



WEST VANCOUVER STREAMKEEPER SOCIETY
PRESIDENT'S REPORT – ON BEHALF OF THE DIRECTORS
MAY 4, 2017

Meetings

- Previous AGM was held on May 5, 2016
- MembersqMeetings held on September 29 and January 26.
- Seaside Social evening held at Hollyburn Sailing Club on April 20.
- There were four meetings of the Board of Directors.

Administration

- One board member, Mike Akerly, resigned during the past year.
- Mike Perley was appointed by the board in October and took over the responsibility of Secretary.
- Bill McAllister served as treasurer.
- I am completing my seventh term as president.

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 19.
- The coho fry will be released into about 12 streams in early June.
- There will be two other coho fry releases:
 - Wood Creek with students from Eagle Harbour Primary School.
 - Upper Hadden Creek below 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 11 and 12 last year - 12 members completed the two day training session.
- We are in the process of organizing another training session with members from North Shore Streamkeepers to take place in July.
- 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 2017 will be held in Quesnel on the long May weekend.
- Will be attended by three of our members.

Student Outreach

- Storm Drain Marking
 - Now in the tenth year of this program.
 - Events last year included . 5 painting storm drains at elementary schools Cypress Park, Caulfeild and Girl Guides and Brownies
 - The total storm drains painted (and many re-painted) throughout West Vancouver is now 2,263 from the 34 events, predominantly with elementary schools, but also secondary schools, RBC, church groups, girl guides and boy scouts.
 - Coordinators . Sherry Parrott and Sigrid Bailey
- 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.
 - Need to find a new coordinator.
- Spawner Salmon Surveys - Secondary Students
 - Tenth year of this program . 70 students on 18 teams last fall.
 - Students participating were from . West Vancouver Secondary, Sentinel, Rockridge, Mulgrave and Collingwood.
 - Wrap-up held on December 8, Mayor Mike Smith, councillors, school trustees and other community leaders attended.
 - On January 23 a delegation of Streamkeepers and three Environment Protection Network (EPN) student leaders presented the results of the 2016 spawner salmon surveys to West Vancouver District Council.
 - EPN students assist at Community Events . Adopt-a-Fish, Community Day and the Coho Festival.
 - Weed pulling and removing invasive plants.
 - On May 3 three students, Cindy Zhou, Fumika Noguchi and Jordan Gumuchian, 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.
- A graphically representation can now be seen on the website under %Our Creeks+.
- Coordinator . The leadership changed from Alyson Fretz to Charlie Cochrane in January 2017.

Citizen Science

- Two elements to the program . in addition to the Temperature Logging.
- Water quality testing . pH, turbidity and dissolved oxygen.
- Sampling for aquatic insects, the food source for cutthroat trout and juvenile salmon
- The same 8 streams are being monitored twice a year.
- Coordinator . Leslie Shuparski

Herring Spawn Project

- New initiative this year.
- Installed 12 vertically hung nets from mooring floats in Fisherman's Cove at Thunderbird Marina and West Vancouver Yacht Club.
- Objective . to provide a medium for herring to use when they spawn.
- The nets are similar to those used in Squamish and False Creek where they have proven quite successful.
- Unfortunately there was no evidence of herring spawn on these nets in the January to March spawning period.
- Program will be repeated next year and expanded to include Horseshoe Bay.
- Coordinator . Keith Pelletier

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, continue to keep the site clean and welcoming to the public throughout the year.
 - Major Projects have been a part of our recent history.
 - Centennial Rearing Pond in Memorial Park. Completed in December 2012.
 - McDonald Creek Estuary Enhancement Project. Construction completed in June 2014.

