

**CORE AREA LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
PUBLIC AND FIRST NATIONS CONSULTATION SUMMARY REPORT
December 2014**

The Capital Regional District (CRD) has been conducting a public involvement program specific to wastewater management since 2006.

Intensive consultation was done in order to develop the current Core Area Liquid Waste Management Plan (CALWMP). The LWMP is the main planning document for the core area's wastewater treatment implementation program (renamed the Seaterra Program). The plan identifies a centralized wastewater treatment plant at McLoughlin Point, a resource recovery centre at Hartland landfill and a conveyance system of pump stations and pipes throughout the core area to convey wastewater to the treatment facilities.

Since the previous Ministry update in 2010, the CRD and the Seaterra Program have developed and implemented numerous public and First Nations communications and engagement initiatives. This Public and First Nations Consultation Summary Report outlines the public consultation and engagement around major decisions leading to the current approved CALWMP.

CALWMP COMMUNICATION COMMITMENTS

The communication and public engagement commitments that were laid out in the CALWMP included:

1. On a regular basis, produce a newsletter with project information and widely distribute it to individual households.
2. Continue to ensure that information posted on the project website is current, accurate, informative and balanced.
3. Continue to provide opportunities for residents to ask questions and have one-on-one conversations with CRD staff and consultants at open houses and at public and stakeholder meetings.
4. Engage neighbourhoods in interactive workshops regarding the location, design, construction and operation of the proposed treatment plants, pump stations, storage tanks or major pipelines and use general public consultation on broader issues.
5. Based on the findings of the workshops and general public consultation, develop appropriate mitigative measures to ensure that any potential negative impacts on neighbourhoods are minimized to a less than significant level.
6. First Nations Engagement
 - a) Continue to provide information to First Nations on project design, gather interests and feedback, and use the information where possible to guide project planning.
 - b) Resolve issues where possible and refer those not resolvable within the CRD legislative mandate to the provincial or federal government for resolution.
 - c) Continue to engage First Nations on interests related to use of federal crown land, impacts on the foreshore, protection of natural resources, outfall locations and effects on marine species, effects on archaeological sites and effects of discharges into inland water bodies.

CRD PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION

The CRD created videos, media kits, newsletters, website updates and mall displays and used paid advertising to inform the public and receive input on how the CALWMP should move forward. The communication initiatives implemented by the CRD since the previous Ministry update on the CALWMP are outlined in the table below. This table includes links to significant engagement summary reports, which were developed for the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee.

COMMUNICATION TYPE	DESCRIPTION
2010	
Public Consultation and Engagement Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public consultation session regarding the McLoughlin Point option (January) • Special Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee meeting for public delegations regarding procurement (February-March) • Two public Engagement Sessions for Esquimalt residents regarding the McLoughlin Point wastewater treatment facility (July)
Neighbourhood Validation Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbourhood Validation Sessions in Saanich East about possible site adjustment (May)
Open Houses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two open houses for Westshore residents regarding a proposed treatment plant at 3300 Wishart Rd (January) • Two open houses for all Core Area residents regarding procurement options for wastewater treatment (February) • One open house for Saanich East residents regarding a possible site adjustment (April) • Two open houses for Esquimalt residents regarding the McLoughlin Point wastewater treatment facility (July)
Community Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two Special Meetings of the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee inviting the public to speak directly to the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee (February-March)
First Nations Consultation and Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with Songhees/Beecher Bay Nations providing an update on marine monitoring, shellfish harvesting and archaeological work (February) • Meeting with Songhees Nation providing information on sewage treatment and marine monitoring (February) • Meeting with Esquimalt First Nation (May) • Meeting with Songhees and Beecher Bay providing an update on the wastewater treatment program, marine monitoring and impact assessment work (July)

