

Newsletter sent April 4, 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I want to take a moment to thank all of the members that joined us on Zoom for the Annual General Meeting on March 24, 2021. While it did have its problems, in the end I think it was a success. As President, the only drawback was the inability to meet members in person. Depending upon weather, we may either try the next General meeting outside or return to Zoom, but no date has been set yet. A tentative date of April 21 has been set for a Board of Directors meeting.

The 2021 Board of Directors are:

President: Richard Thompson

Secretary: Rion Porteous

Treasurer: Lynne Bonnell

Directors: Bill Bell, Bob Patterson, Brian Lea, Graham Alexander, Larry Blair, Peter Ronning, Randy Monkman, and Rodney Wiebe

We welcome two directors for a one year term, Randy Monkman, and Larry Blair. Doug Kitts decided to withdraw due to other heavy commitments.

We still need a Vice President and an additional Board member. It is a one year term for all current Directors as it would be for anyone willing to take on the role of VP. Please consider coming forward for the next year to assist in a very busy club agenda.

Other business conducted at the AGM included the approval of the 2020 Year End Financial Report prepared by Jason Moore of McIntosh Norton Williams, CPA, and approvals of the 2021 Budget, the Donation Policy and Code of Conduct Policy, the authorized signatories of the club, and the appointment of Richard Thompson as the club representative to the Board of the Harbour Authority of French Creek for one year.

These last months have been a trial in terms of COVID – 19 and our required reaction. While more details of our response will be explained by each of our areas, I would like to thank our volunteers who put together an action plan that allows members to at least partly utilize each of our facilities. THANK YOU!

Our new website is up and running thanks to Gary Anglin of Trinex Internet Solutions. Thanks as well to all the members who helped with review and input.

You will notice on the Website a new section, Fishing. Over time, we will be adding links to local groups and sport fishing suppliers. If you have other organizations you believe should be on our site, let me know. We will be setting up a Members Only page in the website which will include a comments section. Where are the fish biting on the Island, fresh and salt? If some

members want to get together to share expenses for a day in the salt, let them know you are interested by email. You may even be asked to help “clip” our little ones this spring to meet the needs of our hatchery program.

Richard Thompson, President

MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

I would like to take this opportunity to express our association’s gratitude to some of the local businesses and groups that have donated their time and money to furthering the success of our association’s operations

The MARION BAKER FISH HATCHERY has been the beneficiary of the following:

- Thank you to BASS PRO SHOPS AND CABELA’S OUTDOOR FUND for providing funds in the amount of \$15,000 in September, 2020, to help with the operation of the Marion Baker Fish Hatchery. With these funds the crew at the hatchery were able to make improvements to the site’s drainage, expand the compound’s fencing, and purchase new egg trays, an industrial stainless sink and a hot water heater. They arranged for the clearing of some danger trees, and spread gravel at the entrance and within the compound.

The OUTDOOR FUND from BASS PRO SHOPS and CABELA’S provides financial support to Canadian non-profits that support Advocacy, Education, and Conservation to improve the habitat with sound conservation methods. The fund is built by generous support from their customers who round up to the nearest dollar at checkout in their retail stores. These funds are made available through application to them from local community Fish & Game associations and other non-profits.

- Thank you to ADDY POWER LTD. of Qualicum Beach for their generous contribution of a meter pole and installation, a donation of \$1,589 in value.
- Thank you to the FRENCY CREEK TYEE CLUB for their generous donation of \$1,750.
- And thank you to the PACIFIC SALMON FOUNDATION for their generous donation of \$1,500 for the new Air Supply Project.

Other donations to the club received in the past year, thanks go to the HARBOUR AUTHORITY OF FRENCH CREEK, BARRY COMBER, L. & G. OZERO, and MOSAIC.

As well, a huge thank you to Phill Betts, who willingly volunteered to look after the administration of our old website three years ago, and with the launch of the new website, will have a well deserved rest!

Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped our association run so successfully this past year. A special thanks go to Colin and Tracy Gillis, and Randy Monkman who recently put together a successful application to the New Horizons for Seniors Program for a \$25,000 grant for access and mobility improvement to the Henry Range. Watch for lots of related activity at the Henry Range in the coming weeks.

Lynne Bonnell, Treasurer

MARION BAKER FISH HATCHERY

Pete Spruit has reported that the hatchery is up and running. There are coho fry in the tanks, and 80,000 chum in the raceway. There are 19,000 coho still to pond in the next few weeks. Pondered fry are feeding well with volunteers feeding three times a day.

For those interested in volunteering at the hatchery, the crew meets every Saturday morning at 9.00 AM for a couple of hours. Anyone who wishes to volunteer is welcomed, and encouraged to arrive on site at that time, no special invitation is required.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR WANTED

Our award winning Newsletter Editor, Jamie Sudyko, is taking a leave of absence from her volunteer role, in order to welcome, along with spouse Rob, their new baby into their family. Congratulations Jamie and Rob!

In Jamie's absence, we are looking for a volunteer to take on the newsletter editing role, someone who is familiar with Mail Chimp, or willing to learn, and has a desire to facilitate club communications. Please let us know of your interest at info@pqfg.org.