

AGENDA PACKAGE FOR:

Council Meeting
Wednesday September 8th 2021 • 9:00 - 11:45 AM

Virtual meeting via Zoom

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| 1. | June 9 th 2021 meeting summary for approval | 9:05 AM |

Council Meeting
June 9th 2021 | 9:00 - 11:00 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Draft meeting summary

This record is subject to correction at the next Council meeting

Meeting objectives

1. Receive Annual Highlights Report from program managers
2. Receive update from program managers
3. Receive recommendations for Water Quality Grants; approve applications for funding

Present

Paul Demenok, Chair – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area C
 Jay Simpson, Vice Chair – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area F
 Rene Talbot – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area D
 Rhona Martin – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area E (*from 9:45 - 10:45*)
 Ken Christian – Thompson-Nicola Regional District, City of Kamloops
 Rod Crowe – Thompson-Nicola Regional District, Village of Chase
 Debbie Cannon – City of Salmon Arm
 Steven Teed – Secwepemc Nation, Adams Lake Indian Band
 Rick Fairbairn – Regional District of North Okanagan, Area D
 Denis Delisle – Regional District of North Okanagan, Area F
 Dennis Einarson – BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (*from 9:15 - 11:00*)
 Lindsay Benbow – BC Ministry of Agriculture
 Sharon Bennett – Community representative (*to 10:05*)
 Natalya Melnychuk – Community representative (*from 9:05 - 10:50*)

Erin Vieira and Mike Simpson – Fraser Basin Council

Observers

Kym Keogh, John Irvine

Regrets

Colleen Anderson
 Dave Nordquist
 Lorne Hunter
 Randy Wood

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Call to order and introductory comments

Chair Paul Demenok called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and acknowledged the meeting taking place on Secwepemc Territory. The Chair called for a moment of silence in respect of the recent tragic discovery at the Kamloops residential school.

Chair Demenok invited Councillor Steven Teed and Mayor Ken Christian to share their thoughts and perspective on the discovery.

Natalya Melnychuk entered the meeting at 9:05 AM

Adoption of meeting agenda and draft meeting summary

Moved/seconded by Mayor Christian/Director Delisle that:

The agenda for the June 9th 2021 meeting of the Shuswap Watershed Council be approved.

APPROVED

Moved/seconded by Director Delisle/Mayor Christian that:

The draft summary of the Shuswap Watershed Council, held March 10th 2021, be approved.

Discussion:

Councillor Cannon commented that her name was not included in the meeting summary.

APPROVED

Action item:

Staff will amend the draft meeting summary before finalizing it.

Correspondence

Moved/seconded by Vice Chair Simpson/Director Talbot that:

The correspondence be received for information.

Discussion:

Director Fairbairn commented that four out of the five members of the RDNO Electoral Area Committee are within the Shuswap watershed. He anticipates that there will be further discussion at the committee about potentially participating in the SWC.

Chair Demenok remarked that the reply correspondence from Minister Heyman's office included an offer to have a webinar regarding the results of invasive freshwater clam survey results. Staff have been requested to respond to this.

APPROVED

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Action item:

Staff will follow up with The BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change staff about participating in a webinar as described above.

Old business

Moved/seconded by Vice Chair Simpson/Director Delisle that:

The draft meeting summary of the SWC Water Protection Advisory Committee meeting for May 27th 2021.

Discussion:

Chair Demenok invited staff to remark on the meeting summary. Mike Simpson commented that there is some constructive feedback from the Water Protection Advisory Committee about how to improve the water quality grant program such that it garners more attention and more applications in the future.

APPROVED

Chair Demenok invited staff to provide a verbal update about the SWC Terms of Reference Committee. Erin Vieira remarked that the purpose of the committee is to review and ratify the SWC Terms of Reference with a particular focus on the SWC's membership. The committee met in April, and will have at least one more meeting to discuss and make recommendations to the whole SWC about enhancing membership and participation.

Dennis Einarson entered the meeting at 9:15 AM

Councillor Teed remarked that Dave Nordquist has approached Pespesewllkwe (an organization of some Secwepemc First Nations) about making an appointment to the SWC on behalf of Secwepemc First Nations. He also commented that Adams Lake Band will continue to retain a seat at the SWC.

