

# Beyond the Guidebook: The New Business As Usual Create Liveable Communities & Protect Stream Health

## Learning Lunch Seminar Series

Organized by:

Convening for Action on Vancouver Island  
Leadership in Water Sustainability



In partnership with:



And in  
collaboration with:



An initiative under the umbrella of the Water Sustainability Action Plan for British Columbia

# Beyond the Guidebook: The New Business As Usual

## Change the Way We Develop Land to Create Liveable Communities & Protect Stream Health

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### Learning Lunch Seminar Series: Pilot for Local Government Capacity-Building

**CONTEXT:** Vancouver Island is the pilot region for rollout of *Beyond the Guidebook: The New Business As Usual* through an innovative and precedent-setting approach to practitioner continuing education, namely the Learning Lunch Seminar Series. This provincial initiative builds on the foundation provided by *Stormwater Planning: A Guidebook for British Columbia*, published in 2002, and incorporates lessons learned over the past six years.

Beyond the Guidebook advances a performance target methodology for correlating green infrastructure effectiveness in protecting stream health. To support Beyond the Guidebook, the Province has funded integration of the *Water Balance Model* with a hydrologic engine known as *QUALHYMO*. The web-based *Water Balance Model powered by QUALHYMO* is unique, bridges engineering and planning, links the site to the stream and watershed, and enables local governments to establish watershed targets.

Session	Theme	Scope
1	Today's Expectation are Tomorrow's Standards  <b>WHY</b>	<p>Session #1 will trace the evolution of rainwater/stormwater management policies and practices over the past decade. This will provide a frame-of-reference and a common understanding for subsequent sessions.</p> <p>The 2002 Guidebook will be explained so that participants will know how to use it effectively as a planning resource and/or tool.</p> <p>A desired outcome is that participants will understand why a Design with Nature approach to rainwater management (i.e. using infiltration and trees) will influence the greening of the built environment and protect stream health.</p>
2	Legal and Policy Strategies to Support Green Infrastructure  <b>WHAT</b>	<p>Session #2 will introduce the extensive and very specific tools available under the Local Government Act so that they can proactively manage the complete spectrum of rainfall events: from light showers to heavy rain to extreme storms.</p> <p>The <i>Green Infrastructure Guide</i> will be explained so that participants will know how to use it effectively as a resource.</p> <p>A desired outcome is that participants will understand what bylaw and policy tools enable incorporation and retrofitting of engineered green infrastructure into development plans.</p>
3	Establishing Watershed Performance Targets  <b>HOW</b>	<p>Session #3 will introduce a performance target approach to land development that makes sense, meets multiple objectives, is affordable, and results in net environmental benefits at a watershed scale.</p> <p>The Water Balance Model will be introduced to demonstrate how to achieve a 'light hydrologic footprint' and compare scenarios.</p> <p>A desired outcome is that participants will understand how watershed-specific targets can be established and then met at the site scale.</p>

Members of APEGBC and PIBC who participate can count the seminar series towards their Professional Development credits.

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## Change the Way We Develop Land to Create Liveable Communities & Protect Stream Health

### Learning Lunch Seminar Series: Pilot for Local Government Capacity-Building

<b>Themes:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ “We can create our future”</li> <li>▪ “What happens on the land matters”</li> <li>▪ “To get to the big picture, start with the smallest pieces”</li> </ul>
<b>Purposes:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide an inter-departmental learning opportunity for collaborative exploration</li> <li>▪ Enable local government practitioners to obtain professional development credits</li> <li>▪ Rollout <i>Beyond the Guidebook: The New Business As Usual</i></li> </ul>
<b>Structure:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Organize three 3-hour teaching sessions held at two or three-week intervals</li> <li>▪ Conduct the series as a cumulative process, from philosophy to tools</li> <li>▪ Provide information in an interactive way that triggers reflection, strategizing and action</li> <li>▪ Incorporate roundtable segments and provide a challenge for subsequent sessions</li> </ul>
<b>Context:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Vancouver Island landscape is being transformed by settlement and economic growth.</li> <li>▪ While the island has been experiencing a development boom, mitigation of environmental impacts has provided a driver for a ‘Design with Nature’ movement that is founded on a natural systems approach to rainwater management and green infrastructure.</li> <li>▪ The desired outcome is human settlement in balance with ecology.</li> </ul>
<b>Guidebook Vision:</b>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Create Liveable Communities and Protect Stream Health</li> </ul> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>A ‘Design with Nature’ approach to community design means...</b></p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop compact, complete communities</li> <li>▪ Increase transportation options</li> <li>▪ Reduce the loads on water, waste and energy systems</li> <li>▪ Protect and restore urban ‘green’ space</li> <li>▪ Strive for a lighter ‘hydrologic footprint’</li> <li>▪ Achieve higher levels of stream, wetland and lake protection</li> </ul> </div> </div> </div>
<b>Goal:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Help practitioners make informed land development decisions that meet multiple objectives, result in Green Value, and add up to <i>A Positive Settlement Strategy for VI</i>.</li> </ul>
<b>Objectives:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Local government practitioners will have a common and consistent understanding of:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. watershed performance targets and how they can establish them;</li> <li>2. how they can integrate good planning and innovative engineering designs; and</li> <li>3. the importance and maintenance of green infrastructure watershed performance targets (as they relate to land use and rainwater/stormwater management)</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
<b>Resources:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Stormwater Planning: A Guidebook for British Columbia</i>, published by the Province in 2002</li> <li>▪ <i>Develop with Care: Environmental Guidelines for Urban and Rural Land Development in British Columbia</i>, published by the Ministry of Environment in March 2006</li> <li>▪ <i>The Green Infrastructure Guide: Issues, Implementation Strategies and Success Stories</i>, published by West Coast Environmental Law in 2007</li> <li>▪ <i>Beyond the Guidebook: Context for Rainwater Management and Green Infrastructure in British Columbia</i>, jointly released by the Green Infrastructure Partnership and Inter-Governmental Partnership in June 2007</li> </ul>
<b>Tools:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Water Balance Model powered by QUALHYMO</i>, an online decision tool at <a href="http://www.waterbalance.ca">www.waterbalance.ca</a></li> </ul>