

Outdoor Recreation Council of BC
Meeting of Executive Board of Directors

5.30 PM Monday, January 11, 2016
1101 - 207 West Hastings Street, Vancouver

MINUTES

<u>Present</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Gordon Weetman	Director	Advisory Member, UBC Faculty of Forestry
Roxanne Rousseau	Director	Sea Kayak Association of BC
Jeremy McCall	Executive Director	
<u>By phone</u>		
Dennis Webb	Director, Chair	Quad Riders ATV Association of BC
Dave Wharton	Director, Vice Chair	Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC
Kim Reeves	Director	Four Wheel Drive Association of BC
Don Reid	Director	Trails Society of BC
Penney Edwards	Director	BC Nature
Erin Hart	Director	BC Snowmobile Federation
<u>Unable to attend</u>		
David Lock	Director	BC Off Road Motor Cycle Association
Rose Schroeder	Director	Back Country Horsemen of BC

1. Dave called the meeting to order at 5.33 PM and conducted a roll-call.

2. Approval of agenda

Motion: Moved & seconded (DR/KR). That the agenda be approved. **Carried.**

3. Minutes of the December 7 meeting of the Executive

a. Approval, errors & omissions:

Motion: Moved & seconded (GW/DR). That the minutes of the December 7 meeting be approved. **Motion carried.**

b. Action items in December 7 meeting minutes:

Item 4(a): If invited, Jeremy to participate in conference call with ATV BC Board of Directors. No action to date.

Item 4(e): Jeremy to investigate if ORC could charge for website links. Not yet investigated.

Item 4(f): Renewal of General Liability Policy. See Item 4(g) below.

Item 5: MFLNRO letter re reducing red tape distributed.

Item 7(b): Jeremy to draft letter to Ministers Thomson and Polak re Singing Pass access. Not yet drafted.

c. Business arising from the minutes: Kim enquired if recreation access to private lands would be covered by Item 6(b) and was advised that it would be. (Penney joined meeting).

4. Administration, membership and general

a. Membership update – Application from Western Canada Mountain Bike Tourism Association (MBTA): The application was received in mid-December together with a cheque for dues for a full year. Jeremy is very familiar with the organization having attended their last three symposiums in Chase, Sooke and Williams Lake. Membership of the mountain bike community is important and several clubs already belong. ORC is encouraging IMBA (Canada), also a

member, to establish a BC entity or chapter of IMBA(Canada) for the mountain bike clubs so they have a provincial presence. He recommended that the MBTA's application be approved. Don recommended that the MBTA be classified as a Participating Group member under the present structure.

Motion: Moved & seconded (DR/GW) That the application of the Western Canada Mountain Bike Tourism Association be approved and that it be classified as a Participating Group Member. **Carried.**

Jeremy agreed to inform the MBTA of this decision. (Dennis & Erin joined the meeting).

- b. Setting the date for the 2016 annual general meeting: The dates of the AGMs of some Provincial Group Members were considered, including BC Nature and Federation of Mountain Clubs in May and ATV BC in August. It was decided to hold the ORC AGM in June as usual. The availability of members of the Executive was then considered but on every Saturday in June at least one member would not be available. When Sunday was suggested as an alternative Jeremy said he would not be available on Sundays. Finally Saturday June 11 was selected.

Motion: Moved & seconded (DR/EH) That ORC's 2016 AGM be held on Saturday June 11. **Carried.**

The location was then discussed and all agreed that the Yarrow Community School would be the best location if it is available.

Action item: Jeremy to check availability of Yarrow Community School with Rose Schroeder.

- c. Revision of ORC's bylaws: Don advised that he and Jeremy do not agree on a number of points and that it would be two to three weeks before a working draft could be put before members of the Executive. Don suggested that a third person be consulted to give an opinion on points of disagreement and Roxanne has agreed to make herself available for that on either a weekend or a Saturday.
- d. Review of headings for proposed ORC Policy Manual: Jeremy said he made no progress on this project during the Christmas period but he intends to sort the draft list of headings into a logical order and begin writing policies shortly. Penney agreed to assist him.

Action item: Jeremy to develop policies for Policy Manual.

- e. Planned hiring of communications assistant: No further progress. Jeremy advised that he would like an assistant to be in place by the summer. **Tabled.**

- f. Appointment of new members to the Outdoor Recreation Foundation (ORF): ORF presently has 10 members, including Gordon, Chair, and Jeremy, Secretary Treasurer. According to ORF's bylaws, ORC's Executive Board of Directors is responsible for appointing members to ORF. Dennis has nominated Jeff Mohr, Past President of ATVBC, and Jeff has agreed to serve. Jeremy has nominated Stephen Partington, a respected member of BC Nature and a person very knowledgeable about investments.

Motion: Moved and seconded (DWe/PE) That Jeff Mohr be appointed as a member of the Outdoor Recreation Foundation. **Carried.**

Motion: Moved & seconded (PE/DWe) That Stephen Partington be appointed as a member of the Outdoor Recreation Foundation

Action item: Jeremy to inform the new members of their appointments.

g. General Liability Insurance: Jeremy advised that he had completed the application form, that the Lloyds policy for \$2 million general liability coverage has been renewed and that a cheque for the premium of \$550 is in the process of being signed and mailed.

