



ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS 2019 – 2020

Our Work For Sustainability

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OUR VISION

Social well-being supported by a vibrant economy
and sustained by a healthy environment

OUR MANDATE

To Advance Sustainability in the Fraser
Basin and throughout British Columbia



Fraser Basin Council

Fraser Basin Council — Supporting BC communities

The Fraser Basin Council (FBC) brings people together to find practical, common sense solutions to today's sustainability issues. Formed in 1997, the Council is a non-profit society that serves British Columbia's communities as a facilitator and educator — helping leaders in multiple sectors work together.

The Council is led by 38 directors drawn from the four orders of government — Federal, Provincial, Local and First Nations — and from the private and not-for-profit sectors. Representatives from local government are appointed by regional districts in the Fraser Basin and work collaboratively on the direction of our organization.

Working with You to Advance Sustainability

BC communities are on the front line of sustainability challenges. The Fraser Basin Council helps communities advance the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainability, with a core focus on Fraser River Basin communities.

Our work spans three key areas:

- **Climate change and air quality**
- **Watersheds and water resources**
- **Community and regional sustainability.**

FBC programs are intended to support and complement the work of all orders of government, including regional and municipal governments, and to promote the health, well-being and sustainability commitments of residents. The financial support FBC receives from communities is well-leveraged – by nine dollars for every dollar invested, through additional public and private partnership projects across BC.

Facilitation – We bring people together

The Fraser Basin Council is frequently invited to serve as an impartial facilitator on sustainability issues. We help government, private and non-profit sector leaders connect – and we bring together people representing different interests and perspectives to safe tables to learn, canvass options and find collaborative solutions. We do not advocate for a specific position or prescribe a particular course of action, but rather help people find common ground. This is what inspires us most in our work!

Education – We build understanding

The Fraser Basin Council supports opportunities to advance an understanding of sustainability and various options for sustainability action by government, other entities and individuals. We partner on innovative sustainability education programs, demonstration projects and incentive programs.

FBC also works on conflict and dispute resolution, applied research and analysis, and program coordination on sustainability initiatives.

Our Team in 2020

Since March, 2020, Fraser Basin Council staff have been working remotely to respect COVID-19 distancing requirements and have transitioned to virtual meetings and events. We continue to advance a range of sustainability initiatives important to residents of the Lower Mainland and other parts of BC, and we are working to enhance our online content delivery, through new sites, webinars and resources.



