

Peninsula Streams Society Annual General Meeting Minutes

May 12th, 2018 • Brentwood Bay Lodge • 3-5pm

Attendees (43)

Adam Olsen, Member of the Legislative Assembly, for Saanich North & the Islands	Jamie Disbrow
Aline Fowlow	Jennifer Kennedy
Art Roberts	Judith Kirchner, PSS Board
Bill Collins	Joann Noll
Bill Kennedy	John Macdonald
Bill Thomas	Larry Ross
Bernie Bowker	Lori James Derry
Bob Mitchell	Marjorie Garside, PSS Board
Brian Koval, PSS Assistant Coordinator	Martin Chambers
Colin Dower	Mary Cully
Dale Desrochers	Mary Haig-Brown, FofTCW
Dave McElderry	Melissa Nottingham, Comm.Advisor, DFO
David Spence	Michael Derry, PSS Board
Denis Coupland, PSS Treasurer	Mick Collins, Golden Rods & Reels
Elizabeth May, Leader of the Green Party of Canada and Member of Parliament for Saanich, Gulf Islands	Murray Weisenberger, Councillor, Dist. of North Saanich
Emily Olsen, PSS Admin Support	Newton Hockey, PSS Past Chair
Farrell Boyce, PSS Board	Peter McCully, GVSEA
Francesca Loro, PSS Stewardship Coordinator	Richard Ketchen, PSS Board
Grant MacPherson, Sidney Anglers, PSS Board	Ryan Windsor, Mayor of Central Saanich
Heiner Josenhans	Sarah Verstegen, Sea Change
Ian Bruce, PSS Executive Coordinator	Shawn Stebbins
	Tobi Gardner, PSS Chair

Regrets

Craig Elder

1) Welcome and Introductions – AGM called to order at 3:09pm.

Chair Tobi Gardner welcomed everybody to the AGM. Peninsula Streams Society (PSS) 16 years running and recognized that the meeting was being held on traditional Tsartlip Territory. He thanked Brentwood Bay Resort, PSS staff, elected officials, members and AGM attendees.

2) Agenda approved.

Farrell moved approval of agenda and was seconded by Grant MacPherson. CARRIED.

3) Minutes from 2017 AGM approved.

Newton Hockey moved approval of the minutes and was seconded by Denis Coupland. CARRIED.

4) Chair's Report – Tobi Gardner (see attached notes).

Newton introduced Roy Spencer Jackson of Knights of Pythias (KoP) acknowledging their very generous donation of \$27,000. Newton explained the planned use of funds to start PSS Hosted Fund through the Victoria Foundation to raise operating funds. This will generate an average of 4% annual interest which will assist with operating expenditures. The fund is a vehicle through which people can donate in perpetuity eg. Estates etc.

Roy Spencer Jackson: "...I am honoured to come and see you...I'd like to speak of my own organization, KoP. Formed in 1864 in North America to heal the wounds of the Civil War. There are KoP Lodges all over North America. Once our Lodge was 100 strong, now we are only 6 members. We want to give funds to a worthy organization on the Peninsula. We divided up our remaining funds and gave portion to PSS...we believe you are very virtuous, and we are pleased to give it to you... We are winding up and dying...we went from 50 to 6 members in a short time very recently...we don't survive because we are a fraternity...in serious decline. To survive you have to physically do

something...friends are great but you have to do work in the community, contribute to society...like the fire brigade...must get your feet dirty. I hope your future is extremely successful..."

5) Treasurer's Report – Denis Coupland

Denis presented the budget report for 2018/2019 core operations, projects and programs.

Water Quality (20K), Core (120K), Education (35K). Total Projects: ~900K

Denis moved adoption of Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Newton Hockey. CARRIED.

6) New Societies Act - Changes to the Constitution & Bylaws

Tobi explained the requirement for the board to approve the amended Constitution & Bylaws. These mandatory amendments are required for PSS to transition to the New Societies Act.

Farrell Boyce asked for an example of an amendment to which Tobi provided the following:

"11.05 For the attainment of society objectives to, acquire, accept, solicit or receive by purchase, lease, contract, donation, legacy, gift, grant, bequest, or otherwise any kind of real or personal property." This paragraph, plus 2 others, were moved from the Constitution to the Bylaws. The Constitution now includes only the name and purpose(s) of our society.

