TO: Administrators
       Directors of Engineering / Planning

FROM: Jared Wright, Policy Analyst

DATE: March 7, 2006

RE: RIPARIAN AREAS REGULATION TRIPARTITE PROTOCOL AGREEMENT

Please find enclosed a copy of the draft Riparian Areas Regulation (RAR) tripartite protocol agreement between the Ministry of Environment (MOE), Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), and the UBCM. The agreement has also been posted on the UBCM website in the Environment section of “Featured Policy Topics” at http://www.civicnet.bc.ca

The purpose of the protocol agreement is to define the roles and responsibilities of the parties in the implementation and ongoing delivery of the RAR. To that effect, the agreement creates an adaptive management structure to oversee the implementation of the RAR through an Executive Committee, as well as defines the review, reporting and resource requirements for the implementation and ongoing delivery of the RAR. It also outlines the parties respective responsibilities in regards to the handling of variances, notifications, training of qualified environmental professionals, communication, monitoring, compliance and enforcement.

The protocol agreement outlines specific, legally binding commitments by MOE and DFO. The provisions pertaining to local government are non-binding and enabling, which provides local governments the flexibility to define the roles they wish to play in the implementation process.

UBCM would appreciate receipt of any comments on the draft protocol agreement before March 28th, 2006. Comments can be sent to the attention of Jared Wright, Policy Analyst by email to jwright@civicnet.bc.ca or by fax at 604-270-9116.

If you have any questions regarding the protocol agreement, please do not hesitate to contact me at 604-270-8226 (ext.113).