

# Nanaimo River Watershed Roundtable

CUPE Boardroom 11/12 1850 Northfield Rd, Nanaimo.

September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – 1:00 pm

## NOTES

**In Attendance:** Erica Blake (DFO), Brad Bodnar (RFT), David Bramley (Harmac), Paul Chapman (NALT), Bob Colclough (LSA), Ken Epps (IT), Molly Hudson (TW), Pam Jorgenson (TW), Matt Kellow (VIU), Bob Kissinger (IWFF), Derek Nickel (Terra West Env.), Julie Pisani (RDN), June Ross (VIWW), Louise Shuker (community), Marjorie Stewart (community), Nicolette Watson (DFO)

Prior to the beginning of business, Paul informed the NRWR of Gail being on leave for the next while.

**1) Approval of Agenda** – approved as circulated

**2) Review of Notes from Last Meeting, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017** – approved as circulated

**3) Business Arising from Notes**

- **Committee Updates:**

- i. **Communications Committee – Bob Colclough**

- Bob suggested perhaps putting a year-end financial statement on the website. This might require more oversight from the Roundtable

- ACTION:** Paul to send Rivers Day information for the NRWR website.

- ii. **Budget Committee**

- Paul circulated a financial statement at the meeting and encourages people to contact him with their questions.

- Some discussion of preparing a year-end financial statement for Roundtable approval and inclusion on the website.

- 1. Admin/Structure**

- Discussion about possible admin structure involving the RDN and VIU.

- Matt reported meeting with Pam Shaw (VIU) to discuss possible involvement of MCP.

- It was suggested we consider it as a contracting of service rather than an executive role.

- It was suggested that the admin of the Roundtable could be rotated between the participants.

-Further exploration of this issue will take place at the committee level for report back to the NRWR. Molly Hudson, June Ross, Julie Pisani, Paul Chapman, Bob Colclough, Erica Blake, Matt Kellow and Louise Shuker offered to sit on the committee.

**ACTION:** Matt will arrange to meet with Pam Shaw (VIU) and the committee.

**ACTION:** Erica to share, via Paul, ToR of groups with Roundtable

### iii. Education and Awareness Committee – Paul Chapman

#### 1. Rivers Day Watershed Tours

**ACTION:** Paul to circulate Rivers Day info to the NRWR

- **Situation Map Update– Julie Pisani**

-Julie presented an update of the situation map which attempts to show and describe the relationship between different groups with the Nanaimo River watershed and with each other.

-It was suggested that the groups and group names mentioned on the map align with the groups and names used in the baseline report.

**ACTION:** Julie will explore upgrading mindomo account to allow for collaboration on map.

- **Data Gaps from Baseline Report – June Ross et al**

-Five participants have offered to follow-up with data gaps identified in the NR baseline report.

-The RDN is working on refining water budget information in the Cedar, Yellowpoint area as well as collecting additional data within the watershed.

-DFO is working on data gaps regarding fish and fish habitat.

**ACTION:** Nicolette to send link to the Cowichan Chinook website for Paul to share with the Roundtable.

- **Governance – Treasurer, Need for Funding – June Ross**

-tabled until admin/structure is clarified.

- **Budget Cuts to the Salmon Enhancement Program**

-In the face of wide spread resistance to planned budget cuts and program elimination, funding to the SEP.

## 4) New Business

- **Snuneymuxw Meeting – June Ross**

-June expressed frustration with the lack of a concerted effort by the Roundtable to communicate with and involve First Nations with the NRWR.

-Some participants described some successful project based collaboration with FN and thought that building on those relationships is the best way to engage FN in discussion about participation on the NRWR.

- **Mid-Island Regional Forestry Initiative MIRFI – Bob Colclough**

-Bob introduced the MIRFI, an initiative that has grown from an MoU between the LSA and SFN.

-MIRFI describes SFN full participation in the forestry industry including land transfer to SFN and SFN management of resource.

-Bob suggested that a NRWR letter of support for the initiative might help with discussions with the province to implement the plan.

**ACTION:** Bob will draft a statement of support for Roundtable participants to consider.

**ACTION:** Participants will follow up with their organizations to gauge support.

- **Watershed Assessment Guidance Status – Brad Bodnar**

-Brad gave an update and will present additional information as appropriate, likely early 2018.

-The Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABC FP) and Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC (APEGBC) set up a Task Force to work on watershed guidelines with two parts (1&2). 1-Guidance for Forest Professionals to develop a framework for watershed management, 2-Guidance for Watershed Specialists completing watershed analysis.

-The Task Force that the ABCFP and APEGBC set up was recommended by the Forest Practices Board.

-This process is mandated by the Water Sustainability Act.

- **Water Supply – Paul Chapman**

-From an email from Bill Sims:

If I can't make the meeting, please let the Roundtable know that Jump Lake is in good shape, and we're not anticipating any concerns between now and the rainy season.

Here's where we are:

- Remaining at Stage 2 restrictions
- Jump Lake is at 67% full
- Demand through August was in the 60 MLD range
- Demand for Sept has dropped to 50 MLD, with onset of cooler weather

**5) Next Meeting** - Jan 24<sup>th</sup> the Committee Room, first floor at the RDN office at 6300 Hammond Bay Rd.,  
**1:30 – 3:30 pm.**

**6) Adjourned at 2:55 pm**