

**RENEWED AGREEMENT
REGARDING THE MANAGEMENT OF
HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL NETWORKS IN THE PROVINCE OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA**

BETWEEN:

**HIS MAJESTY THE KING IN RIGHT OF
THE
PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,**
as represented by the Minister of
Environment and Parks (“ENV”)

**HIS MAJESTY THE KING IN RIGHT OF
THE
PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,**
as represented by the Minister of
Agriculture and Food (“AF”)

**HIS MAJESTY THE KING IN RIGHT OF
THE
PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,**
as represented by the Minister of
Forests (“FOR”)

**HIS MAJESTY THE KING IN RIGHT OF
THE
PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,**
as represented by the Minister of
Transportation and Transit (“MOTT”)

(collectively - the “Province”)

AND:

**BRITISH COLUMBIA HYDRO AND
POWER AUTHORITY,**
a Crown Corporation existing under the laws of
British Columbia (“BC Hydro”)



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AND:

RIO TINTO INC.,
a corporation duly incorporated under the laws of
Canada (“**Rio Tinto**”)



AND:

**METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL
DISTRICT**, a regional district pursuant to the
Local Government Act (British Columbia)
 (“**MVRD**”)



AND:

CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT,
a regional district pursuant to the *Local
Government Act* (British Columbia) (“**CRD**”)



AND:

**PACIFIC CLIMATE IMPACTS
CONSORTIUM**,
a non-profit organization duly incorporated
under the laws of Canada (“**PCIC**”)



AND:

**HIS MAJESTY THE KING
IN RIGHT OF CANADA**,
as represented by the
Minister of Environment
 (“**ECCC-MS**”)



(Each a “**Party**” and collectively, the “**Parties**”)

WHEREAS:

- A) The Parties are party to the AMENDED AND RESTATED AGREEMENT REGARDING THE MANAGEMENT OF HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL NETWORKS IN THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA (the “**Original Agreement**”) dated as of February 21st, 2021.

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- B) Each Party to this Agreement manages, operates, and maintains independent Hydrometeorological Data collection and data management, reporting and archive systems, in the Province of British Columbia (“**B.C.**”) as outlined in [SCHEDULE A](#).

In addition:

- PCIC quantifies the impacts of climate change and variability on the physical environment in the Pacific and Yukon region of North America to ensure that good quality scientific information is available for adaptation policies and decisions. PCIC acts as a Hydrometeorological Data Aggregator for the Parties and maintains a publicly accessible dataset of up-to-date historical Hydrometeorological Data. PCIC is a federally incorporated not-for-profit corporation that is partially supported by an endowment established by B.C. at the University of Victoria, with the remainder of its support being provided by its users and stakeholders.
- ECCC-MSD acts as a near real-time Data Aggregator and maintains a publicly accessible Hydrometeorological Data Distribution System containing data from partner agencies across the nation.

- C) Each Party to this Agreement agrees and understands that:

- It shares a common interest in hydrometeorological monitoring, quality management systems, the public dissemination of Hydrometeorological Data, and the promotion of science-based decisions.
- Its respective mandate can be fulfilled more effectively through the exchange of Hydrometeorological Data and associated Metadata. Collaboration increases the accessibility to and discoverability of Hydrometeorological Data, Climate Data and information in B.C.
- The sharing of data has the potential to reduce spatial data gaps. Remaining gaps in network coverage can be collectively addressed.
- Creating a Climate Data set enhances the understanding of climate change and climate variability in B.C.

- D) All Parties acknowledge that:

- The non-public sector Parties to this Agreement, Rio Tinto, and BC Hydro, are going beyond their functional mandates to participate in data sharing and the continued contribution of data to a Provincial Climate Data Set to create a long-term climate database for the public benefit; and
- It is in the public interest to use data sharing and open data concepts to ensure access to information, tools, and data.

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- E) ECCC-MSC acknowledges through the Collaborative Monitoring Initiative the important role that localized Networks have in supplementing ECCC-MSC's Hydrometeorological and Climate Data.

AND

- F) All Parties wish to renew the Original Agreement under the amended terms and conditions set forth herein.

