

## Fraser Valley Watersheds Coalition

### General Meeting

Nov 19, 2009, 7:00-10:00 pm

UFV Chilliwack

Room A201



## Annual General Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)

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### Attendees:

Lance Lilley (FVWC/FVRD)

Detmar Schwichtenberg (Fraser-Harrison Smart Growth, FVWC)

Kerstin Schwichtenberg (resident, District of Kent)

Dick Bunbury (FVWC)

Margaret Bunbury (Central Valley Naturalists)

Jim Taylor (Stave Valley Salmonid

Enhancement Society, FVWC)

Terry Taylor (SVSES)

Monica Pearson (Balance Ecological)

David Urban (FVWC/FVRD)

Mike Pearson (FVWC Chair, Pearson Ecological)

Mark Johnson (DFO)

Steve Clegg (Chilliwack resident)

Lynn M. Amaral (Agassiz resident)

Rachel Drennan (FVWC coordinator)

Kathy Wilkinson (CVN)

Barb Strachan (SVSES)

Lisa Fox (FVC)

Natashia Cox (FVC)

Janne Perrin (CVN)

Nichole Marples (LEPS)

Bill Tuytel (Chilliwack Resident)

Layna Witzke (Chilliwack Resident)

Martha Fredette (Sto:lo Tribal Council)

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### Presentation:

Presenter: **Natashia Cox and Lisa Fox – SHIM and how it can be used.**

Presentation Title: **“Sensitive Habitat Inventory Mapping”**

Time: 7:15 – 8:00 pm

\*Nichole Marples from LEPS gave a short talk on Salmon Chums program and encouraged people to sign up.

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### Book Draw:

- Total of 59 tickets (at \$1/each) were sold
  - Winner of Draw: Lynn Amaral
  - Selected Prize: ‘Pacific water shrew’
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### Society Business:

#### 1.0 Adoption of Agenda and 2008 AGM minutes

- Motion to adopt Agenda as written and 2008 AGM minutes - Approved (Jim 1<sup>st</sup>, Detmar 2<sup>nd</sup>).

#### 2.0 Society Business

##### 2.1 Message from Chair (Mike)

- The Coalition has had an exceptional year of rejuvenation. We are growing; there are many new faces around the table; and new projects are creating more energy and work to be done. Also, the Coalition has regained office space at UFV as its headquarters, hired an outreach coordinator, and continues to form lasting partnerships throughout the region.

#### *2.2 Presentation of Financial Statements (Dick)*

- Motion to accept 2008/09 Financial Statements - Approved (Dick 1<sup>st</sup>, Jim 2<sup>nd</sup>)
- Thanks were offered to Mike Phelan (FVRD) and Lance Lilley for their efforts on behalf of the Coalition to manage the budgets and prepare the financial statements. The Coalition now has a new bookkeeper who will be managing financial statements.

#### *2.3 Presentation of new terms of reference (ToR) and operating principles (Mike)*

- Discussion about new ToR and operating principles.
- Motion to adopt new ToR and operating principles (Detmar 1<sup>st</sup>, Jim 2<sup>nd</sup>). See attached.

#### *2.4 Name Change (Detmar)*

- The name of the FVRWC was considered too long and cumbersome by many. Based on a desire to shorten this, suggestions were made including the Fraser Valley Watersheds, the Fraser Watersheds Coalition, or the Fraser Valley Watersheds Coalition. The majority of members agreed to shorten the name, but felt that it was important to maintain key components of the name, including the place (Fraser Valley), the type of work we do (Watersheds), and what we are (a Coalition).
- Motion to change name legally and in all documents to “Fraser Valley Watersheds Coalition” (Detmar 1<sup>st</sup>, Kathy 2<sup>nd</sup>).

#### *2.5 Motions from the floor*

- A motion was proposed to establish a position of Honorary Life Time Member to both Tom Cadieux and past Chair, Brad Whitaker. (Jim 1<sup>st</sup>, Dick 2<sup>nd</sup>).

#### *2.6 Election of board (Lance)*

- Following nominations and elections, the 2009/2010 Board of the Coalition is comprised of:
  - Chair: Mike Pearson
  - Vice-Chair: Detmar Schwichtenberg
  - Secretary-Treasurer: Dick Bunbury
  - Director At-Large: David Urban
  - Director At-Large: Jim Taylor
  - Director At-Large: Marion Robinson
- Particular thanks and appreciation was made to outgoing long-time Director, Tom Cadieux, for all of his passion and energy provided on behalf of the Coalition.

