### THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF PORT COQUITLAM ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, July 6, 1994

Meeting Room No. 2 2580 Shaughnessy Street, Port Coquitlam, BC

5:00 p.m.

#### **AGENDA**

#### PERSONNEL IN ATTENDANCE:

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING Held June 22/94

BILL 26 AMENDMENTS TO THE WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT ITEM I:

ITEM II: ABORIGINAL FISHERIES STRATEGY - DEPT. OF FISHERIES AND

**OCEANS** 

ITEM III: CITY ENVIRONMENTAL NEWSLETTER

ITEM IY: BURKE MOUNTAIN NATURLISTS - RIVERVIEW LANDS

KEMANO COMPLETION PROJECT - DISTRICT OF KITIMAT AND ITEM V:

FRASER BASIN MANAGEMENT Board Brief to B.C. Utilities Commission

FRASER RIVER ACTION PLAN - MID TERM REPORT ITEM VI:

(for information)

OTHER BUSINESS ITEM VII:

# THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF PORT COQUITLAM ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMITTEE

#### MINUTES

A meeting of the Environmental Protection Committee was held at City Hall, 2580 Shaughnessy Street, Port Coquitlam, on Wednesday, July 6, 1994 at 5:00 p.m. in Meeting Room #2.

In attendance were:

Councillor M. Gates, Chairman Councillor R. Talbot, Co-Chairman J.E. Yip, P. Eng., Deputy City Engineer F. Cheung, P. Eng., Project Engineer C. Deakin, Engineering Secretary

The minutes for the June 22, 1994 Committee meeting were considered, read and adopted.

Carried

## ITEM I: BILL 26 - AMENDMENTS TO THE WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT

Committee supported the UBCM resolution and the Deputy Engineer will write a memo to Council regarding the above.

## ITEM II: ABORIGINAL FISHERIES STRATEGY - DEPT. OF FISHERIES

Committee reviewed the report regarding the above from Mr. Chamut. Deputy Engineer to write letter to Mr. Chamut thanking him for the information.

## ITEM III: CITY'S ENVIRONMENTAL NEWSLETTER

Committee received this item for information. Deputy Engineer to check if update on Colony Farm is available for the newsletter from Mr. C. Felip).

## ITEM IV: BURKE MOUNTAIN NATURALISTS - RIVERVIEW LANDS

Committee reviewed the report from the Burke Mountain Naturalists but will wait for Land Use Study being done by B.C.B.C. before making any comments. Deputy Engineer to write letter informing Ms. Gold of their decision.

## ITEM Y: KEMANO COMPLETION PROJECT

Committee received this report for information.

Cont'd .../2

Environmental Protection Committee Meeting of July 6, 1994 Cont'd ...

## ITEM VI: FRASER RIVER ACTION PLAN - MID-TERM REPORT

Committee received this item for information.

#### ITEM VII: OTHER BUSINESS

a) Street Tree Planting - BFI Conation

The Committee received this report for information.

b) <u>Douglas Island</u>

Committee received this report for discussion.

c) Pigmalion Environmental Products

Deputy Engineer to check with Fire Department to see if Fire Department or Operations Department could carry these kits for extra safety.

d) Diversion of Creek - 4040 Toronto

Committee asked that the petition be forwarded with a copy of our previous comments to Water Management.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

J.E. Xio, P. Eng.

Deputy City Engineer

Councillor M. Gates Committee Chairman

JEY/cd

NOTE

Minutes not read and adopted by the Committee until certified correct by the

Chairman's signature.

cc:

Mayor and Councillors City Administrator City Engineer

City Engineer
Project Engineer
Project Technician

#### THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF PORT COQUITLAM

#### REPORT TO COUNCIL

#### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Jim Maitland

DATE: July 07, 1994

Acting City Administrator

FROM:

Francis K.K. Cheung, P. Eng.

FILE No: EPC

**Project Engineer** 

SUBJECT: BILL 26 AMENDMENT TO THE WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT - SOIL

**CONTAMINATION REGULATIONS** 

(Environmental Protection Committee of July 06, 1994)

#### RECO' C' ENDATION:

That Committee support the resolution addressed to the Premier and the Minister of Environment:

"That the Lower Mainland Municipal Association request the Province of B.C. to defer any action on Bill 26 and its associated regulations members of the U.B.C.M. have had an opportunity to respond following the U.B.C.M. Annual General Meeting in September."

#### **BACKGROUND & COMMENTS:**

The proposed Bill 26 amendment to the Waste Management Act on soil contamination regulations are expected to be considered by Cabinet at the end of August 1994. It is anticipated that the amendment will be in effect January 01, 1995. The proposed Bill 26 amendment will have serious liability implications for local government throughout British Columbia.

Since most municipalities did not have the opportunity to examine Part III of the proposed Bill 26 amendment because it was not made public until mid June 1994. The U.B.C.M.'s Lower Mainland Municipal Association unanimously endorsed the following resolution:

> "That the Lower Mainland Municipal Association request the Province of B.C. to defer any action on Bill 26 and its associated regulations members of the U.B.C.M. have had an opportunity to respond following the U.B.C.M. Annual General Meeting in September."

It is recommended that Council adopt this resolution addressed to the Premier and the Minister of Environment showing our concern to the Bill 26 amendment and requesting more time to respond to the amendment.

> Xip,P/Eng. Deputy City Engineer

FKKC/ attachment

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF PORT COQUITLAM

#### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

**Environmental Protection Committee** 

DATE: July 04, 1994

FROM:

Francis K.K. Cheung, P. Eng.

FILE No: EPC

Project Engineer

SUBJECT: BILL 26 AMENDMENT TO THE WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Committee support the resolution addressed to the Premier and the Minister of Environment:

"That the Lower Mainland Municipal Association request the Province of B.C. to defer any action on Bill 26 and its associated regulations members of the U.B.C.M. have had an opportunity to respond following the U.B.C.M. Annual General Meeting in September."

#### **BACKGROUND & COMMENTS:**

This resolution was unanimously endorsed at the U.B.C.M.'s Lower Mainland Municipal Association Annual General Meeting held June 15, 1994. The resolution was addressed to the Premier and the Minister of Environment showing their concern to the Bill 26 amendment and requesting the Province to provide more time to respond to the amendment.

Enclosed please also find a summary of Bill 26 amendment, prepared by Michael R. McAllister of MacKenzie Murdy & McAllister, listing the serious areas of concern to all local government under the Bill 26 amendment.

It is recommended that the City pass this resolution addressed to the Premier and the Minister of Environment showing our concern to the Bill 26 amendment and requesting the Province to provide more time to respond to the amendment.

**Project Engineer** 

FKKC/ attachment



MAYOR'S OFFICE 511 ROYAL AVENUE NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C. **V3L 1H9** 

(604) 521-371/ FAX (604) 521-3895

June 22, 1994

Mayor ... and Members of Council B.C. Municipalities

Dear Mayor ... and Members of Council:

Re: Bill 26 Amendments to the Waste Management Act

Bill 26, the proposed Provincial soil contamination legislation, and recently proposed Regulations arising from Bill 26 have serious liability implications for local governments throughout British Columbia. This package of Regulations is scheduled to be brought into force by Order In Council on August 31, 1994.

Most municipalities have not received a copy of Part III of the proposed Regulations because they were not made public until mid June 1994. The enclosed information highlights the need to have time to examine the details of the regulations and if necessary request changes.

At its Annual General Meeting held June 15, 1994, U.B.C.M.'s Lower Mainland Municipal Association unanimously endorsed the following resolution:

> "That the Lower Mainland Municipal Association request the Province of B.C. to defer any action on Bill 26 and its associated regulations until members of the U.B.C.M. have had an opportunity to respond following the U.B.C.M. Annual General Meeting in September."

We are requesting that your municipality or regional district pass a similar resolution addressed to the Premier and the Minister of Environment showing your concern and support for more time to We would appreciate a copy of your letter.

Sincerely,

Betty Toporowski
MAYPR

MACKENZIE MURDY & MCALLISTER Municipalities

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

FAX (604) 689-9029 TELEPHONE (604) 689-5263 31° FLOOR FOUR BENTALL CENTRE 1055 DUNSMUIR STREET P. O. BOX 49059 VANCOUVER, CANADA V7X IC4

June 21, 1994

#### TRANSMITTED TO FAX NO. 527-4564

Mr. Patrick A. Connolly, P.Eng. City Engineer City Hall New Westminster, B.C. V3L 1H9

Dear Pat:

Re: Bill 26/Amendment of the Waste Management Act
Our File No. 2605

The Regulations to Bill 26 are expected to be considered by Cabinet at the end of August 1994. It is anticipated that Bill 26 will come into full force and effect January 1, 1995. While it is difficult to disagree with the philosophy behind Bill 26, many serious areas of concern to the City and all local government have yet to be addressed. The implications of some of these concerns are monumental. We have below set out nine areas of concern to the City.

First, there are serious implications to the City as a past property owner. The legislation is retroactive in effect. If, at any time in the past, the City owned property and introduced a contaminant to the property (even if it was lawful at the time) the City is deemed to be a responsible person. Also, if, at any time, the City purchased property and failed to make reasonable inquiries as to the site and despite the fact that it did not contribute to the contamination, the City will be considered a responsible person.

Under Bill 26 any responsible person may be ordered to clean up the entire site. In other words, the principle of joint and several liability applies to an order to remediate a contaminated site. Given that property owners come and go, the City has a continuity of existence and a relatively long history and the City is a "deep pocket", there is a good chance that he City will face the prospect of having to clean up many sites in the City.

Second, and despite the wording of Bill 26, there is a potential liability involved in the "assessment" of the site profiles, as the Bill does not specifically protect the City in the

event of negligence. A site profile must accompany any application for rezoning, development permit, development variance permit, demolition permit or subdivision where the site in question has in the past been used for industrial or commercial purposes.