- Rodgers Creek Estuary Enhancement Project. Construction completed in September 2015.
 - Last September the new fish ladder on Lawson Creek adjacent to The Legion was completed at a cost of \$65,000. Contributors were Pacific Salmon Foundation, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Coho Society of the North Shore, West Vancouver Community Foundation, the Province of BC, BC Hydro and Earth Day Canada plus in-kind contributions by Sartori Environmental, Chapman Land Surveying, CREUS Engineering and North Construction.
- Three major projects are in the works for 2017.
 - Larson Creek Estuary Enhancement. June 2017 completion. BPP will be providing the large size rock required. The design is by Balanced Environmental.
 - Hadden Creek at Capilano Golf and Country Club. Completion in August 2017.
 - Lawson Creek Restoration Project adjacent to Navy Jack Nature Centre. Design to be completed and cost estimates prepared prior to grant writing.
- Other In-stream work . completed in the last year.
 - McDonald Creek at Hay Park rearing pond. A new valve was installed to regulate flow from the intake box into the pond. Completed in August last year. Similar now to the water flow at the Memorial Park rearing pond and an end to the constant screen cleaning that was required.
- Future Projects . planning and design stages
 - Fish passage on McDonald Creek at Fulton Avenue improved by raising the height of the pool at the outlet of the culvert. More work is required at the culvert to assist salmon passage.
 - Nelson Creek estuary. Working with DFO Resource Restoration Unit personnel and Thunderbird Marina to find a way to provide better access from the boat basin into Nelson Creek.
 - Restoration of lower Lawson Creek. This involves the construction of a new naturalized creek path through the park to the west of Navy Jack House. Working with the District and DFO. Concept design will move to a detailed design.
 - This work will be undertaken at the same time as the improvements are made to Navy Jack House, converting it to a nature centre.
- 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 . came

together to form a team striving to create a nature centre for West Vancouver.

- It has 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 capital in the community.
- Navy Jack House will continue to be owned by the District and converted to a nature centre when the dwelling becomes available.
- Discussions continue with District staff to determine the right model to fund and operate Navy Jack Nature House.
- Leadership has been provided by Streamkeepers . Bill Chapman, who is President of West Vancouver Nature House Society, and Liz Leduc, Executive Director.

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 Streamkeeper volunteers.
- The District provides an annual inspection and provides 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 and chum.
- 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 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 and British Pacific Properties
- 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, Lawson Creek fish ladder and this year Larson Creek Estuary Enhancement and the Upper Hadden Creek restoration) have all 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.
- 240 members in 2016, compares to 228 for 2015 and 196 in 2014).
- Just over 200 so far this year.
- Membership Coordinator . Liz Leduc

Volunteer Participation

- Volunteer teams:
 - Nelson Creek Hatchery operations . team of 8 and release of chum and coho fry . another 6 per outing.
 - Cleaning the Keith Road Viewing Platform . team of 11.
 - Temperature loggers . downloading data . 8 streams requiring teams of one volunteer per stream.
 - Storm drain marking . 7 volunteers per outing.
 - 30 Creek Monitors who conduct spawner salmon surveys and emerging fry surveys on all creeks.

- Spawner salmon surveys . student program . 18 teams each led by a Streamkeeper sponsor, 70 participating students.
- Community events
 - Adopt-A-Fish (April), Community Day (June) and the Coho Festival (September)
- Coordinator . Liz Leduc

Community Events

- Events in which Streamkeepers participated in the last year.
- Community Day . Saturday, June 4, 2016
- Eagle Harbour . Sunday Funday . Sunday, June 5, 2016
- Coho Festival . Sunday, September 11, 2016
- Adopt-A-Fish . Saturday, April 22, 2017
- Coordinator Don Harrison

Awards

- Three EPN (Environment Protection Network) students from West Vancouver Secondary School were nominated by Streamkeepers for Youth Appreciation Awards for their leadership contribution during the Spawner Salmon Surveys conducted last fall.
- Cindy Zhou, Fumika Noguchi and Jordan Gumuchian were selected and received their awards, presented by Mayor Michael Smith, on May 3.

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 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

- The Society is managed by 18 Committees . each run by a Coordinator
- Our participation in Navy 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 . Charlie Cochrane
- Citizen Science . Leslie Shuparski
- Herring Spawn Program . Keith Pelletier
- Property development and creek protection . Greg Harder
- Viewing Platform monitoring . Dave Martin
- Herring Spawn Enhancement . Keith Pelletier
- Citizen Science . Leslie Shuparski
- Regulatory, legal and insurance - Mike Perley
- 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 the Board of Directors of West Vancouver Streamkeeper Society.
May 4, 2017