

**Celebrate - Reflect – Plan
Think Tank
September 15 & 16 2010, Rossland B.C.**



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Introduction and background

This summary provides an overview of the conversations from the Communities Adapting to Climate Change Initiative (CACCI) Think Tank in Rossland B.C., September 16, 2010. The Think Tank was a time to reflect and look forward. Participants considered the future of the CACC, an initiative that helps local government and communities adapt to the potential impacts of climate change in the Canadian Columbia Basin.

In preparation for the Think Tank, a discussion paper on the CACCI was prepared by gathering input from over thirty-five individual contributions from the current technical support and advisory committee members, local project coordinators, learning network members and CBT's coordination team. The discussion paper summarized key reflections, learning and ideas for the future of the CACCI for Think Tank participants. Participants arrived at the Think Tank well informed and ready to contribute.

The Think Tank brought together the same people mentioned above to develop a common understanding of what has been achieved over the past three years and work together to review options for the coming years. Participants focused on the key question: "*What strategic direction should CACCI take in the next 1-3 years?*"

This summary highlights events from the day and conversations that took place. A number of ideas were brought forward throughout the day's conversations. Not all inputs answered the question above directly, however the dialogues illustrated the range of issues of importance to participants and ideas of where to begin.

The CACCI Advisory Committee will review this summary with CBT to ensure the main points are captured and begin formulating a plan for next steps.

Thank you to Andrew Earnshaw for guiding the Think Tank with his excellent facilitation skills.



Think Tank participants: Jennifer Ellis, local project coordinator for Rossland, Corien Speaker, CAO for the District of Elkford, Hans Schreier, member of CBT's Technical Support Team.

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Think Tank Objectives:

- To recognize and celebrate our achievements to date.
- To reflect on over two years of work.
- To explore strategic directions for the CACCI prior to the development (this fall) of a 1-3 year plan.

Field hike, information stations and networking



Field Hike

To welcome guests to the project community of Rossland, participants went on a 1.5 hour field walk to see highlights of the city such as infrastructure, economic drivers, historical features, and to learn about the local adaptation project.



Information stations

Information stations were set up in a speed meeting style at a local restaurant on the night of September 15 for Think Tank participants to learn about other projects related to adaptation taking place in the Basin and province. This helped to set the context for future thinking. In addition, relationships between participants were formed and strengthened.

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Stations included: Columbia Basin Water Smart Initiative, B.C. Regional Adaptation Collaborative, Future Forests Ecosystems Scientific Council (FFESC), Carbon Neutral Kootenays, Local Community Adaptation Projects (Rossland, Kaslo/Area D, Castlegar).

Introductions

The Think Tank brought together a cross section of people that have been involved in the initiative from 1-5 years including members of the Technical Support Team and Advisory Committee members, local project coordinators, learning network members, CBT staff and resource people working on climate change in the province.

An introduction to the Think Tank was followed by meeting participants introducing themselves by sharing what they brought to the meeting. The introductions made it clear that a wide range of expertise was in the room such as city planners, climate scientists, local adaptation project coordinators, city councillors and more. Everyone was energized and keen to contribute to the day.

See Appendix 1 for full participant list

I am bringing to the Think Tank...

- Big picture thinking
- Linkage and interpretation
- Implementation
- Collaboration
- Energy and enthusiasm



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Looking back and reflecting

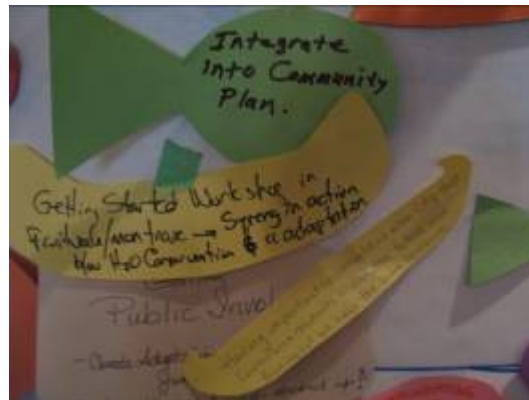


The River

The river metaphor was used to help meeting participants get actively involved in reflecting on the adaptation journey since 2005. This activity facilitated a shared understanding of the journey so far and showcased participants different perspectives on how CACCI has influenced them and their community.

Three metaphors were used:

- Boulders: challenges, barriers, struggles
- Canoes: highlights
- Fish: key elements, moments of interest



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What strategic direction should the CACCI take?

The key question: “What strategic direction should CACCI take in the next 1-3 years?” was posed to Think Tank participants. Key considerations were highlighted to participants such as funding, sustainability of current model, volunteer time from the TST and AC. The background discussion paper suggested 4 different CACCI models for the future. Participants were encouraged to consider those options but were not limited to any recommendations.



Open Space

Open space meeting technique was used to facilitate the discussion on CACCI’s future direction. Open space allows people to facilitate small discussions on topics that they choose. Many discussions happen at the same time. The person that brings the topic to the floor facilitates the discussion and records. People have the freedom to visit as many groups as they want. There was an additional recorder at each station with a lap top to accurately record the sessions.

Below includes highlights from the ten conversations and is grouped by key headings. These are elements that participants feel are important in any future initiative on climate change adaptation in the Basin. See Appendix 2 for fuller details of each individual conversation. Please note, no interpretation aside from synthesizing has taken place.



Kristin Aasen introduces her discussion topic to open space.



Think Tank participants gathered at the open space discussion wall to decide which conversations they would participate in.

