



**WEST VANCOUVER STREAMKEEPER SOCIETY**  
**PRESIDENT'S REPORT – ON BEHALF OF THE DIRECTORS**  
**MAY 8, 2014**

Meetings

- Previous AGM was held on May 9, 2013
- MembersqMeetings held on September 26 and January 30.
- Seaside Social evening held at Hollyburn Sailing Club on April 3.

Administration

- One board member, Jim Torry, resigned during the past year.
- Dave Martin was appointed by the board to replace Jim.
- Bill McAllister has served as treasurer and Mike Akerly as secretary.
- The charitable status achieved in September 2011 served us well in our fund raising efforts. All individuals or businesses that make 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 receive eggs that are raised to the fry stage, from two sources.
- 120,000 chum eggs from the Tenderfoot Hatchery near Squamish.
- 40,000 coho eggs from the Capilano River Hatchery.
- The chum fry were released on April 24.
- 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 continue to assist hatchery operations by keeping a constant watch on the water supply to the hatchery.

Student Outreach

- Elementary Schools
  - Storm drain marking . two events last fall both with Gleneagles and Hollyburn Elementary Schools. Later in May we will be working with West Bay and Pauline Johnson Elementary Schools.
  - The total storm drains marked by these student events now totals 1,620 throughout the community in 23 events.

- Coordinator . Sherry Parrott
- West Vancouver Secondary . EPN (Environment Protection Network)
  - Seventh year of this program.
  - Spawner salmon surveys with Streamkeepers . 71 students, 13 teams.
  - Wrap-up held on December 12, Mayor Mike Smith, councillors and school trustees attended.
  - Delegation to West Vancouver District Council by Streamkeepers and the EPN student leaders on January 27.
  - 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 12 two EPN students, Minjae Kim and Eric Wei will receive West Vancouver Youth Appreciation Awards for their community contribution through Streamkeepers
  - Coordinator . John Barker
- University Student . StreamTeam
  - Assessing conditions and productivity of streams.
  - Citizen science approach.
  - Water quality testing . pH, turbidity, dissolved oxygen, temperature.
  - Macro-invertebrate sampling.
  - Fish trapping and identification.
- Coordinator . Celia Utley

### 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.
- 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 fourth year of the fish ladder on Cypress Creek to assist returning pink salmon during the low water periods of summer. The ladder will be installed in late July and removed in late September 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. The Official Opening took place on April 27, 2013. 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 . the last trapping at Adopt-A-Fish when 10 cutthroat trout and 56 juvenile coho were captured in three traps. Macro-invertebrate sampling continues to indicate good food sources for these fish.

- Modification of the 120 metre culvert that runs under Keith Road from Wood Creek. Baffles were added following which pink salmon and coho salmon were observed in Parc Verdun where spawning and rearing habitat could be utilized. Wood Creek is a tributary of the very productive Eagle Creek.
- Keeping creek mouths open . Larson, Willow, Claymore, and Dogwood . prone to beach logs blocking access.
- In-stream work . in progress
  - McDonald Creek Estuary Enhancement Project. Funding of \$126,900 has been raised from generous contributions by the Coho Society of the North Shore, West Vancouver Community Foundation, CN, Fortis BC, Seaspn, Pacific Salmon Foundation and, most recently, by Fisheries and Oceans Canada through the Recreational Fisheries Conservation Partnerships Program. Work will commence in mid-June and run for about six weeks.
  - Enhancement of Wood Creek in Parc Verdun by adding boulders and large woody debris to complex the stream and expand spawning and rearing habitat.
  - New intake box and screen for the McDonald Creek Hay Park rearing pond.
  - Fish passage enhancement (vertical baffles) for McDonald Creek at Fulton Avenue to replace an ineffective fish ladder.
  - Larson Creek at Gleneagles Golf Course. We will spend a year monitoring this creek before creating an enhancement plan for the lower section. Water quality testing, temperature monitoring, macro-invertebrate sampling and fish trapping will be conducted over the year.
- Road signage . yellow fish on metal signs near creeks . 10 signs were added last year and several small bridge crossings now have the yellow fish with a blue background attached for creek identification and awareness.
- Dave Reid . Work Plan Coordinator.