The FBC Youth Committee in 2019 – a new generation of sustainability leadership

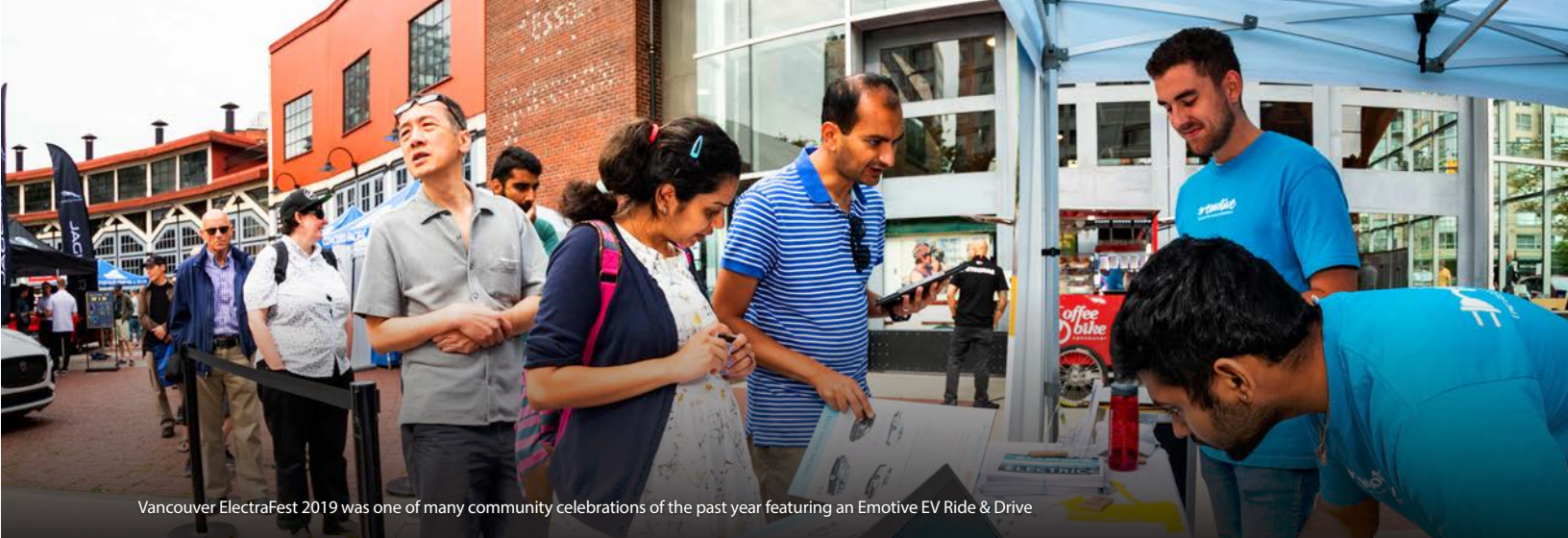
THE FRASER BASIN COUNCIL

FBC is a charitable non-profit society that brings people together to advance sustainability in the Fraser River Basin and throughout British Columbia.



THE CHARTER FOR SUSTAINABILITY

The overall framework for the Fraser Basin Council's work is the Charter for Sustainability. The Charter is a good-faith agreement, signed by multiple sectors in 1997, that reflects a shared commitment to collaborative action for a more sustainable future.



Vancouver ElectraFest 2019 was one of many community celebrations of the past year featuring an Emotive EV Ride & Drive

Climate Change and Air Quality

Climate change poses significant social, economic and environmental risks for communities. FBC helps communities two ways: in tackling the emissions that drive climate change and in building resilience to climate change impacts.

Building BC's EV Network

The Fraser Basin Council is helping BC communities and residents in the shift to cleaner transportation. Through the Plug In BC program, we manage provincial incentives and offer assistance to support the adoption of electric vehicles in BC. In 2019-2020, incentives were available to help people install EV charging stations in multi-unit residential buildings and workplaces – and these proved very popular. We were pleased to increase installations beyond original projections, through funding from BC Hydro.



Our EV advisors can help people understand EV charging and the steps to installing charging stations in shared parking spaces. Reach them through pluginbc.ca.

Over the year, FBC's EV Advisors fielded nearly 600 inquiries about electric vehicles and charging stations, and made over 100 site visits. An important focus was to help people navigate the process of installing stations in shared parking areas.

Emotive – The Electric Vehicle Experience is an educational program that introduces BC drivers to electric vehicles. There were over 50 EV Ride & Drive events under the Emotive banner in 2019-2020. Two-thirds were led by communities or community organizations, and assisted by FBC through provincial incentives. At these events, 20,000 people learned about electric vehicles, including hundreds who jumped on board for test drives. While spring-summer 2020 events will be postponed because of social distancing requirements, online education and advice services have expanded. FBC is looking ahead to 2,500 EV test drives next season at community events and the next Vancouver auto show.

BC communities, institutions and businesses can often integrate into their fleets both electric cars and specialty use electric vehicles, such as electric motorcycles, low-speed vehicles, buses, medium-duty trucks and port/airport equipment. The change can reduce their carbon footprint and save fuel costs. In 2019-2020, over 242 specialty vehicles were purchased with incentives, and another 100 purchases are expected this year.

FBC will encourage clean transportation through new partnerships with the Province of BC in 2020-2021 – to install 80 new EV fast chargers across BC and to help fleets electrify through training, business case development and multi-sector infrastructure funding.

Are you seeking support, or know of people in your community with EV questions? Connect with us via pluginbc.ca. Plus follow **Emotive – The Electric Vehicle Experience** on Facebook.



