

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday November 13th, 2024

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Virtual Meeting via Zoom



Attendance:

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) Kathy Ma | FVISS Executive Director |
| 2) Victoria Brookes | FVISS Chair |
| 3) Nichole Marples | FVISS Treasurer, Langely Environmental Partnership Society (LEPS) |
| 4) Janne Perrin | FVISS Director, Miami River Streamkeepers |
| 5) Steve Clegg | FVISS Director, SAYLands |
| 6) Alida Janmaat | FVISS Director, UFV Biology |
| 7) Erica Mulder | FVISS Field and Data Technician |
| 8) Todd Kohler | Department of National Defence |
| 9) Trish Gendron | Coast IPM |
| 10) David Clements | Trinity Western University |
| 11) Bob Drinkwater | Drinkwater Environmental Services |
| 12) Cait Gentle | Rivershed Society of BC |
| 13) Vanessa Hart | Fraser Valley Regional District |
| 14) Cory Cassel | Fraser Valley Regional District |
| 15) Cam Dean | |
| 16) Aird Flavelle | |
| 17) Mica Anguita | Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council |
| 18) Tamara Slobogean | Invasive Species Council of BC - Speaker |

MINUTES

Start of Meeting: 11:00 am

- 1) Welcome, introductions and housekeeping
- 2) Begin AGM
 - Motion to start meeting: Nichole Marples; Seconded: Janne Perrin
 - All in favour. Motion carried.
- 3) Accept the Agenda for 2024 AGM
 - Motion to approve: Janne Perrin; Seconded: Steve Clegg
 - All in favour. Motion carried.
- 4) Adopt 2023 AGM Minutes
 - Motion to approve: Steve Clegg; Seconded: Todd Kohler
 - All in favour. Motion carried.
- 5) Report from the Chair

(Victoria Brookes, FVISS Chair)

- Victoria expressed appreciation for those in attendance, their interest in invasive species, and their continued support
- Thank you for Kathy (FVISS) for her expertise and communication skills that have increased the scope and effectiveness of the program. FVISS work has been supported this year by new staff
- Appreciative of sponsors and cooperators in their successful work.
- Thank you to Board of Directors and invitation for new board members

6) Report of Financial Statement

(Nichole Marples, FVISS Treasurer)

- Presentation of Financial Statement to date (January to November 2024)
- Motion to approve: Nichole Marples; Seconded: Janne Perrin
- All in favour. Motion carried. Financial report was approved as presented.

7) Operations and Projects 2024 FVISS Update

(Kathy Ma: FVISS Executive Director and Erica Mulder: Field and Data Technician)

- FVISS in 2023 had a team of four staff members (1 full-time, 1 part-time, 1 seasonal, 1 casual). Thank you to staff members and their hard work this year.
- 2024 Year in review, updates from the operational field work, including:
 - Contractors were used to complete on-the-ground treatment work. Summary of species and area surveyed and treated.
 - Invasive Mussel Lake Monitoring, and no positive samples detected
 - Updates on other invasive plant incentive programs, monitoring projects, and internal administrative and plans/protocol/software updates to aid in operational program efficiencies
- Thank you to the 2024 Funding Partners

8) Education and Outreach 2024 FVISS Update

(Erica Mulder: Field and Data Technician)

- Outreach program updates were provided, including:
 - Attendance at public and education events (public table booths, workshops, guest lectures and presentations)
 - Newsletter: 204 subscribers, Instagram: 904 followers, Facebook 786 followers
 - Public Inquiries
 - (i) Category with the most direct contact were members of the public reporting invasive species
 - (ii) Other frequent categories were: invasive plant control options, identification help, and disposal options.
- Comment: The many bags of tansy removed shows strong community involvement and work put towards invasive species management. The Ch'iyáqtel tribe has shared interest in managing knotweed in the Chilliwack-Vedder River system. Appreciation for the effort involved in collecting engagement and outreach metrics.
- Question: Will the invasive plant pick up program be expanded to Agassiz and Harrison?
 - Response: Currently tansy ragwort pick up only occurs in municipalities/electoral areas which pay into the weed control service with the FVRD. Municipalities are welcome to contact the FVRD for details on how to participate.

- Question: Are there website resources for how to dispose of invasive plants?
 - Response: There is a page on the FVISS website with disposal options <https://fviss.ca/disposal>
- Question: Will invasive mussel monitoring include eDNA testing?
 - Response: FVISS only follows monitoring protocols are laid out by the Province as the funding source for the project. The Province may already be using eDNA, but such methods are not being currently used or available to FVISS.
- Question: Was there an increase in tansy ragwort this year?
 - Response: Anecdotally, it may appear so. However, it is important to remember that as a plant under biocontrol, these cycles of population increase/decrease is common.

9) Presentation: ISCBC Behaviour Change Programs (Tamara Slobogean, ISCBC)

10) Election of Board of Directors

- Proposed board members for 2025:
 - Victoria Brookes
 - Nichole Marples
 - Janne Perrin
 - Ken Schwaerzle
 - Alida Janmaat
 - Steve Clegg
 - Terisha Bailey
- Motion to accept: Trish Gendron; Seconded: Vanessa Hart
 - All in favour. 2025 Board accepted.

11) New Business/Announcements from members

- Provincial Partnership Review occurred this year. Thank you to Kathy and other board members who worked hard to prepare and respond to questions from the

12) Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn FVISS 2024 Annual General Meeting: Steve Clegg
- Motion carried.

Time adjourned: 12:43pm