NOW THEREFORE, for the good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is acknowledged, the Parties wish to enter into an agreement to set out their shared intent on how to work together to accomplish common goals cooperatively, as follows:

SECTION 1 – DEFINITIONS

Where used in this Agreement,

- 1.1 **Administrators Committee** – means a committee with individuals with financial or leadership roles within Parties; the committee approves the strategic direction of B.C.'s Climate Related Monitoring Program as described in [SCHEDULE B](#). A list of Administrator Positions within each Party is defined in [SCHEDULE C](#).
- 1.2 **Associated Agencies** means any organization, research group or private company that can and will contribute Hydrometeorological Data or expertise to the Provincial Climate Data Set without being a full Party to this Agreement. Representatives of Associated Agencies are welcome to contribute to committee discussions as non-voting members of those committees.
- 1.3 **British Columbia's Climate Related Monitoring Program or CRMP**– means the coordinating program for the collection, implementation and management of data for the Provincial Climate Data Set. This B.C. Government program facilitates all the purposes as outlined in Section 2 in this Agreement.
- 1.4 **Climate Data** – means any data derived or summarized from Hydrometeorological Data deemed fit for use by a data analyst. Climate data is used to inform decision makers and the public about significant changes and trends in seasonal, annual, or longer statistical climatic patterns in B.C.
- 1.5 **Climate Stations** – means a subset of Hydrometeorological Stations that meet minimum sensor siting and operational standards as described through in the Hydrometeorological Monitoring Standards.
- 1.6 **Climate Networks Coordinator or CNC**– means an ENV position responsible for the administration and operation of this Agreement and the CRMP. The main functions of this role are outline in Section 3.3

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- 1.7 **Collaborative Monitoring Initiative** – means an initiative undertaken by ECCC-MSc to improve sharing of Hydrometeorological Data, Metadata and Network information between provinces and territories, federal departments and other Network operators/data owners (e.g. academia, regional/municipal governments, private sector) to support long-term monitoring, operational decision making and improve data quality, access and interoperability.
- 1.8 **Coordinators Committee** – means a committee with individuals representing Network operations within Parties; the committee undertakes the roles within the approved direction of the CRMP administration committee as described in [SCHEDULE B](#). A list of Coordinator Positions within each Party is defined in [SCHEDULE C](#).
- 1.9 **Council for Weather and Climate Monitoring or CWAC** – means a national body, created by the Collaborative Monitoring Initiative, with representation from federal, provincial, and territorial jurisdictions, similar in scope to the CRMP but on a national scale.
- 1.10 **Data Aggregator** – means any entity that collates Hydrometeorological Data from multiple agencies into publicly available Materials and supports data use beyond the originating agency’s mandate.
- 1.11 **Data Distribution System** – means a system operated by a Data Aggregator that serves as a source of some combination of preliminary quality hydrometeorological, weather, water, climate, and environmental data and forecast information. These systems serve specialized users with adequate meteorological and IT knowledge and are mainly meant to be accessed in an automatic manner via the Internet. [Datamart](#) and [GeoMet](#) are current examples of Data Distribution Systems operated by ECCC-MSc.
- 1.12 **Data Policy** – an entity’s rules, principles and guidelines that govern how that entity administers data. This may vary from open data policies within the Provincial and Federal Governments (examples provided in [SCHEDULE E](#)) to policies indicating minimal sharing of data beyond specific user groups.
- 1.13 **Federal/Provincial Bilateral Meeting**– means an annual meeting that takes place with CWAC and CRMP Party representation to exchange information about CRMP or CWAC Activities. Ideally the timing of these meetings should (but may not) coincide with the annual CRMP Administrators Meeting.
- 1.14 **Hydrometeorological Data** – means observed weather and related parameters collected at Hydrometeorological Stations; including snow and glacier observations, but excluding hydrometric observations.
- 1.15 **Hydrometeorological Monitoring Standards** – means four national standards developed by [CSA Group](#) (CSA R100:20, CSA R101:22, CSA R102:22, CSA R103:23) to allow Networks to self describe and analyse operations to improve Hydrometeorological and Climate Data management.

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1.16 **Hydrometeorological Stations** – means surface-based, environmental monitoring platforms that collect Hydrometeorological Data.

1.17 **Materials** – means any reports, records, findings, data, specifications, drawings, products, summaries or other information created as a result of this Agreement, including;

- Findings based on technical expertise and acquisition practices
- Hydrometeorological Data and Climate Data;
- Metadata;
- The Provincial Climate Data Set; and,
- Quality Controlled data.

In this Agreement, Materials can be further defined as

1.17.1 **Composite Material** – means Material which is produced by a Party independently of any other Party and which includes Incorporated Material.

1.17.2 **Incorporated Material** – means any Source Material of a Party which another Party incorporates or embeds into Composite Material.

1.17.3 **Source Material** – means Material that is obtained, collected, developed, or produced by a Party independently of any other Party.

1.17 **Metadata** – means information about the configuration, operation, and location of Hydrometeorological Stations or Networks.

1.18 **Network** – means a spatially distributed collection of Hydrometeorological Stations operated by an entity in the course of its standard operations.

1.19 **Provincial Climate Data Set or PCDS** – means a database of Hydrometeorological Data from B.C. that is maintained and made publicly available by PCIC.

1.20 **Quality Control** – means automated or manual validation procedures performed on Hydrometeorological Data to improve its representativeness. “**Quality Controlled**” has a corresponding meaning.

