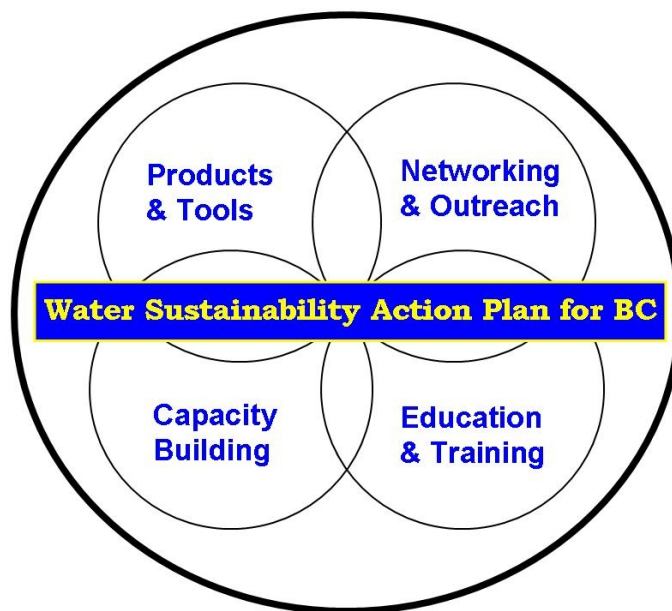




**the partnership
for water sustainability in bc**

Convening for Action in British Columbia

2012 Annual Report



October 2012

Adopted at the Annual General Meeting held at 1:30pm on October 25, 2012
and hosted by the District of North Vancouver

Partnership for Water Sustainability in British Columbia

2012 Annual Report



President's Perspective

Volunteers make the Partnership viable

Somehow, with very limited funds, the Partnership was able to pursue and support its key initiatives while increasing recognition of the society's expertise. The Partnership's success would not have been possible without the volunteer contributions of its core group. I would like to thank Peter Law, Richard Boase, Mike Tanner, Eric Bonham, Ted van der Gulik, Glen Brown, Ray Fung, John Finnie and Derek Richmond among others for their commitment and services. Without the steadfast donation of extensive time by Kim Stephens, the Partnership would have regressed; thank you Kim.

The Partnership stands for "Mission Possible"

- Ted van der Gulik has pointed out on several occasions that the Partnership is able to facilitate the funding of projects where the Ministry of Agriculture is a collaborator; these ventures likely would not be possible if it were not for the Partnership.
- The Partnership was able to secure funding from Metro Vancouver for the development of the Water Balance Model Express; this commitment required a motion of the Board to amend its 2012 budget.
- In the Comox Valley the Convening for Action on Vancouver Island initiative received funding from four local governments for the third year and volunteers deliver the program services with support from Kim Stephens.
- After initial engagement in 2010 and 2011, the Partnership formed a partnership with the Vancouver Island Economic Alliance in 2012 to produce the Convening for Action session at the State of the Island Summit. Significantly, VIEA has adopted the land ethic vision of "managing settlement change in balance with ecology."
- The Partnership found a few dollars and an affordable and effective service provider to remake the Waterbucket Website; the result is outstanding.
- The Partnership continually commits itself to helping deliver the "Living Water Smart" and "Green Communities" objectives of the province. This commitment enables the Partnership to maintain collaboration with two provincial ministries.

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Partnership for Water Sustainability in British Columbia

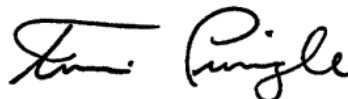
2012 Annual Report

Partnership initiatives

- Convening for Action in BC: this initiative continues to be the Partnership's primary strategy to support the implementation of water sustainability strategies at the community level. The various tools – Water Balance Model, Water Balance Model Express, Waterbucket and Water Conservation Calculator – and action initiatives (Metro Vancouver, Kamloops, Vancouver Island, and VIEA) define Convening for Action.
- Convening for Action on Vancouver Island: after six years, this initiative continues to grow and attract local government support. The relationship with VIEA suggests that CAVI can increase the range of collaboration and generate opportunities for additional “earned” income.
- CAVI and the Inter-Regional Education Initiative (IREI): This strategy is the next growth step for the Partnership and CAVI. The ambitious nature of this initiative depends on receiving funding under the provincial “gas-tax” grants program.
- Partnership tools: the Water Balance Model, Water Balance Model Express, Waterbucket Website and Water Conservation Calculator are key tools of the Partnership. As usage grows, the Partnership should be able to increase the revenue earned, thus improving the long-term viability of the Partnership.
- Relationship with the Ministry of Agriculture: Ted van der Gulik has developed several linkages between the Ministry and the Partnership. These include strategies to fund development and improvement of the tools as well as cooperation to use the ministry's agricultural water demand model. The IREI includes two project profiles that will describe/quantify the compatibility of existing and proposed land uses in the context of local government water sustainability policy. Agricultural uses will be included.

