



Langley Field Naturalists



To encourage nature appreciation, conservation and education

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Newsletter

(Supplement) December 2017

BC NATURE FALL MEETING OCTOBER 2017 - VERNON



The following reports from our BC Nature Director, Kathy Masse, were omitted from the newsletter - my apologies to Kathy! Sheila Puls, Editor

DIRECTOR'S MEETING

BC Nature Club Directors from all over the province met at 4:00 pm, Thursday afternoon September 21st. We grouped our tables into a circle so we could more easily interact with each other. After filling up our plates with a light meal and catching up with each other's news, we began our meeting. For the most part, we were referred to the written reports of various committees, such as the Treasurer's report, Conservation Education, and Communications Committees, and Camp Committees and BC Naturalists Foundation because voting to accept these reports will take place at the Annual General meeting the following Saturday.

Alan Berger, during his president's report added a note that with the demise of the WITS program, there is now \$3600 in restricted funds available to clubs for projects dealing with wild life trees or nest box programs. All directors were encouraged to look on BC Nature's website, where letters from BC Nature to the provincial government are posted. As well, directors are encouraged to report to the website club notices and projects. In the members only section clubs can post effective tips a club has used to produce a successful project.

FALL GENERAL MEETING

The Fall General Meeting was held on Saturday afternoon September 23rd. The meeting began with president Allen Berger announcing that the North Okanagan Naturalists Club, our hosts, were one of the seven original clubs when the Federation of BC Naturalists (now BC Nature) was founded in 1963.

Brian Springinotec of Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (HCTF) gave a comprehensive talk about the Foundations grants program for environmental projects in BC. For the past 7 years they have made approximately 150 grants a year for projects that restore, maintain, or enhance native freshwater fish and wildlife populations and habitats. Also initiatives on environmental education and stewardship projects are supported. As well, projects to acquire land to secure the value of these areas for conservation purposes are considered. In the last 4 years HCTF has made grants of approximately \$750,000 per year. HCTF's website <http://www.hctf.ca> gives a comprehensive outline of the past and current projects as well as the deadlines and guidelines for submitting each type of grant. This organization presents an excellent opportunity for BC Nature and its clubs to receive grants for even large projects. Check out the website!



View of Vernon from Middleton Mtn.

Photo: Bob Puls

In the Presidents report, Alan Berger, outlined how BC Nature can help clubs draft letters to government on such topics as Kinder Morgan, Roberts bank expansion and the wolf cull, by sending a draft of their letter to BC Nature for review. Alan also mentioned that a new Nanaimo club is joining BC Nature with the help of John and Heather Neville. There are now 53 clubs with approximately 6,000 members but we always will look for new clubs and members. The 2018 AGM will be held by Nature Vancouver on May 10-13, in honour of the Vancouver club's 100th anniversary. There is no host yet for the 2018 FGM. And the 2019 AGM will be hosted by Cowichan Valley in Duncan.

BC Nature is still looking for a new Regional Representative for the Kootenays as well as an Assistant Representative to assist Jude Grass in the Lower Mainland.

Vice president Virginia Rasch gave BC Nature's 2-year report, saying that of our 8 goals, BC Nature has not met the target of increasing membership because we are now down 200 members from two years ago. Tom Bearss of Delta Naturalists volunteered, both at the Director's meeting and at the Fall General Meeting, to research the setting up of a new club in Richmond.

Also discussed was changing the guidelines for voting on resolution from 50% approval to 67%. This motion was voted on and passed by members.

A comprehensive report was given by Cynthia Burke on NatureKids BC. There are now 1200 kids, in 26 clubs with a club just formed in North Vancouver, the Kingfisher club. There is now better support for leaders, to help with training.

The meeting concluded with a report on BC Nature camps. Next year there will be camps at Harrison Eagle Camp, Tofino, Cathedral Lake Lodge,, all outlined in BC Nature's winter magazine.

Kathy Masse
Director
Federation of BC Naturalists

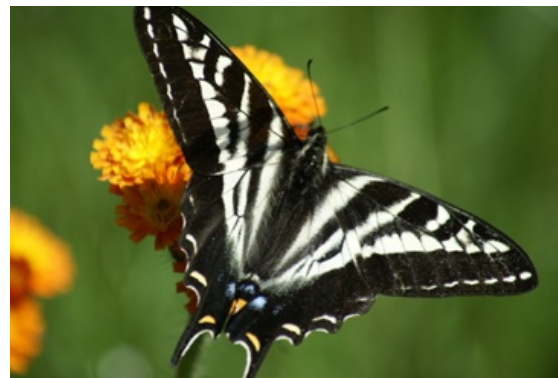
**BC Nature
Annual General Meeting
will be hosted by
Vancouver Natural History Society
(Nature Vancouver)**

May 10 - 13th 2018

**“Promoting Health in Nature:
Past, Present and Future”**

BUTTERFLY BROCHURE

Following the success of our new Bird brochure, the Executive have decided to work towards a similar brochure, probably for butterflies and moths. If you have any good photos of the local ones, the committee would love to see them. More news as plans go forward.



Pale Swallowtail

Photo: Bob Puls



Purplish Copper

Photo: Bob Puls