## Advisory Initiative Partners Meeting

Version: Final Issue Date: January 19, 2015

Minutes of Meeting						
<b>Location:</b> Sparwood Senior Citizens Drop-in Centre	<b>Date:</b> 2014	December 10,	<b>Time:</b> 12:30–4 pm			
Purpose: Second 2014 Biannual Meeting						
Attendees: See attached						

Meeting commenced at 12:35 pm

## **Introductory Remarks**

The chair, Simon Howse, welcomed the Advisory Partners and guest speakers to the meeting. After briefly introducing the Steering Committee (SC) members, Simon asked Sharon Strom to provide a safety share. Sharon noted that the share she was going to provide originally came from Rebecca Edwards, who was present, so she asked her to communicate it. Rebecca, a mother of a toddler, reminded people with young children, or those who have children visit, to get down to their level to determine potential risks. In other words, perform a field level risk assessment so that risks can be mitigated. This was a timely message with many people having decorated their Christmas trees by now. Sharon added that such a risk assessment should also be done for pets.

Simon invited everyone to grab some lunch and chat with their neighbours at the table.

## **Steering Committee Update**

Following lunch, an update regarding activities of the Steering Committee was provided. First, Sharon introduced the guest speakers, Scott Cope from Westslope Fisheries Ltd and Karen Halwas from Teck. Karla Mills from Teck was unable to make it. Simon had everyone present introduce themselves and who or what they represent. The roles of the Steering Committee members on the Executive were highlighted. They stayed the same as last year with Simon Howse being Chair, Anita Palmer being Vice Chair and Sharon Strom being Secretary. Sharon noted that there still wasn't a Community Safety Rep on the Committee but she had some leads from the Crowsnest Pass.

Recent Steering Committee key accomplishments were presented to the attendees. Simon first pointed out that the Strategic Direction in the Terms of Reference for the 2014/2015 year had been updated.

Sharon advised everyone that the COI Advisory Initiative website, which was launched in July, has been populated with some information. The Steering Committee members were updated to include photos and bios for Joanne Drain and Liam Arbuckle. A blog was written. CP Rail safety information was uploaded and all previous agendas and meeting minutes were available. Sharon noted that an advertising plan for the site needed to be created and launched to make the site useful. That was a goal for the first quarter of 2015.

Anita Palmer, Kim Bauer and Sharon Strom provided an update on activities of the Elk Valley Child Care Advisory Committee (under the umbrella of the Teck Coal EV COI Advisory Initiative).

• Committee reviewed and revised 2008 Ipsos Reid Kids Care survey for potential use – not an assessment to see if there is a child care need or issue – it is known there is a concern – but

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rather an assessment of what the specific needs are for each community, general public and Teck employees (barriers to employment?)

- Permission was given by Teck HR to distribute one-page (2-sided if necessary) insert with future pay statement describing Initiative and how to access the web-based survey. The insert must make it clear that it is not a Teck survey but rather a COI Advisory Initiative driven survey.
- Anita and Sharon had a phone meeting with Liz Gillis, Acting Manager Social Initiatives with CBT. This led to the submission of an application for social grant (under the umbrella of Elkford Women's Task Force Society) to contract the survey out to a professional to ensure the right questions are asked and the data analysis is done accurately. They had only a few days before the deadline to draft the application and with an incredible amount of support from a colleague in the Teck Vancouver office, the Committee was able to submit the application with less than half an hour to spare! They are now awaiting results. Consequent meeting with Liz at CBT workshop in Sparwood left Anita and Sharon feeling very positive that even if the EVCCAI doesn't make the cut for the grant, there will be CBT support. (Special note: the grant application to CBT was accepted and work is being done to get the project rolling)
- Sharon has been connected to Sharon Gregson with Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC (\$10 a day campaign). Ms. Gregson will be happy to come down to the EV in the New Year to meet with Committee at her organization's expense.
- Sharon was also connected to Shannon Newman-Bennett, Director Family Services with YWCA Metro Vancouver regarding their child care services.
- All child care meeting agendas, minutes, and supporting documents have recently been circulated to the group at large.
- Task forces were created from within Steering Committee to research and focus on specific areas of child care needs in the Elk Valley and the small groups will begin meeting soon.
- Anita was pleased to share that the ECED course for which she was able to get approval had an
  enrollment of ten. All students will be taking their final exam tomorrow, December 11.
   Successful completion of this course will allow for the registrants to operate License-notrequired family day homes.

