

Minutes of Oct. 9/20 AGM were approved as corrected at the 2021 AGM held Oct. 8/ 21

**Margaree Salmon Association**  
**Annual General Meeting,2020**

Cranton Crossroads Community Center, October 9th, 2020 at 6 pm

Due to COVID all attendees had pre-registered. Social distancing was necessary, and masks were worn.

**Attendees**

1. Kay Robertson
2. Alex Breckenridge
3. Pat Wall
4. Jeff Legge
5. Wayne Cleveland
6. John Stinson
7. Bill Haley
8. Greg Lovely
9. Paul MacNeil
10. Eddie Hillman
11. Sean Dacey
12. Paddy Poirier
13. Eugen leblanc
14. Wendy MacEachern
15. Joel Robinson
16. Peter Mancini
17. John Hart
- 19 Rod Bird
20. Joe Googoo
21. KeithChristmas
22. Jack Aikens

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**-Call to order and the President's Address:** Bill Haley brought the meeting to order at 6:03 pm. He opened the meeting with a moment of silence to remember those who have passed away this year.

Bill then informed the membership that Erin Gillis had been hired as our Conservation Coordinator and that a summer student, Leah Burns, had also been hired. Both did a wonderful job helping out MSA with both administrative and field work. We would welcome them back. MSA participated along with First Nations representatives from all over Cape Breton in World Rivers Day on September 27th,2020 in a water healing ceremony, which was well received by all in attendance.

**-Adopting of the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting:** motion by Peter Mancini, by Rod Bird...mc

(Those minutes, in draft form, were posted on our margareesalmon.ca website, as these will be as well until approved at our next AGM)

**-Adopting of the Minutes of any Special Meeting held since the last Annual Meeting:**

There were no special meetings in 2020.

**-Business arising from last year's minutes:** Bill described two of our biggest projects completed last year: the berm repair in the Sanctuary and the Barrier Free fishing platform at Lake-O-Law. Bill then thanked the Board for their hard work and dedication and explained to the membership how much money was spent last year and that most of that expenditure was offset by fundraising.

**-Adopting of the Treasurer's Financial Statement and Auditor's Report:** motion (John Stinson)...second(Pat Wall)...mc  
The Treasurer's report is attached at the end.

**-Report of the Resolutions Committee:** Peter Mancini told the membership that no resolutions had been received in 2020.

**-Reports of other committees:** Joel Robinson told the membership about the Barrier Free fishing platform project he has been working on for the past 2 years. The project has been well received by the community and there remains a few more jobs to complete, such as a new washroom, walkway and perhaps a boat ramp improvement.

Wendy MacEachern, (MSA Director and Hatchery technician at the Margaree fish Hatchery), told the membership that the hatchery has completed a brood stock collection for the Margaree, Baddeck and Middle rivers.

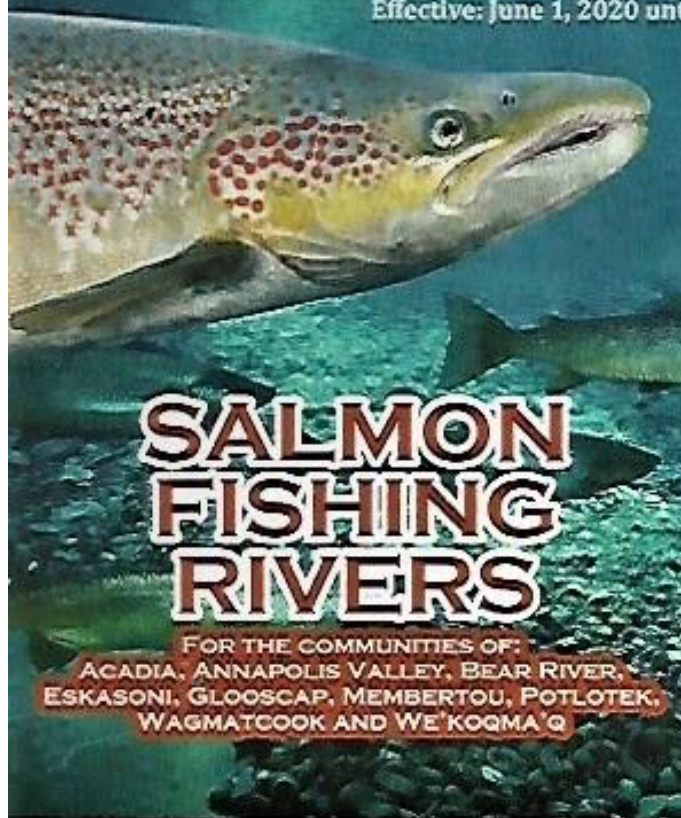
- fin clipping is complete for the Mabou, Middle and Baddeck rivers but not the Margaree.  
-- there have been many improvements to the hatchery this year with 25-foot circular tanks being replaced and a great deal of infrastructure improvements.

