WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED
STORMWATER AND STREAM CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT

Overview of Workshop Objectives

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An *Integrated Stormwater and Stream Corridor Management Strategy* considers all the rainfall events that comprise the annual runoff hydrograph, and comprises a "hydrotechnical component" for protection of life and property, and an "environmental component" for protection of stream banks and habitat. Ensuring that the integrated strategy is realistic and supported by the community requires an understanding of what may be achievable. Providing this understanding is one of the purposes of the workshop.

It is a balancing act to protect property and allow economic land use, while at the same time attempting to achieve the goal of sustaining natural systems in stream corridors. Given this frame-of-reference, the focus of the workshop is on determining *how* to achieve the goals and objectives for integrated stormwater management as explicitly and/or implicitly set out in an *Official Community Plan (OCP)*

An OCP presents a vision of the future, and provides a benchmark for referencing the goals and objectives of the environmental and master drainage planning processes, especially since the preamble to an OCP typically makes reference to the principles of sustainable development. The challenge for municipalities is to give those words meaning by developing the environmental protection component of a stormwater management strategy that is practical, cost-effective and achievable. Giving those words meaning is also a purpose of this workshop.

Since it is the responsibility of municipalities to carry out the storm drainage management function, and with an appreciation of changing public expectations, key principles for the goal-setting process (within the over-arching framework provided by an OCP) are articulated as follows:

- Meet the needs of the community.
- Protect the natural resources of the local community.
- Allow sustainable growth.
- Be within the financial capability of local government.
- Be within the legislative authority of local government

A strategy must be watershed-based to fulfil the above principles. This requires integration of component plans for *flood risk management* and *environmental risk management* for life/property protection and for stream bank/habitat protection, respectively.