

Outdoor Recreation Council of BC
Meeting of Executive Board of Directors

5.15 PM Monday, April 4, 2011
47 West Broadway, Vancouver

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
Hugh Martell	Director	Back Country Horsemen of BC
Kathy Whittemore	Director	Four Wheel Drive Association of BC

Regrets

Gordon Weetman	Past Chair	UBC Faculty of Forestry
Cal Kaytor	Director	Quad Riders ATV Association
Ray Pillman	Senior Advisor	Former Chair
Jack Bryceland	Director	Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC
Erin Hart	Director	BC Snowmobile Federation, Canoe/Kayak BC
Don Reid	Director	Trails BC

1. Robert welcomed those attending.
2. **Adoption of agenda**
The agenda was approved with no changes.
3. **Minutes of the March 14 meeting of the Executive**
 - (a) Approval of minutes: **Motion** (Jeremy/Hugh): That the minutes of the March 14 meeting be approved. **Motion carried**
 - (b) Business arising from the minutes: Re the ORC website, Jeremy had a conversation with Laurie Stott and they agreed to keep the present structure of the website and to add a bulletin board page without needing to use Twitter as a tool for website management.
4. **Administration, membership & general**
 - a. Timing & venue for AGM: Robert has booked a room at BCIT for June 11. Jeremy asked for suggestions for a lunchtime speaker. **Action by all directors.**
 - b. Nominations for 2011 - 2012 Directors: Possible nominees were discussed. Jeremy will check with current directors about their intentions.
 - c. Outdoor Recreation Foundation - Prospective members: Several names discussed.
 - d. Healthy Forests - Healthy Communities: ORC has agreed to sponsor this project initiated by Bill Bourgeois, President of New Direction Resource Management Ltd. The overall objective of the project is to stimulate decision maker actions to ensure that forest lands conservation and management contributes to healthy living in BC communities over the long term. To achieve this objective the project will inform the public and receive and summarize the public's views and input, which will be solicited in response to background briefings and dialogues using a

website and other methods. ORC will apply to Vancouver Foundation for a \$10,000 grant to fund the project.

- e. Travel expenses for directors from out of town: Jeremy suggested it was not fair for directors who have to drive in from the upper Fraser Valley, for example, to attend meetings, and they should be able to claim mileage expense. There was general agreement to this approach which would make it easier to recruit new directors. However it was suggested such directors could also call in by conference call if required. Jeremy agreed to set up a conference call account with a suitable provider.
- f. ORC Facebook page: Directors took time out to view the new Canadian Trails Federation Facebook page. It was agreed that there could be some advantages especially in attracting youth and to direct people to the ORC website but it is more suited to activities of which ORC has relatively few. It would be useful for getting individuals to join. The CTF experience should be observed before making a decision about this. Some management would be necessary.

5. Correspondence

Received: March 17 from Tessa Graham, Acting Executive Director of BC Parks, confirming the information contained in Item 6(b) of the March 14 minutes.

March 30 from Ward Trotter, Director, Crown Lands Authorizations Branch, MFNRO, regarding Special Event Permits for NGOs. See Item 7(d) below.

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

- a. Endangered Rivers Report: To be released by Mark Angelo on or about April 18.
- b. Bowen Island National Park Reserve: The question was raised again about why Parks Canada initiated this proposal and it was confirmed that the Bowen Island Council had invited them to make a proposal. The motives of the BI Council are not understood. Hugh commented that there would not be the usual "wow" factor with a national park on Bowen. Robert said that development on Cape Roger Curtis was not progressing as quickly as originally expected so reopening the possibility of the purchase of this ecologically unique area despite the fact that Parks Canada have until now been opposed to the purchase of private land.
- c. Liability insurance for volunteers in BC Parks: BC Parks have not yet provided a copy of the Individual Volunteer Agreement which volunteers are supposed to sign if they want to have insurance coverage provided by the Province. Jeremy has conducted more research and learned that Nova Scotia has a Volunteer Protection Act which protects individuals engaged in volunteer activities. An article is planned for the Spring issue of the newsletter and he suggested that ORC should advocate a harmonized approach by all BC Government agencies involved with volunteers such as Recreation Sites and Trails (MFNRO) and BC Parks (MoE). He suggested that a resolution be prepared for the AGM in June.
- d. ORV Joint Advisory Group (JAG): Vera Vukelich has indicated that she is on track and will be providing an update shortly.
- e. Chilliwack River Valley Trails Working Group: No report

- f. Canadian Trails Federation: Jeremy will attend the AGM during the Ontario Trailhead Conference in Niagara Falls on April 18 and report in May.
- g. National Trails Round Table Working Group: To meet in Niagara Falls.
- h. Northern Gateway Meeting, Kitimat: Jeremy reported that the March 23 meeting was productive because the Community Advisory Boards will finally be able to post the materials from the meetings on a dedicated website which will be available to the public. He said the extra information provided by Enbridge and its consultants in response to concerns raised by members of the CABs could be immensely valuable to persons wishing to make submissions to the Joint Review Panel when it commences its hearings.
- i. BC Hydro Integrated Resource Plan: Jeremy participated in the Vancouver workshop which was not well attended, nor, apparently, was the Prince George meeting. The Plan is essentially a 20 year strategic plan for the Corporation, which welcomes input from the public. Any member of the public to complete a feedback form which can be obtained from the BC Hydro website.

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

- a. Disposition of certain BC Parks: Following the mixed response to Ken Farquharson's proposal - see March 14 minutes - he has decided not to pursue it further at this time. However he has agreed to write a short article on the proposal for the Spring issue of ORC's newsletter.
- b. Access for back country skiers at Whistler Olympic Park: Jeremy is continuing to seek a clear statement of the problems from the federation of Mountain Clubs before taking any action.
- c. Kalum LRMP PIC: Jeremy met a member of the Plan Implementation Committee while in Kitimat but the access issues have not yet been explained.
- d. Special Event permits: Ward Trotter's letter indicates that the potential requirements for Special Event Permits for NGOs engaged in outdoor recreation activities have changed radically since a discussion draft of the proposed Guidelines was circulated for comment in July 2010. NGOs may have to both obtain and pay for such permits, as adventure tourism operators have to do. In particular the motorized groups have been singled out for special treatment. ORC has not received a new draft of the proposed Guidelines and this has been requested so that an informed response can be made.
- e. FMCBC Strategic Plan interview: ORC will participate in an interview by Terje Vold regarding the strategic planning process for the Federation of Mountain Clubs.
- f. Potential future role for ORC (tabled)

8. **Upcoming events & meetings**

- a. The Outdoor Recreation Report: Spring 2011 issue in progress.

9. **Next meeting date**: 5 PM Monday May 9

10. The meeting was adjourned at 7.15 PM

jm
May 10/11