

AGENDA PACKAGE FOR:

Council Meeting
Wednesday December 11th 2024 • 9:30 AM – 11:45 AM
Online meeting

Join the meeting via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89368022302?pwd=yUnkqpQBpavLLYq83d6kx6dEjz3sdB.1>

Meeting ID: 893 6802 2302 • Passcode: 002409

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Item No.	Agenda item	Time
1.	September 11 th 2024 draft meeting summary for approval	9:35

Council Meeting
September 11th 2024 • 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM
Columbia Shuswap Regional District Boardroom
555 Harbourfront Drive NE
Salmon Arm, BC

Draft Record of Decisions and Action Items as at September 12th 2024

Meeting objectives

1. Receive update from program managers
2. Roundtable discussion on future of the SWC

Present

Rhona Martin, Chair – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area E
Natalya Melnychuk, Vice Chair – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area G
Jay Simpson – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area F (*via Zoom*)
Tim Lavery – City of Salmon Arm (*alternate, via Zoom*)
Pam Beech – District of Sicamous (*via Zoom, from 10:25 AM*)
Stephen Karpuk – Thompson-Nicola Regional District, City of Kamloops (*from 9:38, via Zoom*)
David Lepsoe – Thompson-Nicola Regional District, Village of Chase
Cliff Arnouse – Secwepemc Nation, Adams Lake Indian Band
Robyn Laubman – Splatsin te Secwepemc
Brian Schreiner – Regional District of North Okanagan, City of Enderby (*via Zoom*)
Diane Sutherland – BC Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy (*alternate, by Zoom*)
Kelly Chiatto – BC Ministry of Forests
Erik Kok – Community representative
Dennis Einarson – Senior Scientific Advisor

Erin Vieira and Alex de Chantal – Fraser Basin Council

Observers

Ian Rogalski
Cathy Sawatzky

Regrets

Marty Gibbons
Dean Trumbley
Debbie Cannon
Rick Fairbairn
Phil Owen
Kimm Magill-Hofmann
Lindsay Benbow
Kym Keogh

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1.	September 11 th 2024 draft meeting summary for approval	9:35

Call to Order

Chair Rhona Martin called the meeting to order at 9:30. A round of introductions took place around the room.

Adoption of meeting agenda

Moved/seconded by Vice Chair Melnychuk/Erik Kok that:

The agenda for the September 11th 2024 Shuswap Watershed Council meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

Director Karpuk entered the meeting at 9:38

Adoption of meeting summary

Moved/seconded by Director Lepsoe/Erik Kok that:

The draft meeting summary for the June 12th 2024 Shuswap Watershed Council meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

Correspondence

Moved/seconded by Dennis Einarson/Robyn Laubman that:

The correspondence be received for information.

CARRIED

Discussion

Program Manager Erin Vieira provided a brief summary of the correspondence.

Chair Martin commented that it's unfortunate that a response letter from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans took 9 months.

Director Schreiner suggested that a few members of the SWC attending the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) meeting next week in Vancouver arrange for a meeting with the Province regarding invasive mussels.

Chair Martin suggested that Senior Regional Advisor for BC, Mr. Joshua Lindner, who is named in the reply correspondence from the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, be invited to the next SWC meeting in December.

Moved/seconded by Dennis Einarson/Vice Chair Melnychuk that:

Joshua Lindner be invited to the next Shuswap Watershed Council meeting on December 11th 2024 (zoom meeting).

Action item:

Staff to invite Mr. Lindner to the next Shuswap Watershed Council by Zoom.

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Old business Program Manager Erin Vieira briefly reviewed the results of an email vote that took place on June 19th regarding revisions to the 2024/25 budget. The vote passed with eight SWC members in favour and zero opposed.

Report from Chair Chair Martin briefly reported that she reviewed the Fraser Basin Council’s first quarter invoice for their program management services.

Report from Program Managers Program Manager Erin Vieira provided a financial report for the first quarter, April 1st – June 30th 2024:

Revenue	Amount (\$)
2023-24 Operational Surplus	25,113
2023-24 Funds allocated and carried forward to 2024-25	55,961
<i>Per Contribution Agreement:</i>	
CSRD (Areas C, D, E, F, G and District of Sicamous)	0
TNRD	53,600
City of Salmon Arm	0
Adams Lake Indian Band	1300
<i>Operating Reserve:</i>	
Full SWC Operating Reserve from March 31 st , 2024	174,987
Summary of revenue for 2024-25	314,961

Expenses shown on next page ...

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Program	Annual budget (\$)			Q1 actual expenses (\$)			
	Expenses	Program mgmt.	Sub-total	Expenses	Program mgmt.	Sub-total	
Water Quality Monitoring Program							
	Shuswap Water Monitoring Group	0	6637.50	6637.50	0	315.00	315.00
	Water monitoring expenses	26,209.00	2025.00	28,234.00	18,901.18	1395.00	20,296.18
	Annual Water Quality Report	6850.00	5400.00	12,250.00	400.00	585.00	985.00
Water Quality Protection Program							
	Water Protection Advisory Committee	400.00	5050.00	5450.00	0	0	0
	Water Quality Grant Program	115,421.00	8062.50	123,483.50	26,638.56	2475.00	29,113.56
	Wetland Strategy	4000.00	6462.50	10,462.50	0	880.00	880.00
	Climate change impact study (with TRU)	5000.00	675	5675.00	0	135.00	135.00
Zebra & Quagga Mussel Prevention Program							
	Education and outreach campaigns	27,432.00	7425.00	34,857.00	22,430.99	5130.00	27,560.99
Safe Recreation Program							
	Safety campaigns	9480.00	3712.50	13,192.50	7126.45	2070.00	9196.45
Communications, Public Engagement, & Advocacy							
	Communications collateral	225.00	3475.00	3700.00	1650.25	2520.00	4170.25
	Public engagement and media	2500.00	10,587.50	13,087.50	0	3101.67	3101.67
	Advocacy	0	2700.00	2700.00	0	45.00	45.00
Administration							
	Council meetings	1850.00	14,825.00	16,675.00	532.37	4078.33	4610.70
	Administration (budgeting, staff liaise with chair and vice chair, membership and governance, etc)	0	3693.75	3693.75	0	855.00	855.00
	Financial administration	0	19,612.50	19,612.50	0	7020.00	7020.00
	Sub-total expenses	199,367.00	100,343.75	299,710.75	77,679.79	30,605.00	108,284.79
	Surplus			15,250.25			
	Total budget for 2024-25			314,961.00			