Mike Simpson further remarked that Syilx Nation has had a seat at the SWC but an appointment has never been made. It's suggested that inviting Syilx to the technical tables of the SWC would be appropriate.

Report from Chair

None

Report from Program Managers:

Erin Vieira reviewed the 2020-21 SWC Annual Highlights Report. The report covers key activities and accomplishments for the period April 1st 2020 - March 31st 2021. The six-page highlights report is available online at www.shuswapwater.ca, and print copies have been sent to regional district, First Nations, and municipal offices for members of the public to pick up for reading. The highlights report is summarized here:

Annual Highlights Report for 2020-21

- Water quality monitoring was done by up to 13 organizations in the Shuswap in 2020

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- The Shuswap Water Monitoring Group committed to develop a regional algae response plan, in preparation for future blooms by Summer 2021
- The SWC inaugural Water Quality Grant Program was launched; five grants were awarded to farms and stewardship organizations worth \$65,470 in SWC funds and leveraged an additional \$71,000+ funds for water quality improvement
- Zebra and Quagga Mussel early detection monitoring was carried out by the Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society at 13 sites on seven waterbodies repeatedly throughout the year. CSISS also surveyed regions of Shuswap Lake for invasive freshwater clams.
- The Safe Recreation Program delivered 97 safety campaigns throughout Summer 2020 through a variety of media, and had up to 1.15 million impressions
- A social media campaign to increase understanding of the Shuswap watershed and of the SWC was delivered through Summer and Fall 2020
- The SWC created an informative video about the Water Quality Grant Program and launched a YouTube channel

Director Martin entered the meeting at 9:45 AM

A financial summary for the year was presented (for the period April 1st 2020 - March 31st 2021):

| REVENUE - Source April 1 st 2020 - March 31 st 2021 | Amount received (\$) |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Surplus SWC funds (from March 31 st 2020) | 241,995 |
| CSRD (C, D, E, F and District of Sicamous) | 160,000 |
| TNRD | 53,600 |
| City of Salmon Arm | 40,000 |
| Adams Lake Indian Band | 1300 |
| RDNO (Area F) | 5000 |
| Grant Funding: Transport Canada, Boating Safety Contribution Program | 20,550 |
| Total | 522,445 |

(Expenses for 2020-21 are summarized on the next page)

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| EXPENSES - Program April 1 st 2020 - March 31 st 2021 | Budget (\$) | Expenses (\$) | Variance (\$) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Water Quality Program: Monitoring Initiative | 35,200 | 21,849 | 13,351 |
| Water Quality Program: Protection Initiative | 113,600 | 70,501 | 43,099 |
| Zebra & Quagga Mussel Prevention | 35,400 | 32,929 | 2471 |
| Safe Recreation | 27,400 | 24,335 | 3065 |
| Communications & Community Engagement | 68,700 | 62,453 | 6247 |
| Administration and Governance | 43,150 | 42,311 | 839 |
| Sub-total Operational Program Expenses | 323,450 | 254,378 | 69,072 |
| Operating reserve | 198,995 | 0 | 198,995 |
| Total for 2020-21 | 522,445 | 254,378 | 268,067 |

Discussion:

Chair Demenok requested the assistance of SWC members in disseminating the Annual Highlights Report, through social media and sharing print copies.

Sharon Bennett left the meeting at 10:05 AM

Report from Program Managers:

Program Operations update since last Council meeting

Erin Vieira and Mike Simpson provided an update on program operations since the last Council meeting in March 2021:

- The SWC is facilitating the development of a Shuswap regional algae response plan with the participation of several water quality monitoring organizations. This is in recognition of the reality that algae response cannot be done by a single agency. The plan is nearly complete and ready for implementation.
- The Water Quality Grant Program was opened for a second round of applications from February 23rd - April 30th 2021. Staff received four applications. The Water Protection Advisory Committee met in May to review the applications and make recommendations for funding.
- An update on the status of Water Quality Grant (2020) projects was provided. Most projects are complete, with one still underway.
- Staff delivered several awareness campaigns for Zebra and Quagga Mussel (ZQM) prevention in the month of May for "Invasive Species Action Month". Campaign messaging is focussed on 'Clean-Drain-Dry', watercraft inspection, and 'Don't Let It Loose'.
- The Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society is conducting early detection monitoring for ZQM in the Shuswap at 16 sites on nine waterbodies, with support from the SWC

