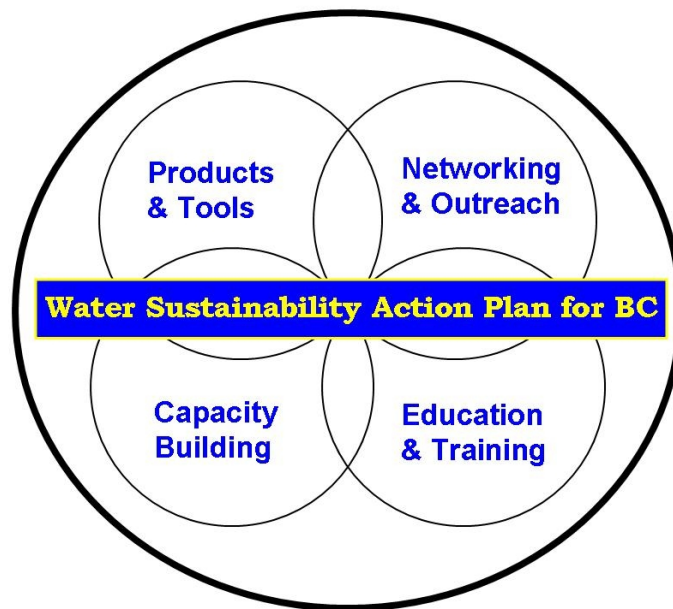




**the partnership
for water sustainability in bc**

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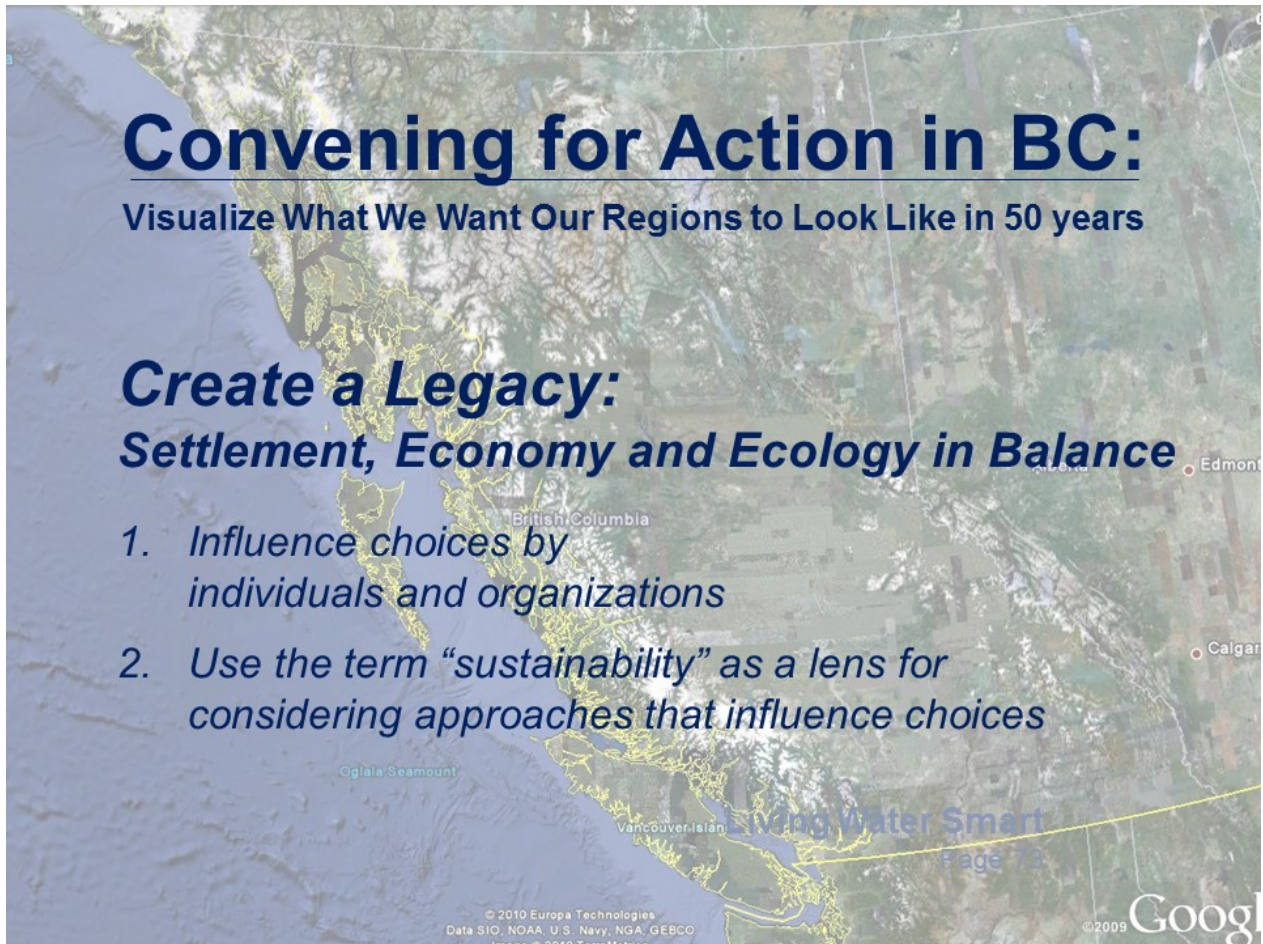
For adoption at the Annual General Meeting held at 12:00pm on December 1, 2015
at the Radisson Hotel, Richmond, BC

