

Council Meeting
October 25th 2017 | 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Salmon Arm Municipal Hall – Room #100
500 2nd Avenue NE, Salmon Arm

Draft record of decisions and action items

Note: this record is subject to correction when adopted at the next SWC meeting

Meeting objectives

1. Presentation of 2016 water quality summary report
2. Discuss and approve Water Quality Contingency Fund Framework
3. Receive presentation on nutrient research
4. Receive presentations and updates on aquatic invasive mussels

Present

Paul Demenok, Chair – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area C
Larry Morgan, Vice Chair – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area F
Rene Talbot – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area D
Rhona Martin – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area E
Rick Berrigan – Thompson-Nicola Regional District, Village of Chase
Todd Killo – District of Sicamous
Nancy Cooper – City of Salmon Arm
Greg Witzky – Secwepemc Nation, Adams Lake Indian Band
Herman Halvorson – Regional District of North Okanagan, Area F
Brian Schreiner – Regional District of North Okanagan, City of Enderby (*alternate*)
Randy Wood – Community representative
Ray Nadeau – Community representative
Lorne Hunter – Community representative
Dennis Einarson – BC Ministry of Environment
Laura Code – BC Ministry of Agriculture

Erin Vieira and Mike Simpson – Fraser Basin Council

Observers

Clyde Mitchell, Don Patterson, Tod Couch

Regrets

Dave Nordquist
Representative, Thompson-Nicola Regional District, City of Kamloops

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Chair Paul Demenok.

Adoption of meeting summary Moved/Seconded by Mayor Cooper/Director Talbot that:
The meeting summary of the May 10th 2017 meeting of the SWC be adopted.

CARRIED

Ray Nadeau requested a late agenda item be added to discuss drinking water and turbidity.

Correspondence Referral from the Columbia Shuswap Regional District, dated July 26, 2017, regarding the Adams River Salmon Society (ARSS). The referral includes correspondence from the Society to the CSRD, asking for assistance and a partnership for a Symposium in 2018.

Moved/seconded by Directors Morgan/Talbot that:
The correspondence be received for information.

Discussion

Chair Demenok asked Council members to consider the extent to which the SWC should work with ARSS in delivering a symposium in 2018 coinciding with the peak salmon return.

CARRIED

Action item: staff will invite Dave Smith, vice president of ARSS, to attend the December SWC meeting and a full discussion on a partnership with ARSS can take place.

Report from the Chair Chair Demenok has presented the SWC's annual report to the Salmon Arm, Sicamous, and Village of Chase Councils as well as the TNRD, RDNO and CSRD Boards. The responses have been favourable.

Chair Demenok is also scheduled to present to the Salmon Arm Environmental Advisory Committee in December.

Program Managers' Report

Laura Code entered the meeting at 10:15 am

Erin Vieira and Mike Simpson presented an update on program operations:

- The 2016 Water Quality Summary Report is complete. Print copies have been distributed to government offices, libraries, and visitor centres around the watershed, and an insert was placed in the

September 29th edition of Shuswap Market News; the summary can also be downloaded from www.shuswapwater.ca

- A one-year special monitoring project for nonylphenols is wrapping up this fall on the lake; results will be ready in 2018
- Entered into an agreement with Gardom Lake Stewardship Society for a water quality restoration project; \$10K will be contributed for riparian restoration and the creation of a wetland
- The Water Protection Advisory Committee will next meet in November, the meeting will include a site visit to the Alderson Creek restoration project completed last spring
- Educational campaigns for safe boating and water recreation were implemented from May - September focusing on lifejacket use, sober boating, emergency preparedness, and drowning prevention

Expenses to the end of the second quarter (April 1st to September 30th 2017) are as follows:

	Budget (\$)	Expenses (\$)
Water Monitoring Initiative	66,250	5551
Water Protection Initiative	75,650	57,901
Recreation Safety Education Program	12,800	9478
Communications	34,600	24,968
Management and Administration	41,600	16,348
Operating Reserve	99,014	0
Total expenses to September 30th 2017	329,914	114,246

Discussion

Director Martin inquired about the process for awarding water protection funds (i.e., such as the contribution to the Gardom Lake Stewardship Society) and asked about project criteria. Mike Simpson replied that there are criteria outlined in the SWC's five-year plan, and that staff have kept administration of the \$10K fund minimal.

Chair Demenok commented on the need to raise awareness of the water protection funds and make it accessible to more groups; this may help to catalyze some stewardship activity in new areas.

Randy Wood inquired if the Gardom Lake wetland restoration is linked to invasive species presence or treatment. Mike Simpson replied that the Gardom Lake Stewardship Society has multiple mandates, including invasive species, but that this particular project is meant to polish water quality flowing into Gardom Lake.

Director Martin expressed her support for on-going give-aways such as whistles or bailers to ensure boaters and water recreationists are

prepared.

2016 Water Quality Summary Report

Erin Vieira presented the 2016 Shuswap Water Quality Summary Report which includes select water quality data for the lakes, major rivers and popular beaches, as well informative 'snippets' about the watershed and monitoring programs. Council members provided comments, including positive feedback and some suggestions for subsequent years' summaries.

The 8-page summary is available at www.shuswapwater.ca.

Discussion

Ray Nadeau inquired if cyanobacteria incidents are being reported publically to a satisfactory degree. Dennis Einarson replied that the BC Ministry of Environment is working with the health authorities to develop a protocol.

SWC Water Quality Contingency Fund Framework

Moved/seconded by Director Talbot/Mayor Cooper that:
The Water Quality Contingency Fund Framework be approved.

CARRIED

Roundtable Updates

Vice Chair Morgan reported that there were several delegations and discussions at the recent Union of BC Municipalities Convention regarding aquatic invasive mussels; there was a positive reception to these by the Minister.

