

# Outdoor Recreation Council of BC

## Meeting of Board of Directors

4.00 PM Monday, April 3, 2017  
1101 - 207 West Hastings Street, Vancouver

### MINUTES

<u>Present</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Dave Wharton	Director, Chair	Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC
Jeremy McCall	Executive Director	Canadian Parks & Wilderness Society
Natalia Pisarek	ORC Communications & Administration	
<u>By phone</u>		
Dennis Webb	Director, Past Chair	Quad Riders ATV Association of BC
Roxanne Rousseau	Director, Vice Chair	BC Marine Trails Association
Rose Schroeder	Director	Back Country Horsemen of BC
Penny Cartwright	Director	BC Snowmobile Federation
Penney Edwards	Director	BC Nature
Kim Reeves	Director	Four Wheel Drive Association of BC
Scott Walker	Guest	Back Country Horsemen of BC
<u>Absent</u>		
Gordon Weetman	Director	Advisory Member, UBC Faculty of Forestry
Ciel Sander	Director	Trails Society of BC

1. Gordon was absent as he's away in India. Scott Walker joined in on the meeting as a guest of the Back Country Horsemen.

### 2. Approval of agenda

**Motion:** Moved & seconded (RS/JM). **Motion carried.** 7(g) Outdoor Recreation Foundation, was added.

### 3. March 6 Board meeting minutes

- a. Approval, errors & omissions: Moved & seconded (JM/PC). That the minutes of the March 6 Board meeting be approved. **Motion carried.**
- b. Action items in March meeting minutes:

3(b) JM to draft resolution re: membership dues increase – to be prepared for AGM package. Action pending.

4(a) Rose was requested to arrange catering for AGM – She has requested quotes and is still working on it.

4(a) ORC to send out a request for resolutions to Members before the AGM. The call to Members should include a sample to help Members draft a cohesive resolution – Completed.

4(a) ORC to draft a resolution to increase dues to \$192/\$96/\$50 – Work in progress.

4(a) Jeremy to invite Daniel Scott to speak at ORC's AGM – Jeremy invited Daniel and he accepted.

4(a) Jeremy to borrow a screen for the AGM – Action pending.

4(b) Natalia to research what MailChimp does with contacts – Completed.

4(b) Kim to provide information about motorized activities for newsletter – Completed.

- 4(b) Natalia to arrange for purchase of MailChimp business subscription – The \$10/month subscription fee that Natalia quoted last meeting is actually \$13.51/month (USD vs. CDN). Jeremy made a case to remove paid subscription. No one opposed. Moved & seconded (JM/RR). That ORC’s subscription be-cancelled. **Motion carried.**
- 4(c) Jeremy purchased Directors & Officers Errors & Omissions Insurance from Capri Insurance (carrier is Trisura). Policy goes into effect May 1, 2017. Cost is \$300/year – Completed.
- 6(a) Jeremy to research the \$49 million figure and confirm whether or not this is a long-term baseline increase – Completed. See 6(a).
- 6(b) Jeremy to advise BCWF re their previous “representatives” on the Access Committee – Completed.
- 6(b) Any director who wants to represent ORC at BCWF AGM should contact Jeremy – Ciel has expressed interest.
- 7(c) Jeremy to get in touch with BC Parks to ask when South Chilcotin management plan will be out – Not completed. Action pending.
- c. Business arising from minutes. None.

#### 4. Administration, membership & general

- a. Annual General Meeting – June 17 in Yarrow
- Notice of meeting by May 17  
The Societies Act of BC mandates minimum 14 days’ notice ahead of an AGM. ORC’s bylaws mandate 30 days’ notice ahead of an AGM. Jeremy wants to draft a resolution to amend ORC’s bylaws so notice to members is not required so far in advance.
  - Nominating committee report – Rose  
Rose has started contacting current board members to discuss their terms. Rose pointed out that an individual does not need to sit on an organization’s board to be nominated by that organization. To date, only the Back Country Horsemen have sent in a nomination.
  - Call for resolutions from member organizations  
See bullet point above.

**Action:** Jeremy to send reminder call for nominations and resolutions to members. He will include a resolution template and let members know that resolutions must be received by May 1 to be eligible.

