

WEST VANCOUVER STREAMKEEPER SOCIETY
PRESIDENT'S REPORT – ON BEHALF OF THE DIRECTORS
MAY 7, 2015

Meetings

- Previous AGM was held on May 8, 2014
- MembersqMeetings held on September 25 and January 29.
- Seaside Social evening held at Hollyburn Sailing Club on April 16.

Administration

- One board member, Peter Gaskill, resigned during the past year.
- Don Harrison was appointed by the board in January to replace Peter.
- Bill McAllister has served as treasurer and Mike Akerly as secretary.
- The charitable status achieved in September 2011 has served us well in our fund raising efforts. All individuals or businesses that make a donation to the Society, whether in-kind or cash, receive a letter of thanks and a tax deductible receipt for their contribution.

Nelson Creek Hatchery

- Hatchery Operations Coordinator . Elizabeth Hardy.
- Volunteer operated. We received eggs, that are raised to the fry stage, from two sources:
 - 100,000 chum eggs from the Alouette River Hatchery in Maple Ridge.
 - 30,000 coho eggs from the Capilano River Hatchery.
- The chum fry were released on April 17.
- The coho fry will be released into approximately 12 streams in early June.
- There will be two other coho fry releases:
 - Wood Creek with students from Eagle Harbour Elementary School.
 - Hadden Creek in Capilano Golf Course.
- The District continues to assist hatchery operations by keeping a constant watch on the water supply for the hatchery.

Student Outreach

- Storm Drain Marking
 - Now in our eighth year of this program.
 - Two schools were completed last spring . West Bay and Pauline Johnson. There were no events last fall due to the teachersq dispute and cancellation of classes in September. This spring we

will be working with Westcot and St. Anthony's Elementary Schools.

- On May 1 two teams from RBC Dominion Securities painted storm drains on 11th Street and west of Taylor Way along Inglewood Avenue and Kings Avenue.
- The total storm drains painted (and many re-painted) throughout West Vancouver is now 1,868 from these 26 events.
- Coordinator . Sherry Parrott

- CreekTalk . New program for elementary school students
 - Bringing the story of creeks, fish, aquatic insects, vegetation and habitat to students in the classrooms.
 - Taking classes to streams or the ocean for hands-on learning.
 - Headed by Assunta McCullough and Hugh Hamilton.

- Spawner Salmon Surveys - Secondary Students
 - Eighth year of this program . 47 students on 12 teams last fall.
 - Students participating were from . West Vancouver Secondary, Sentinel and Rockridge plus Seycove (North Vancouver) and Gleneagle (Port Coquitlam).
 - Wrap-up held on December 10, Mayor Mike Smith, councillors, school trustees and other community leaders attended.
 - On January 26 a delegation of Streamkeepers and three EPN student leaders presented the results of the 2014 spawner salmon surveys to West Vancouver District Council.
 - EPN students assisted at Community Events . Adopt-a-Fish, Community Day and the Coho Festival.
 - Weed pulling and removing invasive plants.
 - Shoreline cleanup . Ambleside, John Lawson and Dundarave.
 - On May 6 three EPN students, Minjae Kim, Eric Wei and Cindy Zhou received West Vancouver Youth Appreciation Awards for their community contribution through Streamkeepers.
 - Coordinator . John Barker

Temperature Logging

- We continue to monitor and gather temperature data in several locations in 8 streams in West Vancouver . Cypress, Eagle, Larson, Rodgers, Lawson, McDonald, Hadden and Brothers Creeks.
- The temperature loggers are downloaded by a team of volunteers every three months.
- Coordinator . Alyson Fretz.

Work Plan

- In-stream work - completed
 - This will be the fifth year of the fish ladder on Cypress Creek to assist returning pink salmon during the low water periods in late summer. The ladder has now been repaired after the storm event of November 3 and will be re-installed in late July. The ladder is removed in late September each year for the winter period.
 - Viewing platform at Brothers Creek off Keith Road . an earlier project . worth a visit any time but particularly during the spawning season . mid-October to late November.
 - Centennial Rearing Pond in Memorial Park. Completed in December 2012. Fish trapping from time to time in the pond has always resulted in evidence of a good population of juvenile coho salmon and cutthroat trout residing there. Sampling of aquatic insects continues to indicate a good food sources for these fish.
 - McDonald Creek Estuary Enhancement Project. Construction completed in June 2014. Working extremely well and the structure withstood ocean storms and three highly elevated creek events during the winter. The planned completion work, recently undertaken, involved installing perimeter rock, planting native vegetation and adjustment of several boulders in the defined creek channel.
 - In McDonald Creek at Hay Park, the new intake box and screen has been delivering a steady volume of water into the rearing pond reducing what was almost daily maintenance of the old pipe and screen.
- In-stream work . in progress
 - Rodgers Creek Estuary Enhancement Project. Funding of \$152,500 has been raised from contributions by the Coho Society of the North Shore, West Vancouver Community Foundation, the Pacific Salmon Foundation, the Environment Damages Fund (Environment Canada), Province of British Columbia and TD Friends of the Environment Fund. Work will commence in August this year. This project is similar to the work completed at the mouth of McDonald Creek.
 - Completion of the enhancement of Wood Creek in Parc Verdun will take place in 2016 which will require bank stabilization and the addition of large woody debris to complex the stream and expand spawning and rearing habitat.
 - Lawson Creek . find a solution for better fish passage than the present fish ladder located near The Legion.
 - Fish passage enhancement for McDonald Creek at Fulton Avenue to replace an ineffective fish ladder in mid-year.
 - Consider installing an intake box in McDonald Creek to supply

