

Water Stewardship in a Changing Climate

Field Trip, Public Lecture & Symposium in

TO REGISTER VISIT: civicinfo.bc.ca/event/2018/Nanaimo-Water-Symposium

Day 1: Wed. April 11th

Guided field trip to Buttertubs Marsh & Five Acres Farm



Meet at Bowen Park to load the bus at 2:45pm, returning at 5:00pm
FREE – Must pre-register.

Public lecture from water & climate author Bob Sandford: “The Hard Work of Hope”



At the Coast Bastion Hotel. Doors open at 6:30pm, welcome at 7pm, close at 8:30pm

FREE – Must pre-register.

Day 2: Thurs. April 12th

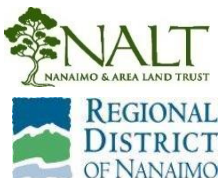
Full Day Symposium
“Water Stewardship in a Changing Climate: Collaboration Success Stories”
with catered lunch

At the Coast Bastion Hotel. Doors at 7:30am, begins 8:30am & ends at 4:00pm. Full lunch and refreshments included.

Registration:
\$45 – early bird until March 9
\$55 – after March 9



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An informed stewardship sector can be a catalyst for action! Learn what water stewardship groups are doing to make a difference, and how we can adapt to climate change through **restorative development** that values healthy functioning local watercourses.

Water Stewardship in a Changing Climate

Collaboration Success Stories

On April 11-12, 2018, join us in Nanaimo for a symposium on watershed stewardship, the water balance and *restorative development*.

Adapting to climate change requires transformation in how we value nature and service land.

An informed stewardship sector can be a catalyst for action. Learn what stewardship groups are already doing to make a difference!

TO REGISTER: Visit <https://www.civicinfo.bc.ca/event/2018/Nanaimo-Water-Symposium>



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for water sustainability in bc



The symposium is an outreach and professional development event, held under the umbrella of the Georgia Basin Inter-Regional Education Initiative, and designed to foster a conversation in the Nanaimo Region about “Sustainable Watershed Systems, through Asset Management”



The Hard Work of Hope

Renowned author and speaker Bob Sandford, EPCOR Chair for Water & Climate Security at the United Nations University, will set the tone for the symposium. At a public lecture on the evening of April 11, his inspirational message will be a call to action.

**At the Coast Bastion Hotel. Doors open at 6:30pm.
Welcome at 7:00 pm. Close at 8:30 pm.**

The Hard Work of Hope, the latest book by Bob Sandford, seeks to develop effective solutions to the growing urgency for global action on climate change. It builds on events that have transpired since December 2015.

A Compelling Call to Action

The warming of the planet's atmosphere is causing water to move more quickly and disruptively through the global water cycle. Local consequences are magnified. To make the right choices moving forward, decision-makers at all levels and scales must understand how and where the rhythms of water are changing. We must collaborate to **adapt our land use and infrastructure servicing practices appropriately!**

-“What we are essentially talking about is reconciliation: going back to the headwaters of where we got our relationships with water and with one another wrong so that we can start back down the river of time – this time together – with a full understanding of the importance of embracing a water-first approach to planning human interventions in the environment,” urges Bob Sandford.

Successful watershed restoration in the built environment depends on all the players – in particular politicians, planners, landowners, designers, implementers and asset managers – embracing, and collaborating to implement, a ‘design with nature’ land ethic.

Local government collaboration with the stewardship sector is pivotal on this journey. Tapping into this resource would harness energy and potential to ‘get it right’ as communities develop and redevelop land. Attend the symposium and learn more on April 11-12, 2018

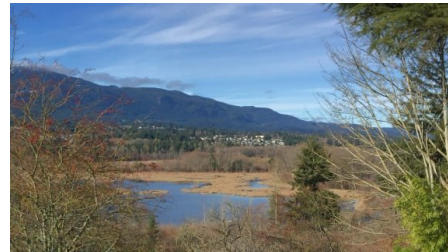
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Field Trip to Buttertubs Marsh and 5-Acres Farm in the City of Nanaimo

*Meet at Bowen Park in the lower parking lot (off Wall St)
Buses will load at 2:45 pm, leave at 3:00 pm, and return at 5:00 pm.*

Growing Stewardship in the Marsh:

Join the City of Nanaimo and the Nature Trust of British Columbia on a tour of Buttertubs Marsh that will trace the history of this special place and the growing stewardship legacy developing here. The tour will cover the development and growth of the conservation lands, the development of the current management plan, and the several projects and initiatives currently underway, including a study on determining the financial value of the marsh as a community asset.



