



## Record of Stakeholder Meeting

- DATE:** October 3, 2006
- PRESENT:** Bernie Amell, Riparia/AMEC (representing Bow River Basin Council)  
Wendy Aupers, Tri Community Watershed Initiative  
Mark Bennett, Bow River Basin Council (\*)  
Liliana Bozic, City of Calgary Water Resources  
Anne Breckenridge, City of Calgary Environmental Management  
Brian Chinery, Alberta Environment  
Denis Gourdeau, City of Calgary Parks  
Sarah Hamza, Elbow River Watershed Partnership  
Glynn Hendry, Qualico (representing UDI Alberta) (\*)  
Laurie Hodson, Town of Okotoks  
Tim Olson, City of Airdrie  
Judy Stewart  
Shannon Syme, Town of Canmore  
Bert van Duin, Westhoff Engineering Resources, Inc. (representing Bow River Basin Council)  
Anand Mishra, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
- REGRETS:** Lyndon Gyurek, City of Edmonton  
Doug Marter, City of Calgary Parks  
John MacKenzie, Operational Solutions Ltd.  
Sandy Wong, Town of Cochrane
- (\*) Attended part of the meeting
- DISTRIBUTION:** All Alberta Stakeholders
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The Alberta Low Impact Development Partnership (ALIDP)

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<b>Introduction</b>	Introductions around the table.	<b>Info</b>
<b>Record of Meeting April 26, 2006</b>	Record accepted by all  Past Record of Meetings and Terms of Reference to be forwarded to new stakeholders	<b>Info</b>  <b>Bert</b>
<b>Outstanding Actions Items</b>	<b>Governance Model:</b> tabled. Judy Stewart will assist Bernie with drafting of Governance Model. Bert to forward ALMS examples to Judy and Bernie.  <b>Financial Model and Budget:</b> tabled  <b>AUMA Sponsorship:</b> tabled	<b>Bernie/Judy</b> <b>Bert</b>  <b>Bernie</b>  <b>Liliana</b>
<b>Low Impact Development Conference</b>	Bert gave an update on the LID conference in Cochrane October 19-20, 2006, organized by the Cochrane Environmental Action Committee. Bert represents the ALIDP on the organization committee. This conference is a follow-up to the September 2004 LID workshop in Okotoks, which was the catalyst for the creation of the ALIDP. The format will allow for interaction between participants in break-out sessions.  Kim Stephens, Doug Backhouse, Richard Boase and Bert will present a pre-conference workshop on the Water Balance Model and LID implementation in the Calgary region. Bert will lead an optional post-conference tour that is free to conference attendants.  For more information, see <a href="http://www.lidconference.ca/">http://www.lidconference.ca/</a>  Bert requested stakeholders present at the conference to man the ALIDP booth.	<b>Info</b>
<b>Financial Support by Stakeholders</b>	The Steering Committee has authorized the production of promotional to be first used at the Cochrane LID Conference. The materials will consist of a brochure, a display and a PowerPoint presentation. Bert and Wendy used the PowerPoint presentation at the BRBC Quarterly Forum in September to much acclaim.  The budget for the promotional materials is about \$25,000. The City of Calgary Water Resources and Parks have contributed \$5,000 each while Alberta Environment has contributed \$7,200. That still leaves us about \$7,800 short. All stakeholders are encouraged to review what actual financial contribution they can provide to the ALIDP.  The City of Calgary Water Resources has contributed \$10,000 to the BC IGP on behalf of the ALIDP for the integration of	<b>Info</b>          <b>All stakeholders</b>

