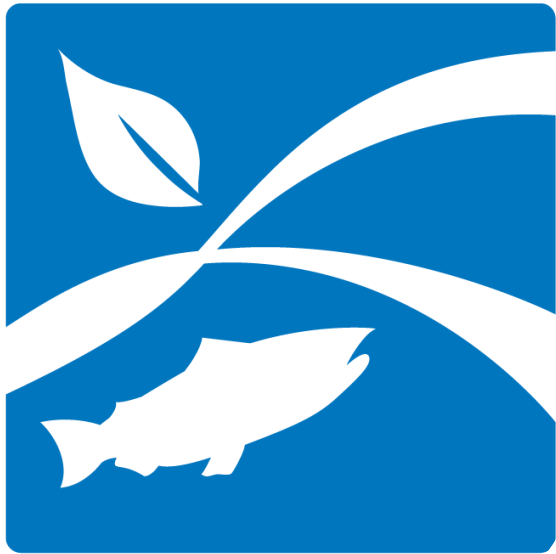


Annual Report 2018



**Langley
Environmental
Partners
Society**

LEPS

Executive Summary

LEPS is proud to present this report detailing our continued achievement in environmental stewardship activities in Langley. The following is a synopsis of LEPS activities for the year 2018.

Agriculture Stewardship

Langley Eats Local: Community Action for a Sustainable Food System

Seed Saving Event:

A new partnership with KPU allowed the 2018 Seedy Saturday event to be held at the Langley campus at the same time as a Langley Community Farmers' Market day, with great success. We continued the tradition of hosting a seed-saving workshop by David Catzel of Glorious Organics Co-operative, along with presentations by KPU Horticulture staff, and a representative of FarmFolk CityFolk's projects in the Bauta Family Initiative on Canadian Seed Security. A seed swap was held and vendors included: BC Eco Seeds Cooperative, KPU Seed Library, Naramata Seed Company, Laughing Swan Farm, and seed fundraisers for the KPU CoHorts and the PAC of Alice Brown Elementary School. Other event contributors included Glorious Organics, BC Farm Museum, Lee Valley Tools, Citizen Seed Trials, Manure Link, and the Non-GMO Project.



School Gardening:

LEPS continues to support a growing number of Langley schools that have, or want, their own school gardens, helping to connect teachers to funding and educational opportunities. A partnership with the Langley Sustainable Agriculture Foundation also continues to develop, with a presentation to Township of Langley Council on a proposal for a Learning Farm that would engage secondary-age students, not currently reached by any of our agricultural programming, in food production education; and provide a base of support for school garden champions.

Sustainable Food Festival:

In partnership with the Langley Community Farmers Market Society, LEPS brought the tenth annual Langley Eats Local sustainable food festival to the farmers' market. Participation continues to grow, in both the weeklong Eat Local Challenge, and in the doubled ticket sales for the local sampling prepared by Langley locavore champion, Chef Adrian Beaty.

Agriculture Awareness Booth:

Our new food system education displays saw lots of use in 2018, reaching new audiences at public libraries, recreation centres and events. A record number of over 2,000 materials were distributed, including many new resources on food preservation, waste reduction, and local sourcing.

Farm Fresh Bus Tours:

This tour was as popular as ever, with a wait list developed for registration in the event. 25 people visited 3 farms on the 2018 Tour, to learn about local food production and the importance of supporting our sustainable growers and producers. Stops included Eagle Acres Dairy, the MacInnes Heritage Farm and Roots and Wings Distillery.

Farm Camp:

The partnership continued between LEPS and two south Aldergrove organic farms, Laurica Farm and Fraser Common Farm (Glorious Organics), with 35 youth aged five to twelve participating in a week of on-farm spring day-camps, offered for two weeks, to learn about agriculture and nature.

Community Harvest Program

2018 was a new record-high year, requiring two staff to share supervision of the volunteers in 80 hours of picking. Nearly 14,000 lbs of fruit were gleaned from backyard and park trees by 58 dedicated volunteers, and half of that benefitted Langley's food banks and community kitchens including: Langley and Aldergrove Food Banks, Langley and South Surrey Sources Food Banks, Salvation Army Gateway of Hope, Langley Senior Resource Centre, Stepping Stones Community Services, and the Weekend Fuelbag school grocery program. A further 1,800 lbs went to a new initiative, to turn rejected fruit into cider by Fraser Valley Cider Company, to be sold in 2019 with all profits benefitting LEPS.



Community Gardens

LEPS continued to coordinate the assignment of plots at three community gardens in the Township and City of Langley, promoting urban agriculture and food security further with an additional new garden built by the City of Langley. The Township of Langley again fulfilled their commitment to LEPS' manure composting program by delivering manure to several of their gardens, as well as wood chips for pathways from their arborist crews.

Murrayville Community Garden: All 41 plots were again assigned this year, and this garden's wait list has continued to grow. Aging beds were repaired, and plans for next year include replacing a dilapidated compost system. Gardeners continue to maintain two beds of produce for food bank donation.

Walnut Grove Community Garden:

The popularity of this garden has continued, with all 58 plots assigned. LEPS continued to facilitate the use of an underutilized corner by Walnut Grove Secondary School students as well.

Linwood Community Garden: This garden's long wait list was temporarily eased by the addition of three new plots (to bring the total to 45), and the construction of an entirely new community garden just a block away (see below). All of its accessible plots continue also to be assigned, with a wait list.



Michaud Community Garden: A new garden completed by City of Langley staff in time for the 2018 growing season, nearly all plots were quickly assigned and a new community grows. The garden benefitted from a grant from the Home Depot Foundation to install a garden shed with the support of City staff.