Third, and related to the second concern, given that the freedom of information legislation is soon to be made applicable to the City, the City may well incur liability for failing to disclose certain historical information. The triggering event in Bill 26 primarily revolves around the historical use of a site. In particular, where a site has in the past been used for industrial or commercial purposes a vendor must summit a "site profile" prior to any sale of the site. In considering whether a site may have been used for industrial or commercial purposes or may be contaminated, the primary source of information to a vendor or purchaser will, no doubt, be the City.

Fourth, as the City has already experienced, Bill 26 will have serious implications to the City's tax base. There is nothing in Bill 26 that protects against the reassessment of a site based on the decrease in value so as to reflect the cost of remediation.

Fifth, there is a serious risk to the development community, given the potentially enormous costs involved in environmental clean ups.

Sixth, and related to the fifth concern, there is a real risk that the City will be left with large tracts of land that given their historical use and cost of remediation will simply be left, at best, undeveloped and, at worst, abandoned.

Seventh, there is a concern to the City as a current property owner in that it may be required to provide site profiles prior to initiating a rezoning of property it owns. If and when the City adopts a new zoning bylaw for the entire City, the costs and implications may be staggering.

Eighth, there will be very little possibility of third party liability insurance being available. The cost of remediation will, in many cases, be staggering.

Finally, there is some serious concerns with respect to the concentration levels proposed by the Regulations to Bill 26. There is a growing concern that the acceptable levels of contamination are not based on scientific evidence and do not pose health hazards.

By way of illustration we provide an example of how Bill 26 would affect the City as a property owner. The example is partially fact and to better serve as an example partially fiction.

#### MACKENZIE MURDY & MCALLISTER

- 3

June 21, 1994

The City in the 1940s and 1950s operated a state of the art incinerator. It met all regulations in place at that time. The discharge from the incinerator was buried on an adjacent site. Both sites were, in the 1950s, sold to a lumber mill operation who for the sake of this example complied with the necessary standards. In 1990 both sites were transferred to a construction waste recycling operation, who appear to have made no enquiries as to the condition of the site prior to purchase.

Under Bill 26 the materials introduced into the sites by the City and the lumber operation both exceed standards set out in the Regulations. The recycling operation, being fully aware of the contamination, last year appealed its assessment and successfully reduced the value of the sites from \$800,000 to \$1,000. There is no requirement in Bill 26 that the current owner put the tax dollars saved into the remediation of the site.

In the above scenario all three parties are deemed to be responsible persons. Any or all of the parties may be ordered to remediate the sites in question. Given the cost of clean up, it is entirely possible that the current owner will simply declare bankruptcy. In addition, if the lumber mill operation has ceased to exist, there is a real possibility that the City, who is always present, will be left without the tax dollars and with the entire cost of the remediation.

This example is not at all extreme and will likely become a reality over and over again.

Yours truly

Mackenzie Murdy & Mcallister

Michael R. McAllister

MRM/cc/am

cc: Mr. Lawrence E. Kotseff, City Administrator

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Service have now arranged a half-day seminar for tanning operators in an effort to educate them on the effects of ultraviolet radiation and help them develop risk management techniques.

Since the initial investigation of the Richmond area, the "Tanning Operator Knowledge Questionnaire" has been used to survey tanning facility operators in Victoria and three municipalities within the Simon Fraser Health Unit district. A report summarizing the results of the surveys and the survey methodology, has been submitted to the Canadian Journal of Public Health for publication.

The "Tanning Operator Knowledge Questionnaire" (and answers) is available to any Health Unit/Department wishing to conduct a survey of their district.

The Radiation Protection Service would like to remind all Health Units/Departments that they are available to serve their needs regarding any health risk that results from radiation exposure.

For more information, please contact Randy Ross at 660-6634 or fax 660-6663.

Sandy Order & coff

#### FEATURE ARTICLE

CRITIQUE OF THE PROTOCOL FOR SOIL QUALITY CRITERIA FOR CONTAMINATED SITES

Submitted by Dr. Ray Copes, Medical Toxicologist



In response to a growing public concern over the potential ecological and human health effects associated with exposure to contaminated sites, the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) initiated the National Contaminated Sites Remediation Program (NCSRP) for the remediation of high priority contaminated sites in Canada. To promote consistency

in the assessment and remediation of contaminated sites under this program, the CCME requested the development of numerical criteria that could provide guidance for the remediation of contaminated sites in Canada. A CCME Subcommittee on Environmental Quality Criteria for Contaminated Sites was established to create an improved scientific derivation basis for application in this program. The subcommittee has since released a draft document which considers the effects of contaminated soil exposure on human and ecological receptors for given land uses. The pathways and receptors of contaminated soil considered in their derivation of soil quality criteria were selected based on exposure scenarios illustrated for agricultural, residential, parkland, commercial and industrial land

What follows are some selected comments by Dr. Ray Copes, Medical Specialist, Environmental Health Risk Assessment & Toxicology, on the CCME Subcommittee's draft document on Environmental Quality Criteria for Contaminated Sites.

The Executive Summary indicates that the National Contaminated Sites Remediation Program (NCSRP) was initiated in response to "growing public concern". This wording seems to indicate a perceived problem rather than one based on actual health effects. At this point, with some experience in dealing with contaminated sites in Canada and elsewhere, the premises behind the NCSRP should be questioned. While it would be rash to claim that these sites never pose a threat to human health or the environment, it is clear that the perceived problem is much greater than the actual impacts on humans or the environment. The United States Superfund Program was an attempt by U.S. legislators to deal with understandable public outrage brought on by poor handling of situations, such as Love Canal, by government officials. Rather than trying to duplicate this type of a program in Canada, we would do well to learn from some of the mistakes that have been made. Among these is a

defensible scenario. A high-rise building or shopping centre grade could be developed. Similarly, a root vegetable grade, cereal grade, or rangeland grade might be devised for agriculture. A groundwater protection criterion could be developed. The advantage of this approach is that it is tied more closely to the impacts one might reasonably wish to prevent (i.e., on children, groundwater, etc.). Far fewer assumptions and cross-checks would be required to develop criteria, although additional information is necessary to develop some of these criteria. While each of these new use criteria would require far less complexity than those currently proposed, there may be some trade-off with an increase in the number of criteria. A further advantage of the redefined uses is that people can readily understand that children's playground grade means just that, and there is no reason why every gram of soil on a housing development would have to meet this criterion. The implication of "residential" grade is that all soil on site should meet this standard. Giving managers in the field a variety of use-specific criteria to apply at a site is also an advantage.

Another option for setting generic standards is to use the results of sitespecific risk assessments conducted to date. These form an evolving "case law" of contaminated sites. Basing generic criteria on the accumulated results of site-specific risk assessments would require periodic updating of criteria. This is not necessarily bad as it will prevent a widening gap between generic criteria set on a crude and highly uncertain basis in 1993, and site-specific cleanup criteria based on rapidly evolving state of the art risk assessments.

All concerned with contaminated sites in the CCME Committee structure should recognize that there is very little evidence to support the view that soil cleanups are effective in reducing human exposures.

Even in the case of children's exposure to lead in soil, recent trials in urban settings have not yielded encouraging results. While one should not generalize from these trials to all sites and all contaminants, it provides ample grounds to question the wisdom of widespread soil remediation. Even if one assumes soil remediation is effective in reducing exposures, it probably provides less reduction in human health risk per dollar spent than other public health programs. Costs of up to \$15 billion/cancer averted have been estimated in the United States and it appears that only at a minority of sites would the cost per hypothetical life "saved" go below \$100,000,000. Whether these remediation activities represent a wise use of resources is a judgement for elected officials and the public to make. Ironically, when the risks of remediation activities are factored in, in many cases we will end up doing more harm than good from a public health point of view.

## FROM THE FIELD

#### CENTRAL FRASER VALLEY HEALTH UNIT

Submitted by Tim Roark, Chief Environmental Health Officer

The Central Fraser Valley Health Unit is pleased to announce that Mr. Charles Young, currently an Instructor in the Environmental Health Protection Program at the British Columbia Institute of Technology, will be joining them for a one year term starting January 3, 1994.

serious underestimation of the number of "contaminated" sites (a number which will vary directly with the number of criteria set and inversely with the concentration selected to represent contamination). There was also an initial attempt to remediate these sites to extremely strict management criteria, although over time the selection of more realistic goals appears to be occurring.

#### Remediation Criteria

As stated in a review of environmental agencies world wide, no agency had a method to consistently set generic soil criteria. This is a comment on the lack of an adequate scientific basis on which to set generic criteria and the problems posed by using them. Do Canadian authorities believe that they discovered the science others missed, or will they be the only ones willing to make assumptions that other felt inadvisable?

#### Criteria vs. Risk-Based Approach

The finest quality risk assessments used at contaminated sites today use stochastic methods and provide risk managers with the best available information on which to base site decisions. The method proposed by this subcommittee, for setting the generic soil criteria, is also risk-based but nowhere near as rigorous as a high quality, site-specific risk assessment. The subcommittee's draft document proposes that criteria be set using extremely complex methods. Despite the complexity, they are not scientifically defensible as they are based largely on assumptions rather than empirically verified findings.

