

Working Together to Bend the Flood Risk Curve in BC's Lower Mainland

Understanding Risk BC 2020
September 22, 2020 (9:00 am – 11:00 am)



Lower Mainland Flood Management Strategy

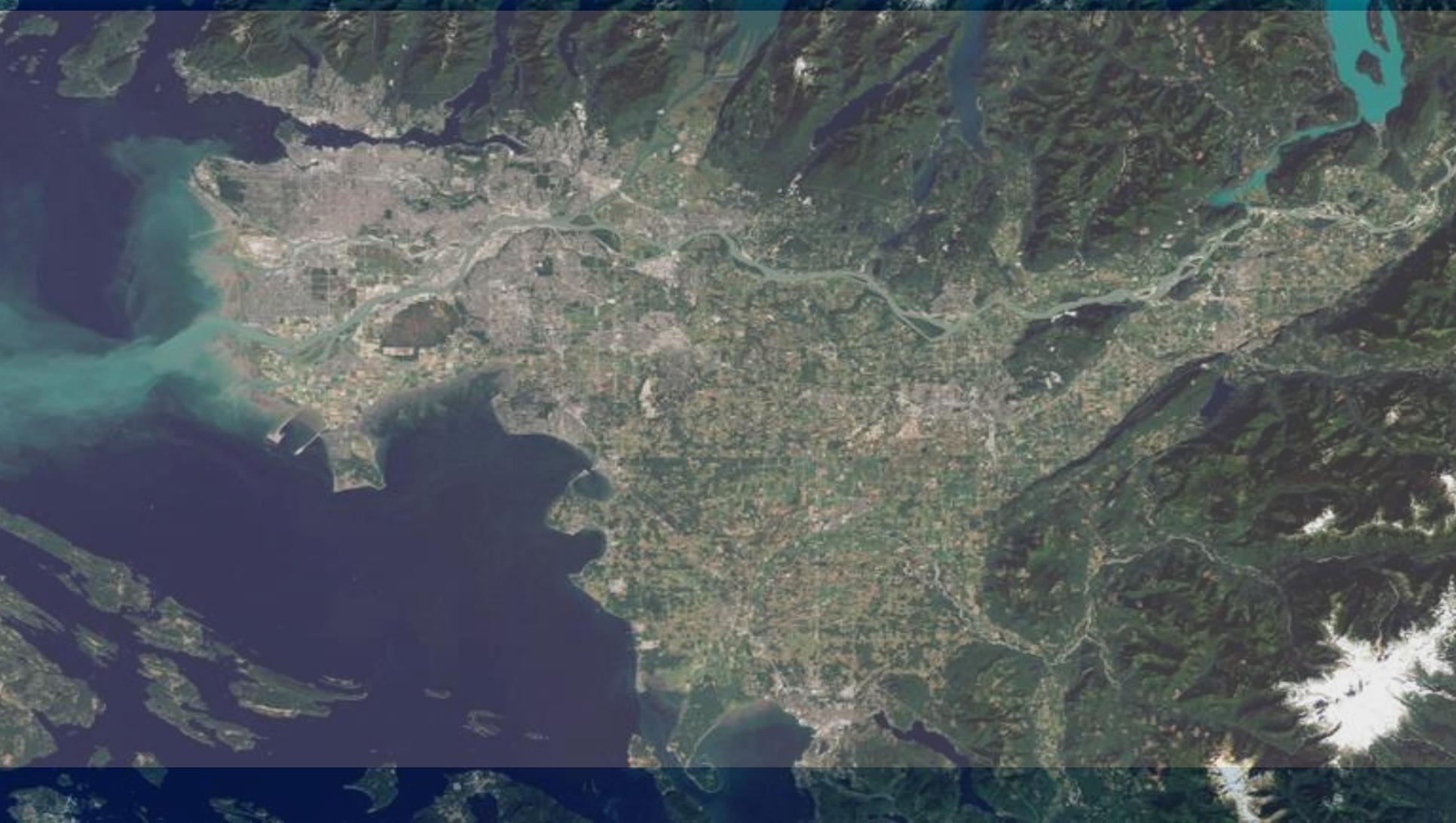
Aims to reduce flood risk and increase resilience for communities along the Lower Fraser River and South Coast



