

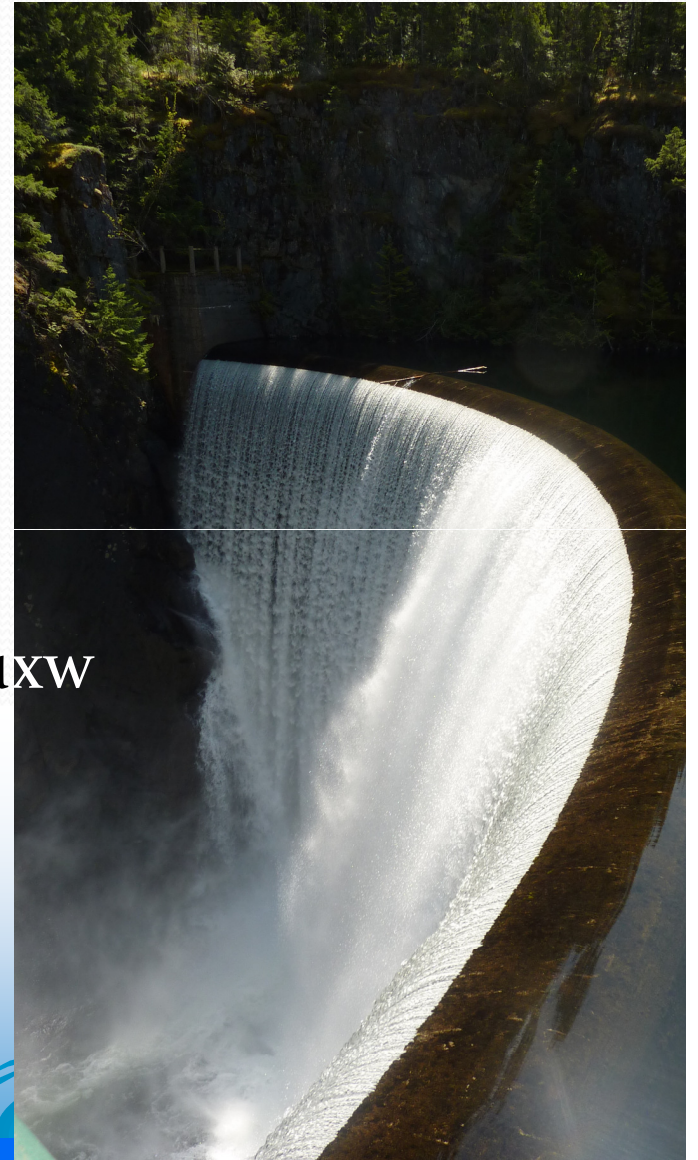


# WATERSHED GOVERNANCE

April 27 2015



- Council: Governing body for Water Supply
- Water Supply Advisory Committee
- Protocol Agreement with Snuneymuxw
- Water Supply Strategic Plan (2007)



- Regional District of Nanaimo: Drinking Water Watershed Protection
- DWWP Action Plan:
  - Managing demand (education & outreach)
  - Understanding supply (gathering science)
  - Governance, planning, policy





