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Washington

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Washington

February 11, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: **John Harrison**
Information Officer

SUBJECT: Presentation regarding the 2014 Columbia River Basin conference, which will be co-hosted by the Council and the Columbia Basin Trust, October 21-23 in Spokane.

BACKGROUND

The Council and the Columbia Basin Trust have had a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to designate liaisons and pursue projects of mutual interest since 2000. Consistent with MOU, the Council and Trust developed a work plan. One recent addition to the work plan is to present a conference on the future of the Columbia River in its transboundary, international dimensions. Staff of the Trust and Council began developing the conference last year. This work included appointing an oversight committee to develop the conference agenda. At this meeting, the co-chairs of the committee, former Trust Chair Gary Merkel and former Council Chair Larry Cassidy, and the current liaisons of our two agencies, Council Vice Chair Jennifer Anders and David Raven, a member of the Trust Board of Directors and the Mayor of Revelstoke, BC, will update the Council on work to date.

The conference website is: www.columbiabasin-2014conference.org.

The oversight committee, which had its first meeting in January, will develop the conference agenda based on the following areas of interest identified by the Council and the Trust:

- The management of transboundary fish (including anadromous and resident species) and wildlife, and associated habitats;
- Science and policy issues, including water quality, subbasin/watershed planning;
- International water governance arrangements including the Columbia River Treaty;

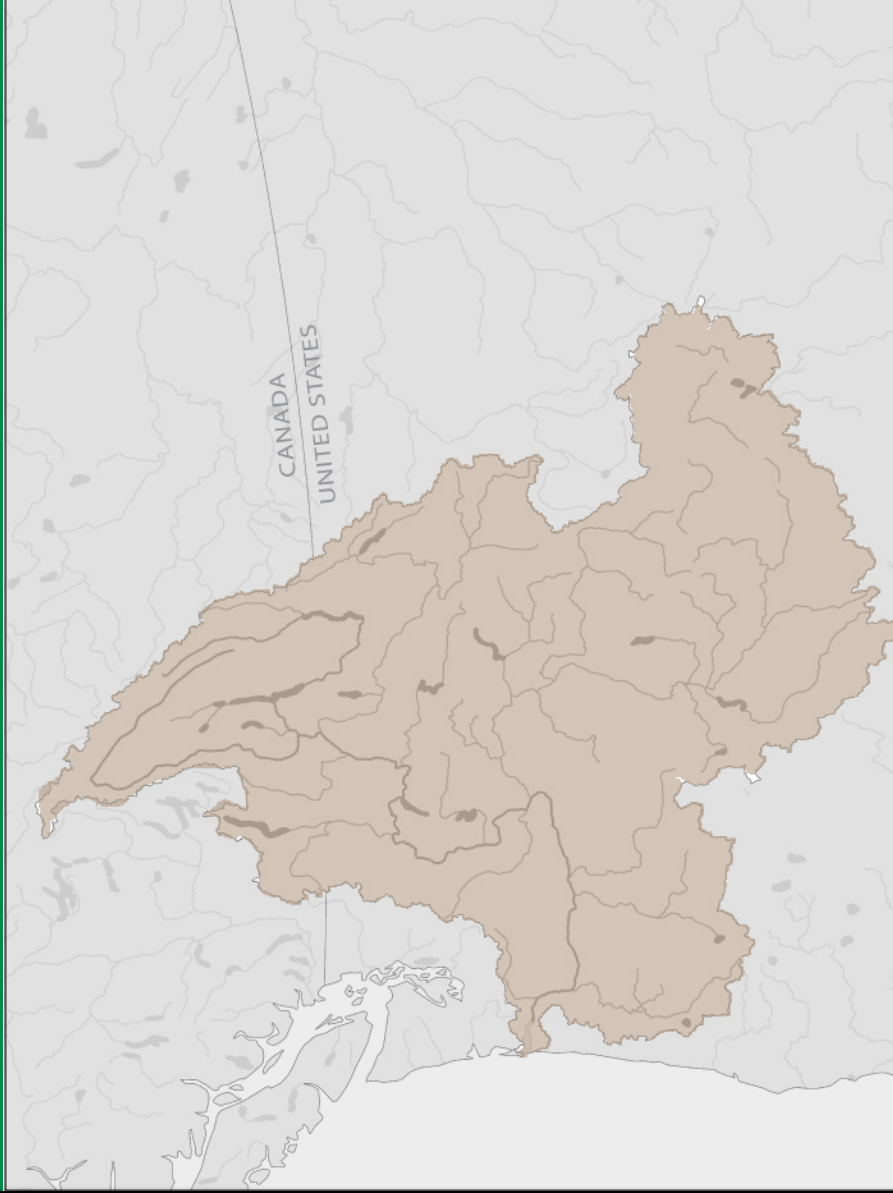
- Energy issues including long-term plans for generation, alternative energy, and efficiency measures;
- Climate change-related impacts on Columbia River water resources and resulting impacts on communities, ecosystems, the economy, and hydropower generation;
- Interests and issues of First Nations/Tribes;
- Youth engagement;
- Columbia Basin arts, culture, and history.

