



# PROGRAM ON WATER GOVERNANCE

OCTOBER 2009

The mission of the Program on Water Governance (PoWG) at the University of British Columbia, is to conduct basic research on water management, to engage the wider community in outreach and education on water issues and facilitate dialogue on water governance between universities, communities, government, NGO's and the private sector. The PoWG is co-hosted by the Department of Geography and the Institute of Resources, Environment and Sustainability at UBC.

## RECENT PoWG ACTIVITIES

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### September 2009 Water Security Workshop

Our four-year (2008-2012) project on water security, funded by the Canadian Water Network, is now in its second year. The goal of this project is to create a Water Security Framework (WSF) with the objective of improving water security in Canada, specifically through improving governance for source protection and land use.

During the first year of this project we sought end-users' views on water security in Canada through a web-based survey and follow-up interviews. We also compiled an inventory of all freshwater related indicators in Canada which will be posted on our website [www.watergovernance.ca](http://www.watergovernance.ca) soon.

In September 2009, the Program on Water Governance held its first water security workshop at the Liu Institute at UBC. This two-day workshop brought together 60 water practitioners including project partners (including Health Canada, Environment Canada and NRCan), water professionals, policy makers and end users from across Canada. During the workshop, participants debated key issues relating to water security in Canada, facilitated by documents authored by the project team: the **Canadian Water Security Primer** and **Canadian Approaches to Assessing Water Security: An Inventory of Indicators**. Both of these reports, along with the indicator inventory and workshop proceedings will be published in November 2009 and will be available on our website [www.watergovernance.ca](http://www.watergovernance.ca). **Contact Gemma Dunn** [water.security@ubc.ca](mailto:water.security@ubc.ca) for further information.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### Institute for Research on Public Policy – Working Lunch

**Date:** Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> 2009

**Time:** 11:45 am – 2:00 pm

**Location:** Metropolitan Hotel (*in the Vancouver Room*), 645 Howe Street, Vancouver, BC

One year after the launch of its Living Water Smart policy, how is BC faring with respect to water? How might the policy and BC's experience fit into a pan-Canadian water policy framework?

The Institute for Research on Public Policy is pleased to invite you to join Mel Cappe, President, IRPP, to discuss water policy with Hans Schreier (University of British Columbia), author of "Agricultural Water Policy Challenges in BC", Karen Bakker (Program on Water Governance, University of British Columbia), author of "Water Security: Canada's Challenge," and Oliver Brandes (POLIS Project on Ecological Governance, University of Victoria).

Karen Bakker and Hans Schreier's articles were part of the July-August issue of Policy Options, whose cover package was "Canada's Water Challenges." Some complimentary copies of this issue will be available at the working lunch.

To RSVP and pay the registration fee (\$50 per person, \$350 for a table of 8) for you and your guests, please register using one of the links below, or at <http://www.irpp.org/events/index.htm>. As space is limited, we encourage you to register early.

[registration form](#) | [register online \(individual\)](#) | [register online \(table of 8\)](#)

For further information, please contact **Suzanne Lambert** by phone at 514-787-0746 or by e-mail at [slambert@irpp.org](mailto:slambert@irpp.org).

**Event Sponsors:** Walter Duncan Gordon Foundation & the Canadian Water Network

## World Water Day 2010

**Date:** Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2009

**Time:** 6:30pm – 9 pm

**Location:** UBC Robson Square, 800 Robson Street, Vancouver BC

The Program on Water Governance is co-hosting an event with Connecting Environmental Professionals, to celebrate the United Nations World Water Day 2010. The evening speaker event featuring Andrew Nikiforuk will be held on Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 at UBC Robson Square, in downtown Vancouver, from 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm. **Contact Gemma Dunn** [gemma.dunn@ubc.ca](mailto:gemma.dunn@ubc.ca) for further information.

Andrew Nikiforuk is an award-winning author and investigative journalist. Over the past two decades, he had written about energy, economics and the West for a variety of Canadian publications including Maclean's, Canadian Business, the Globe and Mail, and Reader's Digest. He has won seven National Magazine Awards since 1989 and top honours for investigative writing from the Association of Canadian Journalists. He won the Governor-General's award for this 2002 non-fiction book, Saboteurs. In 2006, his book Pandemonium examined the impact of global trade on disease exchanges and received widespread national acclaim. His latest book, the Tar Sands: Dirty Oil and the Future of a Continent, examines the continental impact of the world's largest energy project and is already a national bestseller. For more information, visit Andrew's website at [www.andrewnikiforuk.com](http://www.andrewnikiforuk.com).

Connecting Environmental Professionals (CEP) is a not-for-profit, volunteer organization dedicated to promoting opportunities for networking, career development and capacity building. Events and activities organized by CEP include speaker series, social events, workshops, and a mentorship program. CEP is part of the Canadian wide network Young Environmental Professionals (YEP). YEP has chapters established in Toronto, Ottawa, Calgary and Edmonton. The CEP website is [www.cepvancover.org](http://www.cepvancover.org).