

**Fraser Valley Regional Watersheds Coalition**  
**General Meeting**  
July 17, 2008, 7:00-9:00 pm  
UCFV Abbotsford  
Room A225



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## **General Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)**

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### **Attendees:**

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| Lance Lilley (FVRWC/FVRD)                     | David Lamson (Chwk R Action Committee) |
| Dick Bunbury (FVRWC)                          | Erin Taggart (Chwk Resident)           |
| Margaret Bunbury (Central Valley Naturalists) | Gail Taggart (Chwk Resident)           |
| Tom Cadieux (FVRWC/DFO)                       | Krista Englund                         |
| David Urban (FVRWC/FVRD)                      | Matt Foy (DFO)                         |
| Bob Thomas (FVRWC)                            | Elsie Peters (Chwk Resident)           |
| Mike Pearson (FVRWC, Pearson Ecological)      | David Oleksuik (Chwk Resident)         |
| Peter Kerkhoff (Chwk Resident)                | Jerry Janmaat (Chwk Resident)          |
| Bruce Fatkin (FVRWC Chair)                    | Elizabeth Janmaat (Chwk Resident)      |

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### **Book Draw and Break:**

- Total of 29 tickets were sold
  - Winner of Draw: David Urban
  - Selected Prize: Hummingbird Feeder
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### **Memberships:**

- David Lamson renewed his membership fee (\$10.00)
  - (Reminder: Membership fees are \$10/year. Membership is required for voting in the AGM, with dues helping to cover meeting and administration costs.)
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### **1.0 Adoption of Agenda**

- Motion to adopt Agenda as written - Approved (David Urban 1<sup>st</sup>, Bob 2<sup>nd</sup>).

### **2.0 Society Business**

#### *2.1 Vision Document Update*

- Bob Thomas has been working on updating the Coalition's Vision Document (originally prepared in 2000). Bob reported that progress has occurred. No estimated time of completion was provided.

#### *2.2 Minutes on Website*

- General meeting minutes have been uploaded to the Coalition website.
- It was decided that minutes from Coalition directors-only meetings will not be posted to the website until further discussion.

### *2.3 Update on Hope/Camp Slough Project*

- The Coalition has signed an MOU with the City of Chilliwack and Fisheries and Oceans Canada to help administer the environmental compensation requirement funding accrued from the City's Evans Road Connector project.
- The Coalition is hoping to utilize this opportunity to engage the local community through landowner contact or open houses to help identify potential projects or issues to address along the sloughs. Much interest was already expressed by the community in this matter following a recent announcement in the local papers.
- The first stage of the project involves reopening the gates on Camp Slough and monitoring the effects, a process expected to occur through October. If all looks okay, a permanent intake will be constructed. It is expected that this process will consume a large part of the compensation funds; however, the Coalition will be attempting to use the funds as leverage to obtain additional money to pursue other projects and stewardship opportunities in the region.
- Many Chilliwack residents in attendance at the meeting, whose homes back onto the sloughs (Hope, Camp, and Bell), expressed interest in helping to organize community support and interest in helping to clean up the existing vegetation from the sloughs. It was mentioned that the Coalition, as a 'group of groups', functions to establish capacity of citizens to organize themselves into local groups that can fall under the umbrella of the Coalition for administrative support as needed.
- Matt Foy suggested a media release in the local newspapers would be good to reach interested residents who do not own or live along the sloughs but want to help.

### *2.4 Part-time Contracting Position with the Coalition*

- To help with the coordination and outreach component of the Home/Camp Slough project, the Coalition discussed possible options: hiring an executive director/outreach coordinator, contracting out a Project Manager for this specific project, or doing it in-house with largely volunteer labour.
- Hiring a part-time executive director type position seemed preferred by most. This option would help establish an identity to the Coalition apart from the FVRD, and would help add value to projects with outreach, stewardship, education, and coordination besides just the Hope/Camp Slough project.
  - Criteria for the position were discussed, including:
    - The position remain contract only – not employee
    - The position be part-time and short-term to start
- For the short-term, a working committee of Bob, Tom, Bruce, and Mike agreed to help out with initial work on the Hope/Camp Slough project. This committee agreed to tentatively meet on July 31<sup>st</sup> (ACTION ITEM) at a local restaurant to discuss specific tasks required:
  - Contact the City to get mailing list
  - Writing letter of introduction and mail-out
  - Set up community meeting/open house
  - Prepare job description for contracted position and advertise

### *2.5 Project Ideas for 2009*

- September is the deadline for conceptual proposals to be submitted to both the Pacific Salmon Commission and the Fraser Salmon and Watersheds Program; therefore, the Coalition discussed potential project ideas that could get submitted for this deadline.
  - Dave Lamson suggested a partnership between the Chilliwack River Action Committee and the Coalition to stabilize a clay slide along the Chilliwack River that has recently become active and is depositing silt and sediment into the river. The conceptual engineering design work has been done already. CRAC was looking to the Coalition to help with the funding applications and reporting and with applying for Section 9 (Water Act) approvals.
    - Motion: The Coalition will pursue this initiative with David Lamson (1<sup>st</sup> – David Urban, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Tom). (ACTION ITEM)
    - Mike agreed to write a letter on behalf of the Coalition to the Province about challenges facing non-profits in water license requirements. (ACTION ITEM)
  - Tom discussed one of the roles of the Coalition regarding funding proposals is to find out what the community and community groups are interested in. The Coalition can then discuss these project ideas with agencies (DFO) and funders to find out what might be feasible or not.
  - Dick and Margaret (Central Valley Naturalists) mentioned that they might have some other project ideas, but they are not ready at this point. (Lance to follow-up with) (ACTION ITEM)

### **3.0 Announcements**

- July 26 – SCCP Toad Rescue planned for Ryder Lake (Chwk)
- July 26-27 – Bioblitz planned for Cheam Lake Park.

### **4.0 Adjournment**

- Meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm
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