

Outdoor Recreation Council of BC

Meeting of Board of Directors

5.00 PM Monday, January 8, 2018

1101 - 207 West Hastings Street, Vancouver

DRAFT 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> | | |
| Penney Edwards | Director | BC Nature |
| Kim Reeves | Director | Four Wheel Drive Association of BC |
| Roxanne Rousseau | Director, Vice Chair | BC Marine Trails Association |
| Ciel Sander | Director | Trails Society of BC |
| Gordon Weetman | Director | Advisory Member, UBC Faculty of Forestry |
| <u>Absent</u> | | |
| Karen Black | Director | Quad Riders ATV Association of BC |
| Scott Walker | Director | Back Country Horsemen of BC |
| Dennis Webb | Director, Past Chair | Quad Riders ATV Association of BC |

1. Roll call/regrets

The meeting began at 5:05pm. D. Wharton chaired the meeting.

2. Approval of agenda

Motion: Moved & seconded (JM/KR) that the agenda be approved. **Motion carried.**

3. December 4 Board meeting minutes

a. Approval, errors & omissions: None

Motion. Moved & seconded (RR/JM). That the minutes of the December 4, 2017 Board meeting be approved. **Motion carried.**

b. Action items in December 4, 2017 minutes:

4(c) NP to send Directors Member of the Month schedule. – NP to send following meeting.

6(c) NP to send Directors information re caribou conference call. – completed

6(f) JM to add Share the Trails workshop to agenda for Jan. 8. – completed

7(a) KR to send relevant documents re resolution to Directors. – completed

7(a) KR/JM to revise mud bogging resolution for next meeting. – completed

7(b) DW and CS to send letters of support re Coquihalla proposal. – DW to send following meeting

7(d) NP to send out the e-bike webinar presentation slides. – completed

c. Business arising from minutes. None.

4. Administration, membership & general

a. Selection of date for Annual General Meeting

Motion: Moved & Seconded (JM/CS) to have ORC's 2018 AGM on Saturday, June 9. None opposed. **Motion carried. Note: Date was later changed to June 16 by e-mailed motion.**

b. Membership update and ORC membership campaign – Jeremy

Three ATV clubs recently submitted applications to join ORC:

- Princeton ATV Club
- Similkameen ATV Club
- Grand Forks ATV Club

Motion. Moved/Seconded (JM/GW) to accept applications for membership from Princeton ATV Club, Similkameen ATV Club, and Grand Forks ATV Club. **Motion carried.**

Jeremy is also working on a membership campaign and a draft invitation letter has been written. Once the letter is finalized, Jeremy has identified a number of organizations to invite to join ORC including:

- BC Society of Landscape Architects
- X Country Ski Association
- MEC
- North Shore Mountain Bike Association
- United Riders of Cumberland
- Steelhead Society
- Underwater Council of BC
- North Okanagan Cycling Association

c. December e-newsletter – The Outdoor Recreation Report – Natalia

The Board asked Natalia to create a “member of the month” schedule for 2018. The “member of the month” is invited to be interviewed for ORC’s e-newsletter. The purpose of the schedule is to give members more notice in advance of their interview.

d. Expenses for directors who attended Trailhead Canada – Jeremy

The CTF covered 74% of travel and accommodation costs the eight CTF Directors who submitted an expense claim. The next CTF Board meeting is scheduled for January 18.

e. Strategic plan update – Natalia

Natalia is currently developing a funding plan. The primary areas of focus include the BMO affinity credit card and grants. Via the affinity card program, ORC earns a small percentage from every transaction at no extra cost to the card holder. There are currently 130 active users of the affinity card. Natalia is also looking into grants for which ORC is eligible, including the MEC Spring and Fall grants (applications due March 10 and September 10 for Spring and Fall grants respectively). Other possible funding opportunities may include: donations and peer-to-peer fundraising, wage subsidies, fundraising events, sponsorships, and earned income. Natalia will assess the feasibility of the various funding options and produce a report for the Board to review.

Roxanne suggested that it’s important to narrow down options, select the few most viable funding opportunities, and to avoid overextending and losing focus. Roxanne added that ORC needs to archive the funding plan so future staff and Directors have access to the information. The Directors suggested that Natalia look into submitting a MEC Spring grant to help fund the upcoming Share the Trails workshop.

