

Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable Core Committee Meeting Notes

Date/Time: Wednesday, December 3, 2014 (9:30 am – Noon)
Location: Jack Cewe Hillside Office, 1850 Hillside Ave., Coquitlam, BC
Co-Chairs: Kirsten Wilson, George Turi

Attendees:

Sector	Organization	Core Committee Member
Local Government	City of Coquitlam (Council)	Chris Wilson
Local Government	City of Coquitlam (Staff)	Verne Kucy
Local Government	City of Coquitlam (Alternate)	Margaret Birch
Local Government	City of Port Coquitlam (Staff)	Steve Brown
First Nation	Kwikwetlem First Nation (Technical Advisor)	Craig Orr
Regional Government	Metro Vancouver, Water Management	Dave Dunkley
Federal Government	Fisheries and Oceans Canada	Maurice Coulter-Boisvert
Provincial Government	Ministry of Mines (Alternate)	Jim Dunkley
Aggregate Industry	Jack Cewe Ltd.	Kirsten Wilson
Aggregate Industry	Jack Cewe Ltd. (Alternate)	George Turi
Real Estate Development	Brook Pooni Associates, Urban Development Institute	Blaire Chisholm
Education	BCIT	Marvin Rosenau
Stewardship	North Fraser Salmon Assistance Program	Tony Matahlija
Stewardship	Tri-City Green Council	Elaine Willis
Stewardship	Port Coquitlam & District Hunting and Fishing Club	Norm Fletcher
Stewardship	Stewardship Alternate	Gordon Lewis
Arts and Culture	Arts Connect	Sherry Carroll
Roundtable Coordinator	Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable	Marni Turek
Presenter		Melissa Chaun
Observer	Jack Cewe Ltd.	Carmen Green
Observer		Jeff Rudd
Observer	Job shadowing at DFO	Gillian Dyk
Observer	Allard Contractors Ltd.	Jim Allard

Regrets: Councillor Darrell Penner, City of Port Coquitlam; Breanna Charleyboy, Kwikwetlem First Nation; Edie Thome, BC Hydro; Ed Taje, BC Ministry of Energy and Mines; Garry Elgear, Riverside Fly & Tackle.

9:30 Agenda Review

- Introduction of members and observers.

9:35 BC Water Sustainability Act: Water Leaders Forum and Cowichan Watershed Tour

Guest Presenter: Melissa Chaun, Ecologist and Roundtable Member

- Melissa Chaun provided an update after attending the “Water Leaders Forum” – a two-day event including a tour of the Cowichan Watershed. The forum was created by the POLIS Water Sustainability Project from the University of Victoria. Melissa reflected on lessons learned regarding hosting watershed tours.

10:00 Coordinator’s Report – 2014 in Review

- Marni Turek presented a video reflecting on and celebrating progress in 2014.

Action: Marni Turek will create a shorter version of the video and share it through eNews and social media (YouTube, Twitter, Facebook).

Action: Marni Turek will create a short bullet point list of recommendations going forward for 2015 and circulate it to the Core Committee.

- Craig Orr announced that TD Friends of the Environment Fund is providing \$5000 to Watershed Watch Salmon Society and that \$2000 will go to the operation of the Roundtable. Thank you very much to Craig for pursuing this funding. Craig left the meeting.

10:15 Level 1 Fish Habitat Assessment

Task Group: Dave Dunkley, Marvin Rosenau, Margaret Birch, Donna Underhill (Metro Vancouver), Robert Gunn (BCIT)

- Marvin provided an overview of the Level 1 Fish Habitat Assessment and next steps. He noted that Don McCubbing and his team at InStream Consultants did a fantastic job. The students were out on the river in September and covered 10km of river in two days. Lowland reaches were not covered due to consistency of areas and also because they are intertidal. The consultants covered more hazardous areas or conforming areas.
- A video was created by Marni Turek to showcase the Level 1 Habitat Assessment. It was presented to the Core Committee.
- The video was shared at a presentation to Metro Vancouver during an update on projects. Councillor Penner and Councillor Hodge were in attendance.
- A draft report by is expected by the end of the week. Margaret noted some of the report highlights. i.e. areas lacking gravel suitable for spawning, and noted that the off channel explanation will be defined further, given the amount of work by stewardship. The consultants will come back with some opportunities. There was discussion around the topic of large woody debris.
- Craig and Tony noted the off channel habitat work done that hasn't been included.
- Tony raised an issue that \$27000 in project money was returned to the funder because gravel needs to be stored for 2 years for making sure it's free from invasive species.

Dave Dunkley suggested he contact metro to supply the gravel. George Turi noted that Cewe has been approved for gravel used in watershed.

- The Task Group and other instructors will make presentation in the end and will look for follow up opportunities.
- Dave Dunkley noted the need to balance fisheries and other species.