Simon wrapped up the Steering Committee Update by telling the attendees of the decision made at the September SC meeting to focus on another issue of concern/interest: Sustainability Post Teck. Simon has been involved in meetings that were held with the area MLA, MP and the Registrar for the College of the Rockies to discuss options for the Fernie Campus. The Fernie Campus cannot function as is for much longer without significant changes which, at the very least, would be expensive renovations. There is support for a new COTR building and campus in the Elk Valley. The Advisory Initiative SC feels that this may be a sound legacy project for post-Teck that can be a benefit to employees before the mines cease operating in the area. As it has been noted that there is a shortage of child care spaces and child care training opportunities in the area, building a new campus that incorporates a wing for child care and training may be a very efficient option to help offset child care needs. Nic Milligan pointed out that all Elk Valley coal sites are in the process of drafting closure plans and this might be a social consideration. He noted that the Crowsnest Pass is considered in such things as closure plans because they are in the area of influence of the mines.

## **Upper Fording River Westslope Cutthroat Trout Population Study**

Scott Cope and Karen Halwas were asked to provide a bit of background on themselves, after which they proceeded to present on the Westslope Cutthroat Trout Population Study Interim Report 2 (see attached presentation). Questions were welcomed throughout the presentation:

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- Q. Ayla There is true value in long-term data collection. Do you feel at the end of four years, if it is determined that juvenile fish are affected by Selenium, that there will be consideration to do the study again in the future?
- A. Scott It is unknown at this time but it may be part of the recommendations to do long-term monitoring for trends. We would be looking at alternatives to tagging. Maybe we'd do something every three or four years. If numbers are the same then we can be confident everything is good. If there are no tagged fish, then it is a red flag.
- Q. Terry A. What killed the fish at Line Creek? Will this affect the study because the same plant is going up at Fording River? Is Teck looking at alternatives to the current plant?
- A. Nic We are not considering alternatives. We have every confidence that the current plant is the right process to use. The fish kill appears to be related to start up but the investigation is still ongoing. Early in the new year, there is expected to be some understanding of what happened. The Line Creek water treatment plant is scheduled to be recommissioned in April 2015. If the kill was caused by the plant, we will determine why it happened and work on how to prevent it from happening again. The first reactor was performing well then something happened.
- Q. Terry A. Is species differentiation part of the problem?
- <u>A. Nic</u> That will be considered but we still remain confident that we are using the right process. We expect there to be a series of recommendations.
- Q. Ayla Not knowing what happened makes it difficult to maintain a strong faith in the facility. If the fish kill is related to the plant, will Teck make changes to the Elk Valley Water Quality Plan?
- <u>A. Nic</u> Currently the active water treatment technology appears to be the best but we will continue to look at alternatives.
- Q. Sharon You have used the word 'recruitment' in your presentation. Can you explain what that means in relation to fish?
- <u>A. Scott</u> Recruitment means juvenile fish have reached a certain size or reproductive stage to be considered as part of the fish population.
- <u>C. Wes</u> It would be interesting to see the same study in other watersheds.
- C. Terry A. You should have these guys (trout study team) by the Line Creek plant when it starts up.
- Q. Nic What is the lifespan of the transmitters? I imagine you lose some to osprey and such.
- A. Scott Transmitter life is about 14 months.
- Q. Nic What is the lifespan of cutthroat trout?
- <u>A. Scott</u> Scale aging that was widely used back in the day, where the number of rings on a scale were counted, is not considered to be a reliable method to determine age. Looking at the ear bones is better but to get the true age of a fish you have to kill it. Cutthroat generally live 10 to 20 years.
- Q. Rebecca When the batteries run out, is there a way to locate the fish? Are they visually tagged?
- A. Scott Yes, we can see the transmitter. We recatch the trout and cut the transmitter off.

