

SSIWPA Agenda Package Addendum

May 20, 2016

1. Item 6.13.1 a) A memo written by SSIWPA Coordinator in response to Driftwood May 17, 2016 article on the topic of the grant application.
(pages 2-7 in this package)

2. Item 6.13.2 a) A phone transcript from TWG member Fred Beall with regard to memo in 6.13.2.
(page 8 in this package)

3. Letter from Member of the Public, received by SSIWPA Coordinator May 16, 2016 - for information
(pages 9-10 in this package)

4. Letter from Member of the Public, received by SSIWPA Coordinator via Salt Spring Exchange email, includes response by Coordinator to query - for information
(page 11 in this package)



May 17, 2016

On page 5 of the May 17, 2016 Driftwood newspaper, Director McIntyre is quoted as not supporting a grant application made by SSIWPA.

The purpose of this memo is to correct misinterpretation of SSIWPA Coordinator communications with CRD-PARC.

The grant application in question was not made by SSIWPA, but by two local stewardship groups: Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society and Cusheon Lake Stewardship Committee. The title of the application is "Shoreline Restoration of Public use Areas at Cusheon Lake and St. Mary Lake, Salt Spring I., B.C., through Community Participation and Collaborative Watershed Stewardship Education" and it has been submitted to the Public Conservation Assistance Fund administered by Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (hctf.ca).

The application is for a two-year project, and re-application must be made each year. This particular grant application (submitted May 14, 2016 by Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society) is for only the first year of the project. In this case, the removal and upgrading of the Cusheon Lake floating dock was noted as a possible objective and actions for the second year of this project. The dock objective is pending successful first year funding of the project, and also pending successful second year funding (which has yet to be applied for, and will involve matching funds that are different than the first year). Most notably, the second year (Dock) proposal was indicated in this application as being a draft objective only, pending support and permission from the local government agencies and the province (Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure for the license of occupation amendment, and Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, pending its development of a new dock policy, which was communicated by email in early May, 2016 to the applicants and SSIWPA Coordinator).

This grant application was discussed at the April 22, 2016 meeting of SSIWPA, (item 7.8). Doreen Hewitt, Cusheon Lake Stewardship Committee was the grant applicant present to ask and answer questions during this agenda item (she is also a member of SSIWPA Steering Committee in her role as representative of the CRD-Beddis Water Service Commission). After the meeting, (ie. not minuted), Director McIntyre gave advice to Doreen Hewitt pertaining to this application, and suggested that she contact the Parks department of the CRD in Victoria regarding the ownership of Cusheon Lake dock. He also advised that CRD- Parks and Recreation Commission would need to approve the project, both the first year plan to conduct restoration activities at both lakes, and also the second year proposal to replace the dock at Cusheon Lake. SSIWPA Coordinator responded that Dan Ovington had already been in communication with the grant applicants and was forwarding the application to Karla Campbell, with the request for either Chair of the PARC commission to sign it, or for the application to be forwarded to PARC.

SSIWPA was in support of this application (see Draft Minutes April 22, 2016 up for approval in the May 20, 2016 Regular Meeting Agenda Package), and was also in support of the SSIWPA Coordinator agreeing to assist with the writing of the grant application, because the application

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addresses three action items in the St. Mary Lake Integrated Watershed Management Plan (2015).

SSIWPA Coordinator was responsible to coordinate some of the communications with CRD-PARC about the application, and request for support from the PARC Commission. Please see the transcript of emails, attached to this memo, including the April 19, 2016 email to Dan Ovington in which the full grant application was shared as an attachment.


Coordinator Cowan spoke by telephone with Karla Campbell after the May 3, email received from Ms. Campbell, and was directed to request that the grant applicants make a delegation at the May 16, 2016 meeting of PARC. Since May 16 was also the deadline for submission of the grant application, including any letters of support to the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation, applicants indicated that a late letter of support may be emailed by CRD-PARC, pending results of the May 16 meeting, in their application submission (which was sent May 14, 2016 to the funding body).

Doreen Hewitt (grant applicant on behalf of Cusheon Lake Stewardship Committee), proceeded to make a formal notice of request for delegation to the PARC commission at their May 16, 2016 meeting. She received a reply that she would be notified if the delegation was going to be on the agenda, and was not notified prior to the meeting to be told whether this delegation was being granted. Therefore, none of the grant applicants attended the meeting to make a delegation. Further, CRD staff did not request the link or grant application document prior to the meeting, so that adequate information could be provided in the agenda package to the PARC Commissioners.