Plans for 2012-2013

Initiatives in the coming year will build on the past year. The IREI will represent further growth in Convening for Action and CAVI in particular. The full scope of this plan hinges on receiving gas-tax funding. An announcement is expected sometime during the November-December period. With the desired funds in hand, the Partnership would have the means to successfully implement the IREI and possibly related projects.



Tim Pringle
President
Partnership for Water Sustainability
October 2012

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Board of Directors



TIM PRINGLE is the President. He 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.”



RICHARD BOASE is the Vice-President. He 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.”



TED VAN DER GULIK is the Treasurer. He is also the chair of the Water Balance Model initiative and the Agriculture Water Demand Project initiative. He currently works for the Ministry of Agriculture 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.



MIKE TANNER is the Secretary. He is also Chair of the Waterbucket Website Partnership. 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.”



PETER LAW is the Vancouver Island Director. He retired from the Ministry of Environment after 33 years of service. Peter Law chaired the inter-governmental steering committee that was responsible for *Stormwater Planning: A Guidebook for British Columbia*, released in 2002. “The Guidebook is standing the test of time because the foundation material is science-based. And now the Partnership is going ‘Beyond the Guidebook’ to provide local governments and others with the tools and understanding necessary to integrate the Site with the Watershed and the Stream,” says Peter.

Partnership for Water Sustainability in British Columbia

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Treasurer's Report

The Partnership is incorporated as a not-for-profit society under the Societies Act of BC. It has two principal sources of income: grants and Water Balance Model annual subscription fees. The Partnership relies on the substantial in-kind contributions by members and partner organizations to develop tools and deliver programs.

The Partnership is initiative-oriented and has minimal overhead expenses. Also, revenue and expenses are tracked by initiative or project.

In addition to our general account, the Partnership has initiated funding for five projects and/or initiatives that are tracked under the Financial Accounting System. For the fiscal year ending on August 31, 2012 the revenue and expenses for each project or initiative are tabulated below:

	REVENUE	EXPENSES	BALANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR
General Account	\$6,460.42	\$2,421.46	\$4,038.96
Water Balance Model	\$154,046.00	\$160,785.64	(\$6,739.64)
Convening for Action	\$31,606.43	\$14,946.27	\$16,660.16
Waterbucket	\$0.00	\$10,714.00	(\$10,714.00)
Ag Water Demand Model	\$125,410.00	\$65,596.43	\$59,813.57
Water Conservation Calculator	\$50,000.00	\$1,044.55	\$48,955.45

The bank balance of the society carried forward from Fiscal 2012 into Fiscal 2013 is \$170,620.82. However, this amount is almost fully committed because work plans have been established for all projects and contracts are being progressively implemented such that it is expected that most of the funding received by the Partnership to date will be expended in the fiscal year ending August 31, 2013.

Footnote to the Financial Statement: The Executive Director is engaged by the society under two or more contracts to develop and deliver the society's outreach and education program.

Ted van der Gulik
Treasurer
Partnership for Water Sustainability
October 2012



Report from the Executive Director on 2012 Accomplishments

Everyone Benefits!

Collaboration is the pathway to a consistent approach to implementation and integration of water sustainability and green infrastructure policies and practices within and between regions. Yet there is no formal mechanism to enable or facilitate inter-regional collaboration. The Partnership is striving to fill this gap and has made substantial progress over the past year. In particular, the Partnership has:

1. A renewed commitment from the Ministry of Environment to align efforts with the Partnership to demonstrate what 'regulatory compliance + collaboration' looks like in the local government setting.
2. Brought together four regional districts on Vancouver Island to align their efforts and implement a 'proof of approach' for an **Inter-Regional Education Initiative** (IREI). These four regions represent 90% of the Vancouver Island population.
3. Opened lines of communication with the objective of formalizing Metro Vancouver support for inter-regional collaboration with Vancouver Island such that the IREI truly will be the *Georgia Basin Inter-Regional Educational Initiative*.
4. Rebuilt the Waterbucket Website, thereby providing an enhanced capability to make tools and resources available to land and water practitioners; and to tell the stories of those who are leading change in BC, on the ground where it matters.
5. Collaborated with the Okanagan Basin Water Board to produce the **Topsoil Bylaws Toolkit** so that local governments have practical tools that support smart topsoil policies.

