



Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable

*Kwikwetlem, known as "Red fish up the river."
A living river that reveals its spirit.*

Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable
Core Committee Meeting
Kwikwetlem First Nation
May 15, 2013

1 INTRODUCTION

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 am and concluded at 12:00 pm. Craig Orr and Dale Lessoway chaired the meeting. Gillian Fielding, SFU Master's Student took notes. Participants in the meeting:

Sector	Organization	Member (or Alternate)
Local Government	City of Coquitlam	Steffanie Warriner
Local Government	City of Port Coquitlam	Steve Brown
First Nations	Kwikwetlem First Nation	Dale Lessoway
First Nations	Kwikwetlem First Nation/ Watershed Watch Salmon Society	Craig Orr
Regional Government	Metro Vancouver	Dave Dunkley
Provincial Government	BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Natural Gas	Ed Taje (by phone)
Utilities	BC Hydro	Lesley Wood
Urban Development	Brook Pooni Associates, UDI	Blaire Chisholm
Aggregate Industry	Jack Cewe Ltd.	George Turi Kirstin Mide-Wilson (alternate)
Stewardship	North Fraser Salmon Assistance Program	Tony Matahlija
Stewardship	Stewardship	Gord Lewis
Arts and Culture	Arts Connect	Sherry Carroll

Observers: Pauline Bechtel (Kwikwetlem First Nation), Daniel Jordan (Flatiron - Graham),
Sandy LeMonnier (Maple Creek Streamkeepers, part)

Contractors: Krista Englund, CRW Roundtable Coordinator & Gillian Fielding (SFU REM student)

1 AGENDA REVIEW

- Introductions
- No changes were made to the agenda

2 LETTERS OF SUPPORT

- Background: The CRWR occasionally is asked to provide a letter to indicate support for project proposals and the CRWR would also like to provide letters of acknowledgement to organizations/individuals who make financial contributions to the Roundtable
- An action item arose at the last meeting for the coordinator to draft up some guidelines surrounding the provision of letters of support/acknowledgement
- A draft was circulated one week before the meeting
- Discussion points:
 - Letters of acknowledgement: Provide the CRWR emblem/logo for supporters to put on their business cards/windows etc. Publicize the Roundtable more.
 - Strongly agree with publicizing the Roundtable once letters of support are given etc. Put it in the Watershed E-News/Website etc.
 - The process should make it clear that requests for letters of support should go through the coordinator
 - Section A Part b: More of an investigative process. Address how groups unknown to the Roundtable will introduce themselves and their project (For example, make a small presentation to the Roundtable to ensure that activities are in line with vision/values/goals of Roundtable).
 - In summary, if the Roundtable is familiar with the group then we can provide a letter of support but if the group is unknown to the Roundtable and they request a letter of support without enough time to present something to the Roundtable, then the Roundtable cannot provide a letter of support.
 - Some concern and confusion was expressed about whether letters of support are required for any project within the watershed. It should be noted that proponents of projects in the watershed are **not** required to obtain a letter of support from the Roundtable to proceed with a project in the watershed. These guidelines only come into play when a proponent wishes to have a letter from the Roundtable because they believe that such a letter will strengthen their proposal and increase their chances of success.
 - Stick to a reasonable timeline – e.g. two weeks prior to their due date, no exceptions (which is included in the draft guidelines).
 - Proponents should be asked to indicate how they meet the guidelines.
 - Indicate perhaps in process notes that Core Committee meets only 6 times a year, so if someone is asking for support they may have to wait two months until the Core Committee meets again. Also how do you add people to the table? Would you want these people to sit on the table that are asking for the Roundtables support as you want to know what they are doing in the Roundtable?

ACTION: Krista to update the process notes based on this discussion then re-circulate to Core Committee for final approval at the next meeting.

ACTION: once finalized, the guidelines should be publicised through the eNews.

