

Salish Sea EEPSA Local Chapter Annual General Meeting Report

NB-This report is in lieu of an in person AGM due to the ongoing COVID 19 restrictions. All executive members for 2020-21 were accepted by acclamation as there were no other nominees for their positions.

1) **Welcome and Territorial Acknowledgement:** We would like to acknowledge that we teach and live on the traditional and unceded territories of the Lekwungen (Songhees), Xwsepsum (Esquimalt), WSANEC, Beecher Bay, T-Souke and Pacheedaht Peoples. We are grateful for all the cultural, ecological and historical knowledge that has been shared and continues to be shared to help us all better understand the land we live on and the people we live and work with.

2) Introductions and Highlights of the year & Professional Development

- Formation: Our local EEPSA chapter was named the Salish Sea and created by educators in SD61-64 officially on June 13, 2019. The executive for the 2019-2020 year was nominated and voted in as the following:
 - Chloe Faught-President
 - Dayna Christ-Rowling- Vice President
 - Gillian Petrini and Kiersten Brookes- Secretaries
 - Greg Barmby- Treasurer
 - Lisa Lockerbie- Member at Large
- Creation and revising of our goals: We established a set of goals for our Chapter as of August 2019 and revised them to include the following goals:
 1. Promote and Support Outdoor Education within our schools (Professional Development and Advocating for support)
 2. Encourage teachers and students to be involved in environmental activism
 3. Advocate and work with key stakeholders within our school districts and region for a coordinated and supported district-wide waste reduction plan
- Growing membership & connections: This year was all about exploring the needs and interests of educators in our region and connecting them to us and to EEPSA. We took part in a number of events such as the Climate Teach In, the Classrooms to Communities (C2C) conference and Tapestry which helped spread awareness of our new chapter.
- Tapestry: We hosted 2 full and successful sessions and had a table at Tapestry; this event connected us to more educators in the region and helped us

really see the need for more action and dialogue to help build adaptability in educators to be able to teach outdoors and to teach and engage students in meaningful curriculum and action with Earth

- Critical Conversations: We hosted two evening events on critical topics; the first on climate action and the second on waste and recycling. Both engaged us with teachers, other educators and outside resources and partners and highlighted the importance of all interested groups working together towards systemic change around these issues. The recycling/waste system change issue has become an ongoing goal.

3) Membership and communication report

- EEPSA PSA Membership
 - SD 61 – 13 members
 - SD 62 – 4 members
 - SD 63 – 3 members
 - SD 64 – 2 members

- Social Media: Facebook Group Salish Sea EEPSA was created in August 30, 2019 and now has 40 members
- Contact/Email list: our most common communication method now has 151 teachers, other school district staff and other organizations
- Network/ Stakeholders: We have begun building relationships with a number of environmental non-profits and organizations within the region to see how we can work together. We are still exploring how best to do that.

5) Financial report

EXPENSE CATEGORY	BUDGET	TO DATE	REMAINING
Meetings	\$230.00	\$117.75	\$112.25
Responses to curriculum or development of resources			\$0.00
Professional Learning / Conference attendance (travel/accommodation)			\$0.00
Publications / subscriptions/ learning materials			\$0.00
Operating expenses (postage, supplies, etc.)	\$35.00	\$9.41	\$25.59

Chapter-sponsored conference/workshops	\$95.00	\$10.00	\$85.00
Other (please specify):			\$0.00
TOTAL	\$360.00	137.16	\$222.84

Oct 7th, 2019	(Greg) Expenses Six Mile Pub Meeting	\$49.51
Nov 11th, 2019	(Kiersten) Expenses for Spectrum Meeting	\$39.62
Jan, 2020	(Greg) Tapestry Costs	\$10.00
Dec, 2019	(Chloe) Photocopying	\$9.41
Feb 3, 2020	(Lisa) Food expenses	\$28.62

7) Professional Development report

The Salish Sea EEPSEA Professional Development activities were varied our first year. We held regular meetings where we discuss critical conversations with teachers representing all the school districts in the lower Vancouver Island and Gulf Island while focusing on specific areas of interest. Connecting teachers to community place based educators, environmental organizations, advocacy groups and government was our initial priority.

We were engaged in a *Teach in*, at the Legislature during the climate action protests. At that time, the executive took a closer look at how we can make some local changes that could directly affect our environment. We invited the Capital Regional District Recycling Educator to meet with educators in the hope of sharing schools and districts processes regarding waste management.

The C2C conference was attended by four members of SSEEPSA. The experience was an invaluable educational opportunity and helped us explore what is possible for place based educators on the island.

During the Tapestry Professional Development Conference, we staffed an educational table, increased our membership and led two workshops, *For the Love of Earth: Tools to get outside and stir hearts* and *Antidotes for Climate Grief*.

9) Elections

All executive members for 2020-21 were accepted by acclamation as there were no other nominees for the positions. We did not have an in person AGM to confirm members but a call for nominations was sent to everyone on our email list

Name	Executive Role	School District, School Assignment
Chloe Faught	President	SD63. SIDES (Secondary), Biology/Earth Science
Kiersten Brookes	Vice President	SD61, Strawberry Vale, Grade 5
Dayna Christ-Rowling	Professional Development Chair	SD62, Belmont Secondary, 11/12 Outdoor Education and Social Justice 12
Gillian Petrini	Secretary	SD61 Arbutus Global Middle School Global Action Teacher and Teacher-Librarian
Joanna Linger	Treasurer	SD63 Claremont Secondary, Science & Institute for Global Solutions
Lisa Lockerbie	Membership	SD62 Sangster Elementary, Nature Kindergarten
Greg Barmby	Member at Large	SD61 Glanford Middle School, Inclusive Learning/Learning Support
Lara Kremler	Member at Large	SD61 Doncaster Elementary School, Grade 4

10) Discussion of goals for upcoming year

1. Monthly outdoor social events around the region (coordinated by Dayna) (may be online if not permitted under COVID 19 for 2020)
2. Professional development events/sessions to help teachers get kids outside in time of COVID and possibly collaboration on sharing out knowledge
3. Continuing to grow membership and connections
4. Working on our big goals as we can

5. Possible book club for those interested (especially if we cannot meet in person)