

Squamish Windsports Society 2019 AGM

Date: November 26, 2019

Location: Norman Rudy's Pub

1. Call to order:

Geoff Waterson calls the meeting to order at 7:05 pm

Board members in attendance:

- Geoff Waterson
- Steve Tulk
- Alan Linsley
- Brett Wilson
- Alex Waterson
- Scott Degelman
- Alyssa Salloum
- David Bowden
- Nikki Layton

Quorum: 100 additional members in attendance and 43 online

2. Approval of Agenda

- Geoff Waterson calls for approval of the Agenda
- Motion seconded by Nikki Layton

3. Approval of Previous AGM minutes

- Geoff Waterson calls for approval of the previous AGM minutes which were sent to the members with the AGM notice and [available online](#)
- Motion seconded by Alyssa Salloum

4. Presidents Report - Geoff Waterson

Good evening and welcome to the Squamish Windsports Society AGM. (Welcome any special guests, as well as acknowledge online attendees)

The Squamish Windsports Society (SWS) is a not for profit society which is funded by dues from our membership. The purpose of our existence is to promote windsports in Howe Sound. To further that purpose, we are very fortunate to sub-license the lands belonging to the Provincial Crown and known as the Squamish Spit (0.79 hectares from the turnaround to the southern end of the spit). The District of Squamish licenses the land from the Crown Provincial and in turn, they license it to us. Our license did expire on September 15th, 2018 and we are currently waiting for our updated lease to be approved by the Province - there were some minor changes to the wording which the District of Squamish and SWS have agreed to, so once the Province

has approved the changes, we will have a new lease issued. For the 2019 season, we operated on monthly extensions to the previous lease.

The Squamish Spit is next to the Squamish Estuary Wildlife Management Area, which is a Provincially designated environmental protection zone. Part of the purpose of the SWS is to act as good stewards of the lands and waters, to protect this environmentally sensitive zone. We take this stewardship very seriously and are committed to working with governments and stakeholders to protect this valuable resource. Many of our rules and regulations are founded on protecting the Wildlife Management Area.

Unfortunately, there are some stakeholder groups who are opposed to our presence and access to the Spit and who will use any perceived breach by any wind sports member to lobby the governments to not allow us to continue at the Spit. We will have to continue acting as good stewards to maintain our relationships. We must always remember that our access to the Spit is a privilege, not a right and can be taken away by the government with a stroke of the pen.

The heart of the SWS is our staff at the Spit. On behalf of all members, I would like to thank all of our staff for their contributions to the Spit this year. 2019 saw a major change with Denham Trollip stepping down after 6 years as General Manager. Denham was a core member of the Spit, ever since I arrived, and helped build the spit to what it is today. In his place, Chris Rollett has stepped up to the plate and continued on the excellent service that all members have come to expect.

In 2020 the Board will have to continue to grow the membership in a responsible way and will also have to consider several important issues:

- Estuary Restoration Activities from the Watershed Society that directly affect our access and potential spit realignment.
- Continue to promote alternative energy as a way to provide power for our operations
- Continue to monitor the Woodfiber/Fortis project insofar as it affects windsports in Squamish
- Continue to work on ensuring that the Squamish Oceanfront project is developed in a way that is beneficial to windsport users
- Continue to advocate for the preservation of the Spit as a windsport facility

Of particular note at this time is The Watershed Society is actively trying to make major changes to the Squamish Estuary in an attempt to improve the Chinook Salmon fish stocks.

- Members will remember that the Spit Road was closed due to construction prior to and up to the beginning of the official windsports season
- Additional steps and stages are continuing to evolve and current plans for 2020 activities are still not known. The SWS board are in regular contact with the Watershed society and have voiced our concerns for any operations that may impact the regular kiting season.
- Nexan/Newport Beach has been confirmed to be under construction for the 2020 season and possibly the 2021 season.

More on these items will be discussed this evening.

On a positive note, 2019 saw another amazing KiteClash event (thank you Steve and Sheila), and local rider Jack Rieder has just competed at his first GKA World Tour event in Brazil - the first Canadian rider in several years to compete at this world stage. This shows the maturity of the Squamish Kiteboarding scene, that we both operate/host world-class events, and produce world-class athletes.

For 2020, my goal if I am elected President is to continue to build on the existing infrastructure at the Spit, as well as ensure the SWS is engaged with the multiple stakeholder groups affecting our access.

