

Update from Program Managers

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

- Staff provided an update on the status of the **water quality grant recipients' projects**. Of the five projects, three are complete, one is underway, and one is not yet started. Staff worked with a videographer to produce a five-minute **promotional video about the grant program** and the projects.
- Invasive **Zebra and Quagga Mussel prevention** measures were promoted throughout the region all summer, with messages focusing on clean-drain-dry and watercraft inspection. The estimated reach of these campaigns is up to 2.5 million impressions.
- The SWC supported the installation of another **children's lifejacket kiosk** by the Royal Canadian Marine Search & Rescue, based in Sicamous. This brings the number of kiosks in the Shuswap up to 15; three have been supported by funds from the SWC.
- Staff are in the midst of delivering presentations about the SWC to Shuswap-area community groups.

Expenses to the end of the second quarter (September 30th 2020) total **\$163,361** against the annual operating budget of **\$323,450**.

Water Quality Grant Program approved for 2021/22

The SWC reviewed and accepted several recommendations from the Shuswap Water Protection Advisory Committee regarding the continuation of the Water Quality Grant Program. Notably, **the SWC approved a provisional budget of \$85,000 for grants in 2021/22**. Staff will begin promoting the grant program and inviting applications in February 2021.

Guest presentations on aquatic invasive species

The SWC received presentations from Robyn Hooper and Sue Davies (Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society) as well as from Martina Beck (BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy) and Aaron Canuel (BC Conservation Officer Service) regarding regional and provincial monitoring, education and outreach for invasive Zebra and Quagga Mussels. Ms. Davies also reported that surveys have been done for invasive freshwater clams. Both organizations reported that their monitoring results show that **the Shuswap and all of BC is invasive-mussel free**.

Strategic Plan for 2021-26

SWC Chair Demenok invited Council members to review the new Strategic Plan for 2021-26 and provide their recommended priorities for 2021 to staff. Staff will prepare a work plan and budget for 2021-22 for approval at the next Council meeting (March 2021).

A full meeting summary is available on the SWC website.

SWC MEMBERS:

Paul Demenok – Chair
CSRD Area 'C'

Tim Lavery – Vice Chair
City of Salmon Arm

Rene Talbot
CSRD Area 'D'

Rhona Martin
CSRD Area 'E'

Jay Simpson
CSRD Area 'F'

Rod Crowe
TNRD, Village of Chase

Ken Christian
TNRD, City of Kamloops

Colleen Anderson
District of Sicamous

Dave Nordquist
Secwepemc Nation,
Adams Lake Indian Band

Steven Teed
Secwepemc Nation,
Adams Lake Indian Band

Rick Fairbairn
RDNO Area 'D'

Denis Delisle
RDNO Area 'F'

Dennis Einarson
BC Ministry of Environment
& Climate Change Strategy

Lindsay Benbow
BC Ministry of Agriculture

Lorne Hunter
Community Representative

Randy Wood
Community representative

Sharon Bennett
Community Representative

Natalya Melnychuk
Community Representative