Action – NP to produce draft funding plan.

Action: NP to prepare draft application for MEC spring grant.

5. Correspondence

a. Dec.12 letter from Minister Heyman to Dennis Perry re South Chilcotin Provincial Park

Jeremy suggested that the Board wait for additional information from Ric Careless before making a decision on this proposal. Ric is the President of the Elders Council for Parks in British Columbia, founder of BC Spaces for Nature, and has led or been directly involved in many parks campaigns including South Chilcotin Provincial Park. Dave reported that Dennis Perry contacted FMCBC and the ACC requesting their support. Both organizations are reviewing the proposal.

Ciel also told the Board that the BC provincial government is currently reviewing the professional reliance model for resource management. The public comment period ends on January 19 at 4:00pm.

Action: Advise ORC's member organizations about the Review in case they wish to submit comments.

b. Dec. 13 letter supporting New Pathways to Gold Cariboo Waggon Road

ORC wrote a letter of support for the New Pathways to Gold Society toward their Rural Dividend application. New Pathways to Gold is proposing a trail project along the Cariboo Waggon Road in Yale, BC.

6. Business related to ORC's mission – Ongoing initiatives, projects & reports.

a. Caribou Recovery Project – Ciel/Natalia

The provincial and federal governments are preparing a Section 11 conservation agreement under the Species at Risk Act (SARA). The goal of the agreement is to achieve self-sustaining populations of southern mountain caribou. There are three population units of southern mountain caribou: the northern group, the central group and the southern group. The current focus of the agreement is the "Central Group" which includes the Pine River, Quintette and Narraway local population units. Once the agreement is in place, the intention to extend the agreement to the northern group and southern group, however no clear timeline has been set within the existing draft around when that would happen. Ciel is concerned that the draft Agreement excludes the "Southern Group" of caribou, which includes the Purcell and Selkirk herds. Both of these herds have very low populations. Natalia pointed out the rationale for selecting the Central Group is not clearly laid out in the Section 11 agreement. The Board agreed that ORC should submit a comment to inquire why the Southern Group has been left out of the Section 11 agreement. Ciel pointed out that effective conservation measures for southern mountain caribou will restrict outdoor recreation activity, and that though she feels such restrictions are necessary to protect caribou, this reality needs to be acknowledged by ORC. Dave agreed and added that protecting caribou is a priority. Jeremy added that enacting conservation strategies is challenging in part because of many overlapping land act controls, ranging from FLNRO and Section 58s, to Old Growth management areas, to commercial tenures.

Action: JM/NP to submit comment re Section 11 conservation agreement.

- b. PTAB – Revised modus operandi, First Nations brochure status – Jeremy
The last PTAB meeting was in November 2017. The PTAB may retain the services of a professional consultant to review the status of the 22 Key Actions outlined in the Provincial Trail Strategy. The PTAB is also in the process of commissioning a “best practices” brochure for working with First Nations. The first draft has been completed by contractor Patrick Lucas and was circulated to the PTAB for comment. The final draft will be shared with the ORC Board for comment.
- c. Rail Trails Steering Committee – Draft Terms of Reference – Jeremy/Natalia
The last meeting of the Steering Committee was in July 2017. The Steering Committee is currently in the process of agreeing upon Terms of Reference. The next meeting has not yet been scheduled but will take place in mid-January. A Doodle Poll was recently circulated to Committee members.

Action: NP to send draft Terms of Reference (TOR) to Directors.

- d. Share the Trails Workshop 2018 with Horse Council BC – Ideas wanted – All directors
Jeremy asked the Directors to share ideas for a theme or topic for the 2018 Share the Trails workshop. The Directors suggested mixed-use trails and electric bikes as topics. Jeremy said that he will share the Directors’ comments with the Horse Council BC, who co-sponsor the workshop.
- e. Coquihalla expansion proposal
A proposal was made by John Baldwin to [expand the Coquihalla Summit Recreation Area](#). Dave reported that the FMCBC wrote a letter in support of this campaign. Ciel added that Trails BC are also in support.

Action: DW to send FMCBC letter and Ciel to send Trails BC letter to ORC.

