

CLRSS Board Meeting Minutes - Monday, April 12, 2021 – via Zoom, with thanks to the CWB

Items:	Action: What? By Whom? When?
<p>Rotating chair: With thanks to Chantelle Carden</p> <p>In attendance - Board Members: Jean Atkinson, Judy Brayden, Rick Bryan, Chantelle Carden, Rosemary Danaher, Diana Gunderson, Parker Jefferson, Lyndon Keeping, Ken Traynor.</p> <p>Members: Jim Deck, Karen Deck, Bee Greenaway, Dave DePap, Genevieve Singleton and Maureen Quested, Guests: CVRD Area F Director, Ian Morrison, Town of Lake Cowichan Councillor, Kristine Sandhu and Cowichan Watershed Board Executive Director, Tom Rutherford.</p> <p>Absent with regrets: Lois Atchison, Rodger Hunter</p>	<p><i>Please note the correction re: Dave DePape's last name; rhymes with 'tap' Apologies from Judy</i></p>
<p>We acknowledge that we are meeting on the traditional territories of the Ts'uubaa-asatx, Ditidaht and Quw'utsun First Nations. We hope that our work together here today will make a positive contribution to our shared future in this valley.</p>	<p><i>Please note the revised acknowledgement</i></p>
<p>The Fourfold Way reviewed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • respect each other by having just one speaker at a time • expect people to speak from the heart with passion • expect people to show up to solve problems <i>and</i> • expect people to speak without blame. 	
<p>FYI only Our Strategic Plan (See Appendix 1 below)</p>	<p>Chair, Chantelle Carden drew our attention to this item.</p>
<p>Motion to accept the agenda as printed.</p>	<p>Moved and seconded by Lyndon Keeping and Ken Traynor CARRIED</p>
<p>Motion to accept minutes of March 1, 2021</p>	<p>Moved and seconded by Judy Brayden and Diana Gunderson CARRIED</p>
<p>Treasurer's report: Lyndon Keeping (See Appendix 2 below) and update on year-end process.</p>	<p>Moved and seconded by Lyndon Keeping and Rosemary Danaher CARRIED</p>
<p>Guest remarks from Town of Lake Cowichan Councillor, Kristine Sandhu</p>	<p>Kristine Sandhu confirmed that a grant-in-aid of \$100 to CLRSS was approved by Town of Lake Cowichan Mayor and Council. This would cover the cost to repair the vandalized GTMNPG sign. She reported that the video camera in Saywell Park was to be a discussion item with the ToLC Parks Committee, that the washrooms at Saywell Park are not currently open to the public but will be so once the summer student program begins. Parking at Saywell Park is being addressed by council as well.</p>

	<p>Rosemary Danaher agreed to write a note of thanks to the ToLC for the grant on behalf of the CLRSS.</p> <p>Ken Traynor agreed to request delegation status at the May Parks Committee meeting to update the Council on our work and to launch the idea of an educational centre being developed to engage members of the community and visitors to the valley about the watershed, weir and lake and river stewardship. Further to this meeting, Ken Traynor has confirmed that he will be attending the May 18th Parks Committee meeting.</p>
<p>Presentation: Leroy Van Wieren, Project Manager – CVRD Weir and Natural Boundary Survey (20 minutes)</p>	<p>Leroy presented and excellent PowerPoint and discussion was lively. The two options of a walkway and investing in a cold-water return mechanism were discussed. Cost will be known very soon. The project is on time and on budget.</p>
<p>Change of format to allow our guest to witness this discussion:</p> <p>Watershed Education Centre at the New Weir – Ken Traynor</p>	<p>Ken Traynor and Dave DePape will be attending the CWB Water Connections working group at its April 30th meeting. He will report back to the Board regarding conversations on this aspect of the development of the weir. See note above re: ToLC and the Parks Committee delegation status by CLRSS.</p>
<p>Correspondence: For discussion – Ken Traynor</p> <p>1. FYI Only</p> <p>From: Nature Conservancy of Canada - Unique study pinpoints key places to stem biodiversity loss in Canada's south</p> <p>2. FYI Only Chelsea Power Email: chelsea.y.b.power@gmail.com Phone: 7785333249 Subject: Bald mountain wetland loop project Message: Hello, I am a volunteer with the Invasive Species Council of BC looking into starting an invasive species removal at the wetland loop and trail of the Bald mountain peninsula. I recently saw a poster at Spring Beach about the restoration work the Cowichan Lake stewards are doing there and thought it would be good to connect!</p>	<p>1. March 3, 2021, Toronto, ON The Eastern Vancouver Island ecoregion stretches along the eastern slopes of the Vancouver Island mountain range to the Pacific Ocean. Major urban areas include Victoria, Nanaimo, Campbell River and Courtenay. The Eastern Vancouver Island ecoregion has a very high richness of species of conservation concern. There are over 55 national species at risk in the ecoregion, including Oregon vesper sparrow, dense-flower lupine, Edwards' beach moth and common sharp-tailed snake. The Eastern Vancouver Island ecoregion is important for national and global biodiversity. There are significant opportunities in this ecoregion to conserve and restore habitats for species at risk, migratory birds and marine wildlife. The forests are characterized by Douglas-fir, western hemlock and grand fir, with scattered examples of globally rare Garry oak ecosystems. The region supports more biological diversity than anywhere else in the province. It contains many of BC's most significant estuaries.</p> <p>2. Ken Traynor will be in contact with Chelsea Power and will update the Board as needed.</p>

