

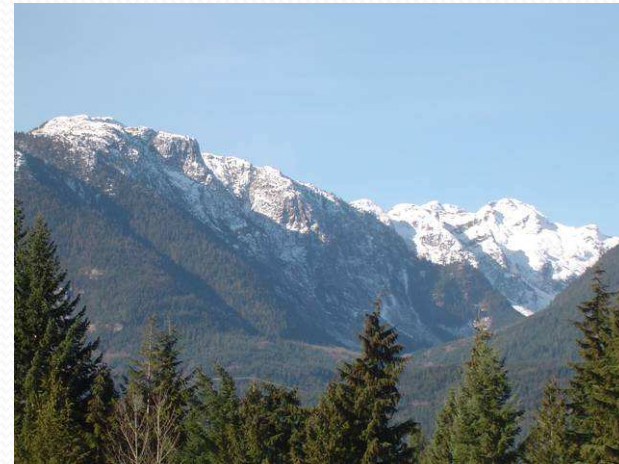


**Ione Smith  
Executive Director**

**Howe Sound Community Forum  
January 26, 2011  
Gibsons, BC**

# Outline

- History
- Partnering Communities
- Board and Staff
- AQMP and other reports
- Priority Actions
- 2011 Programs





# History

A S2S/Howe Sound Air Quality Coordinating Committee (AQCC) was developed in 2002 to bring together stakeholders, industry, First Nations, and local representatives to:

- ensure that air quality is managed at a regional level
- ensure issues & goals of each municipality are addressed
- identify immediate synergies

# History

Sheltair Consulting Group assisted in developing an Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) for the corridor.

Transitioned into a registered BC society in 2010:  
Sea-to-Sky Clean Air Society

Purposes:

- a) to foster conditions through which communities in the Sea-to-Sky and Howe Sound Airshed can enjoy clean air that sustains and contributes to the health of residents and guests, the economy, the environment and wildlife.
- b) to educate residents and visitors about air quality and the steps they can take to improve it.
- c) to identify and develop innovative practices for air quality management.





# Rationale for Air Quality Action

- Air quality is fairly good: easier to maintain than fix
- Residents demand clean air: aspect of quality of life
- Poor air quality impacts tourism & local economies
- Collaboration allows communities to pool resources
- Prov govt provides technical support and monitoring
- Builds regional community relations

# Partnering Communities

- Gibsons
- Bowen Island
- Lions Bay
- Squamish
- Whistler
- Pemberton
- SLRD



# Board and Staff

## Board of Directors

- **Peter Frinton** (Councillor, Bowen Island Municipality) – Chair
- **Caroline Ashekian** (Environmental Technician, District of Squamish)
- **Ruth Simons** (Councillor, Village of Lions Bay)
- **Barry Janyk** (Mayor, Town of Gibsons)
- **Ian Holl** (Planner, Squamish Lillooet Regional District)
- **Nicolette Richer** (Environmental Coordinator, RMOW)
- **Brooke Carere** (Resident of Squamish)

Note:

Representatives of Squamish Nation, Lil'Wat Nation, Metro Vancouver, MoE, VCH, HSPP, BC Ferries, BC Transit, and BC Hydro are invited to attend meetings and receive info about work being done by the group.

## Advisory Board

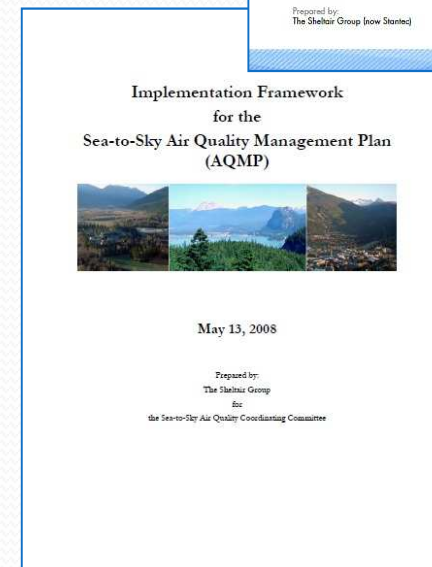
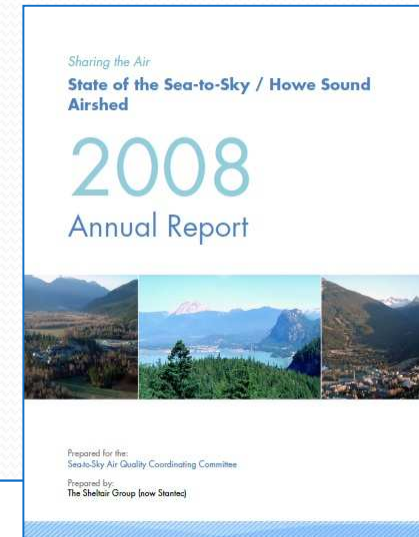
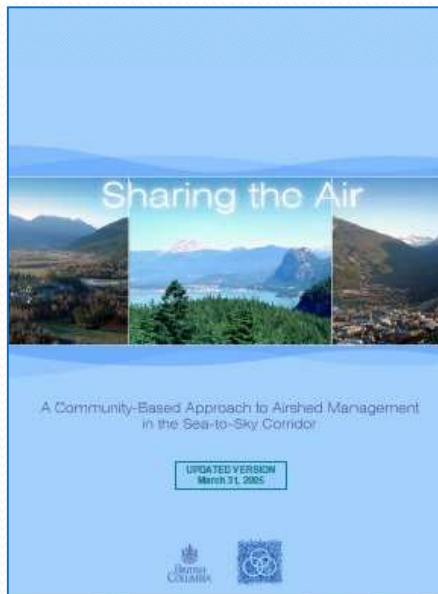
- **Kimberley Armour:** Squamish River Watershed Society
- **Lorien Chilton:** Village of Pemberton
- **Lorne James:** Regional Meteorologist, BC Ministry of Environment

