



Canadian Federation of University Women – Water, Water Everywhere
October 22, 2005
Report on Results by Topic

The audience was invited to spend a few minutes discussing each topic and then voted on their top ten issues. The results below are by topic. Please also see the second report which lists the issues by order of importance.

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Issues or Solution Raised</u>	<u># of Votes</u>
Conservation		
1	Need for public education of local initiatives for water conservation	13
2	Local govt as protectors and advocates	10
3	Concern that people don't know how limited our water supply (3 creek)	10
4	Need professionals who are paid to do evaluations (not volunteers)	9
5	Need study – master water plans and LRMPs (Land Resource Management Plans) and the differences between them	5
6	Confirm the experts - expertise	5
7	Monitoring water sheds (enforcement – regular basis)	3
8	Water metering PLUS minimum graded increment fees	2
9	Sprinkling penalty enforcement	2
10	Putting pressure on SCRD for bylaws and to take further steps to conserve water and to advertise this	2
11	Water purveyor needs management authority	1
12	Local bylaws for aquifer protection	1
13	Limits to population growth tied in with conservation impact	1
14	Problems getting government to enforce laws	1
15	Won't export unless the importer is also conserving	
16	Whole coast - \$ from province or federal government (as a model)	
17	Water source protection (local control of non-SCRD watersheds)	
18	Water shortage for 4 months (July – Oct)	
19	Use of systems for conservation	
20	Try for "lighthouse" funding while becoming a positive example	
21	Tie conservation programs to financial incentives	
22	Outdated plumbing, taps – leaks	
23	Lots of water but problem of cost to access	
24	If metering, should have a minimum amount "free" because people have a right to clean, cheap water	
25	How to put water concerns first at provincial and federal levels.	
26	How to generate community-based social marketing (gentle) pressure to conserve. Establish local programs (website)	
27	How to encourage ways to recycle water instead of putting it into the ocean	
28	How to achieve coast wide policies	
29	How to achieve balance between population and supply	
30	How do you raise awareness of the education available?	



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31	High cost of conservation initiatives	
32	Hard to bring conservation as a topic at grassroots level. How?	
33	Give financial recognition of lighthouse projects (funding before and after)	
34	Education of future generations	
35	Ecological concerns should be put above economical ones	
36	Drier season getting longer – put something in place to measure this	
37	Difference between responsibility and rights	
38	Control land use in the source areas.	
39	Conservation should be incentive based	
40	Concern over supply and demand balance and how to get data	
41	Concern over finding an innovative local or provincial way to purchase private lands in watersheds.	
42	Community needs to empower local government	
43	Bylaw expansion for building trades re: relating codes for <u>now</u> and the future	
44	Anger around issues confuses understanding of the issues	
45	American attitude and how future generations will deal with the issues	
46	Access to sewage services – inequities	
Domestic Use		
1	Tax, tax, tax! Meter, meter, meter! Get people to be part of the solution, not the problem.	11
2	Need education on why we need to conserve (mind set shift)	6
3	Environmentally friendly products hard to find ~ and expensive. Complain. “Name and Shame” retailers. Positive recognition from government when stores provide these. Stores should have special display area or flag of these items.	6
4	Expand SCRD toilet replacement plan to public facilities e.g. schools	3
5	Signs (like forest fire hazard) notifying public of water levels	2
6	Raise price of water	2
7	Water Smart” program	1
8	Organize watersmart audit capability	1
9	Mulch, plant more and expect less yield in drought conditions	1
10	Xeriscaping awards	
11	Use rainwater. Incorporate into developments.	
12	Use plants that require less water.	
13	Training in environmental audit techniques	
14	SCRD use community association meetings as vehicle for PR	
15	Quotes, ceiling on water use	
16	Pay for use. Without meters, those who use least, pay most.	
17	Need measure of success, accountability, for progress	
18	Need info on how to install big holding tanks/cisterns for rainwater.	
19	Need advertising re conservation	
20	Look to European models. E.g. appliances. Often smaller, more conserving.	



