

**Outdoor Recreation Council of BC**  
**Meeting of Executive Board of Directors**

5.15 PM Monday, September 12, 2011  
47 West Broadway, Vancouver

**MINUTES**

<u>Present</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Robert Gunn	Chair	Advisory member/BCIT Fish & Wildlife program
Gordon Weetman	Past Chair	UBC Faculty of Forestry
Kathy Whitemore	Director	Four Wheel Drive Association of BC
Don Reid	Director	Trails Society of BC
Erin Hart	Director	BC Snowmobile Federation, Canoe/Kayak BC
Howie Harshaw	Director	Advisory Member/UBC Faculty of Forestry
Jeremy McCall	Executive Director & Treasurer	BC Nature
Ray Pillman	Senior Advisor	Former Chair

By phone

Jack Bryceland	Director	Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC
Rose Schroeder	Director	Back Country Horsemen of BC

Guests

Zan Boyle	President	Quad Riders ATV Association of BC
Leon Lebrun	Vice President	Trails Society of BC
Tony Clayton	Director	Outdoor Recreation Foundation

Regrets

Jason Walters	Director	Quad Riders ATV Association of BC
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1. Robert welcomed those attending.

2. **Approval of agenda**

The agenda was approved with the addition of Item 7(g) Kokish report.

3. **Appoint Howie Harshaw as Advisory Member**

**Motion:** Moved/seconded (Don/Erin) That Howie Harshaw be appointed as an Advisory Member. Howie was elected as a director at the June Annual General Meeting subject to being appointed as an Advisory Member. He was previously an Advisory Member until 2009. **Motion carried.**

4. **Minutes of the May 9 meeting of the Executive**

**Motion:** Moved/seconded (Kathy/Don): That the minutes of the May 9 meeting be approved. A minor error was noted. **Motion carried**

5. **Administration, membership & general**

- a. Update on membership and dues: Jeremy reported that all Provincial Group Members had paid their dues for the current membership year with the exception of CPAWS which is expected to pay in due course. Most Participating Group Members have also paid their dues. He did not invoice any municipal members for the current year and said it would require a major effort to recruit a meaningful

number of them. Jack asked if Canoe/Kayak BC has been contacted to become a member. Erin agreed to check with them.

**Action item:** Erin to invite Canoe/Kayak BC to join ORC.

- b. Direct Access Grant Status: Jeremy spoke with staff at the Gaming Policy & Enforcement Branch who advised him that if ORC's application emphasizes the health benefits of ORC's activities as reported in the newsletter it is possible that a grant will be approved. He plans to submit an application before November.

**Action item:** Jeremy to apply for Direct Access Grant

## 6. Correspondence

Received: BC Snowmobile Federation - President's letter dated June 2011 updating members on changes within the organization.

Copy of BC Snowmobile Federation letter to Premier dated July 21 indicating that it does not support snowmobile closures in Revelstoke.

Barry Brandow's August letter re efforts to obtain designation of the Gilpin Wildlife Management Area near Grand Forks.

Minister of Environment letter dated August 17 responding to ORC's May 4 and June 27 letters expressing his regret at delays in seeking clarification of volunteer programs in BC Parks and committing to review ORC's recommendations.

Sent: June 27 to Minister of Environment re Volunteers in BC Parks (see above).

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

- a. Bowen Island National Park Reserve: Ray and Jeremy attended a meeting on August 31 at which National Parks presented a Revised Park Concept. The proposed referendum for Bowen residents will be included in the November municipal election.
- b. Volunteers in BC Parks: See also Correspondence above. Jeremy visited Lori Halls, ADM for BC Parks and the Conservation Officer Service, in Victoria on September 7. Ms Halls gave him a positive reception and he considers that, combined with the Minister's assurances, this should lead to some progress being made on the volunteer file.
- c. Canadian Trails Federation: Jeremy reported on the July 13 CTF directors' conference call. He requested advice on a motion currently being considered by e-mail whereby CTF would contribute \$3,000, to be funded from member's equity but equivalent to half of its 2011/2012 operating budget, to the National Trails Coalition. This would enable NTC to hire professional lobbyists to persuade the Government of Canada to follow through on an election promise to spend \$2.5 million a year for four years on trails. Jeremy, also the CTF Treasurer, proposes to use conventional NGO advocacy methods before spending such a large amount. There was general support for his position which he will reiterate when the final vote is taken at the September 15 conference call.
- d. National Trails Roundtable & National Trails Survey: Jeremy is interim chair of the NTR Working Group. The Survey has been posted on Survey Monkey since July 11 and trail enthusiasts across Canada have been invited to take the Survey. The number of responses has been affected by delays in getting the

French translation of related documents. BC scored well so far with more responses than the rest of Canada combined.

- e. Off Road Vehicle Management Framework Joint Advisory Group: A meeting of the Joint Advisory Group (JAG) is scheduled for September 19 in Richmond. Zan commented that the confidentiality agreement which participants have been asked to sign results in too much reliance being placed on the opinions of the two to three representatives of each stakeholder. He also said that one of the ATVBC representatives was requested to step down from the JAG.
- f. Rivers Day & website: A number of events for September 25 and the preceding week are posted on the Rivers Day page on ORC's website. Bob and Jeremy acknowledged that World Rivers Day is being promoted more than BC Rivers Day. They suggested that ORC's role in these events should be clarified.
- g. Kokish Independent Power Project: Ray reminded directors about the significant impacts of this run-of-river small hydro proposal (see previous meeting minutes).

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

a. Kettle Valley Railway: Prior to the discussion Jeremy distributed the following:

- Spirit of 2010 Trail Network Update issued by Terry Wardrop of ATVBC on July 13 regarding the BC Government's decisions regarding the Spirit of 2010 Trail including the Kettle Valley Railway
- Backgrounder dated August 12 to a News Release issued by Trails BC on August 7 in response to an online petition organized by ATVBC
- "*Some considerations regarding the use of the Kettle Valley Railway sections of the Trans Canada Trail*", a 12 point summary prepared by Jeremy McCall with input from John Hawkings, Provincial Trails Manager with Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations.

It was decided that the *Considerations* should be discussed one by one, with both ATV BC and Trails BC providing their view on each. This resulted in only three of the twelve points being discussed by the time the meeting ended. Leon reiterated Trails BC's arguments in support of the Kettle Valley Railway (KVR) and the Trans Canada Trail (TCT) being non-motorized. Jack commented that the description of the TCT as a shared trail on its website and elsewhere had led to some confusion among trail users in the past. Zan argued that many local users of particular sections of the KVR had grown accustomed to using it for access to other ATV trails or fishing locations over a number of years and they objected to their access being suddenly denied. Zan agreed to provide ORC with ATVBC's comments on each of the *Considerations* after the meeting.

b. Mountain Caribou Closures: Tabled

c. Pacific North Coast Integrated Management Area: Tabled

d. Crown Land Tenure Applications: Tabled

9. **Upcoming events & meetings** As listed in the Agenda

10. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7.50 PM. Next meeting October 3

jm/Oct. 4/11