



bulkley valley - lakes district
airshed management society

**Draft Proceedings of the
3rd Annual General Meeting and Open House**

Wednesday, June 20, 2007
6:00 pm to 9:30 pm
Smithers BC

The AGM was called to order at 6:00 pm.

Attendance: Ben Weinstein, Laurie Gallant, Paul Schwarz, Frits Goossen, Aurnir Nelson, Doug Bysouth, Richard Vossen, Joanne Dickenson, Bill Goodacre, Dave Duncan, Ross Hyam, Gary Quanstrom, Colin Macleod and members of the media (The Peak radio station, The Smithers Interior News, and CFTK Television).

Regrets were received from Dave Stevens, Ian Sharpe, Leroy Reitsma, Carlie Kearns, Anne Hetherington.

1. Welcome, introductions and opening remarks by President Paul Schwarz.
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes of June 15, 2006 AGM
4. The Milestone Report by Facilitator Laurie Gallant

Ten key milestones were reached since the 2006 AGM. See presentation posted at cleanairplan.ca. Several questions were asked about the Woodstove Exchange Program and the findings of the NEWPRO emissions report and the comparisons made to other panelboard plants across North America. The report is posted at cleanairplan.ca.

5. Clean Air Awards

Nine awards were presented, noting that this is the first year official recognition has been given for leadership and contributions to the success of the Clean Air Plan to date. For details see cleanairplan.ca.

6. Financial Report by Treasurer Joanne Dickenson.
The Woodstove Exchange Program generated a lot of financial activity. So far, 115 rebates valued at \$250 each have been issued. The full report is posted at cleanairplan.ca.

7. Elections

- a) Election process – nominations were called from the floor, 9 nominations received. Discussion surrounding secretary as paid position – constitution does not allow for this. Questions raised regarding time commitments – 3-6 days per years for basic, meaningful contribution to our work, beyond that it is up to you. Traditional areas that need a boost include fundraising and public outreach, for example we could have Clean Air Day events in all airshed communities if there was a local champion to work with.
- b) Outgoing members – Doug Bysouth, Leroy Reitsma
- c) Introduction and acknowledgement of 2007-2008 Board members including verification of equal representation from all sectors and from across the airshed. One year term confirmed, noting that the first term of office was for two years to provide consistency during the start up of the new society.

Name	Position	Sector
Paul Schwarz	President	Industry - Smithers
Dave Duncan	Vice-president	Individual - Quick
Ben Weinstein	Secretary	Government- Smithers
Joanne Dickenson	Treasurer	Government - Houston
Aurnir Nelson	Director	Industry - Houston
Richard Vossen	Director	Industry – Burns Lake
Frits Goossen	Director	Individual – Burns Lake
Ian Sharpe	Director	Government - Smithers
Dave Stevens	Director	Individual - Smithers

8. BC Ministry of Environment's Annual Ambient Air Quality report by MOE Air Quality Meteorologist Ben Weinstein

- Ben provided an analysis of how the Clean Air Plan is performing based on the indicators laid out in Chapter 3
- In 2006, a total of 18 air quality episodes were recorded; first year an Advisory not issues in the fall; spring still the worse time, March and November are traditionally the worse months for air quality
- Rough trend line for Smithers shows PM 2.5 decreasing slightly since Plan implementation but PM10 has slight upward trend
- In Houston and Burns lake, PM10 is down
- no provincial objectives yet for PM2.5 but they are coming; when these are in place we may need to examine our Plan indicators
- question asked about impact of beehive burner closures on PM levels – too early to tell yet but a good question.
- Question regarding trends in Kitwanga – in general air quality is good and even better than most airshed communities except for springtime dust, which is still a problem everywhere.
- Question regarding road dust reduction efforts – Road dust forum in 2004, Best Practices released by Ministry of Highways in 2005, some municipalities are

spending gas tax dollars on air quality improvement projects i.e. Smithers is paving Pacific Ave.

- Suggestion that emission sources in each community be shown on 2006 Provincial picture slide
- Conclusions – given trends in PM levels, the work of AMS is extremely important. Without our efforts levels would be much higher. We have much work to do, we must continue our efforts so that levels plateau and so that average values are reduced.
- all slides will be posted on cleanairplan.ca

9. Review of workplan priorities for 2007-2008

- Continuation of Woodstove Exchange Program – evaluation project in design stage and should be wrapped up by October 1.
- Annual Burn Operators Forum – planned for first week in September in Houston; will circulate best practices and request input into agenda by end of July. Note that Bulkley Smoke Management Plan is being updated – we need to submit comments.
- Update Clean Air Plan to show progress made on all strategies
- Work on CleanAir Awards for 2008 – can further define criteria and look at including housholder/individual action and media categories
- More public education – can run our articles on emission sources again; publish a Winter version of 30 below and focus on forest debris burning (follow up from Burn Operators Forum)
- Strategies for reducing emissions from Transportation sources – noted that some Directors are being proactive – Frits has ordered information from idlefreebc.com website and passed it along to Village of Burns Lake; Dave Stevens has indicated there are some residents and retailers in Smithers who support an idle free campaign and may be willing to help out. AMS has supported One Sky with the Green Commuter Challenge on Clean Air Day for the last two years. Focus on diesel emissions.
- Work with developers and elected officials to manage new sources of pollutants – we may be able to host a workshop to address this topic.
- Sharing information and research from around the province – AMS belongs to the BC Clean Air Network and attends annual forums.
- Regional District bylaw for Outdoor wood burning appliances – consider bans in high impact zones.
- Continue work on integrating clean air goals and strategies into other plans, i.e. Agriculture plastics and Solid Waste Management Plan.

10. Other business

- Fall Fair booth – very demanding on our resources – look into sharing a booth or having our information at other booths instead; woodstove demo trailer is filling the gap in our outreach that the Fall Fair has for the last few years. We can also look at having a display in municipal and regional district foyers
- Paperwork to file to protect our status – Society Annual Report and Revenue Canada income tax return; note change in Directors.
- Summer board meeting to confirm Plan amendments and workplan priorities.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.