I would also like to thank the board members from 2018:

- Myself, Geoffrey Waterson
- Joshua Viner, Treasurer
- Alan Linsley, Secretary
- Alyssa Salloum, Community Relations
- Brett Wilson, Operations
- David Bowden, Legal Advisor
- Scott Degelman, Strategic Planning & Vision
- Alex Waterson, Fundraising and Grants
- Nikki Layton, Communications

In closing, I would like to give a special thanks to Sheila Sovereign who will be stepping down from the board this year.

Thank you.

5. Financial Statements - Alan Linsley standing in for Joshua Viner

The financial statements show that general membership revenue is down.

Corporate memberships were new this season, and represent the fees the SWS charges for hosting demo days.

Sponsorship revenue is zero this year. In prior years we sold "naming rights" for the kicker, but as the kicker was out of commission this year, there was no sponsorship.

Costs have remained reasonably steady. Staffing costs are up, partially because we had an overlap of Chris and Denham and partially because we increased the staffing of the Spit to better serve the members.

We had gravel work done this year, but have not yet been billed for the work. If the gravel bill comes, it will turn the very small surplus we had into a loss.

On the balance sheet side, things are very clean. We have quite a bit less cash than prior years, but that's because we bought two new jet skis.

We like to keep a cash reserve around to pay for significant costs like gravel and jet skis. The reserve has been depleted, so we will be looking to build it back up over the next few seasons.

Squamish Windsports Society

Income Statement 01/01/2018 to 11/01/2018

REVENUE

Sales Revenue

School Membership	2,857.14
Family Membership	16,542.74
Single Membership	61,154.85
Student Membership	2,768.52
Day Fees	22,457.22
Donations	500.00
Sponsorship	4,835.00

Net Sales 111,115.47

Other Revenue

Interest Revenue	140.00
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Total Other Revenue 140.00

TOTAL REVENUE 111,255.47

EXPENSE

Payroll Expenses

Wages & Salaries	58,670.92
EI Expense	1,340.40
CPP Expense	2,241.13
WCB Expense	627.78

Total Payroll Expense 62,880.23

General & Administrative Expe...

Accounting & Legal	4,250.00
Advertising & Promotions	1,182.35
Clothing	1,278.64
Courier & Postage	122.03
Currency Exchange & Rounding	61.93
Insurance	7,836.00
Interest & Bank Charges	530.78
Maintenance & Repair	1,733.02
Seadoo Fuel	3,002.93
Seadoo Maintenance	1,166.83
Moorage/Storage	958.48
Travel	925.59
Miscellaneous Expenses	50.00
Realized Exchange Gain/Loss	-97.15
Maintenance - Gravel/Shoreline	4,283.00
Sponsorship	2,500.00
Supplies - Electronic	2,081.45
Supplies	6,681.01
Telephone	624.25
Entertainment	381.04
Toilet Service	2,614.59
Web Presence	2,172.27
SQ Reader Fees	1,516.62
PayPal Fees	889.14

Total Credit Card Commissions 2,405.76

Total General & Admin. Expen... 46,744.80

TOTAL EXPENSE 109,625.03

NET INCOME 1,630.44

Squamish Windsports Society Balance Sheet As at 11/01/2018

ASSET

Current Assets

PayPal	2,111.29	
Royal Bank 05120-1018100	20,402.96	
Total Cash		22,514.25
GIC	45,000.00	
Investments		45,000.00
Purchase Prepayments		25.00
Total Current Assets		67,539.25

Capital Assets

Sea Doo's BTX155	1,457.15	
Sea Doo's		1,457.15
Total Capital Assets		1,457.15

Other Non-Current Assets

Computer Software		557.90
Total Other Non-Current Assets		557.90

TOTAL ASSET 69,554.30

LIABILITY

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable		397.80
EI Payable	180.17	
CPP Payable	276.38	
Federal Income Tax Payable	250.75	
Total Receiver General		707.30
WCB Payable		627.78
GST Charged on Sales	5,303.06	
GST Paid on Purchases	-1,348.98	
GST Installments	-3,000.00	
GST Owing (Refund)		954.08
Total Current Liabilities		2,686.96

TOTAL LIABILITY 2,686.96

EQUITY

Retained Earnings

Retained Earnings - Previous Year		65,236.90
Current Earnings		1,630.44
Total Retained Earnings		66,867.34