Key recommendations from open space discussions

Mainstreaming the process is one of the biggest challenges for local governments and also most desired. The topic of mainstreaming came up in many of the conversations both regarding local government operations and public consciousness. A realization voiced was the need to separate the concept of getting the conversation on climate change into the public as separate from an adaptation project. Therefore the following recommendations focus on two streams, one that reaches out to the local government and a second stream that engages the public more broadly in the conversation. Regarding projects, the key points noted include flexible approaches for diverse communities with a focus on action. In addition, longer timelines are needed in most cases, particularly in rural areas and for implementation.

Public outreach and engagement

“How we keep conversation going is key.”

Public engagement and education on climate change is key from CBT as it is too overwhelming for community coordinators and staff to do engagement but it is necessary to have support from the community in planning and implementation.



CBT should help with public engagement and outreach to help build broader based community input/engagement and also to help support local government's decisions.

- Make adaptation process more fun, engaging/outside of the box
- Partner with other NGOs, stakeholders, steering committee as entry point to broader community
- Need more driving by community members, not only local government
- Host more events such as 101 sessions in and outside of project communities.
- Engage people who are not normally engaged on the climate change topic.

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Capacity building and education

CBT should support building capacity of local government staff and coordinators as well as sector practitioners and community stakeholders. Examples of what CBT could support include:

- Practitioner based education and capacity building through professional organizations and networks
- Citizen education through NGOs/ENGOS, Chambers, Colleges/Universities and schools
- Curriculum on various levels for various audiences, across Basin, including focused pieces.
- Web based tools
- Increased support and coaching for coordinators of projects



Flexible approach for planning and implementation

The focus of the CACCI needs to broaden from one of only planning to include action and implementation. This requires longer time horizons. Moreover, each community is unique and CBT should be flexible to their approaches and diverse focuses.



CBT needs to recognize diversity in community needs including budget, timeline and expertise. Different processes will be required for different communities and could include:

- Process that enables local governments to modify existing plans to incorporate an adaptation focus (i.e. operating bylaws, policies, emergency preparedness)
- Ability to focus on particular theme
- More focus on action and implementation, including revisiting first five communities
- Longer time horizons, including implementation, i.e. three-five years.
- Simpler process.

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Supporting planning, action and implementation locally and regionally

A key recommendation is that implementation is important and should be supported by CBT. This includes new communities as well as revisiting the five former community projects. Below are 3 recommendations on how CBT could support implementation.

1. CBT could support the review of community documents including operating bylaws / policies and emergency preparedness plans and provide templates for revising to suit adaptation.
 - This could be done on regional basis with templates for suggested revisions

2. Look at different models such as a regional plan and focusing on specific themes.
 - CBT could play role in identifying mass transit as an issue.
 - Review other transit models and what would it take to get this into municipalities?
 - Demonstration pilot project
 - Pilot project on climate change adaptation as relates to winter resort community
 - Potential partner: WED ???
 - Expand the vision of water beyond the municipality to the watershed scale

3. CBT could look at the project adaptation strategies, what is required to implement, responsibility of different players, lay out in a neutral fashion to achieve adaptation goals and ensure success.
 - Identify gaps/deficiencies in the current government structure
 - Understand regulatory responsibility for each area
 - Undertake a Basin study on how intergovernmental relations/regulations are a barrier.
 - Investigate potential models/structures to support the prioritization of issues and a more effective/efficient process

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Beyond adaptation, more on resiliency

“Dealing with adaptation only is like dealing with medical symptoms with only a painkiller. Need to deal with what is causing the problem in the first place.”

While adaptation was a good place to start, conversations highlighted that it is time to go beyond adaptation to Basin resiliency. At a minimum, it was felt that adaptation and mitigation should be addressed more holistically.



CBT can facilitate thinking on linkages as well as set up meetings to cross-pollinate/fertilize with water, energy and other related initiatives.

- Be out front educating on connections, lifestyles, behaviour change
- Link to State of the Basin:
 - How to plan for climate change and increase quality of life?
 - Create a measurement on climate change adaptation for State of the Basin.

Science

- CBT should continue to deliver reliable, credible information
- More generalized climate modeling would be useful to the region, downscaling is not needed for each community
- Focus on the extremes and increased variability
- Support monitoring (i.e. weather, streams) in communities.

See Appendix 2 for full details on each of the break out conversations

Criteria

Fifty-nine examples of criteria were put forward by participants to help guide CBT in developing a future direction for the Communities Adapting to Climate Change Initiative.

These criteria are summarized into nine major categories

1. Increases awareness and knowledge of climate change widely throughout the Basin
2. Focuses on change, specifically action and implementation on the ground
3. Addresses adaptation in the context of resiliency, sustainability and other CBT initiatives such as Carbon Neutral Kootenays
4. Fosters mainstreaming and a culture of adapting to climate change
5. Builds regional capacity
6. Innovative and flexible
7. Efficient with resources
8. Addresses long-term (three-five years)
9. Replicable and measurable



In addition, some criteria referred to what CBT should do to improve future work, including:

- Build on lessons/experiences of the past five communities as well as those from elsewhere.
- Ensure sustainability, availability and reliability of volunteers
- Engage and collaborate with traditional and non-traditional networks
- Promote applicable tools

The criteria builds on the elements discussed during the open space sessions.

See Appendix 3 for full criteria list.