## Staff

- **Ione Smith** (Executive Director) – part time (12-15 hours a week)
- Woodstove Exchange Coordinator (TBA) – part time

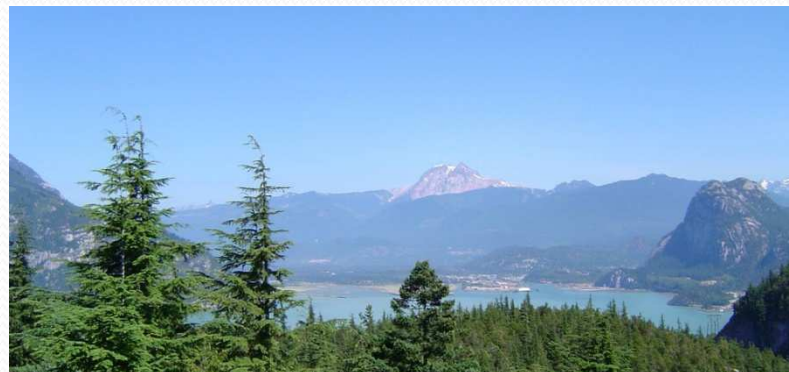
# The AQMP and Other Reports

- regional, multi-stakeholder agreement
- developed to protect air quality via:
  - ❖ proactive community planning
  - ❖ air quality monitoring
  - ❖ policy development
  - ❖ annual reporting
  - ❖ public education
  - ❖ political will



# Purpose of AQMP

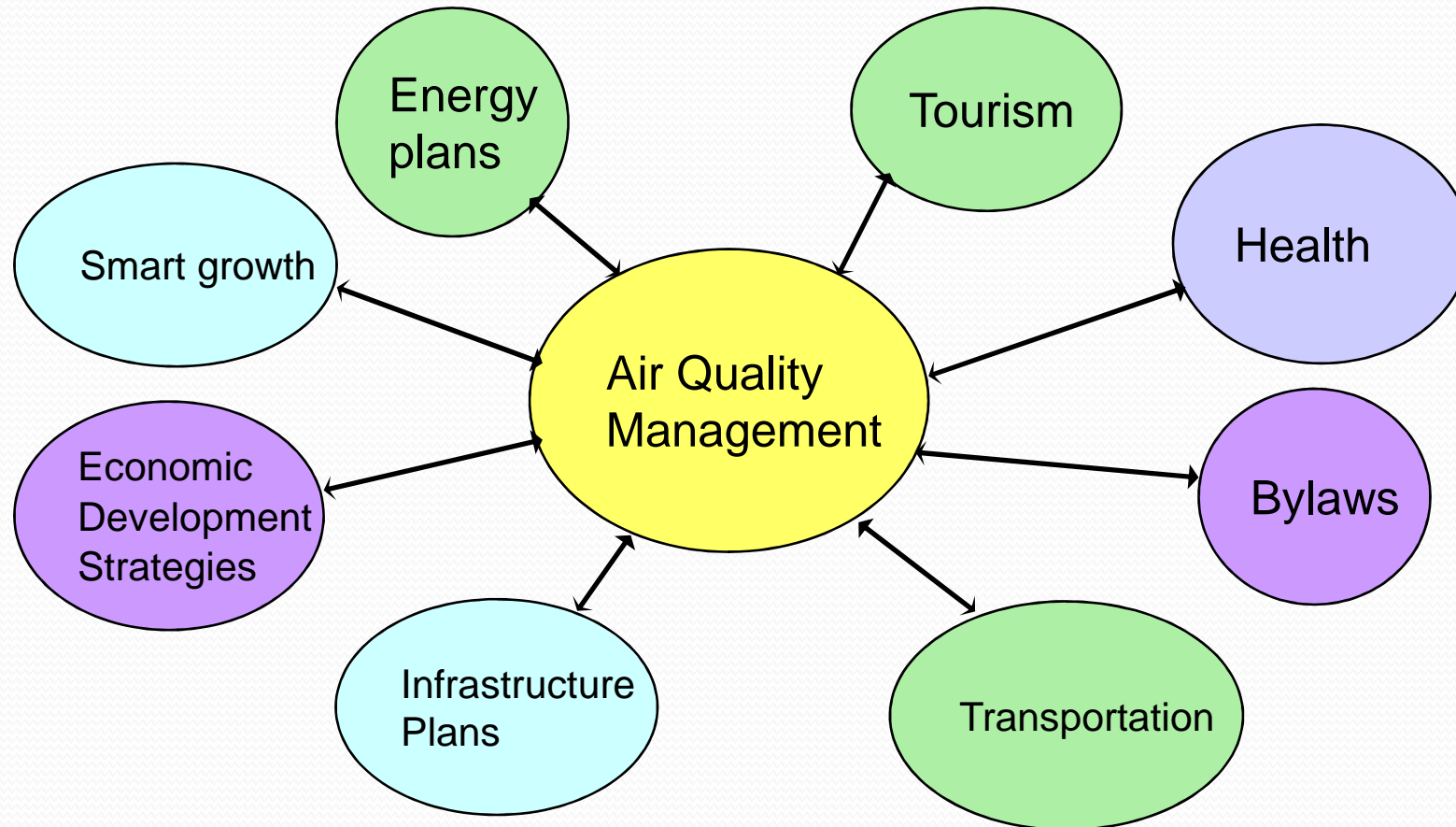
- few 'point' sources of pollution in the corridor
- 50 - 80% of emissions in Sea-to-Sky are mobile (vehicle) sources
- local "community" must be involved to ensure local - & regional - issues are addressed



