

Partnership for Water Sustainability in British Columbia

2014 Annual Report



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

Inter-Regional Collaboration & A Vision for Vancouver Island

CAVI has had another successful year through collaboration among its regional groups. Each region has had its own specific challenges and has come through with some remarkable solutions to some of the ongoing problems.

The concept of learning and sharing – now embodied in the “IREI”, the acronym for *Inter-Regional Education Initiative* – has adapted well to the transition from the earlier equivalent of the 'Learning Lunch Series'. It has been an amazing year of cross-fertilization amongst the different regions and in many cases the acquisition of solutions to issues has been greatly accelerated by this process. In 2014 there were five IREI inter-regional collaboration sessions.

Region	Date	Theme	Venue
Metro Vancouver	Jan 23	<i>Watershed Plan Effectiveness</i>	Victoria
Capital Region	Mar 28	<i>Water Quality Assessment</i>	Victoria
Cowichan Valley	May 27	<i>Adapt to a Changing Climate</i>	Ladysmith
Comox Valley	Jun 25	<i>Sustainable Service Delivery</i>	Courtenay
Nanaimo Region	Sept 26	<i>Sustainable Partnerships</i>	Nanaimo

Since the launch of CAVI in 2006, the primary focus has been information sharing and education. The depth of experience within the CAVI group has enabled it to intuitively know what works and why. However, a watershed moment came in 2010 / 2011 as a response to a request from the development community for (more) tangible deliverables and a shift towards 'action'. This transition has been instrumental in dialogue around the initiative launched in 2013 and branded as **VI2065: The Vision for Vancouver Island in 50 Years**.

It is hoped that while CAVI continues to build on its success through inter-regional sharing and dialogue, we will also be able to move that success to another level. To a large extent, success has been based on collaboration within each of the CAVI regions. By building on the essential concept of thinking and planning on a watershed basis, timing is right to integrate and expand this concept as the foundation of the 'vision' for Vancouver Island.

Derek Richmond
CAVI Chair
Partnership for Water Sustainability
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