COMMUNICATION TYPE	DESCRIPTION
First Nations Consultation and Engagement (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting with Songhees and Beecher Bay providing an update on the program, marine monitoring and siting (October) Meeting with Songhees regarding cost-sharing and determination of wastewater flows (October) Meeting with Esquimalt Nation regarding cost-sharing and determination of wastewater flows (November)
Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wastewater Made Clear website updated regularly
Media Communication and Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Backgrounder (project details, next steps) distributed to media DVD media kit consisting of DVD clips, backgrounder, news release, booklet information Op-eds (editorial on project status) News releases (background on consultation process, project siting details) Media advisories inviting media to open houses Posting for Public Information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2007-2010 https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/seattera-pdf/liquid-waste-management-plans/2010_lwmp_appendixh3_websitepostingspublicinfo_wastewater_madeclearwebsite.pdf?sfvrsn=2 Summary report on public consultation for procurement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/seattera-pdf/funding-business-cases/mar_2010_provbuscase_app28_summary_report_public_consultation_for_procurement.pdf?sfvrsn=2
2011	
First Nations Consultation and Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting with Esquimalt Nation about an Esquimalt sewer study at the Esquimalt Band office (January) Meeting with Esquimalt Nation regarding sewer project, which would take place in 2011 (July)
2012	
Meetings with Project Director, Core Area Wastewater Treatment Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost Allocation update to Township of Esquimalt Tour of McLoughlin Point site with Township of Esquimalt Planner, Chief Administrative Officer and Engineer View Royal Chief Administrative Officer and Engineer – Craigflower Pump Station Conference call with Infrastructure Canada regarding Environmental Assessments Meeting with federal agency representatives and Ministry of Environment staff regarding Environmental Assessment

COMMUNICATION TYPE	DESCRIPTION
2013	
Open Houses and Community Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open house regarding the rezoning of McLoughlin Point (May) • Eight open houses regarding the location of the Resource Recovery Centre (June)
Community Association and Stakeholder Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Esquimalt Chamber of Commerce regarding siting of the Resource Recovery Centre (May) • Lyall Street Action Committee regarding siting of the Resource Recovery Centre (June) • West Bay Residents Association regarding siting of the Resource Recovery Centre (June)
First Nation Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letters sent to Songhees and Beecher Bay re Environmental Impact Studies and marine monitoring (July)
Public Hearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Esquimalt Public Hearing regarding rezoning McLoughlin Point (July)
Media Communication and Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • News releases (background on consultation process, project siting details) • Siting Public Consultation Summary Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Resource Recovery Centre https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/crd-document-library/committeedocuments/corearealiquidwastemanagementcommittee/20130911/2013-09-11-item-6-biosolids-energy-centre-siting-process-public-consultation-final-summary-reportR.pdf?sfvrsn=4
2014	
First Nations Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with Esquimalt and Songhees Elders at Beacon Hill reburial site to discuss marking ceremony, protocol, fence design and who should be in attendance for the ceremony (September) • Marking ceremony with Esquimalt and Songhees Elders at Beacon Hill to mark outline of cemetery, City of Victoria and CRD elected officials in attendance as well as administrative staff (September)

SEATERRA PROGRAM PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

In 2013, the CRD formed the Seaterra Commission (initially called the Core Area Wastewater Treatment Program Commission) to oversee the design and construction of the core area's wastewater treatment program, as outlined in the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Plan (CALWMP). The major siting decisions had been made and the public engagement focus was on neighborhood-based communications that inform and engage local residents affected by nearby facilities. The opportunities for consultation during this communication phase were in the form of construction and impact reduction measures around noise, safety, air quality, traffic, etc.

The communications plan for the Seaterra Program can be found here:

[https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/crd-document-library/committeedocuments/seaterraprogramcommission/20131122/2013-11-22-item-5-seaterra-program-communications-plan-\(sea-13-45\)R.pdf?sfvrsn=0](https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/crd-document-library/committeedocuments/seaterraprogramcommission/20131122/2013-11-22-item-5-seaterra-program-communications-plan-(sea-13-45)R.pdf?sfvrsn=0)

The Seaterra Program engaged communities by sharing up-to-date information about the program and receiving input on construction planning. The Program achieved this by sending out household mailers, producing newsletters and fact sheets, open houses, and meeting and working with community associations, residents, First Nations and municipalities. The Seaterra Program implemented community engagement programs in neighbourhoods around the Resource Recovery Centre (RRC) at Hartland landfill, the Clover pump station and conveyance pipe, the treatment plant site at McLoughlin Point and along the route of the residual solids conveyance pipe. Community feedback was received via feedback forms, display boards and in-person discussions at community events and open houses.

