

Update from Program Managers

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

- Staff site visits to the **water quality grant recipients** have taken place. All projects are underway except for one, which is complete.
- Invasive **Zebra and Quagga Mussel prevention** measures were promoted throughout the region all summer, with messages focusing on clean-drain-dry and watercraft inspection
- **Safe boating and water-based recreation campaigns** were delivered throughout the region all summer through rack cards, newspaper and radio, and social media
- Staff completed the fourth annual **Shuswap Water Quality Summary Report** in July and distributed print copies to several locations in August
- Staff provided an overview of **SWC communiques about the persistent algal bloom** that occurred in Salmon Arm Bay, Tappen Bay, Canoe and Sunnybrae from June - September this year.

Expenses to the end of the first quarter (June 30th 2020)
total **\$75,033** against the annual operating budget of **\$323,450**.

Reduced tax requisitions for 2021/22

Financial contributions to the SWC from the four funding partners (Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Thompson-Nicola Regional District, City of Salmon Arm, and Adams Lake Indian Band) will be reduced by \$100,000 (proportionately across all four partners) in 2021/22 so as to reduce the Shuswap Watershed Council surplus.

Guest presentation on Shuswap Lake algae bloom

Ms. Christina Yamada presented on behalf of the Interior Health Authority. She briefly reviewed the **BC Ministry of Health decision protocol for cyanobacteria bloom response**. Ms. Yamada explained that IH messaging about algae blooms relies on sharing and promoting a cyanobacteria HealthLink file. Additionally, she explained that IH released a Public Service Announcement about the bloom on August 11th. Ms. Lucie Thomson and Ms. Kym Keogh attended and presented briefly on behalf of the BC Ministry of Environmental and Climate Change Strategy, with respect to their roles in water quality monitoring. A roundtable discussion took place and it was acknowledged that regular communications about algae blooms in the Shuswap watershed is desired. It was recommended that there be further discussions and planning for communicating about algal blooms at a future meeting of the Shuswap Water Monitoring Group (a technical committee of the Shuswap Watershed Council).

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