

Council Meeting
May 10th 2017 | 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Columbia Shuswap Regional District Boardroom
555 Harbourfront Drive, Salmon Arm

Draft Record of Decisions and Action Items

Note: this record is subject to correction when adopted at the next SWC meeting

Meeting objectives

1. Presentation of Annual Report for 2016-17
2. Receive recommendations from Water Protection Advisory Committee re: activities and funding support in 2017
3. Receive presentation on nutrients and algae blooms

Present

Paul Demenok, Chair – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area C
Larry Morgan, Vice Chair – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area F
Rhona Martin – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area E
Rene Talbot – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area D
Ken Christian – Thompson-Nicola Regional District, City of Kamloops
Nancy Cooper – City of Salmon Arm
Greg Witzky – Secwepemc Nation, Adams Lake Indian Band
Herman Halvorson – Regional District of North Okanagan, Area F
Lorne Hunter – Community representative
Randy Wood – Community representative
Ray Nadeau – Community representative
Laura Code – BC Ministry of Agriculture
Dennis Einarson – BC Ministry of Environment

Erin Vieira and Mike Simpson – Fraser Basin Council

Observers

Bo Wilson

Regrets

Rick Berrigan
Todd Kylo
Dave Nordquist
Tundra Baird

- Call to Order** The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Chair Paul Demenok.
- Adoption of meeting summary** Moved/Seconded by Directors Christian/Morgan that:
The meeting summary of the March 8th 2017 meeting of the SWC be adopted.
- CARRIED**
- Correspondence** SWC Chair Paul Demenok's response letter to Minister Polak, April 11th 2017:
The letter thanks the Province for new efforts to prevent an accidental introduction of aquatic invasive mussels, and requests that road-side inspection be implemented in such a way that all watercraft entering BC would be intercepted.
- Report from the Chair** Chair Demenok has had discussions with local governments in the Shuswap regarding upcoming annual report delegations; the Chair will complete this in June. As a cost-saving measure, the program managers will not participate in annual report delegations.
- Dennis Einarson entered the meeting at 10:05 AM*
- The Chair commended Lorne Hunter for his recent receipt of the Excellence in Agriculture Leadership Award from the BC Agriculture Council.
- The Chair raised the issue of recent high water and flood events, and suggested that the Shuswap Watershed Council raise awareness for water quality issues that accompany floods such as turbidity and septic seepage. Several SWC members agreed on the importance of this, and the need to share information as soon as possible. It was decided that the appropriate role for the SWC is to complement the communications efforts of local governments, Shuswap Emergency Program and Interior Health Authority; the SWC will post or re-post materials from those organizations to increase its reach.
- Action item:** staff will circulate existing information about turbidity and safe drinking water
- Annual Report 2016-17** Erin Vieira presented the Annual Highlights Report. The report can be viewed online at www.shuswapwater.ca.
- Program Managers' Report** Mike Simpson presented the program managers' activities since the last SWC meeting:
- Year-end reporting completed
 - Water Quality Monitoring Group meeting was held on March 16th 2017 to discuss water monitoring plans; regular season monitoring is underway by all partners
 - Nonylphenols monitoring project is scheduled to begin later in May
 - Water Quality Report for 2016 is underway, ready later this

spring/summer

- User-guide for retrieving water quality data from the Environmental Management System (provincial database) is nearly complete, will be online soon
- Restoration project on Alderson Creek complete; this was a partnership project with Splitsin First Nation and BC Cattlemen's Association; field tour of the site may be arranged
- Water Protection Advisory Committee met on May 2nd to prepare a restoration project recommendation and request for funding support
- First year of nutrient research by UBC – Okanagan is complete, second year is underway. Dr. Jeff Curtis and Megan Ludwig will attend and present at the next SWC meeting, scheduled for September.
- May long weekend is the kick-off for safe boating/recreation campaigns
- Provided \$1200 to RCM-SAR for a PFD loaner station at Sunnybrae (installed on May 4th)

The year-end expenses (April 2016 – March 2017) are as follows:

	Budget (\$)	Expenses (\$)
Water Monitoring Initiative	77,800	37,716
Water Protection Initiative	72,500	75,691
Recreation Safety Education Program	9500	12,760
Communications	27,500	15,587
Management and Administration	29,000	35,672
Operating Reserve	42,440	0
Total expenses to March 31st 2017	258,740	177,426

Discussion:

Director Martin inquired if there is a requirement with the land-owners at the Alderson Creek project to maintain the fence that was built. Laura Code replied on behalf of the Water Protection Advisory Committee that the project included an education and stewardship component, and that typically land-owners assume ownership and maintenance for new infrastructure such as fencing.

**Recommendation from
Water Protection
Advisory Committee**

The Water Protection Advisory Committee recommends to the Shuswap Watershed Council to provide up to \$10,000 to the Gardom Lake Stewardship Society for the Mallory Creek restoration project.

In the event that the Mallory Creek project doesn't require the full \$10,000 funds committed, the balance of funds will be allocated to Splitsin Development Corporation for the Lower Gardom Creek restoration project.

Discussion

Director Martin requested that the Gardom Lake Stewardship Society and the Area D Parks Commission stay in touch during this project.

Moved by Director Martin/Mayor Cooper that the recommendation be approved.

CARRIED

Guest Presentation

Dennis Einarson gave an informative presentation on lakes, nutrients, and algae blooms. His presentation covered several subjects:

- Lake stratification
- Oligotrophic vs. eutrophic lake systems
- The 2010 Shuswap Lake algae bloom was caused by *Ochromonas*, golden-brown algae (this is atypical)
- Other characteristics of algae and algae blooms
 - Algae are naturally occurring and are always present in the lake, at some level and some state
 - Chrysophytes (i.e., *Ochromonas*) may be autotrophic via engulfing or absorbing food, or they may be photosynthetic
 - Cyanobacteria ('blue-green' algae) may be toxic
 - Shuswap Lake is oligotrophic (naturally low in nutrients) and in good shape – the critical thing is to keep it that way
- An excellent resource is the book, *The Algal Bowl* by John R. Vallentyne

Roundtable updates

Herman Halvorson reported that the RDNO-led process on proposed boating regulations for the Shuswap River is progressing, with meetings planned for May 17th and 18th; a recommendation is anticipated by mid-June. Chair Demenok commented that the SWC will review the report when it's available.

Dennis Einarson relayed that as of April 30th, the Province's Invasive Mussel Prevention Program has intercepted 717 watercrafts; 65 were identified as coming from a 'high risk province or state'; 15 were issued de-contamination orders and 10 were issued quarantine periods (30 days drying time). 1 watercraft was confirmed to have adult invasive mussels. The contaminated watercraft was from Ontario, intercepted at the Golden inspection station, and bound for Vernon.

Adjourn

Moved/Seconded by Director Morgan and Mayor Cooper that:
The May 10th 2017 meeting of the SWC be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 PM.