The value of the IREI is that it provides the framework for consistent messaging and consistent application of tools and understanding on both sides of the Georgia Basin. Looking ahead, we will bring the Okanagan into this picture. Everyone benefits from sharing information and experiences.



Kim A. Stephens,
Executive Director
Partnership for Water Sustainability in BC
October 2012



Report from the Membership Chair

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

Pursuant to the bylaws of the society, the Board of Directors has established three categories of membership, encompassing voting and non-voting.

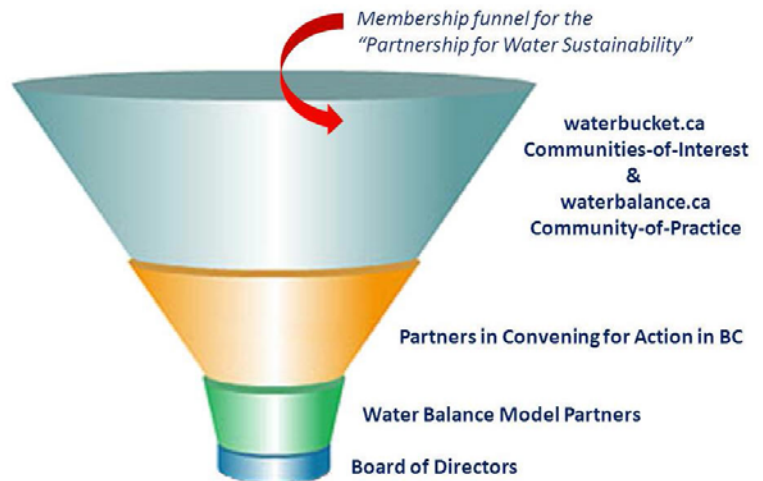
After considerable research and deliberation in the spring of 2012, and keeping in mind the Board's desire for inclusivity as an operating principle, the Directors concluded that it would be in the best long-term interests of the Partnership to make membership simple to administrate.

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

1. **Individual** – free (non-voting)
2. **Professional** – \$100 per year (voting)
3. **Organization** (corporate) – \$250 year (voting)

INDIVIDUAL: Anyone can become a non-voting member. All they need do is go to waterbucket.ca and register online. Members in the non-voting *Individual* category have unencumbered permission to make use of information resources and guidance documents published by the Partnership. Currently, over 1300 individuals receive the Partnership's weekly e-blasts. Online registration has been in effect since September 2012 when Waterbucket was re-launched complete with a BECOME A MEMBER sign-up feature. In the first month, 37 individuals took advantage of this opportunity.

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PROFESSIONAL: The *Professional* category recognizes that there may be individuals who wish to become proactively involved in Partnership activities, yet do so independently of an organizational constraint. To date, the only paying members in this category are the 9 individuals who make up the Partnership's leadership team.

ORGANIZATION: The *Organization* category encompasses Water Balance Model (WBM) Partners and Subscribers. Currently, 15 local governments are sustaining WBM Partners; and 10 engineering firms are WBM Subscribers (i.e. on a year-to-year renewal basis).

An organization has only one vote. Founding WBM Partners have been formally recognized as charter members of the Partnership.

In future, this category would also apply to any other organization that may wish to have a corporate membership in order to benefit from participation in the program activities of the Partnership.

*In addition to the three categories of membership described above, the Partnership has **Champion Supporters** and a **Partnership Advisory Committee**:*

