



WEST VANCOUVER STREAMKEEPER SOCIETY
PRESIDENT'S REPORT – ON BEHALF OF THE DIRECTORS
MAY 5, 2016

Meetings

- Previous AGM was held on May 7, 2015
- MembersqMeetings held on October 8 and January 28.
- Seaside Social evening held at Hollyburn Sailing Club on April 15.
- There were four meetings of the Board of Directors.

Administration

- One board member, Assunta Detels, resigned during the past year.
- Rich Ketchen was appointed by the board in October to replace Assunta.
- 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 March 23.
- The coho fry will be released into about 7 streams in late May or early June.
- There will be two other coho fry releases:
 - Wood Creek with students from Eagle Harbour Primary School.
 - Hadden Creek in Capilano Golf and Country Club.
- The District continues to assist hatchery operations by keeping a constant watch on the water supply for the hatchery.

Streamkeeper Course

- Held on June 27 and 28 last year - 7 members completed the two day training session.

- This year the course will be held on June 11 and 12. All spots are booked for the twelve members interested in taking the course.
- Taught by Zo Ann Morten, Executive Director, Pacific Streamkeepers Federation and Dianne Ramage, Director of Salmon Recovery Programs, Pacific Salmon Foundation.

SEP Workshop

- The Salmon Enhancement Program Workshop in 2015 was held in Port Alberni on the long May weekend.
- Attended by six of our members.
- The next workshop will be in 2017 in Quesnel.

Student Outreach

- Storm Drain Marking
 - Now in the eighth year of this program.
 - Three schools in the last year. Two last spring . Westcot and St. Anthony's Elementary Schools and one in the fall . Eagle Harbour Primary School.
 - The total storm drains painted (and many re-painted) throughout West Vancouver is now 2,025 from the 29 events, predominantly with elementary schools, but also secondary schools, RBC, church groups, girl guides and boy scouts.
 - Coordinator . Sherry Parrott
- CreekTalk . 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 Hugh Hamilton.
- Spawner Salmon Surveys - Secondary Students
 - Ninth year of this program . 64 students on 17 teams last fall.
 - Students participating were from . West Vancouver Secondary, Sentinel, Rockridge, Mulgrave and Collingwood.
 - Wrap-up held on December 9, Mayor Mike Smith, councillors, school trustees and other community leaders attended.
 - On January 25 a delegation of Streamkeepers and two Environment Protection Network (EPN) student leaders presented the results of the 2015 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.
 - On May 2 two students, Cindy Zhou and Brendon Son, 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 as we continue to build this data base.
- Coordinator . Alyson Fretz.

Work Plan

- In-stream work . prior projects completed
 - 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. The District annually provide a service to ensure the trail, platform and safety railing is in good order. A team of Streamkeepers, under Dave Martin's leadership, keep the site clean and welcoming to the public.
 - Centennial Rearing Pond in Memorial Park. Completed in December 2012.
 - McDonald Creek Estuary Enhancement Project. Construction completed in June 2014.
 - In McDonald Creek at Hay Park, the new intake box and screen have been delivering a steady volume of water into the rearing pond reducing what was almost daily maintenance of the old pipe and screen. A new valve is due to be installed by the District to regulate flow into the pond.
- In-stream work . completed in the last year.
 - Rodgers Creek Estuary Enhancement Project. Funding of \$155,000 was 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, TD Friends of the Environment Fund and Patagonia. Construction took place in September last year. The completion of this project, the final tune-up, occurred on April 21 . included raising the outer wall, the addition of ~~6~~ ¹⁶pine+of boulders on the outer edge and strategic movement and the placement of boulders in the creek path.
 - In McDonald Creek an intake box was installed which provides a more consistent supply of water to the rearing pond in Memorial Park (similar to Hay Park).
 - Fish passage on McDonald Creek at Fulton Avenue improved by

