

President's Message – December 2010

I am happy to report that changes are in the wind—the society is recruiting new board members, new fundraising projects are moving forward, and demand for our programs remains strong. We had our



Salmon of the Salish Sea swam upon a fishmas tree, Everyone came to see a Salmon transformation. Silver-blue to Reds and Greens, the children called it a Stream of Dreams Louiu Towett-arcent wonderful 100,000 Dreamfish/ 10th Anniversary Gala in September, and it was a relaxed, cozy event on Burnaby Lake with wonderful music by Holly Arntzen, Kevin Wright and Brian Newcombe. Thanks so much to staff and volunteers for all of the hours they put in on this event, and thanks to all the sponsors of silent auction items, food and other contributions.

While the society and its teams continued to roll along, as 2010 winds down, it's clear that it has been a challenging year, particularly in respect to funding. Government funding for environmental programs remains in the doldrums, and with the overall condition of the economy still uncertain, foundation support is also very tight. Staff and board members have been working hard creating on fresh approaches to fundraising, as it is clear that the society cannot governments rely on and foundation grants. Programs such as "Adopt a School" and

"Adopt a Classroom" are underway, and an exciting new partnership through which schools and PACs can raise funds through selling environmentally safe household and personal care products is in a pilot phase.

We are actively recruiting new board members with fresh ideas and untapped energy. I believe this is key to moving the society forward. Some of the present board directors and members of the executive have been with the society since its inception, and others for five years or more. While of course we honour the commitment and contributions of the present directors, it will be invigorating to see some changes. If you're passionate about water--our most precious resource after the air we breathe---and enjoy working with creative, talented folks on great programs for kids and communities, we need you.

Paul Cipywnyk

Sidney Elementary School Does Stream of Dreams

It has been two months since the completion of the Stream of Dreams project at Sidney Elementary School and students, teachers, parents, as well as Sidney residents are still raving about the "fish on the fence!"

Our "Installation Day" was September 24th, which seemed pretty hectic at first with the start of a new school year. However, in hindsight, it brought a real cohesiveness to school, which is still apparent months after the project! It was a terrific project to coordinate and I would like to thank all the wonderful people I met while working on the project. Together we truly empowered the students of Sidney Elementary School to improve their community and waterways.

By Anita Blakley

Photo: Anita and her daughters



Stream of Dreams News / Volume 6, Issue 2 / Page 2 of 4 Metrotown's Metropolis Express gets fishy

On October 23 Stream of Dreams staff and volunteers together with 20 eager volunteers from Byrne Creek Secondary School's Leo Club went to Metropolis at Metrotown to raise funds and awareness through the Metropolis Express Fall 2010 Challenge. All proceeds from train riders during the month of October are to be directed to SDMS and on our challenge day, we encouraged both riders and shoppers to decorate a silver salmon to attach to the train turning it into a "salmon run!" Thank you to the Byrne Creek Leo Club and Metropolis at Metrotown.



Stamping for Salmon and Clean Water!

Stream of Dreams co-founder Louise Towell designed a Sidewalk Salmon Stamp for the City of Vancouver and the Dunbar Residents Association to commemorate a Vancouver lost stream whose Musqueam name is Khahtsulek.

The custom-made salmon stamp is used to emboss permanent salmon imprints into wet cement. The City of Vancouver made two "sidewalk salmon stamps" and one of the stamps was kindly donated to the Stream of Dreams Murals Society. Stream of Dreams Murals Society is making the sidewalk salmon stamp available to borrow for a donation to the societies Adopt A School program that means anyone can make a "sidewalk salmon statement! So get Stamping for Salmon and Clean water! **Project Quotes:**

"I've heard talk about healthier choices of cleaning supplies at home and ways to reduce water use at home." *Discovery Passage School*

Due to the watchfullness and instructions of their child, a McLean Elementary School parent says, "I can't put anything down the drain anymore!"



Thank You to SDMS Major Supporters for 2010-2011

Stream of Dreams Murals Society

Educating communities about their watersheds, rivers and streams, while dazzling them with the charm of community art.

