



Cowichan Water Use Plan

Public Advisory Group Meeting #1

DRAFT Meeting Notes - November 22, 2017

Meeting Highlights

- The Public Advisory Group (PAG) was presented with an overview of the WUP planning process, which is guided by provincial guidelines and structured decision making (or SDM). The purpose, scope and constraints of the process were reviewed and agreed to. It was noted that the scope of planning will be focused on operational issues for how water should be stored and released through the water control facilities (weir and flood gates) at the outlet of Cowichan Lake.
- The PAG was presented with an overview of the existing water management systems as well as a summary of some of the environmental values in Cowichan Lake and Cowichan River.
- The PAG reviewed Process Guidelines prepared specific for the Cowichan WUP and agreed to a draft Terms of Reference for members participating in the process.
- The PAG identified and discussed some preliminary issues and interests that will begin the process of developing objectives and performance measures for evaluating different flow and storage options.
- A Lakefront Property Issues Technical Sub-Group was formed to support the PAG. A first meeting will be held in mid-December 2017.
- The PAG was updated that an Aquatic and Riparian Technical Sub-Group has been formed and held a first meeting on November 10, 2017.
- The meeting schedule for the next three PAG meetings were agreed (January 31 or February 1, March 8, and May 8).

Meeting Objectives

- To familiarize PAG members with water use planning (scope, process, guidelines)
- To provide an overview of the systems (hydrology, water control facilities, operations, aquatic ecosystem)
- To review and discuss a draft terms of reference
- To discuss and confirm any needed technical sub-groups to support the PAG's deliberations
- To discuss and highlight water use interests / issues for the WUP and begin to develop some preliminary planning objectives
- To discuss some preliminary alternatives to be modeled
- To agree to a work plan for the coming months

Meeting Agenda

8:30 am	Meet and Greet
9:00 am	Welcome
9:15 am	Introductions and Overview
9:40 am	Overview of Planning Process
10:45 am	Break – 15mins
11:00 am	System Overview
11:45 am	Scope of the Cowichan WUP Alternatives

12:00 am	Lunch
1:00 pm	Aquatic & Riparian Ecosystems
1:30 pm	Key Issues / Interests (and Preliminary Objectives)
3:00 pm	Break – <i>15mins</i>
3:15 pm	Issues & Objectives - Continued
3:45 pm	Next Steps
4:30 pm	Adjourn

Meeting Materials

- Pre-reading package
 - Meeting Agenda
 - Public Advisory Group – Terms of Reference – DRAFT
 - Public Advisory Group – Process Guidelines
- Handouts
 - Brainstorming Exercise of Potential Water Use Issues / Interests