



Bulkley Valley – Lakes District
Airshed Management Plan
www.bvldamp.ca

Bulkley District

DRAFT Minutes

Thursday, March 27, 2003

NWCC, Smithers

Attendance: Christine Rigby (Air Quality Meteorologist - WLAP), Ian Sharpe (Environmental Quality Section Manager – WLAP), Laurie Gallant (Chair, Facilitator/Scribe - Footprint Environmental), Nicole Gagnon (Footprint Intern – Observer), Dave Stevens (CHOKED, Coordinating Committee), Eerick Lilles (resident, engineer), Harold Kerr (rancher, local politics), Eugen Wittner (rancher), Brian Northrup (industry-PIR, local politics), Paul Schwarz (industry –PIR), Roger Smith (NEWPRO), Dave Duncan (Forester, resident)

Regrets:

Lorne Clarke, Steve Doyle, David Butt (Northern Health Authority)

Jargon and Acronyms:

BVLD – Bulkley Valley – Lakes District

WLAP – BC Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection (generally we are referring to the Skeena Region office based in Smithers)

CWG – Community Working Group

CHOKED – Community Health Opposition to Known Emission Dangers (citizen group active in BVLD, based in Smithers)

Documents distributed or presented at meeting:

1. Backgrounder for the Community Working Groups (posted on www.bvldamp.ca)
2. Power point presentation (posted on www.bvldamp.ca)

Start Time: 7:00 pm

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Expectations/Interests of each CWG participant
3. Overview of BVLD airshed planning process (PowerPoint presentation)
4. Building a framework for how the Bulkley District CWG will operate
5. Next meeting and agenda

Introductions and Interests

- Laurie clarified her role as facilitator and laid out objectives for the meeting and the planning process
- Each participant shared their interests, areas of background knowledge, and expectations for the process
- Idea of creating a practical, obtainable plan was emphasized

Overview of Planning Process

- Christine made a Presentation to the group; Laurie noted that Backgrounder serves as notes for the presentation and was developed to introduce CWG members to air quality planning and a framework for our work over the next twelve months
- The Backgrounder lays out a three-step process for developing the new Plan – present state of air quality, desired state, and pathways – consensus that more information is needed before this process can be adopted
- Important to set goals - compare with provincial and national targets and desired quality of life – consensus that information on air quality data collected to date is needed
- Are there Plan examples available? Yes, these can be distributed ahead of time (1999 Bulkley Valley Airshed Management Plan)
- There are many different topics to be addressed and there is a lot of new information to be absorbed; before the next meeting the group could review the Backgrounder in more detail and we can generate a list of topics to work through including creating a community inventory of concerns and issues related to air quality
- Recommendation made that Advisory Committee include a Regional District representative – current Chair, Roseanne, was suggested.
- Request made to have information on current sources of particulate emissions

Framework for CWG Operation

- Decent representation of interests; identified the following gaps: Tourism operator, Health, Wet'suwet'en - need to recruit to fill these gaps (Laurie and Ian can do, suggestions from CWG members are welcome).
- Need to think about representatives for Regional Working Group
- Ian and Laurie highlighted ideas brought forward by other Working Groups i.e. monthly meetings, half education/half businesses, sharing of seats to accommodate busy schedules and particular areas of expertise, topic specific meetings, rotating chairs and scribes, requests for research related to health effects and indicators within the Airshed
- Idea of splitting meetings for education and business endorsed
- Consensus to meet the third Tuesday of each month; Brian Northrup was nominated to act as Chair- he accepted and advocated we consider a rotating chair.
- Importance of having support for facilitation/scribing and technical services was underscored; existing Coordinating Committee members Dave Stevens and Wes Giesbrecht noted that level of support has been very good and makes work for committee members much easier.
- Idea of preparing for meetings and committing to process was highlighted – we have a short timeframe to work with, partly due to concerns over future funding sources.
- Idea of posting information on Website was endorsed by group; would like to see coordination between all groups and be able to know what each group is working on – valuable to have so many perspectives and ideas; diversity will benefit everyone.

- Dave Stevens gave closing remarks noting that CWGs should think big and not feel limited; practical realities of politics and economics will come to bear anyway – best to bring forward all ideas now.

Announcements:

1. Burn It Smart woodstove workshops are coming to our region in the fall as part of a provincial initiative.
2. Katimavik youth can set up displays and be trained to respond to basic questions on air quality; will need help with transportation.

Next meeting: Third Tuesday of each month.

Tuesday April 15th 7 – 9 pm

Tuesday May 20th 7 – 9 pm

Tuesday June 17th 7 – 9 pm

Will confirm NWCC as venue, PIR boardroom and WLAP boardroom may be more comfortable.

Agenda Items:

1. Menu of issues to cover over planning period (i.e. draft plan) Distribute ahead of time.
2. Communications protocol and structure for work
3. Presentation on air quality data for Bulkley Valley; compare rural vs urban include Quick/Telkwa (send out ahead of time)
3. Setting goals for the Bulkley Plan.

Chair: Brian Northrup to start (may be rotating) Scribes: (no volunteers at this time – would like to have one person to record Decision Points; Laurie can provide Template)

Summary of Action Items: I/P means in progress; will be completed by meeting.

	ACTION	Who	Deadline	Status
1	Communications protocol to be distributed and short presentation made at next meeting.	Laurie	April 8	I/P
2	Health research requests to Northern Health Authority	Laurie	March 31	I/P
3	Historical and comparative AQ data for Bulkley district	Christine	April 8	I/P
4	Read through Backgrounder – feedback needed.	ALL	Next meeting	
5	Develop website framework to facilitate coordination between groups	Laurie	April 2	I/P
6	Fill in membership gaps for Bulkley CWG	Laurie/Ian	Next mtg	I/P
7	Provide template for new Plan; post copies of 1999 plan	Christine/Laurie	Next mtg	I/P
8	Book meeting room for next 3 months	Laurie	March 31	I/P
9	Agenda planning and presentation prep	Laurie/Christine	April 8	I/P
10	Recommend Regional District representation on Advisory Committee (Roseanne is Chair)	Laurie to refer to Adv. Cttee	April 2	I/P

Adjourn at: 9:30 pm with permission by all in attendance.