As a result, the CRD Director is quoted in the Driftwood as stating that "To not have a copy of the application makes me nervous. I mean, what does it say?" This was an unfortunate result of what appeared to be due diligence on the part of the grant applicants, Doreen Hewitt for Cusheon Lake Stewardship Committee, and Kathy Reimer for Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society, as well as their grant-writing assistant, Shannon Cowan, SSIWPA Coordinator.

In order to set the record straight, the grant applicants, and Coordinator Cowan would like to request that the should the application be supported for Year one activities by the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (notice will be given by end of June, 2016), then applicants will be given an opportunity to make a delegation to the PARC Commissioners at their upcoming July 2016 meeting, in order to better explain the project and to discuss possibilities for the second year objective of replacement of Cusheon Lake dock.

Sincerely,



Shannon Cowan
SSIWPA Coordinator

Shannon Cowan
SSIWPA Coordinator

: enclosed are transcripts of emails on this topic, see over

Email Transcripts

Below is an un-edited transcript of the emails exchanged with CRD-PARC Supervisor, Dan Ovington, and CRD Senior Manager, Karla Campbell. They are dated April 19, 2016 – May 3, 2016. Note that the first email included a copy of the grant proposal.

From: Shannon Cowan [mailto:ssiwpacoord@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2016 10:59 AM

To: Dan Ovington <dovington@crd.bc.ca>

Subject: Grant Proposal for your review and comments

Hi Dan,

Please find attached a grant proposal for a two year project to beautify and restore some of the beach areas - namely at Cusheon and at St. Mary Lake public beaches.

This is not finalized, but I've been helping the organizations who are submitting for the grant and they have asked me to be the one to seek CRD support, since I'm coordinating SSIWPA.

I'd appreciate if you have time to review this sometime in the next few days.

We have options - either you may come to SSIWPA meeting on April 22 this Friday in the portlock portable to discuss your thoughts or concerns about this application, or you may call me and I'd be happy to talk over the phone or come for a meeting at another time.

Thank you for your review and time and hopefully for the pursuit of CRD-PARC support letter in support of this application!

Sincerely,
Shannon Cowan

 **ISSES CW and SML Application 2016 full.pdf**

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Shannon Cowan, Ph.D.
Coordinator,
Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority
<http://www.ssiwatersheds.ca>
Every Drop Counts...
250-653-4867

On Tue, Apr 19, 2016 at 4:33 PM, Dan Ovington <dovington@crd.bc.ca> wrote:
Hi Shannon, what is your timeline for submitting this? I am unfortunately going to be off island April 22-May 8th. The next PARC meeting is May 16th.

Thanks,
Dan

From: Shannon Cowan [mailto:ssiwpacoord@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2016 6:13 PM

To: Dan Ovington <dovington@crd.bc.ca>

Cc: Doreen Hewitt <doreenhewitt@telus.net>

Subject: Re: Grant Proposal for your review and comments

Hello Dan,

cc: Doreen Hewitt, SSIWPA Steering Committee member and Cusheon Lake Stewardship Committee director - a coauthor of the grant

Thank you for your reply. Did you read or skim the proposal? If so, what was your initial view?

The grant is due May 16, 2016 at 4:30pm. Seems like a very tight squeeze to get full PARC approval, but perhaps after SSIWPA reviews it, I can get you the next version of the document before May 8 and you and I could have a meeting on May 9 to discuss?

Alternatively, is Karla Campbell able to advise on the general nature of the project activities proposed and whether CRD support for the project could be a go ahead?

This would be ideal to have in place sooner.

Thanks for your assistance.

Shannon

On Wed, Apr 20, 2016 at 4:41 PM, Dan Ovington <dovington@crd.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Shannon, yes I had a chance to look at the proposal and it looks good. The CRD does not own the waterfront accesses that we maintain, we have a License of Occupation (LoC) from MOTI over the road end. We would need to apply to amend our permit if any major work is to be done. The only red flag that I saw was

3. "Remove"the"25"year"old"dangerous"fishing"float"at"Cusheon"Lake,"and"replace"with"a"fishi ng"float"that"

If a new dock is installed who would hold the liability for the dock and look after the maintenance. CRD does not own the current dock and our LoC ends at the high water line.

I have attached template for a letter of support if you want to edit it for your use. I am not sure if you have your own template. If you are able to draft something I can meet with the PARC Chair and see if he can sign it in time to meet your deadline.

I will be out of the office April 22-May 8th. I will still be answering emails next week.

Thanks,
Dan

From: Shannon Cowan <ssiwpacoord@gmail.com>

Date: April 25, 2016 at 9:53:58 AM PDT

To: Dan Ovington <dovington@crd.bc.ca>

Cc: Doreen Hewitt <doreenhewitt@telus.net>, kathleen reimer <salmonkathy@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Grant Proposal for your review and comments

Hi Dan,

Thank you so much for your reply.

