From: ***PERSONAL IDENTIFIERS REMOVED***
Sent: Wednesday, April 28, 2010 4:28:27 PM
To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX
Subject: WAM comment submission

Hi
please note these points below in regard to the water act modernization -

IMPORTANT POINTS

- water recognized as a human right
and part of the commons
  - owned
collectively by all and held in trust by government to
manage in the public interest

- a broadened scope of discussion for
true water protection
  - include land use
(like resource extraction activities) since you can't
protect the water without considering the land

- Water Act would not devolve some
uses and protections to other acts
  - Section 9 of the
Water Act devolves water protection to various other
Ministries Acts (Forestry, Mining, Gas & Oil)

- Watershed Reserves re-established
for source protection from forestry and other resource
extraction activities
  - watershed
reserves would protect our drinking water supplies

- Collaborative science, traditional
knowledge and local history would inform all allocation
decisions
  - precautionary
principle functioning at all times (no harm proof prior to
new uses, not mitigation after damage)

- Governence model: FULLY FUNDED local
government model with local decision-making power
  - my caveat on this
is that since there is no funding and they will never grant
local decision making powers, it would be best to go with

the
STATUS QUO (no change model) until broader scope, full funding and full public consultation is part of the process

- FITFIR(First in time, First in right) remain unchanged since it is a self-regulating system for over-allocation problems
  — "if it's not broke, don't fix it" . Modifying FITFIR could allow government to remove water rights from established farms, water systems, and other uses

- Domestic Use licensed use should NOT be changed to a "permitted" use in order to retain legal rights

- Public involvement enlarged to cover further steps in the process
  —the government decision making model shows the workshop/comments as our one kick at the can.

thank you ,
PERSONAL IDENTIFIERS REMOVED

-First Nations social and cultural practices associated with water are respected and accomodated