



the partnership for water sustainability in bc

October 17, 2017

Debra Oakman
c/- deboakman@shaw.ca

Dear Debra:

Re: **LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP IN THE PARTNERSHIP**

First, congratulations on your recent retirement from your long-term role as the first Chief Administrative Officer of the Comox Valley Regional District.

On behalf of the Directors, and in recognition of your years of commitment to promoting the vision of water sustainability on Vancouver Island and particularly within the Comox Valley Regional District, we are pleased to inform you that you are hereby deemed to be a **Lifetime Member** of the Partnership for Water Sustainability in British Columbia.

A decade ago, your early and strong support for demonstrating the benefits of the 'regional team approach' in the Comox Valley was a key to the success of CAVI-Convening for Action on Vancouver Island. Your support helped us to lay the foundation for successfully launching the *Georgia Basin Inter-Regional Education Initiative* in 2012. Significantly, Comox Valley activities and successes have stimulated interest and action in the vision for **Sustainable Watershed Systems, through Asset Management** in other regions of Vancouver Island and the province.

We invite you to stay involved in water sustainability activities and hope that the Partnership's Vancouver Island leadership team may draw upon you as a resource. Through your future participation in the Georgia Basin Inter-Regional Educational Initiative program, it would be wonderful if others in local government were able to benefit from your knowledge and experience.

**On behalf of
Partnership for Water Sustainability in BC**

Kim A Stephens, M.Eng., P.Eng.,
Executive Director
kstephens@watersustainabilitybc.ca

Derek Richmond, M.Eng., P.Eng.,
Director & Secretary
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Lifetime Membership in the Partnership is one way that we recognize those who have made a difference....because they are champions for water sustainability on Vancouver Island.

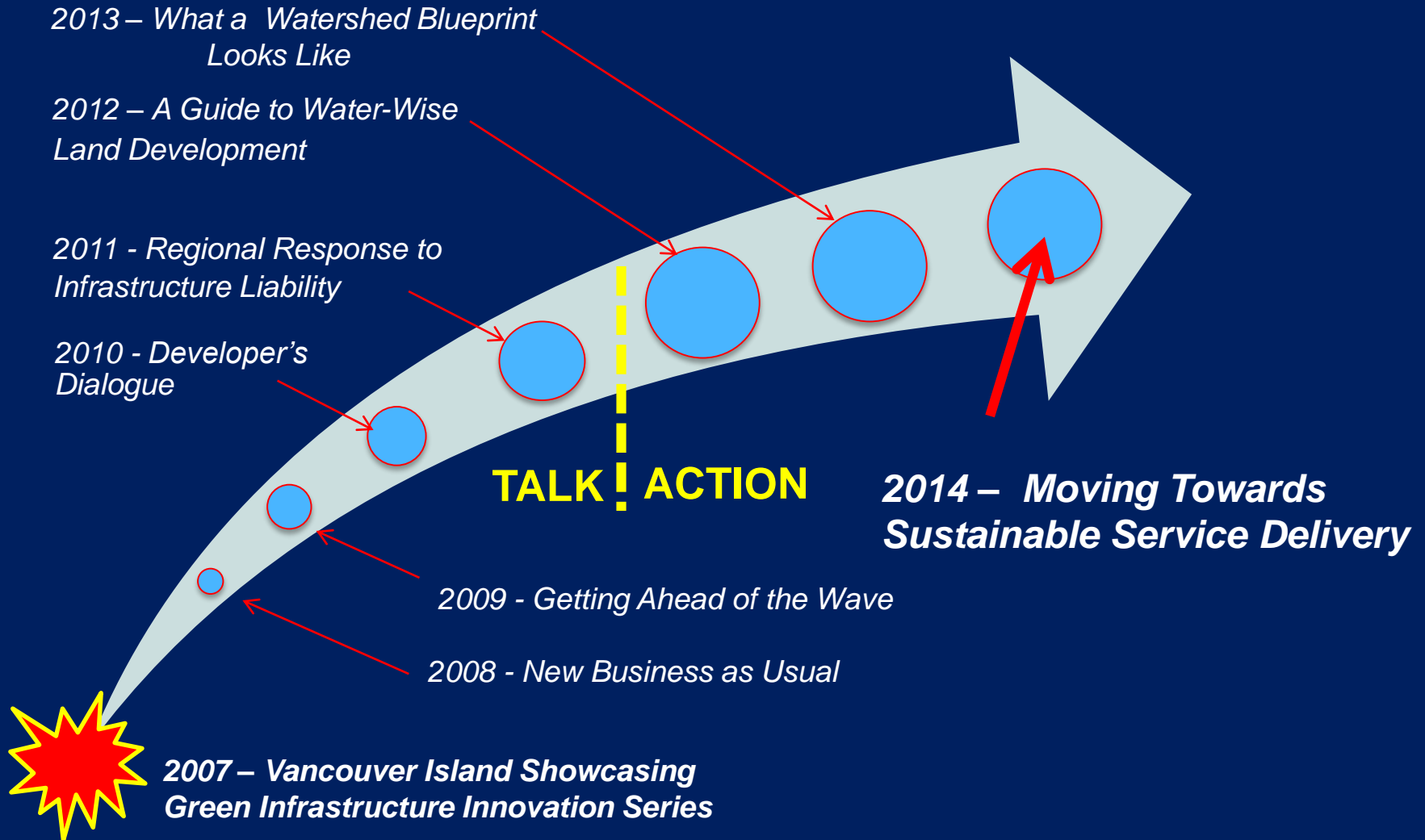
MISSION POSSIBLE

The 'regional team approach' brings together....



- **The Province** - *those who provide legislative framework*
- **Local Government** - *those who plan, regulate and...
operate, maintain, build*
- **Developers** - *those who build*
- **Stewardship Sector** – *those who advocate for conservation*
- **Agricultural Sector** – *those who grow food*
- **Academia** - *those who provide research*
- **As well as others!**

Comox Valley Milestones (2007-2014)



Georgia Basin Inter-Regional Educational Initiative (IREI) promotes “sharing and learning” from each other within the local government setting

Georgia Basin



The lands draining into the Salish Sea
(Strait of Georgia & Puget Sound)

Launched in 2012.

Five regional district partners,
including Comox Valley Regional District.

The five represent 75% of BC's population.

In 2016, the five Regional Boards adopted
Resolutions that reaffirmed commitment to
collaborate.



Support from Debra Oakman helped the Partnership to lay the foundation for successfully launching the *Georgia Basin Inter-Regional Education Initiative* in 2012.