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- Safe boating and safe water-based recreation awareness campaigns are underway for the season. The SWC is once again partnering with the Royal Canadian Marine Search & Rescue Station 106 Shuswap to promote the network of ‘Kids Don’t Float’ lifejacket loaner kiosks and other safety messaging.
- The 2020 Shuswap Water Quality Summary Report is underway
- SWC’s application to the federal Eco-Action Program for grant funding was turned down. The \$95K application would have leveraged the Water Quality Grant Program. Additionally, the SWC’s application to the Habitat Stewardship Program for grant funding has been wait-listed; staff don’t expect it will be accepted. The \$25K application would have supported the development of a wetland strategy for the Shuswap. The SWC budget for 2021-22 has been adjusted accordingly.

No financial report for the current fiscal year was available; the first quarterly financial summary will be presented at the September Council meeting.

Discussion:

Sharon Bennett inquired if the ‘Report Invasives’ app is staffed; Erin Vieira replied that it is a provincial app, and submissions through the app get triaged by the BC Ministry of Environment / BC Conservation Officer Service.

Councillor Cannon inquired if the SWC is presenting educational material about invasive species to schoolchildren. Erin replied that the SWC does not engage with schools; she remarked that other groups are doing this (e.g., Invasive Species Council of BC, WildSafe BC) and working with schools’ environmental educators to develop a suite of environmental curriculum.

Moved/seconded by Councillor Cannon/Director Martin that:

SWC staff approach WildSafe BC and the ISCBC to confirm if invasive species are being presented in schools, and if not to provide School District #83 and #73 with some material about aquatic invasive Zebra & Quagga Mussels, and invasive freshwater clams.

Sharon Bennett remarked that SD #83 children visit Kingfisher Interpretive Centre for environmental educational field days.

APPROVED

Action item:

Staff will get in touch with the above-mentioned organizations to find out if school children are learning about aquatic invasive species.

**New business:
Revised budget
for 2021-22**

Erin Vieira presented a revised budget for 2021-22:

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**New business,
cont'd: Revised
budget for 2021-
22**

| Projected revenue April 1 st 2021 - March 31 st 2022 | Budget presented on March 10 th 2021 (\$) | Revised (\$) |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 2020-21 Surplus | 45,000 | 69,072 |
| Operating reserve | 198,995 | 198,995 |
| <i>Per Contribution Agreement:¹</i> | | |
| CSRD (Areas C, D, E, F, and District of Sicamous) | 97,200 | 97,200 |
| TNRD | 32,590 | 32,590 |
| City of Salmon Arm | 24,320 | 24,320 |
| Adams Lake Indian Band | 790 | 790 |
| <i>Grant funding applied for (not confirmed):</i> | | |
| Environment Canada Eco-Action Program | 95,000 | 0 |
| Department of Fisheries and Oceans Habitat Stewardship Program | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Contribution from partner:</i> | | |
| Shuswap Lifeboat Society | | 3200 |
| Total revenue | 493,895 | 426,167 |

(Work plan and expenses for 2021-22 are on the next page)

¹ In 2021-22, the SWC is requisitioning \$100,00 less funds from each of its funders, proportionately, to draw down the reserve.

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**New business,
cont'd: Revised
budget for 2021-
22**

| Work plan and expenses April 1 st 2021 - March 31 st 2022 | | Workplan presented on March 10th 2021 (\$) | Revised workplan (\$) |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Water Quality Program | | | |
| Water Monitoring Initiative | | | |
| | Facilitate the Shuswap Water Monitoring Group | 7750 | 7750 |
| | Implement the watershed water quality monitoring plan | 20,200 | 25,200 |
| | <i>Sub-total Water Monitoring Initiative</i> | 27,950 | 32,950 |
| Water Protection Initiative | | | |
| | Facilitate the Water Protection Advisory Committee | 7600 | 7600 |
| | Develop phosphorus action plan | 8850 | 8850 |
| | Water Quality Grant Program | 190,200 | 95,200 |
| | <i>Sub-total Water Protection Initiative</i> | 206,650 | 111,650 |
| Zebra and Quagga Mussel Prevention Program | | | |
| | Education, outreach and advocacy | 34,500 | 37,750 |
| Recreation Safety Program | | | |
| | Implement safety campaigns | 17,650 | 17,650 |
| | Provide safety equipment | 3900 | 3900 |
| | <i>Sub-total Recreation Safety Program</i> | 21,550 | 21,550 |
| Communications | | | |
| | Collateral | 11,700 | 11,700 |
| | Public engagement | 19,500 | 19,500 |
| | Annual water quality summary | 16,900 | 16,900 |
| | <i>Sub-total Communications</i> | 48,100 | 48,100 |
| Administration | | | |
| | Council administration | 25,500 | 25,500 |
| | Financial management and fund development | 16,000 | 16,000 |
| | <i>Sub-total Administration</i> | 41,500 | 41,500 |
| | Sub-total operational expenses | 375,850 | 293,500 |
| | Operating Reserve (includes \$20K Contingency Fund) | 118,045 | 132,667 |
| | Total Expenses | 493,895 | 426,167 |