T H E   H A R B O U R   C I T Y

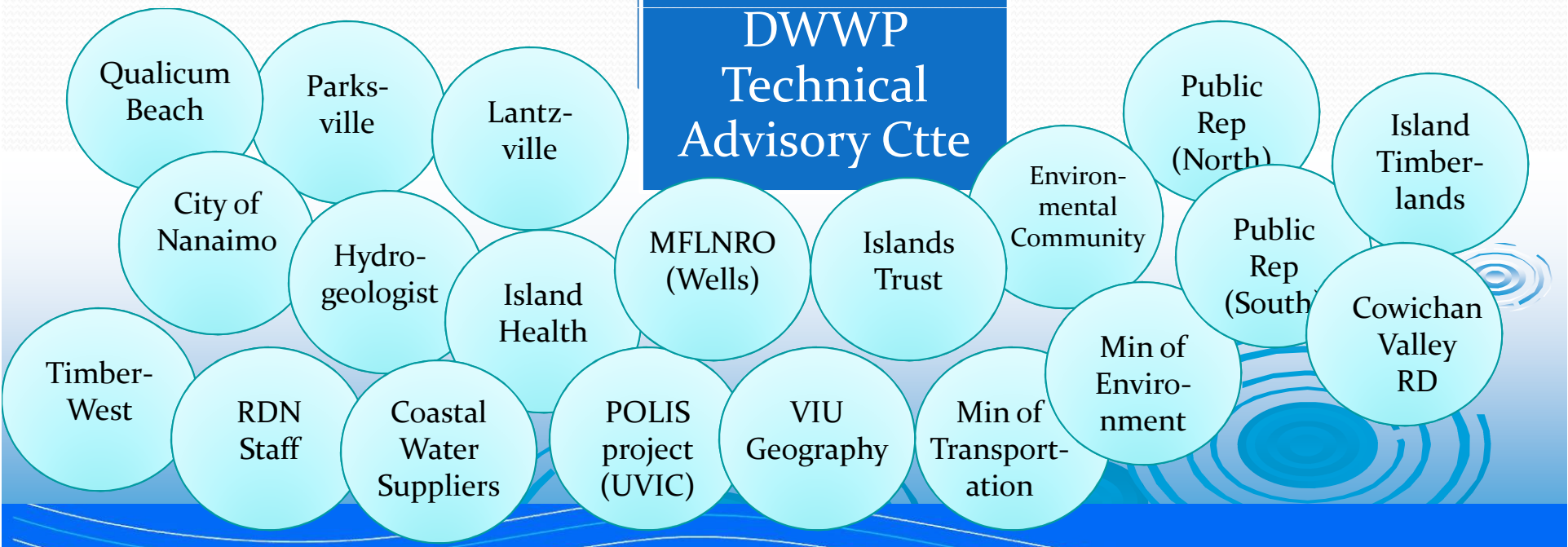
Drinking Water  
Watershed Protection

RDN Board

Sustainability Select  
Ctte

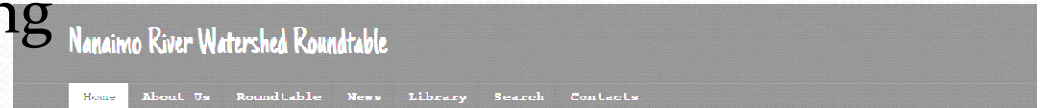
RDN Water  
Staff

DWWP  
Technical  
Advisory Cttee





- Nanaimo River Watershed Roundtable
  - Informal coalition of diverse groups
  - Collaboration and sharing



- Management initiatives
  - Regular meetings with landowners
  - Collaboration in education
  - Base flow releases
  - Active role in watershed protection, conservation, collaboration with other entities



## Overview

The Nanaimo River Watershed originates from the Island Range on Central Vancouver Island, consisting of over a dozen major tributaries and four major lakes. From the headwaters to the estuary it encompasses 95,000 hectares and a main channel of 56 kilometres. The Nanaimo River Watershed and its estuary (the Watershed) are

## Nanaimo River Watershed Roundtable





- Legislation: Water Sustainability Act (2014)
- Act will come into force with regulations, as they are developed
- Regulations around governance do not yet exist





- Current trends:
  - Collaborative watershed governance
  - Example: Cowichan Watershed Board





## High priorities:

- Foster relationship with Snuneymuxw
- Sustainable supply for long-term growth
- Completion and startup of treatment plant



- Other points to note:
  - Access to City infrastructure is protected by the Water Sustainability Act
  - Primary risks to water quality: significant rainfall, climate change, pathogens
  - Very expensive to manage a forest for water quality
  - Recent changes to regulation resulted in December's boil water order
  - Forestry practices, regulated by the Managed Forest Council share the objectives of good water quality for both drinking and fish habitat