Your explanation of the situation with new dock ownership and liability is understood by the groups making this project application. They have received some counsel from Director McIntyre

on this subject and are going to write a letter of request for acceptance of liability. They will keep you updated (on their own, or through me).

If you would kindly request the Chair of the PARC Commission to sign the attached letter of support that I have modified for this project, that would be much appreciated.

We require the signed letter by May 15, 2016.

Thank you,
Shannon Cowan for SSIWPA
and Kathy Reimer and Doreen Hewitt for CLSC and ISSES

[Then, the following email was sent to Karla Campbell from Dan Ovington, and copied to Shannon Cowan (SSIWPA Coord)]:

From: Dan Ovington
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 12:22 PM
To: Karla Campbell <kcampbell@crd.bc.ca>
Cc: Shannon Cowan <ssiwpacoord@gmail.com>
Subject: Fwd: Grant Proposal for your review and comments

SSI Watershed Protection is looking for a letter of support for a grant that they are submitting. The grant is due early May. Is this something the Jon can sign or does it need to go to PARC? I believe Wayne has been involved in this.

Dan

From: Karla Campbell <kcampbell@crd.bc.ca>
Date: Tue, May 3, 2016 at 10:44 AM
Subject: RE: Grant Proposal for your review and comments
To: Shannon Cowan <ssiwpacoord@gmail.com>
Cc: Dan Ovington <dovington@crd.bc.ca>

Shannon,

I have reviewed the request to have the dock maintenance and liability come under the jurisdiction of the CRD.

Prior to agreeing to this it would need to come to the Parks and Recreation Commission to recommend CRD approval to take on this additional infrastructure and added annual maintenance required to keep the dock operational and how this fits in with their annual budgeting process and current operational capacity.

If the Commission is supportive of this initiative the dock will need to be designed and prepared by a professional engineer with stamped drawings and submitted to the CRD for approval. Installation would also require a professional engineer to oversee and sign off on the final construction and installation.

Also it would be incumbent upon the applicant to assist in making application to amend the Licence of Occupation and work with the province to attain permission to install and meet any of their requirements prior to any construction taking place.

Karla Campbell

Senior Manager, Salt Spring Island Electoral Area, Capital Regional District

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[As a result of the above message from Karla Campbell, received by SSIWPA Coordinator Shanon Cowan on May 3rd, she created this response to the two stewardship groups who are proponents for the grant application]:

To: Doreen Hewitt, CLSC

Cc: Kathy Reimer, Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society

From: Shannon Cowan <ssiwpacoord@gmail.com>

On May 3, 2016, at 11:07 AM:

Hello Doreen and Kathy,

This email just arrived from Karla Campbell, CRD Senior Manager for our area. *see below my note here. [above in this transcript]

When I read this email reply, I hear that there is willingness to take the Dock at Cusheon request forward, to the local 8-member CRD PARC Commission.

I think since the dock is part of Year 2 (2017-18) of the Grant, that it need not be finalized before May 15 HCTF submission.

The next Commission meeting is May 16.

Here is the page where you can download a Delegation Form that you fill out in order to speak at the meeting.

<https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/what-we-do/community-recreation/what-is-salt-spring-parc/parc-decisions>

It seems most appropriate that you speak for the project at the CRD PARC meeting, but I'm happy to support and to help prep with you for this, if you go for it. You can definitely address the License of Occupation amendment that will need to be finalized, and that you have already started the process of doing so with MoTI for the riparian restoration work, so it could include the dock and CRD liability for the dock as well.

Seems that this is a good way to go, and if the Commission is amenable to working with the Province (FLNRO) you might be able to get the new dock costs approved within the remaining months of 2016, when they do the 2017 budget.

I'm booked today, but could speak tomorrow or Thursday to discuss.

I will reply thank you to Karla, and see if they can sign a Grant Letter of Support anyway for us. I'll copy you.

Thanks, Shannon



MEMO

To: SSIWPA Steering Committee

May 17, 2016

Re: Blackburn Road Capped Landfill Site Monitoring

Transcript of Phone Call from TWG member Fred Beall to SSIWPA Coordinator

On behalf of the TWG subcommittee for Cusheon Lake Watershed Management Plan Review, TWG member Fred Beall read the Landfill Closure Reports, provided by Doreen Hewitt of Cusheon Lake Stewardship Committee to the TWG subcommittee in the March 29, 2016 meeting.

According to those Reports, the recent memo from Coordinator to TWG (May 9, 2016 TWG Agenda Package) announcing that the CRD does not conduct monitoring of water or soil, or inspection of the capped landfill should have no bearing on the progress of the Cusheon Watershed Management Plan review progress and next steps.

