

Gabriola Streamkeepers (GSK) Minutes and Notices of Meetings 2013

Note that in these early meetings, minutes were not always taken, and minutes when taken, were not formally adopted.

Meeting notices have been included when they include meeting agendas not otherwise available.

December 19, 2013: Meeting minutes

Minutes

Thursday, December 19, 2013. 7:00 p.m. to 8:00. Gabriola Women's Institute

Note Taker: Laurie Jackson

Attendees: Tawny Capon, Bob Andrews, Melanie Mamoser, Christy Wilson, Chris Hills, Carrie Culbard, Marilyn Heraty, Laurie Jackson, Deborah Ferens, Jethro Baker.

Review Action Items From Previous Meeting

1. Organize a meeting with DFO Community Advisory Chantal Nessman (Jethro)
— ongoing.
2. Re-finish GES Stream of Dreams mural (agenda item).
3. Purchase streamkeepers kit (Melanie)
— ongoing.
4. Ramona de Graff – Forage Fish (agenda item).
5. New draft logo (Jethro)
— ongoing.
6. Stream signs (Kyle)
— ongoing.
7. Fundraising needs (agenda item)
8. Ask GaLTT insurance coverage for events (Melanie)
— completed.
9. Post volunteer form on GaLTT website (Melanie)
— ongoing.
10. Organize an event with another streamkeepers group (Melanie)
— ongoing.
11. Organize a move night for Salmon Confidential (Deb and Melanie)
— ongoing.

Agenda Item: School outreach (Carrie, Melanie, and Christy)

— Stream of dreams repainting – Christy talked to school. She will contact Stream of Dreams people to see if fish could be repainted or repaired

— watershed and groundwater model from RDN groundwater model. Christy will pass information onto GES principal

— project Wet ProD workshop from RDN for teachers. Part of Project Wild. Interactive prod for teachers

— Grade 7 field trip planned for April. Same as last year. Kees Groot in to talk in March

— pre-school to Grade 4 to Grade 7 progressive programs

— assist elementary school with release of salmon – May

— all to continue to work on outreach strategy (**ACTION**)

- Christy to contact Stream of Dream about repainting the fish (**ACTION**)
- Christy to connect school to RDN groundwater model (**ACTION**).

Agenda Item: Fundraising Committee (Deb, Chris, and Jethro)

- next step to find out deadline dates for funders
- wish list items:
 - T shirts (30, 3 colors, logo, \$6.50 per shirt \$195 or one color \$90)
 - waterproof paper for school program
 - pH strips
 - banner for events – approx. \$400
 - display tent
 - wooden signs
 - brochure or business cards
 - thank you notes

— members who want to work on Feb 1 funding application Pacific Salmon foundation, e-mail one of the committee members

— Melanie, Chris, Deb to complete funding application for Pacific Salmon Foundation (**ACTION**)

— Melanie to purchase streamkeepers kit from DFO Grant (**ACTION**)

— David Boehm to contact Ramona de Graff re. forage fish training (**ACTION**).

Agenda Item: Display Committee (Carrie, Jethro, Kyle, and Tawny)

— Melanie spoke to Randy Young about the stream road signs. He spoke to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and they had not opposition to putting the signs on the road nor any requirements

— Jethro working on draft logo (**ACTION**)

— Kyle costing stream signs (**ACTION**).

Agenda Item: Stream Surveys / Model Stream Project (Jethro, Deb, and Melanie)

— filling out a park use application form – Mel will send to RDN

— turnaround is quite fast, Deb reported

— Jan. 11 stream survey planned for Mallett Creek public part

— will work on a letter to land owner for access to top part

— will video document work on Winthuysen

— all to help survey Mallett Creek (**ACTION**)

— Melanie to submit Park Use Permit for Winthuysen Creek (**ACTION**)

— Melanie to draft letter to Mr. Rooks to access upper part of Mallet Creek (**ACTION**).

Agenda Item: Organization (Adrienne and Laurie)

— see report. No new action items.

Agenda Item: Fun Committee (Melanie and Sarah)

- Salmon Confidential movie
- Sustainable Gabriola interested in collaborating on an event re. Cohen Commission
- think about non political ways of doing
- look to see if other streamkeepers groups doing anything on Cohen Commission
- Melanie to contact other streamkeepers groups about enacting Cohen Commission recommendations (**ACTION**)
- Deb to organize a showing of Salmon Confidential (**ACTION**).

Other business

Need a publicity committee (Carrie and Tawnie)

Committees now called teams

Thank you Tawny for bringing delicious healthy treats!

Funding Application Deadline: February 15, 2014

Mallett Creek Survey: January 11, 2014.

Next meeting

January 16, 2014. ◇

November 21, 2013: Meeting minutes

Minutes

Thursday, November 21, 2013. 7:00 p.m. to 8:00. Gabriola Women's Institute

Note Taker: Melanie

Attendees: Tawny Capon, Adrienne Vance, Melanie Mamoser, Laurie Jackson, Kyle Clifford, Carrie Culbard, Jethro Baker, Deborah Ferens, Chris Hills, Gisele Rudisher, Anne Pav, Anne Pav, James Binnie.

Review Action Items From Previous Meeting

1. 1st Year Party Debrief (Adrienne Vance)
—completed.
2. Send invitation to Chantal Nessman to attend meetings (Jethro)
—Chantal has been contacted and is interested in attending
—no dates confirmed.
3. Ask Howard how many people are on the GSK list-serve (Melanie)
— 49 people on our email list
— list provided to the outreach committee for follow-up
—completed.
4. All subcommittees to meet prior to next meeting to establish specific objectives for the next year (agenda item).
5. Fundraising subcommittee is to look into Credit Union Funding and funding deadlines (agenda item).
6. Coordinate with volunteer artist to update logo (agenda item).
7. Speak with RDN about surveying the campground creek (agenda item).
8. Contact Island's Trust for potential funding of speaking/educational event (agenda item).
9. Identify funding potential to survey Mallett Creek (agenda item).

Agenda Item: School outreach (Carrie, Melanie, and Christy)

— in discussions with Grade 7 teacher Brenda Peacock to organize streamkeeper event with the class

— pre-school interested in organizing a streamkeeper event

— Glen Murphy Grade 4/5 teacher is also interested in bringing streamkeepers into his class

— Stream of Dream fish on school fence need re-finishing. Streamkeepers will volunteer to help the PAC refinish the fish. Ernie, James and Anne are interested in helping Christy. Jethro will talk to Arbutus about getting the finish donated.

— Nanaimo hatchery is doing egg takes for the next few weeks. Contact Christy if you want to participate

— School outreach committee will begin creating a strategy for progressive activities within the school.

Agenda Item: Fundraising Committee (Deb, Chris, and Jethro)

— Deb created a boiler plate for fundraising applications

— the list of potential funders is growing. It was suggested the committee speak to other streamkeepers groups to identify additional funding options

— Deb suggested streamkeepers approach Islands Trust to bring Ramona De Graff to put on forage fish survey training

— Islands Trust has funding within this year budget but a product needs to be submitted by March 31, 2014.

— Melanie to purchase streamkeepers kit (**ACTION**)

— Deb to contact Ramona De Graff about forage fish training on Gab. (**ACTION**).

Agenda Item: Display Committee (Carrie, Jethro, Kyle, and Tawny)

— display board created for the party

— Display committee would like to funding committee to pursue funding for a better display board and a folding table. Ernie will help the display committee discuss display board options

— Kyle is looking into what will be required to get road signs with stream names on Gabriola

— there's no progress since the last meeting on the logo. Group discussed what changes would be good: bold and clean font; agreed that fish should look like a stickleback in grey/white; drop island from the name; create trees with less texture; overall simpler logo. Get a version in colour and one in grey scale.

— Jethro to get a new draft of the logo (**ACTION**)

— all to put a list of needs together for the fundraising committee (**ACTION**)

— Kyle to contact Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, Pacific Streamkeepers Federation and Fisheries and Oceans Canada about signs (**ACTION**).

Agenda Item: Stream Surveys / Model Stream Project (Jethro, Deb, and Melanie)

— Committee working with the RDN to use Winthuysen Creek at the Descanso Bay Regional Park as a model stream for restoration and community education. First phase is conducting stream surveys and the second phase is restoration

— Committee will organize a survey of Mallett Creek

— all to fill-out application for a special use permit for stream survey at the Descanso Bay Regional Park (**ACTION**)

— all to do stream survey of Mallett Creek on January 11, 2014 (**ACTION**).

Agenda Item: Organization (Adrienne and Laurie)

— created minute and agenda templates

— Created minute and agenda templates

- working on creating a database for entering volunteer information
- Melanie to ask GaLTT if streamkeepers need to sign-in at events to be covered by the insurance (**ACTION**)
- all to encourage members to become GaLTT members in e-mails (**ACTION**)
- Melanie to post volunteer form on the GaLTT website (**ACTION**).

Agenda Item: Fun Committee (Melanie and Sarah)

- organize a field trip to help another streamkeepers group (**ACTION**)
- Organize a movie night to present Salmon Confidential co-sponsored with Save our Shores in the spring (**ACTION**).

Other business

Funding Application Deadline: February 15, 2014

Mallett Creek Survey: January 11, 2014.

Next meeting

December 19, 2013. ◇

October 10, 2013: Meeting notice and minutes

We have a special meeting planned for this Thursday October 10. 7pm at the Women's Institute.

We're going to go over the plans for the our Anniversary Celebration on October 19 and hopefully rope some people into helping out. We'll also do a quick round-table on what each of the project areas have been working on over the last month. ◇

Minutes

Thursday, October 10, 2013. 7:00 p.m. to 8:00. Gabriola Women's Institute

Note Taker: Carrie

7:00 – 7:05

Attendees: Tawny Capon, Adrienne Vance, Melanie Mamoser, Jethro Baker, Deborah Ferens, Chris Hills, Bob Andrew, Margaret Taylor, Darryl Tunnicliffe.

Review Action Items From Previous Meeting

7:05 – 7:15

1. Place \$1000 DFO funding into bank and dedicate for streamkeeper's kit (Melanie)
 - \$1080 funding an advance
 - has to be spent before march 2014
 - money will be used to purchase a streamkeepers kit.
2. Send invitation to Chantelle Messman to attend meetings (Jethro)
 - Jethro waiting to hear back.
3. Ask Howard how many people are on the GSK list-serve (Melanie).
4. All subcommittees to meet prior to next meeting to establish specific objectives for the next year (each subcommittee).
5. Fundraising Sub committee is to look into Credit Union Funding and funding deadlines (Fundraising subcommittee).
6. Coordinate with volunteer artist to update logo (Jethro).
7. Plan 1st Year Party (Adrienne Vance).
8. Speak with RDN about surveying the campground creek (Deb)
 - Deb spoke to Kelsey Cramer at the regional district regarding education and restoration of campground stream
 - need approval from Chantrell(?)
 - need permits for school education and stream restoration; no cost for non-profit
 - can survey creek anytime.
9. Contact Island's Trust for potential funding of speaking/educational event (Deb)
 - Deb would like to put on Agenda: speaker/films for education, for meetings, should compile a list of ideas.

10. Identify funding potential to survey Mallett Creek (Jethro).

Agenda Item: 1st Year Party (Adrienne Vance)

- spaced rented at commons
- advertised in papers
- Mel has posters, need to pickup up and distribute (**ACTION**)
- GALTT approved cake \$100.00
- invited public representatives – Howard Houle, Brian Stracken, GALTT members, David Clough
- map being made by Islands Trust planners
- some speeches at 2:30 p.m. then cake: 3:15 p.m. a demonstration

Tasks Assigned: photographs, sandwich boards, cake, nametags, distribute posters.

Other business

Funding Application Deadline: February 15, 2014.

Next meeting

November 21, 2013. ◇

September 19, 2013: Meeting notice

For the meeting, here is the latest version of the logo we are working on. ◇

August, 2013: Meeting notice

N/A Probably no meeting.

July 18, 2013: Meeting notice

For our upcoming meeting, we will go over the results of our planning session and hear from each of the committees to refine their responsibilities and the activities they might undertake over the course of the next year. From this each group can create a one page description of each committee to help recruit volunteers. ◇

June 20, 2013: Meeting notice and minutes

Our monthly meeting will be a special planning meeting this month. We will discuss what we want to accomplish over the next year and what ongoing activities we want to take on as streamkeepers. Our member Laurie Jackson is a skilful facilitator and she has agreed to lead the session. Everyone is welcome!

Streamkeepers had a table at Oceans Day this year. Thank you Deb and your small team of volunteers for putting on such a great event! Streamkeepers brought a dozen of so people out to explore Winthuysen Creek and we recruited a few new streamkeepers. Welcome Marilyn, Patsy and Daniel! I also want to thank Laurie and Terry for helping with our table. ◇

We had a great meeting ~~last month~~ brainstorming activities for the next year. Laurie did a wonderful job facilitating the session and I've attached the results.

We created four new sub-committees as a result:

1. Display Committee - organizing signs and logs (Jethro, Christy and Carrie).
2. Model Project Committee - contacting relevant groups to get their input on what stream we should focus on first (Jethro and Melanie).
3. Keeping Us Organized Committee (Adrienne and Laurie).
4. Fun Committee (Melanie, Liz and Sarah)

This is in addition to our three existing committees:

1. School Outreach (Carrie, Christy and Melanie)
2. Fundraising Committee (Chris, Jethro and Deb)
3. Landowner Engagement Committee (Adrienne and Melanie).

Minutes

Streamkeepers Planning Meeting Notes

What we have done so far:

- collected data for Goodhue Creek and Castell Brook
- 14 members trained on streamkeeping methods
- organized a presentation on salmon behaviour by renowned scientist Case Groot for the Grade 7 class at GES
- brought the Grade 7 class at GES out to Goodhue Creek for an introduction to the streamkeeping data collection methods
- created a Google Earth map of Gabriola streams
- got Gabriola streams added to the GaLTT trail map
- 2 cleanups of Mallett Creek
- created website, Facebook page, and listserv
- hosted a table at farmers market
- attended DFO Salmonid Enhancement Program workshop
- hosted a table and did a stream tour at Oceans Day
- was the subject of several articles in the newspapers

—created subcommittees for fundraising, school outreach and landowner engagement.

We brainstormed ideas and had a process to prioritize them for our first year. Here are the results in order of priority (based on the group present): We recognized that many of these could be combined.

- pick a stream for a model project to restore
- organizational system for planning and reporting on initiatives
- display with banner, logo to use at events, market
- road signs on stream crossings
- volunteer management and coordination
- gather local and traditional knowledge on streams
- identify sensitive areas, liaise with IT
- awareness - newsletter, flyers, newspaper and media
- host public showing of relevant films
 - meet with DFO Community Advisor, IT, and other relevant groups to prioritize streams
- fieldtrips to other streamkeeper groups
- have fun out in nature
- refine and build on stream map, with local knowledge
- recognition for community stewards
- junior streamkeepers club and events
- stickleback research expert
- build funding base and list
- partnering with other groups (4H, Nanaimo SK, etc)
- one year anniversary event
- organize photos, releases
- data management
- stewardship pledge, plaques
- theatre festival - skit about fish and streams/ table
- hosting guest speakers for community
- honorariums
- refinish salmon on fence at school and remind community of the connection to the Stream of Dreams program.
- wetland keepers education
- salt water marsh - forage fish
- connect with fishing derby, boat people, power squad
- rivers day
- shoreline cleanups
- raffle/ contest
- Salmon Derby fundraising

- salmon barbecue
- logo/sign contest
- host workshop 2 years from now

We then discussed how to implement these, and the following committees were formed to then develop specific tasks that volunteers would be called to do:

Sign,logo, display, road signs, t-shirts, maps, kit	Jethro, Christy, Carrie
Model project stream - meet w IsTrst, Com Advisor, RDN	Jethro, Melanie
Organizational system (checklists, calendar, data)	Adrienne, Laurie
Fun and event committee	Melanie, Liz, Sarah

Each group should brainstorm a further list of activities for that committee and then a call will go out to volunteers to get involved where they would like to. ◇

May 30, 2013: Meeting notice

No meeting on Thursday. Ocean Day on Sunday.

April 18, 2013: Meeting notice and minutes

Our next meeting is this Thursday April 18 at 7pm at the Women's Institute. Attached is the most recent version of our missions statement and objectives for you to review prior to the meeting.

Other agenda items include:

- Habitat assessment of Castell Creek;
- Fundraising;
- RAR presentation by the Ministry of Environment;
- Trail building on Mallett Creek. ◇

Minutes

GABRIOLA STREAMKEEPERS MEETING MINUTES

In attendance: 7 Thursday April 18, 2013

1. Gabriola Streamkeepers Mission Statement - attached

After further discussion and edits, the mission statement has been adopted. Melanie will present it to GALTT for their approval.

2. Drumbeg Stream Assessment

General agreement that the practice exercise was well worth it. Streamkeepers resources were used. Several interested onlookers were asking questions.

3. Islands Trust Shoreline Mapping Workshop – no follow up required.

4. Habitat Assessment of Castell Creek

Scheduled for Sat, April 27. The property owners will be approached for permission.

Action: re-convene outreach committee

5. Trail Building on Mallett Creek

Discussion re: making Mallett Creek more accessible for assessment. GALTT will provide expertise and work party.

Also discussed pros and cons of building trails especially in inaccessible areas.

6. RAR presentation by the Ministry of the Environment

Melanie is still attempting to schedule MOE personnel to attend a Streamkeeper meeting. GALTT members might be interested in helping.

7. Oceans Day at Descanso Bay Regional Park

Date not yet set. Streamkeepers will participate and will discuss at next SK meeting.

8. Fundraising

SK is on DFO's eligibility list, which means when funding opportunities arise SK will be able to apply.

9. Gabriola Elementary School

Carrie and Mel will follow-up with Brenda Peacock's Grade 7 class.

10. SEP Workshop May 17-19 on Bowen Island

GALTT will cover the workshop registration and expenses for Mel and Jethro to attend.

NEXT MEETING THURSDAY May 23, 2013 @ 7 PM

[Attachment 1 \(April 18, 2013 meeting\):](#)

GABRIOLA STREAMKEEPERS: MISSION STATEMENT AND OBJECTIVES

ADOPTED April 18, 2013

Gabriola Streamkeepers is a community based group dedicated to preserving and enhancing local waterways.

Our goals are:

- watershed health
- community stewardship of local waterways
- fish bearing streams
- healthy riparian areas.

To meet our goals we will focus on:

- promoting best practices for sustaining productive creeks, watersheds and wetlands
- promoting and facilitating the restoration of local fish and other aquatic life
- fostering and coordinating environmental stewardship among public, corporate and private stakeholders

Objectives:

- to provide opportunities for streamkeeper training
- to organize and host public education events about streamkeeping
- to disseminate information and share resources on the value of preserving and enhancing local waterways.
- to actively engage in stream restoration projects to enhance water courses native to Gabriola.
- to develop a baseline inventory on selected streams
- to collect science based data to assess the health of Gabriola waterways.

Gabriola Streamkeepers are committed to this work in recognition that:

- continuing development pressures impact aquatic habitat
- fish stock are in decline.
- climate change will have a growing impact on coastal areas
- the connection to and knowledge of our aquatic environment is being lost.
- healthy streams are indicators of a healthy surrounding environment. ◇

March 21, 2013: Meeting notice

Here's the draft agenda for Thursday. Please let me know if you would like to add anything.

1. Adoption of Mission, Goals and Action Statement.
2. Stream Habitat Assessment.
 - Sunday March 31st, 1pm at Drumbeg.
 - Adopt a stream for habitat assessment based on the four criteria (Fish bearing potential; accessibility; potential development; man made or natural); candidates include Mallett Creek, Castel Creek, Goodhue Creek, Westarps and Sir Williams Drive.
3. Stream Habitat Assessment 101 with Ms. Peacock's Class.
4. Trail creation at Mallett Creek with Randy Young.
5. Riparian Areas Regulation talk by Province. ◇

February 28, 2013: Meeting notice and minutes

First things first, our next meeting is this Thursday February 28th, 7pm at the Women's Institute. As always, I promise to keep the meeting to 1 hour. We will be discussing and crafting a mission statement and goals. I've attached the draft mission statement that Deb prepared for our last meeting.

I'm happy to report that the streamkeepers course on the weekend of February 2/3 was a great success. We had 12 members participate and now we just have to put what we learned into practice asap.

I also gave a brief presentation of our activities thus far at the GaLTT AGM. It is nice to put it all into perspective, we have been a busy bunch :) ◇

Minutes

GABRIOLA STREAMKEEPERS MEETING MINUTES - Thursday February 28, 2013

In attendance: Bob Andrew, Victor Anthony, Tawny Capon, Liz Ciocea, Kyle Clifford, Carrie Culbard, Deborah Ferens, Chris Hills, Giselle Rudischer, Margaret Taylor.
Welcome - Karen Cain, Verne Smith.

1. Carrie reviewed the Streamkeepers Course held on February 02 & 03 and attended by 12 Streamkeepers. Two creeks upper Castell Creek and Goodhue Creek were studied. All in attendance at the course agreed that instructor Dave Clough inspired all of us with his passion and knowledge. We all were amazed at the life we found in the streams and realize how important it is to have healthy streams.
2. Tawny suggested getting out in a stream and practicing the skills we learned at the course before tackling a stream to study. Kyle would like to start with a stream to set a baseline and felt it would be more profitable to go ahead rather than spend time on a stream not going to be part of the study. It was then agreed those who would like to get some practice would do so and Tawny offered to locate the Streamkeepers kit provided by the RDN.
3. Discussion for criteria for picking a stream:
 - a. Fish bearing potential
 - b. Accessibility - seasonal or not
 - c. Potential for development
 - d. Man made or natural
4. Several streams were discussed for practice: Westarps, Sir Williams Drive, Goodhue, Mallett
5. Giselle Islands Trustee reported no response from Landowners who would be affected regarding the riparian study. This information can be found on the Islands Trust website.
6. Deb reviewed the draft of the Mission Statement for Gabriola Streamkeepers. Once adopted it will be posted on the GALTT website. There were some changes in wording that Deb will redo and present at the next meeting so it can be adopted. By and large the draft was accepted after these changes in wording and review at next meeting in March.

NEXT MEETING THURSDAY MARCH 21, 2013 @ 7 PM ◇

Attachment 1 (February 28, 2013 meeting):

Gabriola Streamkeepers is a community based group dedicated to preserving and enhancing local waterways.

Our goals are:

- watershed health
- community stewardship of local waterways
- fish bearing streams
- healthy riparian areas.

To meet our goals we will focus on:

- promoting best practices for sustaining productive creeks, watersheds and wetlands
- promoting and facilitating the restoration of local fish and other aquatic stocks.
- fostering and coordinating environmental stewardship among public, corporate and private stakeholders

Objectives:

- to provide opportunities for streamkeeper training
- to organize and host public education events about streamkeeping
- to disseminate information and share resources on the value of preserving and enhancing local waterways.

Gabriola Streamkeepers are committed to this work in recognition that:

- continuing development pressures threaten aquatic habitat
- fish stock are in decline or under threat.
- climate change will have a growing impact on coastal areas
- the connection to and knowledge of our marine environment is being lost. ◇

Notes from Kyle: Sorry for not attending the meeting yesterday, however I did want to comment on the draft mission statement which I think Deb did a fine job in preparing. The only thought I had was that Objectives need to include some action statement such as actively participate in stream restoration. If not an objective then possibly a sub-heading titled Action Statement. "To actively engage in stream restoration projects to enhance water courses native to Gabriola". ◇

January 24, 2013: Meeting notice and minutes

Our next meeting is this Thursday 7pm at the Women's Institute. We will primarily be defining our mission statement, objectives and organizational structure. In preparation for this I encourage you to take a look at the mission statements from some other streamkeepers groups, Gabriola Land and Trails Trust, and other naturalist organizations.