3 INTERIOR TO LOWER MAINLAND TRANSMISSION LINE

- Lesley Wood, BC Hydro Stakeholder Engagement specialist, was invited to give an update on the interior to lower mainland transmission line and was provided with a list of questions to answer in advance of the meeting. She was accompanied by Dan Jordan, Environmental Compliance Manager for Flatiron - Graham, A Joint Venture. FGJV is BC Hydro's design, procure and build contractor for the ILM transmission line.
- The interior to lower mainland transmission line is about 250 km, stretching from Merritt to the Meridian substation in Coquitlam
- The line is needed because demand for electricity is increasing in lower mainland and Vancouver Island. Current lines are nearing capacity and are not efficient. We have enough power in the province, but we have a transmission problem – the existing lines are reaching the stage where they cannot carry enough electricity to meet demand.
- Public outreach for the project started in 2005. Construction is now underway and falling has begun in the Coquitlam River watershed. Falling and foundation work are happening concurrently and both are expected to be complete by end of 2013. Line and tower construction will proceed in 2014/early 2015.
- Many sites have been cleared already, except the 3 sites closest to river, which will be helicopter logged. At these sites, stumps and low growing vegetation (anything under 3 m at maturity) is left in place. Vegetation at stream crossings is removed by handfalling.
- The route follows the route of existing transmission lines in the watershed.
- Discussion points:
 - Concerns regarding logging/clearing under the lines due to property that is there and increased concerns of bank erosions/potential risk of slides.
 - **BC Hydro Response**
 - Geo-technical engineers complete studies around the area to ensure that any activity taken place will not increase risk of landslide within their work area. They only perform these studies within their work area, not beyond it.
 - All studies for their work areas are posted online which include the geo-technical studies.
 - Environmental Assessment studies were done 500 m on both sides of transmission line as part of the application for a Provincial Environmental Assessment Certificate for the project.
 - Concerns regarding stability of slope above Pipeline Road
 - **BC Hydro Response**
 - Experts/Registered professionals come up with the prescription for best practices to work in this area (e.g. topping instead of falling trees). Metro Vancouver and City of Coquitlam are also concerned

about this slope as well (a lot of people are working to ensure stability of this slope).

- Concerns regarding increased flow into gravel areas
 - **BC Hydro Response**
 - Culverts have been installed to ensure existing drainage. No water has been redirected, no increase in flow. Significant efforts are being made to ensure existing drainage.
- Concerns regarding increased recreational access
 - **BC Hydro Response**
 - Temporary roads will be decommissioned
- Concerns regarding use of pesticides along transmission line
 - **BC Hydro Response**
 - No pesticides are used during the construction phase but pesticides are used for maintenance purposes in some locations. No blanket application of pesticide use. They do targeted applications on specific species (e.g. fast growing deciduous species) by professionals, according to approved pest management plans.
 - Lesley to send Krista the pest management plan.
- Concerns regarding earthquakes
 - **BC Hydro Response**
 - Specific seismic requirements are in design plan.
- Compensation work for impacts to the watershed.
 - **BC Hydro Response**
 - No requirements for compensation work for impacts to the watershed for this project.
 - Received a letter of advice from DFO: How to proceed with the project without impacting fish bearing streams.
 - DFO has not been very active in this project but Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO) have been active as well as audits from Environmental Assessment Office.
- Notification of public regarding when clearing, etc.
 - **BC Hydro Response**
 - Send out updates on status of project
 - Letters/advertising in local papers regarding helicopter work
- Lesley recommended we contact her if there are more questions and she will be able to funnel the questions to the right person.

4 BC HYDRO PARTICIPATION

- Krista Englund met with several representatives of BC Hydro to ask for input on the watershed plan on Thursday March 28th and also notify them of the Core Committee's concern regarding the lack of participation by BC Hydro
- Following the meeting, a letter was drafted to request participation by the Environmental Risk Management department (Director Edie Thome) and circulated to the CC for approval
- The letter was sent to Edie Thome on April 23, 2013
- A follow phone call was held with Edie on April 29th to answer questions about the CRWR
- In response, Edie wrote the following on April 30: "As discussed, please leave BC Hydro on your "core committee". If you can send the agendas etc. to my attention, I will review with my team and determine when and who from BC Hydro could add value to the conversations. We can also attempt to coordinate meeting times with other watershed groups and can also do that through my office."
- Discussion:
 - Kwikwetlem First Nation Chief spoke to BC Hydro and requested that they delegate someone to sit on the Roundtable who has decision making power, not just a liaison. Chief also indicated concerns about cuts to the trap and truck program for sockeye salmon and wish to continue to see plans to install a fish ladder. **Discuss this aspect (fish ladder) at another meeting.**
 - Kwikwetlem First Nation could prepare a letter with the City of Coquitlam to request participation by a decision maker from BC Hydro.
 - Core Committee members agreed that it is important for BC Hydro to have regular participation from an individual who is knowledgeable about their operations in the watershed.