Habitat Restoration

The 2018 Restoration Program focused on aquatic habitat enhancement through volunteer involvement in tree planting, monitoring, invasive species removal, and beaver exclusion projects. LEPS started work on 2 large instream restoration sites, planting over 2,500 native trees, and shrubs and monitoring for water quality and fish and amphibian populations.

Salmon Watershed Education and Enhancement

The Salmon River Watershed and its once-abundant native species, including the endangered Salish Sucker, are under threat from agriculture and streamside residential practices. This project, launched in April 2015, fosters private land stewardship on properties adjacent to the Salmon River, raised citizen awareness of watershed issues, and enhanced critical habitat for native and endangered species.

LEPS received funding from the Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk to construct off-channel ponds



on West Creek at 264th Avenue and the Salmon River at the Greater Vancouver Zoo in the summer of 2018. Fish and water quality monitoring were completed before and after construction. Over 2,500 native plants were planted and invasive plants removed after the off-channel pond construction. Many volunteers assisted with this streamside work including volunteers from Aldergrove Secondary School, contributing over 200 man hours of volunteer time.

To raise citizen awareness of watershed conservation issues, the project also provided presentations for elementary schools and provided training and workshops for post-secondary students including students from Trinity Western University.

Fingered Wetlands Restoration project

Along with the great work of the Education team teaching students about species at risk and sensitive ecosystems, the field crew completed the final projects to enhance wetlands in NW Langley. Wetland enhancement included removal of 3000m² of invasive plants around the wetlands and installing 627 plants (both wetland and upland plants).

Prescriptions for each site were drafted by a local biologist, providing information on further work landowners could carry out on their properties as well as future maintenance needed for enhancement sites.

Pollinator Pathway project

Pollinators was the buzz word at LEPS for 2018! Social media, day camps, events, crafts, activities, giveaways, plantings, and monitoring all had some sort of yellow and black stripy component.

Our hashtag #LangleyBees was posted 22 times and seen by hundreds of social media users.

Several events were hosted for almost 100 volunteers to spread literally pounds of tiny pollinator seeds and plant 1,300 pollinator shrubs and perennials. We also distributed 1,000 pollinator friendly seedlings to the community and hosted school workshops for kids to plant and take home beautiful sunflowers.



Our first ever Festival of the Bees was attended by 250 community members. And the community was also engaged through presentations and our travelling exhibit that attended 11 events this year and distributed over 1,200 informational brochures and almost 1,000 packages of pollinator seed mix. One adorable pollinator hotel was installed with more to come next year.

Our amazing education team delivered presentations about pollinators to many classes throughout Langley but primarily by our pollinator paradise installed at Buckley Park in the City of Langley. Youth from the community were also trained in monitoring for pollinators and completed inventories at our planting sites.

Education

LEPS continues to be extremely active in providing engaging hands-on learning opportunities for students, including a wide variety of classroom presentations and outdoor sessions to schools in School District (SD)35 (Langley), as well as SD34 (Surrey), SD36 (Abbotsford), and now as far as SD33 (Chilliwack). In 2018 we delivered over 450 classroom workshops and facilitated several community and community group presentations. The Education program brought environmental education to nearly 10,000 students and to countless residents across Langley and the Fraser Valley.

Earth Force GREEN (Global Rivers Environmental Education Network)

In 2018, LEPS continued the partnership with Earth Force and General Motors Canada, into its fifth year. The GREEN program now operates in eleven communities across Canada. This program is a unique environmental education program, and is one of its kind here in Langley, the only location in British Columbia. During 2018, LEPS worked with students from three classes at HD Stafford Middle School, in grade 7, and 1 grade 5 class at Langley Fine Arts School, with a focus on watersheds and water pollution. A total of 105 students participated throughout these two schools. In the fall of 2018, HD Stafford Middle and Langley Fine Arts signed onto GREEN with LEPS, with more than 100 new students and staff taking part. Students were given hands on practical skills in water quality monitoring and had to investigate a local environmental issue and undergo problem solving steps to increase awareness to local community as a means to address the issue.



EcoKit Education Program

The EcoKits continue to be circulated for use by the School District #35. The kits are used by both school teachers and community groups. LEPS currently has 11 EcoKits available: Agriculture and Food Security, Climate Change; Exploring Langley's Ecosystems; Invasive Plants and Animals; Species at Risk; Streams, Fish & Aquatic Habitats; Trees & Plants; Waste Reduction & Composting; Water Conservation; Water, Groundwater & Watersheds; and Wildlife, Habitats & Ecosystems.

Salmon in Your Schoolyard

Salmon in Your Schoolyard continued into classrooms during the 2018. This unique program was designed as a program in which multiple classes are guided through a series of workshops, including preparation, research, activities and a final stewardship project, all of which explore Salmon and Watersheds in Langley and Surrey. A total of 12 classes from 4 schools, Langley Meadows, Alex Hope, Fort Langley Elementary Outdoor School and Sullivan in Surrey participated, both in primary and intermediate grades for a total of 280 students.

Seed to Plate

The Seed to Plate workshops, designed with a focus on local food learning, continue to be popular with teachers and students, had 55 students participating in Seed to Plate workshops. The feedback included praise for the hands-on and experiential learning that takes place during these field trips to local community garden and an organic farm, where the students learn about the food system first hand.

Nature's Classroom

In 2018, LEPS again welcomed 10 classes, bringing 251 students and about fifty parents and teachers to the new home of the program at the Langley Demonstration Garden, welcoming back many regular teachers as well as two new ones. LEPS built on last year's success with an in-school format for our fall session, utilizing existing school gardens. Each class attended six sessions to learn about the food system and agricultural stewardship, and students each took home two potted, edible plants. West Coast Seeds again donated \$300 worth of seeds, and the program was supported by three of LEPS' interns, Sasha Lavigne, Alexandra Falconer, and Emily Lorenz, as well as two returning volunteers contributing over 50 volunteer hours total.