**Coastal Storm surge
(winter flood)**

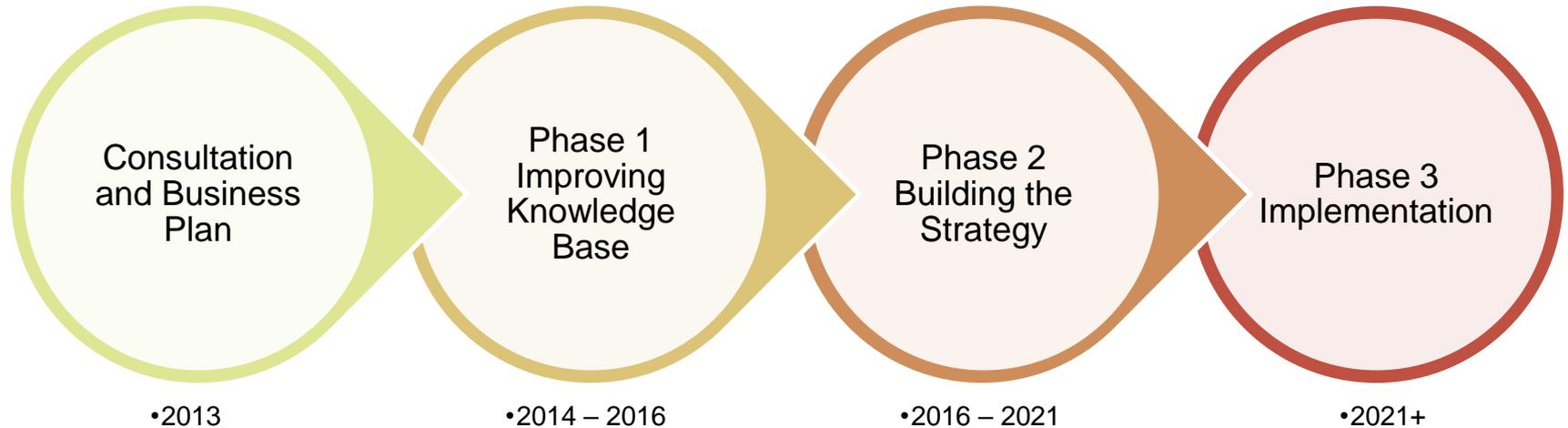


**Fraser River
freshet
(spring flood)**

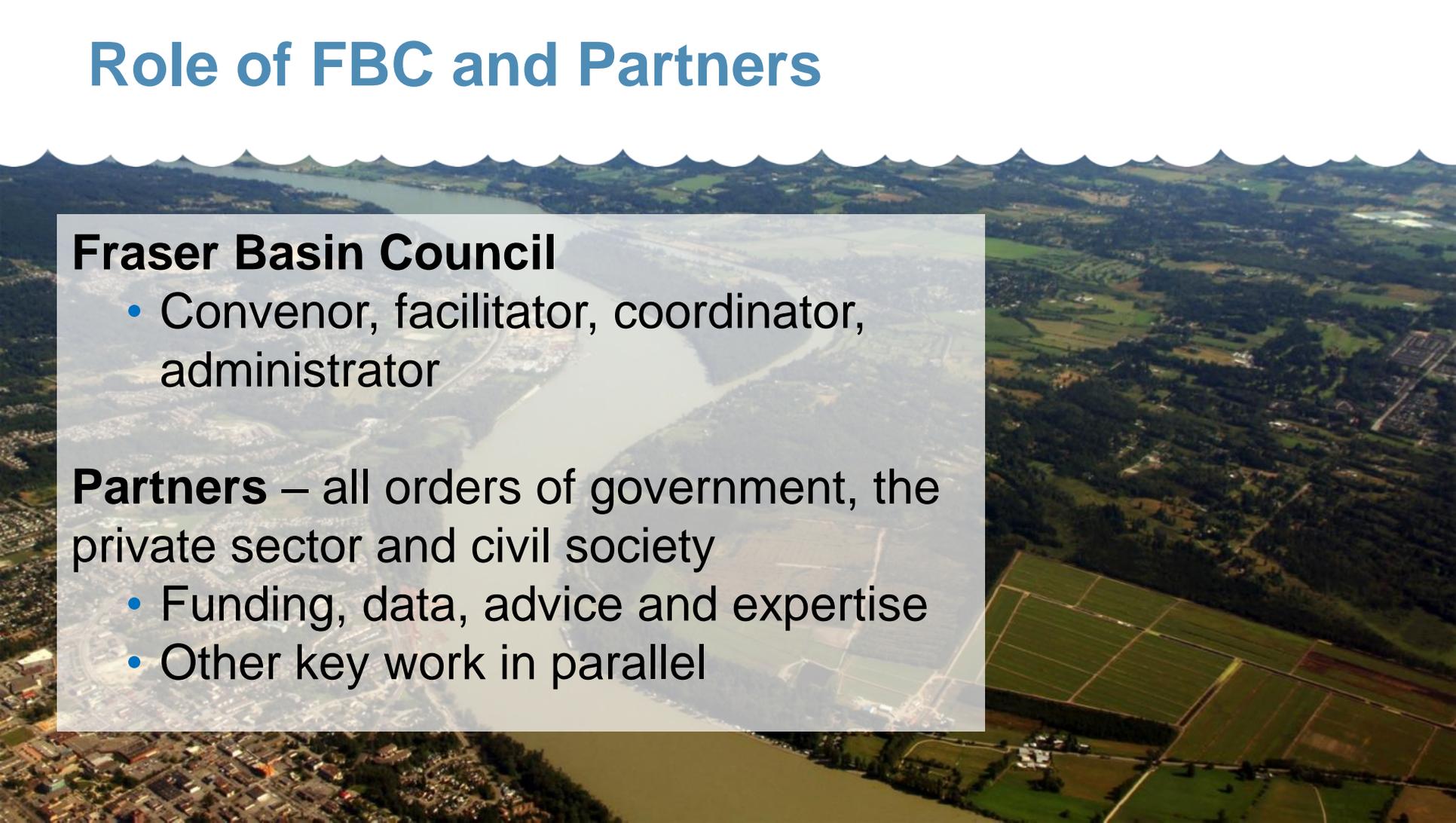


Flood Strategy Origin and Phased Approach

- Cost of Adaptation Report (released December 2012)



Role of FBC and Partners

An aerial photograph of a wide river valley, likely the Fraser River, showing a mix of urban areas, green fields, and forested hills. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing text. The top of the slide has a decorative scalloped white border.