1.21 **Standard Operational Procedures** – means any procedures that a Party incorporates as a normal process in the management and day-to-day use of its Network.

SECTION 2 –PURPOSE

To achieve the interests set out in the Recitals, the purposes of this Agreement are to:

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- 2.1 Improve public access to Climate Data, Metadata, or Hydrometeorological Data collected by the Parties. Specifically, the Agreement aims to improve real-time data access through ECCC-MSD's Data Distribution Systems and access to Quality Controlled native temporal resolution historical data on PCIC's data portal.
- 2.2 Improve sharing, use and understanding of Hydrometeorological Data, that facilitates improved understanding of climate change and variability in B.C.
- 2.3 Improve efficiencies between the Parties through collaboration on instrument testing, sharing of experiences with instrumentation, and sharing of experiences with Network design.
- 2.4 Improve the usability of data by promoting and applying common observation standards, and standardized data and Metadata dissemination, including a single point of access for users of Hydrometeorological Data gathered in BC.
- 2.5 Improve the transparency of data used to produce Climate Data products.
- 2.6 Set out minimum standards for the designation of specific Hydrometeorological Stations (with descriptions of Network operations and site Metadata) as Climate Stations.

SECTION 3 – ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3.1 Each Party will:
 - 3.1.1 Share and make available to the other Parties
 - a) Climate Data,
 - b) Hydrometeorological Data, and,
 - c) Materials from Hydrometeorological Stations operated by the Party,and will share with the other Parties Metadata about the Party's Networks located in B.C. with the intent of improving data accessibility to the public.
 - 3.1.2 To the extent reasonably possible, adopt
 - a) Hydrometeorological Monitoring Standards,
 - b) Standard Operational Procedures common with the other Parties, and
 - c) Data Policies which improve quality and accessibility of data and support development of the Networks and Materials.

For reference, minimum acceptable siting standards for designation of a Hydrometeorological Station as a "Climate" specified station within the CRMP Station are outlined in [SCHEDULE D](#).

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Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Agreement does not prevent Parties from application of relevant operational standards applicable to their operations and area of expertise including but not limited to those outlined in [SCHEDULE E](#).

- 3.1.3 Notify the CNC in writing as soon as reasonably possible if, for any reason, the Party cannot meet the terms and conditions in this Agreement.
- 3.1.4 Participate with appropriate representation in the Administrators Committee and Coordinators Committees and when aligned with the Party's Network needs, in CWAC sub-committees.
- 3.1.5 In accordance with its operating practices, be responsible for maintaining and operating the Party's Network and for ensuring the integrity and security of its Hydrometeorological Stations, data polling acquisition systems, databases and data reporting systems.
- 3.1.6 Encourage participation on the Administrators and/or, Coordinators Committee by other Network operating entities, either as an Associated Agency or as a full Party to this Agreement.
- 3.1.7 Keep abreast of active CRMP related sub-committees and, in its discretion and to the extent reasonably possible, participate in national CWAC sub-committees.
- 3.1.8 Use the Materials it has acquired in the process of its ordinary operations in a manner that respects the scientific value of the Materials and the legal rights of Parties and Associated Agencies.
- 3.1.9 Provide reciprocal credit and recognition to Parties who provide Source Material by indicating on websites, in publications, and, where otherwise warranted, acknowledgment identifying the providing Party or Parties. For the purposes of providing reciprocal credit under this section, if a Party (the "**First Party**")
- a) specifies a particular logo of the First Party to be used by another Party (the "**Second Party**") for the purposes of acknowledging the contribution of the First Party; and
 - b) provides express written permission to the Second Party to use the specified logo for the purposes of acknowledging the contribution of the First Party.

The Second Party will include the First Party's specified logo when acknowledging contribution of the First Party.

- 3.2 In addition to the commitments in section 3.1, each Network operating Party will be responsible for their monitoring programs, including (but not limited to):
- field staff training and safety,

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- permitting and/or ensuring access to sites (with appropriate land use agreements or permits),
- funding,
- quality assurance, including training, and documenting of procedures,
- data management systems, and
- and collection and management of site and Network Metadata in accordance with the Hydrometeorological Monitoring Standards (CSA Group).

3.3 In addition to the commitments in section 3.1, ENV will be responsible for fulfilling the role of the CNC to support the following work requirements:

3.3.1 Managing operational and capital allocations (subject to funding availability) to support monitoring equipment enhancements to existing stations within Party Networks.

3.3.2 Collaboratively with the Parties, developing annual business plans outlining the collaborative to be undertaken supporting the goals of this agreement.

3.3.3 Reporting on the outcomes of those annual business plans.

3.3.4 Facilitating communications between Networks, Data Aggregators, the Coordinators and Administrators Committees and CWAC.