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	<p>QUALHYMO in the Water Balance Model.</p> <p>Liliana expressed that the City of Calgary Water Resources is willing to provide additional financial support to the ALIDP provided other stakeholder come to the table as well.</p>	
<b>Support by BRBC</b>	<p>Bert reported that he had met with Mark Bennett. <b>Mark will arrange a presentation by the ALIDP to the BRBC Board some time in December</b>, requesting financial support and whether the BRBC can act as treasurer on behalf of the ALIDP.</p>	<b>Mark</b>
<b>Alberta Water Council</b>	<p>Bert and Wendy have met with Jay White, member of the Alberta Water Council (AWC). Jay will make a presentation to the AWC in early 2007 when the Framework for Watershed Management Planning is being discussed. The Steering Committee will prepare a summary of the vision of and envisioned initiatives by the ALIDP.</p>	<b>Steering Committee</b>
<b>Communications Committee</b>	<p>The formal kick-off meeting of the Communications Committee was postponed because of some problems as to who exactly would participate in Edmonton and because Monique Dietrich has moved on to a new position. Liliana has worked with Wendy on some initiatives.</p> <p><b>Mark is still to contact BRBC Board if Mike Murray can provide support as well</b></p>	<b>Mark</b>
<b>Inter-Provincial Partnership with BC</b>	<p>Tabled until the next stakeholder meeting.</p>	<b>Info</b>
<b>Promotional Materials</b>	<p>Wendy provided a “proof” of the brochure. The goal of the brochure is to promote and raise awareness of the ALIDP and provide a background on LID. It is to focus on both urban and rural (e.g. country-residential) initiatives and explain how the ALIDP is a clearing-house for expertise.</p> <p>Q: should tools other than the Water Balance Model be discussed? For instance, the green roof association.</p> <p>A: the WBM is provided as an example because it is accessible to everyone! The website also provides a wealth of information. Other tools will be discussed in due time in separate fact sheets and on the ALIDP website. The danger is making the brochure too technical and trying to cover too many things.</p> <p>It was questioned if a website link could be provided in the brochure. There is a link to the Water Balance Model website which already has an Alberta page. <b>Wendy will look into an ALIDP.ca name for when the ALIDP would proceed with its</b></p>	<b>Wendy</b>

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	<p><b>own site.</b></p> <p>Brian questioned if the reference to the Water Balance Model should be removed from the brochure as some people, such as the UDI Stormwater Committee, were not happy with it. He was also concerned what he could reply if the Minister would ask him why Alberta Environment had sponsored the production of promotional materials that were considered to be divisive. Liliana replied that the real value of the Water Balance Model is that it is an education tool that is accessible to everyone. There is a lot of experience in BC while it is also connected to other LID initiatives such as “Green Infrastructure” and “Convening for Action”. Bert added that the Water Balance Model is still “evolving” (as identified in the brochure and in response to comments by Albertans) and that other items such as economics still need to be added. However, the ALIDP Technical Committee had looked at things in detail and believed that it is appropriate for its intended purpose. He does not want to give in to a few misinformed people but is available to answer questions by anyone who challenges the Water Balance Model.</p> <p>Judy thanked Wendy for producing the brochure and display materials. Bert advised that the PowerPoint presentation will be available to everyone and the Partnership is willing to conduct presentations to each and every organization represented.</p>	
<p><b>Name of ALIDP</b></p>	<p>Tim asked how the name of the ALIDP evolved, and whether the group would address other things in addition to water related ones.</p> <p>Bert explained the history, mentioning that the name was adopted in early 2005 after agreeing that any reference in the name to the Water Balance Model was believed to be too restrictive. While the invitation to enter into an inter-provincial partnership with BC to share in their development of the Water Balance Model had dominated early discussions, it was agreed that a reference to LID was more appropriate. LID is a well-known term in North America for more sustainable approaches to water management. He acknowledged that a number of people are still struggling with the name but that no better suggestion has been brought forward yet. There is a definite feeling that water is a central feature and that land use management ought to be included as well.</p>	<p><b>Info</b></p>
<p><b>Concerns by Development Industry</b></p>	<p>Glynn questioned if it would not be better to understand things first before releasing promotional materials. He cautioned that buy-in by the development industry is needed, and that the concepts should be vetted by UDI first. The Technical Committee of UDI has stated that there is no way that the Water Balance</p>	