We will also chat about some upcoming events like our training scheduled for February 2 and 3, and an upcoming community meeting being organized by Sustainable Gabriola about how communities can help enact some of the recommendations of the Cohen Commission (March 9, 3-5pm at the Commons) - they have asked us to participate to discuss what we are doing on the island. ◇

I've pieced together some examples to inspire us when creating our mandate on Thursday night. I've also included a document with an overview of the most pertinent modules of the Streamkeepers Handbook to help guide our objectives and mandates. I'll bring copies on Thursday. Melanie ◇

Minutes

The last meeting was January 24 and we primarily discussed our governance structure. The following are the salient points:

- It was decided that the Gabriola Streamkeepers will be a sub-committee of GaLTT. There are several benefits for this arrangement including access to insurance, non-profit status for donation purposes, GaLTT has a lot of experience we can benefit from and an established organization in terms of website, finances, land acquisition, to name a few, and our goals are well aligned. The majority of streamkeeper groups are aligned with some form of conservancy organization. The drawbacks are that GaLTT will assign a chair for the Streamkeepers so we will need to maintain representation on the GaLTT board and if we take a public position on an issue it should be approved by GaLTT.
- It was decided that the Streamkeepers would not be directly involved in an event sponsored by Sustainable Gabriola on what communities can do to support the recommendations of the Cohen Commission on the decline of the Fraser River Sockeye. In part there was concern that the Streamkeepers should not be seen as having opinions on political issues.
- It was decided that we should have a rotating secretary to be assigned at the end of each meeting. Liz has volunteered to be the secretary at our February 28th meeting.
- It was also decided that we should have financial coordinator that will liaise with GaLTT's Treasurer. Chris has volunteered for that position.

Attachment 1 (January 24, 2013 meeting):

1. Pacific Streamkeepers Federation

As volunteer streamkeepers, citizens are able to **monitor and evaluate stream conditions**, alert authorities when there are problems with local streams.

A streamkeeper is someone who has taken an active interest in **preserving and enhancing their local waterways**. They are willing to [learn more about](#) their streams, and partner with [other groups](#) that have a similar focus, as well as all levels of government.

2. GaLTT

“to secure, develop and sustain a network of parkland and trails on Gabriola Island for the benefit of the public, and to preserve sites of environmental, historical, and social importance.”

GaLTT has three core business areas – may be useful for streamkeepers to have core business areas (e.g., Public Education, Stream Assessment and Restoration, and Fundraising).

3. North Shore Streamkeepers

North Shore Streamkeepers come from all walks of life. They are ordinary people who are willing to be trained, spend their free time **monitoring and improving streams and waterways**. They have an interest in local history, ecology, and lifestyle. You may stumble upon a streamkeeper or a group of streamkeepers taking part in one of many activities.

4. West Vancouver Streamkeepers

Our purposes are:

- To develop, promote and maintain best practices for sustaining productive creeks, watersheds and wetlands.
- To protect, promote and facilitate the restoration of local fish and other aquatic stocks.
- To foster and coordinate environmental stewardship among public, corporate and private stakeholders.
- To liaise with governments and stakeholders to assist in the development and enforcement of laws, bylaws and other regulations.

5. Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society (SaltSpring)

We have been working in the watersheds of Salt Spring Island for over 20 years. Our main mandate is **watershed restoration and public education** is second. We work with over 300 property owners to restore the fish bearing streams on the island and to create new aquatic habitat in the watersheds. ◇

[Attachment 2 \(January 24, 2013 meeting\):](#)

Streamkeepers Handbook Modules Overview

Stream habitat survey (Module 1&2):

Collecting valuable watershed information and surveying your stream provides a useful starting project for a Streamkeepers group. You will collect maps, historical information, and current data, then walk your stream to identify and map undocumented conditions. As you become familiar with your stream, you can select the best locations for reference

sites or sampling stations. Some of the more detailed surveys described in other modules will be done at these locations.

