

---

# COLUMBIA River Treaty

---



**To:** Regional Districts, Boards of Directors  
Valemount Town Council

**Date:** April 15, 2019

**From:** Linda Worley, Chair  
Columbia River Treaty Local Governments Committee

## **Subject: Update on Committee Activities**

Over the last month the Committee has been very busy with decisions coming out of our March strategy session, preparing for upcoming education activities and ensuring Committee continuity.

### **Current**

- **Committee priorities** – The Committee agreed on the following priorities for 2019-20: the ongoing negotiations, Basin communications/education such as the Columbia Basin Regional Advisory Committee (see below), and resolution of Basin domestic issues including the need for a water management process for the Kootenay River system.
- **Negotiations** – The last negotiating session was in Victoria on April 10 and 11. You are encouraged to read the [Minister's Statement](#). The Committee will hear more about this session at an update during the CBRAC meeting this week (see below)
- **Preparing for education activities** – The Committee is preparing materials for several events including an information booth at the AKBLG AGM at the end of April, a poster at the [Regulated Rivers II](#) conference in Nelson in early May and a presentation at the [One River-Ethics Matters](#) in Castlegar in late May.
- **Committee continuity** - Vice Chair Stan Doehle and I have been working closely with our Executive Director to complete the fiscal year end reporting; begin discussions with AKBLG on budgeting for Committee member costs and banking services; and initiating budgeting for 2019-20 fiscal year based on the priorities defined by the Committee.
- **Updating our recommendations** – We continue to work on gathering information to update our recommendations to government. We discussed possible changes with the Negotiating Team at our strategy session in March. This task will be our priority during May-June.

### **Ongoing**

- **Columbia Basin Regional Advisory Committee (CBRAC)** – CBRAC is meeting on April 15 and 16 in Invermere. This meeting includes a tour of a conservation property along Columbia Lake; an update from the Negotiating; presentations from the Upper Columbia Basin Environmental Collaborative and BC Hydro; and discussions about the results of the 2018 CRT community meetings, with presentations about opportunities for community benefits from Kinbasket Reservoir and agriculture supports for the Kooocanusa area.

CBRAC terms of reference, membership and meeting summaries as well as presentations and reports discussed at these meetings are available on the [CBRAC webpage](#).

## **Upcoming**

- Telecon with representatives from the Water Rights Comptroller's office and BC Hydro to brief the Committee on the Water Use Plan process and upcoming reviews to prepare the Committee to consider recommendations to government regarding these plans. (April)
- 2019-20 funding agreements to be completed with CBT and the BC CRT Team. (May)
- Update the LGC recommendations, invite input from local governments and meet with Minister Conroy. (May-June)
- Follow-up with the province on actions requested by community members at the 2018 CRT community meetings. (May-ongoing)

I encourage you to stay informed about CRT negotiations by visiting the [CRT engagement website](#) and signing up for the CRT e-letter. This site will be the source of accurate, updated information as negotiations progress.

## **Committee Members**

RDCK – Aimee Watson, Regional Director/RDCK Chair, Ramona Faust, Regional Director

RDKB - Linda Worley, Regional Director (LGC Chair) and Mayor Diane Langman, Village of Warfield

RDEK - Stan Doehle, Regional Director (LGC Vice Chair) and Jane Walter, Regional Director

CSRD – David Brooks-Hill, Regional Director and Mayor Ron Oszust, Town of Golden

Village of Valemount – Donnie MacLean, Councilor

AKBLG – Deb Kozak (outgoing LGC Chair); Ange Qualizza, Mayor of Fernie (Observer until post AKBLG AGM)