



Interview with John Templeton, Alan James and Christine Leston by Kathy Bossort October 26, 2015 - Track 3

<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/oralhistory589>

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Repository: | City of Burnaby Archives |
| Summary: | This portion of the interview is about the Stoney Creek Environment Committee members' description of the work SCEC does, using salt contamination from SFU as an example of how stream monitoring is done and of their advocacy work. They also talk about the importance of building relationships to achieve positive change. |
| Date Range: | 1995-2015 |
| Length: | 0:10:58 |
| Name: | Stoney Creek Environment Committee Atchison, Jennifer Soukhatchev, Vladimir Simon Fraser University |
| Subject: | Geographic Features - Streams Organizations - Societies and Clubs Education |
| Geographic Access: | Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area Burnaby - Stoney Creek |
| Interviewer: | Bossort, Kathy |
| Interview Date: | October 26, 2015 |
| Scope and Content: | Recording is of an interview with John Templeton, Alan James & Christine Leston, members of the Stoney Creek Environment Committee, conducted by Kathy Bossort. The three members of SCEC were among 23 participants interviewed as part of the Community Heritage Commission's Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project. The interview is mainly about the history and work of the stream keeper group Stoney Creek Environment Committee (SCEC) and the Stoney Creek Environmental Working Group, and about SCEC's founder Jennifer Atkinson. The interview is made richer by the complementary views of the three interviewees, John Templeton (SCEC Chair), Alan James (Member-at-Large - Education), and Christine Leston (Treasurer). |
| Biographical Notes: | The Stoney Creek Environment Committee is a streamkeeper group and registered non-profit society dedicated to protecting and restoring viable salmon-bearing streams within the Stoney Creek Watershed. (Stoney Creek originates on Burnaby Mountain and is part of the Brunette watershed which empties into the Fraser River.) The volunteer group, formed in 1995, was guided by the tireless efforts of Jennifer Atchison (1938-2010) after whom the Jennifer Atchison Environmental Centre in North Burnaby is named. The volunteer members of SCEC monitor water quality, generate inventories and reports on the biophysical assets and health of the watershed, provide educational opportunities, enhance stream and stream bank habitat, and speak on behalf of the Stoney Creek watershed. One of its key events is The Great Salmon Send-Off, the release of young salmon into Stoney Creek in May, which celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2015. The Stoney Creek Environmental Working Group (1999-present), managed by the City of Burnaby, undertakes to coordinate the actions of all stakeholders in the Stoney Creek watershed. It is comprised of representatives from community groups, such as SCEC, governmental and institutional agencies, and industries who are committed to sustaining and improving the quality of the Stoney Creek watershed's water, wildlife and environment. John Templeton, currently SCEC Chair, joined SCEC in 2004. He was born in Coleraine, County Londonderry, Northern Ireland, in 1957, and after immigrating to Canada, came to live in Burnaby in 1992, first in Forest Grove (1992-2014) and then in Forest Hills. He works as a millwright. Alan James, Member-at-large - Education, joined SCEC in 2003. He was born in 1939 in Berkeley, California, and came to live in Burnaby in about 2000. He is a retired geophysicist and computer consultant. Christine Leston joined SCEC in 1997, serving first as Secretary and then as Treasurer. She was born in 1943 in Cheshire, England, and came to live in Burnaby in 1974, first in Greentree Village, then Simon Fraser Village (1974-2004) and now the Edmonds area. She is a retired technical writer. |
| Total Tracks: | 9 |
| Total Length: | 2:08:27 |

Other Tracks: [View All Tracks](#)

Interviewee Name: [Templeton, John R.](#)
[James, Alan C.](#)
[Leston, Christine](#)

Interview Location: [Jennifer Atchison Environmental Centre, Burnaby](#)

Interviewer Bio: Kathy Bossort is a retired archivist living in Ladner, BC. She worked at the Delta Museum and Archives after graduating from SLAIS (UBC) in 2001 with Masters degrees in library science and archival studies. Kathy grew up in Calgary, Alberta, and, prior to this career change, she lived in the West Kootenays, earning her living as a cook for BC tourist lodges and work camps. She continues to be interested in oral histories as a way to fill the gaps in the written record and bring richer meaning to history.

Collection/Fonds: [Community Heritage Commission Special Projects fonds](#)

Series: [Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project series](#)

Item No.: MSS196-006_Track_3

Media Type: Sound Recording

Audio Tracks

[🔊 Track three of interview with John Templeton, Alan James & Christine Leston](#)