

Outdoor Recreation Council of BC
Meeting of Executive Board of Directors

5.25 PM Wednesday, Sep. 9, 2009
47 West Broadway, Vancouver

DRAFT MINUTES

<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Robert Gunn	Chair	Advisory member/BCIT Fish & Wildlife program
Jeremy McCall	Executive Director/Treasurer	BC Nature
Cal Kaytor	Director	Quad Riders ATV Association
Hugh Martell	Director	Back Country Horsemen of BC
Nick Heath	Director	Sea Kayak Association of BC
Jack Bryceland	Director	Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC
Ray Pillman	Senior Advisor	Sea Kayak Association of BC

Regrets

Vince Hilgerdenaar	Director	Four Wheel Drive Association
Erin Hart	Director	BC Snowmobile Federation

1. R. Gunn welcomed those attending and chaired the meeting, which began on completion of the Annual General Meeting of the Outdoor Recreation Foundation.

2. **Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was approved as circulated with the addition of Item 6(c) ORV Coalition.

3 **Minutes of the July 6 meeting of the Executive**

(a) **Motion** (J. McCall/N. Heath): That the minutes of the July 6 meeting of the Executive be approved. **Motion carried**

(b) Review of July 6 action items: R. Gunn confirmed that a meeting still needs to be arranged with the potential host for the ORC digitized library. Following the tabling of the resolution regarding a change in the Bylaws at the AGM, J. McCall agreed to take a fresh approach to the Bylaw amendments so that the requirement for an audit could be changed to a less rigorous review requirement in time for the 2010 AGM. The sew-on ORC logo is still a work in progress. He has not yet decided whether "*A Tourism Industry Strategy for Forests*", published by the Council of Tourism Associations, warrants action by ORC.

(c) Business arising from the minutes:

- i. Executive Director - Request for honorarium: J. McCall said he would like the payment by ORC of an honorarium as approved in July to be suspended until the outcome of discussions with the Canadian Trails Federation (CTF) regarding funding from the National Trails Coalition (NTC) for administration of the granting program has been settled. The CTF is considering whether to allocate to its provincial members a portion of the funding it expects to receive from the NTC. He also referred to the written opinion from Canada Revenue Agency which stated that compensation of a director would not jeopardize ORC's charitable status

provided it was for services rendered and not for merely being a director, so that payment by ORC for the essential office services he provided during the grant administration period would also be permissible.

- ii. Placer Lake campsite access: J. McCall advised that he had visited Placer Lake with George Scott by ATV on August 26 and had a much better appreciation of the problem. He has raised the question with John Hawkings of MTCA, and the latter agreed to discuss it with the MTCA regional sites and trails manager to see if anything could be done.

4. Administration, Membership & General

- a. Review and approval of revised 2008 - 2009 financial statements: J. McCall stated that he had managed to substantially reconcile the final figures provided by ORC's bookkeeper, which differed slightly from those provided to members at the June 27 AGM, and he then formatted the statements to provide all relevant information in a style similar to that employed by Reid Hurst Nagy, Certified General Accountants, in 2008. He said that he was completely satisfied with the Statement of Operations and the Statement of Financial Position in the statements but he pointed out that he had to include a current year adjustment of \$688 to balance Deferred Revenue in Note 5. He committed to posting the statements on the ORC website for the benefit of members once approved.

Motion: To approve the final financial statements of the Outdoor Recreation Council for the year ended March 31, 2009. Moved C. Kaytor, seconded H. Martell. **Carried**

- b. Treasurer's Report and dues update: J. McCall reported that almost all dues have now been paid by the new organizations which joined ORC in June to be eligible for the NTC funding. One ad payment was overdue (subsequently paid). He also reported that ORC was required to pay \$500 for the annual dues to the CTF, but after that payment he anticipated there would still be sufficient funds available for ORC's fourth quarter to avoid the need to draw on the quarterly grant of \$3,000 from the Outdoor Recreation Foundation.
- c. Termination of bookkeeper's services: J. McCall advised that he had to spend a considerable amount of time reviewing and revising the Simply Accounting statements he received from the bookkeeper and he had concluded that he would have saved time if he had completed the original bookkeeping himself. He said he also maintains separate accounting records to keep track of the Project accounts which would be unnecessary if he did the primary bookkeeping himself. He is accustomed to using Simply Accounting himself because he is also the Treasurer of Nature Vancouver. He therefore proposed that the services of the bookkeeper be dispensed with. He sought the approval of the Directors top proceed on that basis.

Motion: That the services of the Council's bookkeeper be dispensed with provided that Ms K. Flood be compensated for any unbilled work she has completed. Moved by H. Martell, seconded C. Kaytor. **Carried**

- d. Membership Review: J. McCall advised that the BC Camping Association had indicated that it did not wish to renew its membership in ORC but Hartley Banack, President, has suggested he attend a meeting of the BCCA Executive

on September 23. He will attend if possible. He also advised that nothing has been heard from the Underwater Council of BC and he did not expect them to renew as it has been having difficulties with its administration for some time. The BC Marine Trails Network Association has applied to become a Provincial Group (voting) Member and he is now processing their application. Also, in preparation for attending the AGM of the TransCanada Trail in Ottawa on September 25 he has been invited to attend the rescheduled AGM of Trails BC on September 12 to make a brief presentation about ORC's role.

- e. Actions re AGM Resolutions: The Bylaw amendment continues as a work-in-progress. ORC has received a response from the BC Government regarding its request for an Olympic legacy for BC's Provincial Parks (see Correspondence).