Beyond the Classroom Practicums

For the eighth year, LEPS participated in the University of British Columbia's Beyond the Classroom Practicum. The key purpose of the program is to have teacher candidates' experience teaching and learning in a new context that provides a more holistic view of teaching and enhances the teacher candidate's formal teaching experience. In 2018, LEPS hosted 2 students for a 3 weeks where they assisted with the delivery of our in-class workshops, farm tours, Nature's Classroom sessions, as well as assisted with evaluation and development of new and ongoing projects. New in 2018, Simon Fraser University student teachers were partnered with LEPS for the opportunity to broaden and deepen their understandings of education by spending time in sites of teaching and learning beyond typical classroom or school experiences. New student teachers in SFU Professional Development Program (PDP) completed an education placement with LEPS through guided observations and experiences 'beyond the classroom'

United Way Food for All

This project is partnership driven, providing support to a number of other social agencies in Langley, including the Lower Fraser Valley Aboriginal Society, Encompass Support Services, and the Langley Seniors Resource Society. The *Food for All* project offers skill building opportunities around food preservation and vegetable gardening with the goal of increasing direct access to healthy foods for children 0-12 years old and senior citizens in Langley. LEPS engaged with community partners invested in local food security through participation on the Langley Poverty Action Task Force, a subcommittee of the Langley Healthier Communities Partnership, as they work towards the development of a Neighbourhood House.

In its sixth and final year, this project saw a total of 26 gardening and food preservation workshops presented to 1,661 children, adults/parents, and seniors. Over 7,000 pounds of produce were harvested and donated to local organizations with the help of 50+ volunteers. An average of 100 bags of produce were distributed monthly to seniors via the Healthy Living Bag program. Nearly 100 jars of preserved fruit or vegetables, and 223 container gardens for growing vegetables, and 500 packages of vegetable seeds were also distributed to target beneficiaries._

In 2018 LEPS again promoted the Plant a Row-Grow a Row program, which offers free seeds to backyard and community gardeners to grow a row of produce for donation. At two collection events, LEPS received a total of 67 lbs of fresh produce to donate to the Gateway of Hope.

WaterWeeks and WaterWise School Programs

The Township of Langley funded numerous school initiatives through WaterWeeks and WaterWise programming. During WaterWeeks 2018, 550 students from 25 classrooms received a water-themed workshop or field trip to a Williams Park in Langley. In 2018, the Water Wise program continued to support of two of LEPS' water conservation education workshops: *Water, Water Everywhere* for Grade 2 students and *Get to Know Your H2O* for Grades 5 to 7. In total, 60 workshops were delivered. In May 2018, the Coquitlam Watershed Tour was delivered to two classes in ToL, for a total of 60 students and 6 teachers.



Dream Rider Theatre Productions provided 6 ToL elementary schools with live theatre performances to educate children about water conservation in May and June, 2018. The live show titled "H2Whoa! A play about water conservation" taught children about the water cycle, sources of water pollution and inspired kids to feel that water saving is fun. The live show was performed for 1907 students from Kindergarten to Grade 7 and approximately 95 teachers.

LEPS also participated in Science Literacy Week, hosted by PromoScience (Natural Sciences and Engineering Resources Council), hosting Science of Water workshops at local libraries and facilitating a Science Literacy Week booth at the BC Rivers Day Festival.

Solid Waste Education

LEPS offers 4 elementary workshops on waste reduction to schools across Langley Township; these subsidized programs are offered to both private and public schools. Modified versions of these programs have also been offered to Girl Guide and Scout groups, Montessori groups, preschools and summer camps. These programs include, Waste Warriors (K-1), Trash Avengers (2-4), Food Isn't Garbage (5-8), and Loop Scoop (4-7). 120 workshops and 6 additional workshops during Waste Reduction Week (October 15-21) were provided during 2018 to almost 3,000 students in Langley schools.

Outreach

The LEPS website (www.leps.bc.ca), LEPS monthly e-newsletter, and LEPS Facebook page continue to be strong links to the community. The newsletter highlights volunteer opportunities and local environmental events. In 2018, LEPS directly contacted nearly 1,100 people per month through this email and an average of 10 new people per month joined our mailing list. Social media is also a strong tie to the community. At the end of 2018 we had 1,175 followers to our Facebook page, 857 followers on Twitter, and we established an Instagram page.

Public Events

LEPS staff presented a variety of topics in 2018 to very diverse audiences. Topics presented included: water, invasive species, gardening, greener cleaners, wetlands, and others. LEPS also exhibited our display and participated at 40 community events throughout the Lower Mainland and interacted with over 3,500 people at those events!

Canadian Environment Week

For Canadian Environment Week, LEPS partnered with Langley Member of Parliament Mark Warawa to distribute free trees to Langley residents. On a Saturday morning in June, 500 Saskatoon Berry and 500 Red Flowering Currant seedlings were distributed to the public at the Langley Home Depot. LEPS also participated in the Langley Environmental Hero Awards.

Grow Healthy, Grow Smart

In 2018, LEPS worked in conjunction with the Township of Langley on the continued implementation of a cosmetic pesticide reduction campaign. The Grow Healthy, Grow Smart program encourages residents to reduce or eliminate pesticide use for cosmetic (non-essential, aesthetic) purposes.

75 people registered to attend the Salmon Friendly Gardens Seminar (SFGS) hosted by the Grow Healthy, Grow Smart program. The seminar, held on March 3, was presented at the Langley Golf Centre and hosted three different speakers presenting on the theme of gardening in a changing climate. The speakers were: Dr. Elizabeth Elle "The Buzz on Bees: Why they are declining and what we can plant for them" and Andrea Bellamy "Incredible Edibles in Containers — Small-Space Vegetable Gardening 101".

