



POLIS Project on Ecological Governance

**watersustainabilityproject**

## **Aboriginal Co-Governance of Water and Watersheds**

### **Resource List**

**Compiled February 2015**

This document provides resources on the topic of Aboriginal co-governance of water and watersheds from across Canada, with a focus on British Columbia. It is organized into three main sections:

**(1) Reports, Tools & Web Resources** (organized by year of publication);

**(2) Academic Resources** (alphabetized by author's surname).

**(3) Organizations with Ongoing Aboriginal Co-Governance Water and Watersheds Initiatives** (alphabetized by name).

Inspired by the December 1<sup>st</sup> webinar "[Aboriginal Co-Governance of Water and Watersheds](#)," hosted as part of the POLIS Water Sustainability Project's *Creating a Blue Dialogue* webinar series, this resource list compiles annotations contributed by the webinar participants as well as researchers at the Canadian Water Network.

### **Reports, Tools & Web Resources**

**In Progress, Okanagan Nation Alliance.** [Syilx Water Strategy](#)

Emerging from a thorough community engagement process, this strategy will incorporate Syilx principles and practices associated with water stewardship to improve the way water is managed, and ensure that clean, flowing water is respected and available for all living things.

**2014, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada.**

[First Nations On-Reserve Source Water Protection Plan](#)

This guide aims to assist First Nations in managing their drinking water sources and to locally take concrete actions to support human health and a healthy environment for future generations.

**2014, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).** [The Promise of Sydney](#)

This declaration and action plan was developed as a blueprint for a decade of change that emanates from the deliberations of the 2014 IUCN World Parks Congress, which was held in Sydney, Australia. Among other aspirations, *The Promise of Sydney* reflects global desires to enhance the quality of governance, respect indigenous and traditional knowledge, and shares global examples of successes in conservation and co-governance.

**2014, University of Victoria Faculty of Law, POLIS Project on Ecological Governance and Centre for Global Studies.**

[Aboriginal Title and Provincial Regulation: The Impact of Tsilhqot'in Nation v. B.C.—Webcasting](#)

This two-hour panel discussion explores the impact of the Supreme Court of Canada decision *Tsilhqot'in Nation v. B.C.* The panellists include Jay Nelson, Krista Robertson, and Dr. John Borrows.

**2014, Yunesit'in and Xeni Gwet'in First Nations.** [Dasiqox Tribal Park—Website](#)

Initiated by the Yunesit'in and Xeni Gwet'in of the Tsilhqot'in Nation, this declaration advances a vision rooted in Tsilhqot'in values and traditional laws for governing their land base.

**2013, Champagne and Aishihik First Nations (CAFN).** [CAFN Water Strategy](#)

This draft water strategy aims to provide a foundation for a focused and integrated approach to management of water in CAFN traditional territory, through a set of goals, recommended actions, and plans for capacity-building and government-to-government collaboration.

**2013, Wilson, P. for the Forum for Leadership on Water (FLOW).**

[The Blue Paper: Water Co-Governance in Canada](#)

This paper takes a critical look at the state of water governance in Canada with specific attention to the participation of Indigenous peoples.

**2012, Assembly of First Nations.** [National First Nations Water Strategy](#)

This draft water strategy was created for discussion and direction to further critical work in (a) First Nations Right to Water; (b) Watershed Management and Protection; and (c) Water Management. A [draft First Nations National Water Declaration](#) is also available for input and discussion.

**2011, The Peel Watershed Planning Commission.**

[Final Recommended Peel Watershed Regional Land Use Plan](#)

The planning process for this land use plan involved six years of inter-governmental and stakeholder collaboration between regional First Nations and the Yukon territorial government. The final plan reflects a coupling of Western and indigenous traditional knowledge.

**2010, Government of the Northwest Territories and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.**

[Northern Voices, Northern Water: NWT Water Stewardship Strategy](#)

A committee of Aboriginal and government representatives created this strategy, which sets a common path forward to steward northern waters.

**1995, Clayoquot Sound Scientific Panel.**

[First Nations' Perspectives: Relating to Forest Practices Standards in Clayoquot Sound](#)

This report notes the extent to which First Nations' knowledge and interests were addressed in current (1994) forest practices standards, and recommends requirements for new standards that represent the spectrum of First Nations' interests and concerns. Chapter 3 addresses the recognition and characteristics of traditional ecological knowledge, and its role in environmental planning and co-management.