#### <u>Conservative Assumptions - The "Safe"</u> <u>Choice?</u>

The proposed criteria are based on very "conservative" risk management criteria. The selection of 1 in 10<sup>6</sup> as an acceptable level of cancer risk is extremely difficult to defend in the context of contaminated sites. First, with a background lifetime risk of cancer in the total population of 1 in 3, a risk of 1 in 10<sup>6</sup> has absolutely no real-world meaning in either individual or

public health terms. Given the small numbers of people "exposed" at these sites, it should be clearly understood that reducing risks from even 1 in 10<sup>4</sup> to 1 in 10<sup>6</sup> is unlikely to prevent even a

single case of illness. Whether expenditures of large sums of money on theoretical reductions in risk without any real-world benefit is worthwhile is a risk management decision that needs to be addressed by senior government officials, elected representatives and members of the public. It should also be appreciated that the lower the soil concentration criteria, the greater the number of contaminated sites and the larger the perceived "problem" becomes.

#### Land Use: Residential, Commercial/Industrial, Agricultural

Although setting different generic criteria for these land uses may seem reasonable, this approach is based on several assumptions that are not realistic. One difficulty is the diversity of uses at agricultural, residential and commercial sites. For example, it is difficult to conceive of one general exposure scenario that applies across Canada at all agricultural sites. Is it reasonable to apply the same generic agricultural soil criteria

to land used for: 1) vegetable
farming in Holland
Marsh, 2) growing
apples in the Okanagan, 3) growing oil
seed in Alberta or, 4) grazing cattle in
Saskatchewan? Is it possible to develop a
single "scientifically defensible" soil
criterion to these vastly different
agriculture scenarios? If the "problem" is
contaminated foodstuffs, setting tolerances
might be a more effective approach.

#### Other Approaches

1. It may be possible to come up with scientifically defensible generic soil quality criteria for more limited applications than the current residential, agricultural and commercial categories. For example, a children's playground grade could be derived using a reasonably

# Contaminated Sites: Preparing for the Site Profile

We mentioned in our January, 1994 newsletter that Lidstone, Young, Anderson will be offering comments on the draft regulations for the new contaminated sites legislation (Bill 26) as they become available. The legislation will not come into effect until the regulations are complete. The Ministry of Environment has indicated that the draft regulations will be released in three parts; as of May 1, 1994 Parts 1 and 2 have been released for comment. The Ministry remains committed to enacting the Act and regulations by October 1, 1994, however, this is becoming an increasingly unlikely timeline.

Part 1 of the regulation addresses the site profile, the site registry and fees while Part 2 focusses on remediation standards, procedures for contaminated soil relocation, remediation approvals and groundwater quality standards. Part 2 also clarifies an earlier concern with respect to municipal interest in easements or rights of way. Section 7 now states that where a municipality is a current or previous owner of an easement or right of way, it will not be held responsible for remediation as long as it did not contribute to the contamination. Although many components of the regulations merit attention, of particular interest to local government and the

subject of this review is the site profile.

Section 20.11 of the amended Waste Management Act establishes the "triggers" for providing a site profile (for example, zoning of land that a person knows or reasonably should know is or was used for industrial or commercial purposes) while section 2(1) of the regulation provides for the timing of providing a site profile (for example, when a person submits a written request for sub-division). Therefore, depending upon the particular type of approval sought from a municipality, the time for providing a site profile will differ.

The regulations define "site profile" as the information provided by a person required to submit a site profile in a site profile form in Schedule 1 of the regulation. The site profile itself is a ten page document which requires the applicant to disclose information on such topics as their understanding of what the land was used for in the past; evidence of potential contamination concerns on the land; and the information sources the applicant has used to complete the site profile. Once the site profile is completed it will be submitted, in many cases, to a municipality. What does the municipality do with these site profiles?

Under section 3(1) of the draft regulation, when a municipality

...the local government needs only to determine that the site profile has been completed; it need not analyze the substance of the answers

receives a site profile it shall "determine if the site profile is a satisfactorily completed site profile" and notify the applicant if this is not the case. At first blush this seems an onerous task. However, "satisfactorily completed site profile" is defined in section 1(1) of the draft regulation to mean that all questions in the site profile are answered and particularly that in Part IV of the site profile, that all questions are answered either "yes", "no" or "don't know." In other words, the local government needs only to determine that the site profile has been completed; it need not analyze the substance of the answers. A local government can charge up to \$50 for such a review.

Once the municipality has complied with section 3(1) it must forward the site profile to the Ministry of Environment regional waste manager if any of the questions in Part IV of the site profile have been answered "yes" or "don't

- continued page

know". Where this is not the case, (for example, it is a "green" site profile) the site profile shall be forwarded to the registrar of the site registry. There does not appear to be any further obligation on the municipality once these steps have been complied with. Further, s. 3(4) of the draft regulation makes it clear that a municipality has no duty under the Act or the regulation to "receive, assess, store, file or otherwise manage" a site profile once the above mentioned steps are completed.

Section 3(5) and (6) of the draft regulation allows the municipality some discretion to forward a site profile to the regional waste manager when the "site profile conflicts with knowledge of the municipality." Once a municipality takes this decision, it must forward to the regional manager the information that is the basis of this knowledge.

Other than adding another layer of administrative responsibility, the assessment of a site profile will not be an overly difficult or onerous task.

One question that arises is where the information to complete the site profile comes from. In many cases, municipal records will be the source of choice. Given this, municipalities can expect that those persons needing to complete a site profile will base such a site profile on information supplied, at least ...municipalities can expect that those persons needing to complete a site profile will base such a site profile on information supplied, at least partially, from the municipality itself.

partially, from the municipality itself. In preparation for these inquiries municipalities should consider:

- compiling checklists of possible sources of information available within the municipality related to contaminated sites, and systematizing such records to help ensure full, efficient and accurate disclosure to applicants;
- preparing a disclaimer that accompanies data provided by the municipality to the public. Although they cannot insulate a municipality from liability, disclaimers are helpful in warning the public that the information supplied may not be accurate; and
- 3. familiarizing themselves with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act to ensure that they are not releasing

any information in contravention of the privacy provisions of the *Act*.

Last, we are aware that several municipalities have been submitting comments on the proposed regulations directly to the Contaminated Sites and Toxicology Section at the Ministry of Environment. This is important as local conditions (e.g., groundwater standards on the Gulf Islands) may necessitate changes or exemptions to some of the provisions of the Act or regulations. Such submissions should be encouraged so as to ensure changes before the legislation is proclaimed.

Reece Harding 🛎

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Fisheries and Oceans

Pêches et Océans

Pacific Region Suite 400 - 555 West Hastings St. Vancouver, B.C. V6B 5G3 Région du Pacifique Pièce 400 - 555 rue Hastings ouest Vancouver (C.-B.) V6B 5G3

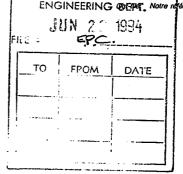
CITY OF PORT COQUITLAM
ENGINEERING OPENS Notice reports

JUN 2 1994

Flem II.

Y.E. Yip, P.Eng. Deputy City Engineer City of Port Coquitlam 2580 Shaughnessy Street Port Coquitlam, B. C V3C 2A8

Dear Mr. Yip:



#### ABORIGINAL FISHERIES STRATEGY

I am writing in reply to your letter of April 5, 1994 which expressed some concerns about the Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy (AFS). I would like to comment on these concerns so that you can convey this information to your council.

The Department's basic responsibility to ensure conservation needs are met is not altered by the AFS. As a priority second to conservation, the Department has a constitutional obligation to ensure the opportunity exists for Aboriginal people to harvest fish for their food, social and ceremonial needs. Where applicable, harvesting in the recreational and commercial fisheries is rated next in priority.

Between 1989-1992, the average annual number of salmon taken by Aboriginal groups in the Pacific Region was 3.1% of the total allocation. This is a relatively small, stable percentage that is not seen as a marked departure from past averages. A review of this information does not indicate that there is any danger to commercial and recreational components of the Fraser salmon fishery.

There has been no change in the authority and responsibilities of the Department's fishery officers. We have developed cooperative arrangements with Aboriginal groups and working together, we were successful in achieving a very well managed 1993/94 Aboriginal fishery.

A significant portion of AFS funding goes toward habitat improvement and other enhancement work throughout the Fraser watershed. In fact, the emphasis of working with fish and habitat increases as you go further up-river.

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For example, in the lower river, the Chehalis Band contributes funds to fry and adult enumeration, beaver dam control, and marking programs. In the mid Fraser area, approximately one half of the Nicola Valley Watershed and Stewardship Authority's budget is dedicated to habitat improvement work.

All agreements under the AFS program have clauses indicating clearly that this program is not part of the Treaty Process. The activities within the agreements deal with various fisheries management issues.

Jim Wild, Fraser River AFS Manager, is prepared to discuss this matter with you and your council. Please contact him at 666-3578 if you have further questions.

Yours sincerely,

P.S. Chamut Director-General

Pacific Region

c: P

P. Kariya J. Wild



# PORT COQUITLAM

2580 SHAUGHNESSY STREET, PORT COQUITLAM, B.C. V3C 2A8 / PHONE: 944-5411 / FAX: 944-5402

EPC

April 5, 1994

Mr. P. Chamut Director General Pacific Region Department of Fisheries and Oceans 555 W. Hastings Street Vancouver, B.C. V6B 5G3

Dear Sir:

#### RE: ABORIGINAL FISHERIES STRATEGY

The following concerns were approved at Port Coquitlam's regular Council meeting held on Monday, March 21, 1994, and are forwarded for your attention:

- 1) That the Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy be reviewed with respect to the impact on fish stocks and the economic impact in the Fishing Community.
- 2) That the authority and responsibility of DFO Officers be re-established to the point that they have control of all fisheries on the river in order to ensure that the resource is protected for the future and that all individuals and communities which rely on the resource are not hampered.
- 3) That non-aboriginal and aboriginal fishermen have equal input into the process.
- 4) That the commercial and recreational components of the Fraser River Salmon Fishery not be endangered as a result of the strategy.
- 5) That the enhancement of the fishery not be reduced.
- 6) That the fishery is not used as a component of Comprehensive Land Claims negotiations.

