

An aerial photograph of a lush, green forested landscape. A dark, winding river flows through the center of the image, surrounded by dense evergreen trees. The river has several small, irregularly shaped islands and peninsulas. The surrounding forest is a mix of green and brown, suggesting some areas of regrowth or dead trees. The overall scene is a natural, undisturbed wilderness.

# Roots of Resilience:

## Forests and Water for a Sustainable Future



NECHAKO  
WATERSHED  
ROUNDTABLE



# THE NECHAKO WATERSHED

The Nechako Watershed is a roughly 47,200 km<sup>2</sup>, which is over 1.5 times the area of Vancouver Island (31,285 km<sup>2</sup>).

**Indigenous Communities:** Binche Whut'en, Cheslatta Carrier Nation, Lake Babine, Llhedli T'enneh, Nadleh Whuten, Nak'azdli, Nee-Tahi-Buhn, Saik'uz, Skin Tyee, Stellat'en, Takla, Tl'azr'en, Wet'suwet'en, Yekooche

**Municipalities:** Burns Lake, Fort St. James, Fraser Lake, Prince George, Vanderhoof

**Regional Districts:** Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako, Regional District of Fraser-Fort George





# AGENDA

## 9:00am **NWR UPDATES**

- Introduction & Lands Acknowledgement
- NWR Update
- Lakes Monitoring Update
- Youth Engagement Update
- IWRG/'Nechako Portal Update

## 9:45am **FORESTS & WATER FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE**

- NWR Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience (CCAAR)
- CCAAR Recommendations on Economic & Industrial Impacts
- Community Forest Expansions
- Provincial Forest Landscape Planning
- Breakout Groups & Plenary Discussion

## 11:05am Break

## 11:15am

- Regional Support for Resilient Agriculture
- Advancing Sustainable Communities Through Indigenous-Led Forest Initiatives
- BC First Nations Climate Strategy & Action Plan
- What We Heard - Meeting Recap
- Closing Remarks
- 12:30pm Adjourned



# Core Committee Members

## NWR Chair:

- **Gina Layte Liston**, Member-at-Large

## Core Committee Members:

- **Dominic Fredrick**, First Nations Member
- **Eduardo Martins**, University of Northern British Columbia
- **Jonathan Doyon**, Youth Representative
- **Kim Menounos**, Fraser Basin Council
- **Lara Beckett**, Regional District of Fort George
- **Ray Klingspohn**, Nulki-Tachick Lakes Stewardship Society
- **Shirley Moon**, Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
- **Tannis Reynolds**, First Nations Member
- **Martin Elphee**, District of Fort St. James

## Core Committee Cont.

- **Mike Robertson**, Cheslatta Carrier Nation
- **Wayne Salewski**, Nechako Environment and Water Stewardship Society

## Coordinators:

- **Tasha Peterson**, Lead, Fraser Basin Council
- **Scott Brown**, Youth Engagement, Fraser Basin Council

## Core Committee Working Group Leads:

- **Youth Engagement**, Johnathan Doyon
- **Lakes Monitoring**, Wayne Salewski
- **Nechako Portal**, Stephen Dery
- **Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience**, Kim Menounos



# WELCOME TO NEW CORE COMMITTEE MEMEBERS

*Dominic Fredrick  
First Nations Member*



*Tannis Reynolds  
First Nations Member*



*Dr. Eduardo Martins,  
UNBC  
(filling in for Dr. Stephen Dery)*





# Thank You to Our Sponsors and Partners

- Canada Water Agency/ Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Cheslatta Carrier Nation
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans
- District of Vanderhoof
- Drax Foundation
- Four Rivers Co-op
- Integris Credit Union
- Lheidli T'enneh First Nation
- Living Lakes Canada
- Ministry of Forests
- Nechako Environment & Water Stewardship Society
- Nak'azdli Whuten
- Real Estate Foundation of BC
- Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
- Regional District of Fraser Fort George
- Saik'uz First Nation
- School District 91
- School District 97
- Nechako White Sturgeon Recovery Initiative
- Nechako Valley Search and Rescue
- Northwest Invasive Plant Council
- Nulki-Tachik Stewardship Society
- Takla Nation
- TD Bank
- University of Northern British Columbia
- Upper Fraser Fisheries Conservation Alliance

