



*Working together to sustain our watershed*

## Terms of Reference: SLIPP Public Advisory Committees

### SLIPP Background

The Shuswap Lake Integrated Planning Process (SLIPP) Strategic Plan was finalized in late 2008 and implementation is ongoing. SLIPP was launched in response to the intense pressure the surrounding area is experiencing as a result of increased development, wastewater discharge and conflicting demands on recreational resources. These challenges are set against a complicated regulatory environment where public agencies from every level of government have legal jurisdiction over some aspect of the region.

The SLIPP process is designed to bring land and water use planning and governance issues relating to Shuswap watershed to a single table and to identify cross-cutting issues in the region that could be addressed through collaboration. Fourteen public agencies from the four levels of government have been engaged in the development of the SLIPP Strategic Plan, with support and input from the public. During the development of the Strategic Plan, agency staff and members of the public (organized into Public Advisory Committees) were aligned to one of three work streams (Sustainable Development; Water Quality and Waste Management; or Recreation Management) to identify the key concerns pertaining to the particular work stream, identify policy or other options to resolve the issues and ultimately develop the goals, strategies and activities contained in the Strategic Plan. The efforts of the work streams were guided by a Steering Committee comprised of locally elected officials and First Nations, and by the public through a series of open public meetings.

At the forefront of developing this Plan was the recognition that it must compliment and enhance the region's various planning processes that are already completed, underway or in preparation. In addition, for SLIPP to be successful, the public must be actively engaged in the development and implementation of the Strategic Plan.

### Public Advisory Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Public Advisory Committees is to advise public agencies on the implementation of the strategies found in the SLIPP Strategic Plan and as directed by the SLIPP Steering Committee. The Public Advisory Committees represent the public at large, and as such have a responsibility to liaise with the public and bring forth their concerns and priorities to the SLIPP process.

The SLIPP Strategic Plan is the guiding document for the work of the Public Advisory Committees.

The purpose of these Terms of Reference is to ensure that Public Advisory Committee members are aware of expectations, commitments and the advisory roles of the Committees. These Terms of Reference apply to each of the three Public Advisory Committees:

- Sustainable Development
- Water Quality and Waste Management
- Recreation Management

These Terms of Reference will be reviewed with each PAC on an annual basis.



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## **Public Advisory Committee Responsibilities**

Public Advisory Committee (PAC) members will:

- Provide input on planning, implementation and reporting of SLIPP strategies
- Participate in discussions, receive information and pose questions concerning the particular work stream of the PAC (either sustainable development, water quality and waste management, or recreation management)
- Review and provide feedback on technical documents and plans relating to the particular work stream of the PAC
- Provide the SLIPP Technical Teams and Steering Committees with feedback and advice regarding Plan implementation, where appropriate
- One member representing the three PACs will be appointed to the Steering Committee
- Each PAC may appoint a Chair, where appropriate and based on their discretion
- Collaborate with agencies and the public at large in the implementation of the Plan, where appropriate
- PAC members will not interact with media regarding the deliberations of the PAC; all media requests related to SLIPP specifically will be directed to SLIPP staff. This does not preclude PAC members from speaking to the media about SLIPP or watershed issues from their individual perspective
- Be prepared to invest time and energy towards achieving the SLIPP vision and strategies. Members must also be prepared to work constructively and collaboratively to address areas of mutual concern
- Be willing to act as a community champion for SLIPP and promote it to the public at large.

## **Membership**

Each Public Advisory Committee will be comprised of stakeholders who represent a cross section of economic, social and environmental perspectives of the Shuswap watershed. As representatives of the general public, government agency staff and elected officials are not eligible for membership on the PACs.

Honorarium and travel expenses will not be provided for participation on the Public Advisory Committees.

## **Meeting Process**

The process for holding and reporting out on Public Advisory Committee meetings is as follows:

- It is anticipated that each Public Advisory Committee will meet 1-2 times a year with each meeting lasting approximately three hours
- SLIPP will provide a meeting facilitator venue, refreshments and a person to record decisions and key outcomes. Presentations by scientific experts will be provided, as needed.