

Report from Program Managers

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

- **Water quality monitoring** in the summer months detected unsafe levels of *E. coli* bacteria at some beaches in the watershed, resulting in temporary advisory notices
- Staff delivered several education/awareness campaigns over the summer months as part of the **Zebra and Quagga Mussel Prevention Program** and the **Safe Recreation Program**
- Staff are presenting on Zebra and Quagga Mussel prevention at an upcoming conference in October
- The **2018 Shuswap Water Quality Summary Report** was completed in July. Print copies were sent to several government offices, library branches, and the Salmon Arm health clinic. The report is also available on the SWC website.

Expenses to the end of the first quarter (April 1st – June 30th) total **\$76,927** against the annual operating budget of **\$272,875**. There is also an Operating Reserve of 188,459.

Canada Border Services Agency requirements for floatplanes and aquatic invasive species

Staff have corresponded with Canada Border Services Agency to determine what requirements are in place to prevent floatplanes transmitting aquatic invasive mussels. The CBSA requires that floatplanes must be free of invasive mussels, and floatplane pilots are required to report their movements between bodies of freshwater. These requirements apply only to floatplanes entering Canada from outside Canada.

Staff were directed to write a letter to the federal departments of Fisheries and Oceans and Transport Canada to express concern over the potential movement of invasive mussels between provinces by floatplanes and call for new preventative measures.

Guest Presentation from Royal Canadian Marine Search & Rescue

Mr. Bruce Weicker and Mr. Cliff Doherty provided an update on a feasibility study underway by the RCM-SAR, Station 106 Shuswap, to determine the need for a marine safety training centre to be built in Sicamous. The centre would offer various types of training including search and rescue skills, boat and radio operation and more. The study is funded, in part, by a contribution from the Shuswap Watershed Council. Mr. Weicker also provided an update on their summer operations, which saw a significant decrease in the number of call-outs. The RCM-SAR's *Kids Don't Float* lifejacket kiosks continue to be very popular; there are 14 kiosks on Shuswap Lake.

SWC MEMBERS:

Paul Demenok – Chair

CSRD Area 'C'

Jay Simpson – Vice Chair

CSRD Area 'F'

Rene Talbot

CSRD Area 'D'

Rhona Martin

CSRD Area 'E'

Tim Lavery

City of Salmon Arm

Rod Crowe

TNRD, Village of Chase

Ken Christian

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Colleen Anderson

District of Sicamous

Dave Nordquist

Secwepemc Nation,
Adams Lake Indian Band

Steven Teed

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Rick Fairbairn

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Community Representative

Randy Wood

Community representative

Sharon Bennett

Community Representative

Natalya Melnychuk

Community Representative

Guest Presentation from Dr. Jeff Curtis

Dr. Jeff Curtis from UBC-Okanagan provided an update on the nutrient research underway in the Shuswap River and Salmon River watersheds. The research team has completed three years of data collection, and they are in the final stages of data analysis and reporting. Dr. Curtis explained that the research aims to quantify the contribution of phosphorus from three sources in each river's watershed: the upper reaches, the tributaries, and the incremental flow sub-watersheds, which include ditches, seasonal streams, and groundwater. The highest contributions of phosphorus come from the latter-mentioned, which are the valley bottoms where most anthropogenic development occurs. The final report will provide detailed data. It's expected in October.

Full meeting summaries are available on the SWC website.

The next SWC meeting is December 11th, 2019 at the Columbia Shuswap Regional District Boardroom.

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