<p>Looking forward to hearing from you. Best, Chelsea</p> <p>3. FYI only: Letter of Thanks (See Appendix 3 below) FYI only. Not a discussion item.</p>	
<p>Business Arising from the Minutes and Written Reports:</p> <p>1. Land clearing on the corner of Cowichan Lake Road and Highway 18 in the ToLC.</p> <p>2. The Riparian information signs currently in Saywell Park.</p> <p>3. Traylor park on Sutton Creek and riparian education.</p> <p>4. Shaw Creek – Genevieve Singleton and others</p> <p>5. Improving Formal Communications with Representatives of the Local Government</p> <p>.</p>	<p>1. There has been no further progress on the this long running concern. Ken Traynor will report as necessary.</p> <p>2. Parker Jefferson reported that the Saywell Park Riparian Plants signage can be upgraded at little cost as the original alupanel signs can be resurfaced and Leon Signs has retained the original files. He will discuss changes to the content with Genevieve Singleton asap and proceed to have the signs redone. The ToLC will be asked to remove and reinstall the signs.</p> <p>3. Ken Traynor reported that when a meeting is arranged with the Sutton Creek Owners Association, he will advise the Board. Genevieve Singleton offered for she and Joy Wade to conduct a fun and educational session on the lamprey work.</p> <p>4. Genevieve Singleton had nothing to report at this time about the Shaw Creek initiative.</p> <p>5. Judy Brayden moved and Diana Gunderson seconded that CLRSS accept this as practice for all future communications. CARRIED.</p> <p>When we have written a <i>formal</i> communication (hard copy letters, emails or attachments) to a member of local government, we first send a copy to Ken or a designate from the Executive, so that the executive is aware of the communication and so that it can become part of CLRSS records.</p> <p>When sending or in the case of a hand-written letter, delivering or mailing, we agree to carbon copy (cc) the CEO and all board members of the particular group, as well as the president of CLRSS.</p>
<p>1. Leads conversation and updates as needed:</p> <p>a. Gerald Thom Memorial Native Plant Garden</p> <p>b. Monthly Meetings rotating chair</p>	<p>a. Lois Atchison and Rosemary Danaher reported that the garden is beginning it springtime look. A new directional sign will be installed soon.</p> <p>b. Judy Brayden has confirmed that Ken Traynor will chair the May meeting.</p>