Paul MacNeil then told the membership about all the work our habitat remediation crew of 4 did this year, installing new and repairing many older structures. Upwards of 4,000 trees were also planted as riparian zone improvements to help prevent further erosion from Doyles Bridge down to the Gilis Island Pool.

Keith Christmas provided an informative overview of the Mi'kmaq harvests in the Gulf Region. The Mi'kmaq are conservation oriented while harvesting salmon in Gulf Region watersheds where escapement measures are met. Keith emphasised that conservation for future generations is paramount for the Mi'Kmaq.

Please see the attached information card provided by Keith to all attendees. MSA recognizes Mi'Kmaq rights and welcomes Mi'Kmaq participation in all discussions and decisions made by the MSA BOD

Effective: June 1, 2020 until further notice



# SALMON FISHING RIVERS

FOR THE COMMUNITIES OF:  
ACADIA, ANNAPOLIS VALLEY, BEAR RIVER,  
ESKASONI, GLOOSCAP, MEMBERTOU, POTLOTEK,  
WAGMATCOOK AND WE'KOQMA'Q

## Netukulimkewe'l Taking Responsibility

The low number of salmon returning to rivers in Nova Scotia is concerning. On the Gulf of St. Lawrence side of Nova Scotia, salmon populations are doing better.

Currently, the Mi'kmaq are the only individuals retaining salmon for Food, Social and Ceremonial needs.

As Mi'kmaq, we have an important role & responsibility in managing the salmon population for the next seven generations.

This includes only taking salmon from rivers that meet and exceed conservation requirements and reporting your catch.

Please provide details regarding your catch to your community fishery office, UINR or MCG and include river, capture date, size & sex of salmon.

Treat the salmon with respect and return what you are not using to the earth.

## SALMON FISHING RIVERS

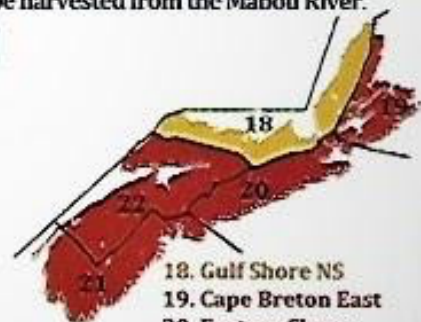
Status Card must be carried as proof of identity when fishing

Salmon can be harvested from the Margaree River. Only grilse can be harvested from the Mabou River.

### Area 18 - Gulf Shore Nova Scotia (Cape Breton)

Margaree River & tributaries (smaller rivers off the main river) consistently exceed conservation requirements. Harvest of large (>63cm; >24.4 inches) & small/grilse (35.5 to 63cm; 14 to 24.4 inches) is acceptable. In the Mabou River, the status of Atlantic Salmon is unknown therefore the harvest of small/grilse (35.5 to 63cm; 14 to 24.4 inches) is necessary to allow the larger, egg-bearing female salmon to reproduce.

Spearing, snaring, dip netting, angling and fly fishing during the day and night with a light source is allowed. Community harvesting efforts using a seine, weir, or trap (maximum 1 trap per river) are also acceptable methods. Gill nets are not allowed for conservation reasons and injures fish.



- 18. Gulf Shore NS
- 19. Cape Breton East
- 20. Eastern Shore
- 21. Southwestern NS
- 22. Upper Bay of Fundy

### Area 18 - Gulf Shore Nova Scotia (Mainland)

Access to salmon in this area is reserved for the communities of Paqtnekek, Sipekne'katik, Pictou Landing and Millbrook. Fishers who wish to fish mainland rivers for salmon should contact those communities and/or the Mi'kmaq Conservation Group.

