

LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

Your direction needed



Local government currently has limited ability to manage watersheds as a whole, including protecting water supply or quality.



What local government has the authority to do now

- ➔ Control land use zoning and development
- ➔ Provide water and sewer services in selected areas
- ➔ Limited environmental projects (e.g. short term water sampling)
- ➔ Flood monitoring (e.g. limited gravel and debris removal program, and dikes maintenance)

The kinds of actions local government could take if it had the mandate from the community

- ➔ Develop drinking water protection plans
- ➔ Explore and develop long-term water storage options
- ➔ Develop and maintain environmental monitoring programs to more effectively manage water supply and protect drinking water quality
- ➔ Offer public incentives for a variety of programs including stewardship, water storage and conservation
- ➔ Manage stormwater runoff and prevent contaminants from entering the environment
- ➔ Enter into agreements and formal relationships with First Nations, industry, stewardship groups and others, and/or fund management initiatives



Did you know?

There are a variety of agencies and organizations that play a role in managing resources in the Cowichan watershed including:

Federal

- ➔ Environment Canada
- ➔ Department of Fisheries and Oceans

Provincial ministries

- ➔ Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations
- ➔ Environment
- ➔ Health
- ➔ Agricultural

First Nations

Local government

Industry

Stewardship organizations