

THE ROLE OF BCWWA COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE OR GROUP PARTICIPANTS

This document is to provide BC Water and Waste Association (BCWWA) potential and current Community of Practice or Group participants with information about their role.

Communities of Practice are intended to share information and best practices to improve participants' knowledge and performance in the community's area of practice (like source control or residuals management). Groups are intended to share information and resources to support participants as it relates to the group's topic area (like young professionals or CCC community program administrators). The BCWWA facilitates these communities and groups to connect water professionals and stakeholders with one another and build an engaged network.

Expectations of Participants

Participants of a community or group can join as many BCWWA communities and groups as they wish and can participate for as long as they wish without any time commitment. Participants do not need to undertake any tasks or activities to participate. If an idea for an event, article, policy or guideline response, report, or service comes up during discussion within the community or group, the idea can be sent to a BCWWA committee for consideration, or a working group can be created with volunteers assigned to address the specific idea.

Participants of a community or group are expected to:

- Become familiar with the Terms of Reference for the community or group of which you are a participant.
- Maintain a membership in good standing with the BCWWA or its affiliates (AWWA and WEF).
- Non-Members may join a community of practice but will not have full access to all resources.

Participants of a community or group are invited, but not required, to:

- Provide discussion topics of interest to the community or group to the community or group Lead(s) for consideration.
- Attend a minimum of three (3) community or group meetings/sessions – up to six (6) are held each year.
- May join or assist committees by becoming involved in sub-committees at discretion of related committee, assisting in writing articles for Watermark, support and promote BCWWA events.

*It is important to note that the community or group Lead(s) are volunteers of the BCWWA, and are donating their time

Values

Your participation within the Community of Practice or Group must adhere to BCWWA core values:

Fun: We create an atmosphere where contributions and successes are celebrated.

Inclusive: We actively work with a diverse water community to provide meaningful opportunities to share skills and expertise.

Informed: We are fact-based, objective, and balanced in our approach.

Innovative: We are committed to advancement and adoption of technology and practices to serve our members and protect public health and the environment.

Integrity: We are respectful, transparent, accountable, fair, and treat everyone as equals.

Employer Support and Expenses

Being a participant of a BCWWA Community of Practice can benefit both you and your employer through the contacts that you make and from the information that you learn and share. It is our hope that your employer will support your volunteer efforts by providing time and – if necessary – travel assistance to attend meetings.



The majority of Community of Practice meetings occur remotely, in which case attendance via phone or virtual platforms are considered attendance. In the event the Community hosts a meeting in person, the expectation would be that your employer would cover travel costs. The BCWWA does not cover travel costs for participants to attend meetings or events unless explicitly indicated in advance by a BCWWA staff member.