

Thompson Flood Advisory Committee
10:00AM to 12:00PM, December 3, 2020
Online meeting

Meeting summary as at December 17, 2020

Meeting Objectives Regarding Flood Mapping and Risk Assessment

- Update on what's been done
- Update on what's currently underway
- Provide input on what's next for future needs and funding applications

Participants

- Wendy Coomber, Councillor, Village of Cache Creek
- Tom Hansen, Emergency Program Coordinator, Columbia Shuswap Regional District
- Charlie Henderson, Superintendent of Public Works, City of Merritt
- Kris Holm, Principal Geoscientist, BGC Engineering Inc.
- Bill Kershaw, Vice Chair/Director, Electoral Area O, Thompson-Nicola Regional District
- Mike Knauff, Regional Manager, Emergency Management BC (EMBC)
- Alex Krause, Manager of Planning Services, Thompson-Nicola Regional District
- Stuart Larson, Manager of Protective Services, Cariboo Regional District
- David Major, IT/GIS Coordinator, Columbia Shuswap Regional District
- Bob Payette, CAO, District of Barriere
- Al Richmond, Director, Electoral Area G, Cariboo Regional District
- Steve Schell, Senior Project Manager, South Region, MFLNRORD*
- Grame Schimpf, Operations Manager, MOTI*
- Sarah Simon, Hydrotechnical Engineer, MFLNRORD*
- Mike Simpson, Director Interior Regional Programs, Fraser Basin Council
- Ron Storie, Director of Community Services, Thompson-Nicola Regional District
- Jan Thingsted, Planner, Columbia Shuswap Regional District
- Mike Walsh, Emergency Services staff, Cariboo Regional District
- Nigel Whitehead, Manager Planning Services, Cariboo Regional District

* *Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure*

** *Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development*

1. Welcome, Introductions, Agenda and Objectives

Mike Simpson welcomed everyone, Secwepemc territory was acknowledged, and introductions were made. The agenda was accepted.

2. Meeting Summary from February 25, 2020

The meeting summary from February 25, 2020 was approved. All actions were completed or on today's agenda. It was noted that no response was received from the EMBC letter.

3. What's Been Done, What's Underway

Kris presented on what work has been initiated, not just in the Thompson River Watershed (TRW), but in other jurisdictions of the Cariboo and Columbia-Shuswap Regional Districts. His presentation can be accessed [here](#). All past reports and data are at www.thompsonflood.ca

Questions and discussion raised or clarified the following:

- Other than the [Cambio Communities](#) interactive web map which requires a login/password, there has been limited reporting of the flood mapping and risk assessment results or reports to the public
- Fraser Basin Council regularly emails all CAOs and managers/administrators of 4 regional districts, 15 municipalities and 26 First Nations or tribal organizations within the TRW when there are deliverables or final reports available
- There is mounting concern with some local governments about the amount of data and information on flood risk being generated, but not yet communicated to residents, businesses or interpreted by their councils or boards into policy
- Mike noted that the Okanagan Basin Water Board has created a publicly accessible map of flood risk, the [Okanagan Flood Story](#) which could be considered here
- Questions of ownership of the data, and professional liability
- It was suggested that dynamic flood maps are needed, not static ones fixed in time
- Kris noted that the delivery of geohazard information (e.g. maps) must manage requirements related to professional responsibility and liability to be useful in policy and regulation. The same consistent data source can be communicated in different ways to different parties (general public, local government, the Province)

4. What's Next – Future Needs, Funding Sources

Kris presented some options on-screen that were compiled before the meeting. The following were noted as what jurisdictions would like to apply for as part of a coordinated, collaborative application to the [UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund, Flood Risk Assessment, Flood Mapping and Flood Mitigation](#) program with an intake that closes February 26, 2021:

Jurisdiction	Eligible Type	Area	UBCM CEPP submission
CSRD	Flood Assessment & Mapping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hummingbird Creek (steep creek), • Eagle River, Salmon River (re-submission) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmed interest in submission. • Follow up required re FBC coordination
CRD		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Lake • Lac La Hache 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmed interest in further mapping. • BGC-CRD discussion focused on two areas: Green Lake (hazard assessment) and Lac La Hache (risk assessment) • Mike – for inclusion in FBC-coordinated application. • Kris – to confirm specifics with Nigel Whitehead.
TNRD		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not wish to pursue new mapping or assessment. (TNRD sees the value in obtaining detailed

