



our water bc

Terms of Reference

Our Water BC

March 2021

I. PURPOSE

To provide a space for members to learn with and from each other, increase their peer-to-peer network, access training and education, take advantage of partnerships, and amplify their own organization's efforts through collective support.

II. THEORY OF CHANGE

If we work together, align efforts and identify opportunities to leverage each other's work locally and regionally we will advance provincial level goals for healthy freshwater because we will build power in numbers, add strength to one another's work and present a united front.

III. SHARED GOALS

We are committed to working with and holding all governments operating in British Columbia accountable for the following actions:

1. Reconciliation

Advance reconciliation with indigenous nations with respect to freshwater planning and shared decision-making.

2. Climate Resilience

Place water at the center of a modernized strategic land use planning regime and build climate resilience through preserving vital watersheds and the forests that surround them.

3. Adequate funding for Conservation, Water Management and Monitoring

Provide adequate legal and financial resources to implement the innovative policy and management tools needed to protect freshwater.

Develop a rigorous provincial strategy for water monitoring, data, data-sharing and compliance and enforcement.

IV. COORDINATING COMMITTEE

- A. Lead Coordination:** Danielle Paydli, Canadian Freshwater Alliance (CFA)
 - Meeting coordination and facilitation
 - Education session coordination
- B. Secondary Coordination:** Meghan Rooney, Watershed Watch Salmon Society (WWSS)
 - Newsletter development
 - Meeting minutes
- C. Facebook Team:** Taryn Skalbania, BC Coalition for Forestry Reform; Miki Eslake, Rivershed Society of BC; Katia Bannister & Danielle Paydli, CFA; Meghan Rooney, WWSS
- D. Both B and C will be open for others to serve in these roles once a year.**

V. DECISION-MAKING

- A.** We strive for consensus among members in all decisions affecting directions for OWBC.
- B.** In times when consensus can not be achieved, we will default to a 2/3rds majority vote of members.

VI. MEMBERS

A. Definition

1. Organizations who engage proactively in some or all OWBC activities.
2. Members self-identify when and how they engage beyond membership endorsement.

B. Opportunities

1. Join networking opportunities with other groups working on freshwater health in BC.
2. Access to trainings, webinars and other knowledge-based opportunities for freshwater groups and their members.
3. Member stories and projects can be profiled on the OWBC website, within media, etc.
4. Opportunity to access support for events focused on freshwater priorities (financial, marketing, etc.).
5. We all get to be part of a larger movement to leave a lasting legacy for healthy freshwater in BC!

C. Responsibilities

1. Endorse our shared goals (III).

2. Participate in, and encourage your organization's supporters to participate in, action appeals, when/where appropriate.
3. Host events profiling key freshwater priorities
4. Members agree to acknowledge Our Water BC membership on their website.
5. Share logos

D. Data-sharing

1. In cases where members engage in campaign dissemination and list-building opportunities the following protocol for data-sharing will be followed:
 - a) Either via a microsite development or by using a unique recruiter URL, the recruiting entity will be supplied, as requested, with a complete list of the names and contacts they have recruited in to the initiative. They are welcome and invited to engage those supporters as they wish.
 - b) The Canadian Freshwater Alliance will retain a master contacts list and will engage that list on specific opportunities within the scope of OWBC priorities.

E. Communication

1. Members of the network are invited to participate in regular calls to share resources, successes, challenges, etc. and build collective strategies, when/where appropriate
 - a) Quarterly OWBC Member Calls
 - (1) To share local conversations and activities
 - (2) To promote upcoming opportunities
 - (3) To evaluate the success of tools
 - (4) To explore new tools to advance our mission
 - (5) To share/promote communications and promotional opportunities
 - b) Invited to join closed Facebook Group for members

The Terms of Reference for OWBC shall be reviewed annually by the members.