TOTAL EQUITY 66,867.34

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY 69,554.30

Squamish Windsports Society

Income Statement 01/01/2019 to 11/01/2019

REVENUE

Sales Revenue

Corporate Membership	238.10
School Membership	2,857.15
Family Membership	13,330.96
Single Membership	61,605.08
Student Membership	2,462.01
Day Fees	21,765.50
Donations	580.00

Net Sales 102,838.80

Other Revenue

Gain/Loss (on Asset)	4,542.85
Interest Revenue	610.27
Miscellaneous Revenue	5.00

Total Other Revenue 5,158.12

TOTAL REVENUE 107,996.92

EXPENSE

Payroll Expenses

Wages & Salaries	61,508.99
EI Expense	1,430.43
CPP Expense	2,400.13
WCB Expense	774.98

Total Payroll Expense 66,114.53

General & Administrative Expe...

Accounting & Legal	4,400.00
Business Fees & Licenses	40.00
Clothing	1,435.21
Courier & Postage	19.63
Currency Exchange & Rounding	8.79
Dump Fees	99.40
Insurance	7,479.00
Interest & Bank Charges	427.64
Office & Meetings	756.53
Maintenance & Repair	521.52
Seadoo Fuel	4,083.88
Seadoo Maintenance	3,739.80
Moorage/Storage	1,099.37
Travel	93.61
Rentals	50.00
Sponsorship	2,100.00
Supplies - Electronic	3,133.94
Supplies	4,048.96
Telephone	428.00
Entertainment	373.43
Toilet Service	3,003.17
Web Presence	1,905.62
SQ Reader Fees	1,593.23
PayPal Fees	843.93

Total Credit Card Commissions 2,437.16

Total General & Admin. Expen... 41,684.66

TOTAL EXPENSE 107,799.19

NET INCOME 197.73

Squamish Windsports Society Balance Sheet As at 11/01/2019

ASSET

Current Assets

PayPal	27,040.94	
Royal Bank 05120-1018100	9,660.49	
Total Cash		36,701.43
Purchase Prepayments		29.82
Total Current Assets		36,731.25

Capital Assets

2019 Sea Doo Model 11KA	15,028.83	
2019 Sea Doo Model GTX 155	15,028.83	
Sea Doo's		30,057.66
Total Capital Assets		30,057.66

TOTAL ASSET 66,788.91

LIABILITY

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable		69.84
WCB Payable		774.98
GST Charged on Sales	5,109.70	
GST Paid on Purchases	-2,223.36	
GST Installments	-3,000.00	
GST Owing (Refund)		-113.66
Total Current Liabilities		731.16

TOTAL LIABILITY 731.16

EQUITY

Retained Earnings

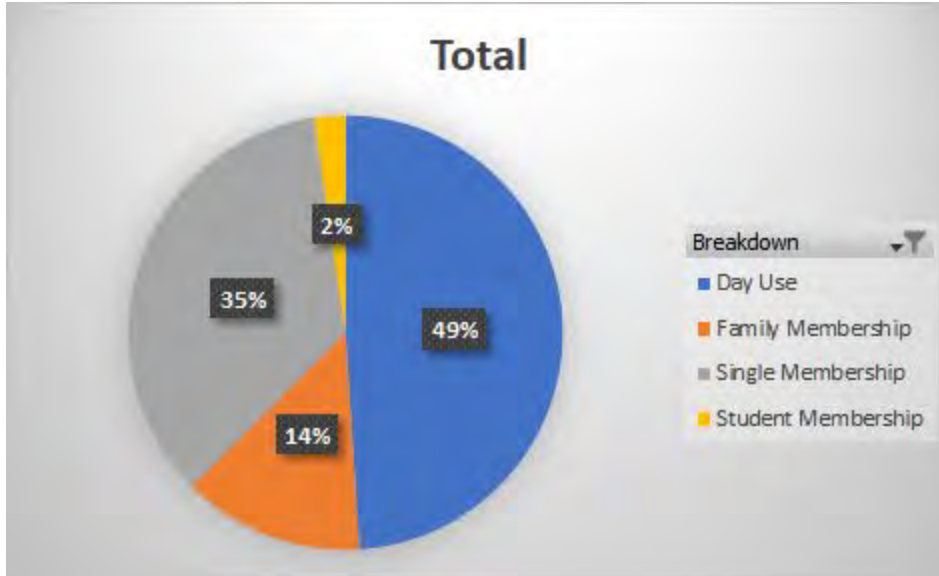
Retained Earnings - Previous Year		65,860.02
Current Earnings		197.73
Total Retained Earnings		66,057.75