*We are only as strong as we are united*

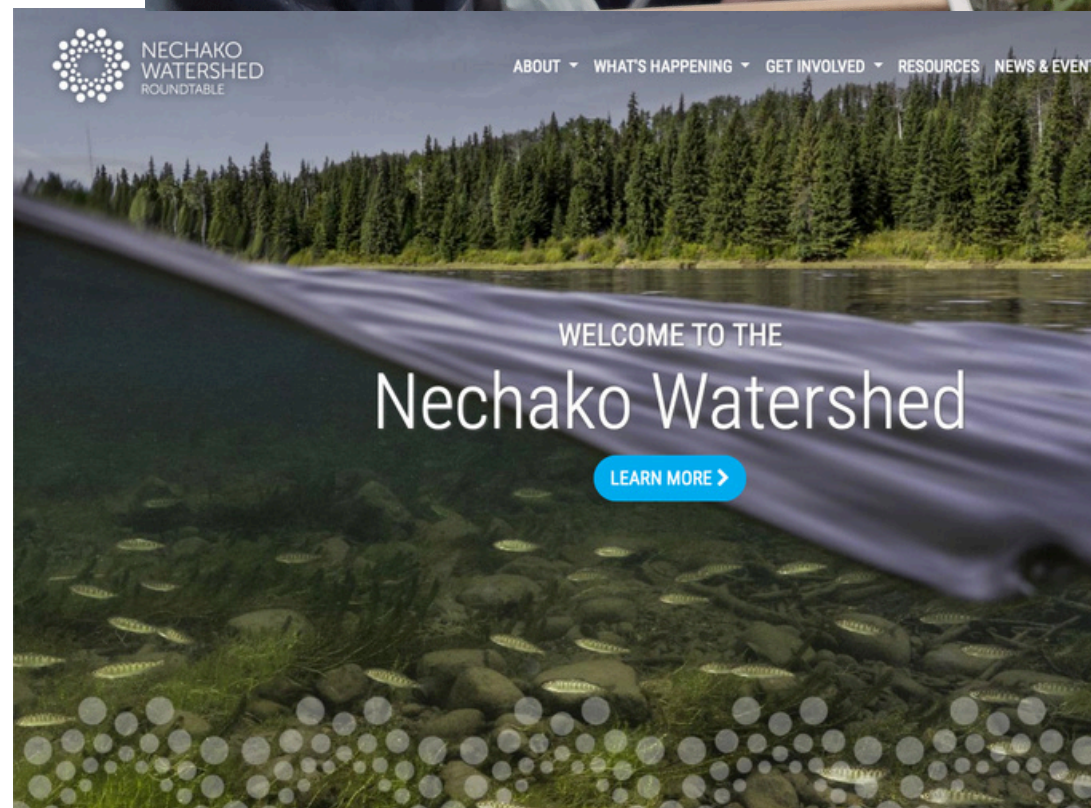


# NWR Celebrating 10 Years!

- Annual and Spring Technical Meetings & Events
- BC Rivers Day Event
- Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Workshop
- Large Lakes Monitoring Strategy
- Local and Provincial Advocacy
- Nechako Watershed Portal
- Partnership Development
- Stories of the Nechako Video Series
- Strategic Facilitation
- Strategic Plan Development 2022 - 2026
- Watershed Project Funding & Support
- Youth Engagement Activities
- Youth River Trips



NWR Launch October  
2015 at UNBC





# 2025 Spring Technical Meeting

- "Action in the Nechako: Progress and Potential Across the Watershed"
- Partnership with Nak'azdli Whut'en in Fort St. James
- 50 participants
- Nak'azdli Hatchery and Stuart Lake tours





# Lakes Monitoring Working Group

- Monthly Lakes Monitoring Working Group meetings
- Large Lakes Monitoring Strategy (LLMS) phased implementation as funding realized
- Monitoring strategy & equipment partnership with Takla Nation & Nakaz'dli Whut'en
- Lakes monitoring training opportunity and programing coming to the watershed in 2026/27 in partnership with Living Lakes Canada
- Watershed wide paleolimnology partnership in progress





# LMWG Paleolimnology Project & Partnership[

## Dan Selbie, DFO





# Youth Engagement Committee

**Siobhan Klassen, YEC Member**

- Youth Outreach (Spring 2025)
- Youth Engagement Committee (Summer 2025)
- BC Rivers Day event (Sept 28th)
- Next Steps (Winter/Spring 2026)