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21	Keep containers in refrigerator for cold water.	
22	Issue ~ local supplier for green paving.	
23	Invisible structures ~ company with info on innovative solutions. E.g. reduce hard surfaces, etc.	
24	Incentives for using spring/well water vs. public system?	
25	How can metering be implemented?	
26	Go without water for a day to learn how many others around the world live.	
27	Get local suppliers to list by name approved products (low water use appliances.)	
28	Financial institutions offering low interest loans for “green” renovations.	
29	Fill sink to rinse dishes, don’t run water.	
30	Expand incentive program to include instant hot water systems? Drip irrigation? (with timers, moisture sensors)	
31	Difficulties in buying low-flow toilets, linking to old plumbing systems.	
32	Current watering restrictions can’t be applied to drip systems. (9 dots)	
33	Contradiction ~ Gibsons residents asked to conserve, but anyone can use public outlet.	
34	Consumer testing agency?	
35	Consider location of appliances, have efficient point-of-use systems. E.g. European style hot water heaters.	
36	CMHC provides free guide on water efficiency.	
37	Bring back rain barrel program, other education programs. (1 dot)	
38	Arsenic levels in well water ~ wasteful filtering systems.	
Health & Sustainability		
1	Water-metering	17
2	Coast-wide information, cooperation and solutions!	17
3	Offer incentives for the above (tax based, penalty, voluntary incentives)	5
4	Look at more natural systems (waste water treatment)	4
5	How do we encourage and educate the public re: management of septic systems	3
6	Education and a rebate program on water barrels (rain) – Rain recycling	3
7	Municipalities should encourage drip watering	3
8	Too many bureaucracies (3 dots)	3
9	Arsenic issue? How big an area is affected?	2
10	Conflicting information re: the use of holding ponds	2
11	How do you get politicians to take a risk to make conservation changes regarding water management	2
12	Reduce chlorination in our water supply by redesigning the system	2
13	Limit / Stop growth	2
14	Open trucks e.g. mining – should be covered	1
15	Concern over use of water by the 2 proposed mines``	1
16	Look into geo-thermal alternatives	1



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17	How safe are the pipes in homes and schools? Is there asbestos in the pipes on this area?	1
18	Is our water safe for people with compromised immune systems?	1
19	How does discoloured water affect our skin?	1
20	Concerns about the safety of chlorine (small scale distribution)	1
21	Concern over chlorine and other chemicals that are added!	1
22	Create public awareness of how much water we use.	1
23	How much water use can we sustain given the encouragement that new growth exists here? (1 dot)	1
24	Healthy foreshores (Group called Greenshores program)	
25	Clean water shed is better than bottled water	
26	Identify Key indicators between communities to measure improvement over time for water & sustainability issues	
27	Septic systems need to be sustainable, not temporary	
28	(mind set change)	
29	How do we make our beaches safe for swimming? (quality of water)	
30	Should fluoride be introduced in light of later research	
31	Concerns about water borne pathogens	
32	More education needed on our water quality	
33	Comments made re: requiring more current documentation on the safety of fluorides	
34	Pay attention to the small independent water systems on the Coast	
35	Encourage green roofs	
36	Consider / pay attention to water sustainability for all species	
37	How are our municipal water pipes monitored for leakage and is there a risk for reverse contamination?	
38	Why is Sechelt not developing an alternate source other than SCRD surface water?	
39	“Living by water” program online (Clive Calloway)	
40	Why do we use water to treat sewage? (Composting toilets & gray water)	
41	Limit carcinogens	
42	Is fluoride sage to put in our drinking water? (Ozone)	
43	A rebate program on front-loading washers	
44	Encouraging “Back casting” in municipal planning.	
45	Putting bylaws in place to enforce: low flush, low flow, collecting rain, changing plumbing.	
Infrastructure		
1	Coast-wide Master plan.	27
2	Flexibility in a Coast-wide system.	10
3	Do not increase Tet storage	2
4	Explore alternative water sources	1
5	Restrict growth to available water?	1



