



Reference: 167352

April 20, 2012

Tim Pringle, President
Partnership for Water Sustainability in BC
Sent via email: pringle@watersustainabilitybc.ca

RE: WATER SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN FOR BC
Inter-Regional Education Initiative on Vancouver Island

My purpose in writing is to thank the Partnership for Water Sustainability for your continued efforts, on the ground, to help the Province deliver both the Living Water Smart and Green Communities initiatives.

The Ministry recognizes and appreciates that, commencing with the Water Sustainability Action Plan for BC in 2004, the Partnership has embraced the notion of shared responsibility, been the catalyst for a “design with nature” approach to land development and been effective as a bridge to those working in the local government setting.

The Partnership is doing what government views as important work. The Ministry values what the Partnership has accomplished since 2007 under the umbrella of CAVI-Convening for Action on Vancouver Island. In particular, the Ministry celebrates your latest success in bringing together four regional districts through an Inter-Regional Education Initiative. Collaboration across regional districts is the pathway to a consistent approach to water sustainability and green infrastructure policies and practices up and down the east coast of Vancouver Island.

The Ministry looks forward to aligning efforts with the Partnership in three regions—Vancouver Island, the Lower Mainland and the Okanagan—to further advance implementation of the “Beyond the Guidebook” initiative and to provide communities with the tools and knowledge to protect and/or restore watershed health. The Ministry’s renewed emphasis on the rainwater management component of Liquid Waste Management Plans has created an opportunity to demonstrate how to integrate regulatory compliance and collaboration.

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In closing, and on behalf of ministry staff who are participating in Partnership initiatives and activities, thank you and keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cairine MacDonald".

Cairine MacDonald
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Environment

cc: Lynn Kriwoken, Executive Director, Water Protection and Sustainability Branch,
Ministry of Environment
Jennifer McGuire, Director, Regional Operations, Environmental Protection Division,
Ministry of Environment
Kim A. Stephens, M.Eng, P.Eng, Executive Director, Partnership for Water
Sustainability