If you have any further questions or comments please contact the undersigned at

944-5411.

Yours truly,

J. E/Yip, P. Eng. Deputy City Engineer

JEY:ca

Councillor M. Gates Councillor R. Talbot I.R. Zahynacz, P. Eng., City Engineer



JUL - 1994

COUNTY 1994

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF PORT COQUITLAM

#### REPORT TO COUNCIL

**MEMORANDUM** 

TO:

J. Maitland

Acting City Administrator

FROM:

I.R. Zahynacz, P. Eng.,

City Engineer

SUBJECT:

ABORIGINAL FISHERIES STRATEGY

(Environmental Protection Committee Meeting of March 2/94)

DATE: March 9, 1994 BY COUNCIL

ON Wax 14/91

CITY CLERK

#### RECOMMENDATION:

That Council resolve to communicate the following concerns with respect to the Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans:

- 1) That the Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy be reviewed with respect to the impact on fish stocks and the economic impact in the Fishing Community.
- 2) That the authority and responsibility of DFO Officers be re-established to the point that they have control of all fisheries on the river in order to ensure that the resource is protected for the future and that all individuals and communities which rely on the resource are not hampered.
- 3) That non-aboriginal and aboriginal fishermen have equal input into the process.
- 4) That the commercial and recreational components of the Fraser River Salmon Fishery not be endangered as a result of the strategy.
- 5) That the enhancement of the fishery not be reduced.
- 6) That the fishery is not used as a component of Comprehensive Land Claims negotiations.

#### **BACKGROUND & COMMENTS:**

The Environmental Protection Committee reviewed the attached information and support documents received from the District of Maple Ridge regarding the Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy. A delegation from the B.C. Fisheries Survival Coalition attended an E.P.C. meeting and provided background information. Following review and discussion the Environmental Protection Committee recommended that the noted concerns be communicated to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and that Council approve the recommendation.

JEY:cd

Attachments

J. E. Yip, P. En Deputy City En

FILE: E.P.C.

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COUNCIL

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In MiBride . 467-7351

JAN 10 1994

CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF MAPLE RIDGE

11995 Haney Place Maple Ridge, B.C. V2X 6A9 Telephone (604) 463-5221 Fax (604) 467-7329

December 23, 1994

City of Port Coquitlam 2580 Shaughnessy Port Coquitlam, B.C. V3C 2A8

Dear Sirs:

The District of Maple Ridge is seeking your support to the following resolution passed by the Maple Ridge Municipal Council on December 13, 1993:

THAT ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 29, 1993 WITH RESPECT TO THE ABORIGINAL FISHERIES STRATEGY, BE IT RESOLVED, ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE ECONOMIC ADVISORY COMMISSION, THAT THE EOLLOWING CONCERNS BE COMMUNICATED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND OCEANS:

- 1. THAT THE PRESENT ABORIGINAL FISHERIES STRATEGY BE REVIEWED.
- 2. THAT THE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT RELINQUISH ANY PART OF ITS AUTHORITY FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE B.C. SALMON RESOURCE IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE RESOURCE IS PROTECTED FOR THE FUTURE AND THAT ALL INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES WHICH RELY ON THE RESOURCE ARE NOT HAMPERED.
- 3. THAT THE COMMERCIAL AND RECREATIONAL COMPONENTS OF THE FRASER RIVER SALMON FISHERY NOT BE ENDANGERED AS A RESULT OF THE STRATEGY.
- 4. AND THE ENHANCEMENT OF THE FISHERY NOT BE REDUCED.

AND FURTHER, THAT OTHER COMMUNITIES ALONG THE FRASER RIVER BE CONTACTED FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE ABOVE NOTED POSITION.

If you require any further information in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

hours truly,

J. R. McBride Municipal Clerk

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100% Recycled Paper (100% Recycled Paper)

#### MEMOR ANDUM

#### Submitted to:

- ( ) Council
- Committee of the Whole
  - ( ) Corporate and Community Services Committee
  - ( ) Planning and Operational Services Committee

#### ADMINISTRATOR'S RECOMMENDATION

That the recommendation of the Business Development Officer be approved.

TO:

**ADMINISTRATOR** 

FROM:

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

DATE:

1993 NOVEMBER 22

SUBJECT:

ABORIGINAL FISHERIES STRATEGY

#### SUMMARY:

At the 1993 11 18 meeting of the Economic Advisory Commission a resolution was passed recommending that the position paper prepared by the Economic Advisory Commission on the Abordginal Fisheries Strategy be forwarded to Mayor and Council.

#### RECOMMENDATION

THE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER RECOMMENDS THAT THE BACKGROUND MATERIALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS PREPARED BY THE ECONOMIC ADVISORY COMMISSION CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND OCEANS' ABORIGINAL FISHERIES STRATEGY RE FORWARDED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION.

Brock McDonald Business Development Officer

BM:rem

Attachments

**ADMINISTRATION** 

NOV 2 3 1993

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## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

11949 Haney Place, Maple Ridge, B.C. V2X 6G2 Telephone: (604) 467-7305 Fax: (604) 467-7330

November 18, 1993

#### Mayor & Council:

At the May 3, 1993 Council Meeting a resolution was passed recommending that the Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy be referred to the Economic Advisory Commission for their comments on the economic impact of the Strategy on the community. In an effort to become familiar with the Issues, the Commission met with a representative of the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans and reviewed literature received from the B.C. Fisheries Survival Coalition. Information from both groups are appended for Council's review.

After reviewing the above noted information and discussing the issues at length the Economic Advisory Commission offers the following comments:

- The Fraser River is the southern boundary of our Municipality and the existing Commercial Salmon Fishery is important to our economy and culture. At least 100 individuals are employed as fishermen and employment also results from boat construction and repairs, gear and equipment suppliers and some processing facilities.
- The Aboriginal Food Fishery is a long established use of the salmon resource, 2. and there is little opposition to it.
- The Federal Government's plan to commercialize the Aboriginal Fishery will cause a major change in how the fish are caught, who catches the fish, and 3. who benefits from the resource.
- The Fraser River salmon resource is a fragile resource which can be destroyed If it is abused. It has been nurtured and built up over many generations by 4: careful management and conservation.
- Management and conservation of the Fraser River salmon resource has always included an efficient and effective enforcement procedure by the Federal 5. Government of Canada by way of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.
- The new strategy of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans is to relinquish its mandate of management and enforcement of a major component of the 6. resource in favor of the Aboriginal community.

Continued

Member of Economic Developers Association of Canada

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#### Page Two

- 7. The Aboriginal community already participates to a large extent in the B.C. Commercial Salmon Fishery (35%) and has a long established right to food fish. The Department of Fisheries and Ocean's policy to commercialize the Aboriginal Food Fishery is a major change in a long history of management of the salmon stocks of B.C.
- 8. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans decision to allow a "Commercial Aboriginal Fishery" in the upper regions of the Fraser River is a much reduced economic use of the resource from the present Commercial Fishery as the market value of salmon deteriorate rapidly upon entering the Fraser River.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT THE ECONOMIC ADVISORY COMMISSION RECOMMENDS THAT COUNCIL CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND OCEANS AND COMMUNICATE THE FOLLOWING CONCERNS:

- 1) THAT THE PRESENT ABORIGINAL FISHERIES STRATEGY BE (本意)
- 2) THAT THE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT RELINQUISH ANY PART OF ITS AUTHORITY FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE B.C. SALMON RESOURCE IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE RESOURCE IS PROTECTED FOR THE FUTURE AND THAT ALL INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES WHICH RELY ON THE RESOURCE ARE NOT HARMED.
- 3) THAT THE COMMERCIAL AND RECREATIONAL COMPONENTS OF THE FRASER RIVER SALMON FISHERY NOT BE ENDANGERED AS A RESULT OF THE STRATEGY.
- 4) THAT THE ENHANCEMENT OF THE FISHERY NOT BE REDUCED.

FURTHER, THE ECONOMIC ADVISORY COMMISSION RECOMMENDS THAT COUNCIL CONTACT OTHER COMMUNITIES ALONG THE FRASER RIVER AND SEEK THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE ABOVE NOTED POSITION.

Respectfully submitted,

**Economic Advisory Commission** 

BM:rem Enclosures

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POINT WHERE RIDGE

## THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF PORT COQUITLAM

#### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

**Environmental Protection Committee** 

DATE: June 04, 1994

FROM:

Francis K.K. Cheung, P. Eng.

FILE No: EPC

**Project Engineer** 

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL NEWSLETTER

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That Committee receive this memorandum for information only.

#### **BACKGROUND & COMMENTS:**

The following is a list of possible topics for this year's Port Coquitlam Environmental Newsletter:

- 1. Worm Bins.
- 2. Water Conservation.
- 3. Storm Drain Marking.
- 4. Backyard Composting.
- 5. Make a Difference: Help Us Meet the Goal.
- 6. Garbage and Recycling Tonnage and Costs.
- 7. Multi-Family and Commercial Business Recycling Program.
- 8. Give Us Your Views.
- 9. Important Contact Number.

If Committee members have any other topics they wish to include in the Environmental Newsletter, please let me know. I have attached last year's Port Coquitlam Environmental Newsletter for your information.

Francis K.K. Cheung, P. Eng.

**Project Engineer** 

FKKC/ attachment

mn - 6 1994

## The City of Port Coquitlam

#### **MEMORANDUM**

TO: / J. Y.

J. Yip Environmental Protection Committee

DATE: June 24, 1994

FROM:

M. Schmor

Administration Dept.

SUBJECT: Burke Mountain Naturalists

Mayor Traboulay is referring the attached to your committee for a recommendation.

