

Rocky Point Bird Observatory
Annual General Meeting
First Unitarian Church of Victoria

March 21, 2018

7:00 -7:45 pm

- 1) Approval of the Agenda. Moved by Kim Beardmore. APPROVED.
- 2) Approval of the 2017 AGM Minutes. Moved by Jannaca Chick. APPROVED.
- 3) President's Report by Andrew Harcombe
 - a) **The Staff for 2017:**
 - i) MAPS Banders: Rick Schortinghuis and Wallis Moore Reid
 - ii) Fall Migration Monitoring: Avery Bartels (BIC), Rick Schortinghuis, Christian Kelly and Blair Dudeck
 - iii) Student Bander: Kosuke Saita
 - iv) Owl Banders: Rheanna Niedinger and Katie McCreesh
 - v) Education Coordinator: Andrea Neumann
 - vi) Executive Director: Jag Sekhon until October 2017
 - vii) Jane Styles became Development Director in November 2017
 - b) **Fall Migration Monitoring:** 23rd season at the Rocky Point site and the 6th year at Pedder Bay; 186 species were observed, 6349 birds banded of 68 species, and 1,773 recaptures of 39 species. Fall Migration Monitoring will continue at these locations in 2018.
 - c) **MAPS 2016:** 2 sites (Madrona Farm and Witty's Lagoon), 614 birds banded of 30 species, and 141 recaptures. MAPS will continue at these locations in 2018.
 - d) **Northern Saw-whet Owls:** 1848 NSWOs were banded at 2 sites (Rocky Point and Pedder Bay), a 662% increase over owls banded in 2017. There were 67 recaptures of NSWOs. We also banded a record 39 Barred Owls, 1 Long-eared Owl and 1 Western Screech Owl.

We have sufficient funds for all of our banding projects. These will be continued in 2018.
 - e) **Hummingbird Project:** 2017 was another successful season for this project which has been running since 1997. Hummingbird urine was collected and has revealed contamination due to pesticide use in agricultural areas. Alison Moran's

collaborator Christine Bishop (Environment Canada) has submitted a neonicotinoid pesticide paper containing the initial hummingbird exposure data, as well as bee and plant data, to Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry.

- e) **Seawatch:** 2017 was the second year of this project, which aims to gather baseline data on marine birds in the Strait of Juan de Fuca. It is conducted at Beechy Head in East Sooke Park. 37 counts were conducted for a yearly total of 40,341 birds of 81 species.
- f) **Fox Sparrow Project:** In 2012-2013 geolocators were attached to 30 Fox Sparrows. 15 of these birds were recaptured and the data analyzed. The results show that their breeding grounds extend from northern BC up into Alaska. There will be an article on the findings appearing in the Auk magazine facilitated by our Science Committee.
- g) **Education and Outreach**
Andrea Neumann has updated and expanded the curriculum and field trip program. We had a successful fall season in 2017 with more students visiting the Pedder Bay station than ever before. The spring program is well underway and is booking up quickly. We are also collaborating with Nature Kids BC Victoria, HCP and the FUN project.
 - i) Community Events – Creatively United for the Planet at the Royal BC Museum, the 8th IMBD held on May 13 at Fort Rodd Historic Monument, Metchosin Day
 - ii) Ann Nightingale represented RPBO speaking at many events
 - iii) Another successful Annual Banding Workshop was run in March. Thanks to all who participated and volunteered at the event.
 - iv) Bird walks at Outerbridge Park continue on the second Sunday of every month.
 - v) During Fall Migration banding season we conduct bird walks at Pedder Bay twice weekly.
 - vi) In 2017 RPBO held its first Christmas Bird Count for Kids. We plan to make this an annual event.
- h) **Volunteers:** We had 139+ volunteers who contributed over 7100 hours in 2017. This does not include the Hummingbird Project or board hours.

Ann Nightingale moved for acceptance of the President's Report. Seconded by Kim Beardmore. APPROVED by all.

4.) **Treasure's Report** (attached)

Three statements provided: Financial Position (2017 compared to 2016), Revenue and Expenses, and Income and Expenses. Expenses in 2017 were a bit higher than in 2016. The Education Program costs have risen because we have more going on now. Membership fees are up. The highest cost incurred is for professional fees (banders). For Migration banding we have changed our model of hiring from contract to that of employees.

In this year's Treasurer's Report we have separated funds into "General" and "Restricted" funds to better reflect the allocation of monies according to our funding agencies.

Our sponsors include the DND, Pedder Bay Marina, the Canadian Wildlife Service, BC Nature, Bird Studies Canada, Outerbridge Foundation, the Victoria Foundation, the Victoria Natural History Society.

For details please see the 2017 Treasurer's Report.

Gail Harcombe moved for acceptance of Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Jane Styles. APPROVED by all.

5.) Election of Directors

Kim Beardmore nominated Ann Nightingale, Warren Drinnan and Christian Engelstoft as new board members. Approved by acclamation.

Jo Motek nominated all current standing board members. Approved by acclamation.

Andrew Harcombe nominated Kim Beardmore as President, Gail Harcombe nominated as Treasurer, Jannaca Chick nominated as Secretary. Executive positions approved by acclamation.

- i) Directors Leaving: Mary Jo Motek, Michael Motek, Heather Crampton, Michael Simmons
- ii) Andrew Harcombe is stepping down as President.
- iii) Remaining Directors still standing: Andrew Harcombe, Kim Beardmore, Gail Harcombe, John Costello, Alison Moran, Ann Scarfe, Daniel Donnecke, Wallis Moore Reid, Mary Catherine Reader, Jannaca Chick, Jane Styles
- iv) New Directors to the board: Ann Nightingale (Education), Warren Drinnan, and Christian Engelstoft.

Call for Adjournment by Andrew Harcombe at 8:45 pm. APPROVED by all.

Break, followed by Jannaca Chick's presentation "Bird Banding in Azerbaijan".