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	<p>Model can be used. He is afraid that some people believe that LID initiatives will somehow magically be implemented, which will cause unnecessary flare-ups. Most people within the development industry don't take LID serious.</p> <p>He cautioned that it is not practical to reduce stormwater discharges to zero with development. He would like to come to some common ground but wondered how this could be accomplished, especially when for instance other Business Units within the City of Calgary have not signed on yet and even some people within Water Resources scratch their head. At the same time, he acknowledged that we can't allow our streams to degrade.</p> <p>Bernie commented that Bert is looking at what practically can be accomplished on behalf of the Nose Creek Watershed Partnership. Liliana added that there is a misconception that everything needs to be changed; there are a lot of examples of what can be practically done, and that are not extreme.</p> <p>Mark was wondering who in this age can say that we don't have problems with our water resources. Somehow, these people can't distinguish myth from fact. He added that there is a very consistent agreement that we can't continue doing what we have been doing, however, he agrees that we should ask what practically can be done.</p> <p>Wendy would like to know why things cannot be done so that we can work together on a reasonable approach.</p> <p>Bernie commented that there is a disproportionate amount of attention on one thing. Other tools are more humble than the Water Balance Model. A lot can already be done on a lot scale, e.g. saving top soil.</p> <p>Denis agreed that the Water Balance Model appears to be a big stumbling block, and that some simple examples need to be provided. He cautioned though that there will always be challenges as some of these initiatives are seen as provocative.</p> <p>Judy commented that there is a disconnect between why we need to do things and how to do things. The message needs to get out that there is a lot that can be done around the house. At the same time, we need to look at ways to maximize the profits for the development industry. Glynn replied that he is not about maximizing profits as long as they are satisfactory. Environmental initiatives are good business too. Being seen as environmentally sensitive can constitute powerful branding for the development industry.</p> <p>Laurie commented that he is concerned about the level of</p>	

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	<p>criticism and that some people appear to be jumping to conclusions. He would like the Partnership to provide a balance and not have to be defensive. He added that municipalities need to know the precise impacts of our actions and how LID initiatives can help in addressing some of these impacts.</p> <p>Mark added that it is necessary for the ALIDP to engage in discussions on the economics and costs of LID initiatives. He believes that we have an obligation to look for ways to sustain and enhance property values. However, he cautioned that these property values may be seriously go down if our water courses are degraded. Therefore, is in the best long-term interest of municipalities to look at ways to minimize these impacts.</p> <p>Bert commented that it is not the role of the ALIDP to set targets of what should be strived for in watersheds. The targets are up to the municipalities, provincial agencies and above all the residents of the watersheds. However, it is the role of the ALIDP to educate that our current practices are not sustainable and to show the tools and examples of what potentially could be done for when those targets have been set.</p> <p>Judy added that the ALIDP has a strong commitment for working together with the development industry and municipalities to overcome the barriers. The Partnership is a resource to watershed groups but will need to understand the questions and issues associated with setting targets.</p> <p><b>It was agreed that it would be necessary to get as many developers come out to the LID Conference in Cochrane as possible because one can't just say that things are impossible without showing as to why. Glynn will pass this recommendation to Judy Ferguson. He also agreed that it would be an excellent idea for UDI to meet with the ALIDP.</b></p>	<p>Glynn</p>
<p><b>Desired Outcomes, Expectations and Priorities of Stakeholders</b></p>	<p>A significant amount of time was dedicated for all stakeholders present to express their desired outcomes, expectations and priorities for the ALIDP. This information will be used by the Steering Committee for setting priorities in future action, which is to be discussed at the next meeting.</p> <p><b>Liliana, City of Calgary Water Resources:</b></p> <p>Liliana expressed that the City of Calgary knows that the way we currently manage stormwater is not adequate to meet our watershed protection goals. Water Resources is striving for integrated stormwater management, which includes capture and treatment at the source in addition to conventional drainage infrastructure and end-of-pipe treatment facilities. This approach ties into current City Council priorities such as protecting our</p>	<p><b>Steering Committee to take into account for Action Plan and Budget for next meeting!</b></p>