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Q. Nelson – There was an Elk River Study done a number of years ago. Do you know where and when it took place?

<u>A. Scott</u> – The study took place in the Elk River from 2000-2002 and was funded by the Columbia-Kootenay Fisheries Renewal Partnership which no longer exists. The funding was approximately 10% of the current study so there is not the detail and sample size of the current Fording work. It is considered good preliminary work.

## **Elk Valley Water Quality Plan Update**

Nic spoke briefly to the Elk Valley Water Quality Plan noting that it was approved by the British Columbia Ministry of Environment on November 17<sup>th</sup>. Sharon handed out a copy of the Plan Executive Summary to all attendees and pointed out there were a few copies of the full plan available. Nic reminded everyone that these documents can be found at <a href="https://www.teck.com/elkvalley">www.teck.com/elkvalley</a>. Nic confirmed that the Plan includes a water treatment facility at Line Creek, Fording River and Elkview Operations at this time.

Councillor Halko asked about the investigation of the Elk River as ordered by Environment Canada that was mentioned in Mark Hume's article in the Globe and Mail (October 19, 2014). Nic responded that the reports provided to Teck from the active investigation have been interim reports. Dr. Lemly, who wrote the report, is drawing parallels between effects in the Elk River to a situation in Idaho. If charges are laid by the Federal Government against Teck, Teck is prepared to respond. Because the investigation is ongoing, Nic noted he is limited to what he can say.

Ayla Bennett pointed out that the huge number of fish deaths (180,749) reported in the Globe and Mail assume that all fish hatched will become adults if not affected by selenium which is not true. His study was done in a lab. Ayla added that she would be interested in finding out more about in stream effects.

In reference to the Globe and Mail article, Nic said it was unfair for Mr. Hume to suggest nothing is being done about the selenium in the water. The presence of the current attendees and previous communities of interest participation during consultation phases of the Elk Valley Water Quality Plan are proof that the statement is untrue Councillor Halko said there was no doubt that much is being done. The study of the westslope cutthroat trout in the Upper Fording River is extremely comprehensive.

Karen Halwas noted that Chapter 6 of the Elk Valley Water Quality Plan contains some reading on research and development into future options to reduce selenium and other constituents from mining going into the watershed.

#### **Closing Remarks**

Simon asked everyone, as is tradition at these meetings, to share a comment regarding the meeting and its presentations:

- Kim said the fish study was amazing. The biology involved is very interesting.
- <u>Simon S.</u> had no comment.
- Gordon thanked the Teck reps for lunch and said It was nice to see folks out to the meeting.
   He found Scott's presentation to be very interesting.
- <u>Terry M.</u> enjoyed the fish study and liked that it was very in depth.

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- Scott thanked the Committee for having him.
- <u>Karen</u> said it was good to be present at this and advised attendees to forward questions to Nic if they had any afterwards.
- <u>Terry A.</u> found the presentation and question and answer session to be very interesting. He will look to see what happens in the future. He suggested that if we don't get a handle on the future of mining, our kids and grandkids will suffer. We need to solve the issues together.
- Margaret didn't realize so much went into this study of fish.
- <u>Lois</u> found the afternoon to be extremely enjoyable. The approval of the Elk Valley Water Quality Plan is a testament to what can be done with communities of interest forums.
- <u>Don</u> noted this was his first meeting and he found it to be very informative.
- Wes said that he was the same. It was his first meeting and he found it to be very informative and interesting.
- <u>Joe</u> found it all to be very informative noting the Fording River study and child care concerns covered a broad area. He is glad to see something is being done.
- <u>Norma</u> thanked the Committee for inviting the Chamber. She thanked those who are working on the child care issue and she said she enjoyed Scott's presentation and his passion for what he is doing.
- <u>Blair</u> appreciated the invitation and being included and that the Crowsnest Pass is represented. The discussion around the child care situation was very informative. Working together to solve this will be good.
- Ayla thanked Nic and others for providing answers. She said Scott really highlighted the Upper Fording River Study. She is keen to see what happens with the great work that is being done.
- <u>Rebecca</u> thought the child care update was interesting. She noted appreciation for the communities of interest representatives who came out as she is aware their time is very valuable.
- <u>Jenna</u> gave a big thank you to those who hosted the meeting. Scott's passion for his work really came through. She was fascinated with the fish side of the presentation and the child care discussion. As a member of council, she appreciated the opportunity to attend.
- Nelson noted that this Advisory Initiative and its meetings are very high functioning and he senses camaraderie and respect among the members. Many people are still ignorant about what is going on in their communities. We have to get the word out.
- Anita thanked everyone for all of the information provided. Scott's passion made the
  presentation very interesting. She said when she first started with the Advisory Initiative
  Steering Committee, she made it clear she didn't want to spend time with it if they were just
  going to spin their wheels. She is pleased that the Committee has accomplished a lot.
- <u>Liam</u> noted that this was his first Partners Meeting and there is a lot to take in with such a
  broad spectrum of topics from child care to fish. He said the passion around the presentation
  was great.