5. Correspondence

a. Sent:

- July 24 to BC Premier Gordon Campbell, to enclose the Resolution passed at ORC's AGM and request an Olympic legacy for BC's Provincial Parks because of the limited funding available to BC Parks.

b. Received:

- July 21 and August 6 from City of Burnaby re World Rivers Day
- July 28 from the Canada Revenue Agency, Charities Directorate. See 3 (c)(i) above.
- August 10 from Barry Penner, BC Minister of the Environment, in response to ORC's letter dated July 24 to the Premier, advising that BC's economic circumstances meant that no additional funding would be available for BC Parks and listing several non-financial areas which would benefit them.
- August 19 from Watershed Watch Salmon Society to Minister Penner (cc'd to ORC) re hydrological concerns arising from river diversions.

6. Business related to ORC's mission - Current initiatives

- a. BC Rivers Day 2009: A large number of Rivers Day events are planned and many have been registered on the Rivers Day website, especially in the Lower Mainland region. J. McCall suggested that there may be some confusion between competing Rivers Day websites as well as World Rivers Day. He requested R. Gunn to ensure that ORC continue to be involved in Rivers Day as much as possible unless the new BC Rivers Institute plans to take it over. R. Gunn said that is not the plan but he also said there may be a gradual merging of BC Rivers Day and World Rivers Day over a period of years. The only complicating factor for this evolution is Canada Rivers Day which occurs in June.
- b. National Trails Coalition funding follow-up & Canadian Trails Federation AGM: J. McCall reported that once the successful applicants had their funding confirmed by Terje Vold, Regional Trails Coordinator, on July 30 they have been busy getting on with their projects and there has been little or no need to discuss them with ORC. ORC did receive a briefing on the Federation of Mountain Clubs' Howe Sound Crest Trail project because it involved complicated discussions with BC Parks, Cypress Mountain and the latter's regular contractor to get the job

under way. J. McCall will attend the AGM of the CTF in Ottawa on Sep. 26 as a Director since ORC has become the CTF's BC affiliate. He also plans to attend the Trans Canada Trail AGM on Sep. 25 and in preparation for that he has been invited to attend the reconvened Trails BC AGM in Maillardville on Sep. 12 to present ORC to the members of Trails BC.

- c. Off Road Vehicle Coalition: J. McCall reported that the co-chairs of the Coalition, Bruno DeleSalle and Bev Felske, are scheduled to meet Minister Kevin Krueger of MTCA shortly to discuss next steps.

7. **Business related to ORC's mission – Emerging issues**

- a. Possible panel to discuss issues surrounding Independent Power Producers (IPPs): R. Gunn said this proposal does not appear to be proceeding at this time so it should be removed from the agenda.
- b. Kokish River Hydro Project: R. Pillman reported that the meeting referred to in the July 6 meeting minutes was postponed though it may still take place. The hydrographics of the river will be reviewed.
- c. Potential future role for ORC: This question is becoming ever more important to resolve not only in the context of comments made at the AGM in June but also because of the need to provide a context for future fundraising. J. McCall also referred to a recent conversation he had with John Hawkings, Provincial Trails Manage, MTCA, who has suggested that ORC will have an important role to play at a time when the BC Government has limited resources and is undertaking changes to its own role in recreation. R. Gunn suggested that we must take a realistic look at BC today. He suggested that a small working group be formed to develop a vision for ORC's role in the immediate future. After some discussion about eight names were put forward as possible participants in the proposed working group, including four ORC Directors and it was decided that this group should meet within a month.
- d. Proposed ORC workshop re outdoor recreation issues: J. McCall suggested that rather than the "local solutions for local issues" theme he originally suggested for this workshop early in 2010, a broader theme would be the future role and importance of outdoor recreation in BC, especially at a time when the BC Government might be looking for ideas to support after the Olympics. This would tie in with ideas expressed by John Hawkings, who has suggested that BC has all the elements necessary to be a world leader in outdoor recreation. It was decided to defer the final choice of the 2010 workshop until the meeting referred to in Item 7(c) above.
- e. Funding for the employment of a future Executive Director: The basis for a fundraising campaign must of necessity await the outcome of the discussions referred to in Item 7(c) above.

8. **Other business and upcoming events**

- a. Council of Tourism Associations (COTA) - "A Tourism Industry Strategy for Forests": This item continues to be tabled.
- b. Ministry of Energy, Mines & Petroleum Resources Forum, September 9: J. McCall and R. Pillman attended this videoconference meeting at Robson Square.

Although the number of NGOs attending these Forums has declined recently, ORC attended a pre-conference call meeting with some other NGOs and also a working lunch after it. Out of these meetings had come a decision to be more forceful in getting some messages across to MEMPR instead of just accepting the Ministry's updates without much question. It was decided by the group that a much more pro-active approach is required following a study of BC's role in the Western Renewable Energy Zone (WREZ) talks between BC and certain US states, and in which it was learned that the BC Ministry of Environment was only brought in late in the day with the result that it only played a peripheral role in the process rather than the key role played by its colleagues in US jurisdictions. The NGOs have agreed to prepare several papers for presentation at future MEMPR Forums or Workshops, once of which will be based on R. Pillman's analysis of BC's power procurement policies.

- c. Skagit Environmental Endowment Commission: A joint US-Canadian event will take place at Skagit Valley Provincial Park on September 13 & 14
 - d. Wild Water Wild Earth: Mark Angelo will give his presentation at the Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage on October 14 with proceeds going to the Nature Trust of BC.
 - e. The Outdoor Recreation Report: J. McCall advised that he is beginning to receive material for the Fall issue which he will complete and publish in October. He will seek Mark Angelo's approval to republish the 2009 Endangered Rivers Report, with any edits necessary due to the passing of time since it was first published in the Spring.
9. Next meeting date: 5 PM Monday October 5

The meeting was adjourned at 7.05 PM

jm

Sep. 22/09