

Bruce A. Measure
Chair
Montana

Rhonda Whiting
Montana

W. Bill Booth
Idaho

James A. Yost
Idaho



Joan M. Dukes
Vice-Chair
Oregon

Bill Bradbury
Oregon

Tom Karier
Washington

Phil Rockefeller
Washington

September 28, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: John Shurts

SUBJECT: (1) Report on the *Third Annual Symposium on Transboundary River Governance in the Face of Uncertainty: The Columbia River Treaty, 2014*, Kimberley, British Columbia, Oct 3-5

(2) Update on the *Columbia River Treaty 2014/2024 Review*

The first two items on the agenda for Wednesday October 12 concern the Columbia River Treaty. The first will consist of a report on the transboundary symposium on the treaty that will have taken place the week before in Kimberley, British Columbia. I will be the staff lead for the report, but I expect that Barbara Cosens of the University of Idaho School of Law will be on the phone to offer comments from the perspective of the university coalition hosting the event. The Chair, the Vice Chair and several other members will have been in attendance, and may make comments as well.

The Council and the Columbia Basin Trust are joint sponsors of this symposium, as they have been of the past symposia. To remind the members of the underlying purpose of this symposium and the reason and terms of the Council's sponsorship, I have also attached the sponsorship decision memo to the Council from last March. More information may also be found at the website for the symposium: <https://sites.google.com/site/crthirdannualsymposium/>

The second item on the Council's agenda will be an update from representatives of the federal agencies that are engaged with state and tribal representatives in the *Columbia River Treaty 2014/2024 Review*. The website for the review is at: <http://www.crt2014-2024review.gov/>.

By the time of the Council meeting, the sovereign review entities will have just completed a third round of "Stakeholder Listening Sessions" to discuss the future of the Columbia River Treaty after 2024 with a broadly invited group of interested participants. The listening sessions will take place in Spokane, Portland and Boise. The main focus of the listening sessions will be to learn about and comment on a set of preliminary alternatives developed by the Sovereign Technical and Sovereign Review Teams as well as an overview of an "Iterative Modeling Process" for modeling and evaluating the alternatives.

ATTACHMENT

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James A. Yost
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Dick Wallace
Vice-Chair
Washington

Tom Karier
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Bill Bradbury
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Joan M. Dukes
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March 30, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Chair and Vice-Chair
Public Affairs Committee
Fish and Wildlife Committee

FROM: John Shurts, General Counsel
John Harrison, Public Information Officer

SUBJECT: Request to the Council for sponsorship and funding assistance for the Universities Consortium on Columbia Basin Governance's proposed "Third Annual Symposium on Transboundary River Governance in The Face of Uncertainty: The Columbia River Treaty, 2014"

Introduction and staff recommendation for sponsorship and funding assistance

The Universities Consortium on Columbia Basin Governance (made up of representatives from the University of Montana, University of Idaho, University of Washington, Oregon State University, and the University of British Columbia) has hosted two symposia on Columbia River Basin governance and the Columbia River Treaty, the last at OSU in Corvallis last November. There seems to be consensus support among the universities and others for the utility of holding another this fall, this time in British Columbia, probably Cranbrook.

The university consortium representatives have now agreed on the basic outlines or details of the symposium. A draft of their symposium abstract is attached, and the relevant parts about the symposium are repeated below. The Council and the Columbia Basin Trust are being asked again by the universities to help sponsor and fund the symposium. The request for funding support is again \$10,000. The universities have also asked the CBT and Council to allow Kindy Gosal, for the CBT, and John Shurts and John Harrison, for the Council, to sit on a Steering Committee with the universities and others to help plan the symposium further. And the Council

and CBT are being asked to support a student from the one of the universities to help organize materials for the symposium (essentially a research and logistics support intern).

The CBT, through Kindy Gosal, has already responded to the university consortium that it accepts the request. That is, the CBT will help sponsor the symposium, committed \$10,000 in funding support, will allow Kindy Gosal to be part of the Steering Committee, and will support a student.

The staff recommends the Council agree to do the same. In accordance with our usual process for considering requests of this nature, the universities request for sponsorship and funding assistance will be considered by the Public Affairs Committee at the April Council meeting. The substance of the symposium proposal will also be discussed in the Fish and Wildlife Committee.

Universities' proposal for the third annual CRT symposium (excerpted from attached):

The Third Annual Symposium [proposal details as of March 2011]

The Third Annual Symposium on Transboundary River Governance in The Face of Uncertainty: The Columbia River Treaty, 2014 will take place in the fall of 2011, probably the week of October 2nd. The symposium will take place in the Columbia basin in British Columbia, presumably in or near Cranbrook, the most convenient major airport. We will schedule the symposium as much as reasonably possible around complementary events, including the Columbia Basin Trust Board of Advisors Water Committee meeting.

The symposium will focus on a transboundary group discussion of alternative scenarios for the Columbia River Treaty and related questions and considerations. Possible scenarios and relevant information, questions, and considerations as source material for the symposium participants will be developed prior to the symposium by the universities, as described below. The objective of symposium will be to produce by its end a set of revised scenarios *and* related ideas, considerations and commentary that the symposium participants would like the Entities and Sovereigns on both sides of the border take into serious consideration in their deliberations and public processes.

Throughout the spring and summer of 2011 students at many of the universities represented in the consortium, under the direction of the faculty representatives, will be reviewing the relevant literature, researching key questions, and interviewing a wide variety of people on both sides of the border. Based on this information, the students will begin developing a set of scenarios for where the region, the Entities and the nation might take the Treaty. The students will also be developing and analyzing a set of associated questions, such as what can be accomplished without requiring a formal Treaty process and what possibilities exist for widening public participation.

A report on the results of the student's work, including interview summaries and scenario development, will be provided in June of 2011 to the universities, the Entities, the Northwest Power and Conservation Council, the Columbia Basin Trust, other key federal, state and provincial agencies, and relevant tribes and first nations. Results of interviews by the University of Idaho class in particular will be presented at the PNWER conference in July 2011, along with breakout sessions to obtain further input on possible scenarios. These reporting and discussion sessions will inform areas of further research and development for

the summer of 2011 that will help improve the source materials and plausible scenarios for discussion at the symposium itself in October 2011.

The Columbia Basin Trust and the Northwest Power and Conservation Council will be asked again to sponsor and help fund the symposium. Each will be asked for \$10,000. The universities will also approach others for funding assistance.

Both the CBT and the Council will also be asked to support at least one student from both Canada and the USA over the late spring and summer of 2011 to help research and organize materials for the symposium as well as assist with additional fund raising and logistics. Both the CBT and the Council may be asked to provide support and financial sponsorship for students to get involved.

The CBT will also assist in the organization of this event by acting as a "local" host organization and will facilitate the inclusion of Selkirk College and College of the Rockies as local post-secondary academic institutions who should participate in some way;

A Steering Committee to help further plan the symposium will consist of representatives from the universities, the CBT, the Council, the Entities, and the First Nations/Tribes on both sides of the border. Both CBT (Kindy Gosal) and the Council (John Shurts/John Harrison) will be asked to sit on the Steering Committee for this event. The Steering Committee will be named in late March and meet as soon as reasonably possible to set the exact date and develop the agenda for the symposium.