- water to the rearing pond in Memorial Park (similar to Hay Park).
- Larson Creek water quality. Continue the program of monitoring this creek (water quality testing, temperature monitoring, macro-invertebrate sampling and fish trapping) before undertaking an enhancement project.
- Hadden Creek at Hadden Drive is presently impassable for salmon. Coho arrived there in good numbers last fall. The District has just recently announced the replacement of this culvert which has been designed to be fish passable. Great news.
- Further upstream on Hadden Creek, the culvert at the Capilano Golf Course is similarly not passable. The Club has contracted for an environmental assessment and a design that will allow passage of salmon to and through Pond 5, which would allow spawning salmon to swim the entire length of Hadden Creek that flows through the Golf Course.
- Road signage . yellow fish on metal signs near creeks . 20 of these road signs will be added this year. Ten have been installed to date. These signs, now with a blue background with the yellow fish, identify the creek name and advise the public of trout and salmon habitat.
- Dave Reid . Work Plan Coordinator.

Nature Centre

- Five stewardship groups . all societies - West Vancouver Streamkeepers, Old Growth Conservancy, Lighthouse Park Preservation, North Shore Wetland Partners and West Vancouver Shoreline Preservation - have come together to form a team striving to create a Nature Centre for West Vancouver.
- It will come to be known as Navy Jack Nature House; a name that alludes to the historical designation of this dwelling, as well as a centre celebrating the natural amenities in the community.
- A Project Advisory Team, separate from the stewardship groups, has been assembled to cover the following functions . finance, planning, legal, architecture, grant writing and community engagement.
- Mayor and Council, on January 27, 2014 announced that the Nature Centre team could plan on using Navy Jack House in the future, pending the approval of a sustainable business plan.
- A society was incorporated in 2014 called West Vancouver Nature House Society, and accordingly, by-laws were prepared, a constitution written and five board members appointed representing each of the member organizations.
- The business plan was presented to Nina Leemhuis, the District's Chief Administrative Officer, in late summer last year and a portion of her response letter reads . %Although some details need to be further refined, I feel your business plan is sound and I look forward to presenting this

plan to Council in early 2015. The District is pleased to provide this letter of support to the West Vancouver Nature House Society to further your fundraising, grant applications and potential sponsorship efforts.+

- The application for charitable status has been submitted to Canada Revenue Agency.
- Navvy Jack house is occupied by the previous owner under a tenancy agreement with the District.
- Leadership has been provided by Streamkeepers . Bill Chapman (chair) and Liz Leduc.

Creek Monitoring

- Creek Monitors . 30 members covering 21 streams.
- Spawner salmon surveys . results of returning adult salmon in the fall of 2014.
 - Unfortunately for several streams the results were generally below those of prior years for both coho and chum salmon.
 - There were three highlights however.
 - A good run of pink salmon returned to Cypress Creek in September. This was the %off year+for pinks on the BC coast; however, Cypress Creek has always maintained an %every year+ pink salmon return.
 - Coho in Hadden Creek were strong and these fish were observed all the way to the Hadden Drive crossing, which, as you have already heard is not yet passable.
 - The unusual event of chinook salmon arriving in Brothers and Hadden Creeks . presumably driven there by the high turbidity in the Capilano River at that time. About 200 chinook salmon spawned in these two creeks.

