



The following is some of the work Fraser Basin Council has completed or is undertaking in the Fraser Valley.

Lower Mainland Flood Management Strategy (LMFMS)

- **Joint Program Committee** – Updates on three funding sources applicable to flood mitigation were shared at the June 20 meeting in Surrey:
 - Community Emergency Preparedness Fund – through UBCM – next intake for flood planning and mapping is Feb 2019 and for structural projects is fall 2019.
 - National Disaster Mitigation Program – through EMBC – next intake deadline is August 31, 2018.
 - Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund – next intake deadline for DMAF is July 31, 2018
- **Flood strategy 2018 Fraser freshet summary:** While the snowpack was an estimated at 109% total accumulation, it was very high in the Upper Fraser West at 264%. Temperatures an average 5° C above normal in early May led to a rapid snowmelt at low and middle elevations, although there was little or no rain in May to add to the freshet. Early and short water flow peak occurred May 21-22 and was just under 11,000 m³/s at Hope, a volume less than last year's recorded peak flow (12,000 m³/s). Some low-lying, exposed areas flooded. Cooler days in late May and June slowed the snowmelt and eased the flood threat.
- **Seismic guidelines workshop:** On June 18, FBC LMFMS held a workshop in Vancouver with Golder Associates to review challenges to and next steps in implementing Seismic Guidelines for Dikes.
- **Flood management & the environment:** FBC LMFMS hosted a one-day program with regional environment non-governmental organizations (ENGOS), First Nations and government on June 26, 2018 at Evergreen Hall, Chilliwack. Giving presentations were Chief Robert Gladstone – Shxwhay Village, Dr. Mike Church – UBC Geography, on the Fraser River, Dr. Mike Pearson, freshwater fish biologist – Ecology and Environment of the area. Robert Gladstone, Frank Van Nynatten – City of Chilliwack, Lory Oberst – Skwah First Nation, Brent Baron – Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, Natasha Cox – Fraser Valley Watersheds Coalition riparian restoration biologist, Richard Fortin – City of Chilliwack, Lotte Flint Peterson – B.C. Gov't presented case studies. An afternoon tour included reviews of Shxwhay and Skwah communities' flood mitigation and vulnerability, and the Browne Creek salmon spawning and rearing channels off Vedder Canal in Yarrow.
- **A Resilient Fraser River Delta** workshop June 27-28 – FBC LMFMS held a 2-day symposium on ways to create a resilient Fraser delta, hosted by University of British Columbia and the Netherlands Consulate in Vancouver. The workshop brought in local and international flood management experts, and highlighted a range of options to address the impact of climate change and natural events in our local context, such as rising ocean levels and floods recently impacting the Lower Mainland.

FBC Board tour and meeting June 13 and 14:

- On June 13, FBC held a tour for its directors, hosted by FVRD and FBC director and Mission Coun. Pam Alexis on the morning visit to Zajac Ranch for Children. Thirty-five guests heard about Mission's sustainable municipal forest, its award-winning landfill, and the Stave West recreational plans, developed in partnership with Kwantlen First Nation; this includes new 200 campsites for equestrian campers, for ATV users, and walk-in sites. FBC directors Barb Strachan and Satwinder Bains provided comments on wetland restoration and flood history on the return bus ride.
- FVRD's Dave Urban reported on Experience the Fraser progress at the Mission waterfront stop. At the University of the Fraser Valley Abbotsford after lunch, Alison Stewart gave a comprehensive review of FVRD's climate action and flood risk plans in relation to agriculture. Lenore Newman, Canada Research Chair for Food Security and the Environment, based at UFV, discussed the state of affairs for global agriculture and local challenges; Agassiz dairy farmer Detmar Schwichtenberg offered suggestions for sustainable farming stewardship through the Farm Advantage incentive program.
- At the FBC directors' meeting on June 14, Chris Hamilton of FLRNORD's Resource Stewardship Division discussed the province's initiative to update wildlife and habitat management, caribou recovery and to create a species at risk act. Public input is encouraged and you can provide comments at the govTogetherBC public engagement sites, at engage.gov.bc.ca

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