

NWR Spring Technical Meeting 2025

**Action in the Nechako: Progress and
Potential Across the Watershed**



**NECHAKO
WATERSHED
ROUNDTABLE**

AGENDA

TIME	TITLE	PRESENTER
8:15am	Doors Open	Pick up your name tag and help yourself to a beverage and light snack
8:30am	Welcome, Introductions and Land Acknowledgement	Gina Layte Liston, NWR Co-chair
8:40am	Nak’azdli Whut’en Welcome & Blessing	Seraphine Munroe, Director of Yinka Huwunline & Dak’elh Drummers
9:05am	Nechako Watershed Roundtable Update: 1. Progress & Potential 2. Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience Working Group 3. Lakes Monitoring Working Group 4. Youth Engagement Working Group 5. Nechako Portal Working Group	NWR Core Committee Members: Kim Menounos, Wayne Salewski & Jonathan Doyon
9:35am	Amplifying Integrated Watershed Research in the Nechako River Basin: A progress update from UNBC’s Integrated Watershed Resource Group	Stephen Dery & Lucas Macedo Moura, UNBC/IWRG
9:50am	Dakelh Legal Orders: A Storywork Approach to Revitalization	Maiyaz Julian, University of Victoria/ Yinka Huwunline
10:40am	Break	
10:55am	Takla Stewardship in the Sacred Headwaters of the Fraser-Skeena-Artic Watersheds	Keith West, Takla Nation
11:15am	SD91/FSJSS: Selective Fishing & Science Platform (SFSP)	Darren Carpenter, SD91
11:30am	Paleolimnology and Salmon Recovery in the Nechako Watershed	Chelton vanGeloven, Lheidli T’enneh

TIME	TITLE	PRESENTER
11:55am	Networking Lunch & Short Film “Water Worlds” featuring Nak’azdli by APTN Len Morisstee	
1:10pm	Foreshore Assessment on Francois Lake	Georgia Peck, Living Lakes Canada
1:30pm	Beaver Dam Analogues: Climate Change Adaptation	Wayne Salewski, Nechako Environment & Water Stewardship Society
1:50pm	Geomorphology of the Nechako River	Simon Gauthier-Fauteux, Northwest Hydraulic Consultants
2:10pm	Nechako Water Engagement Initiative Update	Jayson Kurtz, Ecofish Research Ltd.
2:30pm	Event Recap & Closing Remarks	Gina Layte Liston, NWR Co-chair
2:40pm	Adjourn	



Core Committee Members

NWR Co-chairs:

- **Gina Layte Liston**, Member-at-Large
- **Kim Menounos**, Fraser Basin Council

Coordinators:

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

Core Committee Members:

- **Jonathan Doyon**, Youth Representative
- **Lara Beckett**, Regional District of Fraser-Fort George
- **Martin Elphee**, District of Fort St. James
- **Mike Robertson**, Cheslatta Carrier Nation
- **Ray Klingspohn**, Nulki-Tachick Lakes Stewardship Society
- **Shirley Moon**, Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
- **Stephen Dery**, University of Northern British Columbia
- **Wayne Salewski**, Nechako Environment and Water Stewardship Society

Core Committee Working Group Leads:

- **Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience**, TBD
- **Lakes Monitoring**, Wayne Salewski
- **Nechako Portal**, Stephen Dery
- **Youth Engagement**, Jonathan Doyon

