



# **COLUMBIA RIVER TREATY Columbia Basin Community Interests and Suggestions**

Columbia Basin Regional Advisory Committee Meeting  
April 16, 2019, Invermere, B.C.



## 2018 Canadian Columbia Basin Community Meetings

- **Communities**

- Meadow Creek, Jaffray, Creston, Castlegar, Nelson, Valemount, Revelstoke, Golden, Nakusp and Invermere

- **Purpose:**

- Provide update on negotiations & seek input on priority interests

- **Results:**

- Confirmed issues captured in 2012 - 2013 are still important to Basin citizens today
- Shed light on new issues, and provided concrete suggestions for how to reduce impacts and increase benefits

**Acknowledge what was lost and enhance what remains**



## This session

- Review common community interests themes
- Review community-specific interests and suggestions
- Differentiate between Treaty-related and domestic issues
- Share next steps



## Basin Key Priorities

- First Nations participation in negotiations
- Ecosystem protection and enhancement
- Salmon reintroduction
- Stable reservoir levels
- Agriculture sector enhancement

**Cont'd**



## Basin Key Priorities

- Recreation and tourism enhancement
- Water supply assurance for Canada
- Flood risk management
- Equitable benefits to Canada
- Fair compensation for impacted communities
- Libby Dam/Koocanusa Reservoir operations coordinated between Canada and the U.S.



## Local Interests: Koocanus Reservoir

- **Treaty**
  - Input to/more control over Libby dam operations
- **Domestic**
  - Support for agriculture sector, incl. irrigation
  - Recreation management in the drawdown zone
  - Kootenay water management plan
  - Restore impacted ecosystems
  - Provide ongoing debris management
  - FWCP engagement of impacted area



## Local Interests: Duncan Dam area

- **Treaty**
  - Decommission dam
  - Mitigate flooding of agriculture lands in high water years
- **Domestic**
  - Add fish passage to Duncan Dam
  - Add electricity generation to Duncan Dam
  - Prioritize conservation-focused land management
  - Water Use Plan review timeline/process
  - Address unreliable power in storms
  - Support for the agriculture sector
  - FWCP engagement of impacted area



## Local Interests: Kootenay Lake

- **Treaty**

- Input to Libby dam operations
- Mitigate flooding/debris in high water years impacting water lines, ferry navigation, private property

- **Domestic**

- Kootenay water management plan
- Creston dyke management
- Shore spawning kokanee survival



## Local Interests: Lower Columbia River

- **Treaty**

- Significant water level and flow changes over Friday/Saturday when recreation use is highest (also from Non-Treaty Storage Agreement)

- **Domestic**

- Flood risk management for community infrastructure and private property
- Fish habitat management



## Local Interests: Arrow Lakes Reservoir

- **Treaty**
  - Address recreation/tourism and log transport impacts at low reservoir levels under dry year operations
  - More stable reservoir levels for ecological recovery and other benefits
- **Domestic**
  - Create agriculture opportunities
  - Ecosystem protection/wetland restoration
  - Debris management, especially after high water events



## Local Interests: Kinbasket Reservoir

- **Treaty**
  - More stable reservoir levels
- **Domestic**
  - Silica dust storm reduction in Valemount – weir, revegetation
  - Recreation development near Golden – reliable road access, campsite at Bush Harbour
  - Columbia Water Use Plan review timeline/process



## Next Steps

- Make progress on these interests and suggestions
  - See what is currently happening
  - What more could be done
  - Where the gaps are
- Return to Canadian Basin communities in the fall to share progress



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Energy, Mines and  
Petroleum Resources



Thank you