Discussion:

Director Simpson inquired about increasing the ZQM budget further, and specifically suggested that more funding be allocated to education and outreach done on-the-ground through the partnership with the Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society (CSISS). Mayor Crowe made a motion to increase the Zebra and Quagga Mussel Prevention Program by \$5000. Director Martin commented she would prefer to see staff inquire about CSISS' capacity to do more work with

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additional funding, before deciding on increasing the budget. Councillor Cannon agreed with Director Martin's comments. Mayor Crowe rescinded the motion.

Moved/seconded by Mayor Christian/Vice Chair Simpson that:

The revised budget for 2021-22, as presented, be approved.

APPROVED

Moved/seconded by Director Simpson/Director Martin that:

Staff be directed to contact the Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society (CSISS) about enhancing the ZQM budget to allow for more prevention work to be done in the Shuswap watershed.

APPROVED

Action item:

Staff will contact CSISS as described above.

**New business:
Water Quality
Grant Program**

Mike Simpson briefly reviewed Water Quality Grant Program. The purpose of the grant program is to improve water quality in the Shuswap by supporting land-owners or agri-businesses to mitigate or minimize nutrient-loading from land to surface water. The grant program was open for applications from February 23rd - April 30th 2021; it was promoted extensively throughout the Shuswap region. Staff received four grant applications by the deadline. Staff performed an initial screen of the applications to ensure the proposals met the eligibility criteria, and anonymized the proposals; then the proposals were reviewed in detail by the SWC Water Protection Advisory Committee (WPAC) in late May.

The Water Protection Advisory Committee makes the following recommendations:

| Application | Project | SWC \$ ask | WPAC recommendation to SWC |
|-------------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A | Riparian planting | \$6320 | Not recommended for funding; follow up with applicant. |
| B | Field drainage | \$18,840 | Recommended for funding with changes; follow up with applicant, seek changes to project, may require more funding than asked for |
| C | Livestock grazing amendments | \$7913 | Recommend for funding (noting one dissenting opinion within WPAC) |
| D | Bridge, rip. planting, fencing | \$20,000 | Not recommended for funding; follow up with applicant and invite an application next year |
| Total | | \$53,072 | |

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**New business,
cont'd:
Water Quality
Grant Program**

Discussion:

SWC members discussed the proposals. Some SWC members expressed their disappointment that the grant program only received four applications. There were some questions about the proposals, which staff answered on behalf of the Water Protection Advisory Committee.

Moved/seconded by Director Talbot/Vice Chair Simpson that:

The Shuswap Watershed Council accept the recommendations of the Water Protection Advisory Committee with respect to the water quality grant applications for funding, and award funding as recommended.

Action item:

Staff will bring a revised budget for the Water Quality Program, if needed (re: Project B) to the September SWC meeting.

APPROVED

Roundtable discussion: how to improve the Water Quality Grant Program

Chair Demenok expressed his disappointment about only receiving four applications for grant funding. He invited SWC members suggestions on how to improve the grant program such that it garners more applications that meet the goals of the program.

Director Martin left the meeting at 10:45 AM

Mayor Christian remarked that the WPAC's for improving the grant program are reasonable. Mike Simpson clarified that the WPAC recommends doing a second, Fall intake for proposals this year. Councillor Cannon inquired about doing a second intake sooner, such as later this summer. Natalya Melnychuk inquired about keeping the grant program continuously open for applications. Mayor Christian replied that it appears the will to apply isn't there; it isn't so much a matter of convenient timing; he further commented on the amount of staff capacity it would require to administer such a program. Director Simpson agreed that a rolling application window would not increase the success of the program.