TOTAL EQUITY 66,057.75

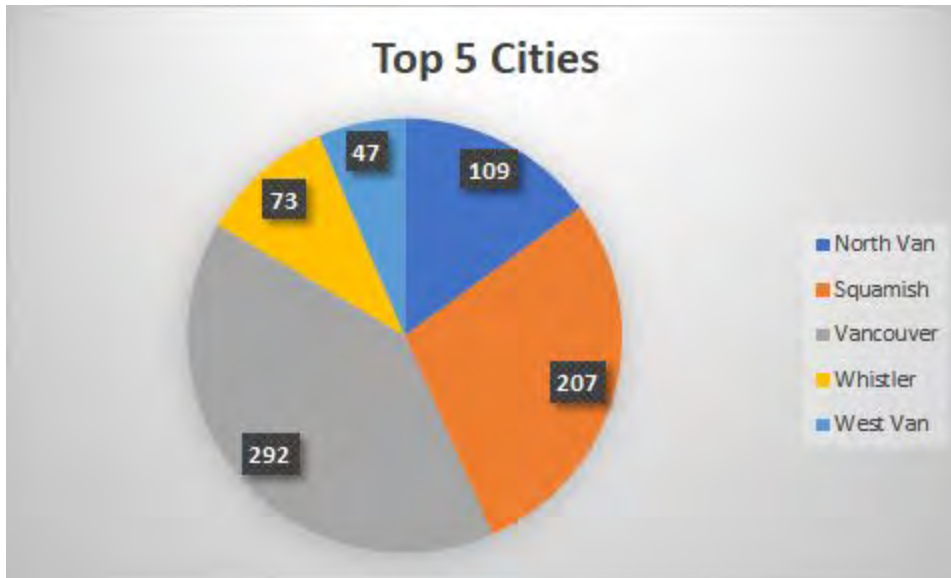
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY 66,788.91

6. Review of Membership statistics - Nikki Layton

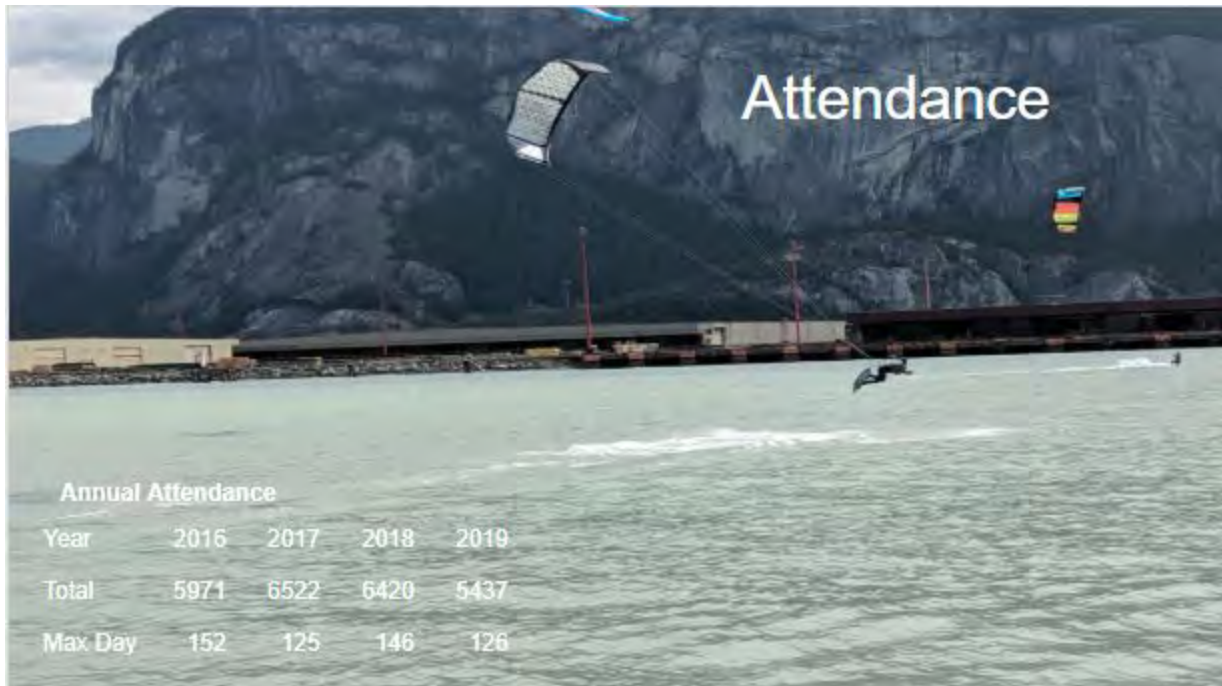
We saw that the SWS membership was affected by both the construction and the weather this year, with almost 50% of our members choosing to go with day-use passes instead of a full season membership.