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ELLY OF PORT COCUMAN

CC Causeil J. Kadlond D. Zahayo BURKE MOUNTAIN NATURALISTS Box 52540, 1102 - 2929 Barnet Hwy. Coquitlam, B.C. V3B 7J4 Phone: (604) 936-4108 June 21, 1994 Mayor L. Traboulay and Council City of Port Coquitlam 2580 Shaughnessy Port Coquitlam, B.C. Dear Mayor Traboulay,

Our club would like to have your assistance in saving the Riverview Lands from being sold to developers. We feel that the land has greater value intact and "as is" than could be realized by selling it to provide more houses. The beautiful stand of mature rare and unusual trees found on these lands was Western Canada's first botanical garden, and has no equal in Canada. To cut the trees down for a quick sale would destroy a priceless and irreplaceable heritage. A better alternative would be to make the Lands home to a selfsustaining international horticultural centre

There are more reasons to keep the lands intact. They can/do provide

(1) green space in our urban sprawl.

(2) a recreational area in a region with a rapidly expanding population;(3) patients of Riverview both therapy and vocational training. (The first two points are particularly critical in view of the expected tripling of our population in this region.)

Revenue-generating potential of the Lands includes use as

(1) an international conference site;

(2) a centre for training in nursery trades or horticulture;

(3) a centre for educational purposes, e.g. landscape design, forestry, nursery trades, environmental and ecological studies.

You can arrange to see for yourself why we endorse keeping the Riverview Lands intact: call The Riverview Horticultural Centre Society c/o 942-7378 to set up a personal tour. Please promote the concept of preserving these lands to your colleagues.

Sincerely yours,

BURKE MOUNTAIN NATURALISTS

Elsin Tell

Elaine Golds, Chair

Education and Conservation Committee

/sn

cc: The Riverview Horticultural Society, Port Moody

E JUN 231994

## The City of Port Coquitlam

#### MEMORANDUM

TO: / J. Y

DATE: June 24, 1994

J. Yip Environmental Protection Committee

FROM:

M. Schmor

Administration Dept.

SUBJECT: Kemano Completion Project

Mayor Traboulay is referring the attached to your committee.

Maulene



File: 5.4.1.1.

June 17, 1994

Mayor and Council City of Port Coquitlam 2580 Shaughnessy Port Coquitlam, B.C. V3C 2A8

Your Worship and Members of Council:

Subject: Kemano Completion Project (KCP) in Northwest B.C.

currently under review by the British Columbia Utilities Commission

Kitimat Council members have been approached repeatedly by their counterparts in other municipalities about KCP. A recurrent theme of discussions is the lack of good information about the project. Kitimat Council has been actively involved in this issue for many years. We are pleased to include a copy of the District's brief which was presented at the BCUC hearing in Kitimat last fall.

To obtain further information on this matter, we would suggest contacting the BCUC regarding material filed as part of the hearing process. Alternately, you may wish to contact Alcan Smelters and Chemicals Ltd. or the Rivers Defence Coalition for information and their position on the project.

Yours truly,

W.R. McLellan, Municipal Clerk

WRM:sab

**Enclosure** 

CC Cauxeil
EPC

VITIAA AT

DISTRICT OF KITIMAT 270 City Centre Kitimat, British Columbia Canada V8C 2H7

Phone (604) 632-2161 Fax (604) 632-4995





**BRIEF OF THE COUNCIL** 

OF THE

**DISTRICT OF KITIMAT** 

PRESENTED TO THE

**B.C. UTILITIES COMMISSION REVIEW** 

OF THE

KEMANO COMPLETION PROJECT

November 9, 1993



On behalf of the community, I would like to welcome the Commission Members and staff to Kitimat.

With all due respect to the B.C. Utilities Commission, the District of Kitimat is not a supporter of this hearing process. We appreciate the Commission is acting on the direction of the Provincial Government and it is not the Commission's role to question the appropriateness of such direction. We believe the Provincial Government's decision to hold formal hearings into the Kemano Completion Project was inappropriate. They should have lived up to their obligations as negotiated in the 1987 Settlement Agreement.

The amount of analysis, studies and consultants reports related to the Kemano Completion Project is staggering. No one can argue that this project has not been studied extensively. The process has not been as public as some people would have liked. This was the decision of the Federal and Provincial Governments of the day.

It is not the District of Kitimat's intention to give a detailed review or rehashing of the myriad of available information. Those who have decided on balance to support the project are not likely to have their minds changed by further analysis. Those who on balance have chosen to oppose the project will likewise not change their minds.

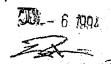
The District of Kitimat wishes to put forward what we believe are a series of common sense points regarding the Kemano Completion Project followed by several recommendations. If one thing has been lacking from our perspective, it is basic common sense. This lack of common sense is best displayed by many of the initiatives regarding Kemano Completion that attempt to turn back the clock to either 1950 or 1987. The issues of the Kemano Completion Project will not be solved in the past, they will be solved in the present. Our points and recommendations aim to the future.

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#### Common Sense Points

- Decisions were made regarding the Kemano Completion Project in 1950 and 1987.
   These were made by legitimately elected governments in conjunction with Alcan.
   These governments had a mandate to make these decisions.
- 2. Much had changed from 1950 to 1987. The philosophies and way things were done in 1950 were simply not appropriate to 1987. These were recognized by the Federal and Provincial Governments and Alcan in the 1987 Settlement Agreement. The project was studied extensively at that time. An agreement incorporating significant compromises was made in 1987 by those with a legitimate mandate and right to make such an agreement.
- 3. Alcan entered into the agreement in good faith. Alcan has a legitimate right to expect that the agreement will be honoured. If the agreement is not honoured, then Alcan has a legitimate right to expect fair compensation.
- 4. British Columbia and Canada have significant economic problems. No one disagrees that more investment and jobs are needed in this country. Investor confidence can only be shaken by the Kemano Completion experience. How can investors have confidence in agreements they make with the British Columbia Government when successor governments do not show good faith in honouring these agreements?

- 5. The delays in the Kemano Completion Project are very unfortunate. The court challenge launched by opponents of the project was rightfully found to be without merit. The decision to undertake this review through the B.C. Utilities Commission continued to add uncertainty to the future of the project. While we appreciate it was Alcan's decision not to continue building the project when these uncertainties were introduced, we must accept that these factors were beyond their control. During the interruption in construction, the economics of the project have changed. To revitalize the project in a way that is fair to all concerned should be a matter to be determined through discussions in good faith by the affected parties.
- 6. The interruption in construction has had direct and significant impacts on the B.C. economy -- particularly the economy of Northern British Columbia. The affects were felt very acutely in Kitimat as many people in our area lost their jobs, much purchasing related to Kernano Completion ceased and citizens' confidence in the local economy was shaken. We understand the joint brief of the Chambers of Commerce of Kitimat and Terrace will detail specifically the impacts on this region.
- 7. There will never be a consensus on Kemano Completion. This is not unique in major resource allocation decisions. As clearly as this is known today, this was also known in 1987. Faced with these situations, the legitimately elected government has the responsibility to deal with these matters and the mandate to make binding decisions. To reject this basic tenant of democracy leads us to the type of irresponsible anarchy that we are unfortunately seeing more and more of today.
- 8. The hands of time cannot be turned back. Those who wish to find their solution by returning to 1950 or returning to 1987 are not a constructive part of the process. The issues regarding Kemano Completion should be dealt with in the present through a process of open communication and good faith.



9. The final point we wish to make is that the Kemano Completion Project is positive for the Province of British Columbia and should be completed at an early date.

Murray Rankin, in his October 1992 "Alcan's Kemano Project: Options and Recommendations", summarized the situation at page 102:

In turn, it is recommended that the province confirm its willingness to see KCP completed. It is difficult to imagine that the province would wish to curtail construction of a huge, half-built project. Economically, it is difficult to believe that the province could say no to what is likely to be among the cheapest sources of power in the world. Environmentally, the major damage to the Nechako River system, to the Nechako Reservoir and to the Kemano River took place over 40 years ago. KCP will at worst cause only incremental damage. The power generated from KCP will defer or curtail the need to develop other sources of power in B.C., with their attendant environmental and social impacts.

From a fiscal perspective, to refuse KCP means that either Alcan or the B.C. government will have to absorb at least \$500 million for Alcan's costs to date. If B.C. reimbursed Alcan for this loss, it would have a very negative impact on the provincial deficit. In any legal contest between the province and Alcan, there is a substantial likelihood that Alcan would prevail. Similarly, even if a court were to later determine that the province has had fiduciary or constitutional obligations to the First Nations affected, once again it is the province, not Alcan, that will likely be obligated to pay compensation. Were a statute passed explicitly to deny such compensation, it would certainly have a negative impact on the reputation of the province in the international investment community.

#### Recommendations

It is easy to be negative or to demand solutions that meet the specific needs of your special interest group. Constructive and balanced solutions are what are needed.

- All parties should put their best efforts into ensuring the resumption and completion
  of the Kemano Completion Project. The Provincial Government should live up to
  the 1987 Settlement Agreement and actively support the Kemano Completion
  Project.
- 2. A project the size of the Kemano Completion Project will have environmental impacts. Within the context of completing the project, everyone agrees such environmental impacts should be addressed in a reasonable and responsible manner. This was recognized in the 1987 Settlement Agreement with the provision for ongoing monitoring and activities through joint Technical and Steering Committees. We believe the three parties, those being the Federal Government, Provincial Government and Alcan, should look at the process as ongoing with the intent of dealing with arising issues jointly and in good faith. The process should be sensitive to public input but ultimately the Federal and Provincial Governments must take the leadership role to balance competing interests.
- 3. The water and the land used to generate Kemano Completion power are ultimately a public resource. The benefits derived from use of such a resource should carry with it a commitment to economic benefits to the effected regions. This type of commitment is demonstrated in the power commitment to Vanderhoof Pulp and Paper.