Action: JM/NP to write letter in support.

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

- a. Draft Resolution re West Stave Mud Flats as a mud bogging area – Kim

Purpose of ORC resolution

To support an application by the Four Wheel Drive Association for the establishment of an area at Stave Lake as a Designated Mud Bogging Area

Preamble

Stave Lake is a BC Hydro reservoir with fluctuating water levels which expose mud flats from September through April of each year. The dam at Stave Lake has blocked any salmon returning to the Stave River for over 100 years. The West Stave Mud Flats, aka Stave West Foreshore Flats, is the busiest 4x4 recreation area in British Columbia. Closure of the mud flats to 4x4 recreation would displace this activity to other, more sensitive areas;

Resolution

Whereas many four-wheel drive recreation enthusiasts enjoy “mud bogging” and require a designated area to participate in this form of recreation; and

Whereas other regions in BC have used dammed areas for designated mud bogging areas.

Whereas the Four Wheel Drive Association of BC, a Provincial Organization member of the Council, has advocated for four-wheel drive recreationists to use the Stave West Mud Flats as a designated a mud bogging area.

Be it resolved that the Outdoor Recreation Council support an application by the Four Wheel Drive Association of BC to the appropriate ministry of the BC Government for the first, second and third beaches of the West Stave Mud Flats to be designated and developed as the most appropriate mud bogging area in the Fraser Valley.

Ciel suggested that the expanded rationale present in the original resolution was beneficial to understanding the proposal and should be added back in. Ciel further added that a statement be included regarding ensuring that there will be adequate provisions for future management of the area. **Motion.** Moved/Seconded (JM/CS) that the resolution be approved as amended. **Motion carried.**

Action: KR/JM to amend the resolution as approved.

- b. Consideration of ORV Trail Fund criteria – Jeremy (Tennessee Trent)
RSTBC is working toward policies and criteria around distributing funds from the ORV Trail Fund. RSTBC Trails Manager, Tennessee Trent, asked ORC to review the draft criteria. ORC may also be involved in the evaluation of applications. The rationale being that ORC represents a broad base of trail users from across the public and also represents the interests of a significant number of ORV owners. Both of these reasons justify some level of input in the development of the policy and potentially of scoring individual proposals. JM will circulate the revised draft criteria to the Directors next month for comment.
- c. BC Parks Marine Strategic Plan – Conference call Dec. 15 – Jeremy
BC Parks is working toward a Marine Strategic Plan and hosted a conference call on December 15.
- d. 2018 Endangered Rivers Survey and campaign
Every 2 years ORC runs an endangered rivers campaign and solicits nominations for endangered rivers from members, rivers experts and the general public. The survey form is being prepared and the campaign will launch in the coming weeks. Once the nominations period closes, ORC reviews the nominations and compiles a report of the most endangered rivers. This report is circulated to media and shared widely. The goal is to release the report in March.
- e. Park Elders Council matters – Jeremy
Jeremy is assisting the Elders Council for Parks in revising the Elders’ bylaws to comply with the new Societies Act.
- f. Proposal re Recreation Advisory Group for Sea to Sky Corridor – Jeremy

Jeremy is proposing the creation of an advisory group for the Sea to Sky Corridor. The purpose of the advisory group is to bring together stakeholders to meet on a regular basis and work toward resolving recreation issues in the Sea to Sky Corridor. Stakeholders include RSTBC, BC Parks, motorized user groups, non-motorized user groups, commercial interests, and others. Jeremy said that RSTBC may allow the use of its office space in Squamish or Whistler for the meetings. Jeremy added that years ago, ORC used to have Regional Committees across the province, but the last one dissolved nearly 10 years ago. The Directors were in support of creating an advisory group for the Sea to Sky Corridor.

Action: JM to contact RSTBC about supporting the idea.

8. Upcoming events, meetings, etc.

- CTF Board Meeting — 12 noon Thursday Jan. 18
- Proposed next Board meeting – 5 PM Monday Feb. 5
- Association of BC Forest Professionals conference – Thursday Feb. 22

Motion. Moved/Seconded (GW/PE) to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried.** The meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm.

Draft 2
NP/JM
Jan. 22/18