

## CLSS Meeting – May 2 2017

Present: Tracy Flynn, Bill Thomson, Mary McGovern, Pat Silver, Nancy Wilson

Tracy gave an update from her previous report sent out on Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. (attached at the end of this report)

### Summer Student

- Funds for a summer student have been obtained. An ad for a summer student has been written and has been printed in various papers and posted on various forums. We have one application already
- If our summer student is under 18, we will need to have police checks, so it would be best if those who are likely to be working with the summer student began the process of getting a police check as it can take several weeks. (suggestions – Tom, Bill, Nancy)

### Web Site

- Ed has almost completed the CLSS website. It should be up and running before Wings of the Rockies

### Lake Water Sampling

- 2 samples have been collected by Tracy already
- A schedule has been drawn up of when sampling will be done and who will do it.
  - There is some uncertainty who will do end of April and mid-May sampling.
  - We still need volunteers for both September samplings
- The Ministry of the Environment was out sampling lake water last week – we should investigate to find out what they analysed and get the results - **FOLLOW UP – Tom and Nancy**

### Signage

- Mary is working on “Bird signs”. They will be posted at Columere Park, Columbia Ridge, Spirits Reach and Canal Flats
- The idea is to have signs on multiple topics so they can be rotated to keep people interested in reading them

### Shoreline Clean Up

- Tracy organized an impromptu shoreline clean up last Sunday (April 30)
- Much of the debris was from trains. Tracy contacted CPR and they said that they would pick up debris that they could see piled along the tracks
- We would like to thank the volunteers who came out and helped in our next newsletter.  
**FOLLOW UP – Pat**

### Invasive Species

- There will be an invasive species training session including a mock boat inspection at the Boat Launch in Canal Flats at the end of June – once the boat launch and CLSS's summer students are hired. **Peggy** will look after this

### Water Level Monitoring

- Bill put equipment out in late April
- The goal is to determine inflow and outflow that will affect lake level
- Bill has ordered more equipment which will allow for flow measurement during high flow periods.

### CBT – Education Grant

- Tracy is implementing an education program grant she received
- She will be setting up a program for Canal Flats students in grades 4-7. There will be a half day classroom session, a field trip, followed by a half day wrap up
- The program will be conducted towards the end of May and should be designed so we can use it again.

### Columba Lake Community AGM's

- Most Columbia Lake community AGM's will be on the May long weekend.
- Ken has prepared a handout to be used at the AGM's
- We need volunteers to present at AGM's - **Tracy** has indicated will be able to do at least some of the AGM's
- **Nancy** will find out when the Spirits Reach AGM is and whether Spirits Reach will fund CLSS this year

### Fairmont OCP

- Tracy read the OCP thoroughly and has some questions/concerns which she will forward to the core group shortly
- The OCP is accepting comments until May 26

*email update sent April 12th:*

*There are a lot of projects in the works so thought I'd better send out an email to keep you all informed! I've highlighted the areas that need your attention.*

*Great news to start - we have been approved to hire a **summer student!** They will work the months of July and August for 30 hours/week. We'll need **projects and ideas** to keep him/her occupied so start thinking ... Also, those of us who will be directly working with them will need to get a **criminal record check** - I'm thinking myself, Tom, Nancy, Ed, and Bill? Please start the process as it usually takes a few months. Does anyone want to volunteer to **develop and send out the job posting, and develop a work safety plan?***

*I appeared before the advisory planning council - APC - to apply for a grant in aid from the RDEK for website/domain development and workshop funding. My presentation was favorably received and Wendy commented that the discussion after I left centered around the good work our group was doing! The APC has put their support behind our request. Next step is approval by the RDEK board - their meeting is in early May.*

*Ed has been working on website design. **Directors submit your bios to Ed asap.** Ed is also working on researching the flow of water from the Kootenay to Columbia Lake. I'll let him elaborate the finer details.*

*Nancy and Tom are putting together a water sampling schedule and organizing the water quality sampling. Nancy is also working on organizing a visioning/organizational workshop. Please **respond to Nancy re your availability for the workshop on May 2 or 3rd** if you haven't done so already.*

*Mary is working on signage to display more information on some of the birds that call Columbia Lake home.*

*Anne is working on informational articles for our display cases at lake access points.*

*Peggy is working to coordinate the invasive species education of the Canal Flats Tilley Memorial staff in early June. Canal Flats lost their CAO again, so we'll have to wait to see who our new contact person is.*

*Dave/Donna Rae and myself are hosting a Wings over the Rockies event in May.*

*Bill has ordered his water quantity monitoring equipment and is preparing for another season.*

*I am researching possible grants to fund CABIN (Canadian Aquatic Biomonitoring Network) training for two CLSS members. **Anyone interested in completing the CABIN TRAINING?***

*I submitted an application to CBT to fund a port-a-potty and signage for the Columbia River Rafting project (same as last year).*

*Pat continues to send out timely and informative newsletters. **Do you have any newsletter subject ideas?***

*I am working to develop the Education program scheduled to be delivered to Canal Flats elementary school in May.*

***Does anyone want to present the "update on CLSS activities" at their local community AGM's?** I'm not able to do it this year.*

*Ken to contact CPR to encourage them to "become partners in the CL management direction" SHIM pg 58. "prepare an emergency spill response plan for the railway corridor" SHIM pg 67, check into coal dust and its effect on the lake and check into sidecasting practice.*

*I will attend public **Fairmont and Columbia Lake OCP review this Thursday.** Does anyone else want to attend? Draft OCP available to view at [http://www.rdek.bc.ca/departments/planning/plans/fairmont\\_hot\\_springs\\_columbia\\_lake\\_ocp/](http://www.rdek.bc.ca/departments/planning/plans/fairmont_hot_springs_columbia_lake_ocp/)*

*As you can see, we are a busy group. Thanks to all for your work and sorry if I missed anything/anyone (let me know).*