



Bulkley Valley – Lakes District  
Airshed Management Plan  
[www.bvldamp.ca](http://www.bvldamp.ca)

## **Lakes District Community Working Group**

### **DRAFT Minutes**

**Monday, March 24, 2003**

### **Chamber of Commerce, Burns Lake**

**Attendance:** Christine Rigby (Air Quality Meteorologist - WLAP), Ian Sharpe (Environmental Quality Section Manager – WLAP), Laurie Gallant (Facilitator - Footprint Environmental), Pam Hext (Planning Department Manager, Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako and member of Airshed Management Plan Coordinating Committee), Mark LeRuez (Resident - Lakes District CWG), Ray Williams (Lake Babine First Nation – Lakes District CWG)

#### **Regrets:**

1. Mill representative – Doug Bysouth
2. Village of Burns Lake representative – Lonny Miller
3. Community Economic Development Committee representative – Susan Stearns
4. Regional District of Bulkley Nechako representative – Rosanne Murray
5. John Rempel

#### **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)

RDBN - Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

Licensees – entities (i.e. saw mill) that hold a WLAP permit for resource burning

LRMP – Land and Resource Management Plan

MSRM – Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management

RWG – Regional Working Group for Airshed Management Plan (not yet formed)

#### **Documents distributed or presented at meeting:**

1. Backgrounder for the Community Working Groups (posted on [www.bvldamp.ca](http://www.bvldamp.ca))
2. Power point presentation (posted on [www.bvldamp.ca](http://www.bvldamp.ca))

**Start Time:** 12:15 pm (we were hoping that more people were coming!)

#### **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 Lakes District CWG will operate
5. Next meeting and agenda

## **Decisions and points of consensus:**

### Introductions and Interests

- Questions raised on how air quality is measured and Burns Lake compares to other communities in BVLD and BC; can we release answers to newspaper to raise interest?
- Noted that woodstoves and road dust are significant contributors to air quality in Burns Lake
- Questions around type of home heating used on First Nations Reserve, alternatives available, and possible federal funding for home heating on Reserves.

### CWG Membership

- Low turnout today due to spring break syndrome, conflicting meetings, and indecision as to what extent participation will happen on part of organizations and individuals. Need to solicit organizations for representation.
- Suggestions: Melissa Todd from Burns Lake band; piggyback onto existing meetings ie. make presentation at Morice LRMP – contact Elizabeth with MSRM.

### Framework

- Hard to make decisions with limited representation however, attendance might improve if meetings were based on specific topics related to emission sources and impacts, and then organizations with an interest in that issue could send an appropriate delegate. Examples of topics include woodstoves and resource burning
- Discussion around woodstove changeout program, application of burning advisories, and effectiveness of local bylaws versus voluntary compliance and the issue of courage to initiate a dialogue with your neighbour about quality of life in the neighbourhood; comparisons to used car exchange (push, pull, drag, tow) and boil water advisories were made.
- Request made to check on applicable regulations (i.e. Waste Management Act, Building Codes) with respect to CSA and EPA standards and years
- Issue of Communications Protocol and Development and Enforcement of public policies; may be useful to have a presentation that compares BC local government and First Nations;
- Makes sense to start with review of 1999 Airshed Management Plan and go from there.
- Start with discussion on Woodstoves late April or May – date to be confirmed
- Future idea: Air Quality Improvement Property tax rebate (provincial level)

## **Announcements:**

1. Burn It Smart woodstove workshops are coming to our region in the fall as part of a provincial initiative.
2. Earth Day is April 22 – maybe we can do something locally regarding Air Quality.

## **Next meeting:**

**Date, Time, Location:** To be determined in consultation with CWG members not present

**Agenda Items:**

1. 1999 Airshed Management Plan for distribution and discussion.
2. How to reduce emissions from woodstoves.
3. Follow up to action items.

**Summary of Action Items: I/P means in progress**

	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Status</b>
1	Send out presentation to Ray rwilliams@lakebabine.com	Christine	March 31	Done
2	Planning and promotion of woodstove meeting.	ALL	April 25	--
3	Contact Elizabeth about making presentation or adding on workshop to LRMP meeting.	Laurie	March 31	I/P
4	Follow up on home heating on reserve questions.	Ray	Next meeting	
5	Follow up on Communications and Public Policy presentation.	Ray, Pam and Laurie	Next meeting	
6	Actively recruit more members for Lakes CWG	ALL	Ongoing	
7	Check on woodstove certification details and applicable regs. (can post info on website – www.bvldamp.ca)	Christine	Next meeting	
8	Provide written answers to air quality rating questions for Burns Lake (can post info website – get info for all communities)	Christine	Next meeting	I/P
9	Follow up on Air quality improvement tax rebate idea.	Refer to RWG and Advisory Committee	Next meeting (long term)	
10	Planning for next meeting (agenda)	Laurie	April 2	I/P
11	Minutes distribution	Laurie	April 2	Done

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

**Minutes recorded by:** Laurie Gallant