Closing and next steps

“Floating Canoes, small stones, many fish” – one participant’s closing 6 words



Many Think Tank participants commented that they felt that the meeting was well organized, fun and thoughtful. Most importantly, participants felt they had the opportunity to express how they felt about the future of CACCI.

The Advisory Committee will meet via teleconference on September 22, 2010 to

discuss the future direction of CACCI and next steps based on the information from the Think Tank. A future concept will then be developed and put forth to CBT’s board of directors for approval.

**See Appendix 4 for a full list of closing comments.*

Appendices

Appendix 1

Participants List

Andrew Earnshaw	Meeting Facilitator
Bryan Teasdale	Operations Manager, Columbia Pollution Control Centre, Regional District Kootenay Boundary
Corien Speaker	Advisory Committee, CAO, District of Elkford
Cindy Pearce	Technical Support Team, Mountain Labyrinths Resource Management Inc
Dale Littlejohn	Technical Support Team, Community Energy Association
David Lapp	Technical Support Team, Engineers Canada



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David Mills	Acting Corporate Service Manager, Village of Slocan
Dave Wahn	Senior Planner, City of Nelson
Deborah Harford	Advisory Committee, Simon Fraser University, Adaptation to Climate Change Team
Francis Zwiers	President and CEO, Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium
George Penfold	Advisory Committee, Selkirk College
Greg Lay	Mayor, Village of Kaslo
Greg Utzig - FFESC	Future Forest Ecosystems Scientific Council of B.C.
Hanne Smith	Councillor, City of Rossland
Hans Schreier	Technical Support Team, University of B.C.
Heather Mitchell	Columbia Basin Trust
Ingrid Liepa	Technical Support Team, Project Coordinator, City of Kimberley
Jenny Fraser	Advisory Committee, Regional Adaptation Collaborative
Jennifer Ellis	Project Coordinator, City of Rossland
Ken Wildeman	Councillor, District of Elkford
Kerri Klein	Climate Action Coordinator, B.C. Healthy Communities
Kim Charlesworth	Councillor, City of Nelson
Kindy Gosal	Columbia Basin Trust
Kristin Aasen	Project Coordinator, City of Castlegar
Laurie Cordell	Technical Support Team, Smart Planning for Communities, Fraser Basin Council
Lila Cresswell	CAO, Village of Fruitvale
Lynne Betts	Columbia Basin Trust
Martin Carver	Technical Support Team, Aqua Environmental Associates

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Megan Lohmann	Technical Support Team, Consultant
Mel Reasoner	Technical Support Team, Climate Scientist
Meredith Hamstead	Advisory Committee, Thinkbright Environmental Innovations
Michelle Laurie	Coordinator, Communities Adapting to Climate Change Initiative
Mike Maturro	Manager of Planning Services, City of Rossland
Pat Wildeman	Steering Committee Member, District of Elkford
Ramona Faust	Director Area E, Regional District Central Kootenay
Rachael Roussin	Assistant, Communities Adapting to Climate Change Initiative
Stewart Cohen	Technical Support Team, University of British Columbia & Environment Canada
Sarah Webb	Advisory Committee, Climate Action Coordinator, Capitol Regional District
Shana Paivarinta	CAO, Village of Slocan
Shannon Marshall	Planning Technician, City of Castlegar
Tim Sander	Project Coordinator, Kaslo/RDCK Area D
Trevor Murdock	Technical Support Team, Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium
Troy Pollock	Manager of Planning Services, City of Kimberley

Appendix 2

Open space sessions

OS Session Challenges / Barriers / Enablers/ Mainstreaming

What can CBT do?

Key Points

- Implementation: CBT provide support and funding over longer time to support implementation. Longer support will allow councils to adjust budgets to respond to the needs.

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- Community planning documents: CBT could support review of operating bylaws / policies and emergency preparedness plans and provide templates for revising to suit adaptation.
- Public engagement: CBT should help with public engagement to help build broader based community input/engagement and also to help support local government's decisions.
- Enabler: CBT to support Web based communication tools and professional development

Barrier: Time frame too short

CBT **provide support over longer time** to support implementation. Longer support will allow councils to adjust budgets to respond to the needs.

Barrier: Local govt. legislation / policies/ emergency preparedness

- CBT could support **review of operating bylaws / policies** and provide templates for revising to suit adaptation.
- Is there a model bylaw(s) that will achieve adaptation goals and objectives? Can CBT help identify those bylaws and share with Basin communities?
- Invite emergency preparedness reps to present their plans (fire, flood, avalanche). How do they plan for extreme events now / how do they communicate and have they considered extreme CC events?
- Host an emergency preparedness workshop with an adaptation lens.
- How prepared are you for an extreme CC-related event?
- CALP visualization is good illustration of what could happen to fire in Kimberley

Barrier: lack of mainstreaming / champions

- If next step is to get community on board (example with solar water heaters) then we need to keep engagement and an incentive plan going to help build broader based community input/engagement. Use extension tools that support adaptation.

Barrier: Staff recommendations need more time and analysis

- Staff recommendations looking at social, economic, environment and climate change

Barrier: Awareness of CC adaptation planning / Community Understanding

- CBT and the CACCI would help residents understand why council is looking at x, y and z.
- Implement school-based program that builds awareness among youth

Enabler: Provincial government

- It's time to start asking province for support. Integrate provincial government into strategic plan for CACCI

Enabler: Web-based communications

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- Provide support for development of web-based communications tools
- Visualization is an example of an enabling tool. Can we use it appropriately?