Five Acres – A Historic Farm for Nanaimo’s Future:

The five-acre farm located in Harewood is the last farm of BC's first agricultural community plan, an historic and innovative plan unique to Nanaimo. Today, this farm supports many values that are important to Nanaimo: historical, agricultural-food security, creative employment and environmental values. Several features of the property are environmentally significant: headwaters of a Chase River tributary; bird, mammal and fish habitat; ground water recharge and a keystone feature of rainwater management.



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Stewardship Context & Program Overview for Symposium on Day 2



Context is important. A landmark success story was the **Urban Salmon Habitat Program**. In the 1990s, many streamkeeper groups were formed in BC. They had an immediate impact. They galvanized government into action.

USHP forged relationships between local governments and stewardship groups. This helped to set in motion a provincial 'whole-system, water balance' journey that continues to this day.

Fast forward to the present. Anecdotal evidence suggests a groundswell of heightened awareness of the watershed context for "the creek that flows through my backyard". Awareness is translating into involvement and empowerment to make a difference.

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Water Stewardship in a Changing Climate

7:30	Registration / Meet & Greet		Speaker
8:30	Event Welcome from Nanaimo & Area Land Trust		Paul Chapman
8:45	MODULE A: How Communities Will "Get it Right" – Setting the Context		
	Sponge Communities: A Water-Resilient Future Despite Floods & Droughts?		
	BC has arrived at a fork in the road. Consider the weather extremes experienced in 2015, 2016 and 2017. Impacts are magnified by human interventions. Kim Stephens will explain the call to action for <i>Sustainable Watershed Systems, through Asset Management</i> . To prime participants for the town-hall sharing session in Module B, Kim will pose this question for their reflection: How will communities 'get it right' through collaboration as land develops and redevelops?		Kim Stephens
9:15	The Evolving Role of the Freshwater Stewardship Sector in BC		
	Community members caring for waterways are key to making a difference in restoring naturally functioning watersheds over time. Zo Ann, executive director of the Pacific Streamkeepers Federation, will reflect on the role stewardship groups have played since the early 1990s, as advocates for stream-protection, collaborating with municipal decision-makers and others, and contributing important on-the-stream observations and actions.		ZoAnn Morten
10:00	Refreshment Break / Conversation		
10:30	MODULE B: Panel & Town-Hall Session on Community Empowerment & Sustainable Partnerships with Local Government		

