



# the partnership for water sustainability in bc



## Ted van der Gulik

Director & President  
Chair, Water Balance Model Initiative

After retiring as the Senior Engineer with the Ministry of Agriculture, Ted has fully engaged with both the Partnership and Irrigation Industry Association (as chair of the Certification Board). He continues to undertake tasks that support the work of the Province to advance development of both the Agriculture Water Demand Model and the Agriculture Water Licensing Calculator.

While with the Ministry, Ted managed and provided direction to a team of professional Engineers and Agrologists. Team members were specialists in farm structures, waste management, mechanization, environmental management, irrigation and drainage. The team was instrumental in development and delivery of agricultural programs, including: the environmental farm planning program, water supply expansion program and the current Growing Forward program.

Ted was also a founding member of the BC Water and Waste Association's Water Sustainability Committee, served as vice-chair of the Okanagan Basin's Stewardship Council, and has participated on many watershed management planning teams throughout the province.

His extensive experience in agriculture water management also allowed Ted to write and edit many manuals and publications used around the world including the BC Sprinkler Manual and the BC Trickle Irrigation Manual. He also co-authored chapters on Chemigation for the American Society of Agriculture and Biological Engineer's Design and Operation of Farm Irrigation Systems as well as the International Irrigation Association's text book Irrigation.

In 1997, he was a member of the Ministry of Environment Working Group that developed A Water Conservation Strategy for British Columbia, released in 1998.

Recognizing that how rainfall is managed at the site can have significant impacts on water supply for the environment and agriculture, Ted has chaired the development of the Partnership's Water Balance Model suite of tools, including the Water Balance Express tool for use by homeowners.

Ted has given presentations to many organizations across North America and continues to be sought after as a speaker for many agricultural organizations. He is the recipient of the Irrigation Associations Crawford Reid award (2000), recognizing his significant contribution to the promotion of irrigation techniques around the world and has also received similar awards from the Irrigation Industry Association of BC with the Dave Peach Award (2004) and the Canadian Society of Bio Engineering with the Jim Beamish award in 2016.

Ted led the teams that received the Premiers Award for the Water Balance Model and the Agriculture Water Demand Model, and was the recipient of the Premiers Legacy Award in 2014.

## About the Partnership for Water Sustainability in British Columbia

*The Partnership originated as an inter-governmental partnership, formed in 2002 to fund and develop the Water Balance Model (WBM) as a web-based decision support tool. When the **Water Sustainability Action Plan for British Columbia** was released in 2004, the WBM was the centrepiece initiative. Action Plan experience informed development of **Living Water Smart, British Columbia's Water Plan**, released in 2008, as well as the parallel **Green Communities Initiative**.*

*The Partnership for Water Sustainability is the hub for a "convening for action" network in the local government setting, and is responsible for delivering the Action Plan program through partnerships and collaboration. This program includes the **Georgia Basin Inter-Regional Education Initiative**. The Partnership for Water Sustainability plays a bridging role between Province, local government and community; and is the steward for **Stormwater Planning: A Guidebook for British Columbia**, a provincial guidance document released in 2002.*