Convening for Action in BC:

Visualize What We Want Our Regions to Look Like in 50 years

Create a Legacy: Settlement, Economy and Ecology in Balance

1. *Influence choices by individuals and organizations*
2. *Use the term “sustainability” as a lens for considering approaches that influence choices*



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The Partnership originated as an inter-governmental initiative 15 years ago, became the BC Water Sustainability Committee in 2003, and then 5 years ago on November 19, 2010 was incorporated as a not-for-profit society.

The purpose of incorporation of the Partnership as a society is to ensure the legacy of the tools and initiatives developed under the umbrella of the Water Sustainability Action Plan for British Columbia.

The mission of the Partnership is to develop tools and talent, and focus on outcomes that align regional and local actions with a provincial policy, program and regulatory framework for achieving water and watershed sustainability.

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President's Perspective

Celebrating Milestones

The Partnership for Water Sustainability in BC (PWSBC) is now five years old as a legal entity. The date of incorporation of the society was November 19, 2010. It seems that we just started yesterday. Five fruitful years have flown by! Another milestone that 2015 marks the third consecutive year that we have partnered with the Irrigation Industry Association of BC to deliver a “sharing & learning” event in conjunction with our AGM.

In 2014, at a Victoria venue, PWSBC and IIABC co-hosted “*Convening for Action on Vancouver Island: How Managing Water Now...Will Shape the Future*”. The overarching message was about climate change and visioning how we collectively want the Island to look like in 50 years. This year’s workshop, titled “*Feast and Famine – Solutions and Tools in Response to a Changing Climate in BC*”, takes a more direct approach to discussing adaptation and issues regarding climate change in the Lower Mainland.

Water Sustainability Act: As stated in my Presidents Report last year, the Province passed the new Water Sustainability Act in 2014 and is currently working on implementation. Groundwater will be one of the first initiatives being tackled by the province. It is estimated that 20,000 existing wells will be required to be licensed. While conducting outreach on groundwater with agricultural producers, the Province was requested by the agricultural community to develop a tool that producers could use to determine how much water they should be applying for in an irrigation license. This created a partnership opportunity for PWSBC to make a material difference.

Agriculture Irrigation Licensing Tool: PWSBC has secured funding from the Province, Investment Agriculture Foundation and the Okanagan Basin Water Board to build the agriculture water licensing tool. This tool will be on-line and will use results from the Agriculture Water Demand Model (AWDM) to allow producers to quickly determine the irrigation needs. The climate data in the AWDM is now operational for the entire province and this feature will be used to determine irrigation demand on a 500 m grid covering the province. It is expected that a user can just click on their property and immediately obtain a result on irrigation demand for the property. This tool is expected to be completed by March 2016.