### Areas 19 - 22

The salmon populations in these areas **DO NOT MEET CONSERVATION REQUIREMENTS**. This includes the Grand River, Middle River, Baddeck River, Skye River, the North River. Snorkel surveys are completed in the North River in the summer and fall to determine if there are enough salmon to harvest. Updates will be provided by UINR.

**-Report of the Nominating Committee and call for further nominations from the floor (three times):** Peter Mancini informed the membership that Paul MacNeil, (VP), Greg Lovely, (Secretary), and John Stinson, (Treasurer), have offered to be nominated for a second 3-year term. Peter then asked the membership present, (three times), if there were any further nominations from the floor. There were none.

(It was not clear to all that nominations from the floor were for MSA Director positions as well- See below).

**-Election of Officers:** Peter asked that the nominations of Paul MacNeil, Greg Lovely and John Stinson stand and that these people be re-elected...second (Joel)...mc

**New Business:** "Bill reported that a committee was being formed to facilitate the best means of communication between Members and the Board and oversee the social media platforms. Some individuals have posted negative comments or disagreements on the organization's social media platforms. Social media platforms are not meant to be platforms for debate or disagreement. A few members were concerned that they could no longer disagree with programs, policies, etc without contravening MSA objectives. Bill stated that we are all entitled to our opinion. MSA social platforms are not to be used as a place to air disrespectful and unfounded opinions. Peter Mancini suggested that members discuss concerns directly with the MSA board, [office@margareesalmon.ca](mailto:office@margareesalmon.ca) , rather than on an open social media platform.

**Adjournment: Motion(Eugene Leblanc)**

**Special note:** After this meeting, concerns about the nominations from the floor for MSA Directors were brought to the MSA Board by Kay Robertson. Kay wished to nominate Patrick Poirier as a Director. The MSA followed up with her request and indeed Paddy Poirier was voted in as an MSA Director.

Kay Robertson also wanted these minutes to reflect her frustration trying to communicate with the MSA Board and that her concerns were not being addressed.

**MARGAREE SALMON ASSOCIATION**

**FINANCIALS, APRIL 1/19 TO MARCH 31/20**

INCOME				EXPENSES		
Grants	AAS19	15,000		Admin	Office	3,012
	Accessibility N	19,000	NS & County		Financials costs	980
	ASCF 19	17,000			Insurance	2279
	Berm	66,000	Can Nature & County		Rent	3600
	Kinsmen, L2F	1,500			AGM Exp	150
	NASCO	1,577	Yr of Salmon		Gifts Donations	230
	RFCCP, 18/19	1,803			Memberships	100
Donations		1,633			Newsletter	1,886
Fundraising	Raffle	960			Website	4,050
	Dinner/Auctio	7,082		Directors' Exp	Misc	916
Membership		3,649		Habitat	AAS Expenses	3,016
Merch Sales		336			Staff Salaries/Exp	69,432.00
HST Rebate		2,800		Projects	Assessibility	17,498
Interest		1,854			Berm	157,268
om Investments		119,485	#####		Year of Salmon	1,416
		259,679			L2Fish	442
				Fundraising	Dinner Auctiion	2,257
				Expenses	Raffle Costs	526
					Trade show	38
					Merch Costs	1,696
						270,792
				Expenses over Income		(-11,113)

##### Transfer from Investme \$30,000 from EJ and SW each and \$59,485 from High Interest Savings account

NOTE RE RENT In July 2019 a cheque for \$18,300 was made out to Cranton Crossroads Community. Centre to prepay rent at \$300 a month until Dec. 2023

**MARGAREE SALMON ASSOCIATION**

**Operating Equity at March 31/20**

Bank Accts	GENERAL	890
	PROJECT	1102
	US	1278
	HIISA	117488
	BUS SERVICES	18
		120776
Accts Rec	HST	10,627
	Prepaid Rent	13,000
TOTAL		144403

Not included in this statement of accounts are our investment accounts.

Edward Jones	\$930,066
Scotia Wealth	\$914,326
	\$1,844,392

NOTE ON INVESTENTS: These were the fund totals JUST as COVID impacted.

Signed

John H Stinson, Treasurer

Bill Haley, President