

## SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED by SSISC in 2014

### Who is SSISC?

The Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council is a non-profit society whose aim is to minimize further introductions and stop the spread of invasive species that impact on the environment, the economy and human health in the Sea to Sky Corridor. SSISC is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors (7) and Advisors (19), and consists of 432 society members, 1 full-time staff member, a summer field crew of four, and a Program Assistant. We work with the many and varied groups and partners listed in the 'Coordination & Collaboration' section of the table below.



### Achievements for 2014

Education & Outreach	
<b>Web based &amp; Social Media</b>	Website: 80,059 visits (54% increase over 2013) and 538,323 hits (62% increase over 2013)
	Facebook: Converted Facebook profile to an Organizational Page in June 2014. From June to December the page received 326 likes (Facebook profile had 284 friends in 2013) and SSISC has posted 51 times
	YouTube: Dedicated channel featuring 9 videos
	Twitter: 180 followers (73% increase over 2013) with 296 following and 123 tweets
<b>News Media</b>	4 Articles/news coverage: Pique Newsmagazine (1 coverage, 1 article written by SSISC staff); CBC Radio (1 interview); Whistler Question (1 coverage) 4 SSISC News releases
<b>Newsletter</b>	400 recipients (377 in 2012; 336 in 2013)
<b>Public Presentations and Events</b>	SSISC AGM & Public Forum (April, Whistler) Valleycliffe Elementary School Earth Day (April, Squamish) ISCMV Spring Forum & AGM Presentation - RMOW Bylaw (April, North Vancouver) AWARE Green Talk Presentation - Keeping your garden invasive-free (May, Whistler) Squamish River Watershed Society Field Days (May, Squamish) Yellow Flag Iris Eradication Patrol I @ Wayside & Lakeside Parks (June, Whistler) BioBlitz (August, Whistler) EnviroFest - Crafty by Nature (August, Whistler) Whistler Community Services Society Seniors Drop In (September, Whistler) BC Rivers Day (September, Whistler) BC Rivers Day – Pollinator Enhancement Project (October, Squamish) Community Foundation of Whistler Showcase Gala (November, Whistler)
<b>Community Weed Pulls</b>	Burdock Blitz (June, Whistler) Scotch Broom Weed Pull (October, Quest U) Arn Canal Bugloss & Knapweed Pull (July, Pemberton)

<b>Outreach Programs</b>	<p>ISCBC Plantwise Plant Sellers Program</p> <p>Pemberton's 5 Worst Weeds</p> <p>Yellow Flag Iris Eradication Patrol</p> <p>Alienbusters / Knot On My Property</p> <p>Clean Drain Dry</p>
<b>Outreach Equipment Development</b>	<p>SSISC hanging banner</p> <p>SSISC pop-up banner</p> <p>SSISC species fact sheets</p> <p>Plantwise Perspex Display</p>
<b>Resource Distribution</b>	<p>2110 invasive plant print resources distributed including brochures, booklets, fact sheets, distribution maps, stickers, tattoos, disposal recommendations, course notes, truck window decals, posters, field guides, rack cards, wallet cards, ID carbiners, keychains, lanyards, activity books, bookmarks, magnets and ID guides.</p>
<b>Training Programs &amp; Workshops</b>	<p>SSISC's Invasive Free Certification Program for Horticulture, Landscaping and Earthmoving Companies (10 workshops, 60 participants)</p> <p>Invasive Species ID Workshops (2 workshops, 5 participants)</p> <p>Knotweed Herbicide Application Best Practice Workshop (1 workshop, 4 participants)</p> <p>Resort Municipality of Whistler Staff training</p> <p>District of Squamish Staff training</p>
<b>Signage</b>	<p>SSISC installed Do Not Mow signage at all Japanese Knotweed sites on the Highway 99 MOT right of way</p>
<b>Inventory, Control and Monitoring</b>	
<b>Field Program Summary</b>	<p>The SSISC field crew carried out inventory, control and monitoring at 312 sites (199 sites by our four field employees, and 110 by a contracted biologist) throughout the Sea to Sky Corridor between June and September 2014.</p> <p>Species removed manually included: Yellow Flag Iris, Scotch Broom, Purple Loosestrife, Cypress Spurge, Blueweed, Himalayan Blackberry, Diffuse Knapweed, Spotted Knapweed, Burdock, Perennial Sow Thistle, Hoary Alyssum, Lamium, English Holly, English Ivy, Oxeye Daisy, Canada Thistle, Bull Thistle, Himalayan Balsam, Small flowered touch me not, Spiny Sow Thistle, Common Periwinkle, Flat Pea, Canadian Horseweed, Spanish Broom, Orange Hawkweed and Bladder Campion.</p> <p>Species treated chemically included: Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed, Common Comfrey, and Orange Hawkweed.</p>
<b>Digital Data Collection</b>	<p>In 2014, SSISC moved away from using paper forms in the field and purchased two iPads and the GIS Pro app to facilitate this. Using this new system has greatly improved our data collection, analysis and mapping efficiency and capabilities.</p>
<b>Field Program Budget</b>	<p>In 2014, SSISC's field program budget almost doubled thanks to new funders joining our program and some existing funders contributing much needed additional resources. The budget in 2014 was \$97,416, compared to \$52,664 in 2013.</p>
<b>Fee-for-service</b>	<p>SSISC's field program was made possible by funding from the Community Foundation of Whistler; BC</p>

