

Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2023

Jay Simpson, CSRD Director for Area 'F' North Shuswap was acclaimed as Chair; Natalya Melnychuk CSRD Director for Area 'G' Sorrento – Blind Bay – Notch Hill was acclaimed as Vice Chair.

Report from Program Managers

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

- Staff administered the **Water Quality Grant Program**; nine applications were received by the January 31st deadline
- Staff facilitated bi-annual meetings of the **Shuswap Water Monitoring Group** and the **Water Protection Advisory Committee**
- Staff coordinated the preparation of a **jointly signed letter to Interior Health** regarding concerns about algal bloom testing and response
- Staff are continuing to promote the SWC's **Phosphorus Action Plan**; a webinar was held on February 16th and a recording is available on the SWC YouTube channel

Expenses to the end of the third quarter (April 1st - December 31st 2022) total **\$182,538** against the annual operating budget of **\$350,105**.

Water Quality Grants awarded

The SWC selected five water quality grant applications to receive funding, following the recommendations of the Water Protection Advisory Committee. A total of \$53,004 grant funds will be distributed, which will leverage \$56,625 other funds and in-kind contributions for a total watershed investment of \$109,629.

Budget and work plan for 2023-24 approved

Staff presented the proposed work plan and budget for 2023-24. The key work plan items include a Water Quality Grant Program, Zebra & Quagga Mussel Prevention Program, initiation of a Wetland Strategy for the Shuswap, funding support for water quality monitoring, Safe Recreation educational program, advocacy for the Shuswap watershed, and communications. Work plan expenses total \$334,664. The budget and work plan were approved, and come into effect April 1st 2023.

Guest presentations from BC Ministry of Environment

Ms. Heather Thompson, Water Quality Specialist, presented an overview of the recently published *Water Quality Objectives (WQOs) for Shuswap Lake* policy report. Kym Keogh, RPBio., presented a selection of water quality monitoring results from 2022 and interpreted the data against the new WQOs. She also summarized some of the Ministry's plans in the Shuswap watershed in response to the SWC's concerns about the 2020 and 2022 algal blooms that impacted Salmon Arm Bay.

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, Food
& Fisheries

Kelly Chiatto

BC Ministry of Forests

Erik Kok

Community Representative

Kimm Magill-Hofmann

Community Representative

Phil Owen

Community Representative

Dennis Einarson

Senior Scientific Advisor