### **3.1 Project updates**

### *3.1 Website feedback (Laurie and Rachel)*

- Laurie sent her apologies for missing the meeting and it was decided to send out a link to the new website once the content is ready. Feedback is greatly appreciated from all members to help this process.

### *3.2 Update on Mission compensation plan (Jim)*

- Jim briefly outlined the FVWC plan for compensation from Highway 7 widening. In-stream work will be undertaken by DFO in 2010 at Silverdale Wetlands, with the total area restored to be calculated after work is done.

### *3.3 Update on Evans Road Connector compensation plan ( Mike)*

- A draft plan has been submitted by the Coalition to DFO for the remainder of the compensation requirements. A meeting is planned for later in November to discuss additional projects and partners.

### *3.4 Update on grant applications and projects ( Lance)*

- The Coalition has been invited to the detailed proposal phase of Funding for Chilliwack River Watershed Strategy phase 2, At the Crossroad.
- A collaborative meeting to discuss Upper Pitt fish habitat is planned for Dec 2.

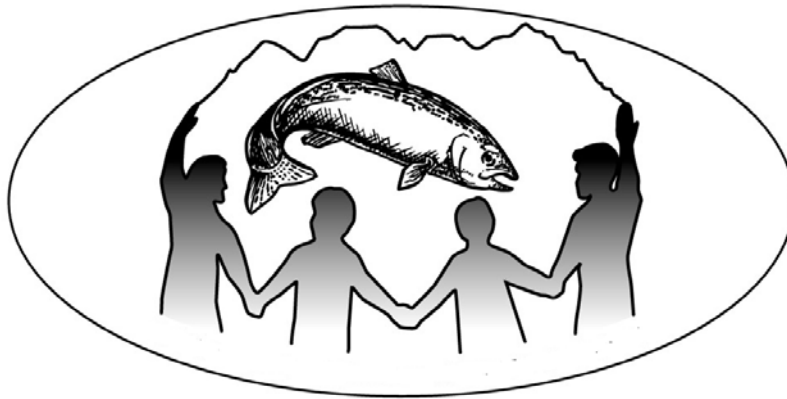
### *4.0 Next Meeting, event, announcements*

- Next meeting Scheduled for Jan 21 2010 tentative location: Mission UFV
- Bald Eagle festival Nov. 21 and 22 2009
- CRWS Launch Nov 26 2009
- Janne Perrin expressed concern about Kingma Developments possible work in Harrison- Monica Pearson plans to attend a meeting with Janne Perrin and Kingma Developers to find out more.

### *5.0 Meeting Adjourned at 10:15pm*

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# Fraser Valley Watersheds Coalition



## Terms of Reference

November 19, 2009

### Preamble

This document and the accompanying Operating Principles are intended to clarify the FVWC's methods and philosophies of operation. They are intended to complement the FVWC Constitution, as registered under the *Society Act*. Should any discrepancy exist, however, the Constitution takes precedence.

### Definitions

*Watershed:* Extent of land where water from rain or snow melt drains downhill into a body of water, such as a river, lake, reservoir, estuary, wetland, sea or ocean. The drainage basin includes both the streams and rivers that convey the water and the land surfaces from which water drains into those channels, and is separated from adjacent basins by a drainage divide.

*Coalition:* A coalition is an alliance among individuals or groups, within which they cooperate in joint action, each in their own self-interest, joining forces together for a common cause.

### Mission statement

The FVWC Mission Statement is: "To promote understanding and action in communities of the Fraser Valley area to achieve healthy watersheds".

The FVWC achieves these goals by:

- Acting as an umbrella group to strengthen existing local watershed stewardship work through the provision of resources and expertise. Where local stewardship capacity is not available, the Coalition board may take on projects or partner with other project delivery agents.
- Raising awareness and educating others through outreach programs.
- Acting as a facilitator, catalyst, conflict-resolution-agent, or secretariat.
- Promoting and undertaking watershed restoration and enhancement activities within the Fraser Valley.

## **Values**

The FVWC uses an approach based on its *Operating Principles*. We work for healthy watersheds by building partnerships and engaging with communities.

## **Organizational Structure**

The FVWC is managed by a board of directors that meet monthly or as required. This board is both a working board and a policy-making board. The board will appoint sub-committees and engage staff as necessary.

Meetings are open and inclusive. Any stewardship group or individual in the Fraser Valley is welcome to take part in the Coalition.