Peeking under the hood at Move2Electric in Comox (2019)



Thanks to our Emotive ambassadors who volunteered at community events throughout BC in 2019-2020



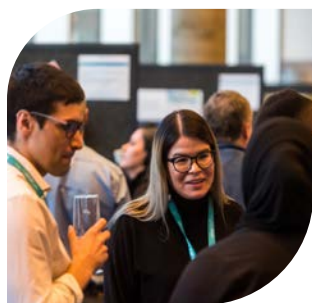
The 2019 BC West Coast Electric Fleets symposium in Richmond brought together over 200 people to explore the business case for electrifying public and private sector fleets



Adaptation Canada 2020 (February 19-21) | Vancouver, BC

Adaptation Canada 2020

Adaptation Canada 2020 was a three-day national conference hosted by the Fraser Basin Council in Vancouver in February. The event brought together over 700 people from all sectors, featured over 175 speakers, 60 concurrent sessions and 35 poster presentations, and profiled the latest climate change adaptation research, programs and case studies from communities around BC, throughout Canada and beyond. The conference connected delegates through mentorship, put the spotlight on the leadership of First Nations and youth, and was crafted for climate-friendly design, including a plant-based menu and minimal waste. We appreciate the enthusiasm that everyone brought to the event and thank all who made it a success.



Building Climate Change Resilience in Communities

The BC Adaptation Collaborative is a program to support communities in climate adaptation planning and action – including through educational webinars and workshops throughout the year.

Through the **Northeast Climate Risk Network**, we support northern communities that want to advance climate adaptation. In 2019 FBC and Shift Collaborative worked with several communities to complete climate change vulnerability assessments (Fort St. John, Dawson Creek, Tumbler Ridge, Chetwynd and Northern Rockies Regional Municipality) and a scoping project (Pouce Coupe).

We also help communities to improve energy efficiency in buildings to reduce pollution, lower GHG emissions and build climate resilience. Through the First Nations Home EnergySave program, FBC supports training opportunities and community success stories on home renovation and quality, energy-efficient construction. Additionally, through the Renewable Energy for Remote Communities (RERC) program, FBC is providing financial support for renewable energy projects for remote communities that are transitioning away from diesel power.



Winners of the Aboriginal Youth Climate Art Contest display their unique art pieces to express how climate change has impacted their lives and communities (Adaptation Canada 2020, February 19-21)



Theresa Fresco of FBC congratulates CEO Phil Arrata of Mountain Equipment Co-op for achieving Salmon-Safe certification of MEC's new flagship store in Vancouver in early March, 2020. MEC has committed to avoiding pesticides in all landscape maintenance and on its green roof. A new rainwater harvesting system at the store is designed to improve the quality of stormwater run-off and reduce overall water use in the building.

Watersheds & Water Resources

Watershed Planning and Support

FBC encourages collaborative work in watersheds – and one approach is through community and regional watershed roundtables and planning processes that involve multiple interests.

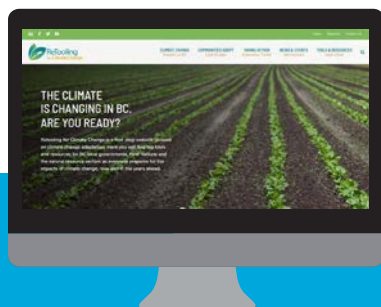
The Shuswap Watershed Council (SWC), for which FBC is secretariat, focuses on water quality monitoring, water quality protection, recreational safety on the water, and boater education to avoid the introduction of invasive zebra and quagga mussels in the Shuswap region. In 2019-2020 the SWC launched a program to provide grants to agricultural producers and other land managers to help prevent excess nutrients from entering waterways: see shuswapwater.ca.

Other watershed work is underway in the Nicola watershed, the Nechako watershed, the Horsefly River watershed and at Cultus Lake.

Salmon-Safe BC

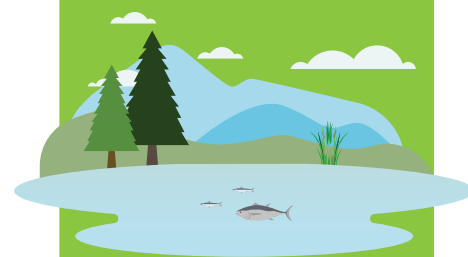
Salmon-Safe BC is an eco-certification program managed by FBC to recognize land management practices in agriculture (farms and vineyards) and in urban development that enhance and protect Pacific salmon habitat and water quality.

