

Introduction of new SWC members

Chair Simpson welcomed new Community Representatives: Erik Kok, Kimm Magill-Hofmann, and Phil Owen; he also welcomed Robyn Laubman, representative of Splatsin and Kelly Chiatto, representative of BC Ministry of Forests.

Report from Program Managers

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

- Water quality monitoring by partners is underway across the Shuswap watershed; the **Shuswap Regional Algal Bloom Response Plan** is ready to implement if needed
- The SWC has announced grant funding for two water quality improvement projects; the **SWC's Water Quality Grant Program** will open for applications in November
- Education and outreach campaigns for the preventing the spread of invasive mussels to BC are underway; staff are also delivering educational campaigns for safe boating and recreation
- The **SWC Annual Highlights Report for 2021-22** is complete, it can be viewed online at www.shuswapwater.ca.
- Staff submitted comments to the Province in response to the *Watershed Security Strategy and Discussion Paper*.

Last fiscal year (April 1st 2021 – March 2022) expenses were \$216,696 against an Operational Budget of \$298,500; of the \$81,804 surplus, \$71,430 is allocated toward projects carried into the new fiscal year.

Phosphorus Action Plan for the Shuswap watershed

Mike Simpson presented an overview of the final draft Phosphorus (P) Action Plan. The P Action plan is part of the SWC's strategy for protecting and improving water quality in Shuswap and Mara Lakes. Several organizations and orders of government contributed to the drafting of the P Action Plan. The P Action Plan summarizes legislation that manages and regulates phosphorus; the Plan also outlines non-regulatory strategic initiatives and opportunities to better manage phosphorus in the Shuswap watershed to protect water quality. The P Action Plan is in the final draft stage; it will be published later this year.

Guest presentation on Upper Adams Salmon Restoration

Mr. Don Holmes, R.P.Bio, Lakeshore Environmental, provided an update on the four-year salmon restoration program taking place in Adams Lake led by the Adams Lake Indian Band. The restoration involves applying fertilizer to Adams Lake to enhance the food supply (plankton) for juvenile Sockeye salmon to increase their growth and survival before they migrate to the ocean. To-date, the program has had good results and juvenile salmon are observed to be double in size compared to pre-fertilization. Lake fertilization and water quality monitoring is occurring again this year according to a prescribed schedule.

A full meeting summary is available on the SWC website.

SWC MEMBERS:

Jay Simpson – Chair

CSRD Area 'F'

Paul Demenok – Vice Chair

CSRD Area 'C'

Rene Talbot

CSRD Area 'D'

Rhona Martin

CSRD Area 'E'

Rod Crowe

TNRD, Village of Chase

Ken Christian

TNRD, City of Kamloops

Debbie Cannon

City of Salmon Arm

Colleen Anderson

District of Sicamous

Howard Nordquist

Secwepemc Nation,
Adams Lake Indian Band

Robyn Laubman

Secwepemc Nation,
Splatsin

Rick Fairbairn

RDNO Area 'D'

Denis Delisle

RDNO Area 'F'

Kym Keogh

BC Ministry of Environment
& Climate Change Strategy

Lindsay Benbow

BC Ministry of Agriculture, Food
& Fisheries

Kelly Chiatto

BC Ministry of Forests

Natalya Melnychuk

Community Representative

Erik Kok

Community Representative

Kimm Magill-Hofmann

Community Representative

Phil Owen

Community Representative

Dennis Einarson

Senior Scientific Advisor