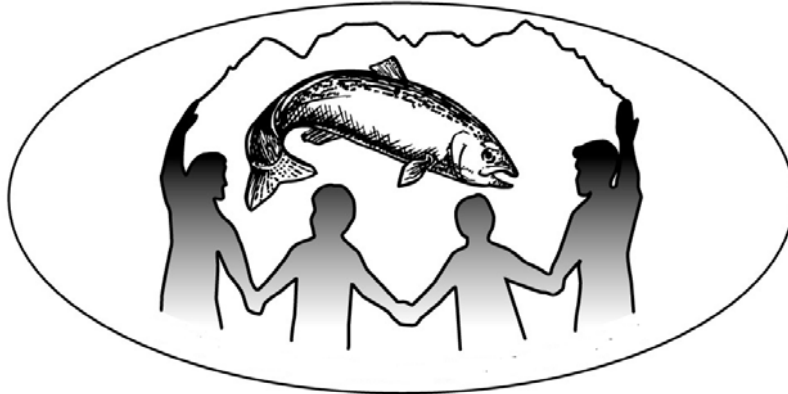
Decisions are made by consensus using the endorse, accept, block model. Decisions are recorded by the recording secretary.

Communications: Board members are responsible for internal reporting to respective organizations. The board will appoint a spokesperson for external communication and for communication to funders.

Geographic Scope: The primary geographic area is within the Fraser Valley from Yale to Langley, but the FVWC may occasionally participate in projects outside this area that fit its Mission Statement and Operating Principles, if asked by other groups or agencies.

Conflict of Interest: Board members will declare and remove themselves from conflict of interest. This is defined as any situation in which an individual or the group/agency they represent is in a position to exploit their role in the FVWC for personal gain or the benefit of their friends, family, group or agency or be perceived to do so.

# Fraser Valley Watersheds Coalition



## Operating Principles

### ***Community Relations***

**Participation:** The FVWC encourages active participation of all Fraser Valley communities and community members in addressing watershed issues.

**Community Building:** The FVWC seeks to build a sense of community by fostering relationships of understanding and mutual respect.

**Cooperation and Collaboration:** The FVWC recognizes the important linkages between communities, regions and organizations and tries to foster relationships based on cooperation and collaboration. The FVWC recognizes that each participant exists within the context of a larger community, group or agency that has existing relationships and obligations. Therefore the FVWC embraces strategies that aim to benefit the local and larger community.

**Aboriginal Title:** The FVWC recognizes that aboriginal nations within the Fraser Valley assert aboriginal title and rights. These rights and mutual responsibilities, now being defined, must be acknowledged and reconciled in a just and fair manner.

**Capacity Building:** The FVWC contributes to project deliveries by encouraging the acquisition of relevant skills and the development of supportive structures, methods, institutions and knowledge.

**Diversity:** Watershed issues and the approaches and capacity to address them vary from community to community; therefore FVWC actions may look different in each area.

## ***Philosophy***

**Mutual Dependence and Integration**: Land, water, air and all living organisms including humans are integral parts of the ecosystem. Watershed issues are not isolated from other social, economic and environmental concerns. Consideration of social economic and environmental costs and benefits must be an integral part of decision making.

**Ecological Limits**: The land, air, and water sustains us and there are limits to human economic and other activities. The FVWC encourages processes, structures and initiatives that respect these ecological limits and supports work that is sustaining, regenerating, and nurturing of both the community and the earth.

**Transition Takes Time**: Watersheds and the way we go about managing this work is a journey that requires feedback, learning and adjustment. In the short-term, the elements of success may not always be in balance.

## ***Processes***

**Open and Informed Decision Making**: Based on the best available information, the FVWC will consider all options.

**Accountability**: Each of us is responsible for the social, economic and environmental consequences of our decisions and accountable of our actions.

**Learning**: Each of us and together, seek learning and maintain curiosity about the challenges and problems we aim to solve.

**Adaptive Approaches**: Plans and activities must be adaptable and be able to respond to changes, new knowledge and changing social values.

**Exercising Caution**: Caution must be exercised when shaping decisions to avoid making irreversible mistakes.

**Managing Uncertainty**: A lack of certainty should not prevent decisive actions towards sustainability. Such actions should be monitored using relevant indicators to facilitate adaptive management.

**Appropriate Indicators**: The FVWC monitors and evaluates its progress through community-derived and appropriate economic, social, cultural, and ecological indicators, rather than through conventional measures and standards that may not apply to watershed health.

**Recognition**: The FVWC recognizes existing rights, agreements and obligations of participants in all decision making.