

Fraser Salmon & Watersheds Program



Fraser Basin Council



2009/10 FINAL REPORT

FSWP File Number*	FSWP 09 LR PG 102
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* Please use the FSWP File Number provided in previous FSWP project correspondence.

1. Project Information

1.1. Project Title

Coquitlam River Watershed Project – Phase III Governance and Strategy Development

1.2. Proponent's Legal Name

City of Coquitlam and Kwikwetlem First Nation

1.3. Project Location

Coquitlam River watershed, within Cities of Coquitlam & Port Coquitlam, and Kwikwetlem Territory

1.4. Contact for this report

Name: Margaret Birch

Phone: 604-927-3483

Email: mbirch@coquitlam.ca

1.5 Funding Amount

Original Approved Grant Amount:	Total FSWP Expenditures:	Final Invoice Amount:	Final Non-FSWP leveraging, including cash and in-kind:
\$40,300.00	\$40,300.00	\$8,060.00	\$37,316.55

2. Project Summary

Please provide a single paragraph describing your project, its objectives, and the results. As this summary may be used in program communications, clearly state the issue(s) that were addressed and avoid overly technical descriptions. Maximum 300 words.

Building on two previous phases involving background research, stakeholder engagement and visioning, this project involved an open dialogue with the many watershed interests about governance and models elsewhere, with the goal to developing a governance structure that would assist in providing better decision-making amongst the many stakeholders within the Coquitlam River watershed. Through a series of three public meetings, watershed participants evaluated the elements for a Terms of Reference for a new governance body, which led to drafting a basic structure Roundtable for the watershed. The Roundtable would consist of representatives from various sectors with interests in the watershed, and parallel to a previously agreed-to vision and values. A core committee would act as an executive body, with a watershed coordinator at the centre to provide a coordination role with the core committee, the Roundtable, funders and authorities. The draft structure and the proposed steps necessary to finalize in order to implement a new body will be communicated to key stakeholders. Based on the support and resources, the Coquitlam River Watershed Strategy governance body (Name TBD) would advance to a next phase of implementation of the next year.

OPTIONAL Please give a short statement (up to 100 words) of the most compelling activity or outcome from your project.

Through three years of process, stakeholder engagement, study and hard work, significant breakthroughs in relationships between key stakeholders has resulted in a commitment to collaborate, improve problem-solving and information sharing amongst the many stakeholders in the watershed. Better coordination through development of a new governance body, guided by a common vision, will allow us to collectively address the long-term sustainability of the Coquitlam River.

3. Final Project Results and Effectiveness

3.1 Copy EXPECTED OUTCOMES from your detailed proposal and insert into this section. Add additional rows as needed. Then please list the FINAL OUTCOMES (the tangible end products resulting from this work) associated with expected outcome.

If FINAL OUTCOMES differ from the original EXPECTED OUTCOMES please describe why, and the implications for the project.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES	FINAL OUTCOMES
1. Watershed Coordinator/Community Liaison	August 2009 – March 2010 The process was not ready to introduce a watershed coordinator and instead through a governance-experienced facilitator and a multi-agency Project Team, coordination and community liaison was followed.
2. Fall 2009 Conference on Governance for a Healthy Coquitlam Watershed	September – October 2009 A 1½ day conference was held to inform key stakeholders about forms of watershed collaboration through Governance, as a means to help provide strategies for a new governance body in the Coquitlam River watershed. Proceedings were posted to public website December 2009.
2. Stakeholder Engagement for Governance Strategy Development - draft	January 7, 2010 Project Team planning workshop; and, February 2, 2010 public Workshop held to outline a terms of reference for a new body, including confirming an overall direction, categories of goals, and pros/cons for different structures. Proceedings were posted to public website in March 2010.
3. Stakeholder Engagement for Governance Strategy – final draft	March 3, 2010 Project Team planning workshop; and, March 18, 2010 public Workshop held to review guiding principles for the new body, and provide input to a draft structure, based on input provided from Feb workshop. Proceedings of the meeting notes will be posted to public website early April 2010; and a full Phase III report, including a final draft Governance Strategy, based on March workshop input, will be completed by May 2010.
4. Communications and Outreach – ongoing with report summary March 2010	Website, www.coquitlamriverwatershed.ca was publically launched October 30, 2009, as the key communications tool for providing a dialogue amongst the many watershed stakeholders. The