We also looked to see trends in where our members are coming from and we can see that a significant number of our members come from cities beyond Squamish.



We looked at annual attendance year over year, based on number of sessions, and we can see that 2019 was a bit of a down year for the reasons we discussed above.



Additionally, when we are looking at trends of usage month over month we can see some variance as well and part of this is the volatile weather we experienced this year in conjunction with the road closures and uncertainty that people had with access.



When we review the number of retrievals that were completed year over year we can see how important it is to have the SWS staff out there ensuring the safety of the people on the water. With 562 rescues this year and with 33 in one day you never know when you are going to need a retrieval.



7. Overview of Grant and Fundraising activity - Alex Waterson

This year was the first year the SWS has had directors looking at finding alternate revenue sources for the SWS. Grants explored so far require us to show how we are engaging with the community and how the money will be used to create or improve specific programmes.

Our first Kids Kite Day was a huge success, gained a lot of interest from families and young people. We will be doing this again. Operating events like this will assist us in future grant applications, and growing kiteboarding community.

Grants we're looking at from district, province and other organizations:

- Canadian Association for the Advancement of Women and Sport for a grant to start a programme for young females to get into kiting. Aim to get more junior girls.
- Squamish community foundation grants due in April/May
- First Nations athlete development grant due in June
- Provincial sport development grant due in May.
- BC Employer training grant - additional training for staff (eg: enhanced first aid, VHF radio).

We are also looking at other avenues for fundraising - SWS swag, like hats, t-shirts, tank tops, and hoodies, available for members and visitors to order. What items would you like to see, or buy!

Any members who know of any other grants that might be out there that we could apply for, any ideas for other forms of fundraising, any people who'd be interested in being part of programmes please let us know.

8. General Manager report - Scott Degelman standing in for Chris Rollett

2019 SWS Managers Report

I would like to thank all the members for making 2019 a memorable experience as the new manager. My goal this past season was to maintain and continue improving the management goals and policies set out by Denham over the six seasons he was the manager.

Overall the season was very smooth from an operational standpoint, we did appreciate your patience in getting the webcam and digital wind meter up and running. I hope to improve both the webcam and website for next season.

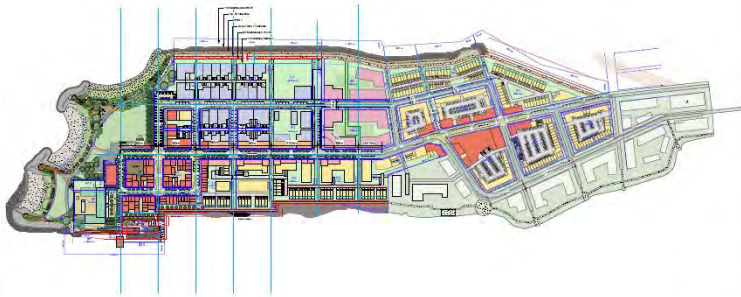
We had three returning staff and one new member of the team. All performed well throughout the season. I anticipate these staff members will be returning. I was able to improve our ability to communicate with schools and other vessels on the water through the use of VHF Marine radios. All staff have been trained and are VHF certified. This worked very well this season, putting more eyes on the water and the ability to communicate when people need help.

Overall we were incident-free this season other than one near miss with a large vessel. It's important to stay far away from all commercial vessels. In coordination with Transport Canada, we will be creating new signage to let users know where the no go zones are when commercial vessels are approaching.

I am always looking for ways to make the spit safer and more enjoyable for the members so feel free to forward any suggestions or improvements. I look forward to a great season in 2020.