<p>c. Discussion - Membership - Maureen Quested (See Appendix 4 below)</p> <p>d. Discussion - Decibel Coalition - Diana Gunderson.</p> <p>e. Discussion - Youth Engagement – Chantelle Carden (See Appendix 5 below)</p> <p>f. Discussion - Our Watersheds – Through the Lens of Art - Viewing Ecosystems Creatively – (See Appendix 6 below)</p> <p>g. Discussion - Fundraising – Maureen Quested (See Appendix 7 below)</p> <p>h. Discussion - Water Monitoring – Bee Greenway (See Appendix 8 below)</p>	<p>c. Maureen Quested appreciated that the Board members would step up and begin the process of getting more members signed up asap.</p> <p>d. Diana Gunderson reported that the momentum in this trans-Canada initiative is heartening and she is looking forward to attending the upcoming participation in the CMAC virtual forum segment on Pleasure Boating and noise abatement.</p> <p>e. Chantelle Carden will be convening a meeting of the CLRSS Youth Involvement committee as able. Moved by Rosemary Danaher and seconded by Bee Greenway that CLRSS gift Noni and her six environmental champions a CLRSS T shirt for their work to date in youth environmentalism. CARRIED. Rosemary and Chantelle will confer on the logistics of this gift.</p> <p>f. Judy Brayden moved and Diana Gunderson seconded that CLRSS budget up to \$1000 to cover the costs for this project. CARRIED. She reiterated that the costs could be a great deal less and that she would convene a meeting of this committee asap.</p> <p>g. Maureen Quested will apprise members about the feasibility of holding these events as the global pandemic proceeds through the summer months.</p> <p>h. Bee Greenway reported that no more volunteers are needed for this program. Hopefully if health orders allow, others may be able to join in in order to learn about and experience the water sampling process.</p>
<p>New Business:</p> <p>1. Board Building – Ken Traynor</p>	<p>1. Backgrounder for 2021 CLRSS Board Building</p> <p>CLRSS has adopted a governance model that employs “Project Leads” who are able to draw from the members of the Board or from the general membership when needing assistance to complete a project.</p> <p>The leads have an opportunity to report to the entire Board and meeting attendees on a monthly- basis, should this be necessary.</p> <p>We have 11 one-year, Board positions and they are all currently filled. In order to encourage member engagement, and to ‘share the load’, our Board may wish to look at a ‘co-chair’ model (with the exception of the position of president and vice president) in which two members share the work of one Board position. Only one person is named to the Board for</p>

<p>2. AGM date and format</p> <p>3. River signage 'Watch the Redds' – Lyndon Keeping</p>	<p>reporting purposes. This would indeed lighten the load, allow for greater member engagement and strengthen society leadership opportunities and skills.</p> <p>The Board acknowledged with sincere thanks that Ken Traynor would remain as president in the 21/22 year. Also, Jim Deck will join the Board as the Treasurer back-up. Dave DePape has also agreed to join the Board.</p> <p>2. The AGM will be held on Sunday, May 30, 2021 via Zoom</p> <p>3. The Board reiterated its support for the installation of cautionary signs about the care for redds (walking on gravel beds during low water). Lyndon Keeping will be the CLRSS contact in the project and CLRSS will offer assistance in installation and maintaining of the signs at five river locations. This is being sponsored by the BC Fly Fishing Federation.</p>
<p>Community Stewardship Reports:</p> <p>1. Cowichan Watershed Board – Tom Rutherford</p> <p>2. Cowichan Stewardship Roundtable – Lyndon Keeping</p> <p>3. Other reports as needed:</p> <p>a. Lamprey update – Genevieve Singleton</p> <p>b. Update on paddling community - Rick Bryan</p> <p>c. CVRD Area F Director, Ian Morrison – update</p>	<p>1. NIL report</p> <p>2. See Attached Notes from the March 18, 2021 meeting.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>a. Genevieve Singleton reported that further funding has been garnered and she is actively looking for more contacts in educational settings/venues to continue her lamprey education work. She will be working with all of the students at Polson Elementary in the month of May.</p> <p>b. Rick Bryan reported that the paddlers are undertaking a fundraising campaign to fund a feasibility study about the creation of 'paddlers play area' near the construction of the new weir. A new 'white water club' may be formed in the valley shortly.</p> <p>c. CVRD Area F Director, Morrison reported on a recent meeting with Nathan Cullen, BC Government Minister of State for Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRORD) and chair of the Environment and Land Use Committee in which the unique Cowichan watershed management model was highlighted.</p> <p>Also Ian explained that the provincial taxation formula has been altered for Area F; the tax ratio of forest lands to residential has changed from 60:40 to 50:50, thus causing a rise in residential tax bill this year.</p>
<p>Motion to Adjourn at 9:12 p.m.</p>	<p>Moved by Rosemary Danaher <i>No seconder required</i></p>
<p>Important Upcoming Dates: Future Regular Meeting Dates: Monday, May 3, 2021 - 6:30 p.m. and Monday, June 7, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.</p>	

BCLSS – Online Forum: Boating on BC Lakes – April 28, 2021- Diana Gunderson to report
 Sunday, May 30, 2021 – CLRSS AGM – time TBA

Appendix 1: Strategic Planning Outcomes 2020

1. Increase awareness of and support for building the new weir	2. Increase Youth Engagement
Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase public support • Increase community understanding of new weir benefits • Increase public awareness of how climate change is driving the need for a new weir 	Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase youth membership • Re-establish Lake Studies program • Collaborate with other valley youth programs • Establish youth roundtable
3. Protect Lake Shore Lands	
Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect critical undeveloped shoreline and tributary habitat • Promote protection for Shaw Creek watershed • Expand shoreline riparian habitat restoration work to tributary creeks 	

Appendix 2: Treasurer's Report

March 2021 Treasurer's Report			
	CASH in Bank	Cheques/Transfers	Available Cash
CLRSS General Account	10,212.34	0.00	10,312.34
to be deposited	100.00		
Salmon fry rescue funds			1,934.21
Total Cash Available for CLRSS General Activities			\$8,378.13
Bursary Account Total			\$5,960.57
Comments: \$100 in new membership fees in April so far.			