3.3.5 Maintaining an inventory of Hydrometeorological Data clients and maintain awareness of clients' evolving data and product needs.

3.3.6 Ensuring that applicable SCHEDULE updates occur in a timely manner, respecting the required committee approval requirements as laid out in Section 10.4.

3.4 In addition to commitments in section 3.1, as a Data Aggregator, PCIC will be responsible for:

3.4.1 Ensuring that the PCDS is maintained, refreshed with up-to-date information and made available through a public facing Data Distribution System(s);

3.4.2 Producing publicly available reports and summaries based on the Provincial Climate Data Set that deepens the understanding of climate variability in British Columbia;

3.4.3 Providing the complete PCDS back to ENV should it be unable to continue as a Party under this Agreement; and

3.4.4 Participating in regular Coordinator meetings to better understand data integrity and aggregation issues, interagency interactions and promote knowledge transfer.

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- 3.5 In addition to the commitments in section 3.1 and 3.2, as both a Data Aggregator and a real-time data user, ECCC-MSD will be responsible for acquiring, collating, and qualifying near real-time data available from the Parties and posting that information (with appropriate Party attribution and data qualifiers) on their public and internal facing Data Distribution Systems.
- 3.6 The roles and responsibilities of the Administrators and Coordinators Committee are described in [SCHEDULE B](#) of this Agreement.

SECTION 4 – INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- 4.1 The Parties agree that:
- 4.1.1 Each Party owns all intellectual property, including copyright, in its own Source Material, other than intellectual property in Source Material which is owned by a third party (who has not entered into this Agreement); and
- 4.1.2 A Party that produces Composite Material exclusively owns all intellectual property, including copyright, in the Composite Material, other than any Materials which is Incorporated Material.
- 4.2 This Agreement recognizes that Source Material or Composite Material available through this agreement can be freely shared within the entity’s Data Policy.
- 4.3 For Source Material not shared through open data policies and being shared under this Agreement by a Party (the “**Sharing Party**”), the Sharing Party grants to each other Party and any subsequent Party to this Agreement, to the extent that the Sharing Party has the power to grant rights to use the Source Material, a non-exclusive, perpetual, irrevocable, royalty-free, worldwide license to exercise, in respect of that Source Material, the rights set out in the *Copyright Act* (Canada), including the right to use, reproduce, modify, publish and distribute that Source Material. The grant of license under this section is made by the Sharing Party at no cost.
- 4.4 Each Party irrevocably waives in the other Parties’ favour any moral rights which a Party may have in the Materials. Upon the request of the Coordinators Committee, a Party must deliver to the Coordinators Committee documents satisfactory to the Coordinators Committee to reflect this waiver. To the extent employees or subcontractors of a Party, or the employees of a subcontractor, have any moral rights in Materials, each Party agrees to use commercially reasonable efforts to obtain a waiver of such moral rights.
- 4.5 Where appropriate, a Party that uses or publishes Materials produced by another Party will explicitly identify the other Party as the originator of the Materials.

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- 4.6 The PCDS and Materials generally known to the public will be made publicly available without charge.

SECTION 5 – PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND EVALUATION

- 5.1 An annual business plan is developed by the 1st month of the Province’s fiscal year by the CNC in collaboration with Party coordinators containing at minimum the following:
- 5.1.1 A prioritized list of projects that will be undertaken with expected workloads from ENV and each of the collaborating Parties.
 - 5.1.2 Expected operational and capital costs within ENV’s budget required to support the plan.
 - 5.1.3 A list of the monitoring enhancements undertaken under CRMP leadership to date.
- This annual business plan is submitted for comment to the Administrator’s committee and final approval by the ENV Director (Climate, Hydrology and Snow Monitoring).
- 5.2 An annual report is produced outlining the progress on activities undertaken within the previous fiscal year’s business plan at the start of the each new fiscal year. These annual reports will be made available to all Parties.
- 5.3 The Coordinators Committee will meet twice annually for in-depth discussions and updates on projects, and at minimum bi-monthly (via teleconference) to develop annual priorities, work through those priorities, implement changes and report out on progress. Meeting notes covering the topics discussed will be distributed.

SECTION 6 – FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- 6.1 With the exception of access to the PCDS and Materials generally known to the public and normally available, nothing in Section 4 prohibits the charging of fees to cover the costs of information retrieval and processing of requests for Materials from individuals or organizations not a Party to this Agreement.

SECTION 7 – STATEMENTS AND RECORDS

- 7.1 Each Party will notify the other Parties – with reasonable notice - of any planned changes that may impact Hydrometeorological Data collection and reporting. Any SOP or guidance on change management notifications adopted by the CRMP will be added to SCHEDULE E.

