



bulkley valley - lakes district
airshed management society

COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN *for* CLEAN AIR

A five-year strategy

11

WORKING THE PLAN

LAST UPDATE: JUNE 1, 2006

For full report, see www.cleanairplan.ca

Working the Plan

11.1 Background

May 1, 2004 marked the beginning of a five-year implementation phase for the overall and emission specific strategies outlined in the Plan. Some of the strategies in this Plan were already in place, with appropriate technical teams and financial support to ensure early success. Among these strategies were the Wood Stove Exchange Program, Road Dust control, and Reductions to Volume and Emissions from Forest Harvest Debris Burning.

11.2 Structure

As of August 2005, the implementation of the Plan is now carried out under the structure of a non-profit society registered in BC. An application for charitable status is current being reviewed by the Canada Revenue Agency. At the June 13, 2005 Business Meeting and Annual Plan Review, eight directors were elected to the Board fulfilling the terms of the constitution and bylaws of the BVL D Airshed Management Society.

March 31, 2006 marked the end of a 3 year contract term for a part-time facilitator under the administration of the Ministry of Environment. The role and need for a facilitator was reviewed at the April 2006 meeting of the Board of Directors and at this time, a decision was made to offer the current facilitator a contract for continued services, renewable annually for a period of 3 years.

The facilitator's role is to steer the implementation of the Clean Air Plan, including the development of an annual workplan and budget and communications strategy. This role also includes fundraising as needed. In 2006, financing for implementation of the Plan and the facilitator's compensation is provided by the Ministry of Environment with supplemental funding through fundraising for specific projects. Grants in varying amounts have been provided by the BC Lung Association (production of a quarterly newsletter), the Bulkley Valley Credit Union (development and implementation of a neighbourhood air quality education program), the Fraser Basin Council (participation in the BC Clean Air Forum), and BC Transit (Clean Air Day). Additional sources of funding and commitment to multi-year funding are needed and determine activities to be carried out in the workplan.

Contributions of time and energy by volunteers also drive the AMS capacity to deliver specific projects and coordination of these efforts is done by the facilitator. Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, partnerships with key organizations such as the Northern Health Authority, local governments, the BC Lung Association, and other airshed management groups around the province add to the overall effectiveness and capacity of the BVL D Airshed Management Society.

The workplan follows an annual cycle and include core activities as outlined in Table 11-1.

Table 11-1 Summary of Core Activities

Task	Task Leader	Timeline
Annual Clean Air Plan Review and AGM	Facilitator and MOE, with input from AMS Board	June
Clean Air Day Celebrations	Facilitator and MOE, with input from AMS Board	June
Annual Burn Operators Forum	Facilitator and MOE, with input from AMS Board	Late August, early September
Annual presentations to local governments	Facilitator and MOE, with input from AMS Board	February
Booth at Fall Fair	Facilitator and MOE, with input from AMS Board	Late August
Maintenance of website (cleanairplan.ca)	Facilitator	Ongoing
Quarterly Board Meetings	Facilitator	April, June (AGM), July (for Plan amendments) and December

11.3 MOE Role

The Ministry of Environment will continue to play a pivotal role in airshed management. Specific tasks include:

- Provision of Custom Venting Index Forecasting service
- Enforcement of regulations and issuance of permits
- Preparation of annual Ambient Air Quality Assessment Report
- Maintenance and improvement of meteorology and air quality monitoring network
- Air quality dispersion **modelling**
- Support of the BVL D Airshed Management Society operations through financial and in-kind contributions
- Sitting on the Board of Directors and providing strong leadership in establishing priorities and improving capacity
- Representing BVL D airshed priorities at provincial workplan and budget development meetings
- Community outreach activities

Air quality protection is a key mandate for the BC Ministry of Environment and relates to GOAL 4 of the Province’s strategic plan:

Lead the world in sustainable environmental management, with the best air and water quality, and the best fisheries management, bar none.