9. Discussion of the Newport Development - Alan Linsley & Alyssa Salloum

Master Plan for the new development



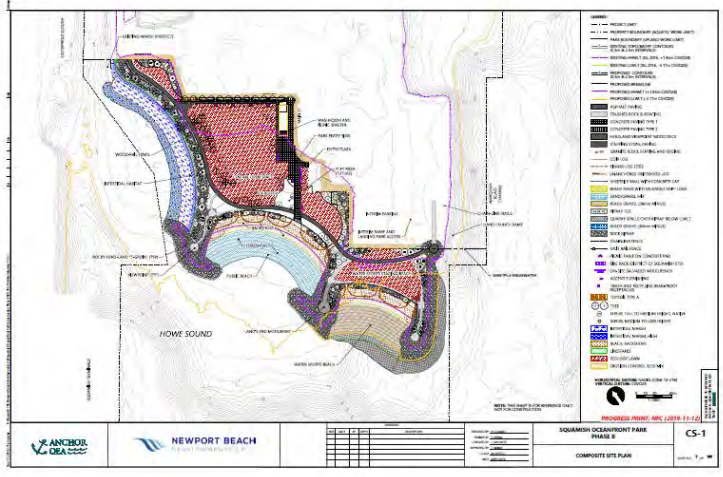
- Mixed-use commercial/residential/education/tourism.
- 120 parking stalls for park/beach use.
- This will take many years to develop.



Phase 1 of construction.

The first phase of the project is to create the watersports park and public beach.

When looking at this image the watersports beach is on the bottom right-hand corner and the public beach is to the left of it.



Phase 1 of construction.

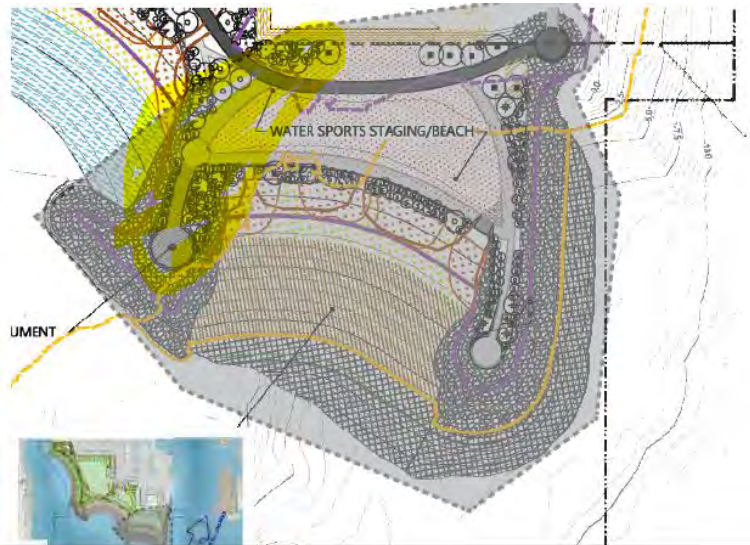
THE PARK.

The building cannot commence until the park is completed.

This is a very significant earth-moving project. The dotted purple line on this drawing is the existing high-water line. A large part of the new park will, therefore, be on newly created land. Construction is set to commence in April of 2020.

It is expected that there will be no public access to this entire area for two full seasons.

Once complete, the site will reopen to the public and the residential and commercial development will build out in future phases.



We have been able to discuss the layout of the watersports park with the developer. We provided some general guidelines, and there have been some changes made. Landscaping and hard features directly downwind will take windsports into account. There are some features that won't change - the shaded yellow area will have trees and a tall monument that won't be great for kites.



Note that the width of the watersports beach is about 80m and that the headlands will be somewhere between 2-7m tall (depending on tides). Wind will be pretty much directly onshore. As currently laid out, the windsports beach will only be viable for experienced kilters, and will not have the capacity to handle the traffic we see on any sunny day during the season. It's simply not a viable replacement for the Spit.

10. Discussion of the Estuary Project - Alan Linsley & Alyssa Salloum

This next section will cover the objectives of the Squamish River Watershed Society and its plans for the coming years. This is a big issue. The SRWS has the support of the Federal Government and the Squamish First Nation. Preserving access for watersports is not a priority for these stakeholders, although they are looking for a win/win solution.