#### Nature Centre

- Letter to Mayor and Council on August 31, 2012.
- Several meetings have been held with the 5 stewardship groups that will be participating in the Nature Centre and the Advisory Team.
- In addition to West Vancouver Streamkeepers, the other stewardship

societies are Old Growth Conservancy, Lighthouse Park Preservation, North Shore Wetland Partners and West Vancouver Shoreline Preservation.

- A strong Project Advisory Team, separate from the stewardship groups, have 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 new society will be incorporated . West Vancouver Nature House Society, and accordingly, by-laws have been prepared, a constitution written and five board members appointed representing each of the member organizations.
- Leadership has been provided by Streamkeepers . Bill Chapman (chair) and Liz Leduc.

### Creek Monitoring

- Creek Coordinators . 19 members covering eighteen streams
- Spawner salmon surveys . started earlier in 2013 on Brothers Creek with the phenomenal return of pink salmon resulting primarily from the strong return in 2011.
- Results of returning adult salmon in our streams in the fall of 2013.
  - Chum numbers were excellent in most creeks . reported in Brothers, Hadden, Macbeth, Eagle, Lawson, McDonald and Rodgers Creeks.
  - Coho found in Brothers, Hadden, Eagle, Lawson, McDonald, Rodgers and Wood Creeks.
  - Chum numbers were down in Eagle Creek possibly due to a deteriorating culvert near the creek mouth.
  - Most creeks reported more salmon than the previous best year on record, with the exception of Lawson and Eagle Creeks.
  - Pink salmon were seen in Brothers, Hadden, West Brothers, Macbeth, Lawson, Wood and Cypress Creeks.
  - Brothers Creek had, without a doubt, thousands of pink salmon . beyond the Upper Levels Highway and above Stevens Drive.

### Relationship with and Contribution by the District of West Vancouver

- Continued support of Mayor and Council.
- Monthly meetings with the District staff which includes representatives from Parks, Engineering and Environment and these meetings always include a review of all EDP applications and subsequent site visits.
- The Manager, Environment and Sustainability, Sandra Bicego, was hired a year ago and she has been in regular contact with Streamkeepers.
- Participation in the Invasive Plant Species Strategy Working Group . members Bill McAllister, Hugh Hamilton, Michael Evison and Councillor

Nora Gambioli are on the Working Group.

- Assistance with ongoing maintenance in creeks and construction of creek enhancements.
- Mapping . creating individual maps for the storm drain marking program.
- Review and input on the Culvert Inspection Report completed last fall.
- 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
  - Pacific Arbour
- 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 . several projects this year, the largest being the estuary enhancement on McDonald Creek.
- Individual donations.
- In-kind contributions . environmental consultant Alex Sartori has been extremely helpful on many projects and examining opportunities for stream enhancement projects . Centennial Rearing Pond, Nelson Creek baffles, Hay Park intake pipe, Wood Creek baffles and Fulton Avenue fish passage structure. A PSF salmon conservation stamp painting was presented to Alex at the Seaside Social in April this year for his valuable and willing assistance to our salmon enhancement efforts.
- Funding Coordinator . Bill McAllister

### Membership

- Record keeping, notices and membership notifications.
- 173 members.
- Membership Coordinator . Liz Leduc

### Volunteer Participation

- Volunteer teams:
  - Hatchery operations . team of five.
  - Cleaning the intake pipe at Hay Park . team of six.
  - Temperature loggers . downloading data . eight streams requiring eight 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.
- Coordinated by the Coordinator of each of these activities.

### Community Events

- Adopt-A-Fish . Saturday, April 26
- Community Day . Saturday, June 7
- Coho Festival . Sunday, September 7
- Coordinator Celia Utley

### Communication

- Five newsletters 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.
- Communication Coordinator - John Barker

### Committees and Coordinators

- Nature Centre . Bill Chapman and Liz Leduc
- Nelson Creek Hatchery operations . Elizabeth Hardy
- Streamkeeper Course . Mike Perley
- Community events . Celia Utley
- Membership and volunteer participation . Liz Leduc
- Work Plan . Dave Reid
- Funding . Bill McAllister
- Student Outreach . Elementary - Sherry Parrott
- Student Outreach . Senior Secondary - John Barker
- StreamTeam . University students . Kalum Utley
- Temperature loggers . Alyson Fretz
- Property development and creek protection bylaws . Peter Gaskill
- Intake pipe monitoring . Dave Martin
- Regulatory, legal and insurance - Mike Akerly
- Monthly meeting with District staff . Bill McAllister
- Communications . John Barker

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

May 8, 2014