



ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

APRIL 15, 2010

6:00 PM – CVRD Board Room
175 Ingram Street

AGENDA

	PAGES
1. <u>APPROVAL OF AGENDA:</u>	1-2
2. <u>ADOPTION OF MINUTES:</u>	
M1 Adoption of minutes of Environment Commission from March 18, 2010	3-5
3. <u>BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:</u>	
B1 Action items carried forward	
B2 Environment Commission Work Plan and Budget	
B3 State of the Environment Draft Report	
4. <u>NEW BUSINESS:</u>	
NB1 Communication plan	
5. <u>CORRESPONDENCE:</u>	
C1 Letter to Chair dated April 7, 2010 from Cowichan Green Community, requesting funds	6
6. <u>INFORMATION:</u>	
IN1 Sustainability and Sewage Tour, April 28 th , 2010	7
7. <u>NEXT MEETING:</u> May 20, 2010	
8. <u>ADJOURNMENT:</u>	

ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION
MEETING AGENDA

MARCH 18, 2010

Distribution:

CVRD Director Gerry Giles (Chair)
Roger Wiles
Peter Keber
Chris Wood
Dave Polster
CVRD Director Phil Kent
CVRD Director Rob Hutchins
CVRD Director Lori Iannidinardo

Rodger Hunter (Co-Chair)
Kevin Visscher
Bruce Sampson
Bruce Fraser
Justin Straker
Judy Stafford
Larry George, Cowichan Tribes

As Well As Full Agenda:

Director T. Walker
Warren Jones, CAO, CVRD
Brian Dennison, General Manager, Engineering and Environment Services
Kate Miller, Manager, Regional Environmental Policy Division

Full Agenda as Hard Copy

Director M. Marcotte
Director I. Morrison
Director L. Duncan

Agenda Cover Only:

Director G. Seymour
Director K. Kuhn
Director M. Dorey
Director B. Harrison
Tom Anderson, Manager, Planning and Development Services

Director T. McGonigle
Director D. Haywood
Director K. Cossey

Minutes of the regular meeting of the ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION held in the CVRD Boardroom, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, on March 18, 2010 at 6:00 pm.

PRESENT: Director Giles, Chair Director Iannidinardo
Rodger Hunter, Co-Chair Dave Polster
Director Hutchins Roger Wiles
Bruce Sampson Justin Straker
Judy Stafford Pete Keber
Bruce Fraser Chris Wood

ALSO

PRESENT: Kate Miller, Manager, Regional Environmental Policy
Brian Dennison, Manager, Engineering/Environment
Dyan Freer, Recording Secretary

GUESTS: Harmony Huffman, Environmental Technologist III
Francis Hugo, John Wilson, Mike Kelly

ABSENT: Larry George, Kevin Visscher, Director Kent

**APPROVAL
OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

**ADOPTION
OF MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the February 18, 2010 Environment Commission meeting be amended by noting Rodger Hunter was not present and that the minutes be adopted as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

CHAIR'S REPORT

C1

The chair gave a verbal thank you and a gift to former commission members Francis Hugo, John Wilson and Mike Kelly in appreciation of their work with the Environment Commission for the past two years.

C2 CVRD Budget – March 10th – Highlights from the Board's budget approvals are:

- an additional \$20,000 for the Environment Commission to use to communicate more effectively,
- \$95,000 for a new position in the Environment Department
- \$500,000 will be taxed for Regional Parks Acquisition
- \$100,000 for Regional Sustainability Plan this year
- \$200,000 gas tax funds in next two years for the Sustainability Plan.

STAFF REPORTS

SR1 2008 Solid Waste and Recycling Report (SWRR) CVRD

Environmental Technologist, Harmony Huffman, presented the 2008 CVRD Solid Waste & Recycling Report which described the highlights of 2007/08 year. Our waste stream is still growing steadily and is a continuing worry. Planning to have organic waste pick up by 2011. Discussion ensued. Upcoming 2009 report will come out by June, 2010 at which time a communication strategy would be beneficial. Invite reporters to the presentation on the 2009 SWR report where we can inform the public the good and the bad news.

It was moved and seconded to receive the Solid Waste and Recycling 2008 report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

**B BUSINESS ARISING
OUT OF MINUTES**

B1 Action items carried forward: Commission Workplan

The work plan for next two years.

- Need for communication plan which additional budgeted \$20,000 can be used for.
- Forestry remains undone
- i. Next steps - need focusing agent
 - State of the Environment would be ideal – set priorities and work to turn to positive actions and results. Which focus should Environment Commission have? Forest lands disappearing which is a huge impact ecologically. Land use is of utmost importance – how can we control and plan for it appropriately?
 - What can Commission offer as to recommendations to the Board with the tools we have?
- ii. Potential workshop April 16th to speak on the Quest model and clean energy act. Bruce Sampson has organized speakers. Budget up to \$5000. Bruce will try to partner with Climate Secretariat for partial funding. Invite all local government planners as land use is a big topic.
- iii. Justin will meet with Kate, Brian and Gerry about his planned presentation – try to meet April 7 for discussion.
- iv. Looking at potential of getting BC Government funding for public engagement and communications. How do we share this with Government ministries and influential people?
- v. Plan on what we do with State of Environment report and how we present it to the Board. Set up sub-committee to strategize implementation or advancement of some of the

issues on this report and bring recommendations to us. Bruce Fraser, Dave Polster, Roger Wiles, Justin Straker, Brian Dennison, Rodger Hunter, Kate Miller and Gerry Giles make up this committee.