Denis Coupland moved adoption of our amended Constitution & Bylaws. Seconded by Newton Hockey. CARRIED

7) Executive Coordinator's Report – Ian Bruce

"Good afternoon, it is good to see everyone. We fondly yet sadly remember our former Chair, Lin Callow, who passed away last year. Lin was a mentor and friend (*Picture of Lin Callow at the Tod Fishway displayed in slide show.*). I wish to thank Tobi for stepping up to Chair position. Thanks to the Board, the members, volunteers and staff. Thanks to all the guests for joining us today. Thanks to Nikki Wright of SeaChange for speaking today. Special guests Dale Desrocher and Melissa Nottingham from Department of Fisheries & Oceans (DFO) who support many of our projects, and to Peter McCully from Goldstream Hatchery.

We're heading into our 16th year as an organization. We work with 13+ stewardship groups and organizations who share our common goals. We are starting to wind down our major work on the Tod Creek Enhancement Project. In 2017, our Water Quality program continued at Hagan/Graham and Tetayut and we support water quality activities on Goward Springs, Tod Creek, Maltby Lake and Swan Creek. Our 3 environmental education programs reached **1200+ children** from 13 schools participating for about **4000 hrs in 2017**. Over **2500 hrs** of volunteer time is contributed to 25 volunteer events, including invasive species removal, environmental education, plantings, fish releases + community meetings. We attend community events including the North Saanich Market, Saanich Music in the Park, Royal Roads Mother's Day events in which we have our organization display and our interactive watershed model. We hosted our 15th Annual Dinner & Auction Fundraiser this past November."

Programs

Environmental Education

Gr. 3 - since 2006

Gr. 5 - since 2015. About climate change - helps kids understand the carbon cycle.

Gr. 6/7 - Creatures of Habitat - completed yesterday

Water Quality Monitoring

Hagan & Tetayut – ongoing contract with the District of Central Saanich.

Also monitor: Colquitz, Swan, Goward, Tod and Maltby - thanks stewards!

Ian: Anything on O'Donnell? Mick Collins: Not right now.

Projects - Stream Reports

May 2017 - Senanus Island work party was a huge success! This island is a sacred place and was once a local First Nations burial site for children. Joined by volunteers, and Habitat Acquisition Trust (HAT) staff, we were able to remove large amounts of English Ivy, Spurge Laurel, English Holly and

Himalayan Blackberry. This annual event has seen some major results: the majority of Daphne, scotch broom, blackberry, and over 50% of the ivy is now gone from the island thanks to these joint efforts. The next workparty will be May 23rd or 24th this year.

Chalet Creek

Mary Cully has been collecting pond water elevation data since 2011 at Gardners Pond. With wetter winters and drier summers, water levels are at higher highs and lower lows. The winter levels are going above the 100cm mark and the staff gauge has been lengthened a couple of times now. However, it will need to be raised again this summer. Thank you and well done Mary!

The stream restoration project on the Robertson Property began in 2006. The riparian area has seen lots of growth, trees looking great. Deep Cove Elementary School participated in a fry release in early May.

Tseycum Creek

District of North Saanich purchased parcel of land at Sandown, new Sandown Project in full force. Implications on stream flow will come clear as the property is redeveloped for agriculture.

Pat Bay Beach

Restoration - working with Tseycum First Nation and Ministry of Transportation & Highways (MOTI)

2012 - Phase I: Assessment and machine work.

2015 - Phase II: Erosion control, backshore protection - used 2,400 tonnes of gravel

2018 - Phase III: used 3,800 tonnes of material to rebuild the beach - planted and staked foreshore with Tseycum Band members

TenTen Creek

The creek runs along an old landfill site - goes through Victoria Airport Authority (VAA) land, Glen Meadows Golf Course, originating at Mt. Newton. Attempt to mitigate Pendray Farms issues has had limited success over 18 years. Cutthroat Trout present, hope for coho in the future. In 2016 TenTen Creek Sediment Reduction Project undertaken to reduce sediment going into Pat Bay and improve aquatic habitat (planting, rip rap, stabilize old landfills, garbage removal etc).

TenTen Creek Restoration Project at VAA site due to the collapse of a corroded 1992 Corrugated Steel Pipe (CSP), causing flooding. Work done north and south of pipe location - a new channel "daylighted" in 2017, still lots of work to be done - riffle construction in 2018

Hagan/Graham Creek

New Board of Woodwynn Farm (excluding Richard LeBlanc, who is no longer on the board) would like to work with PSS. Blackberry removal @ Waterhouse Property done in 2017.

District of Central Saanich purchased area of Maber Flats. Denis has long been tuned into this, along with Mayor Windsor and Tsartlip First Nation. Possible site for a community garden. See this as a win for all.