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SECTION 8 – ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND CONFIDENTIALITY

- 8.1 This Agreement is subject to all applicable provincial and federal laws, including the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (R.S.B.C., 1996, c. 165), the Access to Information Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. A-1) and the Privacy Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. P-21).
- 8.2 Subject to any law requiring a Party to disclose information in its control, including the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (R.S.B.C., 1996, c. 165) and any applicable federal laws, the Parties will treat as confidential all information or Materials which are clearly marked as confidential.
- 8.3 For greater certainty, nothing in this Agreement shall be interpreted to preclude ECCC-MSD from disclosing information that ECCC-MSD may be required or ordered to disclose under the Access to Information Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. A-1) or otherwise, pursuant to any applicable federal laws.

SECTION 9 – DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 9.1 The Parties agree to use all reasonable efforts to resolve a dispute amicably.
- 9.2 Unresolved disputes between specific Parties at the Coordinators Committee will first be referred to the CNC for further discussion and clarification. If the dispute cannot be resolved, then it will be elevated to the Administrator Committee representative of the Parties in dispute for further clarification.

**SECTION 10 – TERM, EXTENSION, AMENDMENTS AND
TERMINATION**

- 10.1 This Agreement comes into effect on April 1st, 2026, or on the date of the last signature of incumbent parties (whichever comes first) (the “**Effective Date**”). This Agreement expires March 31st, 2033, unless all Parties withdraw from the Agreement under Section 10.5.
- 10.2 Any Party may propose an amendment to this Agreement, by delivering a written notice of proposed amendments to the other Parties. With the exception of any extensions to the Agreement term defined in Section 10.1, or changes to SCHEDULES A, B, C, D and E, a notice of proposed amendments is required two (2) months prior to any formal discussion of the proposed amendment to this Agreement. No amendment will be valid unless it is in writing and is signed by all the Parties in the same manner as this Agreement.
- 10.3 An extension of the Agreement beyond its original term may only occur upon mutual agreement of all Parties.

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- 10.3.1 Any Party may propose an extension to the term of this Agreement (as set out in section 10.1), by delivering a notice of proposed extension to the other Parties.
- 10.3.2 Formal notice on any extensions can be given at any time prior to the end of the Agreement term, extending the agreement on a year-by-year basis.
- 10.3.3 No extension to the term will be valid unless it is in the form of a written amendment to this Agreement and is signed by all Administrative Committee members.
- 10.4 All parties recognize that SCHEDULES A, B, C, D and E may be updated from time to time as required to reflect changes in organizational structures, committee roles and responsibilities and positional titles in membership.
- 10.4.1 Updates to Schedules A, D and E can be approved by Coordinator Committee members.
- 10.4.2 Amendments to Schedules B and C will be proposed for discussion at the Administrator's Committee.
- 10.5 A Party may, by giving to the other Parties at least six (6) months' written notice, withdraw from this Agreement. Upon withdrawal from this Agreement, any equipment loaned to the withdrawing Party for use in its Network shall be returned to the Party that owns the equipment. As of the date of withdrawal, the Party that has withdrawn will have no further rights or obligations under this Agreement. Relative to the remaining Parties, the Agreement will continue in full force and effect.
- 10.6 The Parties agree that should a Party withdraw from this Agreement:
- 10.6.1 The remaining Parties and the withdrawing Party may continue to use the Materials exchanged under this Agreement up to the withdrawing Party's official withdrawal date; and
- 10.6.2 As of the date of withdrawal, the Party exercising its right of withdrawal shall cease to provide and receive Materials under this Agreement.
- 10.7 The Parties agree that an Associated Agency may become a Party to this Agreement only after a recommendation is provided by the Administrators Committee in consultation with the Coordinators Committee.
- 10.8 In the case where PCIC can no longer remain a Party to this Agreement, PCIC will work with the Province to plan and implement a transfer of the PCDS back to the Province (or a designated 3rd party) in its entirety. All Parties acknowledge that this may take longer than the six (6) months' notice of withdrawal period outlined in Section 10.3.
- 10.9 This Agreement, including SCHEDULES A, B, C, D, and E:

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- 10.9.1 Constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof; and
- 10.9.2 Supersedes all contracts, representations, warranties, promises, covenants, arrangements, communications, and understandings, oral or written, express or implied, between or among the Parties with respect to the subject matter, including, without limitation, the Original Agreement, which shall be at an end and of no further force or effect as of the Effective Date.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Agreement does not terminate or amend any agreements in force on related subjects that bind any two or more Parties. This Agreement does not prevent any of the Parties from conducting specific projects with any other Party or any Associated Agency.

- 10.10 This Agreement may be executed and delivered in one or more counterparts, which may be delivered by email transmission in PDF or similar secure format, and each executed and delivered counterpart will be deemed an original and all counterparts will together constitute one and the same document.

