



## Bulkley District Minutes

**Date: June 17, 2003**

**Location: Pacific Inland Resources**

**Attendance ( ) and Regrets ( X ):**

X	Biz Bastian		Harold Kerr
	Brian Northrup		Ian Sharpe
X	Charlie Northrup		Laurie Gallant
	Christine Rigby		Lorne Clarke
	Dave Duncan		Paul Schwarz
X	Dave Evans	X	Roger Smith
	Dave Stevens	X	Sita Then
	David Butt	X	Steve Doyle
	Eugen Wittner		

**Jargon and Acronyms:**

BVLD	Bulkley Valley-Lakes District
CHOKED	Community Health Opposition to Known Emission Dangers-citizen group based out of Smithers focused on air quality in BVLD
CWG	Community Working Group
Licensees	Entities (ie. Sawmill) with a WLAP permit
LRMP	Land Resource Management Plan
MSRM	Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management
RDBN	Regional District of Bulkley Nechako
RWG	Regional Working Group
Speciation modelling	Use of fine particulate composition (what made of) to model emission sources
WLAP	Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection
Reference Level	Level above which there is statistical confidence in the relationship between concentration of pollutant and response (ie. health effect).
CWS	Canada Wide Standard
PM	Particulate Matter

**Documents distributed or Presentations at meeting:**

- Agenda
- Goals and Indicators Presentation
- Health and Air Quality 2002 – Phase 1 (on website under Links and *BC Lung Association site*)
- Wood Stoves and Your Health pamphlet (BC Lung)
- Funding promotes Clean Air (WLAP press release)

**Start Time:** 7:00pm

**Agenda:**

Welcome and Introductions – Dave Stevens

Review Agenda & Adopt Minutes

Goals and Indicators Presentation – Christine and Laurie

Community Input – no CWG non-members present

Review old Action Items

Health Research Update – Dave Butt

Reports from other Airshed Plan groups

RWG role and membership continued

Airshed Plan content-Woodstoves are topic of the month – Lakes & Morice work on woodstoves

Outreach Activities progress – displays, library, municipal office, letters, radio

**Decision Points, Sticky Points and Other Important Notes:**

Chair - Dave Stevens, Scribe – Paul S.

For May minutes: Charlie Northrup is a “real estate” rep, not “tourism”, Brian Northrup not Northrup

Christine and Laurie – Goals and Indicators Presentation – see handout

Houston suggestion to attempt to assess # of jobs lost due to time above reference level PM ratings (i.e. burn bans)

Quality of Life Indicators – add hospital visits? Hospital record summaries would be expensive because it would require a professional to interpret – doctor’s offices are not reliable enough

CHOKED – Houston and Smithers elementary has agreed to give a list of absenteeism for the fall of 2002 for the purpose of comparing to days above a reference level PM rating.

Develop a list of indicators and vote as a group whether it will work? i.e. Wood heating sales / surveys (aerial photo for snapshot on wood stove use); real estate sales (so far one anecdote); Perhaps do surveys through Interior News?

Perhaps targets should be decrease source emissions from all sources or source A by year 200? May need more than one / several monitors to see in data but could supplement with modelling data and other indicators.

Targets must be obtainable; prioritize efforts to obtainable ones. Perhaps incremental steps will make a goal more obtainable.

Ian - Woodstove intent – get wood burners to switch to new technology through cash incentives or to abandon wood heat. Brian – anti-incentive was raising gas prices.

Eugen and Harold - Grass burning reduces RISK of fire hazard – WLAP cannot stop people from burning their grass – promote composting vs. burning to reduce risk. Laurie has notes – will post on site.

Health Research Update

Dave Butt email from Smithers hospital- information is not entered into computers on patients coming in for lung / air pollution visits; \$60/week might provide a staff person to summarize the information so we can use it.

Dave Butt *Health and Air Quality 2002 Phase 1* report on studies in Houston & Lower Fraser Valley on death due to air pollution; focused on people over 65 as a significant risk group. PM 10 provides a valid link to health effects.

KCWG (Kispiox) – are going through tough times & only a few people showing up. Can we increase our scope to include them? Group votes YES.

Laurie – airshed planning and education around the province based on WLAP Press Release and Backgrounder letter on Southern Interior Display, PG woodstove burning bylaw, Guide to Airshed Planning, WETT workshops

RWG – resource burning theme. Woodstove also ready to go to a regional level (workshops); Lakes group ready to take on workshops (specific committee to address this issue). If any one wants to be part of a Woodstove Committee, let Laurie know. Resource burning meetings may be postponed to mid-July. Dates to come out through email to the end of this week.

Other CWG – Kispiox and Lakes felt woodstove education could take place in schools to gain parental interest.

Outreach Activities

Laurie feels we have some meat to put into a Press Release and will draft one up by June 30

Katima-victims (Mathieu) putting displays up at Safeway, this Thursday, to promote air quality message

Laurie – concerns about spreading ourselves too thin – good to focus on fewer outreach activities and do a better job.

Rumour – Primary Power has backed out of Houston’s Cogen plant – Laurie noted that the latest news from CANFOR (not a rumour) is that they have 8 new candidate partners and project is still moving forward; will get update from Leroy.

Harold Kerr – brought up Forest Service redirecting logging traffic to satisfy a few citizens, but causes extreme air pollution (diversions up to 130km). May have to get District Manager involved.

**Today’s Meeting Adjourned at:** 9:30pm

**Next meeting date (third Tuesday of each month):** Sept 23, 2003

**Next meeting location:** Pacific Inland Resources

**Agenda Items for next meeting:** Follow up on action items

**Chair for next meeting:** Dave Stevens **Scribe for next meeting:** Paul Schwarz

	<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Status</b>
1	Link to Environmental Appeal Board report 99-WAS-06/08	Laurie	July 22.	
2	List of Indicators settled? Post an example list on the web site. Bombard Laurie with ideas through email. Laurie to draft up critical path – maybe a dedicated workshop in September?	Laurie - All	Oct 1	
3	Local Doctor report documenting observations relating health and PM levels	Dave S. / Biz	July 22	
4	Emission inventory update onto web site?	Christine / Laurie	July 22	
5	NewPro Contribution to Community presentation and post it to web site. (carried forward – Richard Norton out of town)	Roger / Laurie	July 22	
7	Bring copy of PG Bylaw on woodstove burning – post link on web?	Ian / Laurie	July 22	
8	Jim Hofweber to present new Environmental Management Act as it affects our plan	Ian	Oct	
9	Distribute email from Smithers Hospital to group	Dave Butt	July 22	
10	Read <i>Health and Air Quality 2002 – Phase 1</i> report and comment on approach/findings/recommendations	all	July 22	
11	Letter in support of doing a local study as a follow up to Health and Air Quality recommendation - include ideas on scope of project and communities to include	Designate after reading the Health and Air Quality report	July 22	
12	Press Release – Funding promotes Clean Air (WLAP) summary – put on web page – <i>Airshed Planning Around the province</i>	Laurie	July 22	
13	Look into the price of gathering firewood vs. Cogen or other heat – use “ <i>Cost of burning wood</i> ” article? Follow up with Leroy.	Laurie / Eugen/David Butt/Ian	July 22	