Tod Creek

Lots of work has been done in this Watershed. DFO (RFCPP), Pacific Salmon Foundation (PSF), and Butchart Gardens involved. Butcharts funded 2015 fishway construction.

Nikki Wright of SeaChange and the BC Parks Department built a nature float, removed debris, and completed incredible work through the Tod Inlet Beach Project. Groups working to get permission to release fry in Durrance and Killarney Creeks.

A choke point exists at the lower falls, need to remove log and rebuild jump pools.

Streamkeepers course in April 2017 at Haig Brown property included water quality monitoring, fish identification and invertebrate sampling.

On October 7th and November 5th, PSS hosted two Watershed Bus Tours as well as an Open House on October 14th. The Open House provided information and panel discussion by local and regional stakeholders as well as a Q&A.

A camera installed at the Tod Fishway in 2016 with funding from PSF, Sidney Anglers, and support from DFO, provides fish enumeration data and a unique opportunity to capture footage of species such as salmon, cutthroat trout, sunfish, beavers, otters, mink and frogs.

Ward Creek Enhancement was undertaken in Fall 2017/Winter 2018. There was no rock in the creek beforehand, it consisted of dirt and clay. Enhancement included building 5 spawning beds and staking

Tod Creek Flats: Project to drain flats (floods in winter) - fish get stuck. Blockages were taken out, relief channels built, berm re-established. Mike Derry helped with the headwall construction. Brian Koval and Grant MacPherson have been trapping fish for two years on the Flats. Coho and Cutthroat found at both south and north traps on the flats.

Tod Creek Mainstem Enhancement between Hartland and Lohr Rd in Summer 2017. Invasive Willow taken out, blockages removed, 5 rock crests built and spawning gravel added.

Tod Creek Coho Salmon Release - Jan. 26, 2018

PSS Tod Creek Project Signage in 7 locations in the Watershed.

PSS supports Friends of Maltby Lake as well.

Millstream

Currently Millstream has 5 small fishways between Esquimalt Harbour and the Atkins Road culvert. These fishways were built by Goldstream Volunteer Salmonid Enhancement Association (GVSEA) led by Kelly McEwan and Peter McCully. Blockage for fish exists at the Atkins Rd perched culvert location. This project is especially expensive because of the engineering aspect. Northwest Hydraulics (NHC) is doing the engineering on this project. NHC has designed a fishway to provide passage for Coho and cutthroat trout up to the culvert. PSS was asked by GVSEA to lead this project. Tod Fishway shown as an example of what can be done at Atkins Rd. Millstream R. (2016) saw 1000+ Coho, after Atkins Road Project can likely see upwards of 5000+ Ian estimates.

Colquitz

Lots of work done by Golden Rods & Reels. Oxygenation in Elk/Beaver Lakes may be undertaken.

Goward Springs

Riparian and stream channel restoration done in 2017, water quality monitoring done by Goward Springs Watershed Stewards. Current obstruction in Quick's Bottom Park. Goward Springs Staking completed Dec 9, 2017. In stream work planned summer 2018.

Lochside Meadow Project(Gary Oak Meadow)

New project in Blenkinsop Watershed, Lochside Meadow rehabilitation project for beautification and pollinator conservation. This project will include interpretive signage, a demonstration meadow with focus on meadow plants more than trees, a split rail fence to protect plantings, and a possible interpretive trail. Partners in this project include Don Mann Excavating and BC Hydro as well as Pollinator Partnership and Saanich Native Plants.

Swan Creek

Ongoing smolt trapping, riparian work, stream keeping and water quality monitoring. 3 new pool/riffle complexes constructed in 2017. Split-rail fence installed April, 2018. 3 riffles were refurbished and replenished with spawning gravel. Good partnership with District of Saanich – Hope to build similar working relationships, as in this situation, with other municipalities including Sidney. Saanich started creek work near Columbine (removed sediment, cleared invasive vegetation, etc.). Planted by volunteers including the Friends of Swan Creek Watershed in November, 2017. 2018 restoration options: Rock Crests could be refurbished within Swan Forests and spawning gravel replenished. New

rock crests could be built near McKenzie Ave and Upper Columbine. 30 meters of Swan Creek (upper Columbine reach) will be cleared of silt and invasive grass, and invasive plants will be removed from the riparian area. In the fall, this area will be planted with native plants by volunteers.

Colquitz Mainstem

Julia Daly currently doing fish trapping both downstream from West Saanich Road and near Wilkinson Road Bridge. There seems to be a blockage on private land. Have asked DFO to assist – private homeowners don't want anyone on their property. Who and how can we find out why fish aren't getting through? Riffle plans and designs for Colquitz Mainstem discussed (@ Copley Park).