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Councillor Pam Beech entered the meeting at 10:25

Ms. Vieira provided a program operations update since the last Council meeting in June:

- The SWC Water Quality Grant Program is providing funding to six water protection projects on five farms in the Shuswap watershed; work will be completed by the proponents by March 31st 2024
- The 2023-24 Shuswap Water Quality Report was published in July, this is the eighth annual report from the SWC. The report is available on the SWC website, www.shuswapwater.ca and from local library branches.
- Phase 2 of the Wetland Strategy is complete. The work was carried out by Associated Environmental. This phase included a literature review of other wetland strategies, priority ratings for wetlands in the Salmon Arm Bay catchment, and identifying areas for wetland restoration, conservation and re-construction.
- The SWC research partnership with Royal Roads University researcher Margot Webster is underway; Ms. Webster installed three ‘floating treatment wetlands’ on the Salmon River and is monitoring water quality to determine what improvement the FTWs have on water quality via the uptake of nutrients and water contaminants by the FTWs
- Educational campaigns to prevent the spread of invasive mussels were delivered throughout spring and summer. The target audience for these campaigns is boaters and all watercraft users. Key messages focus on clean-drain-dry protocol, pulling the watercraft drainplug prior to travel, and stopping for watercraft inspection when travelling.
- SWC funding is supporting early-detection monitoring for invasive mussels in the Shuswap watershed; this work is carried out by the Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society
- Staff relayed that new reports are available from the Province of BC regarding the Provincial Invasive Mussel Defence Program. These reports cover the activities of the watercraft inspection stations. Reports can be found on the [Provincial website](#).
- Educational campaigns for safe boating and recreation were delivered throughout spring and summer. Key messages focus on eight tips for safety, including lifejacket use and drowning prevention. This program was reduced in 2024 due to a loss of federal grant funding from Transport Canada.
- The SWC Annual Report for 2023-24 was published at the end of June, the report covers the SWC’s activities and accomplishments throughout the year. The report is available at www.shuswapwater.ca. Other recent communications work recently includes a media release and a new Linked In page for the SWC.
- Staff submitted a grant funding application to Environment & Climate Change Canada for Phase 3 of the Wetland Strategy.

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Discussion

Robyn Laubman asked about work done to-date on the wetland strategy, and if reports and data can be shared. Dennis Einarson suggested that staff look into work on wetlands done by the Association of Professional Biologists and Ducks Unlimited; Dennis can forward contact information to Alex de Chantal (program manager leading the Wetland Strategy).

There were a few questions about the Provincially-run watercraft inspection stations. Concerns were expressed about the limited operating hours and lack of fines for invasive mussel-infested watercraft. It was noted that a \$345 fine can be levied to travellers who do not stop for inspection.

Concerns were expressed about the recent spread of whirling disease within the Columbia watershed.

Action item:

Staff will share the Phase 2 report on the developing Wetland Strategy prepared by Associated Environmental.

Staff will provide some background information on whirling disease for SWC members.

The SWC took a short break at 10:35

**New business:
Roundtable
discussion on future
funding and
governance of the
SWC**

Chair Martin posed the following questions to SWC members, and a roundtable discussion took place: 1. Is the SWC a valuable and worthwhile organization to you, and would you like to continue to participate as an individual or as a representative of your organization, and 2. What funding can the SWC access to keep it going, and specifically for local government representatives would you support a grant-in-aid application from the SWC?

Dennis Einarson: yes, this is a valuable group and it has created a more efficient way to share data and information between groups and regulators.

Erik Kok: Agree with Dennis' comments. He has concerns for the future of the watershed. This table has influence, has made a difference and can continue to make a difference.

Stephen Karpuk: Agreed. This table is diverse. Any groups that facilitates collaboration is worthwhile. Water is valuable and worth protecting and advocating for.

David Lepsoe: It is a 'no-brainer' to look after the water and is fully in support of continuing.

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Cliff Arnouse: First Nations view water as life and is important for ceremonies and many other uses. It's needed for survival. Watersheds are under stress. This table can do something.

Robyn Laubman: Agreed, Splatsin recognizes the importance and significance of water. The scope of this Council is focused and believes the Council can take on a larger mandate to include water security.

Natalya Melnychuk: Is prepared to support a grant-in-aid application on behalf of Area G but will not be able to continue participating as a CSRD director. She may be able to participate or contribute via her vocation with the Provincial government.

Pam Beech: This organization is critical. The focus on water protection is absolutely critical and is happy to continue to participate as a representative of the District of Sicamous. She would support and would advocate for a funding request from the SWC to the District.

Jay Simpson: Is prepared to contribute funding to support the continuation of the SWC, but acknowledged it would likely not be to the same level as previously. Commented on the Province's declared interest in watershed action and funding, but lack thereof to-date.

Tim Lavery: Without a doubt, there is value in having a roundtable to carry on this work. He recalled some history of the City's involvement, having contributed \$40,000 annually for several years. The City will be observing how other regional districts and municipalities go forward.

Brian Schreiner: The Shuswap River is very vital to the City of Enderby. There are some questions to answer, such as how much the regional districts and municipalities will contribute and what the budget would be.

Chair Martin concluded that there is a willingness to go forward. The Chair suggested that a small committee form to review the SWC's Terms of Reference, make some recommendations for revisions and bring it to the December meeting. Program Manager Erin Vieira presented a brief overview of the current Terms of Reference. In addition to the Chair, the following SWC members volunteered: Director Lepsoe, Robyn Laubman, and Councillor Lavery would like Councillor Cannon to be invited.

A few more comments and questions were posed, including the possibility of the SWC seeking non-profit status; membership fees as potential revenue; the opportunity to link up with Indigenous organizations to advocate for water; and where the SWC will meet in the future.

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Action items:

Staff to convene a committee to review the Terms of Reference and bring recommended revisions to the December 11th SWC meeting

Staff to look into potential meeting spaces, including CSRD boardroom, beyond December.

Roundtable updates

Vice Chair Melnychuk commented that the CSRD bylaw ends on December 31st 2024, therefore the December SWC meeting will be the last one as a committee of the CSRD.

Vice Chair Melnychuk also suggested staff prepare to send introductory letters to newly elected ministers post-election, if necessary.