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	<p>water resources, reducing our impact on Bow River watershed, and reducing Calgary's environmental footprint. One of the action items is implementation of stormwater pollution prevention and reduction measures. Council also supports the Alberta <i>Water for Life</i> strategy.</p> <p>Water Resources is specifically interested in education of the public and industry as to how one can achieve better watershed health through sustainable initiatives. The City of Calgary has so far provided \$20,000 in funding, half of which has been allocated to the QUALHYMO initiative which is seen as a significant tool for use by the industry. It would like to see a willingness by the other stakeholders as well to carry their share, so that we can enter into an inter-provincial partnership with BC which will run at about \$55,000.</p> <p>Water Resources would like to see programs and tools developed, and would support demonstration projects. Water Resources would sponsor an annual event, similar to what is being done in Denver, where stakeholders would be advised of progress made in the preceding year.</p> <p>A website would be an excellent tool, but could turn out to be expensive.</p> <p><b>Laurie Hodson, Town of Okotoks:</b></p> <p>Laurie mentioned that sustainability is important to Okotoks and that the Town does not want to live beyond the carrying capacity of the Sheep River watershed. That's why it has adopted a fixed limit to its boundaries. Okotoks would like to fully understand its impacts on its piece of the Sheep River, and to maximize its (economic) use of water.</p> <p>He hopes that the ALIDP will be positively focused, and does not need to be on the defensive. He would like the ALIDP to focus on the role played by municipalities, keeping in mind that Calgary is different from Okotoks and e.g. Canmore. He believes that a modest contribution by Okotoks to the ALIDP is merited.</p> <p><b>Shannon Syme, Town of Canmore:</b></p> <p>Shannon commented that Canmore is looking at changing its guidelines to arrive at more sustainable alternatives to industry. She would like the ALIDP to focus on training and seminars for engineers and developers. The information, tools and references need to be more relevant to Alberta though. A website with pictures and case studies would be very useful.</p> <p><b>Bert van Duin on behalf of Mark Bennett, Bow River Basin Council:</b></p>	

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	<p>Mark would like see a listing of LID applications in Alberta with summaries of what they entail, directions of where to go, and contact names if one wants more information.</p> <p><b>Tim Olson, City of Airdrie:</b></p> <p>Tim commented that Airdrie is looking at sustainable initiatives, also because it has an obligation to protect downstream users. The City is looking for tools and education, and information on capital and operations costs. He recognizes that the ALIDP needs resources to help out the City, but would like to see a proportional share based on the population served.</p> <p><b>Brian Chinery, Alberta Environment:</b></p> <p>Brian commented that he was meeting the following day to discuss environmental tools. Alberta Environment (AENV) is still struggling with how to implement these tools but he believes that the ALIDP is one of those tools. AENV is looking for groups such as the ALIDP to be an authority. AENV does not have a lot of resources but recognizes that there is a need for technical expertise and the buy-in of municipalities and non-government organizations. AENV would like this group not become the Calgary LID but indeed Alberta focused. He wishes to see more people from Edmonton, Lethbridge, Grande Prairie, etc. Future meetings should therefore be held in Edmonton as well. His counterparts in Edmonton should sit down with the ALIDP too.</p> <p>Brian would like to see the ALIDP develop a relationship with the Alberta Water Council. The Partnership is different than watershed groups as the Partnership is looking for tools and resources to change things on the ground. This is where the rubber hits the road.</p> <p>Brian is drafting a Watershed 101 program that is to provide information on anything that anyone would ever want to know about watersheds. It should provide information on policies, barriers and how they can be overcome, and examples to municipalities. He is looking for the LID component to come from the ALIDP website.</p> <p><b>Anand Mishra, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation:</b></p> <p>Anand mentioned that he is happy to be part of the ALIDP. CMHC believes that development is more than stormwater, and that the Partnership therefore should address <i>Better Street Design</i> principles and social interaction. The Partnership should also look for more input from the development industry.</p>	