In the urban context, certification is available to BC municipalities and regional districts, developers and other public and private sector land owners. Certification can apply to spaces such as parks and natural areas, college or university campuses, business sites and residential developments in urban, suburban and rural settings. Land can be certified even if it has no watercourses on it. This recognizes that commercial, industrial and residential activities, even those not immediately adjacent to streams and rivers, have long-term cumulative impacts on fish and other aquatic species. There are three certified urban sites to date, and recent Salmon-Safe presentations at DIALOG and the Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference show high interest in the concept among developers.



ReTooling for Climate Change (retooling.ca) will be relaunched in 2020. This is a first step for all BC communities, large and small, that want to advance work on climate adaptation. FBC also supports the **Climate Action Toolkit (toolkit.bc.ca)** to help communities in cutting greenhouse gas emissions.

Cultus - Looking at a Lake in Transition



The Fraser Basin Council and Fraser Valley Watersheds Coalition are working together to highlight the results of studies on nutrient loading (nitrogen and phosphorus) into the lake from different sources. The work should be helpful to decision-makers and stewards because the lake has reached an early stage of cultural eutrophication – a condition that threatens water quality values over the long term for people, wildlife and fish. A summary, info sheet and technical report will be available later in the summer.



A Flood Forum in October 2019 was an opportunity for all orders of government to learn about new flood modelling and mapping work in the Lower Mainland and to discuss flood risk reduction priorities, funding and governance

floodwise.ca



FloodWise is a new website that goes live in late July at floodwise.ca. Lower Mainland residents can learn more about Lower Fraser River and coastal flood hazards and the importance of collective and individual flood risk reduction. The site features videos, a pictorial story map and progress reports on the regional strategy.

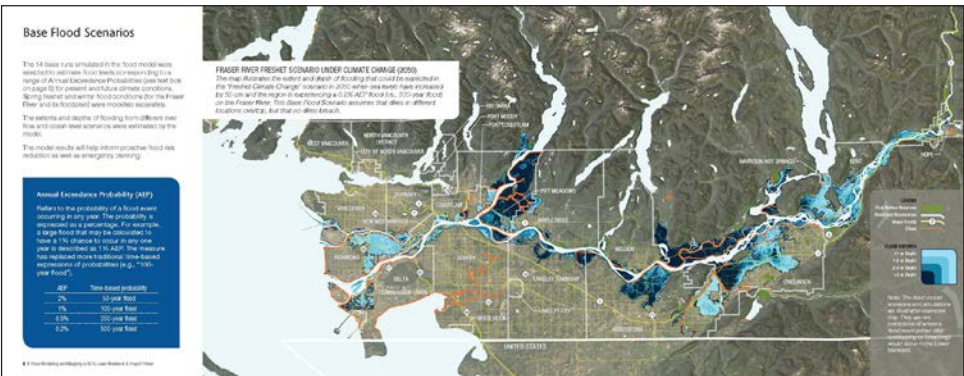
(Right, Map) Phase 2 of the LMFMS work includes new modelling and mapping of Fraser River and coastal flood scenarios in the Lower Mainland for present day, 2050 and 2100, which reflect projected increases in flood frequency and magnitude under climate change. The modelling and mapping account for current flood infrastructure, but do not account for any future diking upgrades or other flood risk reduction or emergency response measures that are now planned, or may be planned, for the region. The maps will be available on the new FloodWise website.

Community & Regional Sustainability

Lower Mainland Flood Management Strategy

The Lower Mainland Flood Management Strategy (LMFMS) is a multi-year initiative aimed at the creation of a region-wide strategy to reduce flood risk and improve the flood resilience of communities along the lower Fraser River and south coast — from Hope to Richmond and from Squamish to White Rock. There are over 50 funding partners and participant organizations. The work is guided by a Leadership Committee representing the partners whose staff also participate on the Joint Program Committee for Integrated Flood Hazard Management and project-specific working groups. FBC oversees the work as program manager.

Phase 2 of the strategy development is underway. New modelling and mapping work for a number of Fraser River and coastal flood scenarios, which includes consideration of climate change impacts, was completed in 2019. The work was summarized in a plain-language primer, circulated to LMFMS partners and discussed at the October 2019 Flood Forum.



