

STATEMENT OF COOPERATION ON ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS



Environment
Canada

Environnement
Canada

UNION OF
BRITISH
COLUMBIA
MUNICIPALITIES

Between
**HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF ENVIRONMENT
CANADA PACIFIC AND YUKON REGION (EC PYR)**
and the
UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA MUNICIPALITIES (UBCM)

(1) WHEREAS:

1. EC PYR and UBCM share interests in sustainable development and in protecting and conserving the environment of British Columbia,
2. EC PYR and UBCM recognize that the quality of life of British Columbians is dependent on healthy and vibrant ecosystems,
3. EC PYR and UBCM recognize that environmental knowledge is fundamental to environmentally-sustainable decision making,
4. EC PYR and UBCM wish to increase the level of cooperation and interaction between local governments and Environment Canada to improve the exchange of knowledge and information so as to better inform policies and programs within each other's mandates and jurisdictions, and
5. EC PYR and UBCM wish to strengthen communications to more effectively address, with other partners, environmental issues in British Columbia of common concern to Canada and local governments.

(2) THEREFORE:

EC PYR and UBCM will:

1. Encourage local governments to take an ecosystem-based approach to current and emerging environmental and community planning issues,
2. Encourage the sharing of science and technical information between EC PYR and local governments in British Columbia,
3. Strive to maximize the effectiveness of our programs and activities through collaborative initiatives, and
4. Share information, as appropriate, on relevant initiatives, programs, policy reviews and other related matters.

(3) IMPLEMENTATION:

EC PYR and UBCM will utilize the UBCM Environment Committee as a principal venue for collaboration, and will work through other existing arrangements and with other interested partners.

(4) TERM OF THIS STATEMENT OF COOPERATION:

The term of this Statement of Cooperation shall be indefinite unless otherwise amended by written notice between the parties.

(5) SIGNATORIES

EC PYR and UBCM carry out this Statement of Cooperation on Environmental Matters at Vancouver, British Columbia on September 24, 2003.

The Honourable David Anderson
Minister of the Environment
Canada

Don Fast
Regional Director General
Environment Canada
Pacific and Yukon Region

Patricia Wallace
President
Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Robert Hobson
Chair
Environment Committee
Union of British Columbia Municipalities