**Action:** Jeremy to draft resolution around the Singing Pass access issue.

- b. New monthly e-newsletter – The Outdoor Recreation Report – Natalia  
Regarding security, MailChimp supports SSL encryption, which is a protocol that allows information to be transmitted securely. Regarding privacy, MailChimp does not sell or rent subscriber lists. The first e-newsletter went out on March 27.

#### 5. Correspondence

ORC member Friends of Cypress Provincial Park sent a letter regarding partnership agreements with BC Parks. They want to hire contractor for trail work. Friends of Cypress were told by their local Park Ranger that they would not be eligible for liability insurance should they hire a contractor, even if they use volunteer time to supervise the contractor. Jeremy believes that the Park Ranger who informed Friends of Cypress misinterpreted the insurance obligations under the volunteer

contract. Jeremy has contacted a representative at BC Parks to discuss the partnership agreement and find a solution. This still a work in progress. Also, at Jeremy's request FMCBC wrote a letter to BC Parks supporting Nature Vancouver's application to visit Cinnabar Basin in 2018. The letter supports Nature Vancouver's appeal for a second review after their original application was declined.

## **6. Business related to ORC's mission – ongoing initiatives, projects & reports**

### **a. BC Parks' Future Strategy – follow-up and continuing issues**

Since the last meeting Jeremy discovered that the \$49 million figure for BC Parks in the most recent provincial budget is not an increase of the BC Parks baseline operating budget to \$49 million, which has been stagnant at \$31 million for many years. \$10 million of the \$49 million will go toward the new BC Parks Foundation and \$8 million will go toward the hire of 28 additional BC Parks Rangers. It appears that the baseline operating budget for BC Parks remains at \$31 million per year. Jeremy expressed concern that this figure is not sufficient to effectively manage the provincial parks system. Backcountry trails, bridges and sites are especially worse for wear and have been gradually deteriorating. ORC member CPAWS is very concerned about this as well. Dave said that FMCBC agrees with Jeremy's position. Dave commented on the special license plates issue. It was recently discovered that only \$15 per plate will go toward BC Parks and not \$33 as originally promoted. \$18 is reserved for ICBC for processing. Dave has been told that moving forward the entire \$40 cost for annual plate renewals will go toward funding parks.

### **b. ORC Access Committee update – Kim**

The last Access Committee meeting took place in March. Kim and Jeremy met with the Executive Director of Private Landowners Association of BC (PFLA). They had a discussion with the ED who expressed the usual concerns: garbage, vandalism, trespassing, fire. Kim said that PFLA is not amenable to granting the public access through their lands. It appears that the only path forward is via legislative change. Kim also confirmed that the committee has reviewed access regimes in other jurisdictions across Canada and globally to inform their recommendations. The committee's recommendations report will be presented to the ORC Board ahead of the AGM. The committee has also been discussing the approach of Victoria Fish and Game Protective Association which is working toward a "smart card" access program on the southern part of Vancouver Island. Jeremy would like the committee's minutes to be made available to the ORC Board. Kim will include this on the agenda at the next committee meeting.

### **c. 2017 Share the Trails Workshop with Horse Council, Penticton, May 12**

The facilitator hired for this event has been successful to date. She has connected with the speakers and is leading development of the workshop's structure. The invitation is scheduled to go out the week of April 6 – 12. Jeremy will reach out to Brad Clemens, who is in charge of the planned Okanagan Rail Trail (ORT) from Okanagan to Vernon. Brad Clemens is a Councilor for the City of Kelowna. Scott, speaking on behalf of equestrian interests, suggested that the particular features of the planned ORT may not be of interest to horse riders and that ORC need not invest too much time advocating for equestrian access on this trail.

### **d. PTAB – In-person meeting May 11, Penticton**

The next PTAB meeting will be in-person on May 11 in Penticton. The PTAB members have been invited to attend the Share the Trails workshop and several

plan to attend. Jeremy reached out to Patrick Lucas who will present to the PTAB on Aboriginal matters. Patrick Lucas is involved in the Aboriginal Youth Mountain Biking Program. Additionally, Daniel Scott is updating the trail standards chapter in the forest recreation manual for trails on crown land he may have new and interesting information to present to the PTAB.

e. Canadian Trails Federation directors' meeting – March 16

CTF appointed a new director from Newfoundland. CTF President, Patrick Connor, has suggested establishing “peer partnerships” with organizations on an MOU basis. These organizations would not become CTF members. Several CTF members attended the recent Parks Conference in Banff on March 8-11. The CTF's last meeting was cut short because of the length of discussions. The remainder of the March agenda will be covered during the April 20 teleconference. Currently there is no equestrian representation on the CTF board. Jeremy said that he is in support of either the Horse Council or Backcountry Horsemen to join the CTF board. Mountain biking representation is also currently missing on the CTF board.