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- <u>Nic</u> echoed what others said about the material and the study presentation and Scott's passion
  for his work. He thanked everyone for coming out realizing people have many other
  commitments. He stated that he appreciates that these meetings tax people's time and he, not
  just as a Teck employee but also as a member of the community, appreciates that they keep
  coming back.
- <u>Sharon</u> also thanked those who took time out of their busy lives to attend the meeting. She appreciated Scott's sense of humor as well as his passion when presenting on the study. She noted that she, too, was pleased with the amount of progress the Steering Committee has made in the past two years.
- Simon H. thanked everyone for coming out and ended the meeting, noting it was right on time.

Meeting ended at 3:50 pm

Next Meeting of the Partners will be late June 2015

Next Steering Committee meeting will be late February 2015

# TECK COAL ELK VALLEY COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST ADVISORY PANEL DECEMBER 10, 2014 ATTENDANCE

Name	Representing	Email	
Anonson, Terry	Metis/First Nations	terryanonson@elkvalley.net	
Arbuckle, Liam	Youth/CCHS	<u>liamarbuckle@telus.net</u>	
Bauer, Kim	Social Programs/EWTFS	ewtf@telus.net	
Bennett, Ayla	ENGO/Elk River Alliance	ayla@elkriveralliance.ca	
Chatterson, Wes	Self	jcwc@telus.net	
Cope, Scott	Westlope Fisheries Limited	westlope@telus.net	
Edwards, Rebecca	Teck	rebecca.edwards@teck.com	
Galloway, Gordon	Motorized Recreation	gmoose@telus.net	
Halko, Lois	District of Sparwood	<u>lhalko@sparwood.ca</u>	
Halwas, Karen	Teck	karen.halwas@teck.com	
Howse, Simon	Business/Housing	showse@parastone.ca	
Jarina, Joe	District of Sparwood	jjarina@sparwood.ca	
Jensen, Jenna	District of Sparwood	jjensen@sparwood.ca	
McDougall, Norma	Sparwood Chamber	norma@sparwoodchamber.bc.ca	
McKie, Margaret	District of Sparwood	mmckie@sparwood.ca	
Melcer, Terry	District of Sparwood <u>tmelcer@sparwood.ca</u>		
Milligan, Nic	Teck Community Affairs	nic.milligan@teck.com	
Painter, Blair	Municipality of Crowsnest	blair.painter@crowsnestpass.com	
Palmer, Anita	COTR Post-Secondary Ed	apalmer@cotr.bc.ca	
Patterson, Don	ENGO/SFWA	dopat@telus.net	
Senycz, Simon	Self	sy.60@outlook.com	
Strom, Sharon	Teck Community Affairs	sharon.strom@teck.com	
Wight, Nelson	District of Sparwood	nwight@sparwood.ca	

# Unable to attend:

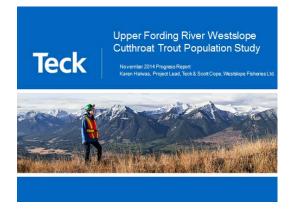
Name	Representing	Email	
Drain, Joanne	Seniors/CNP	jvdrain@shaw.ca	
Talarico, Janice	Interior Health	janice.talarico@interiorhealth.ca	
Walker, Lee-Anne	ENGO/Elk River Alliance	lee-anne@elkriveralliance.ca	
Wedderburn, Shelley	Michel Creek Rd Residents	shelley1226001@msn.com	