Enabler: Link to professional development

- Support development adaptation among relevant professionals of urban planners, water and forest managers, financial managers & CAOs at local governments.

Enabler: Build Partnerships

- Establish partnerships with various groups that may be able to provide some support (possibly for free).

Enablers: Access to Small Grants

- Does CBT have funding envelope that would support adaptation implementation? If not, open an envelope.

Enabler: Municipal Leadership

- Walk the talk – don't idle, get a water metre installed, etc. Get corporate people (staff) walking the walk. CBT could provide an incentive to get staff / councilors to walk the walk

Contributors : Cindy Pearce, Jennifer Ellis, Trevor Murdock, Martin Carver, Francis, Troy Pollock, Hanne Smith, David Whan, Ken Wildeman, Mel Reasoner, David Mills, Stewart Cohen, Mike Maturo, Deborah Harford.

OS Session

Broad Based Training and Outreach

Key recommendations to CBT:

- CBT could support local government through **outreach** to ensure ongoing buy-in
 - Make adaptation process more fun, engaging/outside of the box
 - Could be other NGOs, stakeholders, etc
 - Need more driving by community members, not only local government
 - Local steering committee are more accessible entry point to broader community
- Mainstream the process
- Have a CBT rep to integrate adaptation process in schools
- Develop curriculum on climate change on various levels for various audiences, across Basin. Include focused education pieces.

Existing information

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- Stewart Cohen provides CC101 (to a diverse audience in a University setting, and government staff who may be responsible for implementing policies around climate change including:
 - climate science, history, and media
 - Impacts, adaptation (pathology, visioning, different approaches)
 - Mitigation challenge
 - Integration
- Climate Action Boot camps → BC healthy communities and CEA partnership delivered to local governments (and key stakeholders in community)-cost associated
 - How to engage/mobilize communities in a way that encourages behaviour change-provides support for communities to move ahead (more focused around mitigation)
 - Uses both formal and informal data/information
 - Includes *behaviour change* (which has been missed in the academic approach) → need to relay the scientific information in a user-friendly way (bridging the gap between science and behaviour change)
 - Building capacity to understand how we can respond to climate change-empowering “students”
- Call in Webinar that has consecutive topics with intention (BCHC)

Discussion points: Are there other models that may be effective?

- “Train the Trainer” approach
- Beyond the 101 level? → need to refine/expand the process and build capacity around CC 201, 301, etc i.e. experiential curriculum development
- Could CBT create a mechanism to develop the “curriculum”?
- CBT could help determine what the learning priorities are in the Basin and adapt the curriculum according to the community specific situation
- A pilot project to determine whether a course is a viable option (concern around the lack of expertise to teach a course such as this)
- Who would the clients be for an approach such as this?
- How could broad based training support the *implementation* of the adaptation plans in addition to the 101?
- Can there be different learning components that make up the high levels of training beyond 101 (i.e. expert on water to target a theme areas, engineer train on engineering themes, forest ecosystems, carbon sequestration → need to ensure these approaches are communicated amongst the various themes)

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Contributors: N/A

OS Session

Building Resiliency in Communities – more than adaptation, i.e. look at rising energy costs

From one participant: “Dealing with adaptation only is like dealing with medical symptoms with only a painkiller. Need to deal with what is causing the problem in the first place, i.e. resiliency.”

A few views were presented such as:

- Adaptation was good place to start. Time to go beyond to Basin resiliency.
- Depends on the focus of the community.

Below highlights the strengths of the idea, challenges of the idea and the potential role of CBT.

Strengths

- Broader look at reaching resiliency
 - Forces people to think about interconnectedness of actions
 - Reducing energy-use aids integrated thinking such as mitigation and adaptation policies
 - Helps us get to where we need to go together
- Focusing on energy is an easier conversation with public and others
 - People think economically rather than about climate change.
 - Has impact on cost of food, energy and climate change (i.e. the fuel behind it).
- Energy is valuable to companies. Need to make the connection between water and energy as often using energy for our water.
 - Examples provided: WBCSD – connection between water and energy; Peter Dyke from California also did a study.
 - Energy issue associated with water – i.e. more demand for water and hydro power and less water available with climate change.
- Could connect with carbon neutral kootenays
 - Knowledge sharing and workshops, training, linking with local governments (note: doesn't include community energy planning or alternative energy)

Challenges

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- Careful about language – not energy dissent, rather about pricing.
- How to ensure focus on adaptation still moves forward?
- What does a low carbon economy in BC look like?
- Some renewable energy sources – run of river – may be threatened by climate change
- Underlying climate change is our world view – this is much deeper
- Mitigation is harder to influence, adaptation can be addressed at the local level. We are on cutting edge here so difficult.
- Conversation will get focused on energy and water. Will lose tourism, economy, etc.
- Rising energy costs relates to costs of production
- Questions regarding changing dynamic with hydro
- Adaptation strategy to energy could be mass transit which requires working through monolithic authority, i.e. 3x people coming into Nelson from the rural area

Suggested role of CBT

- Help thinking on linkages, communications mechanisms, set up meetings/cross-pollinate/fertilize.
- Opportunity to do cost/benefit of rail vs truck for day to day goods? Role of government or CBT?
- Be out front educating on connections, lifestyles, behaviour change...CBT is awareness piece.
- Could CBT play role in identifying mass transit as issue in the CC adaptation program? Review other transit models and what would it take to get this into municipalities? Demonstration pilot project in Rossland-Nelson corridor? Need this to meet climate change objectives but out of control of Regional Districts.
- Transit fair and longer term project.
- Fact sheets, i.e. food fact sheet with price of food + carbon and energy costs.