SECTION 11 – LEGALITY

- 11.1 This Agreement constitutes a non-binding agreement and, with the exception of this section 11.1, section 12.3, section 4 (Intellectual Property) and section 8 (Access to Information and Confidentiality) is not intended to create legally enforceable obligations. It is an expression of the shared intent of the Parties on how to work together to accomplish a common goal. This Agreement is entered into solely for the purposes of sharing data, information and in-kind or operational resources to enable more effective management, dissemination, and reporting of environmental data by all Parties.

SECTION 12 – INSURANCE AND WARRANTY

- 12.1 Subject to 12.2, each Party will be responsible for its own insurance in connection with anything arising out of this Agreement.
- 12.2 The Parties agree that His Majesty the King in Right of Canada and His Majesty the King in right of the Province of British Columbia shall be entitled to self-insure.
- 12.3 With respect to Materials, the Parties make no warranties or representations, express or implied to any other Party as to the accuracy and the suitability of the Materials for any intended use of it by any Party and anyone else. No Party shall be liable to any other Party for loss, damage, or costs incurred directly or indirectly from a Party's reliance on the Materials.

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SECTION 13 – MISCELLANEOUS

- 13.1 Nothing in this Agreement is intended to replace or amend obligations of the Parties that they are bound or obligated by law to perform.
- 13.2 In this Agreement, singular terms include the plural term and vice versa.

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SECTION 14 – SIGNATURES

14.1 The Parties hereby confirm their understanding in this Agreement.

On Behalf of Ministry of Environment and Parks



Keyin Jardine
Deputy Minister

December 17, 2025
Date

On Behalf of Ministry of Forests



Makenzie Leine
Deputy Minister

January 2, 2026
Date


On Behalf of Ministry of Agriculture and Food



Michelle Koski
Deputy Minister

January 5, 2026
Date

On Behalf of Ministry of Transportation and Transit

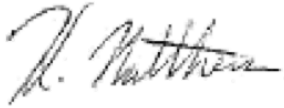


Heather Wood
Deputy Minister

December 18, 2025
Date

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On Behalf of BC Hydro

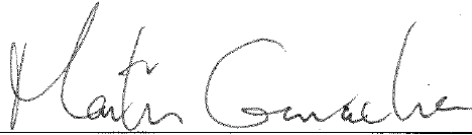


February 10, 2026

Heather Matthews
Vice President, Generation System Operations

Date

On Behalf of Rio Tinto



2025-11-25

Martin Gamache,
Manager Power and Hydrology, Technical Services Atlantic

On Behalf of Metro Vancouver Regional District



FEB 26 2026

Jerry W. Dobrovolny, P. Eng. MBA
Chief Administration Officer

Date

On Behalf of Capital Regional District



DEC 17/25

Ted Robbins
Chief Administration Officer

Date

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On Behalf of the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium



2025-11-20

Xuebin Zhang,
Director, President, and CEO

On Behalf of Environment and Climate Change Canada



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Date

**RENEWED NON-BINDING AGREEMENT REGARDING THE MANAGEMENT OF
HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL NETWORKS IN THE PROVINCE OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA**

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RENEWED AGREEMENT REGARDING THE MANAGEMENT OF HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL NETWORKS IN THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