Vice Chair Melnychuk asked if any other SWC members from local government would like to try to arrange a meeting with Provincial ministers/staff at UBCM about whirling disease and invasive mussels. Directors Karpuk, Simpson, Lepsoe and Schreiner stated that they are attending UBCM and would be involved in such a meeting if their schedule permits. She said it will be important to be prepared with requests to the Province.

Moved/seconded by Vice Chair Melnychuk/Councillor Lavery that staff send letters of introduction to newly elected Ministers after the Provincial election, if there are any changes.

CARRIED

Action items:

Staff will send letters of introduction to newly elected/appointed Ministers of Environment, Forests, Agriculture, and Water, Land & Resource Stewardship after the Provincial election.

Staff to prepare a list of requests of the Province regarding aquatic invasive species for those SWC members attending the UBCM.

Adjourn

Moved/seconded by Vice Chair Melnychuk/Erik Kok that:

The September 11th 2024 meeting of the Shuswap Watershed Council adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

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1.	September 11 th 2024 draft meeting summary for approval	9:35

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Chair

DRAFT

Item No.	Agenda item	Time
2	Correspondence	9:40



c/o Fraser Basin Council
 200A – 1383 McGill Road
 Kamloops, BC V2C 6K7
 250.314.9660
www.shuswapwater.ca



David Williams
 MLA Salmon Arm – Shuswap
 Sent by e-mail to david.williams@conservativebc.ca

21 November 2024

Re: Letter of introduction

Dear Mr. Williams,

Congratulations on your recent election to the Provincial Legislative Assembly, representing Salmon Arm – Shuswap. On behalf of the Shuswap Watershed Council, I would like to extend a warm congratulations and welcome you to this important role in our community.

The Shuswap Watershed Council (SWC) is dedicated to protecting, maintaining, and enhancing water quality in the Shuswap watershed. Established in 2014, we are a collaborative watershed-based partnership with members representing local government (municipalities and regional districts), the Secwepemc Nations, Provincial government agencies, and Shuswap communities. Each of our organizations have roles and responsibilities related to water quality, and the SWC provides an opportunity for us to convene and collaborate in a way that spans jurisdictions. We work on strategic initiatives to protect and enhance water quality including water monitoring and research, education, stewardship, invasive species prevention and advocacy. To learn more about our work, please see our Annual Report for 2023-24 which we have enclosed with this letter. Additionally, please check out our recent Water Quality Report available on our website to learn about the Shuswap watershed (www.shuswapwater.ca).

Collaboration between the SWC and local leaders like yourself is essential to bring about positive change for the watershed. We welcome the opportunity to meet with you to introduce ourselves in more detail and explore how to work together for the good of the Shuswap watershed.

Once again, congratulations and we wish you success in your new role.

Kind regards,

Rhona Martin
 Chair, Shuswap Watershed Council
 Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area 'E' Director
rmartin@csrd.bc.ca

Erin Vieira, BNRS
 Program Manager, Shuswap Watershed Council
 c/o Fraser Basin Council
evieira@fraserbasin.ca

Item No.	Agenda item	Time
2	Correspondence	9:40



c/o Fraser Basin Council
 200A – 1383 McGill Road
 Kamloops, BC V2C 6K7
 250.314.9660
www.shuswapwater.ca



Peter Milobar
 MLA, Kamloops Centre
 Sent by e-mail to peter.milobar.mla@leg.bc.ca

21 November 2024

Re: Letter of congratulations

Dear Mr. Milobar,

On behalf of the Shuswap Watershed Council (SWC), I would like to extend a warm congratulations on your re-election to the Provincial Legislative Assembly, representing Kamloops Centre.

Your contribution during your time as a member of the Shuswap Watershed Council and your commitment over the past several years has made a significant impact on our community. As you embark on this new term, I trust you will continue to advocate for healthy watersheds. Protecting and restoring these ecosystems are crucial for ensuring clean water for residents and for maintaining biodiversity. Healthy watersheds support our economy, enhance public health, and promote recreational opportunities that enrich our quality of life.

In addition, the need for organized efforts to protect watersheds is more important than ever. That's why watershed boards, like the Shuswap Watershed Council, exist – to ensure the watershed remains healthy for future generations. For our part, we are working on water monitoring and research, water quality protection and stewardship, invasive species prevention, education, and advocacy. To learn more about our work, please see our Annual Report for 2023-24 which we have enclosed with this letter. We would be pleased to set up a meeting with you to discuss our work in more detail.

By prioritizing initiatives to protect and restore watersheds, and supporting collaborative watershed organizations, we can ensure clean water and a healthier environment for current and future generations.

Congratulations again and thank you for your commitment to serving our community.

Kind regards,

Rhona Martin
 Chair, Shuswap Watershed Council
 Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area 'E' Director
rmartin@csrd.bc.ca

Erin Vieira, BNRS
 Program Manager, Shuswap Watershed Council
 c/o Fraser Basin Council
evieira@fraserbasin.ca

Item No.	Agenda item	Time
2	Correspondence	9:40



c/o Fraser Basin Council
 200A – 1383 McGill Road
 Kamloops, BC V2C 6K7
 250.314.9660
www.shuswapwater.ca



Harwinder Sandhu
 MLA Vernon-Lumby
 Sent by e-mail to harwinder.sandhu.mla@leg.bc.ca

21 November 2024

Re: Letter of congratulations

Dear Ms. Sandhu,

On behalf of the Shuswap Watershed Council (SWC), I would like to extend a warm congratulations on your re-election to the Provincial Legislative Assembly, representing Vernon – Lumby.

As you embark on this new term, I would like to draw your attention to the importance of our region's watersheds. Protecting and restoring these ecosystems are crucial for ensuring clean water for residents and for maintaining biodiversity. Healthy watersheds support our economy, enhance public health, and promote recreational opportunities that enrich our quality of life.

In addition, the need for organized efforts to protect watersheds is more important than ever. That's why watershed boards, like the Shuswap Watershed Council, exist – to ensure the watershed remains healthy for future generations. For our part, we are working on water monitoring and research, water quality protection and stewardship, invasive species prevention, education, and advocacy. To learn more about our work, please see our Annual Report for 2023-24 which we have enclosed with this letter. We would be pleased to set up a meeting with you to discuss our work in more detail.

By prioritizing initiatives to protect and restore watersheds, and supporting collaborative watershed organizations, we can ensure clean water and a healthier environment for current and future generations.

Congratulations again and thank you for your commitment to serving our community.

