



Living Lakes Canada News Stream

February 2018

Living Lakes Canada ended 2017 on a high note, with the incredibly successful Water Data Hub conference in Invermere and an international trip to Colombia to share best practices in community-based water monitoring. 2018 will see the continuation of our Columbia Basin Groundwater Monitoring Program and we're excited at the prospect of establishing a Water Monitoring Framework for the Basin as the Water Data Hub starts to materialize. See the highlights below and stay tuned for another Living Lakes Canada News Stream update in April.

~ The Living Lakes Canada team

Water Data Hub proceedings available

After a lot of hard work, we are so excited to bring you the proceedings from the [#WaterDataHub2017](#) conference held in Invermere in November.

This document would not have been possible without the commitment from the event participants, exceptional speakers and our funders.

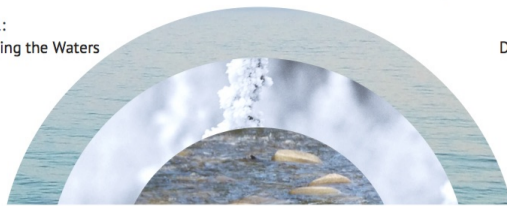
[Click here for the press release with links to the 3-page Executive Summary and the 18-page full Conference Summary.](#)

NOVEMBER 29TH AND 30TH

COPPER POINT RESORT, INVERMERE, BC

Day 1:
Charting the Waters

Day 2:
Diving In



WATER DATA HUB



DECIDE · DESIGN · DO

CRACKING THE CODE (IN 3-D)
AN OPEN SOURCE DATA DIALOGUE TOWARDS A COLUMBIA
BASIN WATER MONITORING FRAMEWORK

Join government, non-profits, First Nations, industry, institutions
and water scientists for this pioneering conference that will
envison a water monitoring framework and a shared, open source
data hub for the Columbia Basin.

Register today:
<https://waterdialoguehub.eventbrite.com>

For more information:
www.livinglakescanada.ca



NEXT STEPS...

A meeting is being planned for the working groups that came out of the conference. If you are interested in participating in a working group, please email Avery Deboer-Smith at avery@livinglakescanada.ca.



Thanks again to all who participated in the Water Data Hub!

This conference was convened by Columbia Basin Trust, Living Lakes Canada, Columbia Basin Watershed Network & Selkirk College.



National CBM survey results are in!



All across the country we are seeing tremendous energy and enthusiasm around the growing sophistication of community-based monitoring (CBM), its significant contributions to freshwater assessment, and its potential to realize collaborative models of watershed governance.

The question is, given the geographical diversity of our country and the context-specific nature of CBM initiatives, how will this be possible?

To answer this question, the Gordon Foundation, Living Lakes Canada and WWF collaborated on an online Priority Setting Survey that was available from November 25 through to December 15, 2017, part of a broader initiative to understand how to best support CBM and the use of community-generated data at multiple scales of decision-making.

The overall aim was to identify gaps and strategic opportunities to support CBM at the federal level.

[Click here for the results from the national CBM survey.](#)

CBM in Colombia

Raegan Mallinson, Water Stewardship Lead with Living Lakes Canada, was one of two Canadian experts who travelled to Colombia to take part in the National Forum for Watershed Keepers gathering in Pereira, Colombia from November 14th-16th, 2017.



After the gathering, Raegan continued to share Canadian experiences in CBM with government officials, local community monitors and more across the country. For a full recap, [click here for the blog on the Living Lakes Canada website.](#)

Groundwater Stewardship

In January, Living Lakes Canada was one of 32 projects to receive a [Columbia Basin Trust Environment Grant](#) to continue monitoring groundwater quantity at 12 priority aquifers around the Basin, and develop ways to more efficiently manage and share groundwater data. We will also be hosting community workshops about groundwater stewardship.

“Groundwater stewardship is integral to water sustainability in the Columbia Basin,” said Heather Leschied, Living Lakes Canada Program Director. “Groundwater helps maintain surface water levels vital for communities and healthy ecosystems, and is important for climate resiliency as we experience increased use and demand in our watersheds.”

[Click here for an article co-authored by Heather and Living Lakes Canada Groundwater Program Manager Carol Luttmner](#) on the Groundwater Monitoring Program that appeared in the most recent BCLSS quarterly newsletter.

Reconciliation through Water Management

Living Lakes Canada attended a three-day Symposium hosted by the Assembly of First Nations on the theme of “Reconciliation Through Sustainable Water Management”. Held in Vancouver from February 6-8, the gathering featured Dr. David Suzuki as the keynote speaker and provided a wealth of ideas, case studies and examples for a new way forward for Canada's Safe Water Drinking Act.

[Click here for a detailed summary of the conference by Living Lakes Canada Water Stewardship Lead Raegan Mallinson.](#)

[Link to our Twitter feed](#) for Raegan's real-time tweets from the Symposium.



Incorporating traditional ways of knowing

Living Lakes Canada partners with local Indigenous communities to deliver water monitoring workshops that build community capacity, while simultaneously interweaving traditional knowledge into protocols used to strengthen them in multiple ways of knowing. The Living Lakes Canada Water Data Hub dialogue is featured (on page 38) in the January/February 2018 Issue of Water Canada on the theme of "Self Determination: Looking at New Models for Indigenous Services".

[Click here for a PDF of the full issue.](#)



Water Data Hub Dialogue Invermere, B.C.

On November 29 and 30, residents, guests, and water experts gathered in Invermere, B.C. to discuss current water monitoring initiatives and water data storage hubs used in the province Canada, and in the United States. The goal was to identify next steps towards developing a collaborative water monitoring framework and data hub for the Columbia Basin.

Hosted by Living Lakes Canada, A Water Data Hub Dialogue: Cracking the Code in 3D focused on two days of learning, sharing, and creative brainstorming amongst scientists,

government, industry, community groups, First Nations, and technology experts with the goal of moving toward integrating the region's water knowledge through freely accessed open source data and applied decision making.

Shuswap Band Chief **Barb Cote** and Akisqnuq First Nation Chief **Alfred Joseph** of the Ktunaxa Nation for welcoming us to their shared Traditional Territory. A full proceeding of the dialogue including speaker presentations, breakout session brainstorming, survey results, and next steps will be available January.

Visit www.livinglakescanada.ca to learn more.



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