



Principles of Engagement

The Columbia River Treaty 2014 Review public consultation is intended to be a meaningful process informed by the following **principles of engagement**:

1. Inclusive, Transparent and Honest

- a. Consult on the design of the public engagement process in consideration of participants’ needs, local methods of participation and representation, and logistical constraints.
- b. Encourage open sharing of all relevant perspectives and respect all related viewpoints, information, experiences, interests, values and contributions.
- c. Include as many individuals as wish to participate in the process, and provide various ways to participate and be heard, including face-to-face meetings, by mail and online.
- d. Be clear with participants about their roles, constraints and opportunities to provide input into the decision process.

2. Create Capacity to Participate

- a. Provide participants with as much information as possible to ensure they have the knowledge and confidence to participate in the consultation process.

3. Constructive Engagement

- a. Build on previous or existing processes.
- b. Listen, learn, provide clarity and address misunderstandings.
- c. Encourage high quality dialogue that recognizes all related interests, deepens understanding and builds relationships.
- d. Use diverse methods to ensure participants are engaged, share information, and provide feedback.
- e. Ensure an authentic process where public input will be considered by decision makers.

4. Close the Loop

- a. Inform participants how their input was considered.

How do you want to be consulted?

The May/June engagement sessions will identify interests and provide a foundation for the fall public consultations. In the fall the Province will return to communities to present information from technical studies, discuss the implications of potential Treaty decision options on interests and seek feedback from Basin residents. How do you want to be consulted in the fall? The following is a list of some options to consider. Suggestions of other options are welcome.

Option 1: Fall public consultation meetings (similar to spring format)

Description	Pros	Cons
One public meeting in each of seven communities. Similar format to the spring sessions - presentations and small group work. Evening sessions or all day event are also options.	-More people involved in the process. -Not overly time consuming.	-Evening session won’t allow for too much detail. -All day session will allow for more detail but will require more time commitment.



Option 2: Advisory Committee of regional representatives

Description	Pros	Cons
Self selected group of people representing a cross-section of interests and locations across the region. Meet for 2 days or 2-3 times between Sept 2012 and June 2013. Report out to communities at the end of the process via meetings, webinar or newsletter.	-Greater knowledge and understanding by a small number of Basin residents. -Increased ability to provide meaningful feedback to complex issues.	-More time commitment for a smaller number of people (30 – 40). -Difficult to ensure broad Basin representation and cross-section of interests. -Reporting numerous complex issues back to communities may be a burden for Advisory Committee.

Option 3: Webinars

Description	Pros	Cons
Series of webinars could be conducted. People could access the webinars from their home computers or attend at a public venue.	-Widely accessible to people throughout Basin communities with high-speed Internet. -Possible to ensure broad representation and cross-section of interests. -Less time commitment and travel costs.	-Less face-to-face interaction with presenters. -Limited interaction with other residents. -Less opportunity for extended conversations.

Option 4: One or Two day Conference

Description	Pros	Cons
A one or two day conference could be held in one or two central locations (e.g. East and West Kootenays).	-Face-to-face interaction and discussion among Basin residents and presenters. -Broad representation and cross-section of interests. -Possible to accurately convey detailed information. -Could be partnered with a youth conference	-Fewer venues result in greater travel costs for some. -More time commitment.

Questions to Consider:

1. What other options for consultation should we consider?
2. What approach do you think would be most effective? Second choice?

Do you have other engagement ideas you want to share with us?
Write your comments on a card, or email us by July 20th: columbiarivertreaty@gov.bc.ca