Kind regards,

Rhona Martin
 Chair, Shuswap Watershed Council
 Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area 'E' Director
rmartin@csrd.bc.ca

Erin Vieira, BNRS
 Program Manager, Shuswap Watershed Council
 c/o Fraser Basin Council
evieira@fraserbasin.ca

Item No.	Agenda item	Time
2	Correspondence	9:40



c/o Fraser Basin Council
 200A – 1383 McGill Road
 Kamloops, BC V2C 6K7
 250.314.9660
www.shuswapwater.ca



Ward Stamer
 MLA Kamloops – North Thompson
 Sent by e-mail to ward_stamer@conservativebc.ca

21 November 2024

Re: Letter of introduction

Dear Mr. Stamer,

Congratulations on your recent election to the Provincial Legislative Assembly, representing Kamloops – North Thompson. On behalf of the Shuswap Watershed Council, I would like to extend a warm congratulations and welcome you to this important role in our community.

The Shuswap Watershed Council (SWC) is dedicated to protecting, maintaining, and enhancing water quality in the Shuswap watershed. Established in 2014, we are a collaborative watershed-based partnership with members representing local government (municipalities and regional districts), the Secwepemc Nation, Provincial government agencies, and Shuswap communities. Each of our organizations have roles and responsibilities related to water quality, and the SWC provides an opportunity for us to convene and collaborate in a way that spans jurisdictions. We work on strategic initiatives to protect and enhance water quality including water monitoring and research, education, stewardship, invasive species prevention and advocacy. To learn more about our work, please see our Annual Report for 2023-24 which we have enclosed with this letter. Additionally, please check out our recent Water Quality Report available on our website to learn about the Shuswap watershed (www.shuswapwater.ca).

Collaboration between the SWC and local leaders like yourself is essential to bring about positive change for the watershed. We welcome the opportunity to meet with you to introduce ourselves in more detail and explore how to work together for the good of the Shuswap watershed.

Once again, congratulations and we wish you success in your new role.

Kind regards,

Rhona Martin
 Chair, Shuswap Watershed Council
 Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area 'E' Director
rmartin@csrd.bc.ca

Erin Vieira, BNRS
 Program Manager, Shuswap Watershed Council
 c/o Fraser Basin Council
evieira@fraserbasin.ca

Item No.	Agenda item	Time
3.i	Old business: Draft summary of the Shuswap Water Monitoring Group meeting, for information	9:45

**Shuswap Water Quality Monitoring Group
November 7th 2024 • 10:00 – 11:30
Virtual meeting held via Zoom**

Draft meeting summary as of November 7th, 2024

Attendance

Adrianna Johnson – BC Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy
 Carly Foster – BC Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy
 Colan Morrow – District of Sicamous
 Connie Hewitt – Regional District of North Okanagan
 Dan Selbie – Department of Fisheries and Oceans
 Diane Tesic-Nagalingham – Interior Health
 Laura Gaster – Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society
 Mike Baker – Village of Chase
 Patrick Frank – White Lake Residents Association
 Priscilla Cheung – First Nations Health Authority
 Rob Fleming – First Nations Health Authority
 Robyn Laubman – Splatsin te Secwepemc
 Scott Beppe – Columbia Shuswap Regional District
 Terry Winram – White Lake Residents Association

Alex de Chantal – SWC staff c/o Fraser Basin Council
 Erin Vieira – SWC staff c/o Fraser Basin Council

1. Welcome and introductions

Alex welcomed all present and acknowledged Secwepemc Territory. A round of introductions took place. Alex reviewed the meeting agenda.

2. Meeting summary from February 27th 2024

The draft Water Monitoring Group meeting summary from February 27th 2024 was approved.

3. Presentation from Dan Selbie, Department of Fisheries and Oceans

Dan reported that DFO has been monitoring and studying Shuswap Lake since the 1970s, with one of the goals being to better understand lake conditions that support healthy juvenile salmon. DFO been monitoring at the same series of stations, located across the lake in all arms including a station in Mara Lake, since that time. He commented that the lake receives too many nutrients, relative to its natural state. In addition, climate change has been changing the physics of the system. For example, the thermocline is shifting and the growing season is expanding (e.g., from April – October shifting to March – November). One of the consequences is that nitrogen limits are reached sooner in the season, which contributes to the formation of algal blooms.

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3.i	Old business: Draft summary of the Shuswap Water Monitoring Group meeting, for information	9:45

8 limnological surveys were completed by DFO in the 2024 season that included light profiles, temperature profiles, and a suite of chemical attributes including nutrients. The monitoring program is designed to help us understand nutrient dynamics and what drives algal production in Shuswap Lake. Dan remarked that he hopes to have a seasonal update written up by December or January which he will share with the Monitoring Group.

Dan recommends that more monitoring is needed to understand the system as well as advocacy for nutrient abatement. He would like a post-doctoral fellow continue the research and build on what Megan Ludwig and Jeff Curtis (UBC Okanagan) did. If the nutrients in Shuswap Lake aren't dealt with, the water quality concerns will get worse.

A brief Q&A took place.

4. Group discussion: 2024 water quality monitoring

Alex reviewed a spreadsheet of water monitoring throughout the Shuswap watershed. All committee members gave a brief report on their 2024 monitoring programs. The spreadsheet was updated as needed. Key changes are also noted here:

- Carly commented that there is a draft report for monitoring done on Tappen and White Creeks around 2012
- Colan reported that the District is starting a new monitoring program on the Eagle River as required for making some modifications to the District wastewater treatment facility
- Laura reported that CSISS collected 97 samples at 12 sites on six waterbodies in the Shuswap according to the Provincial protocol for invasive mussels. She also reported that the Province's watercraft inspection station program intercepted eight mussel-infested watercraft this season. She shared links to the [Province's Invasive Mussel Defence Program 2024 summer status report](#) and a [Zebra & Quagga Mussel economic impact study report](#) published by the Province in spring 2023.

Action items:

- Alex will follow up with some MOE staff after the meeting to understand how the MOE programs were carried out
- Connie will follow up to find out the status of community monitoring programs on middle and upper Shuswap River sites.

5. Update on SWC initiatives

Erin announced that the Shuswap Watershed Council is opening its Water Quality Grant Funding Program for applications on December 1st. The grant program provides funding to farms, landowners and other stewards in the Shuswap watershed for projects that improve nutrient management, build soil health and protect water quality. Up to \$45,000 is available in this intake. The grant program will accept applications until January 31st. Funding will be distributed as early as April 2025 to successful grant applicants.

Alex reported that the SWC has received funding this year from Environment & Climate Change Canada to continue the development of a wetland strategy for the Salmon Arm Bay drainage of the watershed. Phase 3 will include a comprehensive assessment of wetlands in the study area and identify some high priority wetlands for restoration and protection.

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3.i	Old business: Draft summary of the Shuswap Water Monitoring Group meeting, for information	9:45

Erin reported that the Shuswap Watershed Council launched a community water monitoring fund this year. Up to \$3000 is available from the SWC to support community water quality monitoring. The fund is not fully allocated, approximately \$1800 is left. Erin asked the group to consider if they know of any groups that would benefit from this.

6. Next steps and adjourn

Alex announced that the next Water Monitoring Group will meet in mid-to-late February. A doodle poll will go out in January to find a time that suits the majority.

Meeting adjourned 11:10 am.

Item No.	Agenda item	Time
3.ii	Draft meeting summary of the SWC Water Protection Advisory Committee, for information	9:45

Water Protection Advisory Committee Meeting
Wednesday November 13th 2024 • 10:00 – 11:30 AM
Zoom meeting

Draft meeting summary as at November 13th 2024

Meeting objectives

1. Discuss any updates needed to water quality grant program
2. Receive report on current-year funded projects
3. Information sharing

Attendance (committee members)

Carolyn Farris – BC Horse Council
Carly Foster – BC Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy
Dennis Lapierre – Agriculture, hobby farm sector
Hamish Kassa – Columbia Shuswap Regional District
Lee Hesketh – BC Cattlemen’s Association
Lindsay Benbow – BC Ministry of Agriculture
Ralph van Daltsen – Agriculture, dairy sector
Robyn Laubman – Splitsin te Secwepemc

Staff

Erin Vieira, Shuswap Watershed Council c/o Fraser Basin Council
Alex de Chantal, Shuswap Watershed Council c/o Fraser Basin Council

Regrets

Dan Gietema, Marge Sidney

Summary of discussions and action items

1. Welcome, Introductions, Agenda and Objectives

Alex de Chantal welcomed everyone to the meeting and a round of introductions took place. Secwepemc territory was acknowledged. Alex reviewed the agenda and objectives for the meeting.

2. Meeting Summary

Alex briefly reviewed the draft summary of the last WPAC meeting held February 28th, 2024. There were no outstanding action items from that meeting. The draft summary was approved.

3. Water Quality Grant Program

Erin explained that the 2025-26 water quality grant program will be open for applications December 1st 2024 – January 31st 2025. The grant program budget is \$45,000.

Carly reported that going forward, Provincial government staff will provide recommendations on grant program applications but will not participate in assigning a score to applications. She also reported that she’s recommending a staff person from the BC Ministry of Water Land & Resource Stewardship join the

Item No.	Agenda item	Time
3.ii	Draft meeting summary of the SWC Water Protection Advisory Committee, for information	9:45

committee to provide input. Alex remarked that this person will join the committee in time for the next meeting, late winter 2025.

Erin briefly reviewed the Grant Program Guide. There was discussion on whether to list ‘Indigenous organizations’ as an eligible applicant in addition to ‘First Nations governments’. Some concerns were noted about ensuring that Indigenous and non-profit organizations do due diligence before commencing a project on land they don’t own or have rights to. It was suggested that Indigenous and non-profit organizations include a letter of support from the appropriate First Nation with their application to the grant program. There was a brief discussion on the ineligibility criteria, and it was recommended that the application process ask applicants if there is any compliance/enforcement action against them. There was also a brief discussion about projects that will require a permit or authorization for doing work in/around water, and the potential timeline with the Province’s permit/authorization process creating a delay. There was a comment about ensuring the grant program is easy and accessible for farms; it was suggested that the Program Guide be published as soon as possible, even before the December 1st opening date.

Action item:

- SWC staff will update the 2024-25 Grant Program Guide with the recommendations noted above.

4. Update on current-year funded projects

Erin provided a brief overview of the 2024 grant projects. There are six projects being carried out on five farms. Two are fully complete, reported on, and paid out; the other four are still underway and will be complete by March 2025.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 AM.

The next meeting will be in February 2025. Alex will send out a poll in January to determine the best date for committee members.

Item No.	Agenda item	Time
3.iii	Draft meeting summary of the SWC Wetland Committee, for information	9:45

**SWC Wetland Strategy Committee
November 15th, 2024 9:00am**

Draft Meeting Summary as at November 15th, 2024

Location: Zoom

Meeting Date: November 15th, 2024

Present:

Robyn Laubman – Splatsin, Cliff Arnouse – Adams Lake Indian Band, Carly Foster – Province of BC, Jay Simpson – CSRD, Kimm Magill-Hofmann – SWC Community Rep, Alex de Chantal – FBC (Facilitator), Erin Vieira - FBC

Welcome, introductions, review and finalize Agenda and Objectives

Alex welcomed all present and acknowledged Secwepemc Territory. The agenda was reviewed and accepted as presented.

Summary from last meeting and review of action items

The meeting summary from January 10th, 2024 was approved.

Environment and Climate Change Canada’s Fraser River Basin - Water Quality And Ecosystems Partnerships Program

Alex provided an update on ECCC funding. While \$100K was approved initially, the funder encouraged SWC to reapply for \$170K. This larger amount awaits formal approval and the initial \$100k proposal has still not been signed through a contribution agreement. There has been a delay in RFP issuance due to the absence of a contribution agreement.

Alex voiced his concerns around fieldwork constraints for the Wetland Strategy Phase 3 work caused by snowy winter weather and the pressing March 31, 2025, funding deadline.

Robyn warned that data quality could be compromised if fieldwork isn’t done under ideal conditions. Quality will be lower; field work should be done when weather allows for validation. The validity of the information collected will be compromised otherwise.

Kimm proposed reallocating more funds to relationship-building and new partnerships as listed as one of the funding categories instead of fieldwork. Could it be refocused if ground truthing isn’t possible?

Discussion ensued with support for scope change and focusing on other priority initiatives. General agreement that ground truthing and wetland assessments through the winter presents a challenge.

Carly inquired about pre-billing for fieldwork, but Alex noted the funder likely requires deliverables within the funding timeline.

Item No.	Agenda item	Time
3.iii	Draft meeting summary of the SWC Wetland Committee, for information	9:45

- **Action: Alex to request a funding extension from ECCC for field work and explore reallocating funds to non-fieldwork indigenous-led initiatives.**

Robyn highlighted a recently signed accord with Splantsin, Neskonlith, Adams Lake, and Skwlax and expressed interest in potential collaborations.

Alex summarized that partnering on indigenous-led initiatives would be highly valuable and committed to following up with Ian to communicate this shift.

Erin suggested that pushing for a funding extension could allow all work—including fieldwork, Indigenous-led initiatives, and relationship-building—to be completed.

Erin noted that reallocating SWC funds to a year-end surplus, with ECCC funding replacing it, would improve SWC’s financial security for the next year.

Carly asked how fieldwork would proceed if ECCC funding is not extended. Alex responded that the scope of work would need to decrease in this case.

Robyn emphasized the importance of aligning fiscal cycles with field seasons, prioritizing the latter to ensure timely project execution.

Procurement Process

Alex reminded the committee of the Phase 2 RFP process last year, which resulted in five proposals and the hiring of Environmental Associates. Carly suggested breaking the RFP into smaller sections to streamline the process and make it more manageable.

Watershed Security Fund (WSF)

Alex provided an update on the Watershed Security Fund, noting that FBC plans to apply for funding to support several of its programs, including those under SWC.

Robyn shared insights from her role as a technical delegate on the First Nations Water Caucus and suggested revisiting Foreshore Inventory Mapping (FIM). This standardized spatial exercise assesses foreshore conditions, fish habitats, and development impacts, offering a snapshot in time that can be repeated for longitudinal analysis. Splantsin applied the first intake but was unsuccessful.

Cliff emphasized the importance of water monitoring and shared details about the ALIB water guardian program, which focuses on water initiatives.

Alex proposed further discussions between SWC, Splantsin, Adams Lake Indian Band to explore joint projects for the WSF application.

- **Action: Alex to collaborate with Splantsin and ALIB on potential joint projects for the WSF application.**

Meeting Adjourned at 9:44am.

Item No.	Agenda item	Time
4	Report from Program Managers	10:00

Report from Program Managers – Financial report for the second quarter, April 1st – September 30th 2024

Program	Annual budget (\$)			Q1+ Q2 actual expenses (\$)		
	Expenses	Program mgmt.	Sub-total	Expenses	Program mgmt.	Sub-total
Water Quality Monitoring Program						
Shuswap Water Monitoring Group	0	6637.50	6637.50	0	315.00	315.00
Water monitoring expenses	26,209.00	2025.00	28,234.00	18,901.18	1395.00	20,296.18
Annual Water Quality Report	6850.00	5400.00	12,250.00	7570.69	4770.00	12,340.69
Water Quality Protection Program						
Water Protection Advisory Committee	400.00	5050.00	5450.00	0	0	0
Water Quality Grant Program	115,421.00	8062.50	123,483.50	26,638.56	2655.00	29,293.56
Wetland Strategy	4000.00	6462.50	10,462.50	0	2046.67	2046.67
Climate change impact study (with TRU)	5000.00	675	5675.00	5000.00	585.00	5585.00
Zebra & Quagga Mussel Prevention Program						
Education and outreach campaigns	27,432.00	7425.00	34,857.00	25,244.05	6840.00	32,084.05
Safe Recreation Program						
Safety campaigns	9480.00	3712.50	13,192.50	8290.99	2475.00	10,765.99
Communications, Public Engagement, & Advocacy						
Communications collateral	225.00	3475.00	3700.00	1763.00	3150.00	4913.00
Public engagement and media	2500.00	10,587.50	13,087.50	147.02	6251.67	6398.69
Advocacy	0	2700.00	2700.00	0	900.00	900.00
Administration						
Council meetings	1850.00	14,825.00	16,675.00	758.01	7100.00	7858.01
Administration (budgeting, staff liaise with chair and vice chair, membership and governance, etc.)	0	3693.75	3693.75	0	1890.00	1890.00
Financial administration and fund development	0	19,612.50	19,612.50	0	9860.00	9860.00
Sub-total expenses	199,367.00	100,343.75	299,710.75	94,313.50	50,233.04	144,546.84
Surplus			15,250.25			
Total budget for 2024-25			314,961.00			

Item No.	Agenda item	Time
4	Report from Program Managers	10:00

Report from Program Managers – Fund development update

Staff have been looking into different funding options to support the SWC’s work this year and beyond. To date, staff have been successful in securing a grant from Environment & Climate Change Canada in the amount of \$170,000 for various initiatives in the current fiscal year (ending March 31st, 2025). Some of this funding will go to new initiatives, and some will go toward current initiatives which will result in funding being re-allocated toward the year-end surplus. A contribution agreement between the Shuswap Watershed Council (care of Fraser Basin Council Society) and ECCC has yet to be signed. Staff are thankful to Mr. Ian Rogalski at ECCC for the support he has provided throughout the grant application process.

Staff are also working on an application to the Watershed Security Fund. The Fraser Basin Council Society is applying on behalf of the Shuswap Watershed Council. The application will request \$400,000 over two years (2025 – 2026) to support many of the SWC’s programs including watershed collaboration, planning and governance; monitoring and assessment; watershed restoration; and learning and knowledge-sharing. The deadline for the application is December 11th and notifications are expected in April or May 2025.

Staff also intend to apply for grants-in-aid from all local and regional governments situated within the Shuswap watershed early in 2025.

Item No.	Agenda item	Time
5.i	New business: Revised budget for 2024-25, for approval	10:50

Revised budget for 2024-25

REVENUE

Source	Amount (\$)
2023-24 operational surplus (carried forward from March 31 st , 2024)	25,113
2023-24 funds allocated and carried forward to 2023-24 projects	59,961
<i>Per Contribution Agreement:</i>	
Columbia Shuswap Regional District	0
Thompson-Nicola Regional District	53,600
City of Salmon Arm	0
Adams Lake Indian Band	1300
<i>Grant funding:</i>	
Transport Canada – Boating Safety Contribution Program	0
Grants-in-aid	0
NEW: Environment & Climate Change Canada – Fraser River Freshwater Ecosystem Initiative	170,000
<i>Operating Reserve:</i>	
Operating Reserve balance from March 31 st 2024	174,987
Revenue for 2023-24	484,961

Item No.	Agenda item	Time
5.i	New business: Revised budget for 2024-25, for approval	10:50

Program	Original budget (no ECCC funding)		
	Program mgmt. (\$)	Disbursements (\$)	Sub-total
Water Quality Monitoring Program	14,063	33,059	47,122
Water Quality Protection Program	20,250	124,821	145,071
Zebra & Quagga Mussel Prevention Program	7425	27,432	34,857
Safe Recreation Program	3713	9480	13,193
Communications & Advocacy	16,763	2725	19,488
Council Meetings, Governance & Financial Administration	38,131	1850	39,981
Sub-total operational expenses	100,344	199,367	299,711
Surplus			15,250
Summary of expenses			314,961

Revised budget				
SWC funding		New ECCC funding		Sub-total (\$)
Program mgmt. (\$)	Disbursements (\$)	Program mgmt. (\$)	Disbursements (\$)	
8687	28,684	11,000	32,000	80,372
15,725	120,821	14,000	100,000	250,546
7425	27,432	0	0	34,857
3713	9480	0	0	13,193
16,763	2725	0	0	19,488
38,169	1850	3000	10,000	53,019
90,482	190,992	28,000	142,000	451,474
				33,487
				484,961

Item No.	Agenda item	Time
6.	New business: Draft Revised Terms of Reference	11:00

Memo re: Revised Terms of Reference for the Shuswap Watershed Council

The September 11th 2024 Shuswap Watershed Council meeting included a roundtable discussion on the future of the SWC, considering the recent significant loss of funding and pending conclusion of the Columbia Shuswap Regional District’s involvement. There was overwhelming support for the SWC to continue, and many comments on the importance of water and the SWC’s work on water. An *ad hoc* governance committee was formed to review the SWC Terms of Reference (TOR) and prepare a revised draft TOR to guide the SWC in 2025 and beyond.

The governance committee – consisting of SWC Chair Rhona Martin, Robyn Laubman, David Lepsoe, and Program Manager Erin Vieira – met twice to review the Terms of Reference. Some initial updates were made to the TOR by staff prior to the committee meetings. The committee discussed the TOR in length, focusing especially on membership and decision making. These discussions led to the revised TOR that are on the following pages.

The current Terms of Reference are available on the SWC website here (scroll to bottom):
https://www.fraserbasin.bc.ca/About_SWC.html.

Implications for membership beyond December 31st 2024 and March 31st, 2025

The revised TOR are proposed to come into effect on April 1st, 2025, meaning that all current appointed members to the SWC will expire on March 31st, 2025 with the exception of the Columbia Shuswap Regional District representatives whose appointments to the SWC end on December 31st, 2024. To ensure a smooth transition to the new membership, the SWC will seek to fulfill the new membership with many returning members. SWC members are asked to consider if they would like to continue and state their desire to do so in the meeting on December 11th. According to the draft revised TOR, the following spots are available as of April 1st 2025:

- Local government – Up to 3 spots, with terms staggered ending in 2026, 2027, 2028
- First Nations – Up to 3 spots, with terms staggered ending in 2026, 2027, 2028
- Provincial government – Up to 3 spots, with terms staggered ending in 2026, 2027, 2028
- Community representatives – Up to 3 spots, with terms staggered ending in 2026, 2027, 2028
- Science/research/academia – Up to 2 spots, with terms staggered ending in 2026/2027/2028
- Agriculture sector – 1 spot
- Youth – 1 spot

New members will also be sought, including into new positions dedicated for First Nations, the agriculture sector, youth, and science/academia as described above. Staff will lead this work and will strive to have the membership fulfilled by April 1st, 2025 or latest by June 2025 when the first quarterly meeting of the new fiscal year is scheduled.

Item No.	Agenda item	Time
6.	New business: Draft Revised Terms of Reference	11:00

Shuswap Watershed Council Terms of Reference Proposed revisions for Version 7 – as at October 30th 2024

1. Introduction

The Shuswap Watershed Council (SWC) was established in 2014 as a watershed-based partnership of several organizations with an interest or responsibility for protecting water quality. The SWC is a collaborative, non-regulatory group that focuses on strategic initiatives to protect, maintain and enhance water quality in the Shuswap watershed.

This Terms of Reference sets the governance framework for the Shuswap Watershed Council.

2. Shuswap Watershed Council Purpose

The SWC provides direction to the creation and implementation of its programs and initiatives for water quality, invasive species prevention, public engagement and communications, and advocacy, as set out in the Strategic Plan for 2021 - 2026 [and additional work on water issues as needed](#).

3. Shuswap Watershed Council Role

The Shuswap Watershed Council will work toward its vision, goals, and strategic objectives. The roles of the SWC are to:

- Increase collaboration of all relevant interests in the Shuswap watershed for the common good of water quality and the watershed
- Secure funding from diverse sources to support the implementation of SWC programs and initiatives
- Provide direction and oversight for the implementation of its programs and initiatives
- Monitor risks and quality of program implementation
- Approve annual work plans and budgets, as prepared by Program Managers.
- Receive annual reports, as prepared by Program Managers.

All SWC members sign and abide by a guiding [Principles Document](#).

4. Shuswap Watershed Council Membership

The SWC is comprised of up to 16 members with interests and perspectives from a range of sectors:

Local government (municipalities or regional districts)	up to 3
First Nations	up to 3
Provincial government	up to 3 ¹
Community representatives (public/civil society)	up to 3
Science/Research/Academia	up to 2
Agriculture sector	1
Youth ²	1

4.1 Recruiting and appointing members to the SWC

The SWC will seek to fulfill the membership described in Article 4 as follows:

- Members from local government and First Nations government may be elected officials or staff

¹ Ideally, one member from each of the following: BC Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy; BC Ministry of Agriculture & Food; BC Ministry of Water, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations

² Youth is defined as a person between 18 – 30 years of age

Item No.	Agenda item	Time
6.	New business: Draft Revised Terms of Reference	11:00

- An official appointment letter is not required, but will be accepted (i.e., an official appointment is at the discretion of the organization)
- Members from Provincial government are staff, ideally working in the Shuswap watershed or southern interior of BC
- Community representatives and the youth representative are appointed to the SWC through a process of evaluating Expressions of Interest
- The current membership will discuss potential new members before they are appointed.

4.2 Duties

SWC members must:

- Be prepared to commit time and energy to participate on the SWC
 - Travel expenses will be compensated at a rate consistent with BC government allowance rates (See Article 11)
- Be committed to attending quarterly meetings, held within the Shuswap area or held virtually (see Article 11)
- Receive and respond to communications by e-mail.

4.3 Members' terms, resignations and succession

- SWC members should be committed to serving a three-year term (can be renewed)
 - Terms will be staggered to allow for succession on the SWC
- SWC members must notify the Chair and Program Managers in advance of a resignation, if it they wish to resign before their term is complete
- The Chair will announce resignations and vacancies on the SWC membership
- When a SWC member's term is complete (and they do not wish to renew it) or if they resign, another individual may be appointed to the SWC from the same organization, but this is not obligatory. A vacancy may be filled from another organization to meet the membership as outlined in Article 4.
- If a SWC member is absent for two consecutive meetings, the Chair will contact them to clarify their intentions about whether to continue to participate.

4.4 Chair and Vice Chair

The SWC will elect a Chair and Vice Chair from among its members for one-year terms (see Article 7).

5. Program Management and Administration

The Fraser Basin Council, a BC non-profit non-government organization established in 1997, provides staff services/program management to the Shuswap Watershed Council. The FBC is a registered society and provides the umbrella administration for the SWC. Key duties and responsibilities for Program Managers include:

- Develop and deliver the SWC programs and initiatives for water quality, invasive species prevention, public engagement and communications, and advocacy
- Develop annual work plans and budgets
- Apply for grant funding
- Financial administration, including:
 - Establish Contribution Agreements with funders and ensure the terms and conditions of the agreements are being met
 - Report to funders to meet requirements
 - Track and pay project/program expenses

Item No.	Agenda item	Time
6.	New business: Draft Revised Terms of Reference	11:00

- Report to the SWC membership for information
- Prepare for and support SWC meetings (see Article 12).

6. Decision Making

The SWC makes decisions by consensus whenever possible.

6.1 Voting rights

Decisions, including the approval of annual work plans and budgets, will be made by consensus to the greatest extent possible. If a vote is required:

- Each SWC member has one vote (i.e., equal weighted)
- Quorum is 50%
- A vote is won by simple majority.

7. Chair and Vice Chair

The SWC will elect a Chair and Vice Chair from among its members for one-year terms.

7.1 Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Election of a chair and vice chair will take place as follows:

- Elections will take place at the first meeting of the calendar year, presided over by the Program Managers
- Chair and Vice Chair appointments are for one year
- Nominees for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair must be present at the meeting (in-person or virtual); or nominations may be submitted to the Program Manager in advance of the SWC meeting at which elections take place. The latter requires a nomination from the nominator and a notice of acceptance from the nominee.
- Elections will take place by secret ballot, unless election is by acclamation
 - If the meeting is being held virtually with remote participation, elections may take place by submitting votes via confidential emails or messages.

7.2 Chair and Vice Chair Roles and Responsibilities

Further to the purpose and role of the SWC described in Article 3, the roles of the Chair are:

- Chair SWC meetings
- Be an ambassador and a spokesperson for the SWC
- Ensure Council members are aware of their roles and responsibilities
- Bring issues and correspondence before the SWC for discussion
- Liaise with Program Managers on the following, but not limited to:
 - SWC meeting agendas
 - Key program deliverables and achievements
 - Review quarterly updates from Program Managers
 - Communications and advocacy.

The roles of the Vice Chair are:

- Support the Chair in the activities described above
- Act as Chair in the Chair's absence.

8. Liaise with Water Quality Monitoring Group and Water Protection Advisory Committee

The SWC will be supported by the Water Quality Monitoring Group and the Water Protection Advisory Committee, each of which have their own committee Terms of Reference. From time to time, the SWC

Item No.	Agenda item	Time
6.	New business: Draft Revised Terms of Reference	11:00

may refer information or requests to the Monitoring Group or Advisory Committee for discussion and recommendations.

Summaries from the Monitoring Group and Advisory Committee meetings will be included in SWC agenda packages, to be received for information.

9. Comments in Public or the Media

Council members should refer all questions and inquiries from the media to the Chair, Vice Chair or program managers. When speaking publicly, Council members must convey the interest of the SWC.

10. Term and revisions

These Terms of Reference (TOR) come into effect on April 1st, 2025.

The Terms of Reference are subject to revision. The SWC membership will review the Terms of Reference every two years, or as needed to ensure the TOR remains up-to-date and to provide an opportunity for revisions.

11. Funding and Compensation

The SWC seeks funding from diverse sources to support the implementation of its programs and initiatives. The Fraser Basin Council will establish Contribution Agreements with funders, as required.

11.1 Travel expense reimbursement

SWC members without organizational support (i.e., local government and First Nations representatives, community representatives, scientific advisors, agriculture representative, youth representative) will receive compensation for travel expenses incurred for attending SWC meetings at a rate consistent with BC Government travel and reimbursement rates. SWC members from Provincial government organizations will have their travel expenses, if any, covered by their agency.

12. Shuswap Watershed Council Administration

- The SWC will meet quarterly
- Meeting dates will be convenient to the majority of the members
- Meeting dates will be set for a calendar year, early in that year
- Meetings will be open to the public to observe
- Meetings may take place in-person or virtually (e.g., Zoom Meeting)
- The Program Managers will be responsible for:
 - Preparing meeting agendas, with the Chair and Vice Chair, and distributing meeting materials
 - Recording decisions and action items, and preparing meeting summaries
 - Making arrangements for meeting venues and refreshments.

Item No.	Agenda item	Time
7.	New business: Meeting schedule for 2025	11:30

Shuswap Watershed Council meeting schedule for 2025

Date		Draft agenda	Location
March 12 th	4 th quarter (2024-25)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of Chair and Vice Chair • 2025-26 work plan presentation and approval • 2025 Water Quality Grant approvals • Program operations update • New business 	TBD
June 11 th	1 st quarter (2025-26)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program operations update • New business 	TBD
September 10 th	2 nd quarter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program operations update • New business 	TBD
December 10 th	3 rd quarter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program operations update • New business • Meeting schedule for 2026 	Zoom meeting

Meetings take place on a quarterly basis, on the second Wednesday of the month in the months of March, June, September, and December from 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM.

Meeting locations are still TBD. Staff are looking into meeting spaces that can accommodate the SWC membership and enable hybrid in-person/Zoom participation. The December meeting is an online meeting (Zoom).

Other important dates that will affect some SWC members:

Southern Interior Local Government Association (SILGA) Annual General Meeting and Convention:
April 29th – May 2nd 2025, Merritt BC.

Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Annual Convention: September 22nd – 26th 2025, Victoria BC.