SCHEDULE A – PARTICIPATING NETWORKS

Agency	Network Name	Purpose (Hydrometeorological monitoring supporting)	Temperature	Humidity	Wind Speed and Direction	Precipitation (Summer)	Precipitation (all Season)	Snow Depth	Snow/Water Equivalent	Soil Temperature	Soil Moisture	Barometric Pressure	Solar radiation	Leaf Wetness	Pavement Temperature and Conditions	Approx. # of stations	Distribution
Ministry of Environment and Parks (ENV)	Air Quality Network (AQN)	Air quality forecasting and monitoring in communities– paired with ambient air sampling technologies	X	X	X	O	O	O				O	O			62	Province wide – mostly in urban/suburban areas
	Automated Snow Weather Station Network (ASWS)	Meteorological and snow pack monitoring to support flood forecasting for public safety	X	O	O		X	X	X							56	Province wide – remote areas.
Ministry of Forests (MOF)	Fire Weather Network (FWx)	Fire management activities including wildfire preparedness and suppression for public safety and resource protection	X	X	X	X	O	O					O			257	Province wide
	Forest Ecosystem Research Networks (FERN)	Forest and ecosystem research to support ecosystem classification, a sustainable natural resource industry, and climate change impacts	X	X	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O		73 (93)	Province wide Note: Some data is manually collected from automated sites on periodic basis (with UNBC)
Ministry of Agriculture and Food (AF)	BC AgriWeather	Hydrometeorological Stations in support of agricultural users to ensure sustainable use of resources in a changing climate.	X	X	X		X						O			96	Province wide in agricultural areas
Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MOTT)	Remote Automated Weather Stations (RAWS)	Avalanche forcing, and winter highway maintenance to ensure public safety	X	X	O		O	O							O	170	Primarily along/above Provincial highway Corridors
	Road Weather Stations (RWS) Seasonal Strength Loss Program (SSLP)	Surface and subsurface monitoring to maintain road infrastructure during the spring.	X						X								Primarily along Provincial highway Corridors
BC Hydro (BCH)	GSO Hydrometeorological Monitoring Program	Hydroelectric generation operations, and specifically for hydrological modelling, meteorological and hydrological forecasting, and water resource management, such as flood and drought management.	X	O	O	X	X	O	O	O		O				99	In and near BC Hydro-managed watersheds.
	Site C	Hydroelectric generation operations specifically around Site C Watershed.	X		O	O	X	X	O							7	In the Site C reservoir area.
Rio Tinto		Hydroelectric generation operations, and specifically for hydrological modelling, meteorological and hydrological forecasting, and water resource management, such as flood and drought management.	X		O		X	O	O			O	O			6	Located primarily on Nechako watershed and surrounding region.
Metro Vancouver (MVRD)	Air Quality Network	Air quality forecasting and monitoring in communities– paired with ambient air sampling technologies	X	X	X	O	O					O	O			30	Lower Mainland and Upper Fraser Valley
	Water Services	Meteorological and snow pack monitoring to support flood forecasting for public safety	X	X	X	O										23	
Capital Regional District (CRD)	Infrastructure and Water Services	CRD maintains a Network of Hydrometeorological Stations to support water management activities.	X	X	X	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O			11	Southern Vancouver Island
Environment and Climate Change Canada, Meteorological Service of Canada (ECCC-MSC)	Surface Weather Network	In accordance with it's mandate to support public weather warning and forecasting programs and climate research	O	O	O	O	O	O				O				189	Province Wide
	Marine Bouy Network		X	X	X							X					
	Daily Climate		X			X	X										

O = Measured at a subset of the sites
X = Measured at all sites.

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SCHEDULE B – COMMITTEE MANDATES AND REQUIREMENTS

Date: Effective Date

B1 The joint mission statement developed by Parties within the CRMP is:

<p>Data Aggregation, Coordination and Standardization for long term climate monitoring to serve the citizens of British Columbia</p>
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To support the CRMP, parties actively support the exchange of real-time data, Metadata, operational procedures, technical knowledge and methodologies and generally work to improve the quality of real-time and historic Hydrometeorological Data.

B2 The Parties will encourage participation by Associated Agencies on the Administrators Committee and Coordinators Committee. Additional participation will be encouraged from those agencies and researchers that maintain research and other Networks.

B3 Any changes with respect to the members in the Administrators Committee or Coordinators Committee shall be communicated to the CNC and verbally to all Parties by the Party who is replacing its member.

B4 The Coordinators Committee will be able to set up sub-committees, working groups or other mechanisms as appropriate to help conduct the Agreement and maximize program benefits.

B5 Where possible, Party representatives will differ between Coordinators Committee and Administrator Committee unless there is a justifiable reason for them not to.

B6 Mandates for the Administrators Committee, or Coordinators Committee will be maintained within this schedule. Changes to these mandates will be approved by the Administrators Committee.

B7 Participants/Membership for the Administrators or Coordinators Committee will be maintained within this schedule and will be updated when changes occur within each Party.

B8 Administrators Committee

B8.1 An Administrators Committee will be set up and will include membership from each Party. An Associated Agency may be invited to sit on the Committee. The names and positions of the people in the Administrators Committee will be maintained annually by the CNC.

B8.2 The members of the Administrators Committee shall meet (preferably in June) of each year to:

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- B8.2.1 Affirm and if necessary renew, after the Agreement expires, the provisions of this Agreement;
- B8.2.2 Review and set broad program goals and objectives for this Agreement;
- B8.2.3 Review achievement against performance measures established in the previous year for the effective operation of the Agreement; and
- B8.2.4 Outline and share Network and program updates, challenges and pressures.
- B8.3 Join in ECCC-MSC's Federal/Provincial Bilateral Meeting outlining CWAC activities and updates. It is ideal to co-facilitate both the Annual Administrators and the Federal/Provincial Bilateral meetings.