Director Halvorson reported that he has requested resources from the BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations for patrolling the Shuswap River. Currently, RDNO has a service for enhanced patrolling that is done by the BC Conservation Service. Proposed boating regulations on the Shuswap River has been a divisive issue. Director Halvorson further reported that the Regional District of North Okanagan is looking into establishing a conservation fund, which could be similar to the South Okanagan Conservation Fund.

Councillor Witzky reported that Skeetchestn Indian Band is developing a Territorial Patrol Initiative; it's proposed that patrols would take place all over Secwepemc territory, with Adams Lake Indian Band's priority for an initial emphasis on the Adams Lake watershed.

Joint meeting of the SWC and the Water Protection Advisory Committee commenced at 12:45pm

Guest Presentation

Jeff Curtis, Megan Ludwig, and Ralph Van Dalfsen joined the meeting at 12:45 pm

Megan Ludwig, M.Sc candidate at UBC-Okanagan, presented an overview and update on the nutrient research project she is conducting on the Shuswap River and Salmon River. A summary of points from her presentation follows:

- The research objective is to obtain a credible understanding of point and diffuse sources of phosphorus and nitrogen, and how the nutrients are being transported to the rivers
- Research methodology includes the collection of water samples (surface water, groundwater, and ditch water) and discharge measurements from several sites on the Shuswap and Salmon Rivers
- Water samples are analyzed for various forms of phosphorus, nitrate, chloride, and other parameters
- Different lab methodologies and assessments can be used to determine the nutrient inputs from the mainstem river, tributaries, and incremental flows (i.e., overland flow and groundwater seepage to the river, not from a tributary)
- Results for July 2016 – June 2017 were presented, which included an overview of the nutrient loading from major point sources, tributaries, and incremental flows for the Shuswap River and Salmon River. In 2016, nutrient inputs via incremental flows were the greatest sources of P and N in the rivers.
- The current year's research will include continued sampling, improving incremental flows estimates, and developing land use coefficients.

Guest Presentation

Martina Beck, Acting Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator for the BC Ministry of Environment, and Sergeant Josh Lockwood from the BC Conservation Officer Service presented an overview of aquatic invasive mussel defence program operations in 2017. A summary of points from their presentation follows:

- The Province's Invasive Mussel Defence Program includes four components: watercraft inspections; education and outreach; early detection monitoring; and collaboration with other governments and organizations on prevention
- In 2017, 10 watercraft stations were established (up from 8 stations in 2016) including one station at Golden that was open 24 hours/day. The watercraft stations inspected 35,100 watercraft and interacted with over 73,000 people. Inspections detected 24 mussel-fouled

watercrafts.

- A watercraft from Quebec en route to the Shuswap was seized due to the presence of adult mussels, detected by a mussel-sniffing dog. The boat was seized for 30 days and decontaminated, and the owner was issued violation tickets on three counts.
- Compliance at inspection stations is 81%
- Early detection monitoring in BC lakes have all tested negative for invasive mussels to-date; 234 samples were collected from 98 lakes in 2016
- An update on the status of invasive mussels in Montana was provided: In 2016, samples tested 'positive' and 'suspect' at two reservoirs in Montana; follow up sampling in 2017 did not detect any adult mussels or veligers, however the Tiber Reservoir maintains a positive status and the Canyon Ferry Reservoir maintains a suspect status
- The BC/Alberta pilot Passport Program launched in July 2017. Passports were issued to frequent travellers within BC or between BC and Alberta; inspections are faster for passport holders
- Outreach and education efforts include attending several boating and fishing shows, and mail-outs to marinas and boat industry businesses.

Robyn Hooper, Executive Director, and Sue Davies, Aquatic and Outreach Program Coordinator for the Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society, presented an overview of their programs in 2017. A summary of their presentation follows:

- 20 sites were monitored for aquatic invasive species by CSISS in 2017; this covers seven priority water bodies
- Outreach/education regarding aquatic invasives and boater surveys were conducted at marinas and launches in the Shuswap; signage has been installed at approximately 20 boat launches
- The partnership between the Okanagan Basin Water Board and the Okanagan and Similkameen Invasive Species Society was highlighted; together, they deliver the "Don't Move A Mussel" and "Clean Drain Dry" campaigns and related activities including planning, coordination, advocacy, and collateral.

Dennis Einarson and Rick Berrigan left the meeting at 2:30 pm

Todd Kyлло left the meeting at 2:40 pm

Roundtable Discussion on

Chair Demenok asked Council members to consider what role the Council could fill next year to boost aquatic invasive mussel defence. Randy Wood

**Aquatic Invasive
Mussels**

agreed that the Council has a worthwhile opportunity to be part of prevention efforts. Director Martin suggested a partnership with the marine industry on education and outreach. Laura Code suggested that the Council help distribute some of the existing educational material and resources to improve the reach.

Action item: Council members to consider this, and take part in a work plan discussion for 2018 at the December Council meeting. Chair Demenok offered to discuss opportunities directly with the OBWB.

Nancy Cooper left the meeting at 2:55 pm

**Late agenda item:
turbidity and
drinking water**

Ray Nadeau expressed concern over the lack of information on drinking water quality to single domestic users that draw drinking water from the lakes, particularly during times of high turbidity. He inquired about the possibility of including a representative from Interior Health Authority on the Council. Director Martin cautioned about the extra costs of monitoring drinking water. Director Morgan stated that single domestic users draw water from the lakes at their own risk and are responsible for their own treatment and/or monitoring; Interior Health Authority requires treatment and monitoring for “water systems” (two or more domestic users).

Adjourn

Moved/Seconded by Director Morgan/Randy Wood that:
The October 25th 2017 meeting of the SWC be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.