

2009

## Communities Adapting to Climate Change Initiative, phase one

Communities Adapting to Climate Change is an initiative that aims to help Basin communities increase their resiliency to climate change at the local level. It will do this by identifying the range of potential impacts, assessing local vulnerabilities and sensitivities, and developing adaptation strategies for addressing climate change impacts.

### Advisory Committee

The Communities Adapting to Climate Change Advisory Committee is composed of diverse members and institutions including First Nations, provincial and federal governments, academic institutions and the general public. The following organizations provide support to this project:

[Alan Hamlet - University of Washington, Seattle, WA](#) - Alan is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Washington and is jointly affiliated with the inter-disciplinary Center for Science in the Earth System (CSES) Climate Impacts Group. His research over the last 10 years has focused on the impacts of climate variability and change on rivers and water resources systems in the western U.S., with a particular emphasis on the Columbia River basin.



[Arelija Werner - Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium \(PCIC\), Victoria, BC](#) - Arelija has contributed to the Columbia Basin Climate Change Study, contributed to the writing of the National Assessment report on climate change in BC, and is currently evaluating changes to streamflow in BC resulting from climate change.

[Bill Green - Canadian Columbia River Intertribal Fisheries Commission, Cranbrook, BC](#) - Bill has an interest in ensuring information gained through the Adapting to Climate Change initiative is transferred to First Nations. His work ensures that streamflows (water quantity) and water quality are protected as the region adapts to climate change so that the diversity, productivity and values of aquatic ecosystems are maintained and enhanced.



[Bob Sanford - United Nations Water for Life Decade, Canmore, AB](#) - Bob is Canadian Chair of the United Nations' International Decade for Action: "Water for Life," a national partnership that aims to advance long-term water quality and availability issues in response to climate change in Canada and abroad (



[Cathy LeBlanc - Intergovernmental Relations and Planning, Ministry of Community Services, Victoria, BC](#) - Cathy supports local governments in their sustainability initiatives such as greenhouse gas reduction action plans and targets in regional growth strategies and official community plans. She is interested in practical solutions, lessons learned, capacity building, policy development, adaptation and translation of science for use by planners.

[Cindy Pearce - Mountain Labyrinths Resource Management Inc., Revelstoke, BC](#) - Cindy has been working for over 20 years in BC to link rural community interests with up-to-date information. She has a background in forest management, policy analysis and regional development. Recent projects include sustainable forest management planning and certification assessment, community sustainability planning and reporting, mountain caribou recovery planning and climate change adaptation.

[George Penfold - Selkirk College - Regional Innovation Chair - Rural Economic Development, Castlegar, BC](#) - George is the Regional Innovation Chair in Rural Economic Development at Selkirk College in Castlegar, BC, and Adjunct Professor at the School of Business and Economics at Thompson Rivers University. He draws on experience in advanced education and research, community planning, training, facilitation and mediation, organizational development, community and regional economic development and resource policy.



[Hans Schreier - University of British Columbia \(UBC\), Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability \(IRES\)](#) - Hans is a professor at the Institute for Resources and Environment at the University of British Columbia. He is involved in all aspects of source water protection, water management and conservation at the community and watershed level. Some of his current research focuses on adaptation strategies for water demand management, source water protection, innovative stormwater management and Environmentally Sensitive Area assessments.



[Jenny Fraser - BC Ministry of Environment, Victoria, BC-](#) Jenny's work focuses on climate change assessment and adaptation extension. Specifically, she is interested in information and resource needs of communities conducting climate change assessments and developing climate change preparedness plans.



[Kindy Gosal - Columbia Basin Trust](#) - Kindy is the Manager of Water Initiatives for Columbia Basin Trust (CBT). He is working with Basin residents to increase understanding and build collective wisdom around water and watershed issues in the Basin. Kindy acts as a facilitator and convener on key water-related issues.



[Lara Whitely Binder - Climate Impacts Group, University of Washington, Seattle, WA](#) - Lara is an outreach specialist at the University of Washington's Climate Impacts Group (CIG). Lara assists the CIG with its efforts to disseminate information to decision-makers on the impacts of climate variability and climate change on the Pacific Northwest, and to support decision-makers in using this information.