Agriculture Water Demand Model: PWSBC is now in year two of a three year agreement with the Ministry of Agriculture to continue delivery of the Agriculture Water Demand Model program. This past year the Shuswap region and portions of the Cariboo have been surveyed to compile the land use inventory information. The AWDM was also

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run for the entire Peace River using default cropping values. A methodology for obtaining the Peace River land use inventory is still being investigated. PWSBC also facilitated the completion of the resurvey of the Okanagan Valley. One of the major tasks that will be done over the next few years is completing soil data attributes for many of the regions where good soil data is not available.

Water Balance Model: The Water Balance Model Express continues to expand in application. Four versions are currently operational: District of North Vancouver, Cowichan Valley Regional District, City of Surrey and Comox Valley Regional District. Next will be the City of Coquitlam. As an outcome of the *2014 Across Canada Workshop Series*, PWSBC has partnered with the Pitu'Paq Partnership in Nova Scotia to implement an Atlantic Canada version of the Water Balance Express, Similar to PWSBC, Pitu'Paq is incorporated as a society. Pitu'Paq is unique because it comprises the five local governments and five First Nations of Cape Breton.

In 2016, PWSBC will add a third tool to the family of Water Balance tools. The Expert User Interface will provide enhanced access to the QUALHYMO engine.

Water Conservation Calculator: Extensive upgrades were initiated to the Water Conservation Calculator in 2015. It is expected that the upgraded tool will be launched sometime in 2016.

A Look Ahead: The Partnership will continue to implement the *Water Sustainability Action Plan* in 2016 and will look for new opportunities and activities that can help us celebrate our successes and build on Action Plan initiatives such as:

- Georgia Basin Inter-Regional Education Initiative (IREI)
- Convening for Action on Vancouver Island initiative (CAVI)
- waterbucket.ca website

Success can only be accomplished through the integration of efforts of practitioners including our many partners in the provincial government, local governments and non-profit societies. Our successes are only possible with your support and efforts.

I thank the PWSBC leadership team - Kim Stephens, Richard Boase, Eric Bonham, Glen Brown, Raymond Fung, Peter Law, Tim Pringle, Mike Tanner and Derek Richmond - for their insight and direction. As a team we have many exciting initiatives planned. If anyone reading this is interested in working with us please feel free to contact any of the above.

Ted van der Gulik
President
Partnership for Water Sustainability
December 2015



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Report from the Treasurer

Incorporated as a not-for-profit society under the Societies Act of BC, the Partnership:

- has two principal sources of income: grants and Water Balance Model annual subscription fees;
- relies on the substantial in-kind contributions by members and partner organizations to develop tools and deliver programs; and
- has minimal overhead expenses and is initiative-oriented, with revenue and expenses tracked by initiative or project.

In addition to our General Account, the Partnership has initiated funding for seven projects and/or initiatives. All are tracked under the Financial Accounting System. For the fiscal year ending on **August 31, 2015** revenues and expenses are tabulated below:

	REVENUE	EXPENSES	BALANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR
General Account	\$30,572	\$15,131	\$15,441
Water Balance Model	\$36,300	\$31,672	\$4,628
Convening for Action in BC	\$21,000	\$54,146	-\$33,146
Waterbucket Website	\$0.00	\$2,055	-\$2,055
Ag Water Demand Model	\$274,500	\$228,901	\$45,599
Water Conservation Calculator	\$0	\$10,204	-\$10,204
Across Canada Workshop Series	\$15,000	\$54,157	-\$39,157
Small Contracts	\$16,452	\$16,422	-\$30

Footnotes to the Financial Statement:

1. For items in the table above where Fiscal 2015 expenses exceed revenue, the differences were in fact funded by the carry-over from Fiscal 2014.
2. The bank balance of the society carried forward from Fiscal 2015 into Fiscal 2016 is \$300,168.
 - a. The year-end bank balance has decreased slightly when compared to \$301,015 in 2014 because expenses are higher than new funding received for projects listed above.
 - b. However, most of this funding is committed through established work plans.
 - c. Ongoing plus additional contracts to be completed and/or executed in Fiscal 2016 are expected to draw down the bank balance during the upcoming year.
3. The Executive Director is engaged by the society under two or more contracts to develop and deliver the society's outreach and education program.

