

Little Campbell Watershed Society (LCWS) BC Nature Fall Meeting Report 2019
submitted by David Riley, President

LCWS Partner groups continue to work for the Little Campbell River and its watershed through advocacy, enhancement projects, citizen science and education.

Currently we are working with project partners on a work plan for the Little Campbell River forest trail with invasive removals and planting in September and October.

We will also be facilitating the Canucks Autistic Network with their leaders and youth with a planting along the river site on October 26th.

LCWS members continue to work hard to increase knowledge and promote the Little Campbell River Urban Park Corridor initiative. To date, we have received only positive feedback from residents and government agencies to this. The April 27th 'Get to Know Your River' event was very successful in launching the 'Room for the River' dream to the general public.

Water quality and quantity continue to be serious concerns. LCWS members toured one problematic site May 13th with the owner and have learned it is a complicated situation that will take time to resolve. The local community is working with us and our local MP on this situation.

On May 21, LCWS members led a tour of the Little Campbell River with Surrey Mayor and Council with a wrap up lunch hosted by our A Rocha partners. We will plan for another tour with Surrey Council and are currently planning on a complimentary tour with the Township of Langley Mayor and Council.

LCWS members have attended a number of developer - initiated meetings in the watershed to give our input and express concerns. We appreciate that City of Surrey staff also attend and support our concerns - we are on the same page re: conservation of habitats.

Ongoing monitoring of the galvanizing plant issues and visiting other industrial development application sites to enable our commentary to the permitting process also take up our time.

The LCWS participates in the Shared Waters stakeholder group and have expressed serious concerns about the futility of restoring shellfish harvest in Semiahmoo Bay with so many dogs off leash on the beach. While wildlife often gets thrown under the bus in BC, the glimmer of hope here comes from the fact that local First Nations will never be able to harvest shellfish again in Semiahmoo Bay until domestic animals are restricted and there seems to be increased awareness of this fact.