# **ADVISORY INITIATIVE PARTNERS MEETING PRESENTATION**

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## Teck Presentation

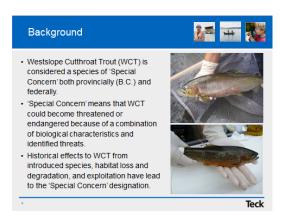
Slides 1 & 2



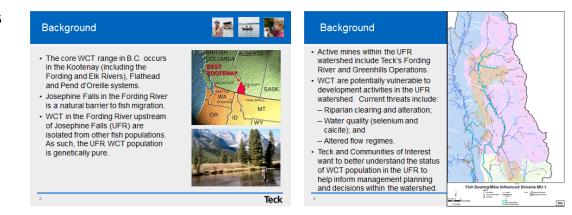


#### Slides 3 & 4





## Slides 5 & 6

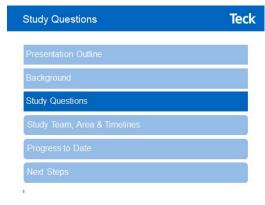


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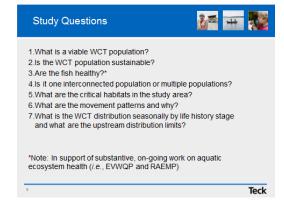
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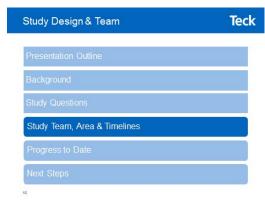
#### Slides 7 & 8





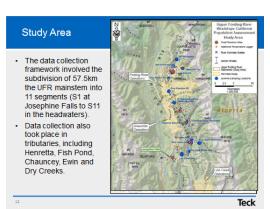
## Slides 9 & 10





## Slides 11 & 12





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#### Slides 13 & 14



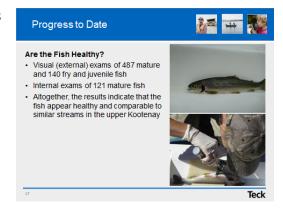


#### Slides 15 & 16





## Slides 17 & 18

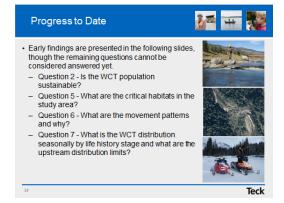




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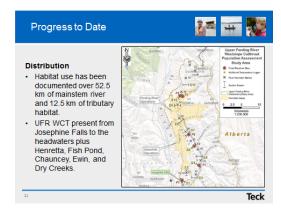
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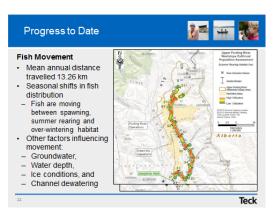
#### Slides 19 & 20



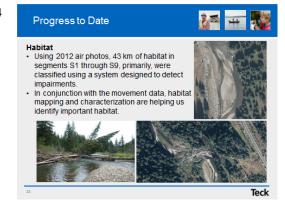


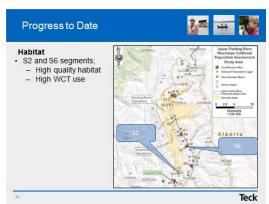
## Slides 21 & 22





## Slides 23 & 24

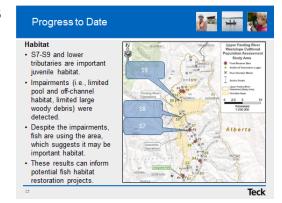


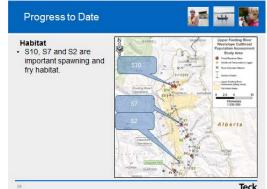


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#### Slides 25 & 26





## Slides 27 & 28





## Slides 29 & 30





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#### Slides 31 & 32





## Slide 33

