

B. C. TAP WATER ALLIANCE

**Caring for, Monitoring, and Protecting
British Columbia's Community Water**

Supply Sources

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Presentation to the special meeting of the Sunshine Coast Regional District's (SCRD's) Board of Health

1. Background

My name is Will Koop, and a long-time resident of Vancouver, BC. I am the Coordinator of the BC Tap Water Alliance, a position I have held since the Alliance was formed in February 1997 by representatives from the Sunshine Coast, Greater Victoria, Greater Vancouver, and Slokan Valley areas.

From the early summer of 1991 to November 1999, I was actively involved as a concerned citizen, primarily through a seemingly unending series of volunteer tasks, to re-protect the Greater Vancouver watersheds from commercial logging. Over the course of these years following 1992, I attended almost all monthly meetings of the Greater Vancouver Water District's Water Committee, many monthly Board meetings, made numerous presentations during both Committee and Board agenda meetings, researched and wrote seven reports and about one hundred letters of correspondence. The reports I wrote helped educate the public and its public representatives on key information, ultimately with the goal of bringing about the re-protection of the Greater Vancouver watersheds.

During these years, I and other members of the public scrutinized, evaluated, and critiqued reports provided to and by the Greater Vancouver Water District by consultants, foresters and engineers concerning Greater Vancouver's three drinking watershed sources, primarily on the interrelated concerns about commercial logging on water quality and quantity. This also included an investigation conducted of legislative and administrative documents and policies developed for the Greater Vancouver watersheds from about 1905 onward. These matters helped Greater Vancouver politicians to re-protect its three drinking watershed sources, resolved after a two hour Board deliberation on November 10, 1999.