B9 Coordinators Committee

- B9.1 A Coordinators Committee will be set up and membership may include Network Coordinators for each Party. An Associated Agency may be invited to sit on the committee.
- B9.2 The Role of the Coordinators Committee will be to:
- B9.2.1 Recognize the status of this Agreement and ensure that the Network Administrator is updated if changes arise to said status;
- B9.2.2 Set both short- and medium-term targets, based on goals and objectives approved by the Administrators Committee;
- B9.2.3 Review and report on performance relative to the business plan established at the start of the fiscal year;
- B9.2.4 Set standards for data collection and management;
- B9.2.5 Set up sub-committees, working groups or other mechanisms as appropriate including making recommendations for CWAC sub-committees (or participants) to help conduct the intentions of the Agreement and maximize program benefits;
- B9.2.6 Learn about each Party's operating maintenance and planning activities;
- B9.2.7 Ensure adequate follow-up on defined projects;
- B9.2.8 Discuss methods and procedures used;
- B9.2.9 Identify areas in Network management that are of mutual interest that could be the subject of exchanges or collaborations, such as (but not limited to):
- Reviewing business process across the Parties to streamline as much as possible business practices around land tenure; and
 - Improving data collection from third parties to meet basic monitoring objectives and better sharing of information;

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- B9.2.10 Assess the results obtained from sharing data and harmonizing activities;
- B9.2.11 Seek funding sources with other agencies or under federal initiatives to supplement and improve the information gathered by the Parties under this Agreement.

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SCHEDULE C – COMMITTEE PARTICIPANTS

Date: Effective Date

C.1 Administrators Committee

- Chair: Climate Network Coordinator, ENV (Unit Head – Snow and Climate)
- Director, Climate, Hydrology and Snow Monitoring, ENV
- Manager, Avalanche and Weather Programs, MOTT
- Director, President and CEO, PCIC
- Representative, Generation Systems Operations, BC Hydro
- Representative, Rio Tinto
- Deputy Director, Provincial Operations, Wildfire Service, MoF
- Research Climatologist, MoF
- Water Management Engineer, AF
- Superintendent, Environmental Sampling and Monitoring, MVRD
- Manager, Watershed Planning and Monitoring, Infrastructure and Water Services, CRD
- Director, Surface Weather and Marine Division, MSC, ECCC

C.2 Coordinators Committee

- Chair: Climate Network Coordinator, ENV
- Weather Specialist, Avalanche and Weather Programs, MOTT
- Air Technology Specialist, Air Quality Program, ENV
- Snow Survey Program Coordinator ENV
- Weather Network Lead, Wildfire Service, FOR
- Research Climatologist, FOR
- Research Hydrologist, FOR
- Water Management Engineer, AF
- Hydrometeorologic Field Programs Manager, BC Hydro
- Climatologist, PCIC
- System Analyst, Rio Tinto
- Air Quality Analyst, MVRD
- Supervisor of Environmental Management, MVRD
- Senior Hydrologist, CRD
- Manager, Pacific & Yukon Operations, MSC, ECCC
- Manager, Collaborative Monitoring and Partnerships, MSC, ECCC

**SCHEDULE D – MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS FOR CLIMATE
STATION DESIGNATION WITHIN THE CRMP**

D1. Mandatory Sensors/Parameter Classes

- Temperature - Class 3 installation or better (see Table 2 CSA R101:22)
- Precipitation Gauges and Sensors – Class 3 or better (See Table 4 CSA R101:22) with exceptions made for Shielding

D2. Optional Sensors/Parameters Classes

- Hygrometers – Class 3 installation or better (see Table 3 CSA R101:22)
- Snow Depth Sensors – Class 3 installations or better (see Table 5 CSA R101:22)
- Snow Water Equivalent – As per BCSSP Charter
- Anemometers at 10m height – Class 3 installations or better (see Table 7 CSA R101:22)
- Anemometers at Precipitation gauge orifice height – Class 3 installations or better (See Table 8 CSA 101:22)
- Atmospheric Pressure sensors – Class 3 installations or better (see Table 12, CSA R101:22)
- Radiation – Class 3 installation or better (see Table 11, CSA R101:22)

D3. Other Considerations

- Site longevity - Land Use Agreements/Reserves should be in place
- Planned long term operation (minimum 5yrs or longer)
- Hourly data and year-round operation ideal.
- Metadata maintained and loaded in accordance with CSA R100:20

D4. To be defined

- Standards for Soil Moisture monitoring are still in development.

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**SCHEDULE E – RELEVANT OPERATIONAL STANDARDS AND OPEN
DATA GUIDANCE**

- [Canadian Avalanche Associations Observing Guidelines and Recording Standards for Weather, Snowpack and Avalanches](#)
- [Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System](#)
- [CSA Group standards for hydrometeorological monitoring stations - CSA Group](#)
- [Weather Guide for the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System](#)
- [MANCLIM: Manual of Climatological Observations - Canada.ca](#)
- [MANOBS—Manual of Surface Weather Observation Standards, 8th Edition, February 2019](#)
- Open Data Policies
 - British Columbia’s [Open Data Policy](#)
 - Canada’s [Directive on Open Government](#)