1 public workshop was held in partnership with Cedar Rim Nursery. On April 7, the Pollinators workshop focused on mason bees and was attended by 20 people. 5 workshops were held April –June upon request at the Murrayville Library, Langley Community Services Society, and two Food and Friends luncheons, attended by 113 people. Topics included Backyard Composting, Container Gardening, Organic Vegetable Gardening and Pollinator Friendly Gardening.

In 2018, the Grow Healthy, Grow Smart program was present at 8 community events, which were held in different communities and engaged a range of residents. LEPS also organized a display schedule with 11 Township of Langley facilities. Each facility hosted the Grow Healthy, Grow Smart program display in the foyer. Booklets, postcards, comment forms, a table with various natural gardening resources, the GHGS display panel and the stand-up shelf display was at each facility for an average of 11 days.



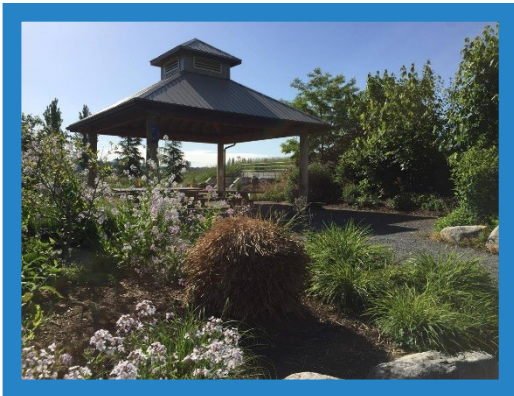
Langley Demonstration Garden

This year marked the 6th year of the the Demonstration Gardens' new location at the Derek Doubleday Arboretum. The team for the 2018 season consisted of the Garden Coordinator, Emily Lorenz; Garden Assistant, Alexandra Falconer; and Meg Jordan who joined us for 6 weeks of Eco-Explorers as Garden Educator. The garden is looking more established each year as trees and shrubs grow larger and into place. Many of the pear and apple trees produced fruit for the first year. There was a work party held on May 1st to prepare the garden for opening day; 10 LEPS staff worked for 2 hours to help weed, prune and prepare for the new season.



The summer was busy and full of workshops, starting in May with pre-school classes coming to the garden every week to learn about insects and worms. We had 335+ kids (plus their parents and teachers) attend our workshops in total over 3 weeks in May. 3 additional workshops were given at the Strong Start Langley Meadows and Family Place at Shortreed elementary in mid-June.

We held a total of 9 Garden Smart workshops this summer and had 90 participants in total throughout the summer with the most popular workshops being *Wild Edible Foraging*, *DIY Soaps and Natural Cleaning Products* and *Weaving with Invasive Species*. There was an additional DIY Soaps and Natural Cleaning Products workshops added due to popular demand. We also hosted 5 extra workshops on vegetable gardening and pollinators to community members; 2 were given at the Demonstration Garden and 3 were in other locations with a total of 86 people attending all 5.



This years Eco-Explorers brought 299 eager kids to the garden over 6 weeks from July- August to learn about topics within the following themes: *Garden Detectives*, *Pollinator Power*, *Close the Loop*, *Tree Huggers*, *Things with Wings*, and *It Isn't Easy Being Green*. For two of the workshops we had special guests visiting the garden, Bryn Jones with his many bees as well as the Northern

Spotted Owl Breeding Program with Forrest the barred owl.

The Demonstration Garden hosted 4 events this summer beginning with Opening Day on May 26th. We hosted Langley's first ever Festival of the Bees, which was a great success! The Honeybee Centre, Campbell's Gold and KPU Beekeeping join us for food, activities, a pollinator plant sale and live music. The weather was perfect and we had a great turnout of 150+ people. In June and July, we had 2 Picnics in the Park with a total of 50 people attending and our annual Blackberry Bake-Off in August where we hosted approximately 250 residents in the garden for face painting, music, activities for the whole family and treats from our guests, David's Tea and Nature's Fare.

We wrapped up the season with some of our most dedicated Seniors' Gardening Club volunteers by hosting a big demo garden harvest and picnic/potluck.

WaterWeeks Community Events

LEPS continued its partnership with the Township of Langley's Water Resources and Environment Department through the ever popular *WaterWeeks* program. *WaterWeeks* is a three-week series of activities and events designed to encourage active citizen participation in environmental stewardship.

WaterWeeks 2018 kicked off with the BC Rivers Day Festival held for a fourth year at the Derek Doubleday Arboretum. The event was attended by approx. 1,600 citizens. 70 participants from 30 organizations offered interactive displays and activities related to environmental stewardship. 15 volunteers assisted with set-up and activities.

A further 270 people participated in eight community events, including the Farm Fresh Bus Tour, West Creek Wetlands tour, invasive plant pull, Dig In! Tree planting event, two film screening, and school programs.



WaterWise

The Water Wise Program was once again presented in partnership with the Township of Langley and educates Langley residents about the drinking water sources and water conservation initiatives, through school programs, public forums and presentations, community event outreach, landowner contact, lawn sign contest and survey.



LEPS hosted a public seminar in July to educate township residents on septic system care and maintenance, seminar presented by expert Dean Scovill, 35 participants attended.

LEPS promoted the Water Wise program at 14 community events during the summer 2018. Static displays were placed at 10 recreation centres and libraries. The Water Wise program gave

away 1,526 promotional items and more than 200 brochures to educate residents about water conservation at community events and static displays. From June to August 2018 the Water Wise team conducted door to door activity in Bedford Landing, High Point, Murrayville,

Walnut Grove, and Brookwood. Visited 3,214 homes, engaged approximately 924 landowners in conversations about drinking water, water sources, water conservation and Metro Vancouver lawn sprinkling regulations, and left educational materials in all homes.

Metro Vancouver introduced new water regulations in the summer 2018. Water restrictions are now planned from May 1 to October 15, and lawn sprinkling is allowed 2 days per week (one less day per week compared to 2017). In 2018 the restrictions remained in Stage 1 for the whole summer.

The Water Wise team also encouraged residents to participate in the Go Golden challenge. "Go Golden" and "1 inch or 1 hour" lawn signs were promoted door to door, at community events and static displays. In 2018 were not offered incentives for taking signs and commit to the initiative, with the idea to promote residents' personal motivations in not watering at all their lawn or water only one hour per week. We distributed a total of 70 lawn signs (67 Go Golden, and 3 1 inch 1 hour).

Watershed Stewardship

The volunteers of Langley's Watershed Stewardship community continue to assist LEPS in reaching its goals. They tirelessly plant trees, host informational meetings, put up posters, enhance local salmon populations, control invasive species, pick up garbage, and continue to maintain good working relationships with municipal staff. Stewardship group members volunteered 610 hours this year and they encouraged their local community members to volunteer through their community events over 300 hours.

LEPS continues to provide direct coordination services for the Bertrand Creek Enhancement Society, Glen Valley Watersheds Society, Little Campbell Watershed Society and Yorkson Watershed Enhancement Society. When required, LEPS also provides support to the Nicomekl Enhancement Society, Salmon River Enhancement Society and Langley Field Naturalists and liaise with Derby Reach Brae Island Association.

Through LEPS, the stewardship groups get additional promotion of their events and volunteer opportunities. Having access to the LEPS e-newsletter and social media platforms stewardship groups are able to spread the word about stream clean ups, and riparian planting projects.

Bertrand Creek Enhancement Society

BCES continues to support school based environmental clubs in Aldergrove such as Shortreed Elementary's Eco Tigers and Parkside Elementary's Environmental Science Investigators (ESI), there were about 40 students involved in these clubs. The ESI's of Parkside Elementary no longer had a teacher mentor but environmental education has continued through monthly visits to local parks, the BCES has been able to support one bus ride.



The BCES organized one clean-up this year as

part of the Township of Langley's Clean-up Langley Day. They made a big impact, removing over 200 bags of dog waste from the small ravine around the creek along with a truck load of garbage.

The BCES continues to tackle invasive plants through their education and outreach program and continue to remove blackberry at their site in Vanetta Park, and Jackman Wetlands Park of which they are a Park Partner.

Visibility in the community is very important to BCES members. They once again participated in the Aldergrove Fair, Township of Langley's Arbour Day, Metro Vancouver Parks' Enchanted Forest program and Meteor Shower evening at Aldergrove Regional Park along with LEPS' WaterWise staff. At the Meteor Shower they educated the community about light pollution at night and its effects on nocturnal wildlife. Their float in Aldergrove's Christmas parade was well received thanks to the hard work put in by all volunteers to make the LEPS truck look fantastic!

Through LEPS, BCES volunteers are sampling for coliforms in Bertrand Creek and Pepin Brook in partnership with the Washington State Ecology Department. Results continue to be alarming but steps are being made by senior government agencies and improvements to the numbers are being seen. A document has recently been released thanks to this program by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy and can be viewed here:

- https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/research-monitoring-and-reporting/reporting/environmental-compliance/audit-reports/6270_nooksackwatershed_auditreport.pdf

The BCES also celebrated a huge milestone this year – 20 years!! Congratulations to the BCES and a huge thank-you to all the members, past and present, who have dedicated time and energy to Bertrand Creek!

Glen Valley Watersheds Society

Another successful year for the Glen Valley Watersheds Society! The 15th Annual Spring bird count this year was attended by 12 volunteers who counted 2,344 individual birds and a whopping 76 species.

The society also participated in community outreach events such as the Bradner May Day Parade handing out hundreds of packages of the "Three Sisters" – beans, pumpkins and corn. GVWS also attended BC Rivers Day and Bradner Flower Show and participated in WaterWeeks, providing the always popular walking tour of West Creek Wetlands. The GVWS held their annual release of chum salmon into West Creek, once again on a weekday so the homeschooling community could participate. Only 5,000 chum were released this year due to issues at the hatchery.



The GVWS continues to battle invasive plants in parks. Partnering with Metro Vancouver

Parks' Ecological Restoration Team again has been helpful to combat Himalayan blackberry in West Creek Wetlands. This year they removed half a tonne of blackberry from the park. They hosted 7 invasive pulls this year.

This year the GVWS created a beautiful calendar for 2019 with photos of wildlife from around their watersheds. They also celebrated finding juvenile coho once again in large numbers in Gloucester Estates (West Creek).

Unfortunately, in 2018 the GVWS lost one of their founding members and long-time supporter Dick Bunbury. His determination to make a positive impact no matter what the challenge and his attitude to get right to the point will be missed. The GVWS is thankful to Dick for all of his support through the years.

Little Campbell Watershed Society

The partner organizations of the LCWS (Semiahmoo Fish and Game Club, A Rocha Canada, Friends of Semiahmoo Bay) continue to come to the table and offer opportunities to share and support each other. They continue to hold the largest meetings of the stewardship groups coordinated by LEPS.

Issues continued with a proposed galvanizing plant and a new rubber plant in Campbell Heights industrial park. The LCWS is supporting community members where they can. LCWS continues to submit letters to the City of Surrey about development in their watershed as part of their successful referral process. LCWS had a public presence through three community events for Metro Vancouver, City of Surrey and Township of Langley.

