

## Report from Chair

Chair Jay Simpson reported briefly on the devastation caused by wildfires in the Shuswap region. He reported that the CSRD postponed their referendum (due to Provincial Ministerial Order) for the continuation of the Shuswap Watershed Council Service to a later date, not yet determined. He also reported that he has several meetings scheduled at the Union of BC Municipalities Convention later in September with Provincial Ministers to discuss watershed issues.

## Report from Program Managers

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

- The 7<sup>th</sup> annual Shuswap Water Quality Summary Report was published in late June
- Several communiques were published including three media releases, an Annual Highlights Summary and a series of FAQs about the SWC
- The Zebra & Quagga Mussel Prevention Program was active over the summer. Educational campaigns are being delivered, promoting 'Clean-Drain-Dry' practices for watercraft users and watercraft inspection for travellers.
- The Safe Recreation Program was active over the summer. Staff promoted national safety campaigns as well as several safety tips and the availability of lifejackets via the 'Kids Don't Float' loaner program offered by the Royal Canadian Marine Search & Rescue
- The Wetland Strategy is progressing; a GIS analysis and inventory of water and wetland features for the study area is now complete. Staff are seeking external funding opportunities for the development and implementation of the Wetland Strategy.

Expenses to the end of the first quarter (April 1<sup>st</sup> – June 30<sup>th</sup> 2023) were \$116,485 against an operating budget of \$338,864.

## Guest presentation by Anna Warwick-Sears

Anna Warwick-Sears, PhD, Executive Director of the Okanagan Basin Water Board presented an overview of the OBWB's history, governance and programs. The OBWB was established in 1968 as an Okanagan valley-wide partnership to identify and resolve critical water issues. There is a board of 12 members that represent three Okanagan Regional Districts, the Okanagan Nation Alliance, the Water Supply Association of BC, and the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council. The OBWB has a staff of nine. The OBWB is funded by local taxation from the regional district partners. In 53 years of operation, the OBWB has run a Sewage Infrastructure Grants Program, a Eurasian Watermilfoil Control Program on Okanagan Lake, and a Water Management Program. Other activities of the OBWB include water conservation campaigns, water quality improvement grants, 'Don't Move A Mussel' educational campaigns and advocacy, drought communication, and flood mapping.

*A full meeting summary is available on the SWC website.*

## SWC MEMBERS:

**Jay Simpson – Chair**

CSRD Area 'F'

**Natalya Melnychuk – Vice Chair**

CSRD Area 'G'

**Marty Gibbons**

CSRD Area 'C'

**Dean Trumbley**

CSRD Area 'D'

**Rhona Martin**

CSRD Area 'E'

**David Lepsoe**

TNRD, Village of Chase

**Reid Hamer-Jackson**

TNRD, City of Kamloops

**Debbie Cannon**

City of Salmon Arm

**Pam Beech**

District of Sicamous

**Howard Nordquist**

Secwepemc Nation,  
Adams Lake Indian Band

**Robyn Laubman**

Splatsin te Secwepemc

**Jim Johnson**

RDNO Area 'E'

**Allysa Hopkins**

RDNO Area 'F'

**Kym Keogh**

BC Ministry of Environment  
& Climate Change Strategy

**Lindsay Benbow**

BC Ministry of Agriculture

**Kelly Chiatto**

BC Ministry of Forests

**Erik Kok**

Community Representative

**Kimm Magill-Hofmann**

Community Representative

**Phil Owen**

Community Representative

**Dennis Einarson**

Senior Scientific Advisor