



WATER SUPPLY ASSOCIATION OF B.C.

2006-2007 Chairman's Report

The 13th Annual General Meeting/Conference and Trade Show will convene at 1:30 p.m., Thursday October 25, 2007. The venue for this two day event is at the beautiful Penticton Lakeside Resort.

The Water Supply Association is celebrating the completion of 84 years of existence. The former name of the association was the B.C. Association of Irrigation Districts.

The Water Supply Association's mandate is **"To represent the interests of B.C. Water Suppliers and their Customers."**

Our association continues to grow and is recognized for its work in progressing the interests of responsible water management in all aspects of the industry.

Our association is supported by our membership who provide funding and personnel to provide the association the resources to carry out our mandate. Our membership and support organizations continue to foster working relationships that encourage a healthy and responsible water industry.

Your 2006-2007 elected Directors have lead our association's activities and have benefited by many volunteers and industry representatives who are actively supporting our Water Supply Association mandate.

2006-2007 Directors

Chairman	Bruce Wilson
Vice Chairman	Toby Pike
Bob Hrasko	Brian Jamieson
Mike Stamhuis	Andre Miller
Michael Mercer	Kevin Huey
Jack Allingham	Pat Hickerson
Secretary	Cheryl Halla
Treasurer	Stu Mould
Associate Past Chairman	

The key issues of our Water Supply Association are managed through our Strategic Plan. This plan is in place to identify key association objectives that are developed by the directors. A Strategic Planning session is conducted annually by the Board of Directors. The criteria for establishing committees, is to focus on a number of key objectives for the W.S.A. Specific committee issues are selected using the criteria of issue importance, ability to have an impact within a 12-18 month period and the ability to provide the resources to be effective.

A brief summary of our past years Strategy Committees objectives is presented in point form. Directors are available for consultation on any of the issues in the question period at the end of this meeting.

2006-2007 Objectives and Progress

Source Protection/Crown Leases

- The process is being wound up by the Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB) and Devin Dickenson will be presenting the province's position on Friday
- Grazing licenses to be amended
- Waste Water Study in the Watersheds – Jeff Oland report
- Managing Strategic Impacts on Water Quality – Summit Environmental Report

Valley Water Management/Water Studies

- Toby Pike has been appointed by the WSA Board for a second year on the Okanagan Basin Water Board
- Bob Hrasko is a member of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council, the technical advisory group to the OBWB
- LRMP Groundwater Education Project
- Ground Water Assessment in Okanagan Basin (GAOB) Vicki Carmichael of MOE– input from WSA
- Water Highway B.C. – protection and promotion of funding for hydrometric network.
- Okanagan Basin Water Supply and Demand Study – Summit Environmental
 - Toby Pike - Steering committee representative
 - Bob Hrasko – Technical Committee representative
- Sustainable Water Strategy for the Basin
 - Okanagan Water Stewardship Council
 - Bob Hrasko representative
- In excess of 50 studies are underway valley-wide
- A Central Water report library is being encouraged

Ministry of Health/Interior Health (Leadership Council)

- Completion of a Water Treatment Discussion Paper – “A Common Approach to Drinking Water Improvements for the Okanagan Region”
- Position Statements and recommendations for amendments provided on the Turbidity Notification Program with full Valley-wide support
- Continued development of a “Filtration Deferral” policy paper and a “Water Source Control Program” policy is in the works.

Communications

- Newsletter publications
- Expansion of Web site
- Trade show expansion with training sessions

Water Supply Administration

- Committees for strategy objectives
- AGM and Workshop planning and implementation changes

Improvement District Governance and Funding

- Society for Infrastructure Sustainability (SIS) – liability insurance, project support
- Improvement District Bylaw review by Ministry of Community Services (MCS)
- Funding Alternatives for Improvement Districts

Operator Education/EOCP

- Support of Okanagan University College – Water Quality Program
- Scholarships - Tom and Rose Carter Scholarship
 - Ted Allingham Memorial Scholarship
- Partnering with Consultants for Training
 - Mearls Machine Pump Course
 - Robins Flotech Hydraulics Course
 - Terminal City Ironworks Ltd. Hydrant Maintenance
 - Mueller Canada Hydrant Maintenance Course
- Discussions with Thompson River University
- UBC-O LEEF Chair (Leading Edge Endowment Fund) for Reservoir Ecosystem Management
- EOCP discussions – establishing EOCP Learning credits
 - Promotion of EOCP creditable courses.

On October 12, 2007 the WSA held another Strategic Planning Session and identified objectives that have been accomplished or are nearing completion. A new set of objectives were established and will be available on our website once the new Directors Board endorses them.

The WSA continues to be a key resource for developing and processing water management issues. We value our industry partners who include our operators, secretaries and managers, our consultants and suppliers, our regulators and legislators and the general public.

Our association recognizes the many Boards, Regional Districts, Municipalities, Provincial and Federal Governments who work with the WSA as both a resource and a partner in developing and protecting our water resources. A special acknowledgment is deserving of the Okanagan Basin Water Board which has expanded its mandate and representation in the area and their support of our objectives.

The water industry is a vibrant industry that is developing rapidly in all areas. Education, water treatment, sustainability, source protection, utility structure, legislation etc. etc. are just a few areas of the water business that we provide input to.

The expectations of the WSA continue to grow. I am proud to be a part of the Water Supply Association and the industry as a whole. I believe that your WSA directors have done a remarkable job again this year in providing a service to our membership and guidance to the industry.

A special thanks is extended to our Secretary Treasurer, Cheryl Halla. Cheryl is a tireless worker who gives her heart and soul to our association. We are very fortunate to have Cheryl continuing her efforts on our behalf.

In summary, on behalf of the WSA, I thank my fellow directors for their exceptional commitment, our membership for their continued support and our colleagues in Government, Industry and the public who believe in and respect our professional representation in the water industry.

Thank you again for supporting our Water Supply Association.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce G. Wilson
WSA Chairman