Other Flood Projects

Here are other flood initiatives that FBC has recently completed or is currently overseeing:

- **Thompson & Cariboo:** Base-level flood hazard mapping and Lidar acquisition was undertaken in 2019-2020. The project identifies sites subject to flooding, helps prioritize areas for detailed study, supports conversations on flood risk reduction, and informs the agencies responsible for emergency preparedness and response: see thompsonflood.ca
- **Provincial Flood Strategies:** Research and engagement is underway to inform flood hazard and risk management policies and practices of all orders of government across BC.
- **Orphan Dikes Assessment:** Orphan dikes are those without a diking authority. This project includes site assessment, risk assessment and preliminary designs and cost estimates to rehabilitate orphan dikes in BC to meet provincial dike standards.
- **Seismic Vulnerability and Resilience of Dikes:** This project is updating information on the seismic vulnerability and resilience of high-consequence dikes in the Lower Mainland and will inform professional practice guidelines.



Community Wildfire Roundtables

Community wildfire roundtables were formed in 2019-2020 in Williams Lake, Clearwater and Clinton to better protect these communities and their surrounding areas. FBC was invited to assist each roundtable in coordinating its work for better wildfire preparedness and risk reduction. The roundtables will help advance Community Wildfire Protection Plans, coordinate resources and training for volunteer fire departments, and encourage broad participation and collaboration by all orders of government and those working in forestry, agriculture and other sectors.



Working Community to Community, Government to Government

Good government-to-government relationships build a foundation of shared strength and mutual respect. Over the past year, FBC has been honoured to play a supporting role to help in multi-government initiatives, including these:

- The Province of BC and Tsilhqot'in National Government are working collaboratively on land and resource management in the Cariboo-Chilcotin
- Sea to Sky regional partnerships are underway for better management of recreational tourism. The Province of BC and Squamish Nation have begun work on a recreation management strategy for the greater Shannon Basin, and the Province of BC and Lil'wat Nation are focusing on public visitation at Meager Creek and Keyhole Hot Springs
- A First Nations–British Columbia Wildlife and Habitat Conservation Forum was convened to bring together wildlife experts and knowledge holders from 40+ First Nations across BC. The aim was to reform wildlife management and reflect Indigenous perspectives in a manner consistent with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- FBC facilitated a Community to Community (C2C) Forum in Lillooet for six St'at'imc communities, the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District and District of Lillooet this past year. In another C2C Forum, the Ashcroft Indian Band and Village of Ashcroft came together to draft a community-to-community protocol agreement that will be signed in the near future.
- FBC assisted the BC Interior Forest Sector Renewal program in the engagement of 26 communities.



Representatives from the Syilx Okanagan, Ktunaxa and Secwepemc nations, British Columbia and Canada signed an agreement in 2019 to explore ways to reintroduce Pacific salmon into the Upper Columbia Basin. Salmon in the Columbia system have been unable to reach their traditional spawning grounds in Canada since construction of the Grand Coulee dam in eastern Washington State in the 1930s. CEO David Marshall of FBC was a co-facilitator of the discussions that led to the agreement.



Youth Leadership on Sustainability

Youth bring fresh perspectives – and inspiration – to the Fraser Basin Council. In spring 2020, the FBC Youth Program completed Year 1 of Co-Creating a Sustainable BC – a program that encourages young people (aged 16–30) to lead collaborative community projects on their choice of sustainability issues. Two youth cohorts, in the Sea to Sky and Thompson regions, opted to focus on waste reduction through community composting.

New youth-led projects are slated for the Fraser Valley, Prince George, Thompson and Cariboo-Chilcotin this year. Do you know young people who would like to come on board? Contact Cherry Tam (ctam@fraserbasin.bc.ca).

Connect with the Fraser Basin Council youth programs team on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook – and visit fbcyouthprogram.ca.



