



OPEN SOURCE DATA HUB DIALOGUE:
**Towards a Columbia Basin Water Monitoring
Framework**



The Open Source Data Hub Dialogue: Towards a Columbia Basin Water Monitoring Framework is a two-day event to develop a collective understanding for modernizing water knowledge. The conference will be put into context by Dr. Martin Carver with an updated overview of [“Water Monitoring and Climate in the Upper Columbia Basin, Summary of Current Status and Opportunities”](#) which was published for Columbia Basin Trust (CBT).

Kathy Eichenberger, MOE and the Executive Director, Columbia River Treaty, Ministry of Energy and Mines, will provide an overview for a modernized CRT and the relevance of water data to this vision.

The goal of the dialogue is to create a collective vision for modernizing water knowledge with useful, reliable and open source data that is freely accessed, evaluated and applied by users. The time for a coordinated, collaborative, innovative, user friendly, cost effective and open water data platform has arrived. During this action focused event, participants will craft three outcomes:

1. A vision for a Columbia Basin specific, open access, water data hub.
2. An understanding for what is required to catalyze a water monitoring framework towards filling important water data gaps for a watershed.
3. Cross-sector working groups to move forward on the shared water data hub and the water monitoring framework

Day one - *Skimming the Surface* - panels will focus on; holistic best practices of larger scale collaborative water monitoring initiatives; shared understanding of big data hubs; current and future needs of government water monitoring and databases; current and future needs of different industry sectors for water monitoring and databases.

Day one will finish with dinner speaker and an optional visit to the local Radium Hotsprings.

Day two -*Submerging* - panels will have a more depth focus; on-the-ground First nations and non-First Nations, community based water monitoring examples; local and regional government and industry examples; needs for shared data and collaborative monitoring work. This will be followed by a facilitated session to gather input for next steps needed in creating a Columbia Basin Water Monitoring Framework and a basin specific water data hub.

Who should attend?

This conference will be relevant for; First Nations and non-First Nations water related decision makers and on the ground practitioners and community based water monitoring groups; elected officials; local, regional, provincial water decision makers and practitioners; businesses, consultants and industry sector representatives and practitioners; academia; data hub builders; problem-solvers, critical thinkers, collaborators, innovators and water leaders.

The long-term stewardship and sustainability of our water sources will transcend the traditional boundaries of all of our working sectors. This dialogue will provide an invaluable opportunity for cross-sector engagement to better understand our different needs and perspectives while identifying opportunities for collaborative, effective long-term solutions.

“Citizen science offers exemplary prospects for education and outreach, improving participation and thus scientific literacy, and allowing the public to feel that they have contributed to real science. With such an explosion in the number of people-powered projects, as well as maximised research and outreach possibilities, it seems likely that mutual collaboration between experts and non-experts alike is marking a new era in climate research and education.”

-editorial – Nature Climate Change Vol 7 Sept 2017

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS (Final Agenda is in progress)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29th, 2017

SKIMMING THE SURFACE

→ Introduction to data hub and water monitoring framework dialogue

Martin Carver - Presenting updated CBT Report

Kathy Eichenberger - Modernized CRT and data relevance

→ Holistic Best Practices of Collaborative community based water monitoring: Monitoring- Data – Policy examples: B.C., North West Territories, Federal government, USA

→ Data HUBS an overview “What are they? – Do we have a shared understanding?” examples from the provincial water portals in Alberta, BC and Manitoba and the USA

→ Government with databases and monitoring practices – What are the current practices and future needs (all levels examples)

→ Industry with databases and monitoring current practice and future needs; Hydro; Forestry; Mining; Agriculture; Tourism.

→ Meet and greet poster session: Basin Water Monitoring Groups will be available for discussion

→ Dinner with: Keynote speaker on: *lesson learned*

→ Buses leave for Radium Hot Spring

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30th, 2017

SUBMERGING

→ Day Two Opening

→ First Nations and non-First Nations, community based water monitoring (CBM) practices examples; successes and challenges working with government and industry collaboration and data sharing.

→ Reality check – Legal and governance implications, what works.

→ LET’S GET TO WORK;

Rolling up our sleeves

Breakout groups: *Work on dialogue outcomes*

CONVENERS