Mike Tanner,
Treasurer
Partnership for Water Sustainability in BC
December 2015



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Report from the Executive Director

Develop Tools and Talent; Focus on Outcomes

November 19, 2010 is indeed a memorable date in the annals of the Partnership for Water Sustainability in British Columbia. November 19 is the date of record for incorporation of an inter-governmental initiative as a not-for-profit society.

Five Years Ago: The 2010 Land Summit, hosted by the Real Estate Foundation on November 19, is the “event of record” at which the Partnership was announced to a provincial audience. A fact known to only a few is that we had been negotiating with the Premier’s Office to have Premier Gordon Campbell make the announcement at the Summit. Alas, the Premier resigned two weeks before the event. Oh well, politicians come and go. So we have learned to carry on with our mission – which is to develop tools and talent, and focus on outcomes.

Inter-Regional Collaboration: We are particularly proud of what we are facilitating via the *Georgia Basin Inter-Regional Education Initiative*. Launched in 2012, the IREI is a partnership of five regional districts representing 75% of BC’s population. The IREI is enabling “sharing & learning” through inter-regional collaboration. Everyone benefits. Why reinvent the wheel when you can adapt what others are successfully doing?

In this regard, we collectively have spent a generation building up expectations about living water smart and designing with nature in the urban setting so that we can successfully adapt to a changing climate. On the one hand, there is reason for optimism. On the other hand,....

Inter-Generational Memory & Continuity of Understanding: We are now at a defining moment in time because the accelerating wave of land and water practitioners retiring from the work force is resulting in a loss of institutional memory. Also, there is a loss of firsthand understanding of what works in practice, and what does not.

Overnight a generation of cumulative understanding – of what needs to be done to achieve a vision for ‘restorative development’ and how to do it – could be lost. The urgent need to provide ‘continuity of understanding’ is an emerging issue within government where decisions about land and water are made on a daily basis, and reverberate through time.

For these reasons, the pressure is increasingly on a small band of experienced volunteers to bridge the mentoring gap over the next decade. This is an inter-generational responsibility that the Partnership for Water Sustainability has embraced. This is our commitment.

Kim A. Stephens,
Executive Director
Partnership for Water Sustainability in BC
December 2015

