Thompson Watershed Disaster Mitigation Advisory Committee

Terms of Reference

Approved April 23, 2018

1. Background

Fraser Basin Council (FBC) successfully received funding from Emergency Management BC and Public Safety Canada to complete a risk assessment for flood, landslide and debris flows in the Thompson River Watershed (Appendix 1). This project is part of the broader National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP), which has four streams: Stream 1 Risk Assessment (this project); Stream 2 Flood Mapping; Stream 3 Mitigation Planning; Stream 4 Investments in Non-structural and Small Scale Structural Mitigation Projects.


2. Advisory Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to advise FBC staff to help ensure the success of the existing funded project, but also to raise issues surrounding flood, debris flows and landslides to improve future emergency management response, to protect communities and infrastructure, and to identify and protect environmental vulnerabilities (fisheries, species at risk values).

3. Advisory Committee Tasks and Responsibilities

The Advisory Committee members’ tasks and responsibilities are anticipated to include, but not necessarily be limited to the following:

- Participate in meetings (anticipated to be at least twice per year) and fund their own participation (labour, travel)
- Communicate with their respective government - bring forward their ideas and input, and report out on Advisory Committee business
- To the extent practicable, identify relevant resources and issues from their watershed, not just their government
- Review draft products from consultants
- Advise on future funding applications
- Discuss larger related issues such as climate change adaptation, development on floodplains, restoration of floodplains, and mechanisms to action these issues

4. Advisory Committee Membership

The Advisory Committee shall ideally be comprised of:

- One local government and one First Nations government representative (either staff or elected) from each of:
  - South Thompson watershed
  - North Thompson watershed
  - Thompson watershed
  - Bonaparte Watershed
  - Nicola Watershed
- One representative from Emergency Management BC
- One representative from Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
The desired mix of Advisory Committee members would also achieve the following:

- Mix of regional district and municipal government representatives
- Mix of elected officials and staff people, driven by their interest in the topic
- Enable constructive discussions of flood and debris flow and landslide issues through a range of backgrounds and experiences

5. Decision Making
The Advisory Committee may make decisions regarding its advice to FBC. Decisions will be made by consensus, with the option to note dissenting views.

The Advisory Committee may not make decisions that presents a conflict for FBC with a current contribution agreement. FBC will take action on the advice from the Advisory Committee with consideration given to resources available, our strategic plan and operating principles.

6. Advisory Committee Administration
The process for facilitating Advisory Committee meetings will be as follows:

- The advisory committee will meet at least twice per year, but more frequently as the need arises
- Meetings will be ideally in-person, but may also take place by conference/video call
- Participation in meetings may take place via conference call or web-meeting
- Meeting dates, times and locations will be convenient to the majority of the members
- FBC staff will arrange a meeting venue, refreshments, and lunch if the meeting occurs over the lunch hour.
- FBC staff will prepare and distribute the agenda and relevant meeting materials at least one week before a meeting, and prepare a meeting summary within one week of a meeting.
- FBC staff will arrange for guest presentations as needed.

7. Term
The term of the Advisory Committee will end when the last contribution agreement expires, or the latest funding application on the topic of flood, landslide and debris flows is rejected.
Appendix 1 – Map of the Thompson Watershed with Jurisdictions

Jurisdictions within the Thompson Watershed