Kitimat Council believes strongly a similar power commitment should be made for the Kitimat Valley. The power commitment would be available as and when needed to support economic development projects in the Kitimat Valley. The power commitment could be exercised directly by Alcan for additional aluminum smelting capacity or purchased by other industrial concerns at a rate set to facilitate development. We would ask the B.C. Utilities Commission to support a call for the Provincial Government and Alcan to enter joint discussions with appropriate local governments regarding reasonable levels of power availability to support economic development in the Kitimat Valley.

4. The District of Kitimat is very concerned that the hearing process keeps being extended including the recent announcement of extended dates for the Technical Hearings. To close, we would urge the B.C. Utilities Commission to complete their review at an early date and to resist any initiative to extend or expand the hearing process.

## FRASER BASIN MANAGEMENT BOARD BRIEFY OF PORT TO

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA UTILITIES COMMISSION REVIEW PANEL

#### ON THE KEMANO COMPLETION PROJECT

On 26 May, 1992 the federal, provincial and local governments signed the Agreement Respecting the Fraser Basin Management Program (FBMP). This Agreement commits the governments to work together to ensure the environmental, Ar Jay 13 economic and social sustainability of the Basin. The Fraser Basin Management Board, consisting of a neutral chair and three representatives of each of the federal, provincial, local and First Nations governments together with six representatives of environmental, business, labour and public interests from the regions of the Basin, was established to lead the initiative and develop the FBMP. It is under this mandate that the Board is uniquely qualified to submit a brief to the BCUC Review Panel Hearings on the Kemano Completion Project (KCP). The Board's brief has the advantage of being able to draw on the results of its multistakeholder processes used in building the FBMP. The brief focuses on the Board's activities in developing comprehensive watershed management for sustainability in the Basin including, in particular, the Nechako watershed.

At the opening hearing in Prince George on 2 April, 1993 the Board submitted a brief to the BCUC Review Panel on the KCP (Appendix 1). In this brief the Board stated that it was responding to major concerns about KCP heard during its Open Houses held throughout the Basin in early 1993, made specific recommendations on the need to broaden the Terms of Reference for the BCUC Review, and indicated its intent to submit a brief on sustainability management in the Nechako watershed at the Panel's upcoming Technical Hearings. This second brief results from that commitment and builds on the recommendations made earlier by the Board. The Board's key recommendation in this brief is that any subsequent decisions made by the governments on KCP should include specific provision for developing sustainability strategies and institutions for management of the affected watersheds such as the Nechako.

On the First Anniversary (26 May, 1993) of the signing of the Agreement the Board released its 1993-98 Strategic Plan and 1993-94 Action Plan (Appendix 2). The Strategic Plan presented the Board's vision, mandate and programs for building a sustainability strategy and institutions for management of the Fraser Basin by the end of the five-year Agreement. The commitment to contribute to the KCP Review is part of the Board's 1993-94 Action Plan.

Fraser Basin Management Program

1 In view of the Province's position of neutrality with respect to the BCUC Panel review on the KCP, the provincial government Board members have abstained from participating in the preparation of this brief.

Be sure to save this report in your Source Book under Section 9

iew on the KCP, P.O. Box 10086
preparation of Suite 2970
700 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, B.C., V7Y 180

For: (604) 660-1177

The following sections of this brief outline key activities of the Fraser Basin Management Board, a new vision of watershed governance and the role the Board will be playing in developing watershed management for sustainability in the Nechako.

A Sustainability Strategy and Institutions for Management of the Fraser Basin During 1993-94 the Board began work on the development of a sustainability strategy and institutions for the Basin and its watersheds. Activities were conducted under five Strategic Programs:

 Management strategies: Multistakeholder steering committees have been established to lead the development of management strategies and initial action plans have been adopted in four priority areas: water resources, fisheries and aquatic habitats, pollution prevention and waste minimization, and community development.

Institutional development: Options for initiating coordination and integration
of management activities in the sub-basins have been developed and
reviewed with stakeholders and an option based on establishment of regional
coordinators adopted.

Demonstration projects: From 34 submissions, four watershed and two
corridor projects have been endorsed by the Board as demonstrations of new
ways in which non-government and government stakeholders can work
together for sustainability.

Audits: Through the multistakeholder steering committees and community
workshops ways have been indentified for building on the strengths and
remedying critical gaps and weaknesses in the existing strategies and
institutions for sustainability management in watersheds and the Basin. A
more detailed assessment has focussed on flood control and floodplain
management.

• Information, Communications and Education: To improve understanding of the Fraser Basin, sustainability issues and activities of stakeholders the Source Book - a compendium of information - (Appendix 3) and a computer Bulletin Board System have been introduced. Also a multistakeholder steering committee has been established to develop a sustainability education strategy that coordinates and integrates existing environmental, economic and social education programs in watershed communities throughout the Basin.

From this initial work the Board has drawn two general conclusions both of which are being further tested and refined as part of the 1994-95 Action Plan. Firstly, there is an opportunity for sustainability of the Fraser Basin that is the envy of many other parts of the world. The Fraser is not a Thames where the miracle of salmon returns are counted one fish at a time. The mainstem of the Fraser has not yet been dammed like the Columbia and so there are still many options. The Fraser is not like the Great Lakes/St. Lawrence or Rhine or Columbia when it comes to remedying damage. To a large extent the problems from development to date in the Fraser Basin are known and reversible.

The very large flows in the mainstem Fraser greatly facilitate the restoration of water quality when sources of contaminants are controlled as has been seen recently with reductions in dioxins from pulp mill discharges. Allowing for increased escapements and restoration of habitats can restore salmon runs to historical levels from decimated numbers as was evident last year on the Horse Fly River. Except in the Lower Valley the extent, diversity and intensity of urbanindustrial development is still relatively low, only two major tributaries have been dammed and numerous headwaters remain pristine. The opportunity in the Fraser and its tributary watersheds is envied because we have not yet made the number and extent of irreversible commitments that so constrain river basins such as the Thames, Great Lakes/St. Lawrence, Rhine and Columbia, because many options remain and because past and existing problems can be remedied and avoided in the future if action is taken now.

Secondly, seeing this opportunity for sustainability, stakeholders throughout the Basin have begun to shape a new vision of matershed governance. From discussions among non-governmental and governmental stakeholders in the steering committees, community workshops (Appendix 4) and a recent intergovernmental workshop (Appendix 5), there is emerging a remarkably clear and broad agreement on a new vision of watershed governance for sustainability that can build on the strengths of existing strategies and institutions while remedying critical weaknesses and gaps.

It is immensely significant that stakeholders are already putting this vision into practice throughout the Basin even though governmental policies and institutions have historically given relatively little attention to the watershed focus. Furthermore, the vision is characterised by turning the old system of governance inside out. The old approach placed emphasis on including local government, First Nations and non-governmental stakeholders within federal and provincial government programs. By contrast, the new approach reverses the perspective; it focusses on the ways that federal and provincial government programs might be redesigned to assist non-governmental stakeholders, First Nations and local governments in the efforts they are making of their own volition to manage their watersheds in the best interests of environmental, economic and social sustainability. This new vision has major implications for the innovations required in watershed governance for sustainability.

A Vision of Watershed Governance for Sustainability of the Fraser Basin In elaborating key elements of the new vision as stakeholders have identified it to the Board, it is necessary to begin with fundamental issues relating to boundaries and then relate them to the imperatives of decision making and implementation in watershed governance for sustainability.

30L-6 MM

May 20, 1994

# Boundaries

People attach great importance to watershed boundaries. They are a natural description of where they live, the stretch of land and water they call home. The old system of governance is characterized by a maze of overlapping and shifting administrative boundaries and mandates for the activities carried out by the four orders of government. These boundaries variously delineate areas on the basis of such factors as population, political units, land use, economic activity, forest resources, tourism, First Nations territories, etc. They are often in conflict with one another and create barriers to coordination and integration.

The new vision is framed by the natural boundaries of the watershed - the area drained by a stream or river. The basin is defined by its tributary watersheds. The river is the lifeblood that unifies the human, ecological, and physical elements of the watershed. Watershed boundaries change in sync with the millennia of geologic periods rather than three or five year electoral mandates. Within the watershed environmental, social and economic systems operate in concert with one another. Thus, for example, trees cut in the headwaters are cut at a pace to ensure long term community stability and in a manner to preserve biodiversity. Likewise, water diversions that substantially undermine community stability and the resilience of the aquatic ecosystem are avoided. Decisions related to sustainability are then being made because the connections between the environment, economy and community within the watershed and between watersheds are recognized, understood and maintained by its residents.

Decision Making

Decision making in the old governance system has been widely typified as "top-down." In this system, decisions are made at the "top" by provincial and federal government agencies and imposed on those "down" below in municipalities, regions and First Nations - presumably with little or no input from those affected by the decisions. In a top-down system, for the most part, homogeneous or blanket policies and regulations are laid over top of heterogeneous communities; programs and services are distributed according to federal or provincial budgets; and responsibilities are downloaded without resources or authority.

Decision making in the new watershed vision recognizes both top-down and bottom up perspectives and responsibilities. It is characterized by these three elements: local decision making, the involvement of all interests with a stake in the outcome, and working by consensus. Together these three elements help people learn to see themselves as partners who work together in mutually beneficial partnerships.

Local decision making

At the local level, residents of an area have a first hand understanding of the issues they face and opportunities to resolve them. In the new vision, decisions are made with the benefit of local experience and knowledge, and with a recognition of larger interests of the Basin, province, nation and globe. In its

simplest form the decision making process is "thinking globally and acting locally." When responsibility is devolved, the arrangements include assurances of accountability and providing adequate resources for implementation at local levels. When broad policies and legislation are developed or revised, local needs, values, goals and interests are sought and considered in balancing wider provincial and federal interests. These broad policies and legislation then become tools for appropriate application at the local level.