Yorkson Watershed Enhancement Society

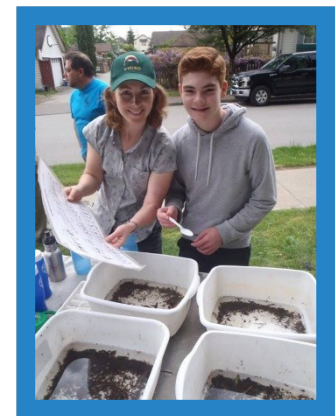
Possibly the most active watershed group in Langley, the YWES hosted five events including a community clean-up that removed 200lbs of garbage; mini-bioblitz that found over 100 plants and animals; and their annual fish release.

The YWES also had several great opportunities to outreach to our local schools and community. This year they joined a classroom of students to remove invasive plants behind the high school and participated in Willoughby Dayz with the local community association.

Salmon spawner counts in 2018 continue to dip though there was a return of coho this year to the mainstem. The annual fish release was successful this year with approximately 70 people coming out to release 50,000 chum.

The YWES spearheaded a question and answer survey for local municipal candidates running in the election. They solicited questions from the other local stewardship groups, organized them, sent them out to the candidates and did the tough work of organizing everything into a document to be sent out to the public.

Invasive species removals, garbage clean-ups, community events and their successful 'field meetings' have reached out to hundreds of members of the community through social media and those just passing by.



Water Quality Monitoring Program

LEPS continued to offer the Watershed Sampling Program in 2018. Volunteers from the community and youth from post-secondary institutions joined the program, as well as students from secondary school. We held 2 training sessions for the volunteers and attended the school several times.

All Langley watersheds were monitored, adding useful water quality data to help us understand the health of our streams. Volunteer donated hundreds of hours undertaking water sampling, which will continue in 2019.

Grade 9 students at Walnut Grove Secondary School were involved in water monitoring, looking at West Munday Creek close to their school. The project started in the school year 2017-2018 with three grade 9 classes monitoring 4 sites, and is continuing in 2018-2019. In the new school year the activity is carried on by two grade 9 classes, approximately 50 students led by their science teacher. The students are monitoring one site close to their school, and learning about the Yorkson watershed, water quality and sources of pollution. They are using the chemistry kit provided by LEPS. While learning the application of chemistry to water monitoring they grow awareness about the environment and a desire to take care of streams and nature around the school.



LEPS also continued water sampling in Pepin Brook, Bertrand Creek and Cave Creek until November, in coordination with Washington State. Water samples were tested for total and fecal coliforms and for E.coli. The sampling is now performed by the provincial government, while LEPS is given the opportunity to remain in contact with all the agencies and participate in an outreach committee that includes BC Provincial Government, Washington State agencies and BC associations involved in agriculture. The objective is to understand and reduce microbiology pollution in the Nooksack watershed. The sampling is identifying potential sources of fecal coliform pollution, and will use DNA characterization to determine the typology of local sources of pollution (animal or human).

Summer Youth Eco-Crew

For a seventh year, LEPS hosted a summer youth employment initiative promoting watershed stewardship and habitat enhancement, funded by the City of Langley. A key aspect of the program was to introduce local youth to environmentally sustainable practices and to instill a stewardship mentality through education, increased awareness and a sense of community ownership.

The program employed six youth (1 leader and 5 crew members) consisting of post-secondary and high school students, from May to August, devoted to the restoration of natural areas and the public promotion of environmental stewardship and sustainability in the City of Langley.

The project provided significant environmental and social benefits to the City of Langley through the protection and enhancement of its urban watersheds, education of its residents and employment of local youth. The Crew attended 8 community events to educate the public on multiple stewardship initiatives. Some of those events included the Langley Community Farmers Market, Langley Community Day and Aboriginal Day Celebrations.

Crew members removed 1160 metres² of Himalayan blackberry from 3 green spaces and monitored previous Japanese Knotweed sites in the City of Langley. The crew received various employability and life skills, such as First Aid, WHMIS, Streamkeepers, conflict resolution, True Colours personality awareness testing among others. In addition, the crew collected 75 pounds of garbage along the City of Langley streets.



The crew also assisted with other LEPS projects where ever help was needed: Community Harvest Program, EcoExplorer Day camps, general field maintenance and projects.

The LEPS Staff

Full Time 2018 Staff Biographies

Nichole Marples- Executive Director

Nichole has been with LEPS since 1998. Nichole holds twenty five years of experiential learning in organizational management, project development, event coordination, watershed stewardship, community involvement, and environmental education.

Lonnie Prouse – Finance Officer

Lonnie has been with LEPS since 2001. She completed a B.A from the University of Victoria in Political Science and Environmental Studies. Lonnie was the LEPS Executive Director from 2001- 2008. Lonnie oversees the organizational administrative duties.

Lisa Dreves – Stewardship Coordinator

Lisa has been with LEPS since 1998. Lisa is a graduate technician, with a diploma in Environmental Protection Technology. She has coordinated the mapping of six watersheds in Langley, and completed the Township of Langley Watercourse Classification Project. Lisa coordinates 4 volunteer stewardship groups, and oversees LEPS' invasive species projects.

Erin Pawlikowski –Education Coordinator

Erin joined LEPS in 2015. She holds two diplomas, Environmental Technician and Ecosystem Management Technologist. She brings a diverse background of experience, combining environmental education, water quality management, volunteer coordination, permaculture design and ecological restoration.

Carly Stromsten – Watershed Restoration Technician

Carly has been with LEPS since 2013. Carly holds a B.Sc in Biology, with a Masters of Science in Environmental Science. She works to restore the watersheds of Langley, securing many successful partnerships with landowners for riparian enhancement projects.

Ava Reeve– Agriculture Programs Coordinator

Ava has been with LEPS since 2013. She has a B.Sc in Global Resource Systems with a specialty in Sustainable Community Development, through the Land and Food Systems program at UBC. Ava is involved with agricultural and food security issues in Langley.

Pina Viola- Water Programs Coordinator

Pina joined LEPS in 2017. She is a biologist specialized in aquatic invertebrates. Pina coordinates the Watershed Monitoring program and operates the Water Wise program.

Meg Jordan- Education and Outreach Coordinator

Meg joined LEPS in 2015. With a varied background including adult education and permaculture, Meg brings a passion for sharing with all ages the wonders of the natural world and our responsibility to care for it.

LEPS Staff 2018

Many part-time and seasonal staff support the work of our full time employees.

Emily Lorenz, *Demonstration Garden Coordinator*

Alexandra Falconer, *Demonstration Garden Assistant*

Geoff Niven and Callan Cooper

WaterWise Team

Sabrina Simak, Brad Prato, Malia Joy, Lindsay

Newton, Paige Tumak *Summer Youth Eco-Crew*



LEPS Staff, Summer 2018

LEPS Board of Directors 2018

Tracy Stobbe, *Chair*; **Lionel Pandolfo**, *Treasurer*; **Jenn Calado**, *Secretary*;
Ted Lightfoot, *Vice Chair*; **Darlene Sherwin**, *Director*; **Jennifer Adhika**, *Director*;
Carrie Milsop, *Director*; **Nora Truman**, *Director*; **Michelle Jackson**, *Director*;
Kevin Larsen, *Township of Langley Representative*

Thank you to our Funders!

- Agriculture and AgriFood Canada, Agricultural Youth Green Jobs Initiative
- BC Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch, Community Gaming Grant
- City of Langley
- Environment Canada, EcoAction, National Wetland Conservation Fund, Environmental Damages Fund
- ECO Canada
- Envision Financial
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Habitat Stewardship Program
- GM Canada
- Investment Agriculture Foundation
- Metro Vancouver, Agriculture Awareness Grant
- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, PromoScience
- Pacific Salmon Foundation
- Service Canada, Canada Summer Jobs
- Toronto Dominion
- Township of Langley
- United Way of the Lower Mainland, Food for All
- Vancity, Community Project Grant
- **A very special thank you to our individual donors!**



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Canada

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Canada

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Canada



Support Environmental Projects in your Community

**LEPS is helping to improve the natural environment and your community.
We need your help to achieve the best results!**

LEPS is a unique, non-profit partnership organization which provides a bridge between community, business and government.

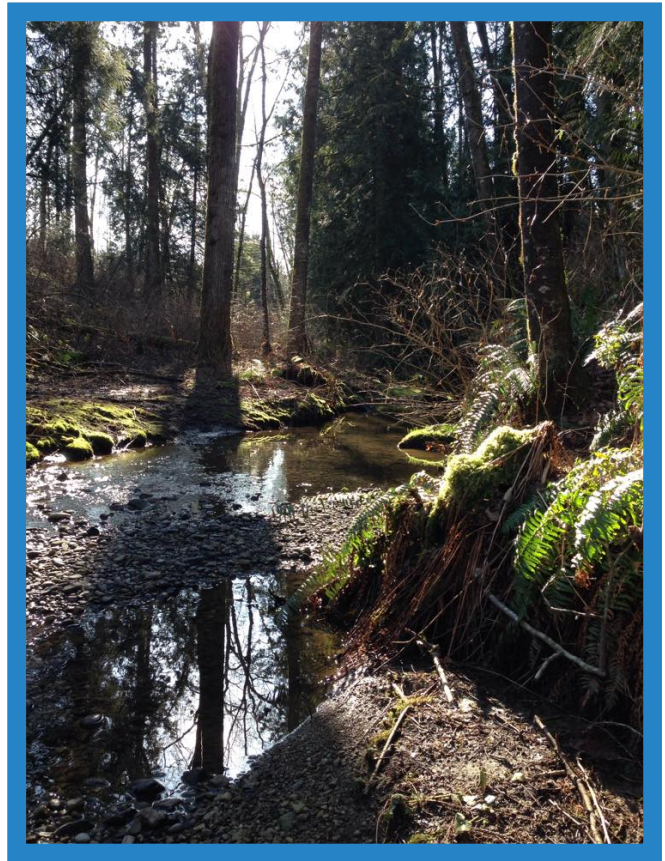
As a leading environmental organization in the Fraser Valley for over nineteen years, LEPS actively partners with local environmental stewardship groups to engage the public in a variety of initiatives that contribute to a healthy community.

LEPS protects and restores the natural environment through education, cooperation and action, and fosters a balanced approach to sustainable living.

Our activities are primarily focused on Environmental Education and Community Outreach, Habitat Conservation and Restoration, Agricultural Stewardship, Community Stewardship, Mapping and Data Collection, and Wildlife Conservation.

Consider becoming a member of LEPS, or joining our Board of Directors. With the active support of the community, LEPS has the ability to make real change in Langley and beyond. Get on board and add your voice to ours!

You can also get involved in helping protect and restore the environment of Langley by making a tax-deductible donation. Direct support from those who value LEPS' work is critical to our continued success. Through supporting LEPS, you will be contributing to practical and cooperative solutions to environmental issues in Langley and beyond. By helping LEPS conserve and restore habitat, map ecosystems, implement sustainable agriculture, monitor and protect wildlife, and raise public awareness – you will be furthering a unique community environmental partnership.



Langley's Stewardship Groups

Langley has several stewardship groups partnered with LEPS and dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of Langley's Watersheds. LEPS assists Langley's groups with technical, logistical and funding support and helps them expand their capacity by networking. LEPS acts as a central resource centre for both the stewardship groups and the general public. Each year LEPS provides information and answers queries from hundreds of Langley residents.