According to Mr. Beall's interpretation of the Report, there was no significant nutrient contamination in the 2001 monitoring Report of that site, conducted by Ministry of Environment.

However, Mr. Beall does recommend that the SSIWPA Steering Committee send a letter to Ministry of Environment officials, requesting that ongoing monitoring of the Blackburn Road capped landfill site needs to be addressed, to confirm that there is no deleterious heavy metal leachate or nutrient contamination of the drinking water lake and its watershed lands and waters (the landfill runoff enters Blackburn Creek, which feeds Cusheon Lake).

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Letter from a [Member of the Public]
Sent via Email
Received by SSIWPA Coordinator May 16, 2016

Hi Shannon,

I am very interested and sorry to have missed this presentation.

Will you send me a copy of the minutes of it when available? Q&A will represent the bulk of it I expect as Don's presentation stands apart.

Who comprise the TWG ? Which of them attended?

Do you have thoughts or comments on the presentation Shannon?

I am curious to know what the Steering Committee's comments are, or will be when expressed. THANKS./

Reply from SSIWPA Coordinator
To above letter
Sent via email
May 16, 2016

Hello [Member of the Public]

Thank you for your letter.

I hope to clarify some of your queries, and will forward this to Steering Committee, to let them know that you, as a member of the public, are suggesting that Steering Committee receive the presentation more formally and comment on it.

The TWG Terms of Reference and Membership are links on this main page: <http://ssiwatersheds.ca/technical-working-group/>

TWG meets quarterly. There are subcommittees on TWG that do their work between meetings and they keep up regular communications internally, but TWG holds only four (minimum) formal meetings of the TWG per calendar year. This was a change made to the Terms of Reference of the Technical Working Group when it changed in fall 2015, as a result of lessons learned from the previous group called the Technical Advisory Committee to SSIWPA.

At the May 9 meeting, there were five of eleven TWG members present. Due to illness and other work commitments, six of the eleven TWG members sent their regrets to the working group and missed this meeting. I am working between meetings to update each TWG member by communicating one-on-one, and draft May 9 minutes have already been sent to the TWG as a whole.

Draft minutes of TWG meetings come up for approval and adoption at subsequent meetings of the TWG, which, in this case, is scheduled for September 12, 2016. The minutes will be made available to the public once adopted.

Steering Committee members were all invited to the talk on May 9 2016. There were four Steering committee members present at the TWG meeting, Chair Grams (and his alternate Peter Grove), Doreen Hewitt, and Dale Green (who is also a TWG member).

If Steering Committee elects to provide any response to Don Hodgins' independent presentation to SSIWPA TWG about Drought Analysis and Climate Change on Salt Spring Island, I will ensure that the information is made public in the Watermark newsletter.

Sincerely,

Shannon Cowan

SSIWPA Coordinator response to casual email sent on SS Exchange to SSIWPA
Coordinator
Sent May 16, 2016

Hello [member of the public],

Please find a response below to your query, sent Wednesday May 4, 2016 as follows:

"At least one vineyard on Lees Hill is using Roundup.
They deny it but I have spoken with the man who applied it ("Just doing my
job"). What to do?"

Reply from SSIWPA Coordinator:

The Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority is comprised of local government agencies that uphold their own independent bylaws, but SSIWPA is not a bylaw-enforcing body in and of itself. It is a roundtable for collaborative and co-operative management of water resources and watershed environments, and assists with public education about watershed health.

If the user of the Roundup pesticide (glyphosate) was following due diligence in farm practices, under the Right to Farm Act, they would be justified in their use of the pesticide.

Your query was forwarded to Islands Trust local planning office. This was the reply:
As per our local bylaws, the application of pesticides is permitted as a part of farm operation while the storage of such chemicals must be at least 30m from a watercourse.

If the user was using the product for aesthetic, or non-farm purposes (ie. the use of the product was not implicated in producing of foodstuffs or other commercial farm products under the Right to Farm Act), then neighbour-to-neighbour education is the only recourse to educate the proponent about the risks of this type of pesticide application to wildlife, humans and the environment.

For your information, the CRD has a pesticide use bylaw for City of Victoria, Esquimalt and Saanich, but it does not apply to Salt Spring Island.

See: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/education/natural-gardening/pure/safe-pesticide-use>

CRD also advises that there are risks to pesticide use:

<https://www.crd.bc.ca/education/natural-gardening/pure/pests-pesticide-facts/risks-of-pesticide-use>

Thank you for your care and attention to this matter. Your efforts to educate your neighbours about appropriate uses of pesticides under current local, provincial and federal legislation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Shannon Cowan, Ph.D.

Coordinator,

Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority

<http://www.ssiwatersheds.ca>

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