

Bulkley Valley-Lakes District Airshed Management Plan

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Presentation to Community Working Groups

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What is an Airshed?

- An airshed is a geographic area where air quality is influenced by similar sources, meteorology and terrain features
- Airshed management planning is the most efficient and effective way to address issues collectively
- Air pollution knows no boundaries-political, neighbour-to-neighbour, etc.



What are fine particulates?

- Tiny airborne solid or liquid particles (not pure water)
- PM_{10} -particles 10 micrometers in diameter or less (includes $PM_{2.5}$)
- $PM_{2.5}$ -particles 2.5 micrometers in diameter or less



Why are fine particulates a problem?

Quality of Life

- Health effects-respiratory and cardiovascular problems
- Visibility effects-aircraft navigation, tourism
- Economic effects-school absenteeism, lost work days, medical bills, tourism, development



Current Plan Revision

- Wider area included (Endako to Kitwanga)
- Increased community involvement
- Community-Community variation
- Science-based decision making
- Emphasis on improving Quality of Life



Science and Technology Tools

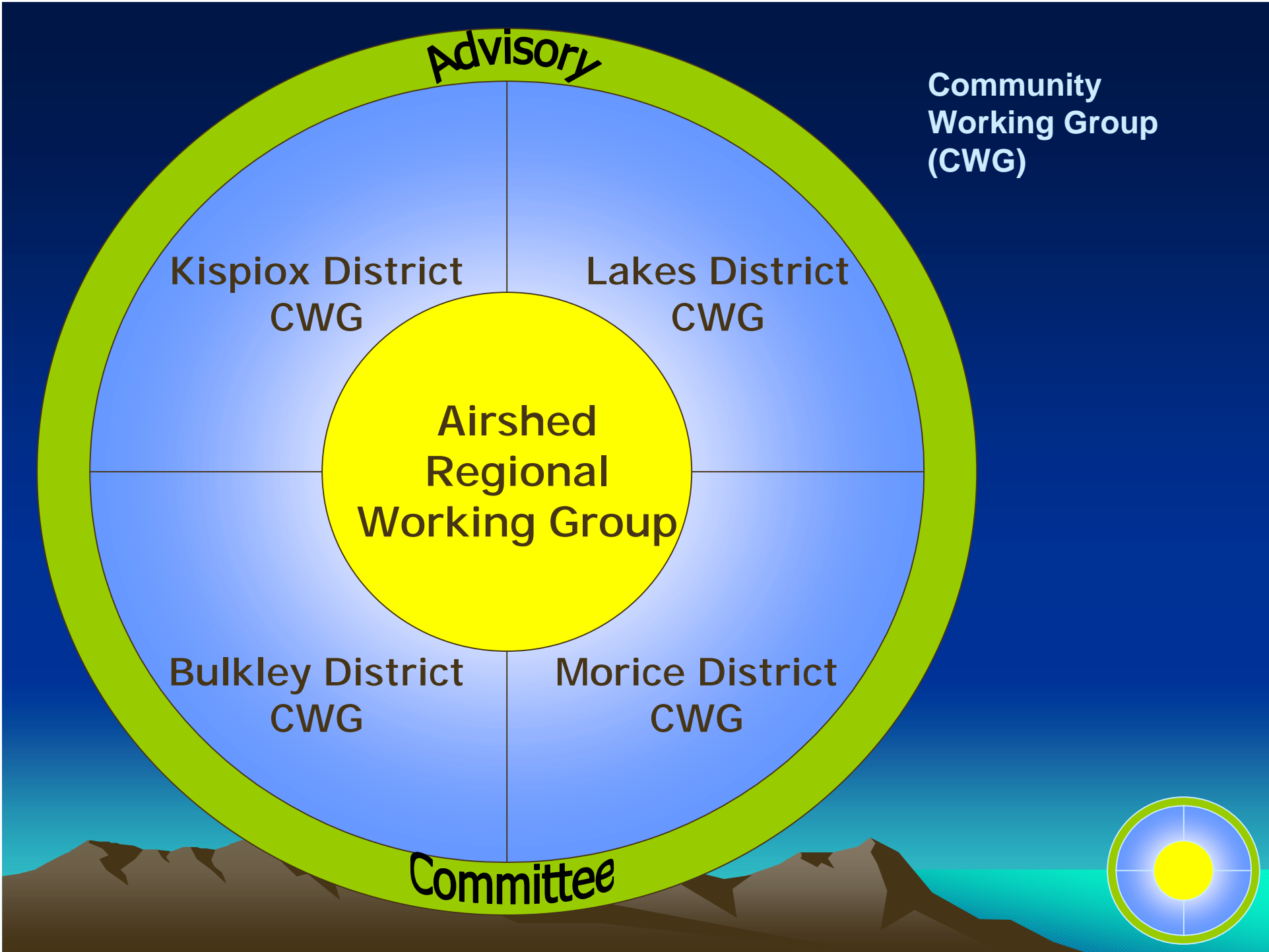
- Improved science-based decision making
 - Monitoring network
 - Meteorological modelling
 - Emission inventory
 - Dispersion modelling
- Advances in engineering for industrial operations



Policy Tools

- BC Waste Management Act
- Environmental Appeal Board Hearings
- Past Bulkley Valley Airshed Management Plans
- Other Resource Management Plans
- Regional Smoke Management Plans
- Building Codes
- Local Bylaws
- Education





Advisory

Community Working Group (CWG)

Kispiox District CWG

Lakes District CWG

Airshed Regional Working Group

Bulkley District CWG

Morice District CWG

Committee

Community Working Groups

- Who?
 - Burns Lake, Houston, Smithers, Hazelton
- What?
 - Identify sources/impacts of fine particulate
 - Represent concerns on Regional Working Group
 - Provide input for public and media relations on plan
 - Collaborate with stakeholders to identify and implement solutions for reducing emissions of fine particulate
 - Develop and endorse new plan



Regional Working Group

- Who?
 - 3 representatives from each Community Working Group (selected by Community Working Group members)
- What?
 - Identify sources/solutions common to all communities in airshed
 - Collaborate with stakeholders to identify and implement solutions for reducing emissions of fine particulate
 - Incorporate community specific sources and solutions into plan
 - Provide input for public and media relations on plan
 - Develop and endorse new plan



Coordinating Committee

- Who?
 - Local Citizen
 - Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
 - Canfor (Houston)
 - CHOKED (Community Health Opposition to Known Emission Dangers)
 - Pacific Inland Resources
- What?
 - Develop background information to support drafting of new airshed plan
 - Recruit members for Community Working Groups (from which Regional Working Group will be formed)



Advisory Committee

- Who?
 - Acting Regional Waste Manager , Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection
 - Mill Manager, Pacific Inland Resources
 - Mayor of Houston
 - Mayor of Smithers
- What?
 - Provide feasibility advice to Coordinating Committee, Community Working Groups and Regional Working Group
 - Identify and help secure funding



Bulkley Valley-Lakes District Airshed Management Plan

If you can breathe, you *can* make a difference.