# Integrated Watershed Research Group & 'Nechako Portal'

## Stephen Dery, IWRG/UNBC





# Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience

**Kim Menounos, CCAAR Lead**

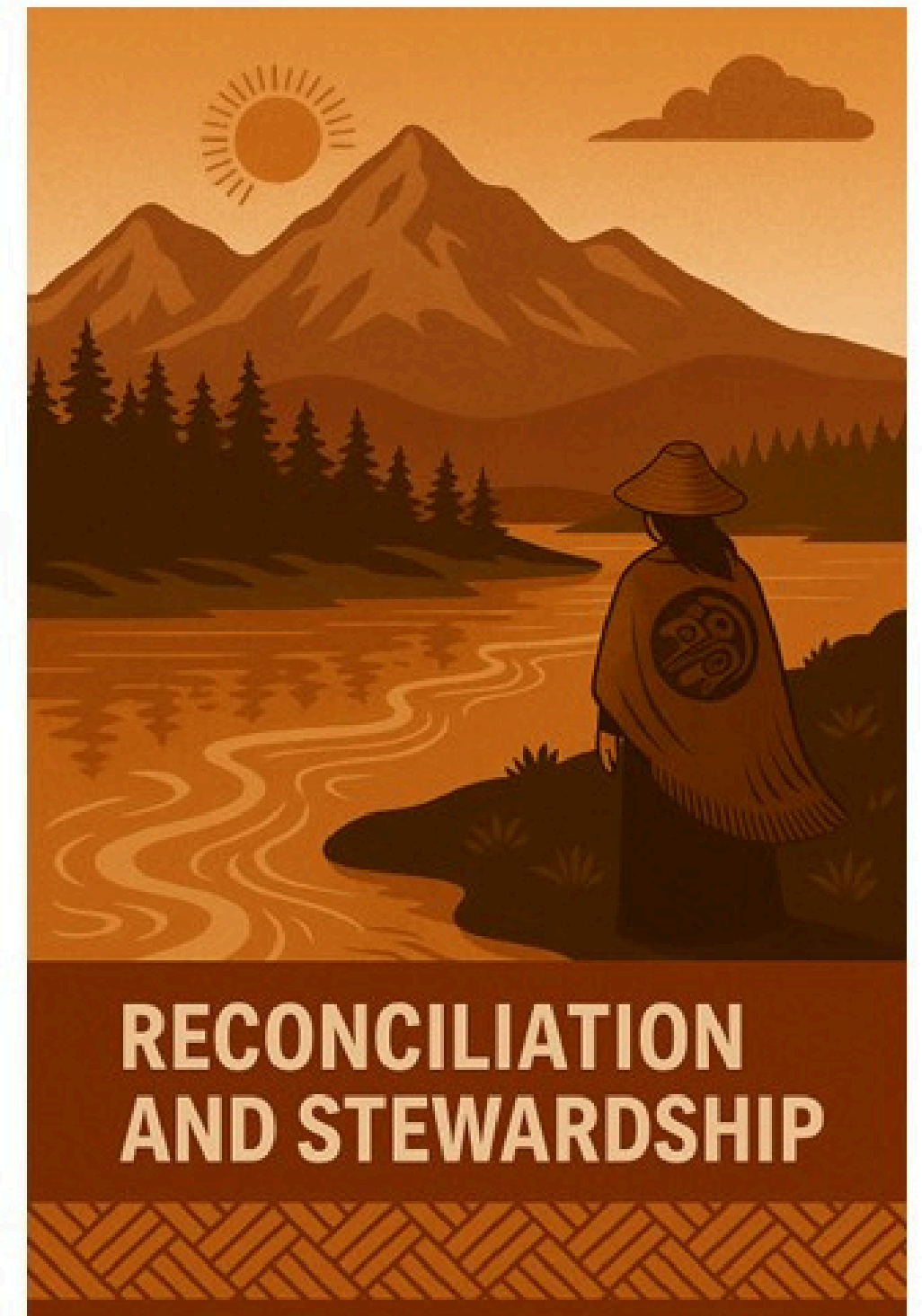
- First workshop, “The Water that Connects Us” held on November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in Prince George
- Leaders from local and provincial govt, First Nations, academia, health care, NGO’s and others
- Facilitator by Dan George of Four Directions Management Services (FDMS)
- Workshop summary and FDMS report now available on website
- Stay tuned 2026





# Walking Together for a Healthy Future — Stewardship Through Shared Leadership

- A Healthy Environment Means a Healthy Economy
- Shared Governance — Reconciliation in Practice
- Partnerships and Shared Knowledge
- Responding to Climate Change — Together
- Walking Forward Together





# **NWR Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience**

## **Kim Menounos, CCAAR Lead**





# **CCAAR Recommendations on Economic & Industrial Impacts**

**Dan George, Four Directions Management Inc.**





# **Community Forest Expansions**

## **Kevin Moutray, Mayor, District of Vanderhoof**





# **Provincial Forest Landscape Planning**

## **Chris David & Julie Castonguay, Ministry of Forests**





# Breakout Group Discussion Questions

1. What are your (or your community/organization's) forest management priorities?
2. What role should the NWR play in supporting forest management planning?



NECHAKO  
WATERSHED  
ROUNDTABLE



# **Regional Support for Resilient Agriculture**

## **Megan D'Arcy, Regional District Bulkley-Nechako**





# **Advancing Sustainable Communities Through Indigenous-Led Forest Initiatives**

**Jason Fisher, Forest Enhancement Society of BC**





# **BC First Nations Climate Action Strategy & Action Plan**

## **Tannis Reynolds, Stellat'en First Nation**





# What We Heard - Meeting Recap

## Dan George, Four Directions Management Inc.



**Photo: 2025 Spring Technical Meeting**