[Mel Reasoner - West Kootenay Eco Society, Nelson, BC](#) - Mel was formerly the executive director of an international initiative focused on global change in mountain regions worldwide lead by the Swiss National Academy of Science. He was also a lead author in the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. Currently Mel serves on the board of the West Kootenay Eco Society.



[Meredith Hamstead - Thinkbright Environmental Innovations, Invermere, BC](#) - Meredith has recently returned to environmental consulting after working as the Director of Development Services at the District of Invermere for the past few years. She focuses on community-based sustainability initiatives, research on green building and sustainable land use planning.



[Stewart Cohen - Environment Canada - Adaption & Impacts Research Division \(AIRD\), and University of British Columbia - Department of Forest Resources Management, Vancouver, BC](#) - For over 25 years, Stewart has examined climate change impacts and adaptation. His experience includes case studies on various regions in Canada, including the Okanagan and Metro Vancouver. He was also a member of the author team for the impacts volume of the 2007 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 4th Assessment Report.



[Trevor Murdock - University of Victoria - Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium \(PCIC\), University of Victoria, Victoria BC](#) - Trevor is



interested in how decision-makers, planners, engineers, architects and others involved in community planning intend to adapt to climate change. His research helps to uncover aspects of community planning where the importance of climate is subtle or easily overlooked but constitutes a consequential consideration for future planning

## Learning Network

A peer-to-peer network has been established to foster ongoing collaboration and knowledge sharing between Basin communities. Learning is guided by a framework which captures the process and lessons learned along the way. Ongoing monitoring and reflection takes place quarterly with members via telephone, webinars or face-to-face meetings.

[Andy Shadrack, Area D Director, Regional District of Central Kootenay \(RDCK\)](#)

[Carol McGregor, Economic Development Officer, City of Kimberley](#)

[Chris Prosser, Chief Administrative Officer, District of Invermere](#)

[Corien Speaker, Chief Administrative Officer, District of Elkford](#)

Corien began her career in local government in 1991. In 2004 she became the Chief Administrative Officer for the District of Elkford. Corien has led Elkford in a number of innovative projects, including an award winning branding campaign and an award winning energy innovation program. She is currently leading the revision of the District's Official Community Plan, which is incorporating climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies into the plan.

[Gordon DeRosa, Councillor, City of Trail](#)

Gordon DeRosa has been a City of Trail Councillor for over 21 years where he is also the Chair of the Environmental Sustainability Committee. He has been the City of Trail representative to RDKB Board for 8 years, and is the past Chair of the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary.

[Ingrid Liepa, Kimberley Climate Adaptation Project Coordinator](#) and Wildsight  
Ingrid has been working in the environmental field since 1989, focusing primarily on climate change and air quality issues since 1996. As project coordinator for Kimberley's climate adaptation project, she brings a wide variety of experience to the table, having worked for industry, government, NGOs, policy institutes, and as an independent consultant. She has significant experience working in collaborative multi-stakeholder processes, both as a participant and facilitator. In her spare time, Ingrid volunteers with youth adventure programs in BC and China.

[Jordon Osiowy, Youth Representative, CBT Youth Committee](#)

Katie Wells, Executive Director, Kootenay Rockies Innovation Council (KRIC)

Kelvin Saldern, Executive Director, Kootenay Association for Science & Technology (KAST)

Kindy Gosal, Director of Water and Environment, Columbia Basin Trust (CBT)

Laurie Cordell, Smart Planning for Communities Sustainability Coordinator, Fraser Basin Council

Michelle Laurie, Regional Coordinator, CBT Communities Adapting to Climate Change Initiative

Mike Maturo, Manager of Planning & Development Services, City of Rossland

Ramona Mattix, Manager of Development Services, Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK)

Sandy Lucchini, Deputy Corporate Administrator, City of Trail

Tanji Zumpano, GIS Technician, Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK)