

Executive Secretary report for AGM November 2020

Michael Stebbings has been, in effect, an Executive Secretary for the club this past year. He has facilitated decisions of the Board by helping to make things run smoothly. He has set up and organised zoom meetings of Directors, zoom meetings of members, and of ButterTubs volunteers, written minutes, assisted the treasurer, managed a phone contact blitz social event, drafted a NN ButterTubs plan, proposed the Miner's Cottage Interpretive Centre project, and developed our Covid-safe outings policy,

He is the Nature Nanaimo representative on the co-ordinated inter-agency ButterTubs Conservation Area Management Committee, taking over the role from the former Friends of Buttertubs.

He also acts as the Nature Nanaimo community representative for the Imagine Nanaimo Town Planning Initiative.

Plus Michael is Nature Nanaimo's representative on various BC Nature committees, where he has been very busy.

BCN Club Representative

As Nature Nanaimo's representative on various BC Nature committees Michael has participated when possible in the Vancouver Island Regional meetings, the Province-wide Council of Club Representatives meetings at the BC Nature AGM and FGM and the advisory Finance Committee of the BCN Board.

The VI Region meetings, co-ordinated by John Neville, occurred twice a year. They are enabled in a conference-call format to reduce the carbon footprint and eliminate unnecessary travel. Through these meetings, Nature Nanaimo has become known and involved with other VI clubs on the Island in various events of mutual interest.

This past year Michael has been working on the development of a web-page on the BC Nature web-site for the Vancouver Island Region; he was tasked with two jobs there. Firstly, he helped with the development of a reading list focussed specifically on areas of interest to clubs on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. Secondly, he has built the framework for a bulletin board system so that VI Region clubs can keep in touch with one another. Both these projects are well advanced. Before they can be finalised and made fully operational, they have been temporarily put on hold so that BC Nature can complete its planned upgrade to its website.

The Province-wide Council of Club Representatives meetings focussed on the new management practices resulting from the modernised bylaws. At the FGM in Pitt Meadows we worked on a new 5-year Strategic Plan for BC Nature. The AGM in Princeton in May was cancelled due to the Covid restrictions. Instead the Council of Representatives reviewed and approved all the various resolutions and the new Strategic Plan by email. Subsequently the AGM was in fact held by zoom 3 weeks late.

Michael was appointed as a member of the Finance Committee again this past year. The Finance Committee advises the **BC** Nature Board on all matters pertaining to the finances of the organisation. We have been looking at some difficult issues these past few months.