- raising the height of the pool at the outlet of the culvert.
 - Hadden Creek at Hadden Drive was impassable for salmon although coho salmon had arrived there in good numbers in the fall of 2014. The District, as part of infrastructure upgrading, completed the replacement of this culvert, complete with baffles in the box culvert. It is now fish passable and allows salmon to access habitat between Hadden Drive and the outflow culvert from Capilano Golf and Country Club.
- In-stream work . planning, design, costing, fund raising and construction.
 - Lawson Creek . Construct a new fish ladder near the Royal Canadian Legion to assist fish passage to upstream spawning and rearing habitat. Design completed, costs estimated and funding almost secure . awaiting response to two remaining applications. Funds of \$65,000 raised so far . including PSF, the Coho Society, West Vancouver Community Foundation, the Province of BC, BC Hydro and Earth Day Canada.
 - 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.
 - Larson Creek . Balanced Environmental have provided a proposed enhancement of the foreshore and estuary. Recently visited and viewed favourably by DFO.
 - On Hadden Creek, the culvert carrying the creek downstream from the Capilano Golf and Country Club is not passable. The Club now has a design from Sartori Environmental and civil engineering work by Binnie and Associates that will allow passage of salmon to and through Pond 5, with improved creek flow above and below Pond 4 resulting in a lower gradient creek path and naturalized riparian area. A funding application has been made by Streamkeepers, in collaboration with the Golf Club. This is the last of a long list of enhancement projects on Hadden Creek started in 1997 which, when this last one is completed, will allow spawning salmon to swim the entire length of Hadden Creek, including, into and through the Capilano Golf and Country Club.
- Road signage . yellow fish on metal signs near creeks . 20 of these road signs were added in the last year. Streamkeepers partnered with the District and funded half the cost. These signs, now with a blue background with the yellow fish, identify the creek name and advise the public of trout and salmon habitat.
- John Barker . 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 identifies the historical significance of this dwelling, as well as a centre celebrating the natural amenities in the community.
- A Project Advisory Team 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.
- The business plan has been finalized with the District's Chief Administrative Officer and now requires the approval of Council.
- The application for charitable status will be submitted to Canada Revenue Agency.
- Restoration of lower Lawson Creek. The survey results in response to The Ambleside Waterfront Concept Plan identified Navy Jack Nature Centre and the naturalizing of Lawson Creek in this area as high priorities by the respondents. The restoration and naturalization of Lawson Creek around Nature Centre will be led by Streamkeepers. To date we have a concept design by DFO and had two site visits with them. Three District departments (Parks, Engineering and Environment) have attended site visits and all have expressed support. Once the design has been completed and costs estimated, a grant writing process will begin to raise the funds required to achieve the creation of this new creek path through the park area to the west of Navy Jack House.
- Navy Jack House, although owned by the District, is still occupied by the previous owner under a tenancy agreement with the District.
- The upgrades to the house and creek work will not proceed until after the house is vacated.
- Leadership has been provided by Streamkeepers . Bill Chapman and Liz Leduc.

Viewing Platform on Brothers Creek

- Located on Keith Road, three blocks east of Taylor Way.
- Site is monitored year-round and kept clean and welcoming by a team of 11 of our volunteers.
- District provides an annual inspection and upgrades to the trail and protective fencing before the salmon return.
- Coordinator . Dave Martin

Creek Monitoring

- Creek Monitors . 30 members covering 22 streams and tributaries.
- They conducted spawner salmon surveys last fall and in the spring, surveys looking for emerging fry . coho, chum and pink salmon.
- The results can be seen on the Streamkeepers website.
- Coordinator . Dave Reid

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, when appropriate.
- Assistance with ongoing maintenance in creeks and construction of creek enhancements.
- Access to funding for stewardship groups has solidified Streamkeepers position as a funding partner with the District in a number of projects and in most cases, larger projects have been fully funded by the efforts of the Society.
- Mapping . creating individual area maps for the storm drain marking program.
- Participation in the most recent Integrated Storm-water Management Plan (ISMP) in the area of Brothers Creek and tributaries.
- Coordinator . Bill McAllister

Donations and Funding

- Sustained funding
 - Fisheries and Oceans Canada . PIP grant
 - Park Royal
 - British Pacific Properties
 - RBC Foundation
 - PARC Retirement Living
- Memberships and donations from members.
- The Seaside Social . many donors, with the major ones being Park Royal and Thrifty Foods.
- Project focused funding . the four major projects in the last few years (McDonald Creek Centennial Rearing Pond, McDonald Creek Estuary Enhancement, Rodgers Creek Estuary Enhancement and the Lawson Creek fish ladder, this year) have been fully funded by the fund raising efforts of the Society. Other than District staff project oversight, these salmon enhancement projects do not place a burden on the property tax paying community.
- Donations from individuals in the community.
- In-kind contributions
 - Balanced Environmental . foreshore work and estuary

- enhancement projects
- British Pacific Properties . rock supply
- North Construction . estimating and physical work
- Sartori Environmental . assessing opportunities for stream enhancement projects
- CREUS Engineering . civil engineering oversight
- Chapman Land Surveying . site surveys
- Funding Coordinators . Bill McAllister and Rich Ketchen

Membership

- Record keeping, notices and membership contact.
- 220 members to date for 2016, compares to 228 for 2015 and 196 in 2014).
- Membership Coordinator . Liz Leduc

Volunteer Participation

- Volunteer teams:
 - Hatchery operations . team of eight.
 - Cleaning the Keith Road Viewing Platform . team of 11.
 - Temperature loggers . downloading data . eight streams requiring teams of one or two volunteers per location.
 - 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.
 - Community events
- Volunteer Coordinator . Liz Leduc

Community Events

- Adopt-A-Fish . Saturday, April 23 . requires 30 volunteers
- Community Day . Saturday, June 4
- Coho Festival . Sunday, September 11
- Coordinator Don Harrison

Awards

- In October, John Barker was informed by Earth Day Canada that he had been selected as the recipient of the national 2015 Individual Home Town Hero Award.
- On April 23, this award was presented to John in Toronto at the annual Earth Day Ball.

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.
- Twitter account started last fall.
- Announcements to membership . via email, mail, Facebook or the website.
- Support from North Shore News.
- Coordinated by - John Barker and Rich Ketchen

Committees and Coordinators

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

And finally, a big thank-you to all those who contribute in so many ways to make this organization, one to be proud of - one that is providing 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.

May 5, 2016