# AQMP Priority Actions

- 25 actions identified in 2007/2008 AQMP
- Some are now out of date (Olympics-related), completed, and/or irrelevant
- Strategy session held in October 2010 to review actions
- Main focus issues/categories of actions are:
  - ❖ Transportation: work towards a reduction of vehicles along Hwy 99 (demand management, alternatives to cars) and off-road emissions
  - ❖ Communications: act as an umbrella group or neutral body to facilitate inter-community discussions around air quality issues
  - ❖ Education: distribute information, coordinate a woodstove exchange program, develop policies and position statements, identify bylaws and policies that benefit air quality

# Local and Regional Co-Benefits





# 2011 Actions and Programs

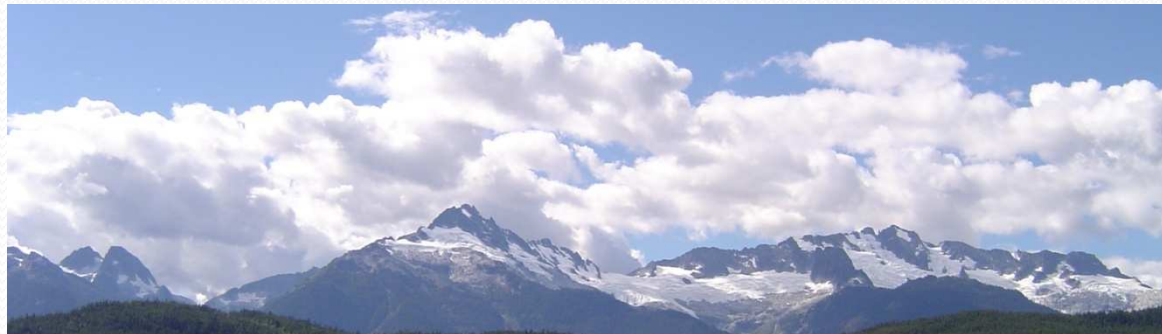
- Woodstove exchange program (150 change-outs for Hwy 99 communities: Furry Creek to Mount Currie). Funded by MoE and BC Lung Association
- Transportation planning in the airshed (hosting meetings, demand management research)
- Bylaw sharing: taking best practices and using them as models for bylaw development
- First steps towards the development of airshed-wide smoke control strategy
- Share successes via the website, e-newsletters
- Fundraising for continued success

# 2011 Budget

- 2010 Balance: \$4,900
- 2011 Income (committed): \$26,000 (partner communities, BC Lung Assoc, MoE)
- 2011 Total (min): \$30,900
- Holding: \$37,500 (woodstove exchange vouchers)
- 2011 expenses (min): \$30,000 (p/t ED, WSE coord, and org overhead)
- Applying for: \$35,000 (FP Innovations, MEC, TD FoE, WB Enviro Fund, Squamish Fdn)
- PICS Internship: in-kind support for transportation-related projects
- Unconfirmed: \$15,000 operating grant from MoE for 2011
- Additional expenses may fund: Events, education and transportation initiatives, smoke management plan, advertising, printing.

# Next Steps

- Hire woodstove exchange coordinator – **underway**
- Meet with transportation stakeholders- **underway**
- Maintain website and e-newsletter - **underway**
- Update Priority Action list and AQMP
- Begin addressing smoke management plan
- Strategize for including First Nations in the Board
- Fundraise





# More Information

[www.seatoskyairquality.ca](http://www.seatoskyairquality.ca)

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Executive Director

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