Natalya Melnychuk left the meeting at 10:50 AM

Moved/seconded by Councillor Cannon/Vice Chair Simpson that:

Staff be directed to explore suitable timing to invite a second round of applications to the Water Quality Grant Program this year

APPROVED

**Closing
comments**

Dennis Einarson announced that he is retiring from the BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, and today's meeting would be his last meeting as the MOECC representative.

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Several SWC members and staff had parting comments for Dennis, and thanked him for his years of service at MOECC and for his participation on the Shuswap Watershed Council.

Adjourn

Moved/seconded by Mayor Crowe/Mayor Christian that:

The June 9th meeting of the Shuswap Watershed Council be adjourned.

APPROVED

The meeting adjourned at 11:07 AM

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

DRAFT

| Item No. | Agenda item | Time |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 2. | Old business: draft Water Protection Advisory Committee meeting and site visit, July 9 th 2021, for information | 9:10 AM |

**Water Protection Advisory Committee Meeting
Friday July 9th, 2021 | 10:00 AM – 11:45 AM
Vandalfsen property, Enderby**

Draft meeting summary as at July 12th, 2021

Meeting objectives

1. Look at the proposed project (application B), and discuss options and ideas that the committee raised when it was evaluated on May 27th
2. Identify next steps

Attendance (committee members)

Lee Hesketh, Agriculture – ranching
Lorne Hunter, Agriculture – dairy/retired and SWC community representative
Robyn Laubman – Splatsin First Nation
Ralph Vandalfsen, Agriculture – dairy

Staff

Mike Simpson, Shuswap Watershed Council c/o Fraser Basin Council
Erin Vieira, Shuswap Watershed Council c/o Fraser Basin Council

Meeting Outcomes

1. Wetland/use of water options are limited at this site; project makes sense as submitted.
2. Key next step is to ensure what is proposed is compliant with regulations.

Background

Although this wasn't a formal meeting of the Water Protection Advisory Committee (WPAC), all members were invited to attend. This meeting summary is compiled as a record of decisions reached and to document next steps.

Ralph Vandalfsen submitted a funding application (B) to the SWC Water Quality Grant Program in April 2021. As a member of WPAC, he excused himself from the evaluation of applications when they were evaluated on May 27th, 2021. The WPAC recommended the following, which was endorsed by the Shuswap Watershed Council when they met on June 9th, 2021:

| Application | Project | SWC \$ ask | WPAC recommendation to SWC | Score (max 100) Comments |
|-------------|----------------|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| B | Field drainage | \$18 840 | Recommended for funding with changes; follow up with applicant, seek changes to project, may require more funding than asked for | 79.37. Strong preference to see drainage water diverted to a natural or built wetland in lieu of what's proposed. Follow up with applicant on a modified approach, rework costs, see if applicant is agreeable. |

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| 2 | Old business: draft summary of the SWC Water Protection Advisory Committee meeting site visit and meeting, July 9 th 2021 | 9:10 |

Summary of discussions, decisions and action items

Ralph, Lorne, Robyn, Lee, Erin and Mike met at the Vandalsen property and walked to see proposed site 1, immediately west of Ralph's primary property. The other sites were not visited, as the concept and site conditions were similar.

Discussion led to the following conclusions:

- Although diversion/flow path modification/utilization of water in a riparian feature was discussed as desirable, it isn't feasible at this site for two key reasons:
 - It's a river environment that floods frequently (1 in 10 year floods in 4 of the last 6 years according to Ralph), not a wetland environment
 - Ralph does not want to lose any field production capacity by converting any additional area to wetland. The existing small wetland at site 1 is already "full" most of the year
- For a portion of the year when water is high, this project has an opposite approach of what the Water Quality Improvement Grant aims to do, but achieves the same end goal – to prevent river water from inundating the field and becoming more nutrient rich, rather than preventing nutrient-rich water flowing off land to the river
- Therefore, given this better understanding of the project from seeing it on site, understanding the site limitations and asking questions of the applicant, the project makes sense
- The point of discharge into the river can be selected carefully, perhaps review the sensitive habitat inventory and mapping (SHIM) completed for the Shuswap River.
- The key next step is to confirm that what is proposed is compliant, as SWC doesn't want to fund activities with public dollars that is non-compliant and Ralph doesn't want to do anything non-compliant. (It was noted however that there is a lot of drain tile installed throughout the province, it's a common agricultural practice, and perhaps it's something that just isn't enforced.)
- It was suggested that monitoring for soluble P at the discharge point, and in the river just upstream could be done after installation to determine the effectiveness of the project at preventing nutrient input to the river. Ralph offered to collect the samples. Mike noted that he could request additional SWC funding for lab analysis costs.

