

Thompson Watershed Disaster Mitigation Advisory Committee
1:35PM to 3:30PM, Monday April 23, 2018
Fraser Basin Council office, 200A-1383 McGill Road, Kamloops
Meeting summary as at April 27, 2018

Meeting Objectives

- Approve Advisory Committee terms of reference
- Meet the consultants
- Review methodology, local information, what's underway
- Discuss next steps, future meeting dates

Participants

- Thomas Blank, Assistant Manager, Security, Emergency Management & Maintenance, Tk'emlups te Secwepemc (Kamloops)
 - Chelsea Enslow, Natural Resources Manager, Bonaparte Indian Band
 - Kris Holm, Senior Geoscientist, BGC Engineering Inc.
 - Bill Kershaw, Electoral Area Director, Area O, Thompson Nicola Regional District
 - David Lawrence, Nooaitch Indian Band (intermittent, by phone)
 - Charlene Menezes, Program Manager, Flood Management, Fraser Basin Council (by phone)
 - Dwayne Meredith, Senior Project Manager, Water Resources, Kerr Wood Leidal
 - Diana Norgaard, Councillor, City of Merritt (to 3:00PM)
 - Steve Schell, MFLNRORD* (from 2:45PM, by phone)
 - Mike Simpson, Regional Manager, Thompson, Fraser Basin Council (facilitator, recorder)
 - Jan Thingsted, Long Range Planner, Columbia Shuswap Regional District
- * *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 around the room. The agenda and objectives were reviewed and accepted.

Regrets were sent from Al Richmond, Electoral Area Director, Area G, Cariboo Regional District, and Tom Hansen, Emergency Program Coordinator, Columbia Shuswap Regional District. Emergency Management BC was also planning to send a representative.

2. Terms of Reference

The Advisory Committee terms of reference, draft as at March 26, 2018 were reviewed and accepted as presented (including Al Richmond via email), with the following dissenting view:

- David Lawrence objected to participants funding their own labour and travel costs

Mike explained that this is a voluntary committee, and that local government and First Nations participation needs to be counted as in-kind contributions to match the federal and provincial funds.

3. Consultant Background and Methodology

Kris Holm and Dwayne Meredith introduced themselves, and their backgrounds. BGC Engineering Inc. is the primary consultant, with KWL acting as a subcontractor.

The project understanding and methodology was shared by email in advance of the meeting. Kris and Dwayne's presentation was emailed to participants just before the meeting, and will be posted online at www.thompsonflood.ca

Key questions discussed, and input from the Advisory Committee were as follows:

- Undeveloped areas - flood frequency analysis for all streams in the Thompson Watershed has been previously done by BGC Engineering, and this will be used in the project to inform risk-based prioritization. However, assessment of undeveloped areas or areas crossed only by linear infrastructure will not be within the scope unless encompassed by existing hazard mapping.
- The format and availability of existing information on hazards and elements at risk (the built environment) were noted as important. Specifically, the study will benefit most from information that can be readily compiled in digital format (e.g. Geographic Information Systems (GIS)). Paper copy assessments will be referenced but the study does not include digitizing hard copy maps.
- It was generally noted that not all possible risks associated with floods or landslides will be addressed in this study. A primary objective of the study is to establish a consistent, risk-based framework for assessment that will potentially support more detailed studies to follow, which could examine a wider range of risks than is possible to assess at watershed-wide scale.
- Fisheries and environmental values were noted as important. To the extent possible in this risk assessment phase, the Advisory Committee suggests incorporating consideration of fisheries values.
- One such source of fisheries habitat values could be the Foreshore Inventory Mapping (FIM) work done on Shuswap Lake, and Sensitive Habitat and Inventory Mapping (SHIM) projects done on Nicola River, Lower Shuswap River, Deadman River, and the South Thompson/Thompson Rivers.
- Groundwater mapping and budget work is currently underway in the Nicola watershed
- Orphan dike strategy - FBC holds funds and is coordinating an orphan dike strategy; numerous orphan dikes (ones with no active maintenance) exist in the Thompson
- Watershed assessments - the forest industry and BC Timber Sales have completed numerous watershed assessments in the past, and West Fraser is currently completing one for the Bonaparte Watershed. Kris and Dwayne noted that reports would not be as useful as GIS maps that can be included in a spatial database to be built for this project.

Light and Detection Ranging (LIDAR) is a method to collect detailed topographical and other land and resource information. While not a funded part of this project, it was discussed as follows:

- It has been utilized in the recent past - City of Merritt collected information over 40km² at a resolution of 5-6 points/m² in 2016
- Steve Schell noted that there are plans underway to collect LIDAR information from Nicola Lake to the Fraser River, in partnership with Lower Nicola Indian Band and First Nations Emergency Services Society

- Forest industry partners have collected information using LIDAR in parts of the Thompson watershed, including BC Timber Sales in some of their operating areas; also Forsite Consultants has likely collected LIDAR data for various clients in the past
- Seeking funding for LIDAR data collection is likely to be a component of a National Disaster Mitigation Program Stream 2 application for Flood Mapping, anticipated for fall 2018

4. Fraser Basin Council Roles and Responsibilities

Mike noted that FBC's key roles are as follows:

- Signatory of the contribution agreement with Emergency Management BC, therefore responsible for deliverables, financial management and obligations
- Coordinator to encourage communication between 26 First Nations, 4 regional districts and 15 municipalities across the Thompson Watershed and the consultants, along with appropriate provincial government staff
- Ambassador for the project, to encourage participation and a complete watershed approach
- Share all products, reports and deliverables with local governments and First Nations

Charlene assisted Mike in putting together the request for proposal document, and evaluating the proposals. While her primary responsibilities are on the Lower Mainland Flood Management Strategy, she will remain engaged in this project to the extent that her capacity allows her.

5. Local Information, What's Recently Completed, What's Underway

Building on the list in Appendix 4 of [Feb 14 forum summary](#) and some additional information received since then, some of the local information, past history was reviewed. An updated list will be shared with Kris and Dwayne. The maps that were marked up with participant input from the Feb 14 forum were taken by Kris for consideration. Bill also noted that the Barriere River often floods as a result of backing up of high water in the North Thompson River, not due to sources in the Barriere River watershed.

6. Proposed Future Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule or Email Correspondence

The following are the upcoming milestones in the contract, and the agreed upon approach to engage:

Milestone	Approach to Engagement
Mid-July - receive scoping study	In person meeting*
Mid-October - receive interim report, submit stream 2 funding application (anticipated)	Email or conference/video call
Late February - presentation of draft report; review draft report	In person meeting*

*Participation by conference/video call is an option as per the terms of reference

7. Communications

Future communications will be as follows:

- Monthly reports from the consultants - from BGC to FBC; can be shared
- Mike will be emailing local governments and First Nations with a key information request
- Dedicated website for the project will be maintained at www.thompsonflood.ca

8. Next Steps

The following are the key actions from the meeting:

Task	Who	Timing
Acquire 2004 Flood Hazard Mapping project dataset	Kris, Dwayne	ASAP
Email to local governments and First Nations expressing benefit of project, asking for identification of staff person to grant permission for GIS data, and a call for GIS data of the built environment, cadastral data and BC Assessment data, building location data (if available), and any linear infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Regional districts, ask them to coordinate with member municipalities - administrator, cc development/planning staff▪ First Nations - administrator	Mike, with input from Kris and Dwayne Advisory committee members - support this request to your government	By May 1