NEW BUSINESS

NB1 State of the Environment Draft Report

The draft report (186 pages) was given to each member of the commission. The consultants attended by speaker phone guiding the commission through the highlights of the report and giving a high level summary. It was thoroughly discussed as to content and results. Land base and sensitive ecosystems, species at risk, fish; and water are what stands out to Judith Cullington as main areas of focus. Data is not available in many cases. Fish section still to come and the final version of the report will then be prepared.

7:30 pm Rob Hutchins left the meeting

NB2 The Natural Step Exchange – membership is recommended. Cost is \$1000 – look at it as part of our budget? Discussion. Dyan to find out if City of Duncan is a member and if we could access information through them.

7:50 – 8:00 pm Refreshment break

CORRESPONDENCE

CR1 Cowichan Green Community recommendations re food security. Needs to be discussed with the commission to possibly recommend to Board. Can be part of the strategy planning for the State of Environment report and sub-committee will discuss.

CR2 Earth Day Events April 22nd – newsletter space available from Jean Crowder where we can add events. Cowichan Green Community will do that. There will be a fair on April 22 at Charles Hooey Park. Email Judy Stafford for communication.

INFORMATION

IN1 Our area now has official status under the Transition Town movement out of the UK and is called *Transition Cowichan*.

IN2 Mark Lakeman is speaking on community revitalization- at the Quw'utsun' Cultural and Conference Centre this Saturday, March 20th at 5:30 pm.

NEXT MEETING

April 15, 2010 Agenda to be discussed

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

April 7, 2010

Cowichan Valley Regional District
175 Ingram Street,
Duncan, British Columbia
V9L 1N8

Attn: Gerry Giles, Chair CVRD Environment Commission

Dear Gerry,

On behalf of the Cowichan Earth Day Planning Committee we are hereby requesting \$1,000.00 to sponsor the Earth Day Events to be held on Saturday, April 24th, from 10am to 3pm at Charles Hoey Park in Downtown, Duncan.

This day will be free for the public and will include the following:

- Information booths and exhibitors – non-profit organizations, electric bikes, recycling, Transition Cowichan,
- Children's activities – art banner, storytelling, nature scavenger hunt, and roving puppetry
- Entertainment – music, drum circle, and spoken word
- Bike Clinic

This sponsorship will assist with subsidizing the cost of the stage, tents, honorariums for the entertainment and children's activities. We encourage the CVRD to also have a booth to help to promote the environmental initiatives that are occurring in the Valley.

Thank you very much for your consideration, we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours truly,

Judy Stafford

On behalf of the Cowichan Earth Day Planning Committee
Cowichan Bottle Depot
Robert Cerins Designs
VI Regional Library, Cowichan
Downtown Duncan Business Improvement Association
Duncan Garage
Cowichan Tribes
Cowichan InterCultural Society
Duncan Mall
OUR EcoVillage
Jean Crowder's Office



Sustainability & Sewage

INNOVATIONS ON VANCOUVER
ISLAND TOUR: April 28, 2010

You are invited to join a group of sustainability professionals on a lively tour of unconventional sewage treatment technologies. On the tour we plan to see waterless toilets, constructed wetlands, a package treatment plant, and a solar aquatics system. The designers of the solar aquatic and of the constructed wetlands systems will meet us onsite for in-depth explanations. The tour will take place in the mid-Vancouver Island area.

Purpose

A chance for officials to view sewage treatment systems which may offer potential for:

- Compact village-forms ("smart") rural development
- High levels of treatment & environmental protection
- Accessible technology for ease of maintenance
- Heat recovery
- Nutrient recovery
- Multi-use space
- Easier siting due to aesthetics and odour control
- Energy and cost reduction for transporting sewage



Who should Attend

Provincial, First Nations, Local, and Regional government officials dealing with solid waste, liquid waste, energy, water conservation and "smart" forms of rural community development. Green builders, engineers and designers are also invited.

Transportation

Carpool to Regional District of Nanaimo offices where a tour bus will be provided for the main part of the tour. Those travelling from the south will have an opportunity to see two additional sites prior to the bus gathering point. A detailed itinerary, with the additional stops south of Nanaimo, will be sent to attendees.

Date	Wednesday, April 28, 2010
Time	10:30 a.m. - approximately 3:15 p.m., Plan on additional travel time back to your home town.
Location	Start and end at the Regional District of Nanaimo offices: 6300 Hammond Bay Road
RSVP	<i>Please sign up to be assured a "seat on the bus"!</i> Contact Angela Evans, details below
Website	toolkit.bc.ca/sewagetour

Tour Facilitator



Angela Evans MCIP
Vancouver Island Office: Victoria
T: 250 858-6209 | E: aevans@fraserbasin.bc.ca

Angela Evans is a planner with over 20 years experience in the private and public sectors. She worked for many years as an Environmental Planner with the District of Saanich, and is currently a Sustainability Facilitator with the Smart Planning for Communities – a program of the Fraser Basin Council.



Smart Planning
for Communities



Fraser Basin Council

www.smartplanningbc.ca | www.fraserbasin.bc.ca