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6	(protest everyone's rights)	
7	Aquifer mapping	
8	Audit systems for leaks	
9	By laws to control conservation in new developments	
10	Contamination by recreation use, need closer monitoring	
11	Curb promotion of economic development because of lack of water	
12	Discourage lawns, encourage xeriscaping	
13	Education	
14	Elevation issues	
15	Geotechnical studies for drainage or logging damage from slippage – needs temporary containment	
16	Ground water regulations needed	
17	Know water supply – pipe location to homes	
18	Limit daily domestic use with penalties	
19	LRMP	
20	Make provincial money available to small communities to develop or improve their own water system / or join regional district / or incorporate	
21	Mandatory cisterns to collect rain water (SCRD offer at cost)	
22	Meter supply	
23	More source protection rather than more treatment....Chapman Creek	
24	More sub systems	
25	More water used, the more cost per unit	
26	Neighbourhood metering	
27	People using wells and creek water want control of their watershed	
28	Public knowledge of build out allowed by zoning	
29	Reduced pressure on outside taps	
30	Strategy for summer storage	
31	Volunteer policing of neighbourhood	
Land Development		
1	Master plan for Sunshine Coast; Regional growth with strategy – Importance of guidelines	13
2	Water conservation by-law for all new subdivisions	11
3	Lobby Provincial Government for LRMP for consistency	10
4	Tree cutting bylaws for private land – safety exemption; Cleared developments – can we have trees left on properties	9
5	sprawl & smart growth issue and application to rural community	8
6	Higher charges for land development?	3
7	Green Development reward	2
8	Wetlands – Marina ok?	2
9	Availability of water for development	1
10	Bylaw enforcement	1



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11	Concern – developments - Source of water – development costs changing	1
12	Impervious land surface use	1
13	Mandatory cisterns	1
14	Will bylaws address opposing faction?	1
15	Alternate road route	
16	Buffer zone on private land beside creeks	
17	Crossing property line boundaries	
18	Develop a rural catchment below clear cutting – (topsoil extraction) steep slope	
19	Educate for water conservation	
20	Enable district to fund expert studies to establish zoning plans for all public resources	
21	Ensure enough water for all development	
22	Grey water for golf courses	
23	Heritage tree preservation	
24	How to motivate politicians to do what has to be done	
25	Implement RAR regulations	
26	Lobby – e.g. Ministry of Highways for change	
27	More education	
28	Natural ditches	
29	No gutters from hwy in subdivision	
30	Storm water retention and situation control mechanism	
31	Summer watering	
32	Too many government levels	
33	Water course – public ownership	
34	Well water impact on Chapman Creek hatchery and communicate to hatchery	
NATIONAL		
1	Government should not include water in a list of goods or services in International trade.	19
2	Lobby government that water not be included in a list of goods and services in International Trade	19
3	NAFTA? Selling water?	18
4	Effective National policy on water (presently 40 yrs old)	17
5	How do we motivate politicians to do what has to be done?	14
6	Needs for ministry of water Focus ~ need Federal 20 ministries federally, 10 ministries provincially.	12
7	American pressure ~ How do we deal with it? American needs/wants (NASCO ~ Google) critical! Plans consumption damaging aquifers. How do we deal with it?	11
8	Provincial jurisdiction over water. Cross border issue e.g. Terasen utility sale	11
9	Community at top of hierarchy over water issues	4
10	Great Lakes Accord ~ 2001	2



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11	Introduction of one system into another. E.g. rerouting river systems ~ special changes	1
12	Mandatory cisterns	1
13	Water stewardship through education. Replace ownership paradigm.	1
14	Legal challenges of foreign ownership of our resources (water)! E.g. Terasen sale as a possible precedent	
15	Agricultural Land Reserve	
16	Selling Water Licenses	
17	Privatization of Water e.g. African countries. Public Control Issue.	
18	Consumption #1 irrigation/agriculture. Drinking water ~less.	
19	Water Protection ~ Shipping resource	
20	Become informed ~ web knowledge	
21	Water as a commodity ~ links to big business	
22	Motivation ~ profit /conservation	
23	Lack of confidence by public in powers that be ~ advocacy	
24	Do we look after our resources well? ~ policy	
25	Water as PRIMARY Resource	
26	National policy to consider community needs ~ provincial	
27	Community need and concerns should form National Water Policy. National Water Policy should give the provinces power, and the provinces and the community need to communicate.	
28	Lobby Federal Government from turning water into a commodity or economic good.	
29	Goals for water ministry: Impact on soil conservation, sedimentation, mapping, financial resources.	
30	Food is Water! Local agriculture	
31	Legal challenges to buy water	
32	Land development	
33	Willing to take risks	
34	Trade off with longer term people on Councils prior to public consultation.	
35	Where is the water for East Porpoise Bay?	
36	Own water from sea water	
37	Master Plan for development	
38	Only allow hookups as water is naturally available.	
Salmon Hatchery		
1	SCRD needs to sign the agreement with DFO for minimal water flow	16
2	Change zoning to allow cluster-housing density	12
3	Find alternate sources, especially from July to September. McNair Lake)?	11
4	“Green” Chapman Creek and catchment area	3
5	More aquifer data required	2
6	More hatcheries (4) have year-round supply (DFO won't allow)	2
7	All water in lakes can be used for domestic purposes regardless of fish life	2



