

Report from Chair

Jay Simpson reported that he and Erin Vieira met with MLA Greg Kylo and MP Mel Arnold in November and December, respectively, to discuss invasive zebra and quagga mussels and how to better collaborate and advocate for new measures to protect the Shuswap from a potential invasion.

Report from Program Managers

Erin Vieira and Alex de Chantal provided an update on program operations since the last SWC meeting:

- The **Water Quality Grant Program** is open for applications; up to \$55,000 is available for farms, landowners and other stewards for projects and management practices that protect water quality. Deadline for applications is January 31st 2023. A full grant program guide, including application templates, is available online at www.shuswapwater.ca.
- There are currently three proponents receiving funds from the Water Quality Grant Program: Trinity Dairies, Crystal Lake Ranch, and Gardom Lake Stewardship Society. One project has just wrapped up and the other two are well underway, anticipated to be complete this winter.
- The **Phosphorus Action Plan** for the Shuswap watershed is now published and available on the SWC website; staff are promoting the Plan and the actions contained within
- Staff worked with the Chair to send letters to the Provincial government about water quality concerns, including the 2022 algal bloom that impacted Salmon Arm Bay and about invasive zebra and quagga mussels
- Staff submitted an application for grant funding to Transport Canada; if successful, the grant will go toward the SWC's Safe Recreation Program in 2023.

Expenses to the end of the second quarter (April 1st – September 30th 2022) total **\$140,618** against the annual operating budget of **\$341,905**.

Presentation on Salmon Arm Water Pollution Control Centre

Rob Niewenhuizen, City of Salmon Arm, presented an update on the City's wastewater treatment plant upgrades. He provided an overview of several upgrades the plant has undergone since it was commissioned in 1977. The plant is now operating at about 90% of its service capacity, and upgrades to increase capacity are underway. He highlighted some of the criteria required under the plant's Operational Certificate (OC), and the results of the City's monitoring to ensure compliance with its OC.

Presentation on Salmon River Water Quality Report

Lily Kotzeva, BC Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy, presented a summary of results from Ministry-led water quality monitoring in the Salmon River from 2005 -2010 and 2016 – 2019, and explained how monitoring results measured against Water Quality Objectives that were established for the river by the Ministry in 1998. She highlighted that most water quality measurements

SWC MEMBERS:

Jay Simpson – Chair

CSRD Area 'F'

Marty Gibbons

CSRD Area 'C'

Dean Trumbley

CSRD Area 'D'

Rhona Martin

CSRD Area 'E'

Natalya Melnychuk

CSRD Area 'G'

(Vacant)

TNRD x2

Debbie Cannon

City of Salmon Arm

Pam Beech

District of Sicamous

Howard Nordquist

Secwepemc Nation,
Adams Lake Indian Band

Robyn Laubman

Splatsin te Secwepemc

Rick Fairbairn

RDNO Area 'D'

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Kym Keogh

BC Ministry of Environment
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Lindsay Benbow

BC Ministry of Agriculture, Food
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Kelly Chiatto

BC Ministry of Forests

Erik Kok

Community Representative

Kimm Magill-Hofmann

Community Representative

Phil Owen

Community Representative

Dennis Einarson

Senior Scientific Advisor

met the objectives most of the time, but that over time water quality in the Salmon River is showing a deteriorating trend.

Presentation on Adams River Watershed Glacier Research

Tay Powrie, Masters student at Thompson Rivers University, presented an overview of a research project he is working on with Dr. Tom Pypker and requested funding support from the SWC for the project (\$8000 over two years). He explained that the extent of glaciers in the Adams watershed is not well understood, but is important to fish habitat, domestic water use and water security, and water quality. His research will take place over the next two years to understand the local impacts of climate change and hydro-logical processes in the Adams watershed.

A full meeting summary is available on the SWC website.