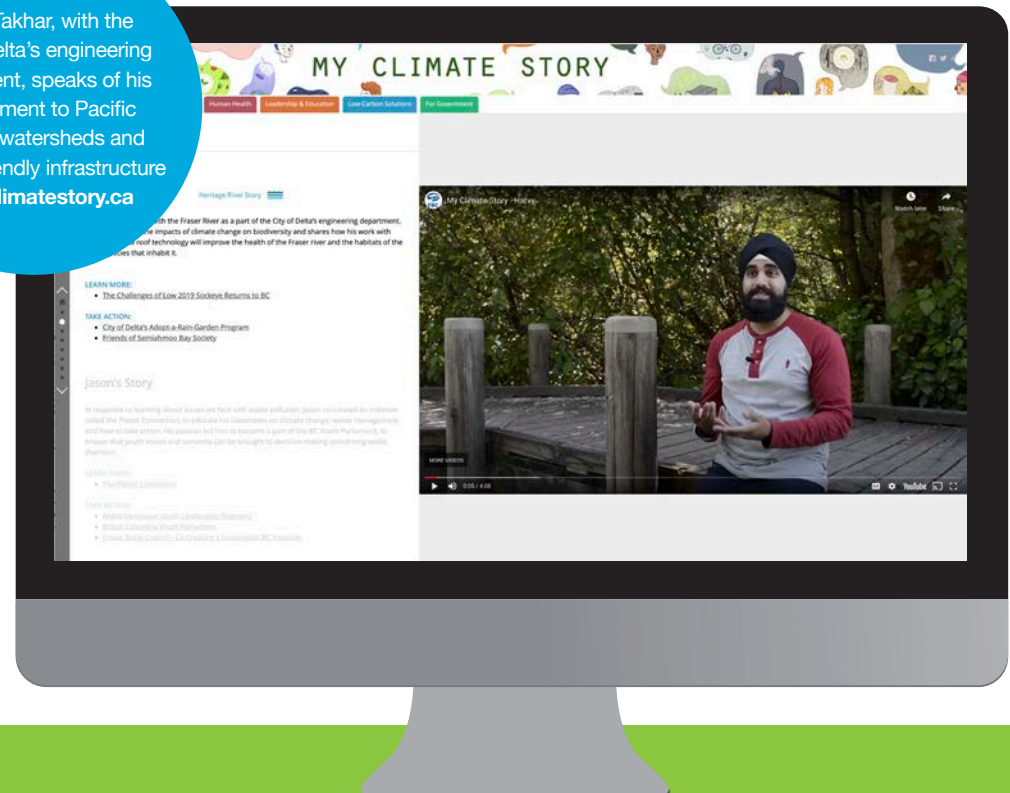
(Top Left) Youth in the Thompson region show off a newly installed bear-resistant composter at the Yellowhead Community Services garden in Clearwater, in a project for FBC's Co-creating a Sustainable BC in 2019–2020. Seven more composters can be found at other gardens and sites in the region.

(Bottom Left) Youth in the Sea to Sky corridor came together in 2019 to learn about the composting practices of Squamish residents. Check out their project, and share their survey www.seatoskycomposts.ca.

My Climate Story

My Climate Story is an FBC online story map that features narratives and videos of BC youth who say how climate change is affecting their lives — and what is inspiring them to take climate action where they live, work and play. Hear inspiring voices at myclimatestory.ca.

Harvy Takhar, with the City of Delta's engineering department, speaks of his commitment to Pacific salmon, watersheds and climate-friendly infrastructure at myclimatestory.ca



2019-2020 Project Highlights

Here is a snapshot of Fraser Basin Council projects in 2019-2020. Our work is possible because of the sustainability leadership of the federal, provincial, municipal, regional and First Nations governments, as well as people in the private and non-profit sectors.

Flood Risk Reduction:

- Lower Mainland Flood Management Strategy (Greater Vancouver-Sea to Sky (GVSS)-Fraser Valley)
- Orphan Dikes and Seismic Vulnerability of BC Dikes (BC wide)
- Provincial Flood Strategy support (BC wide)
- Thompson & Cariboo – base-level flood hazard mapping and Lidar acquisition (Thompson & Cariboo)

Plug in BC electric vehicle charging education & incentives (BC wide) and related work:

- Emotive – The Electric Vehicle Experience – public outreach online, community events and grants (BC wide)
- Fleet Champions Program to support integration of electric vehicles in fleets (BC wide)
- Specialty Use Electric Vehicle Program (BC wide)

Climate Action Toolkit website (toolkit.bc.ca) (BC wide)