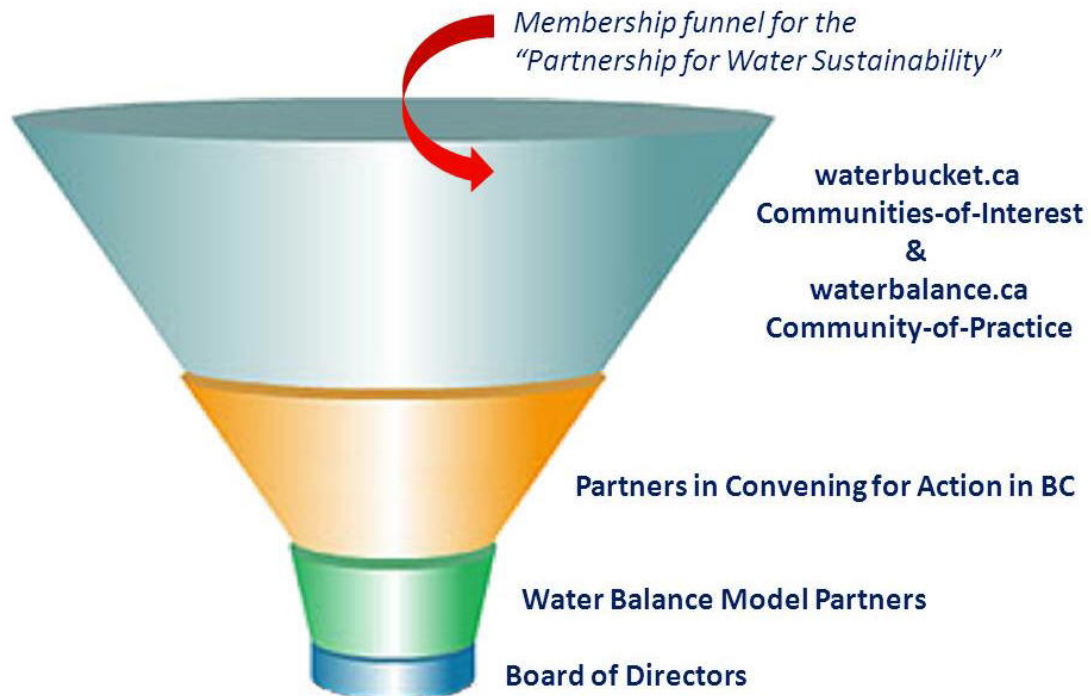
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kim A. Stephens". The signature is fluid and cursive, matching the printed name above it.



Report from the Membership Chair

Categories of Membership

The graphic below represents the "Membership funnel" where the Board encourages "inclusivity" of all stakeholders in water sustainability, from those non-paying members at the top of the funnel, to the paying members who play an active role in developing tools and educational materials, to Board members who set direction for the society.



The Partnership's three categories of membership, the associated annual fees, and voting privileges (or not) are listed as follows:

1	Associate	Free	Non-Voting
2	Professional	\$100 per year	Voting
3	Organization (corporate)	\$250 per year	Voting

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About the Membership Categories

Briefly:

- **ASSOCIATE (non-voting):** Anyone with an interest in water sustainability or green infrastructure can join as a non-voting member just by going to waterbucket.ca and registering online. Since September 2012, over 380 individuals have signed up (with 100 people joining in the past year alone!).
- **PROFESSIONAL (voting):** This category is for individuals who wish to “make a difference” and play a hands-role in contributing to the Partnership's mission. To date, we have 47 members in this category (an increase of 34 new members this year!).
- **ORGANIZATION (voting):** This category currently totals 22 organizations local governments and consultants that are Water Balance Model (WBM) Partners and Subscribers, respectively.

In addition to the three categories of membership above, the Partnership has two other categories: **Lifetime Members (6)** and **Champion Supporters (20)**.

- **CHAMPION SUPPORTERS:** This designation recognizes agencies and organizations that provide substantial financial and/or in-kind support that in turn enables the Partnership to develop tools and deliver programs under the umbrella of *the Water Sustainability Action Plan for British Columbia*.

Stories about the Champion Supporters are posted on the waterbucket.ca website at: <http://waterbucket.ca/cfa/category/partnership-for-water-sustainability-in-bc/champion-supporters/>

In 2015, and to stimulate new membership, the Board implemented a policy to incorporate a “membership” fee into the registration cost for all PWS sponsored events. The objective is to “engage” members by providing learning opportunities that will lead to networking with our PWS leadership team.

Climate change is forcing everyone to do business differently, and we look to our membership to guide us in the promotion of water sustainability.

Elections to the Board

At the 2015 Annual General Meeting, there will be an election of members to fill two (2) Director positions on the Partnership's Board. *Professional* members, who have submitted a notice for nomination, are posted on page 8. Directors are elected for a 3-year term.

Peter Law
Membership Chair
Partnership for Water Sustainability
December 2015





Report from the Chair of CAVI-Convening for Action on Vancouver Island

Inter-Regional Collaboration & A Vision for Vancouver Island

Convening for Action on Vancouver Island (CAVI), one of the Partnership's key programs involving practitioners is evolving. During the past year CAVI has worked on collaboration and information exchange among groups in local government settings. Emerging emphasis reflects their need to develop asset management plans focused on infrastructure and

“This has been a year of distinctive advancement in the general premise of ‘we get it, now let’s implement it’ approach as it relates to asset management and ecological balance.”