**Action:** Rose to get in touch with the Horse Council of BC to discuss membership in the CTF.

f. Planning for Trailhead Canada 2017 Conference – Jeremy

JM missed last meeting. Reports from the planning committee indicate that everything is going well.

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

a. ORV Trail Management Sub-account report

Approximately 100,000 vehicles have been registered under the ORV Act, which has generated funds. This line of funding was not included in the BC budget. The collected from ORV registrations will go toward maintaining backcountry trails for ORV use.

b. South Chilcotin Mountains Provincial Park issues

Rose and Scott expressed concerns about South Chilcotin Mountains Provincial Park. Unauthorized and unregulated mountain bike trails throughout the park continues to be an issue, as well as a lack of transparency around the management plan. Scott said the province is currently on its seventh edition of the draft. He is disappointed about the lack of public engagement. Dave said that FMCBC experienced similar challenges in its work around Pinecone Burke Provincial Park. He thinks that focusing on park-by-park issues is sometimes necessary but that it may be more effective to advocate around “big picture” issues, such as lack of transparency and inadequate funding. Scott agreed but remains concerned about the particulars of South Chilcotin.

**Action:** Scott and Rose to send additional details and call to action for ORC.

**Action:** Jeremy to add this issue to PTAB's next meeting agenda.

c. Cypress Provincial Park – Proposed Back-country Access Corridor (BAC) transit protocol

Cypress Resorts is restricting BAC passage to the public before 9 AM. BC Parks supports Cypress Resorts in Cypress Resorts' interpretation of the

PUP. Many have argued that the current protocol goes against terms outlined in the PUP and the Williams recommendations. FMCBC has invested a large number of resources into resolving this issue. The most recent solution proposed by BC Parks is an access protocol that has not been well received because it is heavily skewed in favour of Cypress Resort and is unworkable for many backcountry users. Jeremy thinks that ORC and FCMCB should work together to get something better from BC Parks. Dave has an upcoming meeting with MLA Jordan Sturdy and will press this issue with him.

d. Garibaldi Provincial Park – Singing pass access

The road to the Singing Pass trailhead has been blocked for some time due to a slump that has not been remediated. What was once a one-day hike has become impossible to complete in one day for most hikers. Jeremy said that this warrants a resolution at the AGM and a letter to the Premier calling on the government to fix this issue. Whistler Blackcomb is currently the gatekeeper of the other access point to Singing Pass which is on land covered under their PUP. They have not been helpful allies in resolving this issue.

**Action:** Jeremy to draft a resolution for the AGM.

**Action:** Dave to raise this issue with the FMCBC board and ACC

e. Reprint of “Trail User’s Code of Ethics” – Drafting resumed

Jeremy hasn’t heard back from the drafter. Nothing to show yet.

f. ORC Policy Manual – The Policy Manual continues to be a work in progress.

g. Outdoor Recreation Foundation - Jeremy received notice that Bank of Montreal intends to shut down ORC’s MasterCard affinity card program effective July 2017. The affinity card currently brings in about \$10,000 annually. The current contract does not terminate until July 2019 and Jeremy pointed this out to the bank representative. He is waiting for their reply.

**8. Upcoming events, meetings, etc.**

a. Next Board meeting – 4 PM Monday May 1 (tentative)

b. Share the Trails Workshop – May 12 & 13 Penticton .

c. ORC AGM – June 17, Yarrow Community School

The AGM package including resolutions is a work in progress.

d. Trailhead Canada - National Trails Conference to celebrate Canada’s Sesquicentennial – Ottawa – November 13/16, 2017

**9. Adjournment**

Motion: Moved & seconded (DW/PC). The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 PM.

**Motion carried.**

Revised Draft 2

np/jm

May. 5/17