Relationship with and Contribution by the District of West Vancouver

- Continued support by Mayor and Council.
- Monthly meetings with the District staff which includes representatives from Parks, Engineering, Environment and Planning. These meetings always include a review of all EDP applications followed by site visits.
- Participation in the Invasive Plant Species Strategy Working Group . which tabled recommendations in mid-2014. Several of our members were on the Working Group - Bill McAllister, Hugh Hamilton, Michael Evison, co-chair Lori Williams and Councillor Nora Gambioli.
- Assistance with ongoing maintenance in creeks and construction of creek enhancements.
- Access to funding for stewardship groups has solidified Streamkeepers position as a %unding partner+with the District in a number of projects and in some instances, larger projects have been fully funded by the efforts of the Society.
- Mapping . creating individual area maps for the storm drain marking

- program.
- Review and input on the Culvert Inspection Report.
- Participation in the most recent Integrated Storm-water Management Plan (ISMP).
- Coordinator . Bill McAllister

Donations and Funding

- Sustained funding
 - Fisheries and Oceans Canada . PIP grant
 - Park Royal
 - British Pacific Properties
 - RBC Foundation
 - PARC Retirement Living
- The Seaside Social . many donors, with the major ones being Park Royal and Thrifty Foods.
- Whole Foods . bag donation community program.
- Memberships and donations from members.
- Project focused funding . three major projects (McDonald Creek Centennial Rearing Pond in 2012, McDonald Creek Estuary Enhancement in 2014 and Rodgers Creek Estuary Enhancement in 2105) have been fully funded by the efforts of the Society.
- Donations from individuals in the community.
- In-kind contributions . Sartori Environmental has been extremely helpful on many projects and examining opportunities for stream enhancement projects as well as Chapman Land Surveying . Centennial Rearing Pond, Nelson Creek baffles, Hay Park intake pipe, Wood Creek baffles, Fulton Avenue fish passage and fish passage near The Legion on Lawson Creek.
- Funding Coordinators . Bill McAllister and Rich Ketchen

Membership

- Record keeping, notices and membership contact.
- 202 members to date for 2015 (196 total for 2014).
- Membership Coordinator . Liz Leduc

Volunteer Participation

- Volunteer teams:
 - Hatchery operations . team of eight.
 - Cleaning the intake pipe at Hay Park . team of thirteen.
 - Temperature loggers . downloading data . eight streams requiring teams of two volunteers per team.
 - Storm drain marking . seven volunteers per outing.
 - Other volunteer opportunities
 - Spawner salmon surveys . all creeks.
 - Emerging fry surveys . all creeks.

- Fry release . from Nelson Creek Hatchery.
- Beach monitoring at Ambleside, John Lawson Park and Dundarave following the oil spill in English Bay on April 9 . twenty-one volunteers.

Community Events

- Adopt-A-Fish . Saturday, April 25
- Community Day . Saturday, June 6
- Coho Festival . Sunday, September 13
- Coordinator Don Harrison

Communication

- Four newsletters were published since last year's AGM.
- Website . kept up-to-date with announcements, photographs and additional information.
- Facebook page introduced in April 2013.
- Announcements to membership . via email, mail or through the website.
- Support from North Shore News.
- Coordinated by - John Barker, Assunta McCullough and Rich Ketchen

Committees and Coordinators

- Navy Jack Nature House . Bill Chapman and Liz Leduc
- Nelson Creek Hatchery operations . Elizabeth Hardy
- Streamkeeper course . Mike Perley
- Community events . Don Harrison
- Membership and volunteer participation . Liz Leduc
- Work Plan . Dave Reid
- Funding . Bill McAllister and Rich Ketchen
- Student Outreach . Storm Drain Marking - Sherry Parrott
- Student Outreach . CreekTalk . Assunta McCullough and Hugh Hamilton
- Student Outreach . Senior Secondary - John Barker
- Temperature loggers . Alyson Fretz
- Property development and creek protection bylaws . Greg Harder
- Intake pipe monitoring . Dave Martin
- Regulatory, legal and insurance - Mike Akerly
- Monthly meetings with District staff . Bill McAllister
- Communications . John Barker

And finally, a big thank-you to all those who contribute in so many ways to make this an organization to be proud of - one that is doing constructive work on behalf of streams, salmon and the community at large.

John Barker, President, on behalf of West Vancouver Streamkeeper Society Board of Directors.



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May 8, 2015

**WEST VANCOUVER STREAMKEEPERS ANNOUNCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

West Vancouver Streamkeeper Society is pleased to announce that at the Annual General Meeting of members on May 7, 2015, the following individuals were re-elected as the Board of Directors: Mike Akerly, John Barker, Bill Chapman, Elizabeth Hardy, Don Harrison, Bill McAllister, Assunta McCullough, David Martin, and Dave Reid.

At the first meeting of the Board, John Barker was re-elected as President. The other elected officers are Bill McAllister as Treasurer and Mike Akerly as Secretary.

Please see the "News" tab for the President's Report, on behalf of the Directors, that was presented at the Annual General Meeting.

Mike Akerly
Secretary