Gabo

Wattle Fencing installed by Saanich.

Colquitz Coalition was a partnership brought about to join multiple groups together. A website for this coalition was created to act as a central location to archive combined research and information as well as new projects and resources going forward.

Tetayut Creek

Monthly water and quarterly sediment quality monitoring. Culvert under Pat Bay Highway has been an impediment to fish migration for a long time. PSS partnering with Saanich, PSF and MOTI to address issues.

Reay Creek and Pond

Lots of problems at Reay Creek. Detention pond built – helps overall habitat especially spawning habitat. Reay Pond contaminated by heavy metal Cadmium. Bill Collins working with groups and municipalities, Transport Canada. Government not working fast enough to address these issues.

That's it for the Stream Reports... Thank you again to Board Members and Staff. Reminder to renew memberships and to take part in the Smile Card Program at Thrifty's.

8) Election of PSS Board

New board elected by acclamation. Welcome new members Shawn Stebbins & John Macdonald

Craig Elder	John Macdonald	Michael Derry	Sheila Irving
Denis Coupland	Judith Kirchner	Newton Hockey	Tobi Gardner
Farrell Boyce	Marjorie Garside	Richard Ketchen	
Grant MacPherson	Mary Haig Brown	Shawn Stebbins	

9) Guest Speaker Nikki Wright, Executive Director SeaChange Marine Conservation Society

Nikki thanked Ian and PSS for the hard work and 'big thinker' mentality. She expressed her wish to clone organizations such as PSS with the hopes that every watershed would be protected. Nikki presented on the history of work done by SeaChange over the last 20 years in estuaries and bays, and the relationships which have been built during this time with organizations, community groups, First Nations and government. Focused on Tod Inlet Project and ongoing and upcoming work in the following 4 regions: Gulf Islands, Burrard Inlet, Sechelt and Howe Sound. This conservation work is done through community meetings, community mapping, technical working groups, and training. Video of Eelgrass harvest and replanting. Short Q&A.

10) New Business/Other

No new business.

11) Meeting adjourned at 5:10pm.

Peninsula Streams Society Board Meeting Minutes

May 12th, 2018 - Immediately following AGM.

Attendees

Denis Coupland	John Macdonald	Michael Derry	Tobi Gardner
Farrell Boyce	Judith Kirchner	Newton Hockey	
Grant MacPherson	Marjorie Garside	Richard Ketchen	
Ian Bruce	Mary Haig Brown	Shawn Stebbins	

Regrets

Craig Elder
Sheila Irving

1) Meeting called to order at 5:12pm.

2) Election of Executive Committee:

Tobi Gardner – Chair
Michael Derry – Vice Chair
Craig Elder – Treasurer
Richard Ketchen – Secretary
Denis Coupland – General Officer

3) Meeting adjourned at 5:18pm

Chair's Report

This was yet another busy year for the Peninsula Streams Society. The project work that Peninsula Streams is involved with has increased again and added to that is the increasing level of complexity of those projects, and of course our outreach and stewardship programs continued as well.

The Education programs this year, included: Grade 3 Watershed Model and Salmon Lifecycle Program, Grade 5 Cool Carbon Connections and Grade 6/7 Creatures of Habitat. These have been well received and further details will be provided by Ian.

Board member Denis Coupland and his team of volunteers have continued long-term water quality monitoring in several streams on the Peninsula. I wish to thank Denis and his team for their continued efforts with the water quality monitoring program.

On a sad note, this past Fall, our Board Chairperson Lin Callow passed away. Lin was a wonderful, genuine person. His vision for the environment was very persuasive in a gentle, matter of fact sort of way and we miss him dearly.

I would like to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of our volunteers at the many work parties over the past year and of course the Peninsula Streams staff of Francesca, Emily, Brian and Ian.

Lastly, I wish to thank our donors, our Society would not exist without your continued support. If this year is an indication of what the future looks like, we come to realize our increasing reliance on private donations from our supporters and business' in the community to support our core activities..

The realities are that with an increasing project workload, the Peninsula Streams staff have limited time for fundraising and grant applications.

This coupled with greater uncertainty with respect to our success in securing grants from our traditional supporters presents some challenges for our core budget and of course without a core budget we would cease to continue.

To this end, I encourage all members to keep an eye out for new funding partners. Perhaps you know of a business or organization that may be willing to donate to Peninsula Streams.

Once again, thank you again for attending.