

## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 28, 2015



### Consultation on proposed LWMP amendments kicks off with strong start

**Duncan, BC:** Consultation on a proposed amendment to the Cowichan Valley Regional District's (CVRD) Central Sector Liquid Waste Management Plan (LWMP) got off to a good start last month with strong feedback from stakeholder groups and members of the public and good progress on environmental and engineering assessments.

The CVRD, in partnership with Cowichan Tribes, the Municipality of North Cowichan, and the City of Duncan, is pursuing an amendment which would authorize relocation of the Joint Utilities Board's treated wastewater outfall from the Cowichan River to a new location.

"We've had great feedback from the outreach and consultation process that's been undertaken to date – stakeholders have shared insightful comments, asked good questions, and expressed appreciation for the transparency of our process and the amount of information that's been shared," said CVRD Board Chair Jon Lefebure. "All of this consultation work will ensure that we arrive at the best solution for our region."

An LWMP amendment process is a complex one that takes time to complete; it involves a technical review as well as consultation. Last month, the project team started the public outreach on this amendment work, providing updates to the community via project newsletters, news releases, advertisements, and a project specific webpage at [www.cvrld.bc.ca/lwmp](http://www.cvrld.bc.ca/lwmp). The first of a series of three information sessions was also held, bringing together about 25 people representing individuals and stakeholder groups with an interest in the outfall location. Meetings and discussions are continuing as well with area First Nations.

Among the topics of discussion to date has been the importance of protecting the marine environment, standards of treatment required, and outfall location options that have been considered to date.

While public outreach continues, the project team is also working to advance the technical review work needed to assess potential location outfall options. This work includes preliminary assessments of the ocean environment, evaluation of discharge locations, and consideration of existing regulations. Public consultation will continue this month with a second information session and the installation of information displays in community centres and municipal halls.

The LWMP amendment is expected to be drafted in June this year. An information page has been set up at [www.cvrld.bc.ca/lwmp](http://www.cvrld.bc.ca/lwmp) for the public to learn more about the project. To receive updates by e-mail, please contact the CVRD at [cslwmp@cvrd.bc.ca](mailto:cslwmp@cvrd.bc.ca) or call 250.746.2530.

-30-

*For more information, please contact:*

Jon Lefebure,  
Chair, CVRD  
[chairperson@cvrd.bc.ca](mailto:chairperson@cvrd.bc.ca)  
250.746.2501