BC Regional Adaptation Collaborative: education, tools & website (retooling.ca) (BC wide)

Adaptation Canada 2020 Conference (National)

Northeast Climate Risk Network (Northeast BC)

Community Energy Leadership Program (BC wide)

My Climate Story online story map (BC wide)

Elizabeth Henry Scholarship for Communities and Environmental Health (BC wide)

Prince George Air Improvement Roundtable – Secretariat (Upper Fraser) and related work:

- Woodstove Exchange Program partner and “Burn it Clean” education
- PG Ambient Air Monitoring Network

North Central Local Government Association secretariat support (Northern BC)

Kamloops Air Quality Roundtable (Thompson)

Community Wildfire Roundtables (Cariboo-Chilcotin and Thompson)

Shuswap Regional Trails Strategy project (Thompson)

Grassland/rangeland projects - prescribed burns (Cariboo-Chilcotin)

First Nations–British Columbia Wildlife and Habitat Conservation Forum (BC wide)

Southern Mountain Caribou agreements community engagement (BC wide)

Interior Forest Sector Renewal outreach session facilitation (Cariboo-Chilcotin & Thompson)

Fraser River Peacemakers – communications support for fishery opening on Fraser (Fraser Valley)

Swim Guide App promotion & water quality updates (GVSS & Fraser Valley)

Watershed work:

- Shuswap Watershed Council (Thompson)
- Nicola Basin projects (Thompson)
- Cultus Lake Aquatic Stewardship Strategy and Fraser Valley Illegal Dumping Alliance (Fraser Valley)
- Horsefly River Roundtable (Cariboo-Chilcotin)
- Shannon Basin, Meager Creek and Keyhole Hot Springs visitor use management – supporting Province and First Nations outreach (GVSS)
- Nechako Watershed Roundtable (Upper Fraser)

Port of Vancouver ECHO Program on southern resident killer whales and shipping – including vessel slow-down trials (GVSS)

Salmon-Safe BC education and site certification (BC wide)



FBC Board of Directors

As of June 8, 2020

Chair

Colin Hansen

Directors

Dannielle Alan

Director, Fraser-Fort George Regional District, McBride

Satwinder Bains

Director, Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies
University of the Fraser Valley, Abbotsford

Tony Bensted

Contract Auditor, Forest Practices Board, Quesnel

Tracy Calogheros

CEO, The Exploration Place Museum & Science Centre,
Prince George

Harley Chappell

Chief, Semiahmoo First Nation

Jack Crompton

Mayor, Whistler, Squamish Lillooet Regional District

Cassie Doyle

CEO, Canadian International Resources
& Development Institute, UBC

Kevin Duncan

Natural Resource Manager, Nlaka'pamux Nation
Tribal Council, Lytton

Brock Endean

Principal, RedPier Consulting (Youth Director)

Tara Faganello

Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs
& Housing

Brenda Falk

Councillor, City of Abbotsford, Fraser Valley Regional District

Percy Folkard

Rancher and Agrologist, Barnhartvale

Nancy Gale

Retired Executive Director, Cariboo-Chilcotin
Child Development Centre, Williams Lake

Katherine Gizikoff

GM Environment and Social Responsibility,
Teck Resources Lt., Sparwood

Blaine Grinder

Councillor, Tl'etinqox-t'in Government

Clayton Harry

General Manager, SXDC, Dog Creek, Northern Shuswap

Patricia Heintzman

Director, Squamish-Lillooet Regional District, Squamish

Mina Holmes

Chief, Carrier-Sekani Tribal Council, Prince George

Colleen Jacob

Chief, Xaxli'p Indian Band, St'at'imc Nation, Lillooet

Chris Kelly

C. Kelly and Associates – Education Services, Vancouver

Stephanie Killam

Chair, Geoscience BC, Mackenzie

Clint Lambert

Director, Regional District Bulkley-Nechako, Francois/Ootsa

Jason Madill

Ernst & Young LLP (EY), Vancouver

Rhona Martin

Director, Columbia Shuswap Regional District

Lisa Matthaues

Provincial Lead, Organizing for Change, Victoria

Dale Parker

Chair, UBC Foundation

Clarence (Kat) Pennier

Grand Chief, Stó:lō Tribal Council

Rebecca Reid

Regional Director General, Pacific Region,
Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Steven Rice

