



NECHAKO
WATERSHED
ROUNDTABLE

Nechako Watershed Roundtable

Margot Parkes, Co-Chair

Kim Menounos, Core Committee Member

Nechako Watershed Facts

- The Nechako Watershed is 1.5 times the size of Vancouver Island
- 52,000 km²
- Home to 5 municipalities and 13 First Nation communities
- Critical habitat to red-listed Nechako White Sturgeon





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Core Committee Membership

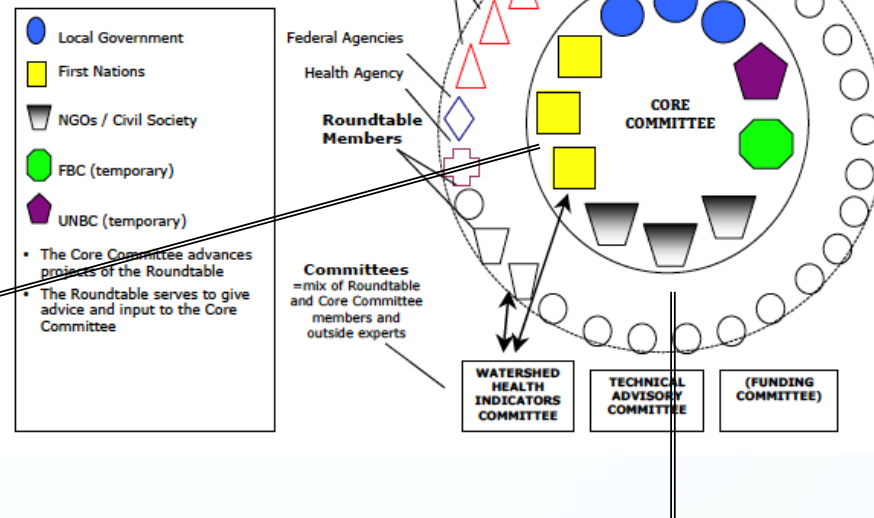
Local Government

- Councillor, District of Vanderhoof (CO-CHAIR)
- Director, BNRD
- Councillor, City of Prince George

First Nations

- Cheslatta Carrier Nation
- Carrier Sekani Tribal Council
- (vacant)

NECHAKO WATERSHED ROUNDTABLE Governance Structure



NGO / Civil Society

- UNBC (CO-CHAIR)
- Fraser Basin Council
- Nechako Environment and Water Stewardship Society (NEWSS)
- Member at Large



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NWR in Action

- Statement of Concern – released October 19, 2018
- Annual Roundtable Meeting in Nautley, BC - November 2018
- Technical Working Group meeting – May 2019
- Letter to Premier and Ministers – May 2019
- Water Week film presentations – May 2019
- 2020 Budget Consultations – June 2019
- Working groups:
 - Education and Youth Engagement Working Group
 - Lakes Monitoring Working Group
- RioTinto Water Engagement Initiative Main Table participant



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Key Areas of Concern

- Water Quantity and Quality
- Fish and Wildlife
- Ecosystems
- Resource Development and Use
- Resource Conservation and Stewardship





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Opportunities for Improved Collaboration

1. Protection and enhancement of watersheds and water resources
2. Collaboration with First Nations, residents and community groups
3. Enhancing environmental awareness
4. Connection between a healthy environment and economic development



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Year 2 – Budget

SECURED FUNDING	
Real Estate Foundation of BC	\$35,000
Fraser Basin Council	\$15,000
Local governments (District of Vanderhoof, Village of Burns Lake, RDFFG)	\$6,800
TOTAL	\$56,800

PROPOSED SOURCES	
Local Government (\$1700 x 3 remaining communities)	\$ 9,500
Other (Province, private sector and other grants)	\$20,000
TOTAL	\$29,500

Current Financial Position

Revenues

Fraser Basin Council	\$15,000
Local Governments	\$6,800
	<u>\$21,800</u>

Expenses

Labour (FBC and UNBC staff)	\$43,000
Annual Roundtable meeting (Nakazdli)	\$1,500
Technical Committee Meetings	\$250
Travel expenses	\$1,600
Secretariat Expenses	\$625
Communications	\$2,000
	<u>\$48,975</u>

Net \$(27,175)

Potential REFBC Matching (year 2 of 3 year agreement) \$35,000



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NWR Long Term Needs

- Urgent need for resources to support watershed-level leadership in the Nechako
 - Minimum \$100k in Nechako watershed for coordination
 - Funds to support landscape and watershed level planning processes
 - Additional compensation for communities affected by Kenney Dam to support restoration and conservation efforts
 - Support for First Nations communities' work as stewards and protectors of water resources (Yinke Dene 'Uza'ne Surface Water Management Policy)



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Summary

- The Nechako Watershed Roundtable provides a collective voice for communities across a watershed heavily impacted by industry and resource development
- The NWR facilitates collaborative action identified in the Nechako Watershed Health Strategy
- Local government support is vital to move toward implementation, and helps unite those living in the watershed



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Annual Meeting

Theme: ***Forests, Fish, Future***

DATE: October 30th , 2019

TIME: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

LOCATION: Kwah Hall, Nakazdli

ADDRESS: 101 Kwah Road, Fort St. James

Everyone welcome!