WELCOME TO NEW CORE COMMITTEE MEMEBERS

**Jonathan Doyon, Youth
Representative**

**Martin Elphee, Local Government
Representative**



THANK YOU TO BRIAN FRENKEL

Core Committee: 2015- 2024

Co-chair

**NWR Climate Change
Adaptation and Resilience
Steering Committee Chair**

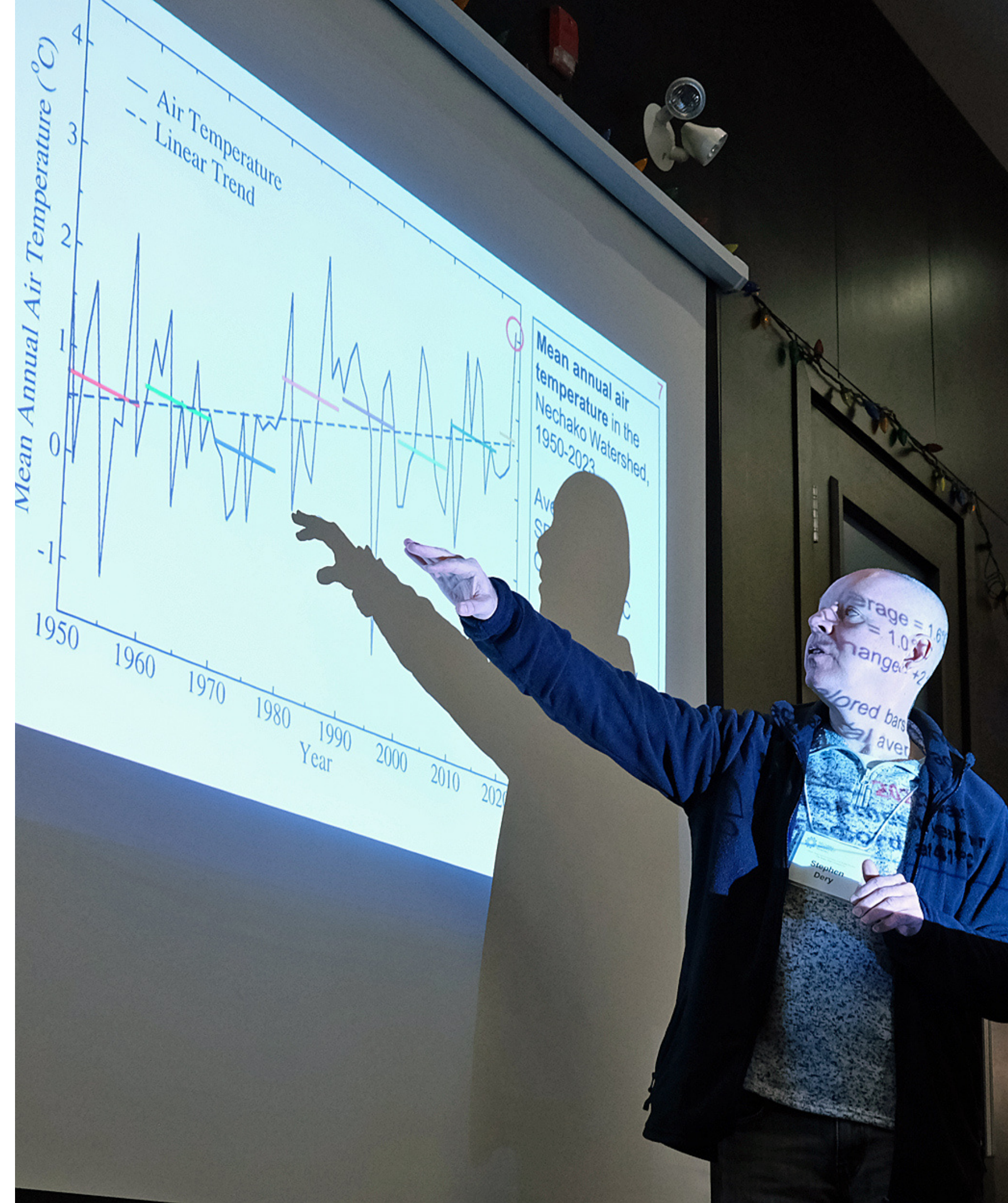


Thank you to our sponsors

- Environment and Climate Change Canada/
Canada Water Agency
- Ministry of Forests
- Cheslatta Carrier Nation
- University of Northern British Columbia
- Regional District of Fraser Fort George
- District of Vanderhoof

NWR Planning & Progress

- Updated NWR and Core Committee Terms of Reference
- Planning for the new NWR Strategic Plan to Begin in 2025
- Partnership Development, Outreach & Event Attendance
- NWR Online Annual Meeting - Fall 2025
- Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Workshop - November 2025
- Working Group Project Planning and Implementation
- NWR First Nations Liaison Position



NWR Proposed Resolutions

LOCAL WATERSHED GOVERNANCE ORGANIZATIONS

Whereas recent legislation supporting watershed governance, and the 2024 NDP-Green Party Accord recognize the importance of local knowledge around water management; and
Whereas well established multi-interest watershed health organizations are working throughout BC to restore watershed ecosystems from past excessive resource exploitation, and future proof them to adapt to climate impacts;
Therefore be it resolved that NCLGA and UBCM request the Government of British Columbia share a portion of natural resource royalty income to provide financial support to local watershed governance organizations.

BIODIVERSE CLIMATE RESILIENT ECOSYSTEMS

Whereas community based ecological knowledge, combined with scientific data and understanding is the best way to plan for climate adaptation; and
Whereas future forest and water management must protect and restore ecosystem services to ensure a resilient and biodiverse landscape;
Therefore, be it resolved that NCLGA and UBCM work with the Province of BC to establish and empower collaborative landscape level planning tables with the goal to restore biodiverse climate resilient ecosystems.

Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Working Group

TBD, Working Group Chair

- First workshop, “The Water that Connects Us” held on November 29th, 2024 in Prince George
- 60 participants from local and provincial govt, First Nations, academia, health care, NGO’s and others
- Facilitation by Dan George of Four Directions Management Services
- Variety of speakers covering environmental, social, health and economic forecasts
- Facilitated dialogue clarified regional priorities
- Workshop summary available on website
- Report with next steps to release in 2025
- Second workshop November 2025

