

THE RIVER AS A PATIENT

The basin of British Columbia's Fraser River is large enough to contain all of California. It stretches from the Rockies to Richmond, BC, and is home for two-thirds of the province's population.

The Fraser Basin Council has developed a set of sustainability indicators to measure the health

of the Fraser Basin. The

indicators

cover

social,

economic

and

environmental measurements.

Some of the indicators are negative including the occurrence of more advisories to boil water in some parts of the basin as well as an increase in respiratory illnesses. On the social side, the Council finds that less people living in the

Basin are either volunteering or voting and they are giving less to charities. Environmental concerns range from the explosive growth of the Mountain Pine Beetle to the fact that half of the salmon stocks are in decline. The Council adds that one in ten species of wildlife in the basin has shown significant declines in

population and

and can be

considered to

be either

threatened or

endangered.

“One in ten species of wildlife in the basin has shown significant declines”

The report entitled *Snapshot on Sustainability* confirms that scientists predict there is a one in three chance of a Fraser River flood of record proportions in the next 60 years. There are more than 100,000 homes in the Fraser River's floodplain.

Salmon keep struggling

Fraser Canyon

Provincial Intermediate Teacher's Association Fall Conference in Victoria October 24th and 25th!

If you are an intermediate or middle school teacher, TOC, or student teacher, the PITA Fall Conference promises to be one of the best conferences ever with new ideas and great presentations including those from Leyton Schnellert, Diana Cruchley, Judy Rourke, Bob Stoddart, Liz Moore, and Brian Nikula, Red Cedar Book Awards, Destination Imagination, Premier's Sports Award Program, Engaging Science and Project Wild along with an Education Marketplace with tonnes of free and purchasable resources. But there's more - lunch, snacks a wine and cheese and a one year membership in PITA as well as visits to Royal BC Museum, Undersea Gardens and a guided bicycle ride on the heritage Galloping Goose Trail if you are so inclined.

The conference will feature over 70 sessions and hands-on workshops for grades 4 through 9 on LA, Math, PE, SS, CAI, Art, Drama, Special Ed, new textual resources and opportunities to learn with laughter. For full information and a program plus registration form, open up the PITA website at: www.pita.bc.ca

Professionalism and fun in Victoria on October 24/25

Reduced registration fees for TOCs and Students