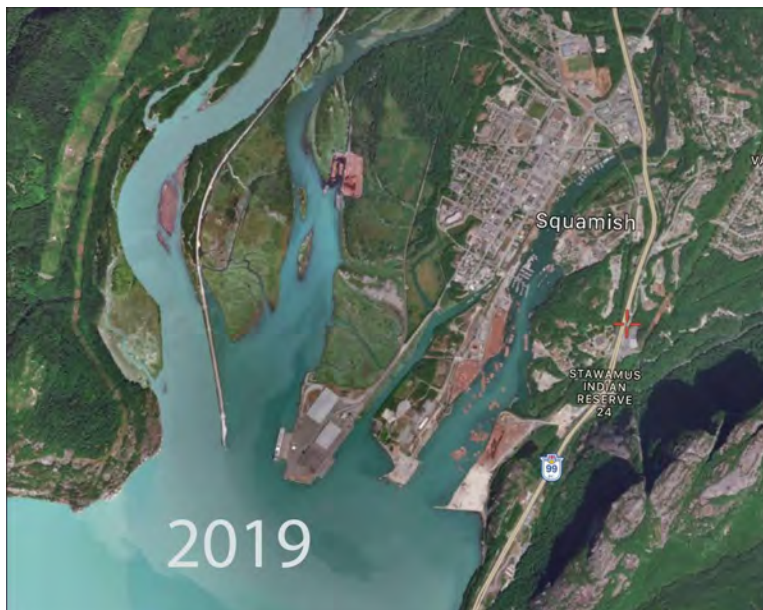


This is the natural state of the Squamish River, and we believe is the ultimate objective of the

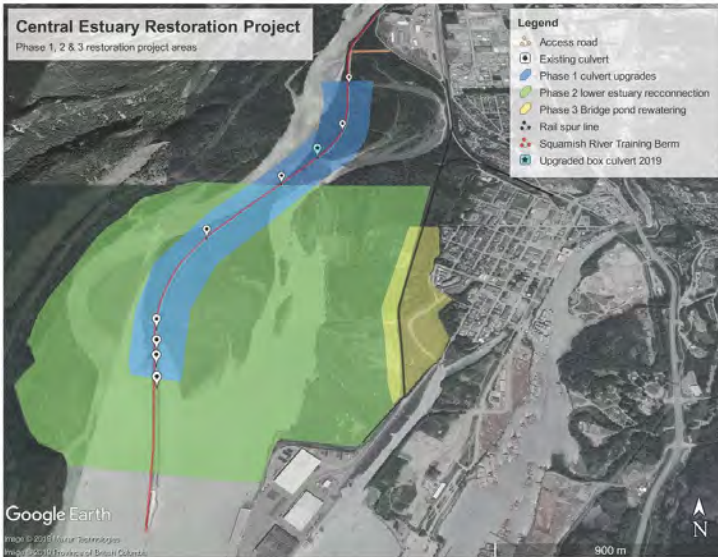
SRWS. Note that there is no significant narrowing of the river, and the river and estuary are clearly connected.



The Spit went in in 1973. Note here that the creation of the road separated the river and estuary. You can see that there is significantly less water flow on the estuary side.



You can see that there is very little flow between the estuary and the river today. Note that we're not sure if this shows the impact of the new culvert. From a fisheries perspective, we understand the issue is the narrowing of the river, which essentially creates a 'jet' of water flow that pushes juvenile salmon out into the straight, where they do not survive. The objective of the SRWS is to amend things so that salmon can access the calmer water of the estuary, mature, and survive.



The SRWS has a 3-phase plan. Phase 1 was the rehabilitation of the culverts. As we all know, a box culvert was installed this year, we are not sure if the one they did was it, or if more are planned.

Phase 2 is what could have the greatest impact on our access. At the very least, it means the closure/removal of sections of the road, presumably to connect the estuary and river again. At worst, it could be more significant - removal of the Spit entirely?

The current goal of the SRWS is to remove Spit road as we know it. This plan has been put in motion.

