

**Provincial Trails Advisory Body for British Columbia (PTAB)
Conference Call Meeting – Wednesday, April 11, 2018 – 10 AM to 12 PM**

MINUTES

<u>Members present</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Tennessee Trent (co-chair)	Director, Recreation Sites & Trails BC (RSTBC)
Jeremy McCall (co-chair)	Executive Director, Outdoor Recreation Council
Natalia Pisarek	Communications & Admin, ORC
Allan Callander	Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure (MOTI)
Brian Farquhar	BC Recreation & Parks Association (BCRPA)
David Oliver	BC Wildlife Federation (BCWF)
Daniel Scott	Trails Specialist, RSTBC
Orville Smith	Horse Council of BC
Andrew Drouin	South Okanagan Trail Alliance
Robert (Bob) Holland	Quad Riders ATV Association of BC
Nick Heath	BC Marine Trail Network Association
Kim Reeves	Four Wheel Drive Association of BC
Scott Benton	Wilderness Tourism Association (WTA)
<u>Unable to attend</u>	
Kirby Villeneuve	BC Parks

1. Roll-call and welcome

TT called the meeting to order at 10.05 AM.

2. Review principal purpose of call – Update on Strategy Review – Tennessee

The Provincial Trails Advisory Body (PTAB) last convened by conference call in late fall 2017. The purpose of the call was to discuss a change in strategy. The PTAB will retain the services of a contractor to review the status of the 22 Key Actions outlined in the Trails Strategy for British Columbia and to provide recommendations where opportunities for improvement exist in implementation of the Trails Strategy. TT, DS, KV, AC, and JM formed a sub-committee to complete a scoping exercise and produce a draft “Schedule A” list of deliverables for a contractor to undertake.

3. Strategy Review - Review of tasks to be assigned to a contractor – see Schedule A.

The Board reviewed the draft Schedule A by section. Recreation Sites and Trails BC will provide funding for the project.

1.01 Goals of the project

- No comments.

1.02 The Contractor shall provide the following Phased Services.

- A number of PTAB members said that the proposed timeline is very ambitious and that its challenging to reach people during the summer months. TT agreed to review the proposed timeline and suggested that the project can be further divided into 3 phases if appropriate.

- OS suggested that individuals and groups with Section 57 partnership agreements be added to 1.02 (vii) for consultation.
- JM expressed concern about the scope of the survey. TT suggested that the contractor can recommend a sampling mechanism or that a due date for comments be implemented.
- TT suggested that the contractor include an introduction and backgrounder with the survey for context.
- The PTAB agreed to add the BC Cycling Coalition and Horse Council of British Columbia to the list.
- The PTAB agreed that it would be useful to facilitate an open comment period in the interest of transparency and public engagement.
- SB echoed JM's concern about scope and added that the PTAB must first consider the desired outcomes of the project and to narrow the scope of surveying strategically to maximize the value from time spent on consultations. He suggested that the survey should be directed more towards non-government organizations since the PTAB's primary objective is to persuade government to support the Trails Strategy. The PTAB agreed to utilize the deliverables (e.g. recommendations) produced by the contractor as a basis for seeking support from other provincial Ministries.
- KR added that without a broad-based political support, vision, and financial support the PTAB does not have the capacity to meet its mandate.
- TT agreed. There are many benefits to the Province across Ministries in taking a strong leadership role in supporting and resourcing the implementation of the Trails Strategy. A key outcome of this project is to build the business case supported by data to illustrate the opportunities that we're missing. TT added that the project will produce a foundation for resourcing the Trails Strategy.

1.03 Outcomes

- TT pointed out that "A rationale for broad adoption of the trails strategy across multiple agencies (government and non-government) including" is missing the list of who is to be included.
- JM suggested that if the term "interest holder" is used in lieu of "stakeholder" then the term "interest holder" should be defined in the document.

Other comments

- TT and DS have prepared a list of prequalified contractors that can be used for the procurement process.
- RSTBC has initially committed \$25,000 to this project.

4. Review Patrick Lucas' document: "Best Practices for Engaging and Working with First Nations"

JM asked the PTAB to send comments and suggestions about the draft document by email to the Outdoor Recreation Council's office. JM added that the document will

undergo final formatting and desktop publishing once the content is approved by the PTAB.

5. Mixed use, motorized and non-motorized trails. Definitions and emerging issues.

The Outdoor Recreation Council, in conjunction with Horse Council BC, is coordinating a trails workshop in Nanaimo on May 11 to explore a variety of trail issues. The definition of “mixed-use” will be discussed and endorsed; while this terminology is not widely understood, it is used by land managers in Canada. Mixed-use trails are trail systems which are shared by motorized and non-motorized users. TT added that this definition of mixed-use trail will be formalized in RSTBC’s Chapter 10 rewrite.

6. E-Bikes

The Outdoor Recreation Council’s workshop on May 11 will also include a segment on e-bikes. RSTBC has developed a draft e-bike policy that is pending approval by the Ministry. The policy will define e-bikes and allowable uses on legally established Recreation Sites and Trails on Crown Land.

7. Proposed PTAB Program for balance of 2018

TT suggested that this Trails Strategy review project should guide the PTAB’s workplan for the next 12 to 18 months. He suggested the PTAB convene by conference call at the end of April to finalize the Schedule A and to launch the procurement process, and then to meet in-person in June with the contractor, which would kick off the project. The PTAB agreed to Richmond for the June meeting. A number of members suggested the Sandman Hotel near Vancouver International Airport.

Action: ORC to schedule April conference call and June in-person meeting.

8. CTF and Trailhead Canada

JM added item 8 to the agenda. The Canadian Trails Federation (CTF) is working on a national trails project. The CTF has retained the services of contractors to submit grant applications and acquire funding. Parks Canada has committed its support for the project. The CTF is now developing a Code of Conduct and a glossary of terms, as well as undertaking preliminary planning for the Trailhead Canada conference in 2019.

8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 AM.

9. Upcoming events:

- May 11 - ORC & Horse Council Share the Trails Workshop, Nanaimo
- June 16 – ORC AGM

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