

Qualicum Beach Streamkeepers - September 14, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting

9:30am - CIBC Boardroom

Present: Peter Drummond, David James, Neil Worboys, Don Lyster, John Phillips, Louella Hollington, Gord Almond, Pat Jacobson, Faye Smith
Guests - Gil Sampson, Michael Jessen

1. Agenda Accepted
2. Minutes of July 13, 2016 meeting. Moved by Neil, seconded by John that the minutes be accepted Carried.
3. Financial Update - Louella reported that we have \$1514. in our checking account and \$7383. in our savings account. Upcoming expenses include approximately \$1000. for the sign program.
4. Special Presentation - Gil Sampson, local resident, briefed us “glyphosate” which has a well documented toxic impact on humans and ecosystems. A copy of his briefing is appended to these minutes.
5. Beach and Grandon Creeks Sign Project — Louella and Pat met with Toni Botelho from the Town and took him on a tour of our current and proposed sites. and gave him details of the plan. We are awaiting Town approval. The Board was in agreement to use the words and graphic design from the West Vancouver Streamkeeper sign.
6. Project Activity

Grandon Creek

- David and Gord had a meeting with Bob Weir regarding the Hoy Lake Road culvert. They determined that were multiple blockages of woody debris causing a 50% reduction in flow, and noted significant deterioration of the culvert material. The Town is undertaking a full examination with a robot-like device. We offered to assist if required. Bank stabilization is required in the area too, if they provided material, we could provide the labour.
- Not much point in working on the pools until bank stabilization areas along the Creek have been addressed. A Plan needs to be developed in particular for serious erosion about two-thirds up on the path on the west side.
- We agreed to do fish counts in the spring, and to start with Grandon Creek, at the site below Crescent Road where the ladders are. A trap will need to be designed and built for use at that site.
- The Town has a grant from TD to do planting at Grandon Creek. We are waiting to hear more details, hopefully it will be in October before the planting window closes.

Beach Creek

- Peter advises that the pond is being excavated today (Sept. 14). John Dunn is supervising. Only a couple of fish were retrieved.
- We need a new approach on the pond and on the relationship with the Golf Course. A suggestion was made to invite Kerby Lowen from the Board to the next meeting. Peter to initiate a visit to Nanoose with John D. to see other options.
- Invertebrate Study in the Heritage Forest will be postponed until spring. Faye to check with Dave C to determine the best window of opportunity to do this.
- We need a work party to clear the underbrush (particularly blackberries) along Beach Creek from below the pump shed to East Crescent. Snippers, machetes and chain saws will be required. Pat to organize a suitable date in the next couple of weeks.
- Pat advises that the Heritage Forest Commission has requested that the Town send a letter to the residents on the west side of Chester re dumping garden waste over the bank. The Heritage Forest Commission has also requested an update from the Town on knotweed control on Beach Creek. The Commission was advised that Streamkeepers removed a few giant hogweed plants on Beach Creek.

Little Qualicum River

- John to meet with Craig Wightman of BCCF on September 20th at the LQR Estuary to do a plant count and determine how many we need to get for planting in the next month. Also discuss expanding our activities to the broader reclamation area.
- Fish Toss- David to initiate by contacting Dave Davies.

Other Projects

- suggestion for a storm drain marking program for 2017 when weather permits
- suggestion also for a 2017 Grandon and Beach Creek homeowner canvass with an information letter about garden waste, invasive plants, and other tips for being a good neighbour to the creeks.
- Faye advises that there has been a good response to the yellow fish sign program this year. Peter will need to crank up those manufacturing facilities again soon.

7. Policy

- John to do a draft proposal on suggested changes to DFO legislation. This can go on our website once approved by the Board.
- Reminder to attend the Waterfront Master Plan Meeting at the Civic Centre on September 20th at 7pm.

8. Upcoming Events

- September 26th - There is a wetland mapping and assessment course at Rathtrevor Beach, Faye to provide more details.
- MVIHES - AGM on Sept. 20th with special guest speaker Kim Stephens on "Water Balance Pathway to A Water Resilient Future". See website for more details.
- Pat to enter Grandon Creek, Heritage Forest, and Hamilton Marsh in the Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Regions most amazing places campaign.

9. Next Meeting

Wednesday, Oct. 12th at QF Boardroom

Pat Jacobson
Secretary
September 15th, 2016

Appended on next page: Gil Sampson Briefing on Glyphosate

Briefing to Qualicum Beach Streamkeepers– Sep 14, 2015

Glyphosate

1. Chelator (industrial de-scaling)
2. Broad-spectrum herbicide (in Roundup and other GBHs, with varying formulations of adjuvants)
3. “off-label” use as a desiccant
4. Broad-spectrum antibiotic

What does it do?

- Inhibits an essential enzyme in the Shikimate pathway in plants **and bacteria**
- Environmental impact? – see NFJ overview
- BC provincial government claims it is non-residual, not persistent – see PMP guide (Invasive Species)
- Independent scientists are certain that “ ...” – see their Consensus Statement (2016)
 - Copies of any of their 80 cited References available upon request (GI)
- Toxic in soil – binds to minerals, kills beneficial microbes

Toxic to humans – cytochrome P450 pathway, retinoic acid pathway, endocrine disruptor, ...and a probable human carcinogen

- See Earth Open Source – GMO Myths and Truths – section 4, *Health Hazards of Roundup & Glyphosate*, with 44 cited References (2014)
- See IARC classification of Glyphosate as probably carcinogenic to humans (2A)
 - published in *The Lancet* May 2015
- See Samsel, and Seneff – Glyphosate suppression of CYP enzymes
 - published in Entropy 2013

My requests:

1. Please treat with skepticism ANY pesticide information published by provincial or federal regulators;
2. Please ensure that in protecting fish habitat, “the cure is not worse than the disease”;
3. Please take care of your own personal health by ingesting as little glyphosate as possible; and,
4. Please help me convince Southern Railway of BC to stop boom spraying any glyphosate formulation on the tracks through our town.

Glyphosate is the most biologically disruptive chemical in our environment.

If you wish to know more, or want to volunteer to help with community education, please contact:

Gil Sampson

GSampson@telus.net 250 752-6328

Thank you for your time, your interest, and your commitment to sustaining our vital ecosystems.