

Newsletter #10 – February – March 2012

1) Annual General Meeting: The 2012 Annual General Meeting of West Vancouver Streamkeeper Society will be held on May 10, 2012 commencing at 7:30 p.m. at St. Stephen's Anglican Church, 885 ó 22nd Street, West Vancouver.

2) New Director Appointed: Barrie Adams, long serving board member and Secretary for the last two terms, tendered his resignation on March 15th. Barrie has been a tremendous help in building and directing the Society over recent years. We are indeed most appreciative for his dedicated service, thoroughness and attention to many of the administrative details of the Society. In his place the board has appointed Dave Reid as director. Board member, Mike Akerly, has been appointed Secretary.

3) Ivy Pull in Memorial Park: Streamkeepers organized an ivy pull which was held on March 17th. Under the direction of District staff forty individuals, including Streamkeepers, EPN students, Air Cadets and Park Stewardship volunteers, turned out to remove this invasive plant from the west side of Memorial Park.

4) Report on the Seaside Social: On March 22nd Streamkeepers hosted the second annual Seaside Social at Hollyburn Sailing Club. This well-attended event featured displays of the Nelson Creek Hatchery (Elizabeth Hardy), temperature logging (Matt Casselman), bug surveys from the five creek sampling project (Thibault Doix) and the proposed coho salmon rearing pond in Memorial Park (Bill McAllister). The Society would like to express a sincere thank you to the sponsors of this event ó Park Royal Shopping Centre, Thrifty Foods, MarketPlace IGA, Everything Wine, Staples Business Centre, The Bakehouse, Chapman Land Surveyors and Seaspan Marine Corporation. A big thank-you goes to Liz Leduc, Jim Torry and the other volunteers who participated in organizing this most enjoyable evening.

5) Nelson Creek Hatchery: The 60,000 coho eggs at the Nelson Creek Hatchery have hatched. They will be held in the heath trays for about four weeks and then ponded into two outside troughs in late April. The coho fry will then be released into several local creeks in late May or early June. In most years we have been fortunate to receive an additional 100,000 or so, surplus coho fry from the Capilano Hatchery which are released into other creeks in the community.

6) Centennial Project: The proposed coho salmon rearing pond in Memorial Park continues to proceed favourably. We are working closely with a team from the District's Parks Department, as well as Sartori Environmental and CREUS Engineering, to bring this pond into being this summer. The design has been completed and approved by DFO and the District. The estimated cost is \$80,000, a portion of which will be from in-kind contributions. Funding is being sought

from Pacific Salmon Foundation, the Coho Society of the North Shore and other funding agencies, as well as corporations and individual donors. Community consultation has gone well and several letters of support have been received by those who participated. In concert with the Parks Department, a business plan is being prepared which will be presented to Council on April 23rd. Council approval would then allow an application to be made to the Ministry of Environment for the water use permit. Our target date for this work to occur is between mid-July and mid-August this year. The project is being led by Bill McAllister (jacmcallister@telus.net) and assisted by Dave Reid and John Barker.

7) Emerging Fry: Elizabeth Hardy (eahardy@shaw.ca) will be soon sending message to those who participated in the fall salmon surveys, to start searching for emerging coho fry in all creeks. Other members wishing to participate in the search for emerging fry, please contact Elizabeth.

8) Adopt-a-Fish: This annual event, held in concert with the Coho Society, will take place on April 14th at McDonald Creek in Memorial Park starting at 10:30 a.m. and winding up at 1:00 p.m. Children will sign in at the Memorial Library and then proceed to the park to receive their coho smolts, which will then be released into the creek. The event is being organized by director Celia Utley. If you would like to assist at this event please contact Celia (utley@telus.net).

9) Upcoming Events: There are three more community events this year in which Streamkeepers will participate ó Community Day on June 2, Earth Day Run on June 3 and the Coho Festival on September 16. These will also be coordinated by Celia.

10) Storm Drain Marking: Three storm drain marking events are planned for this spring. We will lead a Unitarian Church family event on April 29th. This will be followed by storm drain marking with two primary schools in May - Cypress Park and Cedardale. Sherry Parrott (slp@sentinel-hill.com) will be leading the storm drain marking program for Streamkeepers.

11) Hay Park Intake Pipe: Jim Torry, Sigrid Bailey and Dave Reid are new additions to the monitoring and cleaning team of Peter Gaskill and Franz Lefort who are now in their second year. Many thanks to Linda Windibank and Brock Mackenzie for providing volunteer time for over a year on this task. There are dozens of 2.5 inch juvenile coho that have over-wintered in the pond and are now very active and clearly visible. The best road access to view the pond is from Kings Avenue and 19th Street.

12) Membership: We presently have 121 members, slightly exceeding last year's membership total. Due to the interest expressed by a significant number of members wishing to volunteer their time in some Streamkeeper activity, we have created a new position of Volunteer Coordinator. The purpose of this position is to help connect the members who have specific interests, to the Coordinator for a particular activity. Jim Torry (jaytee2@shaw.ca) has agreed to take on this important task. Liz Leduc, will assume the position of Membership Coordinator (liz.leduc@shaw.ca).

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