ACTION: Craig to distribute Metro Vancouver's water quality assessment regarding sockeye reintroduction once approved.

5 WATERSHED PLAN ROUNDTABLE

- **Task Group:** Margaret Birch, Craig Orr, Maurice Coulter-Boisvert, Gord Lewis, Elaine Willis, Norm Fletcher, Blaire Chisholm, Krista Englund and Gillian Fielding (student)
- Krista Englund provided an update of recent discussions and recommendations of the Watershed Plan Task Group:

Status of Watershed Plan (see Appendix A)

- Goal statements were developed for each component
- Some of the attributes have been refined, dropped, combined in an effort to simplify, but components remain the same
- Efforts continue to select appropriate indicators and complete the viability assessment/ health rating

- Still need assistance with this – any help that can be provided would be much appreciated!

ACTION: Core Committee members to provide feedback on goal statements, attributes, indicators, health ratings to Krista by next Wednesday, May 22

Roundtable Meeting June 6

- At the November 3, 2012 Roundtable meeting, we told participants that we would take their input and generate components and then bring that back for review
- The original timeline called for a second Roundtable this spring and it was decided that early June would be the best time to give the Task Group sufficient time to prepare components, attributes and indicators for review by the Roundtable
- Appropriate venues (Coquitlam City Hall, Evergreen Cultural Centre) were investigated and several dates selected
- Early evening Thursday, June 6th at Coquitlam City Hall was chosen as the only possible date on which Devon Knight Events, Abby Hook, and Task Group members were available to help pull off the event (weekends in June are heavily booked already with competing events like Teddy's Bear Picnic, Environmental Achievement awards, fishing derby)
- A draft agenda for the Roundtable was circulated; it was pointed out that the purpose of this meeting will be to:
 - Confirm components, attributes and goal statements
 - Obtain feedback on indicators, health assessment and sources of data
 - Identify challenges (pressures)
- The format will include providing attendees with a light dinner and some entertainment from 5 - 6 pm
- Starting at 6 pm, Abby Hook and Krista Englund will give a half hour presentation to update participants on the Open Standards Process and how we've gotten to where we are now
- Following the presentation, participants will be invited to visit 3 of 5 stations
- At each station, there will be posters (see Appendix A) and Task Group members to give a brief introduction to the component, attribute and indicators. Participants will be asked to provide written feedback on the component on a form provided at the station (see Appendix B) and will be entered into a prize draw upon handing in their completed form.
- Due to June 6 being quite late in the spring and potential conflicts with graduation and other late spring activities, the task Group recommended that we also set up the ability for Roundtable participants to provide feedback online
- We are in the process of getting set up on PlaceSpeak, so we can upload a questionnaire and materials there and people can provide feedback that way. We are hoping to take some video during the June 6 Roundtable so that people can attend their own virtual version of the meeting.
- Discussion:
 - Could the meeting be moved later into June? No, it would be very difficult and way more work to move at this time.

- Entertainment – doing a blanketing ceremony is culturally sensitive. Should be considered for a future date. Better options would be light music and/or videos.
- Volunteers for stations: Sherry station 5, George station 3
- Prizes – Steffanie, Steve, Craig, Krista, possibly Blaire
- Feedback form – add space for additional comments; space to qualify their opinions
- Posters – should indicate DRAFT
- Important to include timelines associated with desired future conditions or goals.
- Future watershed cafe – art show, floor map (Roger Loubert)

6 UPDATES

- **Walmart-Evergreen Grant**

- Unfortunately, the funding application submitted for an interactive display of the watershed plan on River's Day was not successful.
- The feedback from the program coordinator was as follows: "Please be advised that nearly half of all applications come from Ontario and British Columbia, compared to the other provinces and territories combined. Therefore, you can imagine that a number of projects are not funded. The Review Committee really liked your project. I know that this probably isn't helpful, but all of the feedback was overwhelming positive, from the high degree of community support to the hands-on component. If you were to reapply, I recommend focusing on the same themes that the Review Committee liked last time: community support, community engagement, volunteer opportunities, and hands-on opportunities. Moreover, I would encourage you to consider opportunities for employee engagement."
- It might be worth reapplying next year, perhaps with a smaller budget.