We encourage you to locate the group in your area and contribute your energy! Many of the groups maintain websites, and all are active on Facebook.

Little Campbell Watershed Society

<https://littlecampbellriver.org/>

Nicomekl Enhancement Society

facebook.com/NicomeklEnhancementSociety

Yorkson Watershed Enhancement Society

<http://www.ywes.org/>

Salmon River Enhancement Society

www.salmonriver.org

Glen Valley Watersheds Society

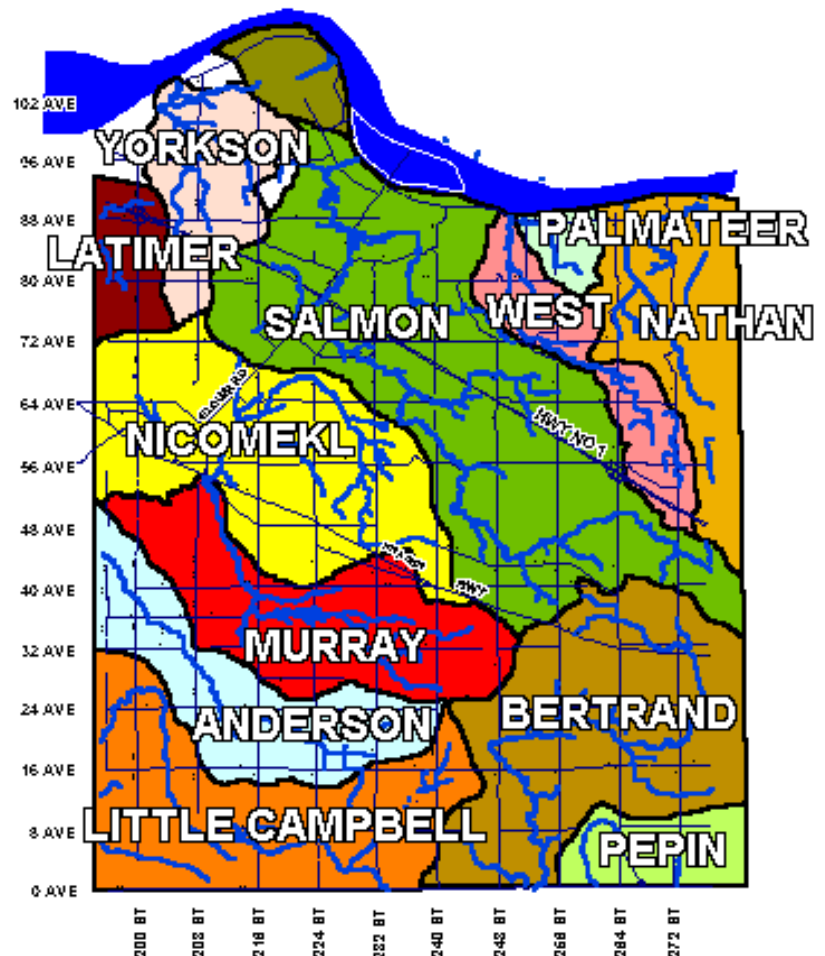
www.gvws.ca

Bertrand Creek Enhancement Society

www.bertrandcreek.ca

Langley Field Naturalists

www.langleyfieldnaturalists.org



604-532-3511



leps.bc.ca



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LANGLEY ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERS SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018

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LANGLEY ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERS SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

DECEMBER 31, 2018

ASSETS

Current:	2018
Cash and cash equivalents	107,773
Accounts receivable	24,000
Supplies on hand	<u>16,723</u>
	148,496
Capital (Note 2)	10,555
	\$159,051

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current:	
Wage and employee deductions payable	7,085
Deferred Revenue	<u>22,110</u>
	29,195
Net Assets:	
Net assets invested in capital assets	10,555
Unrestricted net assets	<u>119,301</u>
	\$129,856
	\$159,051

LANGLEY ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERS SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND NET ASSETS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018

Revenues:	General Account	Gaming Account	Total
Grants	\$161,366		161,366
Community Gaming Grant		20,000	20,000
Contracts	317,562		317,562
Township of Langley	100,000		100,000
Foundations	89,614		89,614
Training + Workshops	25,741		25,741
Interest	59	9	68
Donations	13,465		13,465
Miscellaneous	10,210		10,210
TOTAL	\$718,017	\$20,009	\$738,026

Expenditures:	General Account	Gaming Account	
Wages and Benefits	\$430,241	20,009	450,260
Contracted Services	28,360		28,360
Computer/Software/Hardware	7,997		7,997
Materials and Equipment	59,016		59,016
Automotive	24,499		24,499
Amortization	3,418		3,418
Public Education	106,929		106,929
Operating Costs	28,848		28,848
Advertising and Promotion	5,732		5,732
Deferred Revenue	22,110		22,110
Tax Expense	6,199		6,199
TOTAL	\$723,349	\$20,009	\$743,358

General Account	
Excess of Revenue over Expenditures	-\$5,332

Gaming Account	
Excess of Revenue over Expenditures	0

LANGLEY ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERS SOCIETY

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2018

Organization:

Langley Environmental Partners Society was incorporated in British Columbia on August 5th, 1993. The Society is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act.

Capital Assets:

Amortization of equipment is provided using the declining balance method at a 20% rate and at a 30% rate for computer hardware.

	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	2018 Net
Equipment	\$26,379	\$25,898	\$481
Computer hardware	41,710	37,340	4,370
Vehicles	<u>52,318</u>	<u>46,614</u>	<u>5,704</u>
	\$120,407	\$109,852	\$10,555

Deferred Revenue:

Revenue related to expenditures of future years is not recognized as revenue in the year but is recorded as deferred revenue.