ACTION ITEMS:

| Item | Responsibility | Date |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Follow up with Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to confirm what is proposed is compliant, to protect both Ralph and to ensure SWC is funding compliant activities | Mike | ASAP |
| Keep everyone informed of above decision | Mike | Ongoing |
| Follow up on status of project, any request for additional funds (lab costs) at next SWC meeting on Sept 8 th | Erin, Mike | Sept 8 th |

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| 3-i | Report from Program Managers | 9:25 AM |

2020 Shuswap Water Quality Summary Report

The 2020 summary report was completed in July. It covers water quality in large lakes and at beaches in 2020, and also discusses important water quality issues such as aquatic invasive species and algal blooms. The report is prepared by SWC staff with contributions from some members of the Shuswap Water Monitoring Group including staff from the BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, City of Salmon Arm, Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society, First Nations Health Authority, and Interior Health.

The report was emailed to SWC members on August 4th. Print copies of the report have also been sent to municipal, First Nations, and regional government offices; several branches of the Okanagan Regional Library and Thompson-Nicola Regional Library have also received copies. The report has been publicized through newspaper advertising and social media.

View the report through this [direct link](#).

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| 3-ii | Report from Program Managers | 9:25 AM |

Financial update - first quarter (April 1st - June 30th 2021)

REVENUE

| Source | (\$) |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Surplus (from March 31 st 2021) | 69,072 |
| Operating Reserve | 198,995 |
| <i>Per Contribution Agreement:</i> | |
| CSRD Areas C, D, E, F and District of Sicamous | 97,200 |
| TNRD | 32,590 |
| City of Salmon Arm | 24,320 |
| Adams Lake Indian Band | 790 |
| <i>Contribution from partner:</i> | |
| Shuswap Lifeboat Society | 3200 |
| Total revenue | 426,167 |

EXPENSES

| Program (per 2021-22 work plan) (April 1 st - June 30 th 2021) | Budget (\$) | Expense (\$) |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Water Quality Monitoring | 32,950 | 15,008 |
| Water Quality Protection | 111,650 | 10,995 |
| Zebra & Quagga Mussel Prevention | 42,750 | 31,762 |
| Safe Recreation | 21,550 | 9585 |
| Communications, Engagement, & Advocacy | 48,100 | 9961 |
| Management & Administration | 41,500 | 7427 |
| Sub-total Program Operations Expenses | 298,500 | 84,737 |
| Operating Reserve | 127,667 | 0 |
| Total expenses | 426,167 | 84,737 |

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| 3-iii | Report from Program Managers: Phosphorus Action Plan | 10:10 AM |

Phosphorus Action Plan - overview, purpose and structure

Background

Phosphorus (P) is a vital nutrient in aquatic ecosystems. In a healthy ecosystem, the give-and-take of nutrients is balanced. Excessive amounts of nutrients can upset the balance and contribute to algal growth, odours, reduced water quality, and it can compromise the quality of water for drinking and recreation.

Phosphorus and other nutrients have been monitored and studied in the Shuswap watershed. Research by UBC - Okanagan has shown that the largest loads of nutrients to the lakes are coming from the Shuswap and Salmon Rivers; it has also shown us that P inputs to Mara Lake via the Shuswap River are trending upwards since the 1980s (see [Understanding Nutrients and Water Quality in the Shuswap River and Salmon River](#) for more information.) Regular water quality monitoring at some locations in the Shuswap watershed (i.e., Shuswap Lake at Tappen, in the Salmon Arm reach) show some increases in nutrient inputs in recent years (see [Water Quality Report 2020](#) for more information).