- **Clean Air Champions**

- The CRWR was approached by Clean Air Champions early in the year and asked to partner on a watershed project in 2014. Following discussion at the March CC meeting, where we agreed to pursue this opportunity, Krista communicated with the executive director of Clean Air Champions to develop a project concept and timeline that would meet both our needs and fit with the larger, national Water Wise program being developed by Clean Air Champions.
- After exploring options with the City of Coquitlam (Jagoda Kozikowska), Port Coquitlam (Todd Gross, Chris Pardek), and Colony Farm (Alison Evely at Metro Vancouver, Craig Orr and Tanis Gower at Watershed Watch, Dale Lessoway at KFN), we decided a project on Earth Day 2014 at Gates Park in Port Coquitlam would be the best fit for this project due to the facilities at the park and the opportunities for hands on activities, including planting, invasive species removal and garbage pickup.
- Krista provided an outline of the project, which would involve a high school class and 30 HSBC employees attending a one day event on Earth Day to learn about the watershed

and engage in an invasive species removal, planting and garbage pickup, for \$6,400 to the Clean Air Champions to include in their funding proposal to HSBC.

- The executive director of Clean Air Champions called on Monday, May 13 to inform her that HSBC does not have additional funds to allocate to 2014 at this time; we are being invited to reapply in fall 2013.

- **Master's Student Projects**

- Ashley Lowcock's proposal to UBC's Chapman and Innovation Grant was unfortunately not successful
- Gillian Fielding's proposal to Mitac's was successful
- At the march meeting, the CC agreed to a budget that allocated \$7,500 to student work on the watershed plan and supporting the Roundtable through the summer
- This funding was used to leverage an additional \$7,500 through the Mitac's program, which will provide funds for Gillian to complete her thesis on the watershed plan

- **Jack Cewe Ltd**

- Jack Cewe has confirmed a contribution of \$5,000 cash and \$2,500 in kind to the Roundtable
- The in kind contribution will be in the form of staff (George Turi) and web programming time to assist with meeting or event coordination, and website design

ACTION: Krista to provide a letter of acknowledgement

- **Metro Vancouver**

- Margaret submitted a report by April 30th to Metro Vancouver as required
- We have been requested to provide a delegation at the Parks Committee meeting on Thursday June 13th in the morning (9 am-noon) to accompany our request for additional funding for 2014
- Volunteers: Margaret, Sherry, and Dale

- **Environmental Achievement Awards**

- With help from Margaret, Krista nominated the Roundtable for an environmental achievement award to recognize the outstanding contributions being made by the Core Committee and the broader Roundtable
- Members of the Core Committee are invited to attend the award ceremony on June 8th from 4:30-7:30 at the Dogwood Pavilion in Coquitlam

- **Canada Day**

- Roundtable has been invited to have a booth at Town Centre Park on July 1, 2013
- Gord Lewis is available to attend on behalf of the Roundtable
- Port Coquitlam is also having a Canada Day celebration and volunteers are welcome to take a second Roundtable display to this event

- **River's Day**

- The PoCo River's and Trails Task Force has convened this year to play a River's Day event in Port Coquitlam at Peace Park on the Pitt River and Lion's Park on the Coquitlam River on Sunday, September 29th.
- Krista Englund has attended their last two monthly task force meetings to explore how the Roundtable might be able to participate in the event
- The River's and Trails Task Group was supportive of the Roundtable's proposal to Evergreen to have a series of stations along the river, but they also welcome the Roundtable to attend as an exhibitor at Lion's Park
- Given the funding proposal to Evergreen was not successful, Krista recommends that the Roundtable attend as an exhibitor at Lion's Park
- Sandy LeMonnier attended the meeting and invited Core Committee members to attend the Lion's Park celebrations
- **Watershed Café and Survey (Craig)**
 - Watershed Café on spirituality is being planned for Wednesday, May 29th
 - Place Speak survey underway
- **Tree Fest**
 - Is the Roundtable planning to participate this year?
 - The Roundtable had a booth last year and could do the same this year, as long as a volunteer is available to attend

7 NEXT MEETINGS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

- Wednesday, May 29, 7-8:30 pm: Watershed Café: Spirituality and our watershed
- Thursday, June 6, 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm: Roundtable Watershed Plan Workshop
- Wednesday, July 10 or July 17, 9 am – noon: Watershed Plan Task Group
- Wednesday, September 11, 9 am – noon: Core Committee meeting