The Seaterra Community Open Houses and Community Meetings were publicized by:

- Newspaper ads in the local community newspapers (i.e., Victoria News, Saanich News, etc.)
- Posters throughout affected communities
- Notification email sent via Community Association members
- Posting to Seaterra Program website
- Posting to Community Association/neighbourhood websites, where applicable
- Information mailers sent to affected residents
- Sandwich boards/local area billboards with signage
- Earned media

The below table includes links to examples of public materials, as well as engagement summary reports, which were developed for the Seaterra Program Commission.

COMMUNICATION TYPE	DESCRIPTION
2013	
Community Association and Stakeholder Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • View Royal Committee of the Whole about the Environmental Development Permit Application for Craigflower Pump Station (April) • Prospect Lake District Community Association about the RRC (October) • Highlands District Community Association about the RRC (October) • Willis Point Community Association about the RRC (October) • Highlands Council Committee of the Whole about the RRC (December)
Open Houses and Community Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two open houses on the Arbutus Road Attenuation tank (February) • Open House on Craigflower Pump Station Upgrade (February)

COMMUNICATION TYPE	DESCRIPTION
<p>Open Houses and Community Meetings (continued)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open house about the design of the treatment plant at McLoughlin Point (April) • Two Design Charette meetings on the Treatment Plant at McLoughlin Point (April) • Fairfield and Gonzales Community meeting about the Clover Pump Station (October) • James Bay Community meeting about the Clover Pump Station (October) • RRC information sheet mailed to Willis Point, Prospect Lake and Highlands residents • Willis Point information meeting about the RRC (December) • Prospect Lake information meeting about the RRC (December) • Highlands information meeting about the RRC (December) • Clover Point Rezoning Community Association Land Use Committee meeting (December)
<p>First Nations Engagement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with Songhees Council to provide an update on the Wastewater Program, cost allocation and proposed outfall modelling (April) • Letter sent to Esquimalt Nation Chief and Council regarding cost sharing and summary of wastewater flows (April) • Meeting with Tsawout regarding the results of Stage Two of the Environmental Impact Study (May) • Letters sent to Songhees and Beecher Bay re: Environmental Impact Studies and marine monitoring (July) • Meeting with Songhees Nation to provide an overview of the Seaterra Program with a focus on the proposed harbour crossing pipe, the Clover pump station and archaeological artifacts (August) • Meeting with Esquimalt Band Manager about project summary, flow model, archaeology and burning ceremony (August) • Meeting with Esquimalt and Songhees Spiritual Advisors providing an update on the Program and to discuss a ground blessing ceremony for the Craigflower pump station and the Seaterra Program (September) • Meeting with Esquimalt, Songhees, Beecher Bay and Cowichan Nations to request representatives from each nation to help with the ground blessing ceremony (September) • Ground Blessing Ceremony Event led by Esquimalt and Songhees Nation (September)