10:45 Lower Coquitlam River Watershed Plan – Step 2 Action Planning

Task Group: Margaret Birch, Craig Orr, Gordon Lewis, Elaine Willis, Norm Fletcher, Maurice Coulter-Boisvert, Blaire Chisholm

- Margaret Birch recapped the previous steps in the watershed plan process, provided an update on current work (priority strategies, results chains, tracking system) and walked through two Results Chains examples.
- The WTG will need direction for completing the final steps, as the next Roundtable meeting to be held late in March or early April will be to present the Action Plan for the Lower Coquitlam River Watershed.

Action: Margaret Birch will arrange a WTG meeting with Abby and Michelle in late January/ early February 2015.

- The Core Committee supported the approach to complete draft general “results chains” for all strategies, and focus on completing three or four of the strategies fully so they would be ready to work on going forward.
- The Core Committee discussed what their preferences were for the WTG to pursue in further detail. The discussion was varied with support for all of the strategies:
 - Development: Development is a high-ranking pressure. Development and stormwater go hand in hand.
 - Recreation and Mainstream Cultural Norms: Choose ones that related to getting people to enjoy the river and care about the river.
 - Need to discuss the linkages between the various strategies and pressures – everyone has an impact, and a role.
 - Mainstream Cultural Norms: Some aspects can be integrated into other strategies (i.e. translating information into different languages).
 - Invasive Species: have capacity to implement.
 - Lack of stable support for Roundtable coordination – could affect implementation of the watershed action plan.
- Next Steps: Community Roundtable Meeting Planning for 2015 Launch of the Action Plan. To be discussed at the January 2015 meeting.

11:30 Proposed City of Coquitlam Zoning Amendment Bylaw – 1875 Pipeline Road

Presenter: Verne Kucy, A/Manager, Environmental Services, City of Coquitlam

- Verne Kucy provided an overview of the proposed zoning amendment.
- Concerns were expressed regarding:
 - Riparian setback and riparian area regulations.
 - Water management onsite, and runoff.
 - Appropriate use for land directly adjacent to the river.
- Discussion was held regarding how the operations would be governed going forward

(mines act/ municipal jurisdictions).

- Jim Allard noted the intent is to construct a building to restrict the noise and dust, and that a new building would meet the riparian setbacks.

11:30 Fundraising and Budget Update

Standing Committee: Margaret Birch (lead), Maurice Coulter-Boisvert, Gordon Lewis, Monte Anions

- Margaret Birch provided an update on the budget.
- Marni Turek noted that it would be useful to plan well enough into the future (e.g. 3-5 year plan) to ensure capacity is there to allow effective implementation of the watershed plan.
- To ensure the Roundtable has the capacity to implement the Action Plan, a strategy for stable funding to support coordination to continue the work of the Roundtable needs to be developed. Without a means of some stable base funding for Roundtable Coordination, implementation of any actions will be difficult. This strategy has been included in the list of priority strategies to highlight its importance to the Roundtable.

11:45 Communications and Outreach

Standing Committee: Marni Turek (lead)

- This topic was covered during the Coordinator's Report.
- Copies of the DFO PIP report were circulated.

11:50 Roundtable News and Updates

- Roundtable members brought forward news, updates and shared ideas.
- Blaire Chisholm: Helping consultation for riverview lands. Please go online at www.renewingriverview.com and vote for what people think would be the best things for the site. The survey is open to mid January 2015.
- George Turi: Cewe just survived a 200-year rain event.
- Margaret Birch: "Soundbites" – Gillian Fielding had collected soundbites from some members of the Core Committee. When Gillian provides you with those, can you please send to Marni Turek if you agree to the Roundtable using them in promotional materials.
- Tony Matahlija: Thanks to Caresse at the City of Coquitlam for the fish signs. Need to access the casino money.

11:30 Next Core Committee Meeting

Joint Meeting with BC Hydro Coquitlam Monitoring Committee

Wednesday, January 14, 2014:

- 9:00 am – 12:30 pm: BC Hydro Coquitlam Monitoring Committee Meeting
- 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm: Lunch
- 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm: Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable

Location:

- City of Coquitlam, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam

Co-Chairs:

- Councillor Chris Wilson, Margaret Birch, City of Coquitlam

Notes:

- Please note that Core Committee members who are not part of the BC Hydro Coquitlam Monitoring Committee are welcome to observe.

Action: Please RSVP to Margaret Birch if you are planning on coming so arrangements can be made for the lunch.

- Gillian Fielding, master's student, will be coming to make a presentation during the January Core Committee meeting – she is defending her thesis and will come present on the work she did with the Roundtable.

Action: Marni Turek will circulate an agenda during the first week of January 2015.