The effects of excessive phosphorus on aquatic ecosystems in other regions of Canada and around the world is well documented. In the Shuswap, our water quality is generally good at most locations and at most times of the year, however P is a potential threat to water quality. The Shuswap Watershed Council Strategic Plan for 2021-26 outlines goals and objectives to protect, maintain, and enhance water quality and prescribes a collaborative approach to doing so:

Goal 1 - Water quality is maintained and improved in the Shuswap for the benefits of a healthy ecosystem, and thriving tourism economy and a desirable lifestyle for residents

Objective 1.2 - Protect water quality through on-the-ground projects and actions:

- Fund water quality improvement projects focused on nutrient management
- **Develop a phosphorus action plan** (*emphasis added*)
- Encourage other actions to protect water quality, such as septic system maintenance, storm water management, and source water protection plans

Objective 1.3 - Support in principle the protection and restoration of wetlands

Goal 4 - The SWC is a well-governed, transparent, collaborative organization

Objective 4.2 - Complement government agencies and regulators, and avoid duplication

Objective 4.3 - Collaborate with other organizations with similar goals, interests and operations pertaining to water governance, water quality, and water safety

Objective 4.4 - Advocate to all orders of government as necessary

With these in mind, staff have developed a preliminary purpose and structure for the P Action Plan.

Phosphorus Action Plan - Overview and Purpose

The Phosphorus Action Plan will provide guidance to diverse audiences in the Shuswap watershed on actions they can take to reduce phosphorus pollution. The plan will bring together existing disparate phosphorus regulations and new, innovative solutions and put them into a single document to encourage and facilitate phosphorus reduction in Shuswap waterbodies. A range of solutions for phosphorus pollution will be presented for every target audience, from regulatory actions to actions that are above-and-beyond and innovative.

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|----------|------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 3-iii | Report from Program Managers: Phosphorus Action Plan | 10:10 AM |

This action plan will help to accomplish the SWC 2021-26 Strategic Plan goals of maintaining and improving water quality in the Shuswap (Goal 1) as well as encouraging collaboration (Goal 4).

The plan will be completed by March 2022. It will be distributed widely and provided as a part of future SWC Water Quality Improvement Grant resource packages.

Phosphorus Action Plan - Structure

The plan will be concise and easy-to-read. To achieve this, it will aim to be roughly 14 pages long, not including resource pages. The draft structure of the plan is outlined below:

Executive Summary - 1 page

Background - 2 pages

- Why the plan is necessary
- What are the sources of phosphorus in the Shuswap watershed

Existing phosphorus regulation in the Shuswap watershed - 2 pages

- Direct and indirect regulators
- Demonstrate broad responsibility among many different actors

Action items that major players can take to reduce phosphorus pollution in the Shuswap watershed - 8-9 pages

- Shuswap Watershed Council - 1 page
- Agriculture - 1 page
- Governments (local, regional, First Nations, provincial) - 3 pages
- Homeowners and waterfront owners - 1-2 pages
- Industry - 1 page
- Transportation - 1 page
- Community groups and stewardship groups - 1 page

Resources

- Policies, research, and case studies referenced in the report
- Further resources and contracts that could assist readers in taking action

| Item No. | Agenda item | Time |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 4 | New business: Water Quality Grant recommendation | 11:10 AM |

Background

This item is a follow-up from the June 9th SWC meeting. At the June 9th meeting, SWC approved the recommendations from the Water Protection Advisory Committee regarding which water quality grant applications to fund. One of the projects - Project B, named so anonymously - required more information and possibly some changes made to the proposal in order for the Water Protection Advisory Committee to endorse it.

On July 9th, SWC staff and some WPAC committee members had a meeting and site visit at the proponent's property to better understand the project and discuss what changes, if any, were needed.

In summary, no changes are being made to the project proposal and there is no change to the financial request. Therefore, the request is as follows:

| Application | Project | SWC \$ ask | WPAC recommendation to SWC | Score (max 100) Comments |
|-------------|----------------|------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| B | Field drainage | \$18,840 | Recommend | 79.37 |

This project is in addition to one other project that was recommended and approved for funding at the June 9th SWC meeting, as follows:

| Application | Project | SWC \$ ask | WPAC recommendation to SWC | Score (max 100) Comments |
|-------------|------------------------------|------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| C | Livestock grazing amendments | \$7913 | Recommend | 73.28 |

The cost of the Water Quality Grant Improvement Program would therefore be \$26,753 against a program budget of \$85,000.

MOTION to approve application (Project B) for funding