CLRSS 2020/2021 Financial Report Budget to Actual - 28/01/2021

Revenue			Expenditures		
Category	Budget	Actual	Category	Budget	Actual
Total Revenue	4700	1,741.30	Total Expenditures	4,700.00	1,604.89
Memberships	1300	1,340.00	Signs	0	0
Donations	2000	303.30	Accounting	100	0
Sales	590	70.00	Public Information	500	0
Fundraising	800	28.00	BCLSS	50	50
Interest	10	0	Society Fees	250	0
			Printing Costs	400	0
			Purchase for Sales	400	-17.64
			Gifted Apparel	0	17.64
			Insurance	0	241.5
			Bank Charges	100	8
			Office Expenses	200	10.52
			Courses & Mtgs	0	0
			CSSP Activities	0	0
			River CU	0	0
			Fundraising Expenses	100	0
			Misc. other	300	205.93
			Transfers to Bursary Fund	500	150.82
			Fry Rescue	300	0
			GT Memorial Garden	500	751.52
			Website Update	1000	186.6
			Strategic Plan	500	0

Appendix 3: Correspondence

Dear SEP Community Involvement Volunteers;

Re: A Sincere Thank You – Investing Time and Supporting the Salmon

Reflecting upon the challenges which COVID has brought to all of our lives this past year, I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank each of you for your dedicated efforts to maintain your salmon stewardship activities. The personal contributions each of you make on a daily basis enrich Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Salmonid Enhancement Program. We are privileged to have the opportunity to collaborate with you.

By working together, Community Involvement Program volunteers have a significant impact on the resource we all value and cherish. Your contributions to Salmonid Enhancement, Pacific Streamkeepers data collection, Habitat Restoration, Stream to Sea education, hands-on stewardship and training, have a profound impact and create a sense of purpose. Your individual participation helps to build connections between salmon and communities and contributes to a sustainable future.

Your activities and passion for salmon lifts the Community Involvement Program and everyone gains in the goals being achieved. The theme for Canada's National Volunteer Week in 2021 is "The value of One and the Power

of Many." When people volunteer, the sky is the limit, in terms of what can be achieved together. The staff in the Salmonid Enhancement Program remain committed to do our best to support your activities and interests.

From all of us at Fisheries and Oceans Canada, thank you for the commitment, passion and time that you generously share every day. Your strength and diligence in continuing on despite the added challenges of COVID is very much recognized and appreciated.

Please do not hesitate to reach out through your Community Advisor, SEHAB Rep, or directly to me if you need support or assistance.

Yours truly,

Adam Silverstein, A/Director, Salmonid Enhancement Program

Appendix 4: Membership Report – as of April 8, 2021

Renewed Members:	23
New Members:	03
Lifetime Members:	02
TOTAL Members:	<u>28</u>

Memberships are being slowly renewed, and I hope that all board members will be renewed for 2021 – 2022 shortly. By the end of April, the goal is to have most of 2020 members resigned. In May, I will start working on the lapsed member list to try to get us back up to 100 members. That is when I will reach out for help from the board in contacting people. You can download our membership application at: Cowichan-lake-stewards.ca and go to new memberships. If you have new neighbours, or meet any likely prospects at pickleball or wherever, direct them to our website. It is up to all of us to scout for new members. Many thanks to Mike Patrick, who thought he had retired, for keeping me on track.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen

Appendix 5: Youth Engagement

March 8th – CLRSS & LCS Workshop Notes

- Noni's "Core Six" of students who attended – these students have shown great initiative in this area:
 - o Rosaline – grade 10
 - o Ellie - grade 10
 - o Chelsea – grade 10
 - o Raya – grade 10
 - o Sarah - grade 10
 - o Helena - grade 10

1. What are you currently doing as a group and individually (at home or in other groups outside school) that would complement CLRSS' work or ideas? (Let me know if the girls have additional notes for this)