#### Multi-Interest involvement

The new vision encompasses an inclusive process of multi-interest involvement one that extends to First Nations, local, provincial and federal orders of government together with non-government interests. All have the opportunity to participate from the outset in defining the scope and nature of the problems and creating solutions that strive for an accommodation of the range of interests. An inclusive decision making process leads to committed multi-interest implementation. It also allows for a "pooling" of resources, providing greater potential for more effective usage as resources grow ever more scarce.

### Consensus processes

Decision making in the new vision is shared among all stakeholders. The process of consensus is facilitated so people can share views and interests, develop common visions and objectives, and reach creative agreements which reflect all interests to the greatest extent possible. Even when consensus is not reached on all aspects of a decision, the process highlights areas of agreement and moves all parties closer to resolution. The development of working relationships, shared understanding and trust are benefits of the process which prove to be invaluable during implementation of decisions reached.

### **Partnerships**

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Implementation

In the existing system of governance, the decision making style manifests in a number of undesirable outcomes: lack of trust in, among and within governments; turf wars; jurisdictional confusion; conflicting mandates and boundaries; poor communication; withholding of information; and lack of credibility in the eyes of the public. Once decisions are made in the top-down

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system, implementation is constrained by the lack of communication and cooperation among all orders of government and non-government interests.

In the new vision of watershed governance, cooperative implementation flows from cooperative decision making. The "top" and "bottom" meet to create a seamless, coordinated governance system. Success comes through the development of common visions, establishment of achievable objectives, support of stewardship projects, accessibility of information, and integration of environmental, economic and social education. Each one of these keys to success contributes to the decision making process. They support the new vision of watershed governance for sustainability by providing new roles and responsibilities for individuals, communities and governments.

### Communities

The real work of balancing environmental, economic and social interests in a watershed begins with the development of a common vision. Through a visioning process, participants picture how sustainability will look in their watershed and communities. In building this common vision, participants share their hopes, fears, values and interests -the driving forces that shape the opinions they bring to the decision making table and the actions they take in the watershed. The common vision that results sets up a shared purpose for all nongovernment and government participants.

### Achievable objectives

In the new vision of watershed governance, communities begin following through on the vision by setting priorities and focusing on clear, achievable objectives. The fulfillment that comes through reaching targets and meeting expectations is essential in maintaining positive momentum and commitment to projects and to the watershed. A series of small successes lays the ground work for tackling larger projects. Lessons are learned along the way about new ways of working together in cooperative arrangements - and they are learned in the context of both success and failure.

### Stewardship projects

Stewardship is about taking responsibility as individuals, communities and governments; individually and collectively we become stewards of the watershed. Stewardship projects focus "hands-on" energy and expertise on the restoration, maintenance and enhancement of the river. In the new vision of watershed governance, the community defines its own needs and seeks partnership with industry and all orders of government in defining common objectives. Industry and governments provide support and resources such as expert advice, funding, networking to other stewardship projects, training of volunteers, and equipment. Stewardship projects increase awareness of sustainability issues in the watershed, encourage positive actions toward sustainability, and increase the sense of pride and ownership residents hold for their watershed.

# Accessibility

In the new vision, residents have access to information on matters that affect how they live, work and play in the watershed. This information is provided in their communities and is also available in plain language. Opportunities are provided for sharing information and asking questions in non-adversarial settings. Credible information about ongoing programs and results from studies is available and accessible to assist the community in understanding issues and participating in decision-making processes. Data from all orders of government and non-governmental organizations are pooled and coordinated to meet the needs of those seeking information.

### **Education**

The goal of sustainability in the watershed will come about only through changes in the way we act on a day-to-day basis; as individuals, communities and governments. Changes in behaviour come about through changes in attitude and awareness. Communications and education play a critical role in creating awareness about the interdependence and the dynamics of environmental, social and economic sustainability. All residents of the Basin, from pre-schoolers to retirees, have a role to play in achieving sustainability. In the new vision, education and communications efforts in the watersheds reach a wide range of audiences and help people understand the challenges and opportunities of sustainability.

### Developing Watershed Management in 1994-95

As part of its Action Plan for 1994-95, the Board will be further testing and refining this new vision of watershed governance for sustainability in several ways, in particular by beginning to apply it in selected watersheds of the Basin including the Nechako. Reduced funding for 1994-95 has lead the Board to focus its Action Plan into four programs:

- Sustainability Strategy: The integrated sustainability strategy to be in first draft by 1997 will be designed and the multistakeholder steering committees in each of the four priority areas will focus on the development of these components of the strategy, as well as monitoring the implementation of their 1994-95 Action Plans.
- Sub-basin Coordination: Institutional development will concentrate on the iniatiation of sub-basin coordination by establishing regional coordinators for the FBMP, who will also build close links with the demonstration projects.
- Audits: Following the multistakeholder approach piloted in the assessment of flood control programs, assessments will be made of two major program areas: the Fraser River Action Plan and the various policy and legislative initiatives shaping new approaches to watershed management.
- Information, Communications and Education: A second edition of the Source Book will be produced, the computer bulletin board system will be expanded and the integration of environmental, economic and social sustainability education programs will be piloted in selected watershed communities.

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Two parts of this Action Plan will be particularly important in meeting the Board's mandate to facilitate coordination and integration of watershed sustainability management in the Basin and in particular in the Nechako.

Assessment of various initiatives impacting on approaches to watershed management. A wide variety of governmental initiatives are either already underway or will be introduced shortly that impact on various aspects of the governance system in the watersheds of the Fraser Basin. These include Water Stewardship, CORE, Protected Areas Strategy, Land and Resource Management Planning, Forest Practices Code, Fraser River Estuary Management Program, Burrard Inlet Environmental Action Program, Fraser River Action Plan, Treaty Commission etc. The specific focus of the Board's evaluation will be on how these initiatives relate to the development of watershed management with particular emphasis on implementation of the new vision for sustainability and the varied situations in watersheds of the Fraser Basin. From the multistakeholder workshops conducted during the past year, it is evident that there are important lessons to be learned about strengths and weaknesses from the various approaches that are already in operation (e.g. FREMP, LRMPs, CORE). At the same time, it is clear that the differences between watershed situations have major implications for caution in applying experience from one part of the Basin to another.

• Introduction of regional coordinators to begin coordination and integration of the FBMP in the sub-basins. While the community workshops and demonstration projects have made the Board acutely aware of the immense amount and diversity of stakeholder activity in the regions of the Basin, it is as yet not well informed about them. The first task of the regional coordinators will be to become familiar with who is doing what and then begin to work with stakeholders in identifying how watershed management can be advanced by building on the strengths of ongoing initiatives and remedying gaps and

weaknesses on a priority basis.

It is in this context that the Board will be addressing the development of watershed sustainability management throughout the Fraser Basin. The Board recognizes that developing and implementing a management program for the entire Fraser Basin is a challenging task. Based upon its appreciation of this new vision, it believes one way of doing this is facilitating the development of management programs at the watershed level. Although each one would have its own characteristics and priorities for action, common elements would emerge. Many of these common elements are already being developed through existing planning initiatives previously mentioned. These and new ones would be applied to new watershed management programs as they are developed throughout the Basin.

Developing the Nechako Watershed Management Program

The great concerns raised by stakeholders throughout the Basin, as well as from outside of it, have lead the Board to give priority to facilitating the development

of watershed sustainability management in the Nechako. In this way it will be possible to respond to the diverse issues about the future of the watershed that may not have been addressed by the BCUC Review of the KCP because they lay outside of its terms of reference. This will be required whatever the specifics of the conclusions and recommendations reached by the BCUC Panel in its report to the provincial government.

The approach that will be taken by the Board builds on its experience to date in developing both the overall Fraser Basin Management Program and a pilot in the South Thompson watershed. The Board will establish a multistakeholder task force with specific terms of reference including appropriate members of the Board and representation of key stakeholders. Outlined here is the first phase of a staged approach for evolving a management program that meets the specific requirements of the Nechako. The products at the end of Phase I would be an initial Nechako Watershed Management Program (NWMP) consisting of the first edition of a rolling five year strategic plan for developing the sustainability strategy and institutions for the watershed together with an immediate action plan for the first year. Given the Board's experience with this type of approach and its ongoing work elsewhere in the Basin on particular elements that will need to be considered, it is believed Phase I could be completed within six months. Phase II would be defined by the specifics of the strategic and action plans.

The membership of the task force for carrying out Phase I and the specific terms of reference will be established by the FBMB. The task force will be chaired by a member of the Board. In selecting members of the task force, the Board will follow its usual practice of ensuring that there is appropriate representation of the four orders of government and non-governmental interests. The Board would develop specific terms of reference for Phase I which reflect the FBMP Agreement and the new vision of watershed management.

It is envisaged that the work will be undertaken largely by the task force with support from staff of the Board and short-term assignments from participating organisations. As needed the task force would use workshops or sub-groups to involve other stakeholders in developing and reviewing its report. It is our experience that this can be a highly productive and cost-effective approach.

There are three major tasks that will need to be undertaken by the task force during Phase I:

• Identify breadth of interests and existing governance system: At the outset work would need to be undertaken to identify stakeholders and how they are presently involved in the existing governance systems of the watershed. The records from interventions in the BCUC Review provide considerable information but also it will be necessary to identify key stakeholders and processes which may not have been involved.