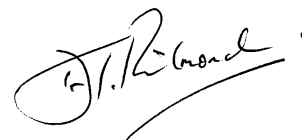
sustainable service delivery. This lens puts a stronger focus on water sustainability and the role of natural assets in the civil services of local government infrastructure.

During the next two years, CAVI will realize its goals through two commitments, the Inter-regional Education Initiative (IREI) and the **Ecological Accounting Protocol** project. The IREI will support practitioners to integrate their knowledge and development of policy and practices to meet asset management objectives and enhanced watershed sustainability.

The Ecological Accounting Protocol project addresses the fundamental challenge of comparing costs of infrastructure works and the value of civil services drawn from natural assets. While the principles of ‘getting it right at the front end’, ‘balancing ecology with economy’ and ‘asset management vs. infrastructure liability’ are well understood and subscribed to (by the regional groups), the hard link of proof of concept has been, until now, elusive. We now have the opportunity to apply the principles of ‘ecological cost accounting’ to two watersheds (Brooklyn Creek and the Queens Ditch in the Comox Valley) in collaboration with the Eco-Asset Strategy approach used by the Town of Gibsons. Their Eco-Asset Strategy illustrates one policy approach to include natural assets in the asset management plans of a municipality.

At the same time, CAVI has not lost its ‘Vision for Vancouver Island’ for 50 years as an important component of how we plan for the long-term. The initiatives outlined above reflect the awareness of many practitioners that today’s decisions about land and natural assets determine the future prosperity of our communities.

Derek Richmond
CAVI Chair
Partnership for Water Sustainability
December 2015



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Nominees for 2016 Board of Directors (2 positions)



PETER LAW has volunteered his time to undertake many important Partnership functions, such as recording secretary and Membership Chair. “My principle interest in seeking the nomination is the promotion of Water Sustainability as it pertains to the restoration of our small streams and how this is linked to maintaining a watershed’s health. As a Provincial Biologist with the Ministry of Environment for 30+ years, I became acutely aware of how our existing land development practices are causing natural systems to degrade. I have supported the need for ‘change’ through educational approaches promoted by the Partnership to *Design with Nature*.”



MIKE TANNER is Chair of the Waterbucket Website and Partnership Treasurer. He retired as a Senior Manager with BC Hydro’s Power Smart Program. “Recognizing a need for a single point of access to news, information and tools for sustainable water management in BC, we launched the waterbucket.ca website in 2005,” says Mike. “By providing universal access to information, we believe we will continue to see ever-improving standards of practice in all aspects of land development and water resource management.”

Current Directors (4 positions)



RICHARD BOASE is the District of North Vancouver’s Environmental Protection Officer. Richard is also Co-Chair of the Water Balance Model initiative. “Getting involved in the Partnership was simply the right thing to do,” reflects Richard. “This belief is what drives my personal commitment to fulfilling my own ecological and sustainable vision. Our water is the most precious commodity on the planet. Through the Partnership, I saw a way of contributing and making a difference to sustain this resource, which is a right for all, in a way that appealed to me immensely.”



TIM PRINGLE was the founding Executive Director of the Real Estate Foundation of BC, and served in that capacity for 20 years. “A number of creative and experienced volunteers direct the work of the Partnership and help implement its programs,” says Tim. “I am privileged to work with them and to be able to pursue my passion to see BC communities adopt a more integrated approach to stewardship of land and water. The Partnership’s goal is to help communities implement designing with nature strategies as a basic step to managing settlement change in balance with ecology makes perfect sense.”