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8	Short-term solution is also long-term solution. Need wells, metering.	1
9	Between 11pm and 3am water flow significantly reduced	1
10	Need overall water master plan	1
11	Explore McNair Creek for possible future source (another reservoir)	1
12	Chapman Creek water is stretched too thin. Just barely enough water to sustain hatchery (200 litres per second). DFO minimum for hatcheries is 400 litres per second.	
13	Reduce watering in summer	
14	More communication with Con Ag about ground-water use.	
15	Need info on zoning bylaws	
16	Can more development be supported?	
17	New development standards to allow innovation to take place	
18	Stream stewardship program	
19	Change culverts to fish-friendly systems	
20	No dams on Chapman	
21	Fire Dept. safety at risk because of minimum water flow	
22	Less water used o 3-day weekends (e.g., more in river)	
23	Dam Chapman Lake	
24	Affected by other ministries	
25	Public education required	
26	This area has steep slopes	
27	Problem for reservoir	
28	Gibsons aquifer remains constant	
WATERSHED		
1	Legislate low flush toilet	61
2	Need for local authority over private corporations in watershed	37
3	Integrated approach to watershed	35
4	Use an ecosystem approach – “Water for fish before water for lawns”	15
5	What steps can we take to assume authority, to conserve water, to protect watershed	14
6	Need a regional growth strategy	13
7	Water for fish before water for lawns, i.e. ecosystem approach	12
8	Is there enough water for all local developments?	11
9	Risk of debris flow in Chapman Creek	8
10	Central control – who, how, do local authorities have resources?	8
11	Lack of authority over land use activity and a plan	7
12	How will global warming affect watershed	5
13	Legislate how flush (6L) toilets	3
14	Is there another source to Chapman Creek?	3
15	What are acceptable uses of watershed – cattle? Forestry? Bikes?	2
16	Local ownership of watershed	2



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17	Inventory of what we have	2
18	Identify and protect another water source	2
19	Education to build a sense of ownership for “best practices”	2
20	Control of public access to watershed	2
21	Collaborative approach to watershed management	2
22	Better monitoring of watershed use	2
23	Should be a cap on population in a community	1
24	How can we have reasonable control of watershed, i.e. monetary demands on forestry to produce a certain value of wood?	1
25	Water use plan for the whole coast	
26	Use of aquifers (private)	
27	Upstream rites	
28	Take community forest out of watershed	
29	Regional growth strategy	
30	Protection of watershed for drinking water	
31	Private use of aquifers	
32	Pressure government to reinstall hydrometric stations	
33	Planning on an individual watershed basis, not on political basis	
34	No industrial activity in community watershed	
35	Need to know what politicians think	
36	Need for restoration of watershed and a geotech study	
37	More education re. Misuse of water, conservation, “best practices”	
38	Lowering of aquifer and its impact on Chapman Creek	
39	Knowledge transfer from one generation of politicians to next to deal with problems	
40	How does local community participate in watershed management>	
41	Educate politicians and public re. Costs involved	
42	Each watershed is unique	
43	Differentiate between water for cosmetic uses and agricultural uses	
44	Broader assessment for water use and needs in view of possible buildout.	
45	Broader assessment for water use and needs in view of build-out	
46	Better monitoring of watershed use	
47	All watersheds protected	
48	All watershed should be protected	