

**Land Development that Considers the Natural Environment
A Workshop for McKee Peak Landowners, Council and Staff**

15 August, 2005

9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Conference Room, Matsqui Centennial Auditorium,
32315 South Fraser Way, Abbotsford**

*Hosted by the B.C. Ministry of Environment and Fisheries and Oceans
Canada, in cooperation with the City of Abbotsford*

Invitees:

- ♦ Landowners of the McKee Peak area
- ♦ Federal and provincial government agency representatives
- ♦ City of Abbotsford Council and staff

Purpose of Workshop:

- ♦ To clarify roles and responsibilities of landowners and regulatory agencies to facilitate development that all parties support on McKee Peak;
- ♦ To identify the benefits and incentives to landowners for protecting the natural environment, and solutions to balancing development with preservation of unique character and regionally significant attributes of the area; and,
- ♦ To develop recommendations to Abbotsford Council on options for land development on McKee Peak.

Participants will receive:

- ♦ A CD copy of the *Environmental Best Management Practices for Urban and Rural Land Development in British Columbia* (new April 2005 version).
- ♦ A CD with information on the economic benefits of Integrated Stormwater Management techniques.
- ♦ A CD with literature outlining how to conduct 'green' developments
- ♦ Workshop notes with selected reference material based on workshop questions and discussion

Agenda

8:30 – 9:00 a.m. *Registration, coffee, juice, tea and muffins*

- 9:00 a.m. Welcome and Introductions
- Mary Reeves, Mayor, City of Abbotsford
 - Outline of workshop (Judith Cullington, facilitator)

LEGISLATION, REGULATIONS, AND BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- 9:20 a.m. Update on legislation and regulations affecting land development
(Ross Vennesland, B.C. Ministry of Environment & Corino Salomi, Fisheries and Oceans Canada)
- Updates to legislative and regulatory requirements including the *Species at Risk Act, Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, Water Act* and Ministry of Environment Best Management Practices documents

LANDOWNER NEEDS

- 10:30 a.m. Meeting landowner/ developer needs
- Local landowner Jim Ellis will talk about his perspectives on development on Sumas Mountain, and suggest some ways that governments can help during land development
 - Discussion of other ways that governments can help during land development

11:00 a.m. *Break (tea, coffee, cookies)*

BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES

- 11:15 a.m. Successful approaches to environment-friendly developments
- Peak performance: in development: smart growth and McKee Peak *(Val Schaefer, Douglas College)*
 - Green Infrastructure & the Water Balance Model: A Tool for Designing with Nature *(Kim Stephens, Project Coordinator, Inter-Governmental Partnership)*

12:30 p.m. *Lunch (provided)*

- 1:15 p.m. Protecting natural areas during development: benefits and incentives
(*Tamsin Baker, The Land Conservancy of B.C.*)
- Ways that municipalities and developers can protect natural areas during development (e.g., conservation covenants, the role of land trusts)
 - Incentives for setting aside natural areas (e.g., Eco-gifting)

GETTING PAST THE BARRIERS

- 1:45 p.m. Issues and Challenges for McKee Peak: Discussion
- Introduction: Update on McKee Peak process (*Grant Acheson and Wayne Gordon, City of Abbotsford*)
 - What are the challenges to 'good' development on McKee Peak (from the perspectives of developers, the City, and senior government agencies)?
 - What are some of the ways that these issues might be addressed?

3:15 p.m. *Refreshment break (juice, fruit, cookies)*

NEXT STEPS

- 3:45 p.m. Where do we go from here?
- Recommendations to Abbotsford Council
- 4:30 p.m. Adjourn