Jurisdiction	Eligible Type	Area	UBCM CEPF submission
			<p>mapping however there is a concern with liability that is associated with the data. Staff need to update the Board on what the current data means; what TNRD responsibilities are to impacted residents (in terms of FOI obligation to inform – flag property, send report and letter) and obtain a scope from the board on what regulatory changes would be required for flood construction and setbacks / additional permitting or other items. As well it is unclear how this data will be shared with staff in TNRD mapping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note: If CRD wishes to assess Green Lake, follow-up discussion will be required as it straddles TNRD/CRD.
Barriere		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barriere River (re-submission) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmed interest in submission. Support will be required
Clinton		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinton Creek (re-submission) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-submission TBD
Clearwater		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearwater River (re-submission) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-submission TBD
Kamloops		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed floodplain mapping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD; follow up required (Mike?) Recommendation in BGC's 2020 flood mapping.
Merritt	Mitigation Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wastewater treatment plant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmed Dec 4 with Sean Smith (CAO) that Merritt will be using the February 2021 UBCM application for investigations related to groundwater infiltration at their wastewater treatment plant. BGC to follow up in January 2021. Unlikely to form part of coordinated application.
TNRD	Policy, planning, regulation, training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk tolerance policy, planning and regulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmed interest in coordinated UBCM Application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training Workshop, work with TNRD staff to communicate to Board on benefits and Liabilities that the data brings and what it means for residents/property owners moving forward. Policy, Planning, and Regulation Development. BGC to follow up with Ron Storie as part of current project work. FBC to include in list of coordinated applicants.
CSRD		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board and Staff Workshop (one-day) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expressed interest in organizing workshop. Budget source TBD.
CRD		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board and Staff Workshop (one-day) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CRD-BGC to coordinate on organizing Board and Staff workshop; funding source – COVID-19 relief funds.

Jurisdiction	Eligible Type	Area	UBCM CEPF submission
Cache Creek	Flood mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bonaparte R and tributaries, want to dredge or protect structures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No – the ARDM funding might work

Other possible funding sources were noted as follows:

- National Disaster Mitigation Plan – continued through 2022, funding intake TBD
- Investing in Canada Plan (ICIP), [Adaptation, Resilience and Disaster Mitigation](#) fund which has an intake closing January 11, 2021 and is intended for
- Other COVID-19 relief funds

It was also suggested that Fraser Basin Council convene local government CAOs and push for change from the current scenario which is unsustainable in dealing with flood (yearly floods, reactive approaches, fighting with EMBC for \$0.80 disaster financial assistance funds, staff burnout from running EOCs) and the unsustainability of funding to do this work (annual funding cycles, funds for projects that aren't necessarily what's needed). Suggest Mike meet with CAOs on how we might approach, with EMBC viewed as partners. MOTI for example has no money to replace culverts. EMBC responds in an emergency. Somehow we need to coordinate.

Jesse noted that the province is exploring more sustainable funding sources in the future for flood work. He noted that education and dam break assessments are eligible under the UBCM funding programs. Landslides if flood related can be funded too. He realizes the timeline with ARDM funding is tight, but they are looking for shovel-ready projects.

Sarah noted that the province has acknowledged funding and coordination challenges, and that an internal working group is working to modernize the flood program. They will be looking for external input early in 2021.

5. Next Steps

The following were agreed to as next steps:

- Next Advisory Committee meeting – not discussed, but anticipated spring 2021
- Mike to seek coordination opportunities amongst
- Action items listed in table below

List of Action Items

Task	Responsibility	Timing
Follow up with individual local governments re: coordinated application to UBCM Flood program (Barriere, Cache Creek, Clinton, Clearwater, CSRD, CRD, TNRD, Kamloops)	Kris, Mike	Well before Feb 26
Deliver a presentation on current work to Barriere council	Bob, Mike, Kris	Early 2021
Seek funding for bathymetric surveys	Mike S	Ongoing
Determine whether building footprints from LiDAR data acquisition should be shared with BC Assessment Authority	Mike S	ASAP, got dropped
Share opportunities for input to the provincial working group on funding and coordination improvements with this committee through Mike	Sarah, other BC staff	Early 2021
Convene a meeting with GeoBC and EMBC staff to discuss roles and synergies for geohazards information management and data sharing , leveraging the development of existing software tools (e.g. Cambio & COP). The goal would be to define roles for data management, platform development, and specialist support, resourced on a long-term basis	Gerald	Ongoing (from Sept 16, 2019 meeting)
To possibly* consider a “ big meeting ” similar to February 2018 that launched this project, to invite all orders of government to raise awareness of what has been created to date, and *to seek input on a critical question that warrants gathering 60-80 people*	Advisory Committee	Fall 2020 at earliest