COMMUNICATION TYPE	DESCRIPTION
<p>First Nations Engagement (continued)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with Esquimalt and Songhees Nations and the City of Victoria to discuss the dedication of land in Beacon Hill Park for reburial of remains that might be discovered when completing work for CAWTP (October) • Esquimalt and Songhees Nation made presentation to City of Victoria Council requesting approval to proceed with reburial site at Beacon Hill Park (November) • Seaterra and CRD representatives invited to take part in an Esquimalt and Songhees Nation reburial ceremony for remains discovered as part of the Craigflower Bridge project (December)
<p>Website</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Seaterra website (www.seaterraprogram.com) was launched and updated regularly to ensure current information was available. A list of recent and upcoming community meetings could be found on the Seaterra website at the “In Your Community” page.
<p>Quarterly Newsletter</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall 2013 https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/seaterra-pdf/program-facilities-information/seaterraprogramnewsletter_fall2013.pdf?sfvrsn=0
<p>Media Communication and Materials</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Editorial Board Meetings • Op-eds (editorial on project status) • News releases (background on project developments) • Ongoing media relations activities and interviews as required • Quarterly newsletter providing updates on the Program (example: https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/seaterra-pdf/program-facilities-information/winter-2013---2014.pdf?sfvrsn=0) • Display boards for community open houses and public meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Resource Recovery Centre https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/seaterra-pdf/program-facilities-information/community-information-sessions---display-boards.pdf?sfvrsn=0 • Facility Information Sheets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Resource Recovery Centre https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/seaterra-pdf/program-facilities-information/information-sheet---resource-recovery-centre-at-hartland.pdf?sfvrsn=0 – Craigflower Pump Station https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/seaterra-pdf/program-facilities-information/craigflower-pump-station-in-view-royal.pdf?sfvrsn=0 • Summary reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Resource Recovery Centre engagement: https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/seaterra-pdf/program-facilities-information/2014-02summaryreport_rrchartland.pdf?sfvrsn=2

COMMUNICATION TYPE	DESCRIPTION
2014	
Community Association and Stakeholder Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide Seaterra update to Department of National Defense (January) • Highlands Council Committee of the Whole (January) • Esquimalt Planning Committee (January) • Esquimalt Council (January) • Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce Seaterra Update (January) • Prospect Lake update meeting (February) • Willis Point Community Association information meeting (March) • Saanich Community Associations information meeting (March) • James Bay New Horizons Forum regarding Clover Pump Station (March) • Esquimalt and Victoria West Community Associations and resident groups Seaterra Update (March) • Gorge Tillicum Community Association information meeting regarding the residual solids conveyance pipe (April) • Victoria Matters Public Forum – Wastewater Treatment (April) • View Royal Committee of the Whole situation update (September)
Open Houses and Community Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open House for the Fairfield Gonzales and James Bay Communities regarding the Clover Pump Station and Conveyance Pipe (January) • Two open houses regarding the rezoning of McLoughlin point (February) • Public boat tour to view the McLoughlin Point site from the water (February) • Special meeting to provide information to residents living near the residual solids conveyance pipe pumping stations (April) • Three open houses regarding the Residual Solids Conveyance Pipe (April and May)
Public Hearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Esquimalt Public Hearing for McLoughlin Point rezoning (February and March)
Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Seaterra website updated regularly to ensure current information was available. www.seaterraprogram.com
Quarterly Newsletter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter 2014 https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/seaterra-pdf/program-facilities-information/winter-2013--2014.pdf?sfvrsn=0

COMMUNICATION TYPE	DESCRIPTION
<p>First Nations Engagement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with Esquimalt Chief and Council and staff, discussed consultation, update on Seaterra, update on outfall monitoring, proposed Beacon Hill park burial project, flow demand and future communications (January) • Meeting with Songhees Chief and Council and staff, discussed consultation, update on Seaterra, reviewed environmental impact study, proposed Beacon Hill park burial, copy of Environmental Impact Study report distributed, reviewed flow demand (February) • Meeting with Esquimalt and Songhees Chiefs to discuss Beacon Hill Burial Grounds Project (March) • Meeting with Songhees Nation to provide an update on Harbour Projects (including the Seaterra Program) and outfall modelling (March) • Meeting with Tseycum Chief to discuss archaeology and Seaterra Program (April) • Guided walk of sacred burial site at Beacon Hill Park to be used for Seaterra Program with Esquimalt and Songhees Elders (April) • Meeting with Esquimalt and Songhees Elders to discuss protocols of care, treatment of remains, artifacts and site work (April) • Meeting with Songhees Nation staff to discuss carving commission for welcome poles for Sacred burial site for Seaterra project (May) • Meeting with Songhees and Esquimalt Elders to discuss Sacred burial site, update on work, treatment of remains and construction protocol (May) • Meeting with Esquimalt First Nation Administrator to discuss the future of wastewater treatment in the CRD, progress with Beacon Hill sacred burial site and update information shared to date with Esquimalt First Nation (August) • Follow-up call to Esquimalt First Nation Administrator to ensure that information was received (August)
COMMUNICATION TYPE	DESCRIPTION
<p>Media Communication and Materials</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Editorial Board Meetings • Videos and images of various program components (example: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BI0liu81Xos) • Op-eds (editorial on project updates and facility information) • News releases (information on project developments and backgrounders) • Ongoing media relations activities and interviews as required