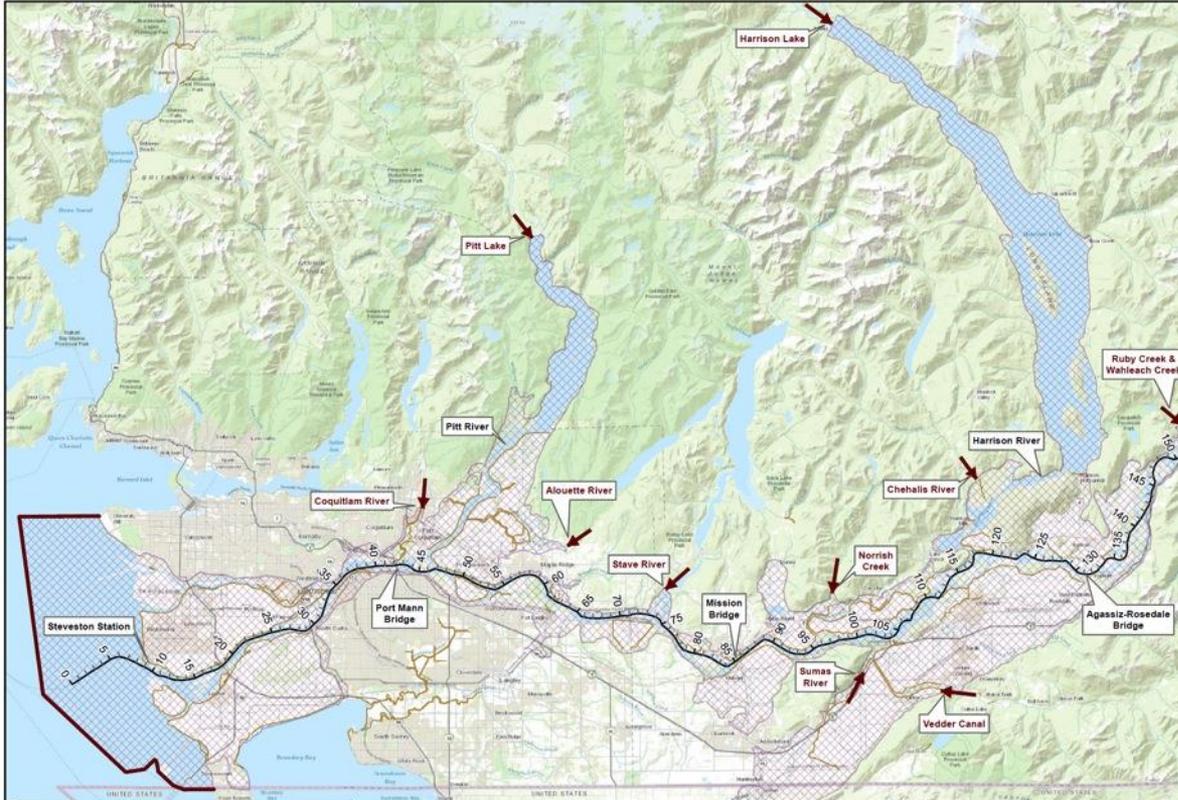
Fraser Basin Council

- Convenor, facilitator, coordinator, administrator

Partners – all orders of government, the private sector and civil society

- Funding, data, advice and expertise
- Other key work in parallel

Flood Hazard and Risk Information



Engagement and Dialogue



Lower Mainland Flood Forum (Day 1)

- Welcome to the Flood Forum (Day 1)
- The Flood Strategy: Context & Progress
- Creating a Common Vision
- Setting Regional Flood Priorities
- Evaluating Flood Risk Reduction Options

Lower Mainland Flood Management Strategy - Vision and Framework



Why do we need a Vision?

- The Vision outlines overarching values, principles, and objectives to be achieved through the Flood Strategy
- These values, principles and objectives can inform:
 - Analysis and identification of regional priorities
 - Evaluation of flood risk reduction options
 - Scope and approach to governance and funding arrangements

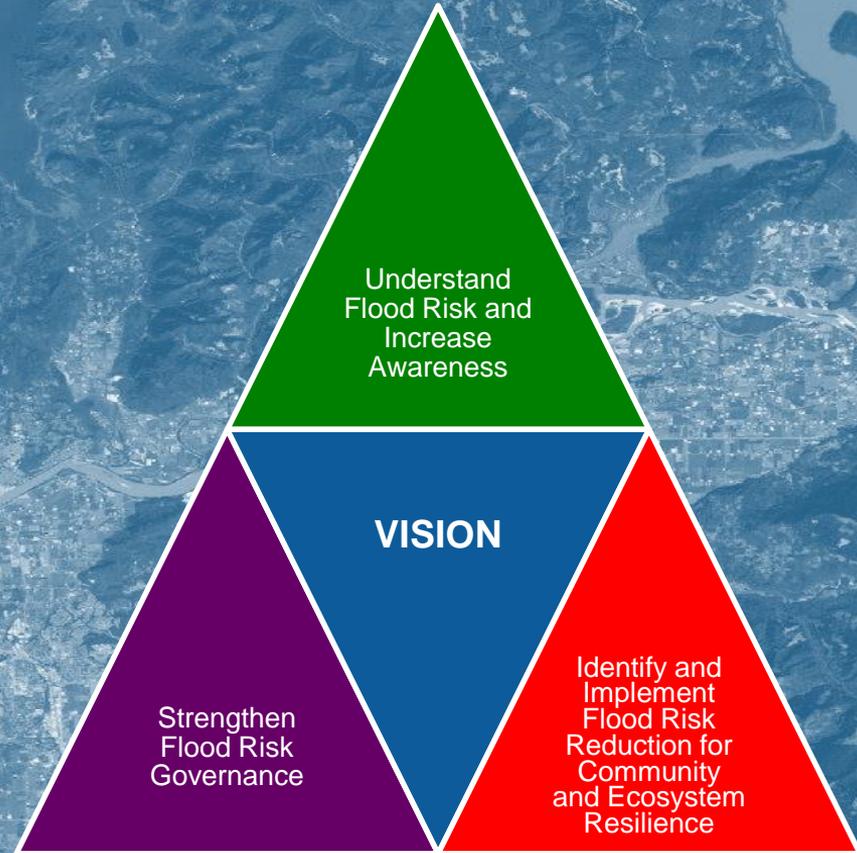
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A Vision of Flood Risk Reduction for the Lower Mainland

