

With a relatively new Minister of Fisheries and Oceans. It would be good to get on her radar with SEP/Stewardship pieces of PSSI pillars. She has already begun to dig into her position. Knowing that so many thousands of British Columbians are knowledgeable about salmon and salmon habitat and work directly with DFO staff to project and preserve salmon, may be refreshing for her. A ZOOM to allow people to come online and meet her allows for this introduction and for her to receive a briefing note as to SEP and what "we" do.

We are pleased to hear that PSSI has been able to secure staffing and look forward as community, to meet these people and to understand their roles and responsibilities. Hearing of a budget freeze and travel restrictions is not helping the expectation levels of community as they await the updates, this has added to the confusion of roles, responsibilities, what sort of help and interactions we can expect through positions.

Community tends to plan their projects a year or more in advance due to the need to secure partners, funding and permits. Working with them within the remaining 2 years of PSSI will mean getting on it right away in order to be a part of things.

Insurance: The Hatchery / Streamkeepers insurance grant, as we have mentioned prior was a huge success and much appreciated. We look forward to the upcoming grant submission completion so as to be able to let groups know they can breath and continue their works uninterrupted. The current policy comes due Aug 1 and a smooth transition is needed as this is in the midst of field season and preparation for spawning season.

Im a counter and Ive taken (at meetings) to counting the number of times groups speak of hiring a lawyer or biologists. They need the support of government that when they find problems there is someone to reach out to, to help solve the problem. Whether it's a blockage to fish passage concern, water quality issues (pollution or quantity) or help with planning a project. Calls recently have asked "who at fisheries can help when you find dead fish" I asked around and did find one example of a hatchery getting a diagnosis. We realize it's not an easy task to id, in particular if the kill is not happening at the moment one arrives, but we do need to see support and investigation or response.

\*\* to add to the list of times this has been requested, we would like Section 36 of the Fisheries Act to be enforced. Water quality needs to be all day, everyday. Accidents can be corrected but too many are purposefully disposing of their waste into our storm drains, into our streams (not speaking just to my recent concerns ) This is one of the times I hear of "hiring lawyers and biologists to get help in stoppong these blatent pollution events.

5 year review of the Fisheries Act is coming up and its been interesting to be a part of the group putting together some ideas of processes to review. Whats working, whats not, what was implemented what was not. Much of what was asked for during the last Fischeires Act review, has made its way into the act but not all has been implemented fully. Other pieces are being worked

on outside the Act but it is harder to enforce these when you don't have the supporting Act in place. They become a little more of a good idea.

Submitted on behalf of the Pacific Streamkeepers federation  
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