DEREK RICHMOND retired from the City of Courtenay in 2013. He has served as Chair of CAVI-Convening for Action on Vancouver Island since 2011. “My passion for water resources and the environment has been with me from an early age. As a practitioner with more than 40 years in engineering and environmental issues, I am fortunate to have been involved in a wide variety of projects and initiatives across Canada, and in the USA and the UK. I see an opportunity to apply experience gained during my career to the visioning that will help steer us in the right direction to maintain water resources in balance with ecology, economy and education,” says Derek.



TED VAN DER GULIK is chair of the Water Balance Model initiative and also led the Agriculture Water Demand Project initiative for the Province. In February 2014, he retired from the Ministry of Agriculture after 35 years of service as the Senior Engineer in the Sustainable Agriculture Management Branch in Abbotsford. “The Water Balance Model was the driving force behind the formation of the Partnership and continues to provide a strong link to the other projects that have been initiated,” says Ted.

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A Selection of Initiatives and Tools

<p>Convening for Action in BC</p> <p>www.conveningforaction.ca</p>	<p>This is the ‘convening for action’ mantra: <i>When we gather; it is for a purpose. There must be an action item or an outcome.</i> Committed to achieving settlement in balance with ecology and economy, the grass-roots collective partnership approach is founded upon collaboration. It reaches across boundaries. It brings together those who plan and regulate land use (local government) those who build (developers) and those who provide the legislative framework (the Province).</p> <p>This collaborative model results in the provision of expertise and support to local governments and organizations with a focus on achieving water sustainability through the sharing of ideas and success stories based upon a common vision.</p>
<p>Georgia Basin Inter-Regional Education Initiative</p> <p>www.vancouverislandwater.ca</p>	<p>Launched in 2012, the <i>Inter-Regional Educational Initiative for ‘Rainwater Management in a Watershed Sustainability Context’</i> provides local governments with a mechanism for collaboration. Secondly, it provides the framework for consistent messaging and consistent application of tools and understanding. Thirdly, it helps the champions in each region understand what the other regions are doing, what works and what does not.</p> <p>Now, the Metro Vancouver region and four largest Vancouver Island regional districts are collaborating to make the link between local government services, the infrastructure that supports the delivery of those services, and watershed health.</p>
<p>Beyond the Guidebook Primer Series</p>	<p>With release of <i>Stormwater Planning: A Guidebook for British Columbia</i> in 2002, BC was the first province or state in North America to adopt the Water Balance Methodology. This enables local governments to establish performance targets for land use. The goal is to protect watershed and stream health.</p> <p>The “Beyond the Guidebook Primer Series” is adding depth to specific aspects of the Guidebook. The goal is to inform and educate infrastructure, land use and environmental professionals about core concepts related to implementing actions at the site scale that will achieve desired outcomes at the watershed scale.</p>
<p>Water Balance Model for BC</p> <p>www.waterbalance.ca</p>	<p>Developed in 2003 as an extension of <i>Stormwater Planning: A Guidebook for BC</i>, the <i>Water Balance Model</i> is a web-based tool for doing scenario comparisons. It links the site to the watershed and stream. It helps communities establish performance targets and ‘design with nature’ so that land development mimics the water balance. The model is tailored to multiple levels of users who have a wide range of technical backgrounds, from hydrology experts to stewardship groups.</p>
<p>Waterbucket Website</p> <p>www.waterbucket.ca</p>	<p>Recognizing a need for a single point of access to news, information and tools for sustainable water management in BC, the waterbucket.ca website was launched in 2005. The site supports an array of virtual “communities of interest” with features that resemble those of a real community as well as a growing library of information resources on the BC experience and it houses “Made in BC” tools and experience.</p>
<p>Water Conservation Calculator</p> <p>www.waterconservationcalculator.ca</p>	<p>Designed for use by small to mid-size communities, the <i>Water Conservation Calculator</i> is a free, web-based decision-support tool. It is used to illustrate how specific water conservation measures can yield both fiscal and physical water savings for communities. It can be used to assist communities in meeting the conditional requirements of provincial capital grant programs while meeting both local and provincial commitments to water sustainability.</p>