Contributors: Kim, Shannon, Mike M, Kristin, Hans, Ramona F, Dale, Hanna S., David Mills, Deb H., Martin.

OS session Climate Science

Key questions put forth to the group:

- What is on the wish list?
- What would be beneficial to move forward?

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- Kaslo did stream flow modeling into the future. Do we want this replicated?

Key points

- Climate models for the future will be more predictable
- Focus on the extremes and the increased variability (not averages)

Climate and weather monitoring

- Glacier monitoring
- CBT should support Basin wide initiative for weather stations and weather monitoring

Communicating the science

- More communication and education with the public regarding climate change.
- Workshops on how to communicate the science. Train the trainer. Traveling CBT museum on what has taken place with climate change adaptation.
- Local governments need climate information that will hit home with public (personal)

Generalizing climate modeling

- Generalizing climate data and climate modeling for wider areas/regions (Avoid downscaling for every community. Do it on a more general basis).
- CBT is dealing with two types of climate data: current climate and future climate (downscaling)

Wish list:

- Lake temperature increases and when do bacteria's grow – relation to public health
- Future snow lines, food crops, water, human health, flora & fauna, resource management
- Low flow projections on different scales
- Vulnerability assessments
- Basin wide risk maps

Additional notes

- **Climate science is not static.** The future of climate modeling may be more accurate. There will be more certainty in the future as global climate models and the scientific community change.
- **Outreach and education:** More community education on climate science is needed to support local government.
- **A change in language:** different language may make climate change easier to talk about with people: 'changing climate' & 'changing weather patterns'
- **Weather stations:** CBT should support weather monitoring and measuring in the Basin as a Basin wide initiative. For example help and support communities to get environment Canada weather stations and other types of weather monitoring systems. Communities need credible weather data.
- **The principle focus of climate change in the Basin:** 'increased variability' is the key. The averages mean nothing. Focus on the extremes.

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- **Glacier monitoring:** Glaciers are not being monitored. If we start monitoring glaciers now, this information will be valuable in 20 years.
- **The climate change message:** CBT needs to also focus on mitigation in its climate change message. People need to know what is causing climate change. We need to accurately repeat what the scientists are saying.
- **Community input on climate change:** CBT needs to continue asking communities what they are seeing as this has been the most effective way of starting the dialogue. CBT is dead if they start walking into communities and telling them that they are causing climate change.
- **Generalizing and important theme areas:** Could modeling be generalized? We want to make the most out of what we are getting. Avoid downscaling for every community. Do it on a more general basis.
- **Two topics:** Current climate Vs. downscaling (future)
- **Climate information that local governments need to communicate with public:**
 - Amazing the information that does exist. Bringing together what does exist. Government needs good science that they can talk about with the community. Kootenay lake basin: how much do we think the temperature of Kootenay Lake will go up. When do bacteria grow? How will this affect communities/health in the next 5 years.
 - They need personally applicable science

Contributors: Ken Wildeman, Hans Schreier, Francis Zwiers, Megan Lohmann, Martin Carver, Trevor Murdock, Ramona Faust, Ingrid Liepa

Governance Models

- Adaptation will boil down to governance and whether we can implement our strategies within the current governance structure barriers
- CBT should facilitate a discussion on governance models and if the model can achieve the objectives of the community

Challenges

- Current CBT funding is too “project oriented” doesn’t lend to getting funding on integrated approaches
- Local governments don’t have jurisdiction over areas that effect their community (i.e. watershed)
- Municipality can achieve their goals, but can be hindered by processes that are beyond their control
 - Identify the gaps-needs strategies to address these

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- Political barriers (RD boards,) small municipalities don't have capacity (there is still a disconnect between local governments working on the same issues)
- Adaptation is not a legislative responsibility, therefore less likely to have as much momentum as Climate Action Charter
- Need more connectivity between RDs and municipalities → looking regionally as opposed to making key decisions/policy regulations in isolation

OS Session

Suggested role of CBT looking forward

- Implementation support
 - CBT to look at the adaptation strategies, what is required, responsibility of different players, lay out in a neutral fashion to achieve adaptation goals and ensure success.
- CBT to look at strengths and weaknesses in municipal bylaws (on a regional basis) and how to best develop/revise these (template for change)
 - Municipalities looking to CBT to support this (due to budget constraints, humans resource issues)
- What are the gaps in intergovernmental relations and regulatory elements that are preventing us from moving forward around adaptation? Who needs to be engaged?
 - Identify these gaps/deficiencies in the current government structure (integrating governing bodies and regulatory elements (not just in the context of CACC))
 - Need to understand who has regulatory responsibility in each area (recreation, energy, biodiversity, etc)
 - Research: CBT could do a study at the Basin level on how intergovernmental relations/regulations are a barrier? Investigate potential governance models/structures to support the prioritization of issues and a more effective/efficient process
- Look at in sequential order:
 - *Existing adaptation goals/actions*
 - *Key decision/policy areas for the actions*
 - *Decision making authority/responsibility*
 - *Current gaps/improving opportunities*
 - *Strategies and options for improved governance*

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- Existing projects are taking a collaborative approach, but needs to be expanded to build capacity and share learnings (and expand this to the implementation phase)
 - Need more information sharing on what each community is working on to begin the communication
- CBT should focus funding where there is cooperation between communities, regional approaches

Contributors – Mike Maturo, Greg Lay, Deborah Harford, Hanna Smith, Dave Wahn, Dale Littlejohn, Bryan Teasdale.