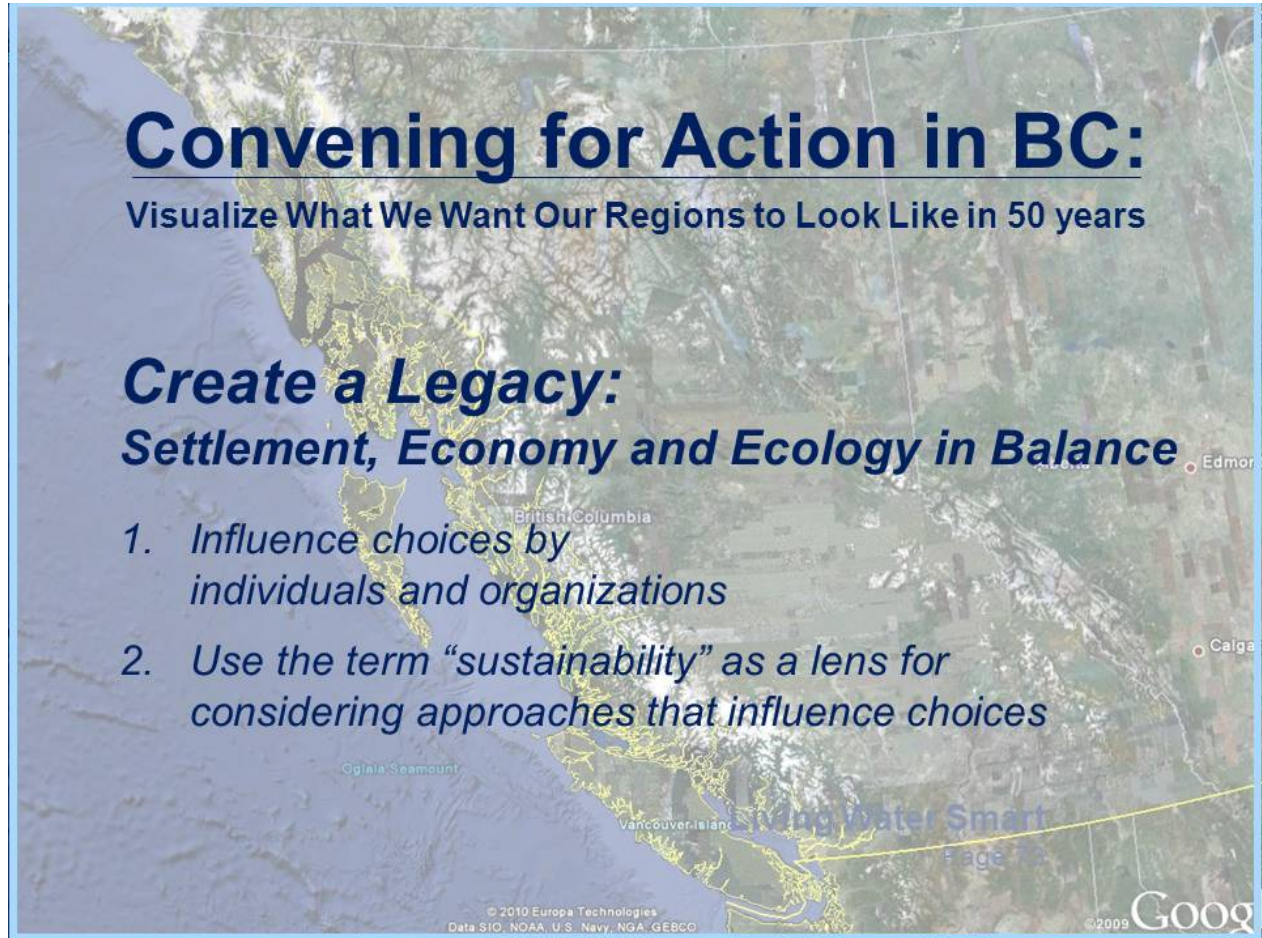
CHAMPION SUPPORTERS: This designation allows the Partnership to formally recognize agencies and organizations that provide substantial financial and/or in-kind support that in turn enables the Partnership to develop tools and deliver programs under the umbrella of *Convening for Action in British Columbia*. Champion Supporters currently include:

- 3 provincial Ministries, namely: Agriculture; Environment; Community, Sport and Cultural Development
- 6 regional districts, namely: Metro Vancouver, Comox Valley Regional District, Regional District of Nanaimo, Cowichan Valley Regional District, Capital Regional District and Fraser Valley Regional District
- 1 Crown Corporation: BC Hydro
- 1 association: the Irrigation Industry Association of BC

The Champion Supporters designation also allows the Partnership to recognize the commitment of those WBM Partners that make exceptional contributions to the success of the Partnership's outreach and education program, notably: District of North Vancouver, City of Surrey, City of Courtenay and Town of Comox.

PARTNERSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Looking back in time, the Partnership had its genesis in the Water Sustainability Committee (WSC) of the BC Water & Waste Association. From 2003 through 2010, the WSC was the hub for a partnership network operating in the local government setting. Now, the Partnership is that hub. Accordingly, the founding members of the WSC have reconstituted themselves as the Partnership Advisory Committee to continue their mission.

*Peter Law
Membership Chair
Partnership for Water Sustainability
October 2012*



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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