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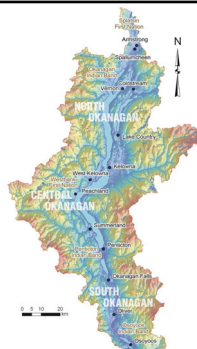
Why am I here today?

- Talk about the importance and benefits of source water protection and the challenges we are facing in providing safe drinking water
- Introduce you to a new toolkit that compiles solutions to those challenges
- Suggest what you can do as an elected official to continue to support source water protection

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The Okanagan Basin Water Board

- Founded more than 50 years ago
- Focus on projects and programs that benefit the Okanagan watershed as a whole



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Meet the Directors



Sue McDonald, Chair, RD05
Mayor, Town of Osoyoos



Cindy Fink, Vice-Chair, RD03
Mayor, District of Revelstoke



Rick Harrison, RD04
Director Electoral Area "D"



Bob Fleming, RD01
Director Electoral Area "C"



Victor Gunning, RD02
Mayor, City of Vernon



Joyce Baker, RD03
Mayor, District of Lake Country



Colin Barnes, RD09
Mayor, City of Kelowna



Doug Holmes, RD05
Councilor, District of Summerland



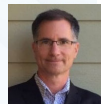
Bob Kowalski, RD06
Director Electoral Area "C"



Cliff Christopher, Director,
Okanagan Native Alliance



Robert Hinde,
Water Supply Association of BC



Scott Stewart, Chair, Okanagan
Water Stewardship Council

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Source water protection – *what it is and why it matters ...*

- Source water protection is the safeguarding of the quality and quantity of drinking water sources (rivers, streams, lakes, reservoirs, springs, groundwater) and their contributing areas
- Source water protection is the first barrier in the multi-barrier 'source-to-tap' approach to minimize impacts to human health
- Drinking water sources can be easily contaminated and long-term issues can develop that are costly or even impossible to remediate
- Source water protection also delivers cumulative socio-economic benefits and ecological services

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Challenges

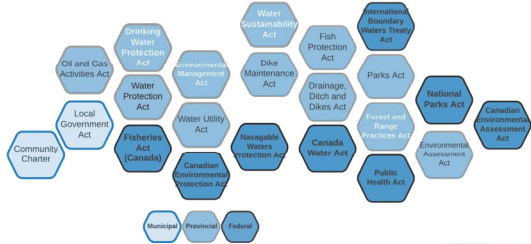
- Multi-use watersheds = many players, many sources of contamination
- Land development = more impermeable surfaces, less infiltration
- Climate change = more frequent landslides and erosion, flooding, increased runoff, wildfire
- Complicated legislative framework = conflicting mandates, gaps in authority



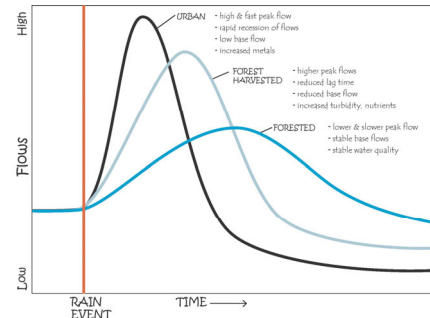
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Water governance in BC involves 23 pieces of legislation

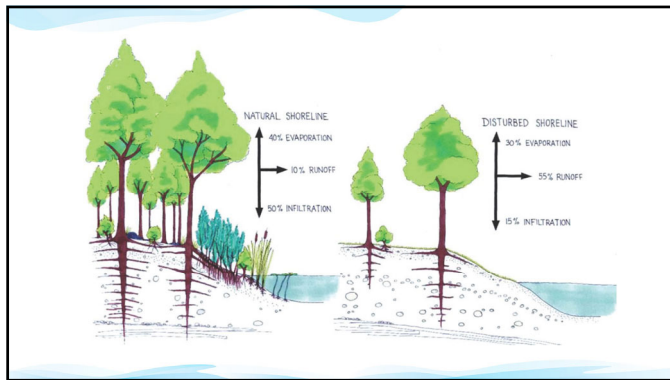
Key legislation are in white lettering



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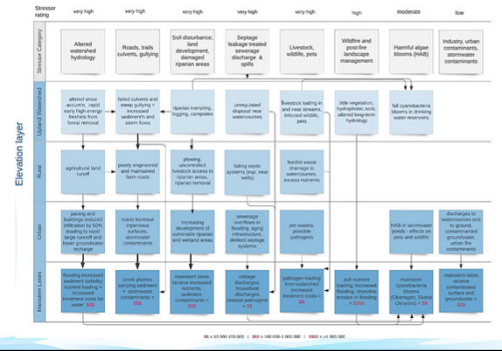


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Every elevation layer generates source water protection issues ...



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Drinking Water Protection Act

• Conditions on Permit:

- Source Water Assessment
 - Delineate water source
 - Identify the hazards
 - Assess the risk
 - Recommend actions
- Response Plan
 - Develop and implement a plan to reduce risk

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The toolkit supports an informed, coordinated, and collaborative approach to source water protection

- ✓ Clarifies the source protection planning process – **saves water suppliers TIME and MONEY and makes regulators happy**
- ✓ Compiles and delivers best practices
- ✓ Enables communities to draw on successes and lessons learned of others
- ✓ Helps communities understand and use their jurisdiction to protect water sources
- ✓ Teaches communities how to build awareness and gain support (political and public)

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What can you do as an elected official?

- Understand why source protection is important and have basic knowledge of water quality and quantity concepts
- Understand water governance, roles and responsibilities
- Understand why it is essential to engage with other levels of government and stakeholders
- Continue to support staff when they are working on source protection initiatives
- ❖ **AGLG Perspectives Series Dec 2018 – Considerations for Local Government Elected Officials Primer on Drinking Water Management in British Columbia**
https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/british-columbians-our-governments/local-governments/facts-framework/aglg/aglg_primer_drinking_water_management_booklet.pdf

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WEBINAR SERIES

Oct. 20	Source water protection steps and tools
Oct. 27	Shared challenges, shared opportunities: transcending jurisdiction through partnerships
Nov. 3	Working together to protect water: learning from Indigenous-led projects
Nov. 10	Increasing awareness and stewardship of watersheds and drinking water resources
Nov. 17	Advancing local government policies and regulations to protect water sources
Nov. 24	Securing long term funding for source water protection
Dec. 1	Protecting and restoring watersheds and aquifers to improve water quality
Dec. 8	Using mapping to understand and manage risks to drinking water
Dec. 15	Monitoring and reporting for source water protection

- 33 speakers over 9 weeks
- Webinars recorded and posted at www.sourcewaterprotectiontoolkit.ca/webinars

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THANK YOU!

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www.sourcewaterprotectiontoolkit.ca

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