OS Session

How can we make the process simpler?

Key questions:

- Can we make it more flexible?
- Is current process sustainable?

Key discussion points

- Capacity building is important for community coordinators, stakeholders and people on City Staff as well as experts, foresters, practitioners
- Coordinators need more 'orientation' support for messy process
- More time is needed for project time line for things such as public engagement and implementation (CACCI should be a program of 3-5 years)
- CBT should support implementation
- Look at different models (such as those mentioned in the discussion paper) such as a regional plan and focusing on specific themes

Summary of Discussion Points

Process is messy and activities around the coordinator will be messy. Accept that it will be messy.

- Accept that there are common elements and recognize unique needs of community.
- Process is complicated because of need to engage, change in a community. Simplify by learning from other experiences.
- Learning processes are messy and you can't assume what worked in X will work in Y. The journey in the process is important.
- Need an adaptive process. It's getting simpler.

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- Coordinators need more orientation to deal with messy process, more support, coaching, mentoring. Train the trainer approach.
- CBT could provide resources to support capacity building.

Time line & community engagement

- Community engagement is ongoing – so timeline for CACCI should be two –to-three plus years (City of Nelson is looking at 30 years).
- Longer time will help people think in new ways.
- Time line for the CACCCI (call it a program) should be 3 to 5 years. Projects flowing from the CACCI will have a longer implementation timeline.

Funding and Implementation

- Funding available after the CACCI to ensure **implementation** occurs. Phase 1 communities hitting implementation “wall.”
- Expectation exists that there will be support for implementation so is model sustainable? CBT walked away from Kim & Elk.
- Is CBT willing to support implementation? (what grant opportunities exist, action planning etc.)

Community Resources / Capacity Building

- Need to build adaptation capacity among foresters, engineers, financial managers etc.

Regional ‘adaptation’ coordinator

- Working at regional scale will help focus CBT input. Maybe create sustainability manager at a regional level that could support municipalities OR the sustainability coordinator could be staffed by CBT (have several to serve the Basin).

Create pilots on specific themes.

- Focus on one (or 2) themes. Do a vulnerability assessment and pick a theme – water, food security, etc. – and work on that single theme / focus. This will make it simpler.

Planning vs. Implementation

- 3 to 5 years / some will be planning some will be implementing. Give PCIC and TS committee longer horizon / make commitment. Ensure PCIC / TS knows what communities are where and what their needs will be when. Prepare strategic plan for 3 – 5 yr. plan. Action plan can have a shorter timeline. Transfer some responsibility to all staff not a coordinator.

Contributors: Cindy Pearce, Jennifer Ellis, Trevor M., Megan Lohmann, Meredith Hamstead, Lila Cresswell, David L, Dave Wahn (City of Nelson), Martin Carver, Pat Wildeman, Corien Speaker, George Penfold, Laurie Cordell.

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OS Session

Integrating with Municipal Sustainability Planning

“Municipalities need a framework to hold all the development silos and coordinate them in the same direction.”

Recommendations for CBT:

1. Provide resiliency training to local governments to build capacity within
 2. Develop a process that enables local governments to modify existing plans to incorporate an adaptation focus
- Fields
 1. Housing
 2. Climate change
 3. Tourism
 4. Etc
 - Needs clear direction and leadership from Council / CAO / Leadership
 1. part of job
 2. sustainability matrix
 3. education
 4. understanding
 5. include climate change in decision framework
 - work is impacted heavily by personal interest “champions”
 1. H.R. processes – interview new applicants for sustainability practices
 - impact assessments
 - need balance of carrot and stick approaches to integrating into organizations

Contributors: N/A, convened by Corien Speaker

OS Session

Mainstreaming into community, everything we do, how we operate.

“How we keep conversation going is key.”

Key recommendations for CBT:

- Provide reliable, credible information
- Offer

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- Practitioner based education and capacity building through professional organizations and networks
- Citizen education through NGOs/ENGOS, Chambers, Colleges/Universities
- Timeline for delivery should be on-going basis

Challenges

- During process, not 100% off community bought-in, only focus group.
- Are we asking people to plan for forests including climate change or are we asking people to focus on climatechange?
- Not addressing behaviour– requires different processes and that is a key move forward. We only work on management processes at present.
- Most consultants and hired technical experts won't be current with climate change projections and how to include in their work, capacity issue.
- Implementing broadscale/cross-cutting change takes longer than 6 months
- Structure needed for continuing, checking, and communication. Finishing plan is not finishing the work to be done.
- Mitigation/climate change causes never addressed early on (avoided)

Needs:

- Communications and engagement strategy during and after planning to support implementation
- Way to ensure questions asked during planning process continue and recognized through ongoing decision making and day to day operations.
- Value the unique but find common areas, focus on similarities
- Initiative with peers, peer to peer learning.
- During process need more effort on mainstreaming with all staff and beyond
 - More than councillors and senior staff in the mainstreaming process.
- Mix of delivery agents and messengers

Suggested role of CBT

- Helping conversation continue in broader community/Basin as well as in local government to make it more acceptable to mainstream.
- Using media to mainstream the message
 - 4 times per year deliver information
 - CBT provides reliable, credible information
- Schools system and education
- NGO (including chambers) relationships for planning and implementation, ongoing process, community and organizational support after the plan.