Community Partners	Private Sector Partners	Government & Funding Partners
British Columbia Institute of Technology BCIT Rivers Institute Capilano University Cheakamus Centre Fraser Basin Council Fraser Valley Watersheds Coalition Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Nature Conservancy of Canada North Shore Wetland Partners Pacific Streamkeepers Federation Quest University Raincoast Research Society Rivershed Society of BC School District 49 Sea to Sky Clean Air Society Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council Seagrass Conservation Working Group Simon Fraser University South Coast Steelhead Coalition Squamish Bear Aware Squamish Climate Action Network Squamish Environment Society Squamish Nation Squamish Rotary Club Squamish Streamkeepers Squamish Trails Society Stewardship Centre of BC The Land Conservancy	BC Hydro's Fish & Wildlife Conservation Program Canadian Hydro Cascade Environmental Resource Group Cheakamus Ecosystem Restoration Technical Committee Connecting Communities Consulting Envirowest Gebauer and Associates Golder & Associates Hatfield Consultants Hay and Company Consultants Innexex InStream Fisheries Resources Raincoast Applied Ecology	Department of Fisheries and Oceans District of Squamish Environment Canada BC Ministry of Environment Forest Lands and Natural Resource Management BC Ministry of Transportation Natural Resources Canada Squamish Lillooet Regional District Squamish Nation BC Environment Habitat Conservation Trust Fund BC Hydro Bridge Coastal and Restoration Program CN Cheakamus Ecosystem Recovery Fund Pacific Salmon Commission Pacific Salmon Foundation BRC Bluewater Fund Squamish Savings - a division of Vancity

There are some powerful stakeholders in this process.

The Federal government/Department of Fisheries puts salmon first.

The Squamish Nation is quite adamant that the river should return to its natural state.

The SRWS has obtained a number of grants to push studies and implement their phased plan.

These grants have timeframes now, so the SRWS is building a lot of momentum.

The Terminal is the other significant stakeholder, and we believe are very supportive of the Spit

staying, as it reduces the amount of expensive dredging that has to be done to keep the channel clear.

There is also obviously the District, who are supportive of the sport as one of the outdoor pillars of the Squamish community. They rely on us as a community to take care of ourselves and be responsible stewards. (no camping/garbage/speeding!). We are also responsible for keeping water sports out of the environmentally sensitive estuary.



The SWS is an engaged stakeholder!

We have been at the table and are doing our best to explain the requirements of our sports and preserve our access. But people need to be aware that our access will be changing. It is looking unlikely that you will drive out to the Spit in 5 years. Our #1 priority will be to maintain a safe spot for folks to access the water. We can't be any closer to Terminal operations than we are now, and we need to avoid the space limitations like at Newport. We've explained how the prevailing wind direction and wind shadows make the location of the Spit so perfect.

The next priority will be to maintain pedestrian/cyclist/cart access. Water taxis and ferries have been discussed, but it is not clear who would be operating or paying for this.



This is something that we've pulled together really quickly. It might be familiar, as it looks a bit like one of the old renderings that are floating around. The key point here is that the Spit is in the same spot, and those of you with eagle eyes might note that it's actually a little larger... We think this is a nice win-win - convenient access, open water flow, terminal protection. The big unknown here is going to be the cost.



But things are changing and we need to consider our options and develop a win-win solution. Demanding that everything stays the same is going to leave us out of the process. The vision is to find an opportunity to create a new and improved Spit that meets the objectives

of Salmon preservation. We're looking at other places around the world - these images are from Jetty Island in Washington State. There are some great opportunities here - a chance to change the access, but improve the facilities - all the dirt from the estuary rehabilitation will have to go somewhere! The next steps are continued engagement with the other stakeholders - a meeting is planned for January. We will attend and report out to the members in a newsletter.

11. New Business from Members

- Troy McNamara feels that there are disrespectful things happening on the water
 - Jumping upwind
 - Short tacking
 - Dangerous to other kites
 - Discussion about how can the SWS help police/manage this
 - Discussion about creating a video safety about rules/etiquette
 - Discussion about moving the Seacan to force the interaction of people coming on the spit with the staff. This will ensure that people new to the Spit, and existing locals will be checked in and know about any happenings for that day.
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12. Election of New Board

- President - Geoff Waterson
 - Vice President - Steve Tulk
 - Treasurer - Josh Viner
 - Secretary - Alan Linsley
 - Community Relations - Alyssa Salloum
 - Operations - Loren Parfitt
 - Strategy & Vision - Scott Degelman
 - Communications - Nikki Layton
 - Legal Advisor - David Bowden
 - Fundraising & Grants - Alex Waterson
 - Director at large - Brett Wilson
 - Director at large - Troy McNamara
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13. Meeting Adjourned: 9:05