

## **Gabriola Streamkeepers (GSK) Minutes and Notices of Meetings 2017**

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

**December 2017: Meeting notice**

No meeting. ♦

## November 22, 2017: Minutes

Gabriola Streamkeepers

Minutes from Meeting:  
Gabriola Island, BC  
November 22/2017

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm;

**Present:** Barbara Porter, Deb Ferens (chair), Jethro Baker, Christy Wilson, Natalie Lissimore, Marilyn Herarty, Mike Super, Chris Hills (minutes)

Regrets: Kyle Clifford, Howie Stiff

### AGENDA: OLD BUSINESS

1. **RDN Water Quality Monitoring:** completed on Mallett Creek, Kyle has sent the data to the RDN. RDN will get in touch with Christy in the spring and let her know the results.  
*Action → Christy to e-mail Marilyn with Dr. Rook's e-mail address. Christy will organize a thank you card for Dr. Rooks for granting us access to the upper portion of Mallett Creek.*
2. **Stories on Local Creeks/Action items:**
  - Follow up with Stephen Hendy (Jethro) and what he has (tape) recorded so far. Jethro also to get in touch with Danna Brown, Kyle with Gord McDonald and Marilyn with Hazel Windecker.
  - Chris to get in touch with the Museum to see if they have any local history on Gabriola's streams
  - all of us to gather as many stories as we can for our next meeting, January 17, 2018. This meeting will be 1 to 1 ½ hours long and "story telling" focussed. Tea and treats to be served.
3. **Junior Streamkeepers:** a) Christy spoke with Sue Svendson at GES (Gabriola Elementary School). She has a salmon fry tank in her classroom and the hope is to release them in the spring.  
b) Planning stages have begun for a Streamkeepers day with the grade 4-5's (who are buddying with grade 2's) in March or April at Descanso Bay Regional Park/Winthuysen Creek. Christy, Mike, Natalie, Marilyn and Chris all potentially available to lead the groups through invertebrate study, stream/watershed health and some native plant species identification.
4. **Mallett Creek Restoration?** In October, Christy spoke with Erica Blake (with DFO) who feels that a wet season stream assessment should be adequate to determine whether we can go ahead with spawning gravel on Lower Mallett. The previously constructed weir needs to be looked at. Depending upon availability, David Clough may be able to assist us.  
*Action → Christy to send out an e-mail with different date options in January. We might need two, four hour blocks to complete the assessment.*
5. **Dick Brook Update:** Christy exchanged a few e-mails with Lisa Webster-Gibson who has invited members to see the stream portion on her property. Christy will see if a Sunday might work vs. an evening as suggested.

### NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) **Streamkeepers guided tour by Gertie Bus:** Steve Earle approached Jethro about an "Explore Gabriola" Gertie trip including stops at Gabriola streams. Possibly this could take place in February.  
*Action → Jethro to contact Steve to get more details and to weigh options: several streams on the tour or something more in-depth?*
- 2) Murray Road dam discussion: Jethro (and GaLTT) both contacted by a land owner on Murray Road re: a dam on their property. Out of our jurisdiction but Christy is willing to pass along the names of people/biologists who might be able to assist the landowner.
- 3) Between \$1000 and \$3000 is available through the RDN's Stewardship Seed Grant. Money is allotted towards "stream restoration, research and/or enhancement projects." Could possibly be used to cover cost of spawning bed gravel, native plants for streamsides (Winthuysen.)  
*Action → Jethro and Christy to form a taskforce to fill out application and send it in. Jethro to find out cost of gravel.*
- 4) Winthuysen Creek to be discussed in depth in the future as it is a creek in need of work but falls under the RDN's jurisdiction. Possibility of doing an Earth Day Streamside planting event.
- 5) Streamkeepers meetings to be posted on GAC website under public events. No cost involved.  
*Action → Christy to e-mail Moe our January meeting date.*  
*Chris/Christy to send out a general "no meeting in December" e-mail to the main streamkeepers list as well as a holiday greeting. Meeting reminders to be sent out about 10 days before the actual date.*
- 6) **New names to be added to "Core" e-mail list:**  
*Action -> Chris to e-mail Howie*
- 7) Salmon Eggs will be delivered to GES (when?) and fry will be released into Mallett Creek in the spring. The genetic strain of chum has been shown to not out-compete coho which are more opportunistic spawners in our area.  
*Action -> Christy to e-mail Erica Blake about the fry release.*

Meeting adjourned 8:15pm

Next meeting 7pm, January 17, 2018 ◇

## October 17, 2017: Minutes

Gabriola Streamkeepers

Minutes from Meeting:  
Gabriola Island, BC  
October 17, 2017

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm;

**Present:** Barbara Porter, Deb Ferens (chair), Nick Doe, Christie Wilson, Natalie Lissimore, Marilyn Herarty, Chris Hills (minutes)

Regrets: Kyle Clifford

- General intros at beginning of meeting to introduce Gabriola Streamkeeper members to Barbara Porter and to welcome her to her first meeting

**1. RDN Water Quality Monitoring:** Third year water quality is being done on Mallett. There will be a reporting session in May to have our data analyzed. Next Monitoring session Tuesday October 24 (**Action** Christie to send out a message.)

**2. Streamkeepers Minutes:** **Action** → *Chris to work on editing all past minutes so that we can finally have them all on GaLTT website*

**3. Stories on Local Creeks/**Action items**:**

→ *Jethro to follow up with Stephen Hendy and what he has recorded so far. Jethro also to get in touch with Danna Brown and Gord McDonald.*

→ *Chris to get in touch with the Museum to see if they have any local history on Gabriola's streams*

→ *all of us to gather as many stories as we can for our next meeting in November*

**4. Junior Streamkeepers:** **Action** → *Christie to have a "meet and greet" with 2 "salmon teachers" at Gabriola Elementary.* Will discuss plans for the year and possible stream history project.

**5. Mallett Creek Restoration?** **Action** → *Christie to talk to DFO about spawning remediation on lower Mallett Creek.* Christie had talked to DFO Community Advisor; some confusion about access to mouth of Mallett Creek – whether private landowner approval needed or Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI.) Should be MOTI.

**6. Dick Brook Update:** No update from Lisa as to how her family's project of monitoring Dick Brook (as it passes through her property) worked out. **Action** → *Christie to get in touch with Lisa.*

**7. Community Engagement:** **Action** → *time to start thinking about another speaker for public event on island;* Ethnobotanist Nancy Turner will be speaking at the GaLTT AGM in February 2018.

Meeting adjourned 7:40pm. Next meeting 7pm, Wed. Nov. 15, 2017. ◊

**September 20, 2017: Meeting notice**

No meeting? ◇

**August 16, 2017: Meeting notice**

Meeting cancelled by concensus. Lack of attendance. ◇

**July 19, 2017: Meeting notice**

No information. E-mail discussion on Mallett Creek monitoring and canoes on Coats Marsh. ◇

**June 19, 2017: Meeting notice**

Meeting cancelled. Lack of attendees. E-mail discussion: Oceans Day went well; Start of monitoring of Dick Brook (Lisa); Access to Mallett Creek; Minutes. ◇

**May 17, 2017: Meeting notice**

No meeting? ◇

## April 19, 2017: Meeting notice

No minutes but agenda items:

Junior Streamkeepers – annual field trip with local students.

Spring Fair – setting up a display to gather stories and history about local streams.

Stream monitoring – Dick Brook

Although I won't be able to attend the meeting - perhaps you could raise the idea of measuring the creek on our property - I will be monitoring our stream - Dick Brook - once a month to build skills and as a family project - Streamkeepers and family members are invited to participate if they would like - Cheers Lisa Webster- Gibson.

hi list and Lisa

Sounds like a good opportunity for me to hand over our electronic sensors to Lisa. I'll make time in the next few days to make sure it's all working as it should and maybe Lisa and I and whoever can then get together for a "training" session. I also have a Streamkeeper's kit.

Dick Brook is an interesting one because it runs through agricultural land and its source in the Somerset Pit has an extraordinary high pH because of its Pleistocene geology. We should be able to monitor DO, pH, conductivity, and turbidity. These days I hardly use the equipment because it's all run-off with 100% DO, pH = 7, and conductivity very low.

Nick

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Report on the Humpback Whale presentation we co-hosted.

Retaining access to Mallett.

Adopting and posting old minutes.

Potlatch Proposal. ◊

## **March 16, 2017: Minutes**

Meeting began shortly after 7 pm at the Arts Council Bldg with Christy Wilson chairing and Kyle Clifford recording secretary.

Attendees: Christy Wilson, Howard Stiff, Jethro Baker, Stephen Hendy, Marilyn Heraty, Kyle Clifford, Nick Doe.

The committee welcomed new member Stephen Hendry.

Review Previous Minutes and Agenda:

Review of “Wish List” from previous months planning meeting.

In order to get chum released in any Gabriola Stream there needs to be documentation of their previous existence.

This lead to a discussion about “stories” about Gabriola Streams and the need to document these stories. Names of people who might be able to help with the background research to stories about Mallet Creek and Peacock Lake included Jethro Baker, Susan Yates and Steve Rhicard. Once the data for such a related “story” is collected, Nick volunteered to write these up and publish them on the Streamkeepers page.

Discussion about a poster board with the stories to display these at public events such as Oceans Day.

**Action Item:** Jethro to follow up with some “oldtimers” researching some stories about Mallett Creek and Peacock Lake and Nick write up the story(s).

Christy will follow up with Christine, the biologist at DFO to identify the chum salmon samples Jethro supplied.

Jethro will talk to the individual who formerly did the stream restoration work in Mallett Creek regarding that work and regarding previous release of chum fry in that creek.

Oceans Day - There will be new operators replacing Deb and Jim at the Descanso Park and Campground. They may be interested in continuing to host or co-host Ocean’s Day.

Christy is co-hosting Jackie Hildring Mers, marine detective, to speak on whales on April 8 at the Roxy. The group agreed that the Streamkeepers will co-host (with GROWLS and perhaps GaLTT) a humpback whale presentation by Jackie Hildering from the Marine Education and Research Society (MERS). Jackie is also known as THE MARINE DETECTIVE (find her online and on Facebook for local ocean education and underwater photography). Find her at <https://tjmarinedetective.com/> and MERS at <http://www.mersociety.org/>. Presentation will be on April 8 at the Roxy. Christy will carry out all organizing and details required, GROWLS will pay for cost of the rental.

Jethro mentioned he had been investigating along Dick Brook and found an adult jaw - skull of a large fish, possibly salmon about 200 feet upstream from the ocean. He collected bone samples.

Action Item: Reminder for Fall/Winter spotting in streams.

Discussion about the reservoir on Mallett Creek and how the ownership/management of this reservoir may be affected by the current negotiations between the Islands Trust, RDN and

landowner/developer.(Potlatch). There are public meetings being held by the Islands Trust regarding the Potlatch lands. It was suggested that the Gabriola Streamkeepers should document our interest in continued access to the creek and reservoir.

“Gabriola Streamkeepers would like to retain access to Mallett Creek for ongoing monitoring and stewardship purposes. How can this be achieved?”

Action Item: Marlyn to follow up with the Islands Trust planner to relay the Streamkeepers desire to retain ongoing access to the creek.

[Note from Christy: New member joined us this evening.  
ACTION - Howie to add Stephen Hendy to the email list.]

Meeting Adjourned 8:10. ◊

## **February 15, 2017: Minutes**

Steamkeepers Meeting  
Wednesday Feb 15, 2017  
7-8:30 pm – Gabriola Commons

### **MINUTES**

Present: Jethro Baker, Christy Wilson, Marilyn Heraty, Bob Andrew, Nick Doe, Chris Hill, Deb Ferens (chair & minutes), Alex, Rayna & Rosalie.

#### 1. Minutes of Jan 18 – table and approve next meeting

#### 2. Business Arising

Field Books – Bob will take to Tom Cameron's to put in SK kits  
Finances – Next meeting: reconcile with Chris re: Commons bookings  
Elke Wind – try to invite her back  
Bob A – new email address which is ????  
School Field Trip – Chris & Christy will follow up with teacher

#### 3. 2016 Review & Highlights

Coats Marsh: measuring; data for complete water budget; catchment area quite large; Nick's natural history blog.  
New species of dragonfly.  
Spring – Girl Guides – set trap, studied inverts, Mel & maps  
Oceans Day participation  
Testing Mallett  
Dave Clough – tutorial on baseline assessment using tablets  
Spring Fair Booth  
Education & outreach  
Good group to hang out with  
Cookies – thanks Bob!  
Community Advisor – asked for info on historical fish presence, wants to support our work.

#### 4. Mission Statement Review

- references to watershed should go
- too wordy
- generally ok
- “healthy riparian areas” – remove
- no mention of wetlands

Nick volunteered to work on an updated draft

#### 5. 2017 – Looking Ahead

Christy will assemble the comments & ideas generated by the group.

#### 6. .Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 15 at 7pm. ◊

## **January 18, 2017: Minutes**

Present – Kyle, Bob, Marilyn, Howard, Christy, Deb, Chris

Regrets – Nick, Natalie

**Adoption of Old Minutes** – Debs last names was misspelled and this has been fixed. Otherwise adopted and approved by consensus so they are ready to be posted on the GaLTT site.

**RDN Update** – Equipment has been returned to the RDN by Christy. Stay tuned for reporting session in the spring. We (via Kyle) received \$50 per year for the past two years as an honourarium for our water quality survey work. All agreed that the money should go to GaLTT to help contribute financially to this group that supports us financially in so many ways.

**ACTION** – Kyle will give money to Tom Cameron on behalf of the Gabriola Streamkeepers.

**Meeting Minutes (Approval and Storage Update)** – All agreed we should post the minutes from Day 1 on the GaLTT website. Nick is helping facilitate the transfer. All agreed to help with reviewing of minutes to help speed this process up.

**ACTION ONE** – Chris will have a look at what we have and send a list to CORE group (ie. List of dates he/Nick have minutes for)

**ACTION TWO** – ALL CORE will check if we have any other minutes to contribute.

**ACTION THREE** – Chris will split up the minutes and send to all for review.

**ACTION FOUR** – ALL will review the minutes they are assigned and have them approved (with edits if required) by next meeting!

**ACTION FIVE** – after next meeting, all minutes to go to Nick and Jenni for posting.

### **Inventory of Equipment and Field Books**

Bob asked Jethro about field books, we are still waiting to hear from him.

**ACTION** – Bob will follow up with Jethro

**ACTION** – Christy will get new field book we can use for Mallett in interim.

Kit 1 – Tom has it in the shed

Kit 2 – Kyle has it.

**ACTION** – Kyle will take kit 2 to Tom to put in storage.

Kyle has tablet and will keep it, but thinks we should tell Tom we have it as it may still be able to be insured through GaLTT.

**ACTION** – Kyle will speak to Tom about the Tablet.

**ACTION** – can Nick update our inventory according to the above actions?

### **GaLTT AGM**

Wed Feb 8<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm at the Roxy (Twin Beaches Mall)

Guest Speaker is Elke Wind (wetland amphibian specialist we had suggested for a community presentation). Open to the public. All encouraged to attend.

**ACTION** – Chris will forward the invitation to the large Streamkeepers group

**ACTION** – Deb will share the invitation with the Commons team.

**ACTION** – Chris has suggested to GaLTT that we bring Elke back for a community event as well. He will follow up.

### **Mallett Creek Update**

Potlatch Proposal passed second reading and there is still some time and process to go before we hear if this has been approved. Access to the creek may depend on the outcome of this proposal. We will wait and see. DFO Community Advisor says we should be OK to do gravel restoration in the mouth of the creek without completed the baseline assessment we started with Dave Clough. So we will wait until summer (dry weather, preferred timing for this survey) to complete the baseline assessment.

### **Historical Salmon Presence and Possible Salmon Releases in the Future**

DFO wants more historical fish data for the local creeks in order to determine if there may be a creek we can get permission to release salmon in to (salmon from the Gabriola Elementary School/DFO Salmonids in the program). If we can prove presence of fish in the past, we may get permission to release the chum from the salmon school program into a local creek.

**ACTION** – Start with museum. Christy will ask Nick for direction on this route.

**ACTION** – Christy will email all re: historical fish presence data.

**ACTION** - Christy will ask DFO Community Advisor if photos will be helpful.

**ACTION** – Bob will speak to Jethro to get data from his sightings.

**ACTION** – Christy will send map with creek names to Erica to help DFO with searching DFO data files.

### **Insurance Update and Discussion**

Chris reminded us that we are covered by GaLTT insurance for all our Streamkeepers work; however, it seems there is still not clear if this includes child liability coverage.

**ACTION** – Chris will get more clarification on the child liability coverage.

There has been some concern raised by GaLTT that when we announce other community events and programs, that it could seem like we are sponsoring them in some official way. After some discussion, all agreed that we should have a disclaimer added as an auto-signature on all Gabriola Streamkeepers emails to help clear this up.

**ACTION** – Howard will create an e-signature disclaimer and send to all to review.

### **Group versus Core Email List**

There continues to be some confusion as to when to use the org and the double org email lists. All agreed to reduce confusion we should have the email lists names changed to include CORE and ALL.

**ACTION** – Howard will change names and make sure that everything is still functioning with the new names. CORE will be for the main group and will be used for specific discussion points that do not need to go out to all members. ALL will be for emails pertinent to ALL members (ie.

Special events and announcements; volunteer and training opportunities, meeting reminders, final minutes (once approved, can be sent out with reminder for next meeting? Or just posting online?)

**MISSION/VISION/WORKPLAN** – time to refresh and talk about next steps

All agreed it was time to look at MISSION/VISION and review the ideas and plans we have made, make new plans (mission and vision are likely fine, it is the work plan that needs updating, so that will be the focus). All present were in favour of doing this instead of our regular next meeting. **Next meeting will be a PLANNING SESSION to be held on Wed. Feb. 15 from 7 – 8:30 pm.** We will book the larger upstairs room at the Commons (Arts Centre may still be unavailable).

**ACTION** – Deb will send old mission and values statements to ALL the week before our next meeting.

**ACTION** – Email invite to the Planning Session to be emailed TO ALL and put on Facebook.

**ACTION** – Deb will send invitation to this meeting THIS week and again ONE WEEK BEFORE the meeting. Including a request to those who cannot attend to provide input in advance (especially CORE members like Mel, Jethro, etc).

**ACTION** – Chris will book larger room at the Commons (including a request for flipcharts)

**ACTION** – Chris will check if GaLTT can reimburse for these Commons rentals, if not ALL will chip in at the next meeting.

**ACTION** – see following list for everyone's commitment to making our planning session a success:

**Preparations for the PLANNING SESSION**

**Christy** – will bring post-its and markets (and large flip charts if required, ask Chris)

**Deb** – will bring a few print outs of the vision and mission statements from before on hand.

**ALL** - print a copy to read in advance and bring for the discussion!!!

**Bob** – will bring cookies

**Chris** – will bring tea bags (mugs, kettles etc. all there)

**Marilyn** - will bring wine ☺

**All** – bring a few dollars to help cover cost of the Jan. and Feb. room rentals in case GaLTT cannot cover.

**Next meeting will be a PLANNING SESSION to be held on Wed Feb 15<sup>th</sup> from 7 – 8:30 pm (location TBA, hopefully the larger room at the commons (upstairs) if the Arts Centre is not available still.**

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