The Lower Mainland is a flood resilient and safe region where people, communities and organizations work together to manage current and changing flood hazards, risks and benefits



Objectives for the Flood Strategy Initiative



Values and Principles for Strategy Development



Consider current and future flood hazards



Reduce risk through proactive, preventative, and integrated measures



Recognize First Nations title and rights



Holistic approach supporting social, cultural, economic and environmental outcomes

LOWER MAINLAND FLOOD MANAGEMENT STRATEGY



Values and Principles for Strategy Development



Adapt policies and actions for local and sub-regional circumstances



Recognize regional inter-dependencies (hazard, risk and potential for risk transfer)



Inform decisions with different kinds of knowledge



Develop and implement actions through collaboration and consensus

LOWER MAINLAND FLOOD MANAGEMENT STRATEGY



From Values and Principles to Desired Outcomes from the Flood Strategy

1. Improve understanding of flood risk
2. Improve regional coordination and capacity
3. Advance reconciliation with First Nations
4. Improve environmental stewardship
5. Improve social and cultural co-benefits
6. Strengthen resilience of critical infrastructure and lifeline services
7. Strengthen economic resilience
8. Strengthen climate resilience

Types of Flood Strategy Recommendations

- Framework / criteria for regional prioritization of flood risk areas
- Regional-scale risk reduction actions
- Local-scale risk reduction actions
- Regional decision making and funding
- Strategy implementation

From Flood Strategy Vision to a Framework

Draft Desired Outcomes	Illustrative (general) Recommendations	Performance Measures
Improve understanding of flood risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expand and update flood modeling and mapping (consistent, regional floodplain map?)• Advance risk-based decision-making	
Improve regional coordination and capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support coordination and collaboration among neighbouring jurisdictions• Support communities with less capacity	
Advance reconciliation with First Nations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collaborative planning and shared decision making with First Nations governments• Address First Nations flood risks	
Improve environmental stewardship	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve fish passage with fish-friendly pumps and flood gates during infrastructure renewal and replacement• Advance nature-based approaches	

From Flood Strategy Vision to a Framework

Draft Desired Outcomes	Illustrative (general) Recommendations	Performance Measures
Improve social and cultural co-benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Design local and regional risk reduction options to optimize social and cultural benefits (e.g. recreational access and use of dikes)	
Strengthen resilience of critical infrastructure and lifeline services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work with infrastructure sectors (e.g. transportation) to inform priority risk areas and increase flood resilience of infrastructure /lifeline services	
Strengthen economic resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce flood risk in terms of private and public property, business and industry, and trade and supply chains	
Strengthen climate resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plan ahead for changing flood hazards• Pursue present day risk reduction options that allow adaptability in the future	

Discussion Questions

- What do you think are the strengths and limitations about the vision and framework presented here?
- If time: In your experience with risk-related work, what makes for an effective vision and framework?

Thank you!



Fraser Basin Council

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