

# Fraser Basin Charter for Sustainability

**Vision • The Fraser Basin is a place where social well-being is supported by a vibrant economy and sustained by a healthy environment**

## Our Principles are:

### MUTUAL DEPENDENCE

Land, water, air and all living organisms, including humans are integral parts of the ecosystem. Biodiversity must be conserved.

### ACCOUNTABILITY

Each of us is responsible for the social, economic and environmental consequences of our decisions and accountable for our actions.

### EQUITY

All communities and regions must have equal opportunities to provide for the social, economic and environmental needs of residents.

### INTEGRATION

Consideration of social, economic and environmental costs and benefits must be an integral part of all decision-making.

### ADAPTIVE APPROACHES

Plans and activities must be adaptable and able to respond to external pressures and changing social values.

### COORDINATED AND COOPERATIVE EFFORTS

Coordinated and cooperative efforts are needed among all government and non-government interests.

### OPEN AND INFORMED DECISION-MAKING

Open decision-making depends on the best available information.

### EXERCISING CAUTION

Caution must be exercised when shaping decisions to avoid making irreversible mistakes.

### MANAGING UNCERTAINTY

A lack of certainty should not prevent decisive actions for sustainability.

### RECOGNITION

There must be recognition of existing rights, agreements and obligations in all decision-making.

### ABORIGINAL RIGHTS AND TITLE

We recognize that Aboriginal nations within the Fraser Basin assert Aboriginal rights and title. These rights and title now being defined must be acknowledged and reconciled in a just and fair manner.

### TRANSITION TAKES TIME

Sustainability is a journey that requires constant feedback, learning and adjustment. In the short-term, the elements of sustainability may not always be in balance.