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- Help support professionals – i.e. all practitioners, planners, engineers, etc.
 - Reach out to organizations, professional groups and ask to present to them
 - Also connect to NGOs, ENGOs – help them understand climate change adaptation and food security.
 - Peer to peer capacity building focused on actions.
- Outreach/engagement on science, etc – need for this, but does it necessarily need to be CBT? Contributors felt CBT has most credibility
- Institutional partnerships, train the trainer, i.e. Selkirk, College of the Rockies.
- Mixture of delivery agents, different messengers

Contributors: Troy, Corien, Jenny, Kerri, Sarah, Cindy, Meredith, Dave M, Lila, Pat, Stewart, Shannon, Kindy

OS Session Sustainability

- Social, environment, economic, cultural, health
- Sustainability lens comes with principles

What aspects of sustainability are a good fit for adaptation in the Basin and why?

- Water
- Fire
- Risk
- Integrated watershed management. Philosophy at watershed scale is coherent with adaptation.
 - o Pandora's box. Difficult for communities to start here.
 - o Suggestion to recognize what is there and communities do a part of it.

What existing sustainability initiatives are a good fit for CACCI?

- Economic development is taking place – but are they including adaptation?
 - o Challenge – ED job is to drum up business for Chamber of Commerce
 - o Positive – going regional
 - o Resort communities could benefit from climate change adaptation
- Look at current community topics, i.e. affordability, housing, food and the climate change risk and opportunities – make it relevant.
- Water conservation – inevitably related to adaptation and/or resilience. Opportunity for coordinators to deliver joint info and get communities to aha moments.
- Underutilizing the Columbia Basin watershed network
- Interface fire/risk management is a good place to share resources
- Examples of what has worked – Transition Towns (doesn't rely on local government) (i.e. Nelson), local scale. Challenge – movement that has no money. Is there something to learn from the model?

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- AB/BC mountain town planners network – peer to peer opportunity.
- Necessary to work together, i.e. Water Smart Initiative and Fire, State of the Basin, etc – make resources go further.

Potential role of CBT and partners

- Pilot project on climate change adaptation as relates to winter resort community
 - Potential partner: WED
- Expand the vision of water beyond the municipality
- Link to State of the Basin
 - How to plan for climate change and increase quality of life?
Question to pose to community (communication/messaging)
 - Measurement on climate change adaptation for State of the Basin, helps to inform SoB and mainstream climate change more regionally

Contributors: Jenny F, Lila C, Kerri K, Sarah Webb, Meredith H, George P

OS Session

What do we value in current CACCI and recommendations on how to improve the current structure?

“Mainstreaming the conversation should be separate from an adaptation project.”

Key Recommendations: What CBT do to improve the CACCI

1. Flexible and unique for each community: Provide appropriate funding / timelines – flexible start dates / community –specific timelines/ don't impose one process / timeline & budget on all communities.
2. Provide coaching for local coordinators.
3. Make this a program with longer-term timeline (five year etc.)
4. CBT could host more events. Local communities can't always “host” (no budget, optics etc). Example, CBT could host Climate Change 101 sessions instead of the local community. CBT could help engage with people who are not engaged on the CC issue.

Summary of Recommendations (these are the foundation for the key recommendations above to CBT)

Public engagement

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- Need integration of planning and engagement supported by adequate resources and timelines.
- Consider building in public meetings etc at the outset that address comments about dual tasks of engaging and planning.
- Provide a menu of options and ideas for events and info to address comments that local coordinators may not know what events / info they should organize / disseminate
- Burden of engaging and planning at the same time is hard but it's hard to separate the two (engage and plan). Need public support to get budget.
- Put effort into transferring awareness about local impacts. Etc. into the community. Mainstreaming the conversation should be separate from an adaptation project.

Partnerships

- Create partnerships to create opportunities for funding, research etc.

Flexibility

- Provide variable funding levels that will allow communities to design and respond to the own needs (i.e. Rossland put a lot of CBT \$ into research and had little \$ left for engagement).
- Extend time line to reflect unique community needs. Some communities may want longer time, others may find current time sufficient. One time line will not suit all communities. This needs to be a five-year program. Not a year-by-year decision.

Integration

- Integrate community planning framework that integrates emergency preparedness, wildfire, infrastructure / engineering and consider local impacts of climate change.

Community engagement with TST/AC

- Change how TS members are involved. Use SKYPE / webinars etc. instead of flights. This will give more time for TS members to support communities because they aren't on a plane.
- Provide opportunities for communities to learn the capacity of individual TS committee members (how can each committee member help / subject area expertise). Have a webinar at each step to understand how TS committee members can help. Provide the right information at the right time for the communities. (some webinars may have occurred sooner than some communities were ready).
- CBT could provide a "coach" for the community coordinator. Former coordinators may be good coaches for new communities.