<b>program funders</b>	Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure; BC Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations; BC Parks; BC Hydro; FortisBC; Squamish Nation; District of Squamish; Resort Municipality of Whistler; Ashlu Creek Investments Limited Partnership and private landowners.
<b>Co-ordination, Consultation &amp; Collaboration</b>	
<b>Local Government Partnership Program Participants</b>	Resort Municipality of Whistler District of Squamish Squamish Nation Village of Lions Bay
<b>Consultation</b>	Consultation services provided to participants of our local government program (e.g. bylaws, disposal recommendations, soil movement) and our fee for service partners.  Provided support for private land owners & responded to all public inquiries about invasive species via phone, email, in person and Facebook.  Provided advice and support to developers and environmental consultants drafting property-scale invasive species management plans.  Verified Report-a-weed sightings for provincial government.
<b>Collaboration</b>	Active participant in Regional Weed Committee collaborative working group. Strong partnerships with the Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver, Lillooet Regional Invasive Species Society, Coastal Invasive Species Council, and the Fraser Valley Invasive Plant Committee.  Coordination and collaboration with ISCBC and government working groups (IMISWG)
<b>Partnership building</b>	Presentation to Lil'wat Nation Department of Land Resources & Public Infrastructure  Presented to Village of Pemberton & Squamish Lillooet Regional District  Attended Pemberton Farmer's Institute AGM
<b>Presentations to funders</b>	Presentation to Community Foundation of Whistler Environmental Legacy Fund committee  Presentation to Squamish Nation Chief and Council  Presentation to RMOW Council - CEP Program funding
<b>Governance</b>	Monthly meetings with Board of Directors and Advisors
<b>Total Budget</b>	Thanks to new funders, and increased contributions from existing funders, SSISC's total budget increased significantly in 2014, going from \$117,575 in 2013 to \$191,099 in 2014.

### Current Partners & Stakeholders

<b>Local Governments</b>	<i>District of Squamish</i>	<i>Squamish Nation</i>		<i>Resort Municipality of Whistler</i>
	<i>Village of Pemberton</i>	<i>Village of Lions Bay</i>		<i>Squamish-Lillooet Regional District</i>
<b>First Nations</b>	<i>Squamish Nation</i>	<i>Lil'wat Nation</i>	<i>N'Quatqua Band</i>	
<b>Provincial &amp; Federal agencies</b>	<i>Ministry of Forests, Lands &amp; Natural Resource Operations</i>	<i>Ministry of Forests, Lands &amp; Natural Resource Operations (Fish &amp; Wildlife)</i>		<i>Department of Fisheries &amp; Oceans</i>
	<i>Ministry of Transportation</i>	<i>Ministry of Environment</i>	<i>BC Parks</i>	<i>Ministry of Agriculture</i>

<b>Industry &amp; Private Business</b>	BC Hydro	FortisBC		Innergex
	Carney's Waste Systems	Critter Get Ritter		Hedberg & Associates
	N&R Forest Management	Mainroad Contracting		Miller Capilano Maintenance Corp.
	Woodfibre LNG	Cascade Environmental Resource Group		BluEarth
	Whistler EcoTours	Backroads Whistler	BC Society of Landscape Architects	Bethel Lands Corporation Ltd.
	Quest University	Capilano University		Sea to Sky Mapping
<b>Industry (Real Estate)</b>	Real Estate Foundation of BC	BC Real Estate Association		Appraisal Institute of Canada (BC)
	Canadian Association of Home and Property Inspectors (BC)			
<b>Industry (Invasive-Free Certification Program for Horticulture, Landscaping &amp; Earthmoving Companies )</b>	Another View Landscaping	Bathtub Gardens	Budial Resource Group Ltd.	Wilson Patchell Backhoe Services
	Clifftop Contracting	Coyote Landscape Contracting	Critter Get Ritter	Deeply Rooted Landscaping
	Fairmont Chateau Whistler Resort	From the Ground Up	Garden Inspiration	Great British Gardener
	Green Admiral Nature Restoration	Heike Designs Inc.	High Country Landscaping & Garden Shop	Ibex Excavating
	Krystelle Levesque	JB Horticultural Services	Jim's Mowing Eagleview	Lady Bug Art & Garden
	Latham Landscapes Ltd	Miller Capilano – Maintenance Crew	Mountain View	Mountainberry Landscaping
	Paulette French Design	Quest University Groundskeepers	Sakura Landscapes	Sea to Sky Soils
	Soundgarden Landscape & Design	Squamish Valley Golf Club	Ted Gobert's Backhoe Services	The Gardener's Yard
	Village Green Landscapes	Whistler Blackcomb	Whistler Excavations	Whistler Landscaping
<b>Industry (Plantwise Plantsellers Program)</b>	Bathtub Gardens	The Art Garden	Creekside Market	Rona Pemberton
	Billies Flower House	Whistler Garden Centre	High Country Landscaping & Garden Shop	Nesters Market Whistler
	Marketplace IGA Whistler			
<b>Community members &amp; other local organisations</b>	Whistler Naturalists Society	Squamish Garden Club		Pemberton Farmers Institute
	Whistler Biodiversity Project	Stewardship Pemberton	Whistler Non-profit network	Pemberton Valley Dyking District
	Pemberton Wildlife Association	Bear Aware	Wildsafe BC	Squamish Environmental Society
	Valleycliffe Elementary School	Whistler Community Services Society		Squamish Trails Society
	Sea to Sky Clean Air Society	AWARE		Squamish River Watershed Society
	South Coast Conservation Project	Whistler Centre for Sustainability		Community Foundation of Whistler