The mapping process helps **you relate land and water use with stream health** in your watershed. You will be able to **identify habitats in need of protection or restoration**. Documenting habitat problems, such as erosion, insufficient streambank vegetation, pollution sources, or stream barriers, helps you choose appropriate restoration projects.

This module provides instructions for establishing a permanent reference site and conducting a **detailed habitat assessment**. You will establish a benchmark, do cross-sectional and longitudinal surveys, and measure water discharge of the stream. You will examine or measure individual parts of the stream channel and bank that comprise the habitat. The final step will be to combine these observations into an **assessment that ranks the habitat at that location as good, acceptable, marginal, or poor**.

Water Quality (Module 3):

Water quality measurements provide basic information about your stream. Measuring a few important stream characteristics in selected locations, at critical times of the year, can help you detect **watershed problems**.

You will be given detailed instructions for measuring turbidity, dissolved oxygen, pH, and temperature using simple equipment. You will sample at least twice a year, when stream flow is very high and very low, and more often if you can.

Human activities in your watershed alter water quality and stream flow. Often, natural vegetation is removed and urban development covers the soil with impermeable surfaces. When this happens, runoff from precipitation flows directly into streams rather than being absorbed by the soil and then slowly released. Flood, drought, sedimentation, contaminant addition, and fluctuations in water temperature often result.

Stream Invertebrate Survey (Module 4)

You will be given instructions for sampling, counting, and identifying benthic invertebrates. These are small, spineless animals such as insect larvae, worms, snails, clams, and crustaceans that live in or on the stream bottom.

Invertebrates play an important role in the aquatic food chain. They eat algae, leaves or organic debris and are food for fish, birds, amphibians, reptiles, and other insects in the stream ecosystem. **The various kinds of invertebrates you find in your stream tell a lot about the health of your watershed**. Some invertebrates tolerate organic pollution, and their abundance may suggest water quality problems. Others require good water quality, so their presence suggests a healthy stream.

This survey is thorough enough to **detect moderate to severe stream degradation** and is relatively quick, easy, and inexpensive.

Streamside Planting (Module 7): Project approval required

Trees, shrubs, herbs, grasses, and primitive plants such as mosses and lichen form riparian or streamside vegetation. These plants tolerate occasional flooding. The riparian zone includes the immediate bank of the valley bottom or flood plain. The riparian area of influence may also include the adjacent lower slopes. Stream size and valley topography help define the width of the riparian zone.

Riparian vegetation is a very important part of a stream ecosystem. Plants stabilize stream banks, reduce erosion, and provide protective cover for fish. Trees provide shade, which helps control water temperatures. Logs fall into the stream, where they create diverse habitat and help dissipate erosion energy. Leaf litter provides an important source of food for stream organisms. Plants trap sediment and filter out pollutants before they reach the stream. They help the soil absorb precipitation and release it slowly during dry spells. The riparian area provides habitat and travel routes for birds and wildlife. Urban development, logging, and agriculture have reduced or destroyed the riparian vegetation of many streams and rivers. Fortunately, streamside planting is an inexpensive, effective restoration project.

Community Awareness (Module 10):

This module offers a variety of approaches to heightening **community awareness of the value of your stream.**

You can clean **up streams, monitor their condition, and undertake enhancement projects, but you must have the support of the community to ensure long-term health of your watershed.**

Juvenile Fish Trapping and Identification (Module 11) - project approval required

This module shows you how to select sampling locations and trap juvenile fish in your stream, using Gee traps. These live-traps are baited and placed in the stream for several hours or overnight. A key is provided to help you identify salmonids and other kinds of fish likely to enter these traps

Trapping provides **information about the fish species native to your stream, where they live, and their relative abundance.**

The kinds of fish you find will tell you about **the quality of the stream habitat. Salmonids are considered indicators of a healthy watershed because they require good water quality and habitat.** Documenting their presence helps identify and protect good quality streams and watersheds. Their abundance may indicate the need for restoration projects. ◇