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	<p><b>Glynn, UDI Calgary:</b></p> <p>Glynn commented that he is encouraged by the positive focus of the attendants. He would like the Partnership to address the technical and other specific concerns of UDI and above all reach consensus. He is looking for practical tools and initiatives that make sense; are not onerous; and are not unsustainable in the long run. He is willing to organize a meeting with UDI.</p> <p><b>Judy Stewart, private member:</b></p> <p>Judy would like to see the Partnership also address the protection of escarpments, coulees, wetland and riparian habitat, and what lives in them.</p> <p><b>Sarah Hamza, Elbow River Watershed Partnership:</b></p> <p>The Elbow River Watershed Partnership is developing a water management plan for the Elbow River watershed. As part of this plan it needs practical tools and an on-the-ground implementation plan.</p> <p><b>Wendy Aupers, Tri-Community Watershed Initiative:</b></p> <p>Wendy's views are similar to Laurie's, looking for a healthier Sheep River watershed. We need tools that are effective, practical and contribute to the long-term sustainability of our watersheds. We need information on how to negotiate the municipal process in better ways. We therefore need more learned and informed decision making tools that will lead to proactive, practical solutions. The Partnership should also seek for opportunities to celebrate success stories.</p> <p><b>Bernie Amell, Bow River Basin Council:</b></p> <p>Bernie commented that one needs to move away from end-of-pipe solutions to more source controls. The condo project where he lives employs a lot of these initiatives. He has lived there now for 3 years, and during that time the trees have doubled in calliper and height. In addition, there is no increase in water consumption during the summer months. It is important to move from stormwater being seen as a problem to it seen as opportunity. One should not force the development industry, but show them that this is the reasonable thing to do.</p> <p><b>Bert van Duin, Bow River Basin Council:</b></p> <p>Bert sees four (4) issues that the Partnership needs to provide information on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Help out the development industry in negotiating the system as they are currently being penalized when they try</li> </ol>	

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	<p>implementing innovative approaches.</p> <p>2. Help out municipalities in implementing the necessary systems that would allow for sustainable approaches, and provide education as to how to review, construct and maintain low impact development strategies.</p> <p>3. Provide education and examples to the consulting industry about how to analyze, design and construct sustainable systems; and</p> <p>4. Educate the provincial agencies that a one-size-fits-all approach does not apply and that local, watershed based approaches need to be implemented.</p> <p>He would like (a) the Partnership to retain a part-time coordinator as the amount of work is too much for volunteers, (b) create an Alberta oriented website, (c) enter into an inter-provincial partnership with BC and other provinces, (d) embark on an active outreach and education program in Alberta, and (e) create local pilot projects that are extensively monitored.</p>	
<b>Funding Opportunities</b>	<p>One avenue is the Real Estate Foundation which has a goal the establishment of better communities. The Steering Committee should look at ways to submit a joint application with UDI to overcome the constraints and build the necessary consensus and tools.</p> <p>Anand commented that CMHC has several opportunities for financial support. One opportunity providing for up to \$25,000 is for external research. The proposal would have to be received by October 31<sup>st</sup>. He can help with providing examples. The second opportunity would be for 2008, but with no money limit although submissions over \$50,000 only have a small chance of success. This submission would have to be received by May 2007.</p> <p>Other opportunities include Alberta Ecotrust and Climate Change Central.</p>	<b>Info</b>
<b>Next Meeting</b>	Next meeting: to be announced.	<b>Info</b>