

Attachment 5

Director's Reports at SRA AGM on March 12, 2015

1. *Municipal Status Committee Report – prepared by Al Brunet, presented by Grant Price*

- The Municipal Status Committee is in the formative stages. All members and non-members are welcome to participate. Those interested should contact Al at 250-686-2904

2. *Student Report – prepared by Cecil Ash, presented by Grant Price*

- Megan is a grade 11 and Cecil is a grade 12 student at Shawnigan Lake School. As local students, their primary goal is to connect with and engage the rest of the student body at Shawnigan Lake school and other local youths in the SRA's activities. Last year, on March 27th, Cecil worked with the school's highly supportive headmaster, David Robertson, to transport all 450 Shawnigan Lake students to an SRA rally in Victoria. Cecil spoke at this televised rally to represent the youth of Shawnigan Lake. Megan has joined Cecil this year and will take over next year when Cecil graduates. They are seeking to be reinstated on the board so that they can protect the interest of their community through increased youth involvement.

3. *Water Committee Report – prepared and presented by Grant Price*

- I have some unrelated administrative roles..... I chair the monthly board meetings....prepare the agendas....and complete the minutes. I also led the board's last review of it's 3 Year Strategic Plan, and will lead a re-review of the Plan by the new board within the next couple of months.
- I am the board contact with the BC Lake Stewardship Society, and completed a multi year commitment to provide them water data, including temperature and turbidity readings, using a Sechi disk. With the help of Scott Noble (and some of his students from Shawnigan Lake School) we collected this data every two weeks from mid April to early November....for 3 years. The last measurement I took on Nov. 4th of last year. I then forwarded the data to the BC Lake Stewardship Society, who promised to review it and provide a report on the health of the lake...which I'm hoping to receive by this summer.
- This data was also shared with Dr. Mazumder from Uvic, an internationally known water expert who monitors the quality of Shawnigan Lake (in comparison with data from Sooke Lake) under a contract with the CVRD. I often share info with Dr. Mazumder and have visited his lab at UVic
- The data was also shared with the Ministry of Environment, who completed their data

collection last year for their more comprehensive review of our lake....conducted approximately every 5 years, depending on available funding. I was one of the volunteers who collected water samples from my boat at various dates and locations around the lake for several months. Others collected samples from creeks around the watershed. In cooperation with the CVRD, the Ministry of Environment has produced their preliminary report, with a final report due later this year, or early next. The preliminary results suggest the quality of the water is generally good, but several trends are worrisome, and will lead to **poor** water quality if steps are not taken sooner than later. Specific suggestions will form part of the final report, although it is clear the lake is receiving too many nutrients from too many sources like....septic fields, farm byproducts, leaching of minerals, fertilizers etc

- I have several contacts at the CVRD who I communicate with on a regular bases dealing with:

1. the weir and it's "rule curve", relative to maintaining a level of the lake that is not too low in the summer and not too high in the shoulder seasons. The weir is generally wide open between Nov to Feb
 2. I also monitor the use of funds associated with the creek clean-out function-
 - Initially funding was used to clean out sediment in front of the William Rivers Park
 - Next was a survey of the creek bed and adjacent banks (~~in 2013~~) which was similar, and comparable to a survey done in 2009...this was useful to assess sediment build-up in the creek, and focus CVRD on areas that should be deepened and/or widened
 - lastly was the boom recently installed in front of the Halhed Bridge to prevent debris from jamming under the bridge, or down stream,-The **original log boom** was removed by the CVRD for liability issues, but never replaced with an alternative approach, until we pressed the issue. We often see logs, broken wharf parts and even the ski jump at the mouth, or on the other side of Halhed bridge. Fortunately at the time the creek level was not high enough to cause problems. The new boom should hopefully address this threat, or at least minimize it.
- We independently monitor the outflow creek to assess flows and blockages. 5 gauges were installed by Graham Ross-Smith, Brent Beach and myself, so Brent, and others, could safely monitor the depth of water at key points along the creek
 - I also installed, and maintain a gauge in Strathcona Bay (beside the marina) that tells me, and anyone else interested what the level of the lake is in terms of meters above sea level. The lake is usually between 116 – 117 meters above sea level. Too much below this and people complain about the water being too low, and too much above this and the lake flows over some septic fields. At 118 it starts to approach property damage.
 - I have allowed a portion of our water front property to be used as an experiment in restoring riparian vegetation by knocking down a rock wall and replacing it with local plants. The exercise was sponsored by the Basin Society and involved volunteers, including students from Shawnigan School...and myself of course

- I attended the CVRD sponsored workshops, as the SRA rep, to provide provincial feedback on the anticipated delegation that will flow from the new Water Sustainability Act. The level of cooperation from all in attendance was good, but much of it focused on what authority the CVRD should get, not on what could or should then be passed further down to local watersheds like Shawnigan.
- I work closely, and cooperatively with the Basin Authority, by sharing information and attending seminars, and conferences together. I also attended the inaugural meeting of the Basin Steering Committee chaired by Dr Bruce Fraser.
- I work with the RCMP, including moving their boathouse closer to their detachment office...increasing their response time for complaints on the lake...around noise issues, drunkenness, speed violations etc.

In summary, I believe if you enjoy or benefit from something you should contribute back in some way to preserves or improves it. One of these for me is our Shawnigan community.

Thank you.....any questions?