



RBC Blue Water Project Advisory Panel



Rob de Loë,

Professor and Canada Research Chair in Water Management, Department of Geography, University of Guelph

Rob de Loë is a Professor in the Department of Geography, University of Guelph, where he has worked since 1995. He holds the Canada Research Chair in Water Management, and is co-Principal of the Guelph Water Management Group. Rob received his Bachelor's degree from the University of Ottawa, and his Master's and PhD from the University of Waterloo.

Rob's work during the past 20 years has focused on water governance and management. His research program currently focuses on source water protection, water allocation and drought contingency planning, adaptation to climate change in the water sector, and water use and conservation in urban and agricultural settings. Much of his research takes place in Canada, but he has also worked in the United States and Australia. He recently completed a national overview of water security in Canada, and currently is studying water reform in Australian and Canada. His academic research is funded by numerous public and private sector agencies, including the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, the Canadian Water Network, and the Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation.

In addition to his research through the Guelph Water Management Group, Rob has been a consultant to government and non-government organizations seeking advice on a range of water-related topics. Recent projects have related to agricultural water use, climate change adaptation, and the development of a National Water Strategy for Canada. Clients include Natural Resources Canada, Environment Canada, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Pollution Probe and the Canadian Water Resources Association.

Rob has been an active member of Canada's water management community since 1987, when he joined the Canadian Water Resources Association (CWRA). He served as Vice-President of the Ontario Branch between 1999 and 2001, chaired the steering committee for the 54th Annual CWRA conference in Guelph, and currently serves as an Associate Editor of the Canadian Water Resources Journal. He is also an active participant and Principal Investigator in the Canadian Water Network since its formation in 2001. Rob received the CWRA (Ontario Branch) Distinguished Service Award in 1999. In 2002 he was awarded a Premier's Research Excellence Award in recognition of his early-career research achievements.