COMMUNICATION TYPE	DESCRIPTION
<p>Media Communication and Materials (continued)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Display boards for community open houses and public meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clover Pump Station and Conveyance Pipe https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/seatterra-pdf/program-facilities-information/clover-pump-station-and-conveyance-pipe-display-boards.pdf?sfvrsn=2 - Wastewater Treatment Plant https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/seatterra-pdf/program-facilities-information/wastewater-treatment-plant-display-boards.pdf?sfvrsn=2 - Residual Solids Conveyance Pipe https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/seatterra-pdf/program-facilities-information/displayboards_rscp_250414.pdf?sfvrsn=2 • Facility Information Sheets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clover Pump Station and Conveyance Pipe https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/seatterra-pdf/program-facilities-information/clover-pump-station-and-conveyance-pipe-information-sheet.pdf?sfvrsn=0 - Wastewater Treatment Plant https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/seatterra-pdf/program-facilities-information/mcloughlin-facility-info-sheet.pdf?sfvrsn=0 - Residual Solids Conveyance Pipe https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/seatterra-pdf/program-facilities-information/infosheet_rscp_final_280414.pdf?sfvrsn=2 • Summary reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Residual Solids Conveyance Pipe engagement: https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/seatterra-pdf/program-facilities-information/2014-05residualsolidsconveyancecommunityengagementsummaryreportfinal.pdf?sfvrsn=0 - Clover Pump Station and Conveyance Pipe engagement: https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/seatterra-pdf/program-facilities-information/summaryreport_cloverpumpstation_february2014.pdf?sfvrsn=2

MOVING FORWARD

The municipalities of Victoria, Saanich, Oak Bay, Esquimalt, View Royal, Colwood and Langford collectively are participants of the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Services, which is managed and operated by the CRD. The Province has confirmed that the CRD is responsible for implementing secondary wastewater treatment in the core area through the Seaterra Program Commission. The CRD remains the signing authority for the funding agreements, which provide approximately \$500 million towards the \$788 million project.

Due to siting issues related to the development of the wastewater treatment plant at McLoughlin Point, work on the Seaterra Program is paused, with the exception of completion of the Craigflower Pump Station and completion of the design for the Arbutus Road Attenuation Tank.

The CRD has developed a new framework that will allow municipalities and First Nations participating in the CALWMP to take a leading role in their communities to identify local opportunities as part of a holistic regional solution.

This new framework gives CALWMP participants the opportunity to have Select Committees or to work individually with the support of staff from the CRD and their own staff to develop and evaluate treatment options for their communities, conduct costing exercises and work with other municipalities to optimize existing conveyance infrastructure. Any Select Committee that is formed will report to the CALWMC and CRD Board and will be supported by CRD staff.

Westside participants (Colwood, Esquimalt, Langford, View Royal, and Songhees Nation) are taking advantage of this new framework and have developed the Westside Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Select Committee. This Select Committee will work with CRD staff and a technical working group of municipal staff and consultants to develop a sub-regional wastewater treatment plan that aligns with the needs and desires of Westside participants. An engagement and consultation campaign with Westside residents will be the first step in developing wastewater treatment options through the Westside Select Committee. The first open house for the Westside Select Committee will take place in December with five more scheduled in January.