Contact us: #182- 5489 Byrne Road Burnaby, BC V5J 3J1

Phone: 604-434-4304

Web: <u>www.streamofdreams.org</u> E-Mail: info@streamofdr<u>eams.org</u>

- Fraser Salmon and Watersheds Program
- BC Hydro
- TD Friends of the Environment Foundation
- General Paint supporting Stream of Dreams project across Canada
- Scaffold Depot, North Fraser Pre-trial Centre, Surrey Pre-trial Centre
- Individual donors





Help deliver environmental education for water conservation and protection by joining or renewing the Stream of Dreams Murals Society and/or by making a donation.

For member/donor form visit: <u>http://www.streamofdreams.org/index.php?pgid=30</u> and scroll down to the member form.

By mail: Mail a cheque to the address to the left.

Online: Use the Canada Helps online portal at <u>www.streamofdreams.org</u> to make a secure donation with a credit card.

Donate shares: Avoid paying taxes on capital gains and support environmental education by donating securities. You get a tax receipt for the full value of the securities. Contact SDMS for more information.

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Projects during 2010

Stream of Dreams teams have been very busy this year sharing our message of keeping waterways clean and healthy with a record 22,000 participants! This brings our total participants to 122,000. We end this year with close to 400 total projects completed.

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Stream of Dreams on Twitter

While some folks just don't get social media, the power of Twitter should not be underestimated. I'm a fan, because I've experienced the positive results that can arise from judicious use of social media. For example, I know that reporters and editors from several media outlets follow my Twitter feed, and some of them are now also following the Stream of Dreams feed. That's led directly to interviews and stories related to streamkeeping and community issues. I know that some politicians and bureaucrats from various levels of government are also followers.

As the Stream of Dreams Twitter guy, my aim is to post

several Tweets a day on topics such as where project teams are doing the program at the moment, thanking sponsors, sharing tips on keeping watersheds healthy, sharing comments from students and teachers, pointing to media stories covering Stream of Dreams, pointing to interesting coverage related to water and watersheds, etc. But I need a constant flow of information to feed the beast! So if you have anything to share, please email me directly at <u>paul@cipywnyk.com</u>. Check out the Stream of Dreams Twitter profile and see our Tweets at:

<u>http://twitter.com/#!/StreamofDreams</u>. If you're on Twitter, you can follow us at @StreamofDreams.

Stream of Dreams Society News

AGM 2011 – A good time to join the Board!

Mark your calendars: the Stream of Dreams Murals Society 2011 AGM will be on March 29th. Catch up on 2010 activities and plans for 2011. Be part of the 2011 plans and become a Director for the society!

The board meets three to five times a year to receive progress reports from staff, keep an eye on finances, address various matters that arise, and discuss future projects and direction. If you are interested, or know of someone else, please contact Paul Cipywnyk - SDMS president.

Society members are always welcome to sit in on board meetings.

Adopt a classroom/school:

Give the gift of water education for a class of students or an entire school by donating to the Stream of Dreams Murals Society Adopt-a-School fund. Help children learn in a positive and fun way about water conservation and their local watershed. It's easy: Fill out our Adopt a School form on the website and mail a cheque directly to the Stream of Dreams Murals Society or contribute by credit card



A Stream of Dreams swirls along Byrne Creek

through the Canada Helps portal. Choose the Adopt-a-School fund and select the city or region where you would like your donation applied.

Volunteering for SDMS

Stream of Dreams Murals Society welcomes volunteers.

- Help make wooden fish cutting or painting
- Help install murals
- Fundraising reach out to friends, associates and businesses to invite support
- Office assistance
- Join our Board of Directors Help steer Stream of Dreams into its second decade
- Help out at public events

Top six reasons to become a SDMS member

1. You'll be making a difference by helping us educate children about protecting fish habitat

2. You'll be showing your support for the ongoing work of the Society.

- 3. You'll help with Funding
- 4. You can serve on the SDMS board

5. Because salmon can't officially join. You are human and can.

6. We want you. 🙂

Facebook and Twitter

Follow the Dreamfish on our social network pages: Stream of Dreams Murals Society group and nonprofit society and http://twitter.com/StreamofDreams.



Walk the Talk for Stream of Dreams!

Stream of Dreams Director Lynn Duncan has created a new fundraising opportunity for schools and organizations to help cover the cost of their Stream of Dreams project. Walk the Talk is a collaboration between Stream of Dreams and Echoclean which allows schools to raise money in support of environmental education while making greener purchasing decisions. About 25% of the money raised will be forwarded to the Stream of Dreams Murals Society on behalf of the school.

Interested in participating? Get in touch!