	<p>site has served to post reports about governance elsewhere and provided documentation of previous and ongoing phases of the project. An online Watershed Forum was included to provide ongoing input to the process. Three scheduled sets of news display ads and e-mails to a 220 watershed participant contact list was also used to inform the community about the project & events.</p>
<p>5. Next Steps for planning Implementation of Governance Strategy</p>	<p>Input to high level next steps was gathered during the March Workshop. Following review of workshop results and input during an April 15, 2010 scheduled Project Team meeting, the summary of proposed next steps will be finalized and included to a Phase III summary report, available late spring. This report will serve as background and transitional information to assist key stakeholders to consider their support and resources to advance a governance body to an implementation phase.</p>
<p>3.2 Please evaluate the EFFECTIVENESS of your project in achieving Project Objectives. Please identify the indicators you have used to measure the effectiveness of your project. Please include any notable successes or challenges.</p>	
<p>This project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • emphasizes collaboration with First Nations, through its partnership with Kwikwetlem for more than three years with this project. From this project, one of the most important results thus far has been an increased and profound respect for Kwikwetlem First Nation by the stakeholders. • involves community members, through the project's aim to be inclusive to hold open public meetings in a format that ensures a dialogue and exchange of views equally between all watershed sectors • supports coordination and integration with other organizations and/or activities through the provision of web links to other watershed groups and key stakeholders, project information etc. via the project watershed web site and online watershed forum • while informing the watershed interests the project is tied to key objectives, a scheduled time frame and set financial resources, to strive to be as flexible and creative as possible to still achieve most outcomes in order to be willing to move forward • supports community awareness and education through the provision of an open, inclusive transparent public process with meetings being well advertised, and findings and information regularly posted to a public web site 	
<p>3.3 REQUIRED: attach all DOCUMENTATION of Final Outcomes, and LIST attachments here. These may include technical reports, maps, photos, evidence of communications, lists of meeting participants, etc.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda, Meeting Notes, and Participant list for October 30-31, 2009 Conference • Agenda, Meeting Notes and Participant list for February 2, 2010 Workshop # 1 • Agenda, Meeting Notes and Participant list for March 18, 2010 Workshop # 2 • Terms of Reference Workbook for March 18, 2010 Workshop • Web site Home page from the www.coquitlamriverwatershed.ca • Highlight page of several photos taken during the March 18, 2010 Workshop # 2 • Description of the Coquitlam River Watershed, Common Vision, Values & Mission statements. 	

Power Point presentations were produced for each public event and are accessible via the project web site, in association with each Phase III event summary, including but not limited to: meeting notes, display maps, relevant reports, previous phase reports/CDs for reference, and examples of watershed governance elsewhere. Documentation for Workshop # 2 will be completed during April 2010.

A final public Phase III report will be completed during spring 2010 by the Project Team for its Phase III project partners: Cities of Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam, Kwikwetlem First Nation, Fraser Salmon and Watersheds Program, Fisheries and Oceans, and the Coquitlam River Watershed Society. The report will be made available in limited hard copy, CD format, and as downloadable electronic format from the project website.

3.4 Please describe how the benefits of this project will be sustained and/or be built upon into the future. What are the planned next steps, or recommendations for further work, if applicable?

Since Year 1 (2007-2008), financial and in-kind support has grown considerably. DFO has provided incremental levels of financial support over three years, with a recent commitment to support funding (\$10,000) for Year 4 ahead and further support under consideration later in 2010, to assist in the administration of a Roundtable, if implementation is possible.

The City of Port Coquitlam joined the project as a formal partner for Phase III and has provided total cash and in-kind (\$3,000.) support, with additional support of a further \$3,000 through Year 4 as well.

BCTC has recently joined as a "Friend of the River", with in-kind support during this project year and as a cash contributor (\$5,000.) as well as in-kind support for the next phase ahead.

Two non-government organizations, the Coquitlam River Watershed Society and the Watershed Watch Salmon Society continue to provide dedicated in-kind support, serving as members on the Project Team, which provides valuable input to represent watershed stewardship interests.

The Cities of Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam and Kwikwetlem First Nation will continue to remain involved to provide in-kind services through 2011 to assist the transition to a governance body, provided support and resources from key stakeholders and community interests.

The Project Team will continue to access additional and new sources of funding, i.e., BC Hydro and others as opportunities are possible; and, the aggregate industry are committed to provide in-kind support to the governance project and will assist to provide sponsorship to another watershed bus tour during the next phase. As high level next steps for implementation of a new body are developed through Project Team and key stakeholder discussions, avenues to access additional and alternative sources of funding will be sought to support administration of the Core committee, Roundtable, and importantly a Watershed Coordinator for the longer term.

3.5 What are the top three lessons learned from this project that could be useful to communicate to others doing similar work in the Basin?

1. The watershed interests or stakeholders may not be ready to be engaged in a governance process at the same time, or are prepared to provide the level of commitment others view as necessary, but they will 'come to the table' when there are mutual benefits to collaborate with others in the watershed on matters of common interest.

2. The many watershed interests communicate their input through a variety of ways. It remains a challenge, despite open and public processes whether input has been conveyed to all sectors, provided the communications tools committed to this project. So, it's necessary to view communication as a two-way process, with the need for the many interests to also seek out and obtain information themselves.

People need to 'show up' and be active in order to be heard; and, if not they need to provide written communications as to their concerns.

3. Patience and persistence by participants to work together, to share a common vision for the river and recognize the need for a governance structure for the Coquitlam River watershed will bring about a healthy watershed for the future.