- Can't do a lot because of COVID
- Some ideas of a river clean-up
- Garden

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- Cleaning up the trails at lunch (garbage)
 - o Regular maintenance during lunch hours
 - o Flexible LET time – sign-out for an afternoon so idea to use that for extra time to implement a project/idea

2. What does the lake mean to you?

- A lot of people use the lake and so we want to keep it clean
- Idea of swimming there every day – so, health of the lake and the river mean a lot
- Health and cleanliness of the river:
 - o Tubes left behind
 - o Place to the garbage
 - o Having places for the
 - o Awful to look at the lake with oily sheen from the sunscreen
- Every summer on an individual basis - girls would take the time to clean out the area
 - o Lots of garbage (looking to remove it from the area)

3. What would you like to see in the community with regards to protecting the lake?

Add something to the town for it to profit off the river

Some Quick Ideas:

- Good signage for river
- Overcrowded issues at the lake and river - they don't want to discourage tourists
- Keeping tourism environmentally friendly

Idea: 1 Tubers: Idea of doing something around this topic (just not sure what it looks like)

Looking at where the garbage cans are

- Website Instructions (idea):
 - o How to care for the river
- A lot of the tourists were buying tubes (at the dollar store) and then would leave them abandoned
- Putting something together to educate tubers (signs) from 100m before the garbage can
- Tubeshack (partnering with them)
 - o Getting the contact information to set up a meeting and hear group ideas

Idea 2: Doing some education with the younger kids upstairs

- Getting kids at a younger age – they are "young environmentalists"
 - o They want to avoid talking to community members
- Keeping the river the clean
- And working with the tube company to help them educate

Idea 3: Floatie Education: Educate visitors on disposing of them (using floaties from dollar store)

- Bins for people to recycle these disposable bins
- Regular clean-ups at the little beaches to clean up
- Environmental Committee meets again and goes over ideas

****Meet up again Easter Weekend with Chantelle and group pitches the idea to Chantelle – April 14th***

Appendix 6: Our Watershed Thru the Lens of Art

Many thanks to Ken, Lyndon, Carrol and Mike Patrick, Rick, Jean, Dave DePapal and Chris Steeger for the 6 hours of meetings and countless hours at home thinking! We have three sub-projects called:

- 1.) Our Watershed Thru a Creative Lens – History Meets Climate Change (See: <https://www.cowichan-lake-stewards.ca/> or clrss.ca/Watershed Art)

- 2.) Our Watershed Thru a Creative Lens – Witnessing the Water – A Moment in Time
- 3.) Our Watershed Thru the Creative Lens – Connections

Further, CVAC is convening a series of webinars on the topics to help inform artists.
CVAC Webinar Schedule with Confirmed Speakers, April 17, 2021

Target(s) Working Group Tentative titles	Date and time	Confirmed
Everything is Connected Watershed Connections	Tuesday, April 20 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Jill Thompson, Stephanie Cottell
Why fish need so much water? Fish and Flows	Tuesday, April 27 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Ken Traynor, Tom Rutherford
Why can't we eat the shellfish in Cow Bay? Water Quality and Estuary Health	Tuesday, May 4 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Rodger Hunter, Lori Iannidinardo,
at happens down by the stream? Riparian Health	Tuesday, May 11 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Heather Pritchard, Elodie Roger
But it Rains so Much! Water Conservation	Tuesday, May 18 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	David Slade, Jill Thompson

Appendix 7: Fundraising Report

UPDATE: I have picked up the money from bottle deposits; I think mostly returns from Judy and Maureen. The amount is \$202.40 which I am turning in to Lyndon.

PLANS FOR: *all of these are Covid-19 dependent, so may or may not happen*

JULY: **WINE SURVIVOR** fundraiser around the beginning of July. It remains to be seen whether it will be by Zoom or in person. Prizes: baskets of wine, wine related items

AUGUST: **LAKESIDE SUMMER BBQ** at the Questeds'

FALL: **BITE & A BEVERAGE FUNCTION**

Appendix 8: Water Monitoring

CLRSS has requested the YSI device be recalibrated and returned from Ministry of Environment, so we can commence monitoring in late April or early May. Are any members interested in participating this year, and perhaps using their own boat? Due to Covid restrictions, I suspect it will be best if our crews are quite small or even restricted to same household only. Sadly, for the time being, we will not be able to welcome extra observers. Please contact Bee Greenway if interested.