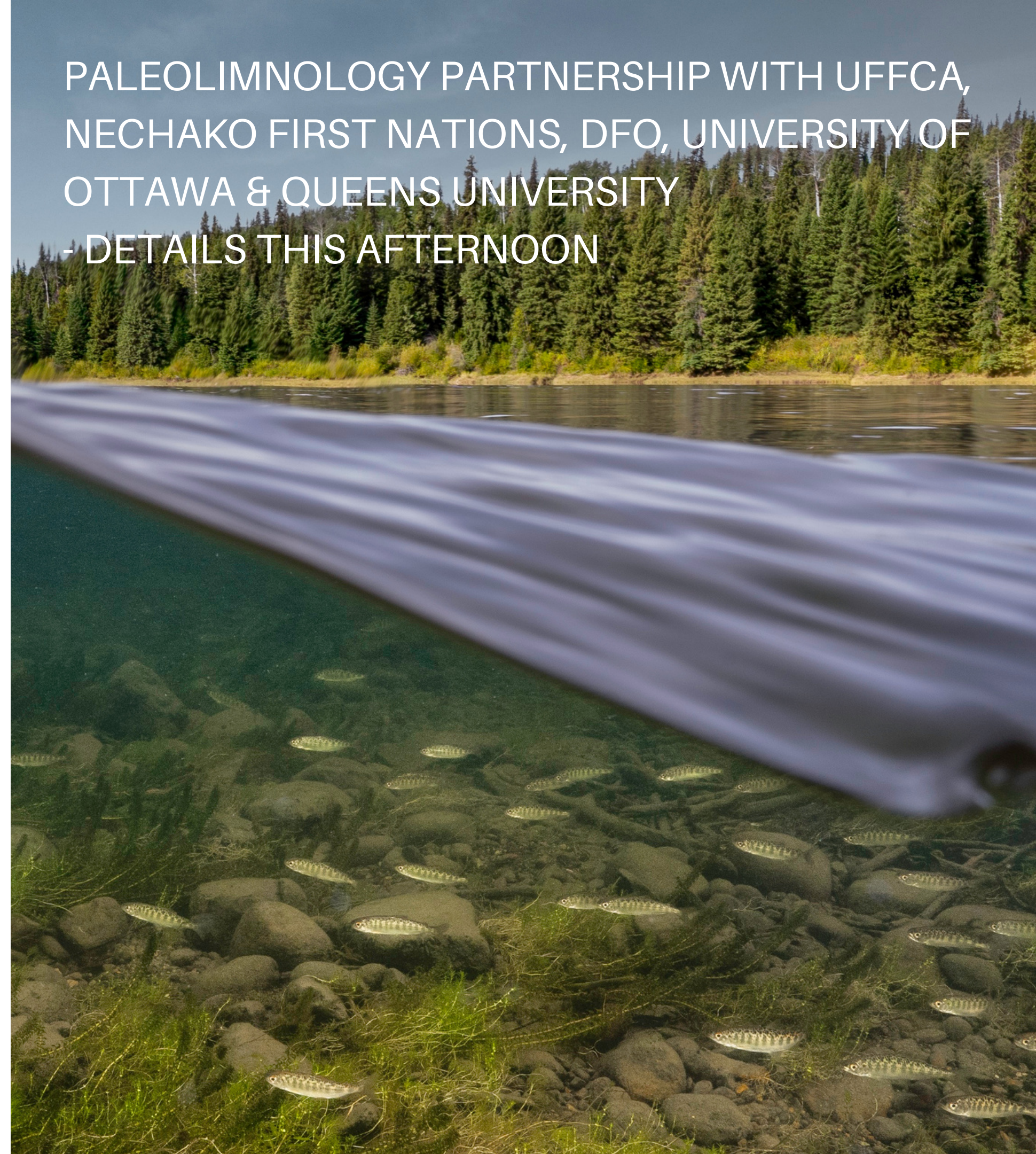


Lakes Monitoring Working Group

Wayne Salewski, Working Group Chair

- Large lakes provide critical habitat for the health and recovery of the salmon population
- Been working on Large Lakes Monitoring Strategy (LLMS) and implementation for 3 years
- Thanks to FBC and Takla, some projects have been implemented in select lakes
- New partnership to purchase equipment and develop monitoring strategy in 2025 with Nakaz'dli Whut'en
- Working on lakes monitoring training opportunity for 2025/26 in partnership with Living Lakes Canada - funding dependent
- 2024/25 LLMS funding through Canada Water Agency 'Fraser River Basin Freshwater Ecosystem Initiative'

PALEOLIMNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP WITH UFFCA,
NECHAKO FIRST NATIONS, DFO, UNIVERSITY OF
OTTAWA & QUEENS UNIVERSITY
- DETAILS THIS AFTERNOON



Youth Engagement Working Group

Jonathan Doyon, Working Group Chair

- Spring 2025
 - Recruitment w/ SD91 & SD57
 - Watershed Connections engagement event held @ UNBC
- Summer 2025
 - Formation of Youth Engagement Working Group
- Fall 2025
 - BC Rivers Day, Sept 26, Vanderhoof
- Formation of Youth Advisory Council
 - Continued communication with SD91 & SD57



Nechako Portal Working Group

Stephen Dery, Working Group Chair

Fostering knowledge exchange and partnership in the Nechako.

Nechako Watershed **PORTAL**

