



# Workshop on Water Issues in BC's Peace Region



**Pomeroy Hotel, Fort Saint John  
May 30, 2013  
Fraser Basin Council**



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# Acknowledgements



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# Workshop Series on Water Issues

- Langley (February 14)
- Salmon Arm (April 16)
- Williams Lake (April 29)
- Vanderhoof (May 7-8)
- Fort St. John (May 30)



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## Workshop Objectives

- Facilitate learning through knowledge exchange and presentations
- Develop a regional collaborative network of water resources stewards and practitioners
- Inspire and catalyze new work through networking, sharing of ideas and actions; and,
- Identify key research questions to address priorities and actions



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# Agenda

- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Institutional Perspectives** - Priority water issues in the region and what needs to be done to address them?
  - Shannon Anderson, Peace River Regional District
  - Kristy Ciruna, Ministry of FLNRO
  - Don Irwin, North East Oil and Gas Health Advisory Committee
  - Liz Logan, Treaty 8
  - Sheila Withrow, Northern Health
- **Refreshment Break**
- **Discussion Session: Round Table Dialogues**
  - What do you believe are the priority water issues in the region?
  - What actions are you advancing?
  - What are some priority actions to advance?



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## Agenda – ctd.

- **Lunch and Networking**
- **Community Expert Perspectives** - What are the priority water issues in the region and what needs to be done to address them?
  - Jackie Allen, Mile 162, Alaska Highway
  - Renee Ardill, Ardill's Ranch
  - Gwen Johannson, Hudson's Hope
  - Richard Koechl, Fort St John
  - Reg Whiten, Dawson Creek
- **Facilitated Plenary Session**
  - What actions must we take to address the issues?
  - What are the key outstanding research questions that remain to be addressed to help resolve these issues?
  - Who is going to do what and when?
  - How should these actions be resourced?



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## Workshop Guidelines

- Listen and learn from the interests and perspectives of others
- Be respectful of others
- Focus on interests rather than positions
- Feel free to participate as an individual or a representative of your organization
- Share the air time so others may contribute
- Workshop report (presentations, plenary notes, roundtable notes)
- Feedback forms



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# What Have We Heard to Date?

## Water and Watershed Issues

- Water supply and demand (e.g. water conservation and efficiency)
- Protecting water quality (e.g. source protection, environmental quality)
- Integrating water, land and watersheds (e.g. watershed-based planning, management and decision making)
- Climate change impacts and adaptation (e.g. seasonal changes, reduced water supply, increased water demand)



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# What Have We Heard to Date?

## Actions Underway

- Outreach, engagement, education, awareness-raising
- Information and knowledge (research, inventory, assessment, mapping, monitoring)
- Habitat restoration (e.g. spawning / rearing habitat, streambank stabilization, riparian revegetation, cattle fencing, off-channel watering)
- Watershed planning and governance
- Promoting and implementing good practices
- Collaboration



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## What Have We Heard to Date?

### Suggested Actions Through Collaboration

- Expand outreach, engagement and education to new partners and/or sectors
- Strengthen and diversify collaboration and partnerships
- Undertake collaborative watershed planning
- Explore creative funding mechanisms (e.g. cost-sharing to advance projects, payment for ecological goods and services, incentives to implement best practices)
- Strengthen regulations and enforcement
- Inspiration of new stewards (e.g. youth)



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## **Discussion Questions** **– Round Table Dialogues**

- What do you believe are the priority water issues in the Peace River region?
- What actions are you advancing or would like to advance to address these issues?
- What are some priority actions to advance through collaboration?



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## Discussion Questions – Facilitated Plenary Session

- What actions must we take to address the issues?
- What are the key outstanding research questions that remain to be addressed to help resolve these issues?
- Who is going to do what and when?
- How should these actions be resourced?



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