



the partnership for water sustainability in bc

Convening for Action in the Thompson Rivers Region

Framework for a Regional Team Approach to Water Sustainability in the Thompson Rivers Region

Concept Development Session for a Water Forum





Agenda for Concept Development Session on September 20 th 2011	
Context:	<p>Living Water Smart and the Green Communities Initiative provide a vision of what the regions of BC can look like if local governments prepare communities for climate change, choose to live water smart, and strive to build greener communities. Electricity conservation is part of this picture, especially when water and pumping are inextricably linked.</p> <p>The paradigm-shift for doing business differently starts with land use planning and determining what services can be provided sustainably, both fiscally and ecologically. An over-arching goal is to achieve more with less. Get the watershed vision right; create a blueprint; and then implement.</p> <p>In other regions, the Partnership has brought together water and land practitioners in neutral forums. This approach has enabled implementers to collaborate as regional teams (refer to page 3). Their action-oriented focus has resulted in 'how to do it' examples. These help decision-makers visualize what policy goals look like on the ground.</p>
Vision:	<p>Convening for action is the Partnership's branding. When we gather, it is for a purpose. There must be an outcome:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Collectively this is what we want to incrementally achieve and, over time, this is how we will work together to get there.</i></p> <p>The Partnership and BC Hydro Power Smart are bringing together a group of water advocates, thought leaders and champions to determine whether there is an appetite for a <i>Water Forum for the Thompson Rivers Region</i>. The vision is that the Forum would be a transformational event that would be a springboard to action.</p>
Key Message:	<p>Major breakthroughs happen when decision-makers in government work with grass-roots visionaries in the community to create the future desired by all. Collaboration grows from a shared vision about the future and commitment to action.</p>
Session Structure & Desired Outcomes:	<p>The session will start at 10am and end at 3pm; and will comprise two segments. It will be conducted as a conversation. This will allow for a variety of ideas, questions and comments to flow easily and freely:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> MORNING (10am until 12 noon): SHARING & LEARNING</p> <p>The "convening for action" team members will share their experience in working across boundaries and aligning efforts within and among three regions: Okanagan, Vancouver Island, and Metro Vancouver. Participants will explore how they can adapt this experience, and how collaboration would help them achieve their organizational mandates.</p> <p>DESIRED OUTCOME: Inform, educate and inspire. Participants will have insight into, and will be excited by what they can accomplish through a regional team approach.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> AFTERNOON (1pm until 3pm): REGIONAL TEAM APPROACH</p> <p>Participants will discuss next steps for taking a regional team approach in the Thompson Rivers Region. They will also brainstorm what a Water Forum might look like, who should participate, and what it could lead to (for example, a <i>Thompson Rivers Sustainable Water Strategy</i>).</p> <p>DESIRED OUTCOME: Participants will commit to a regional team approach.</p>
Venue:	<p>BC Hydro is hosting the September 20th session at its Kamloops offices at 1155 McGill Road</p>



**The ‘regional team approach’
is founded on partnerships and collaboration;
and seeks to align actions at three scales –
provincial, regional and local.**



*“Everyone needs to agree on expectations
and how all the players will work together,
and after that each community can reach
its goals in its own way.”*

Eric Bonham
CAVI Leadership Team

MISSION POSSIBLE
The ‘regional team approach’ brings together...

- **The Province** - those who provide legislative framework
- **Local Government** - those who plan, regulate and...
operate, maintain, build
- **Developers** - those who build
- **Stewardship Sector** – those who advocate for conservation
- **Agricultural Sector** – those who grow food
- **First Nations** – those who connect to the land
- **Academia** - those who provide research