Director, Thompson-Nicola Regional District,
Spences Bridge

Wes Shoemaker

Deputy Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Victoria

Bob Simpson

Mayor, City of Quesnel, Cariboo Regional District

Naina Sloan

Senior Executive Director, IPO West,
Natural Resources Canada

Jamison Squakin

Okanagan Nation Alliance

Barb Strachan

Civil society, Fraser Valley Region, Mission

Craig Sutherland

Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Forests, Lands,
Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

Val van den Broek

Mayor, City of Langley, Metro Vancouver



Connect with Us

Find out how the Fraser Basin Council can support you in managing your sustainability challenges. Connect with FBC staff through any of our regional offices listed below or at our central office:

Fraser Basin Council

1st Floor, 470 Granville Street
Vancouver, BC V6C 1V5

T: 604 488-5350

F: 604 488-5351

E: info@fraserbasin.bc.ca

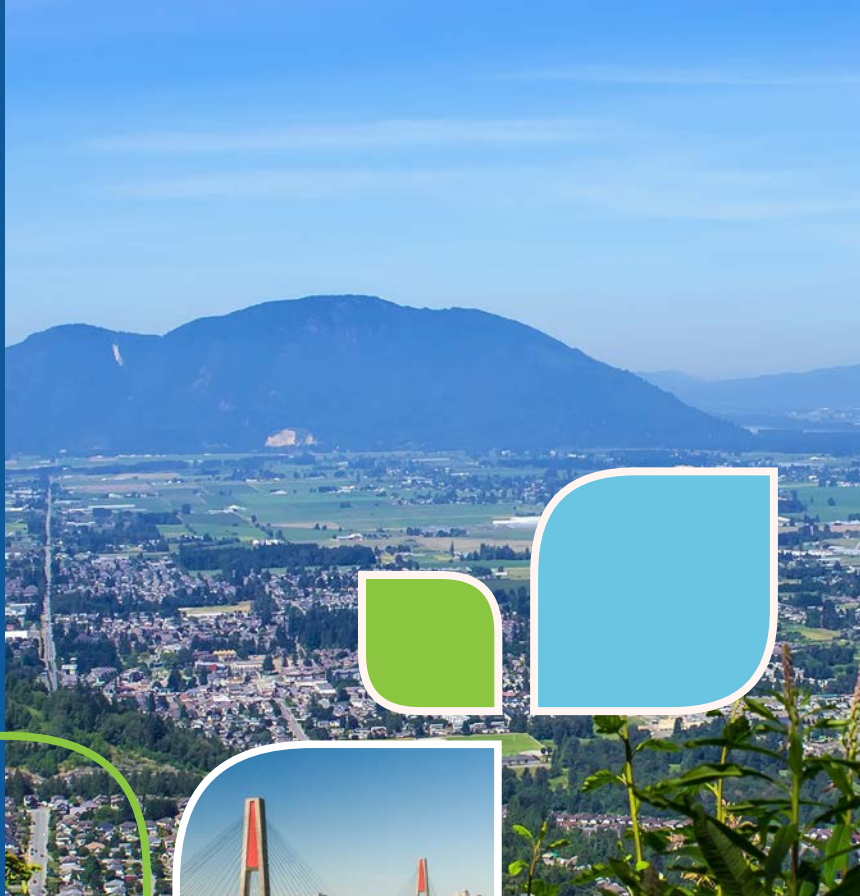
www.fraserbasin.bc.ca



In the Regions

FBC has staff members working on programs in the Fraser Basin and throughout BC.

- **Greater Vancouver-Sea to Sky-GVSS (Vancouver)**
T: 604 488-5350
- **Fraser Valley (Abbotsford)**
T: 604 768-9433
- **Thompson (Kamloops)**
T: 250 314-9660
- **Cariboo-Chilcotin (Williams Lake)**
T: 250 392-1400
- **Upper Fraser | Northern Interior (Prince George)**
T: 250 612-0252
- **Vernon**
T: 604 897-5350



Colin Hansen
Chair



David Marshall
Chief Executive Officer



Fraser Basin Council