden Mine might have some insurance concerns which will need to be addressed for them to be able to participate.
      - Bob Colclough suggested that the Estuary Committee might have some resources to share for this event.

-Gail Adrienne mentioned that the activities will be promoted in both the June and September NALT newsletter.

-Julie Pisani thought there would be an opportunity to distribute information about Rivers' activities during the RDN school tours of the watershed.

- **Guidelines for Promotion**

-The committee has discussed some guidelines for promotion of the Roundtable. The committee sees its role as promoting the general aims of the Roundtable, while specific inquiries should be channeled to participant representatives.

**ACTION:** a list of contacts is needed for these representatives.

-The committee was reminded that the original impetus for these guidelines was to keep an inventory of which participants have circulated how many Roundtable brochures.

-It was noted that to expand the role of the committee to other activities (such as website content) or year- round promotional events will require more committee members.

- **Budget Committee – Gail Adrienne**

- **Real Estate Webmasters fundraising update**

**ACTION:** Need to follow-up with REW staff to gauge whether or not this is still an active fundraising initiative.

- **Smilecard update**

-Once the last Smilecard-funded initiative is completed (2<sup>nd</sup> edition of Baseline Report of the watershed), then a new application will be made for funding. The likely timeline for approval is the end of June. Participants will be notified.

- **Participant contributions update**

-In addition to the money pledged by TimberWest, Island Timberlands has committed \$800 to Roundtable operations.

-More participant support (cash, in-kind) is appreciated, and will be needed just to meet the level of minimal Roundtable operations.

- **Draft letter to SFN – Gail Adrienne**

-A draft letter addressed to the Snuneymuxw First Nation Chief and Council was distributed for information.

#### 4) New Business

- **SFN Presentation – Gail Adrienne**

-A general discussion took place about the merits of the Roundtable seeking to present to the SFN Chief and Council versus the efforts of individual participants to build a relationship with First Nations.

-It was agreed that participants on the Roundtable should continue individual efforts at relationship-building with SFN outside of the Roundtable.

- **2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the Nanaimo River Watershed Baseline Report – Paul Chapman**  
-The 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition is at the binder; once 50 bound copies are received the Smilecard fundraising program can be renewed for another year.
- **Concerns arising from Newspaper Article re: *Voices of the River***  
-A recent newspaper article in the Daily News indicated that the film, *Voices of the River*, is being donated to schools throughout the school district.  
-General discussion about information available to the schools regarding all the activities supported by the watershed.  
-There was no enthusiasm for support of this film being used in the classroom.  
-Not all participants had seen the film.  
**ACTION:** Paul Chapman will send a link to the film to all Roundtable participants.
- **Letter from Vancouver Island and Coast Conservation Society**  
-A letter from VICCS was received indicating concerns that the timing of Roundtable meetings might limit the participation of community groups while favouring government and corporate agencies.
- **Recruitment for Communications Committee**  
-With the withdrawal of Scott Akenhead from participation on the committee, a need for new committee members has been identified.  
-Bob Colclough will prepare a summary of committee findings for the next meeting of the Roundtable.
- **Watershed Petition**  
-A petition initiated by the Council of Canadians regarding public ownership of drinking water watersheds was circulated for information.
- **DFO Chum Fishery Management**  
**ACTION:** Dave O'Brien will circulate information about management plan review to participants via Paul Chapman
- **TimberWest Open House**  
**ACTION:** Molly Hudson will circulate information about TW's Open House via Paul Chapman.

**5) Next Meeting – At the TimberWest Offices (Port Place Mall) September 10<sup>th</sup>, 1 – 3 pm.**

**6) Adjournment: 2:45 pm**