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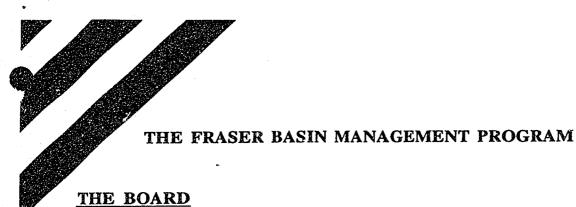
# May 20, 1994

- Assess the existing governance system: Although there is presently no overall
  watershed management system established in the Nechako, there is a wide
  variety of governmental and non-governmental processes underway that
  might be utilised in beginning to build the NWMP. An assessment of the
  potential for building on the strengths and remedying critical gaps and
  weaknesses in the existing governance system will be necessary.
- Develop a strategic and action plan: Like the first edition of the strategic plan for the FBMP, the one for the NWMP will provide an initial statement of its mandate, goals and programs. In the case of the Nechako, it will also need to include specific provisions for both its coordination and integration with the FBMP and a multistakeholder mechanism for leading the development and implementation of the NWMP. The action plan for the first year would include items both addressing critical issues in high priority areas of management and beginning to build the sustainability strategies and institutions required to implement the strategic plan for the NWMP. It would include the local implementation of the specific recommendations of the BCUC Panel, such as those relating to monitoring, research, mitigation and compensation, accepted by the governments. Phase II would begin with the implementation of the action plan for the first year of the NWMP.

In conclusion therefore, the Fraser Basin Management Board is recommending that any subsequent decisions made by the governments on the KCP include specific provisions for developing sustainability strategies and institutions for management of the affected watersheds consistent with the Agreement Respecting the Fraser Basin Management Program.

It is important that the KCP Review Panel appreciate the importance of supporting the Board's recommendation to the governments for developing watershed sustainability management as an integral part of its own recommendations in order that any options relevant to the sustainability of the Nechako and the Fraser Basin not be foreclosed. When the Board speaks to this brief in Phase IV of the BCUC Hearing later this summer, it will report on the response from stakeholders and progress being made in implementing Phase I.

Attached: List of Fraser Basin Management Board Members



A unique multi-party management board consisting of a chairperson, three federal, three provincial, three local and three First Nations government appointees, and six members-at-large representing environmental, industry, business, and labour interests from all regions of the Basin. The members are:

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# OUR CHALLENGE

Our challenge is to guide the development and implementation of a management program to ensure the environmental, economic and social sustainability of the Fraser Basin.



Fraser Basin Management Program

P.O. Box 10086
Suite 2970
700 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, B.C., V7Y 180

Tel: (604) 660-1177

May 20, 1994

# FRASER BASIN MANAGEMENT BOARD BRIEF TO TO THE BRITISH COLUMBIA UTILITIES COMMISSION REVIEW PANEL ON THE KEMANO COMPLETION PROJECT

On 26 May, 1992 the federal, provincial and local governments signed the Agreement Respecting the Fraser Basin Management Program (FBMP). This Agreement commits the governments to work together to ensure the environmental, economic and social sustainability of the Basin. The Fraser Basin Management Board, consisting of a neutral chair and three representatives of each of the federal, provincial, local and First Nations governments together with six representatives of environmental, business, labour and public interests from the regions of the Basin, was established to lead the initiative and develop the FBMP. It is under this mandate that the Board is uniquely qualified to submit a brief to the BCUC Review Panel Hearings on the Kemano Completion Project (KCP). The Board's brief has the advantage of being able to draw on the results of its multistakeholder processes used in building the FBMP. The brief focuses on the Board's activities in developing comprehensive watershed management for sustainability in the Basin including, in particular, the Nechako watershed.

At the opening hearing in Prince George on 2 April, 1993 the Board submitted a brief to the BCUC Review Panel on the KCP (Appendix 1). In this brief the Board stated that it was responding to major concerns about KCP heard during its Open Houses held throughout the Basin in early 1993, made specific recommendations on the need to broaden the Terms of Reference for the BCUC Review, and indicated its intent to submit a brief on sustainability management in the Nechako watershed at the Panel's upcoming Technical Hearings. This second brief results from that commitment and builds on the recommendations made earlier by the Board. The Board's key recommendation in this brief is that any subsequent decisions made by the governments on KCP should include specific provision for developing sustainability strategies and institutions for management of the affected watersheds such as the Nechako.

On the First Anniversary (26 May, 1993) of the signing of the *Agreement* the Board released its 1993-98 Strategic Plan and 1993-94 Action Plan (Appendix 2). The Strategic Plan presented the Board's vision, mandate and programs for building a sustainability strategy and institutions for management of the Fraser Basin by the end of the five-year *Agreement*. The commitment to contribute to the KCP Review is part of the Board's 1993-94 Action Plan.

Fraser Basin Management Program

<sup>1</sup>In view of the Province's position of neutrality with respect to the BCUC Panel review on the KCP, the provincial government Board members have abstained from participating in the preparation of this brief.

Be sure to save this report in your Source Book under Section 9

P.O. Box 10086 Suite 2970 700 West Georgia Street Vancouver, B.C., V7Y 186

Tel: (604) 660-1177 Ear. (604) 660-2600 The very large flows in the mainstein Fraser greatly facilitate the restoration of water quality when sources of contaminants are controlled as has been seen recently with reductions in dioxins from pulp mill discharges. Allowing for increased escapements and restoration of habitats can restore salmon runs to historical levels from decimated numbers as was evident last year on the Horse Fly River. Except in the Lower Valley the extent, diversity and intensity of urbanindustrial development is still relatively low, only two major tributaries have been dammed and numerous headwaters remain pristine. The opportunity in the Fraser and its tributary watersheds is envied because we have not yet made the number and extent of irreversible commitments that so constrain river basins such as the Thames, Great Lakes/St. Lawrence, Rhine and Columbia, because many options remain and because past and existing problems can be remedied and avoided in the future if action is taken now.

Secondly, seeing this opportunity for sustainability, stakeholders throughout the Basin have begun to shape a new vision of watershed governance. From discussions among non-governmental and governmental stakeholders in the steering committees, community workshops (Appendix 4) and a recent intergovernmental workshop (Appendix 5), there is emerging a remarkably clear and broad agreement on a new vision of watershed governance for sustainability that can build on the strengths of existing strategies and institutions while remedying critical weaknesses and gaps.

It is immensely significant that stakeholders are already putting this vision into practice throughout the Basin even though governmental policies and institutions have historically given relatively little attention to the watershed focus. Furthermore, the vision is characterised by turning the old system of governance inside out. The old approach placed emphasis on including local government, First Nations and non-governmental stakeholders within federal and provincial government programs. By contrast, the new approach reverses the perspective; it focusses on the ways that federal and provincial government programs might be redesigned to assist non-governmental stakeholders, First Nations and local governments in the efforts they are making of their own volition to manage their watersheds in the best interests of environmental, economic and social sustainability. This new vision has major implications for the innovations required in watershed governance for sustainability.

A Vision of Watershed Governance for Sustainability of the Fraser Basin In elaborating key elements of the new vision as stakeholders have identified it to the Board, it is necessary to begin with fundamental issues relating to boundaries and then relate them to the imperatives of decision making and implementation in watershed governance for sustainability. simplest form the decision making process is "thinking globally and acting locally." When responsibility is devolved, the arrangements include assurances of accountability and providing adequate resources for implementation at local levels. When broad policies and legislation are developed or revised, local needs, values, goals and interests are sought and considered in balancing wider provincial and federal interests. These broad policies and legislation then become tools for appropriate application at the local level.

### Multi-Interest involvement

The new vision encompasses an inclusive process of multi-interest involvement one that extends to First Nations, local, provincial and federal orders of government together with non-government interests. All have the opportunity to participate from the outset in defining the scope and nature of the problems and creating solutions that strive for an accommodation of the range of interests. An inclusive decision making process leads to committed multi-interest implementation. It also allows for a "pooling" of resources, providing greater potential for more effective usage as resources grow ever more scarce.

# Consensus processes

Decision making in the new vision is shared among all stakeholders. The process of consensus is facilitated so people can share views and interests, develop common visions and objectives, and reach creative agreements which reflect all interests to the greatest extent possible. Even when consensus is not reached on all aspects of a decision, the process highlights areas of agreement and moves all parties closer to resolution. The development of working relationships, shared understanding and trust are benefits of the process which prove to be invaluable during implementation of decisions reached.

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Program

P.O. Box 10086 Suite 2970 700 West Georgia Street Vancouver, B.C., V7Y 186

Tel: (604) 660-1177 Fax: (604) 660-3600

# The City of Port Coquitlam

# **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

DATE: July 22, 1994

J. Yip Environmental Protection Committee

FROM:

M. Schmor Administration Dept.

SUBJECT: The Fraser River Action Plan - Mid Term Report

Mayor Traboulay is referring the attached to your committee.

CITY OF PORT COQUITLAM ENGINEERING DEPT.  JUN 22 1994			
		FROM	DATE

Government of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada 7.4p(ERC)

Dear Fraser Basin stakeholder:

### FRASER RIVER ACTION PLAN

We are pleased to send you the enclosed Fraser River Action Plan Mid-Term Report, which chronicles the federal government's activities in the first three years of the ambitious initiative. The Fraser River Action Plan was launched in 1991 in response to public concerns about the environment as well as to mounting pressures on the Fraser Basin's ecosystems from increasing population growth, economic development and demand for resources.

Carried out by Environment Canada and Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the six-year initiative is making significant progress toward its objectives of cleaning up pollution, restoring the great river's productivity and developing a management program to ensure the Fraser Basin's sustainability. Still, much work remains to be done. The cooperation and involvement of all stakeholders in the basin is crucial to achieving these goals and to ensuring the long-term environmental health of this vital watershed.

Your interest in the Fraser Basin is appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

P.S. Chamut Director-General

Pacific Region

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

E.D. Anthony

Director-General

Pacific and Yukon Region

Environment Canada

Encl.

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