



Slocan Lake Stewardship Society

Strategic Plan

2014-2015

Approved by Board of Directors: October 7, 2014

(Abridged Edition Without Sub-Objectives)

2014-2015 STRATEGIC PLAN

The Slocan Lake Stewardship Society (SLSS) has developed this Strategic Plan to guide the organization's programs and activities for the next two years. This plan is intended to articulate direction and provide a framework for decision making, as well as detail how SLSS will take action on its identified priorities in terms of work planning and budgeting in years 2014 and 2015.

This plan will be revisited and adjusted as needed. Progress on objectives will be reviewed on an on-going basis and modifications may occur as opportunities arise.

This Strategic Plan reflects an organization at a tremendously exciting time, where years of research and outreach have forged a strong foundation for legislative protections and community stewardship.

THE PURPOSES OF THE SOCIETY

1. To research and cooperatively plan guidelines that will ensure the care and protection of Slocan Lake, its tributaries and foreshore;
2. To support and initiate projects and programs for sustainable lake use; and
3. To facilitate education regarding Slocan Lake, its tributaries and its environs.

The Slocan Lake is a rare aquatic body with 50 kilometers of glacier- and stream-fed water, undammed and free flowing, with a natural shoreline and a provincial park on one side—a nearly pristine hydrologic system. We of the Slocan Lake Stewardship Society have the great joy of living close to this place of wonder and natural heritage.

OUR MISSION

The Slocan Lake Stewardship Society is dedicated to protecting the beauty, health and wonder of the magnificent Slocan Lake ecosystem for future generations. We do this by investing in science that helps us learn how Slocan Lake and its surrounding ecosystems function, and what needs to be done to keep the system healthy; by developing useful, credible and accessible information that is publicly shared; and by working cooperatively with local communities and governments to set priorities for managing Slocan Lake and its environs in a manner that fosters collective responsibility.

OUR VALUES

OUR EXPERIENCE OF SLOCAN LAKE IS AN EXPERIENCE OF AWE, GRATITUDE, AND WONDER.

1. We value Slocan Lake, its tributaries, and its related ecosystems.
2. We value the health of this entire ecosystem as essential to the health of our communities.
3. We value this ecosystem as a rare and irreplaceable gift.
4. We value the privilege and responsibility of stewardship for this ecosystem.
5. As temporary guardians, we value this ecosystem as a common good to be sustained for future generations.
6. We value local, informed decision-making and the collective ability to make wise choices for this ecosystem.

OUR FOCAL AREAS

SLSS has identified 4 areas in which we focus our programs and activities for the protection, enhancement, and restoration of Slocan Lake Watershed.

Science

Education

Advocacy

Operations

GOALS, OBJECTIVES & ACTIONS for 2014-2015

Some of the goals, objectives and action plans contained in this document were developed in early 2013 by the SLSS Board of Directors at two planning sessions held on February 24 and March 16. This updated edition for the 2014-2015 period is a result of a review conducted by the Board on July 19, 2014. Refinements and adjustments to this document are anticipated to ensure it remains living and flexible. An important aspect of the strategic planning process was to collectively articulate an inspiring direction and identify priorities that will provide a framework for how the Board plans and makes decisions in the coming years.

Goal 1: To protect, enhance, and restore Slocan Lake watershed by supporting research into its ecosystems, its cultural history and ongoing human impacts.

PRINCIPLES OF RESEARCH:

- ✓ Research will be based on a scientific research plan for the Slocan Lake watershed that is guided by our Science Committee's expertise and the priorities established by the numerous studies and reports on Slocan Lake;
- ✓ Scientific findings will be used to direct Slocan Lake's watershed protection, enhancement, and where required, rehabilitation;
- ✓ Science studies will involve volunteers to the full extent appropriate.

Objective 1: Create a research plan for Slocan Lake Watershed specifying; a) what's needed for the LMP; b) what's needed for other priorities.

Objective 2: Ongoing work on water studies in multiple areas and modalities.

Objective 3: Continue Monitoring and Prevention of Invasive Species.

Objective 4: Participate in the Slocan Wetland Assessment & Monitoring Project.

Goal 2: To protect, enhance, and restore Slocan Lake watershed by creating a culture of support and stewardship through educational programs and services.

Objective 1: Develop program for volunteer participation in science and education.

Objective 2: Explore collaboration with other water education groups.

Objective 3: Maintain ongoing public information.

Objective 4: Ongoing presence at Slocan Watershed Community Events.

Goal 3: To protect, enhance, and restore Slocan Lake Watershed through advocacy taken in accordance with this principle: all advocacy decisions must reflect the SLSS mission, values, and purposes.

Objective 1. To work in concert with government agencies and volunteer groups to maintain and augment legislative and regulatory protection, enhancement and restoration frameworks.

Goal 4: To develop and sustain a viable, efficient and effective organization to support the Society's mission.

Objective 1. Develop a stable financial base to support the organization's programs and services.

Objective 2: Review the organization's structure, governance and administrative requirements in relation to its evolving needs and adjust as deemed appropriate.

Objective 3: Enhance and maintain the Board's operational and financial policy framework.

Objective 4: Review the organization's risk management status to ensure the Board's fiduciary responsibilities are covered and adjust as deemed appropriate.

Objective 5: Enhance and sustain a broad community-based society membership and group of volunteers.

Objective 6: Develop a continuous learning and improvement organizational culture.

Objective 7: Manage the organization's public relations consistent with the Society's values and mission.