



Bulkley Valley – Lakes District

Airshed Management Plan

www.bvldamp.ca

Kispiox District

Minutes

Thursday, March 27, 2003

NWCC, Hazelton

Attendance: Christine Rigby (Air Quality Meteorologist - WLAP), Laurie Gallant (Chair, Facilitator/Scribe - Footprint Environmental), Dave Stevens (CHOKED, Coordinating Committee), Cam Penfold (Forestry), Salley Bardossy (Director for Community Association in Kitwanga, Forestry), Mike Pringle 12:30 pm (Forestry), Alice Maitland (came by at end of meeting)

Regrets:

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. PowerPoint presentation (will be posted on www.bvldamp.ca)

Start Time: 12 noon

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 Kispiox 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

- Desires to reduce pollution, reduce negative health impacts of air quality, and to have a more coordinated and practical approach to resource management and disposal were highlighted (specific reference to landfill fire in Kitwanga made)
- Need for a practical, obtainable plan underscored
- Noted that Kispiox Forest Products has a cogen plant

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
- Laurie worked through the Backgrounder, highlighting the Framework section on p.8 and the overall timelines and tasks for the process (Appendix A)
- 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

Framework for CWG Operation

- Agreed that three-step process of identifying present state of AQ, desired state of AQ, and pathways is a good model to use; would like Plan template and then CWG can fill in gaps.
- Would like to identify choice of topics; Christine highlighted that WLAP and Airshed Plan is not here to say “don’t burn wood”;
- Noted that people would be turned off process if we focused on woodstoves right away; sensitive community due to recent and ongoing economic hammering
- Noted that full cost accounting for woodstove operation may be a beneficial approach
- Need to round out membership; identified the following gaps: First Nations (suggestion that we make presentation), watershed volunteers; suggestion we advertise in the Bulkley Browser
- Action: Make Kispiox contact list available to CWG members to assist with recruiting
- Importance of setting goals and indicators for Plan highlighted
- Discussion over how to define present state of AQ or monitor improvements given that there is no monitoring station
- Agreement that we can start by doing a qualitative community survey – just ask folks informally what they think of local air quality and see what issues come up; this will help with inventory of community issues
- Idea floated of starting a community journal to monitor air quality and emission sources – will explore at CWG membership level.
- Request for “high vol” data, seasonal variation analysis; Christine will prepare a presentation on data available to support Kispiox planning work – will develop in consultation with CWG members.
- Agreement that it would be useful to identify sensitive people in the community and make sure their concerns are heard.
- Question raised on value of having a new monitoring station – need to evaluate this (can bring forward as part of pathways component of Plan).

- Agreement to have brief, infrequent meetings and take work home – second Monday of each month; rotating chair and scribe may work – may need extra facilitation support depending on final number of members.
- Like idea of community education seminars followed by business meeting
- Noted that for local AQ goals to be met, will need cooperation from neighbouring communities; Regional Plan is important from this perspective
- Dave Stevens (Coordinating Committee) gave closing remarks noting that CWG members should think of themselves as representatives of the community and to consider broader community goals and objectives; don't limit yourselves when development wish lists and strategies – don't compromise values; practical realities of politics and economics will come to bear anyway.

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: Second 2nd Monday of each month at NWCC.

Monday April 14th 8 pm (to accommodate Cam's schedule, may change later)

Monday May 12th evening

Monday June 16th evening

Agenda Items:

1. Inventory of community issues and concerns: Defining present state of AQ
2. Menu of issues to cover over planning period (i.e. draft plan)
3. Communications protocol
4. CWG membership and structure – review and fill in gaps as needed.

Chair and scribe services to be provided by facilitator until membership grows.

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 7	I/P
3	Presentation on AQ data for Kispiox district	Christine	April 7	I/P
4	Read through Backgrounder – feedback needed.	ALL	Next mtg	
5	Provide Kispiox contact list	Laurie	April 3	Done
6	Fill in membership gaps for Kispiox CWG	ALL	Ongoing	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	Done
9	Presentation to Kispiox area First Nations on Airshed Planning	Laurie/Christine		I/P
10	Agenda planning and presentation prep	Laurie/Christine	April 7	I/P
11	Start inventory of community issues (through survey)	CWG	April 13	

Adjourn at: 2:30 pm with permission by all in attendance.