April 12

Convening for Action in the Nanaimo Region

10:30	OVERVIEW OF PANEL & TOWN-HALL SESSION ON: Community Empowerment & Sustainable Partnerships with Local Government (<i>turn to next page for detailed abstract</i>)	
	Led by Peter Law, this segment is the heart of the program. It has two parts: first, panel reflections; then, a 'roving mike'. The panel will showcase success stories resulting from local government and stewardship sector collaboration. Panel members will paint a picture of what collaboration must look like in practice to truly achieve the vision for restorative development . The desired outcome: participants will be inspired to make a difference!	 Peter Law
12:15	Lunch / Conversation	
1:15	MODULE C: Building Blocks for Sustainable Watershed Systems	
	Drinking Water & Watershed Protection Plan: Sustainable Partnerships in the RDN	
	In 2008, the RDN was the first regional government to create a Drinking Water and Watershed Protection (DWWP) service. Julie Pisani, program coordinator, will elaborate on DWWP initiatives, which include outreach and education, local water studies and community-based monitoring, and policy advocacy and support for land use planning. She will share stories and successes of regional collaboration and the development of sustainable partnerships in freshwater protection.	 Julie Pisani
1:45	Look at Watersheds Differently: 'Perceptions of Worth' versus 'Perceptions of Value'	
	The <i>Ecological Accounting Process</i> (EAP) is a whole-system view of watersheds that assesses hydrology in order to accurately describe ecological services. Demonstration applications are Busy Place Creek in Cowichan Valley; and Brooklyn Creek in Comox Valley. Looking through the 'worth lens' has led to a fundamental shift in the EAP approach: place less emphasis on monetization of ecological services ; instead, focus on the investment of resources as well as aspirations of motivated stakeholders.	 Tim Pringle
2:15	Water Sustainability & the City: Urban Watershed Challenges & Opportunities	
	Although local governments in British Columbia can influence a number of activities that impact watershed health in their jurisdictions, many face challenges in addressing watershed pressures. Christine Mettler will report on research conducted with dozens of urban watershed practitioners across B.C., outlining environmental and management challenges and how new tools developed under B.C.'s new <i>Water Sustainability Act</i> could help to address some of these challenges.	 Christine Mettler
2:45	Refreshment Break / Conversation	
3:15	The Journey to a Water-Resilient Future: Action Items for the Nanaimo Region	
	Bob Sandford will connect the dots between his call to action the previous evening, and what he heard throughout the day of the symposium. His emphasis will be on identifying action items that are tangible and possible, and would lead to restorative development in the mid-Vancouver Island region and beyond. The essence of his message? Once we change our attitude, we will find the path to success.	 Bob Sandford
3:45	Symposium adjourns	

10:30 PANEL SEGMENT - DETAILED ABSTRACT: **Community Empowerment & Sustainable Partnerships with Local Government**

Communication, cooperation, coordination and collaboration – have you thought about the power of the **4Cs**? When all four are in play, good things happen. Are you aware of the **beneficial outcomes** that are flowing from collaboration between local government and the stewardship sector in the Nanaimo region? These questions provide context for the two-part panel segment of the program.

- PRIMING THE AUDIENCE: In their prepared remarks, panelists will shine the spotlight on the role played by the stewardship sector in building trust and delivering outcomes through effective partnerships with local governments. They will give examples of how their project(s) relate to the foregoing.
- TOWN-HALL INTERACTION: Panelists will reflect on the value of ‘citizen science’ and how it can be leveraged to achieve two complementary objectives: educate the local community (public); and provide an impetus for political action that results in implementation of environmental policy at the local and/or provincial level.

The panel lens is a watershed lens – *what do we want this watershed to look like?* The desired outcome: the audience will be energized and inspired to make a difference regarding **restorative development**!

REPRESENTING	THEME & RELEVANCE	SPEAKER
Mid Vancouver Island Habitat Enhancement	Shelly Creek Water Balance & Sediment Reduction Plan	Peter Law
	MVIHES has morphed from <i>Stewards of the Englishman River Recovery Plan</i> to <i>Stewards of the Watershed</i> . The Shelly Creek Plan is a provincial precedent. Community-driven action can restore watershed hydrology, prevent erosion and ensure fish survival.	
Nanaimo & Area Land Trust	Watershed / Stewardship Partnerships	Paul Chapman
	NALT uses the tools of land trusts: acquisition, conservation covenants and education to promote and protect the natural values of land in the Nanaimo area. NALT also shares its structural capacity to assist local stream stewardship groups to carry out their activities.	
Regional District of Nanaimo	Community Watershed Monitoring Network	Julie Pisani
	The RDN coordinates a surface water quality sampling program in partnership with 13 stewardship groups, Ministry of Environment and Island Timberlands to expand ability to track watershed trends, inform planning and programs, and raise watershed awareness.	
City of Nanaimo	Stewards in the City	Rob Lawrance
	Shifts in environmental partnerships have been occurring within the City Parks system. The City has adapted to try and make environmental stewardship a more inclusive activity for residents in order to build connections between residents and natural spaces.	
Mt. Arrowsmith Biosphere Region Research Institute	Wetlands Mapping Project	Ashley Van Acken
	Student researchers engage with the local community to learn more about our water resources – with a key focus on the role of wetlands	
D.R. Clough Consulting	Streamkeepers	Dave Clough
	Training and supporting legions of volunteer stream stewards – what works & what doesn't for long lasting watershed engagement.	