The conference will be organized around plenary and breakout sessions focused on discussions and solutions. Invited facilitators and presentations by scientists, policy-makers, and energy experts representing the perspectives of state, provincial, federal, and tribal/First Nation governments, and stakeholder/interest groups will lead the discussions. As well, innovative interactive workshops will be used to encourage participants to actively explore a wide range of technical, environmental, and community issues. The conference also may include field trips to highlight specific successful initiatives in the Spokane area.

The conference follows on four previous international transboundary Columbia River conferences convened by the Council and the Trust. These were held in 1994 in Victoria, 1998 in Castlegar, 2002 in Spokane, and 2006 in Castlegar.

enclosure

The Columbia River Basin: Learning From Our Past to Shape Our Future



THIS CONFERENCE WILL bring together leaders and community members from both sides of the border to discuss the future of the Columbia River Basin.



Northwest **Power** and
Conservation Council

Columbia
Basin **trust**

October 21 – 23, 2014 • Spokane, WA

www.columbiabasin-2014conference.org

The Columbia River Basin: Learning From Our Past to Shape Our Future



The Details

- Venue: DoubleTree Spokane City Center
- Expected participants: 250 - 350
- Budget: \$150,000 - \$165,000
 - Includes \$2,500-\$4,500 for up to 50 scholarships
- Registration: \$150
- Income from sponsors
 - CBT and Council: \$60,000
 - Tiered sponsorships: \$70,000 - \$90,000 at \$500-\$10,000 each

The Columbia River Basin:

Learning From Our Past to Shape Our Future

Conference Themes (Initial List)

- Transboundary ecosystem management
- Water governance including CR Treaty
- Climate change
- Basin-wide approaches to regional issues
- Energy / Hydropower
- **Plus:** Risks to river, ecosystems, communities; Tribes/First Nations interests; Columbia River arts, culture, history

The Columbia River Basin: Learning From Our Past to Shape Our Future

Oversight Committee	Canada: Garry Merkel, Co-Chair David Raven, Liaison to the Council	USA: Larry Cassidy, Co-Chair Jennifer Anders, Liaison to the Trust
Government	Columbia Basin Trust BC Hydro BC Ministry of Energy & Mines BC Ministry of Environment Natural Resources Canada Consulate General of Canada	Northwest Power and Conservation Council Bonneville Power Administration U.S. Environmental Protection Agency U.S. State Department Washington Department of Ecology WA, OR, ID, MT Fish and Wildlife Departments
Tribes, First Nations	Ktunaxa Nation Council Okanagan Nation Alliance Shuswap Nation Council Adams Lake Indian Band	Upper Columbia United Tribes Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission Upper Snake River Tribes Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
Utilities, Industries	Fortis BC Columbia Power Corp. Teck Resources Limited	Grant, Chelan Public Utility Districts Seattle City Light
Interest Groups	Columbia Basin Watershed Network Columbia Basin Environmental Education Columbia River Treaty Local Gov. Committee MacDonald Environmental Services	Columbia Institute for Water Policy Northwest Energy Coalition NW RiverPartners Sustainable Obtainable Solutions Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership Washington State Association of Counties
Universities, Youth	University of British Columbia University of Northern British Columbia Columbia Basin Trust Youth Committee	Universities of Montana and Idaho Washington State University Gonzaga University School of Law