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Contributors: George Penfold, Laurie Cordell, Kristin A., Jennifer Ellis, Deborah Harford joined at the end

Appendix 3

Criteria as listed on the post-its during the Think Tank

1. Increases knowledge and awareness of climate change in basin communities
2. Initiative puts adaptation into broader decision and planning context(s) – synergy with other CBT priorities
3. Initiative builds on 'lessons learned', eg more emphasis on public outreach related to implementation
4. Basin wide engagement
5. Respectful of volunteer inputs
6. Meets the needs of the community
7. On the ground change/implementation
8. Creates local culture of adapting to climate change
9. Promote clear decision making tools for communities to use
10. Taps into networks (usual suspects, unusual suspects)
11. Fear of challenge, messiness, or failure should not impede pursuit of an interesting option
12. It supports and empowers innovation and strengthened relationships
13. Does it lead to behaviour change?
14. Persuasive to sectors not involved – developers, economists, be prepared to adjust messaging
15. Initiative finds ways to use resources more efficiency “do more with less” (or with the same)
16. Start to build linkages between adaptation and mitigation/other sustainability
17. “model” approach that is scalable
18. Replicability and leverageability
19. An outside, unprejudiced, expert opinion
20. Is it flexible?
21. Be flexible to communities needs
22. Program flexibility to address diverse communities/interests/capacities
23. Sustainable and measurable over a 3-5 yr period
24. Expand knowledge of model actions and policies elsewhere
25. Increased “culture” of collaboration
26. Does it lead to action?
27. Demonstrates a community need for adaptation planning
28. The CACCI effectively supports/builds LG staff capacity to “do”/include CC adaptation everyday.
29. Does it build “wider/broader” capacity in communities (beyond local govt).
30. Communication – helping communities (local governments) with communication to their communities
31. Ongoing resiliency training

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32. Does it contribute to a strong commitment to sustainability (however this is defined by CBT)
33. Capacity building to support long term sustainability
34. Build capacity for existing structures/plans to incorporate resiliency
35. Does the proposal ensure that this project, i.e. CACCI, is sustainable for the next 3-5 years. This includes all of the expertise currently available and more!
36. Support long term processes – implementation of climate change initiatives
37. Create change in community and with local government
38. Supports communities to develop a plan but also supports the implementation of the plan (i.e. support is ongoing to action stage) and includes supporting implementation of those communities with existing plans
39. Reliable and predictable support to community
40. Results in increased regional capacity to deliver long term “sustainability change”
41. Does it provide more streamlined local support for communities? i.e. is there a technical advisor dedicated to supporting communities by region (i.e. like a climate coordinator...etc...one stop shop for support).
42. Yields persistent, long-lasting community resilience
43. Does it contribute to community resiliency?
44. Sustainable with respect to partners capacity
45. Supports implementation of adaptation action – from adaptation plans or otherwise identified as priorities (i.e. via OCPs, emerg prep, etc).
46. Begin to support implementation
47. Leads to implementable actions/change
48. If CBT doesn't keep climate change at the forefront who will?
49. Link CNK and CACCI
50. Develops framework/matrix for charting progress and creating platform data
51. Distinguishes limitations based on governance structure complexities.
52. Proposes solutions
53. Plan further ahead
54. It meets the broadest needs of all of the Basin communities moving forward (3-5 years)
55. Is supported by a longer term commitment by CBT (i.e. 5 yr)
56. Long term program commitment (5 year)
57. Maximizes sharing and implementation of learning from Phase 1 and 2
58. Retrospective summary of the 5 adaptation community project successes and boulders, how to improve the process
59. Knowledge database

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Appendix 4

6 final words from participants

1. Ongoing learning and thanks
2. we will be ready
3. honored, inspired
4. inspired and optimistic for future initiative
5. integrating ...looking forward to more involvement
6. Grateful. Inspired. Humbled. Happy. Headache.
7. Collaboration b/w sectors. Culture of learning. Foster transformational leadership.
8. What a great and visionary community.
9. Now time to kick some ass.
10. I love living in the Kootenays
11. encouraged about potential help with implementation
12. Fertilized connected community. Graphic novel potential.
13. keep the faith and persevere
14. re-energized
15. Awed today. Curious about. Find outcome.
16. Encouraged. Inspired. Appreciative. Concerned. And drained.
17. Floating canoes, small stones, many fish.
18. Enlightened, reassured, optimistic, re-energized
19. climate change adaptation done here
20. ambitious, engaging, multi-faceted, incomplete, susceptible
21. Confident that future initiative will be broadly beneficial.
22. Ideas, renewed focus, not alone
23. Hopeful, expansive, momentum, reasoned, inclusive, more hot tub
24. Optimistic about future, satisfied by contribution
25. The wind is at your back ad the sky is the limit
26. Impacts, implementation, decision making
27. Make information, supporting decisions ad implementation (haiku)
28. Curious, excited, inspired, anxious, confused, energized (part of something collaborative)

Appendix 5

Deep thoughts from additional comment box in the meeting room

1. Invite more economist and developers to CACCI meetings
2. Celebrate the difficult questions that are raised as well as the actions and outcomes
3. I would have liked to seen the strategic discussion work oriented specifically to options abcd. The open space exercise is interesting and may bring resolution to

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- which option is supported by the group. I fully support option C providing it is adequately landed. Greg Lay.
4. Ensure ext phase of carbon neutral Kootenays uses future projections of climate for lifecycle analysis of energy consumption.
 5. I am deeply concerned about the assumption that grants will supply the necessary funding for initiatives. It is an important part of sustainability planning to build the financial capacity to implement plans. LG budgets are the ultimate expression of the actions and outcomes from planning – over.
 6. Please please please: diversify over opportunities to access the TST and to better understand how they can help us at the community/project level. Eg: coaches put in place at an early stage?
 7. Provide milestones to celebrate small achievements to encourage and motivate coordinators
 8. From the Sept 15 station rotations, the theme that generated the most discussion at the RAC table was the RAC goal to advance adaptation decision making, how to centre knowledge into action. Importance of focusing on that.

Appendix 6

Visual agenda for the Think Tank