**Federation of Canadian Municipalities.**

[The First Nations Municipal Community Infrastructure Partnership Program \(CIPP\)—Website](#)

CIPP improves the ability of adjacent First Nation and municipal governments to partner and improve community infrastructure, including water infrastructure. Resources include a free online toolkit, workshops, and numerous examples of progressive service agreements at all levels of government.

**Indigenous Corporate Training Inc.** [Indigenous Corporate Training Inc.—Website](#)

This organization provides a suite of resources and services on the topic of Aboriginal engagement in the workplace. This includes three on-site training courses on the topics of Aboriginal Awareness, Working Effectively with Aboriginal Peoples, and Aboriginal Consultation and Engagement Training.

**The Province of British Columbia.** [First Nations Peoples of British Columbia—Map](#)

This is a free, downloadable map to illustrate the rich diversity of the First Nations peoples traditionally residing in British Columbia.

## Academic Resources

Cave, K. (2012). Exploring the influences of Institutions on Water Governance and Management: A First Nation Case Study. Master's Thesis.

[https://uwspace.uwaterloo.ca/bitstream/handle/10012/6492/Cave\\_Katherine\\_2012.pdf?sequence=3](https://uwspace.uwaterloo.ca/bitstream/handle/10012/6492/Cave_Katherine_2012.pdf?sequence=3)

Grimwood, B., Doubleday, N. (2013). From River Trails to Adaptive Co-Management: Learning and Relating with Inuit Inhabitants of the Thelon River, Canada. *Indigenous Policy Journal* XXIII (4), 1-13.

Lemoine, N.R. (2012). Exploring water governance in Northern Saskatchewan: Opportunities for a watershed council. Unpublished Master's Thesis.

<http://ecommons.usask.ca/bitstream/handle/10388/ETD-2012-09-651/LEMOINE-THESIS.pdf?sequence=3>

Longboat, S.A. (2012). First Nations Water Security and Collaborative Governance: Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation, Ontario, Canada. PhD Dissertation.

[https://wlu.ca/documents/54536/FINAL\\_THESIS\\_SHERI\\_LONGBOAT\\_2012.pdf](https://wlu.ca/documents/54536/FINAL_THESIS_SHERI_LONGBOAT_2012.pdf)

Norman, E.S. (2015). Governing transboundary waters: Canada, the United States and Indigenous Communities. New York: Routledge.

Norman, E.S. (2012). Cultural politics and transboundary resource governance in the Salish Sea. *Water Alternatives* 5(1), 138-160.

Szach, N. J. (2013). Keepers of the water: exploring Anishinaabe and Metis women's knowledge of water and participation in water governance in Kenora, Ontario. Master's Thesis.

[https://www.umanitoba.ca/institutes/natural\\_resources/Left-Hand%20Column/theses/Masters%20Thesis%20Penneys-Szach%202013.pdf](https://www.umanitoba.ca/institutes/natural_resources/Left-Hand%20Column/theses/Masters%20Thesis%20Penneys-Szach%202013.pdf)

von der Porten, S., & De Loë, R. C. (2014). Water policy reform and Indigenous governance. *Water Policy*, 16(2), 222-243.

von der Porten, S., de Loë, R.C (2013). Collaborative approaches to governance for water and Indigenous peoples: A case study for British Columbia, Canada. *Geoforum* 50, 149-160.

von der Porten, S., de Loë, R.C. (2013). Water governance and Indigenous governance: Towards a synthesis. *Indigenous Policy Journal* XXIII (4), 1-12.

## Organizations and Research Collectives with Ongoing Aboriginal Co-Governance of Water and Watersheds Initiatives

The following list of organizations and research collectives have ongoing Aboriginal co-governance of water and watersheds initiatives. Links are provided to their specific, relevant research initiatives and reports, where possible.

### [Canadian Water Network](#)

Centre for Dialogue, Simon Fraser University

- [Shared Decision Making in British Columbia](#)

### [Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources](#)

Champagne and Aishihik First Nations

- [CAFN Water Strategy](#)

Federation of Canadian Municipalities

- [First Nations Municipal Community Infrastructure Partnership Program](#)

### [First Nations Fisheries Council](#)

Okanagan Nation Alliance

- [Sylx Water Strategy](#)

Peel Watershed Planning Commission

- [Peel Watershed Regional Land Use Plan](#)

[POLIS Water Sustainability Project](#), University of Victoria

- [The Future of Water Law & Governance Series](#)

### [Program on Water Governance, University of British Columbia](#)

School of Resource and Environmental Management, Simon Fraser University

- [Co-Management Research Group](#)

### [Water Economics, Policy and Governance Network, Brock University](#)

### [Water Institute, University of Waterloo](#)