5. Correspondence

Received: LF Tim Sheldan, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO), dated December 21 inviting ORC to assist the BC Government to reduce red tape when using and accessing government services. This letter in the mail was the same as the November 18 letter previously received and circulated by e-mail.

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

a. Proposed 2016 Share the Trails workshop – update & proposed program: Jeremy gave an update on plans for this workshop:

- Date and location: May 6, Prestige Inn, Salmon Arm
- Program: Professional presentation on the nature of conflict; presentations by Chilliwack Recreation Advisory Group, Tabor Mountain Recreation Association, Shuswap Trail Alliance; STA presentation on working with First Nations; IMBA Canada presentation; FLNRO update re PTAB and Natural Resource Roads Act
- Outdoor activities: Saturday May 7

It was agreed that we should have a record of proceedings of this workshop.

b. Outdoor recreation access on private forest lands - progress report: Jeremy advised that we have not yet received a report from Graham Litman at UVic. Calvin Sanborn, head of the Environmental Law Centre, contacted ORC earlier in the day to request approval to discuss the project with a columnist from the Times Colonist. Approval was given. Kim brought up case of the Nicola Fish & Game Club, members of which have been arrested by the RCMP for trespassing on lands belonging to the Douglas Lake Ranch. He said members of the Four Wheel Drive Association were involved and he asked if the UVic project would cover that type of situation. Jeremy responded that the UVic project is directed at forest company owned land on Vancouver Island and that ORC's fisher members are very concerned about access to lakes on the Island, but he doubted that it would apply directly to the Nicola Valley situation though perhaps lessons could be learned from it. Erin reminded directors that snowmobiles do have access to private forest lands on parts of Vancouver Island.

c. Campaign for BC Parks: Jeremy said he was going to Nanaimo on January 12 to meet George Creek, of the Marine Parks Forever Society, to discuss the proposed campaign make Liberal MLAs in ridings containing Provincial Parks aware of the progressive reduction in funding of the parks. George has prepared a list of relevant MLAs and together they will develop an effective message, after which members of the two organizations will be asked to arrange meetings with their MLAs to present the facts about funding. (Erin left meeting).

d. National Trails Coalition (NTC) grants for non-motorized projects – Reports and NTC reporting procedures: Jeremy said some trail groups were having difficulties obtaining the grant funds for their projects from the NTC, resulting in contractors

being unpaid for several weeks. He plans to prepare a report of these and any other problems experienced once the current projects have been completed and paid for. He asked Dennis if the summer motorized trail grants had similar problems. Dennis was not aware of any. Dennis also reported that Kim Smith will take over from Terry Wardrop at ATVBC as General Manager, Lands, in March. (Dennis left meeting).

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

a. Back Country Horsemen of BC's (BCHBC) trail issues in South Chilcotin

Mountains Provincial Park and the Bridge River Valley: In her absence, Rose supplied the following information by e-mail:

- There is still no Park Management Plan
- Rose spoke with John Hawkings at the end of December. He reassured the BCHBC committee that Recreation Sites and Trails BC (RSTBC) is doing what it can to engage both First Nations and other user groups and resolve some of the issues in the area, although slowly (other than BC Parks). It still seems that the two agencies are not aware of what each is doing.
- Rose also had an email exchange this week with Tim Bennett (RSTBC District Recreation Officer for this area). She voiced her concern about the "Big" plans Bridge River Valley Trail Group (BRVTG) has to promote mountain biking in this area. Tim said much the same and assured her that BRVTG is not focusing solely on mountain bike use. He urged her to join the group and attend a meeting via conference call. Also that at this point RSTBC and FN have yet to come to agreement on how to best manage the land base for recreation. No trails will be formalized until they come to a resolution.
- The concern remains that until that time, current actions are promoting more use, which will result in more potential conflicts, more foreseeable safety concerns, more trails built.....all while NO collective management is happening.
- The BCHBC group will be meeting next week to discuss further and to decide on if and how to become involved with BRVTG.

b. Singing Pass Trail Access: (See December minutes for details). Jeremy said he has not yet drafted a letter to Ministers Thomson and Polak for review by the Executive but he continues to think this is an important access issue so he will do so for the February meeting. Dave said the Federation of Mountain Clubs continues to consider it to be a high priority issue and BC Parks should be involved. He thinks Whistler Blackcomb is the main problem. Jeremy added that the Mountain Resorts Branch of MFLNRO is also a problem. Dave said the FMC will discuss it at a meeting on January 25. Dave and Roxanne said it would be important to direct the ORC letter at the right people.

Action item: Jeremy to draft a joint letter to Ministers Thomson and Polak for review by the Executive in February.

c. Logging and trails: Don said the problem on the Haller Trail has been dealt with.

d. Reprint of the Trail Users Code of Ethics pamphlet: Jeremy said the original copies of the ORC pamphlets look very dated although the advice contained in them is still excellent. He plans to redesign them with substantially the same text and drawings and reprint them. He has obtained permission from Kelly Pearce at Hope Mountain Centre to use any content that Kelly contributed. All agreed that this is a good idea and Dave and Penney offered to assist with updating the text if necessary. Dennis suggested that a recently published Quad Riders pamphlet would also be a good model. Jeremy agreed to send copies of the pamphlets to Dave and Penney.

8. Upcoming events & meetings:

- a. Next meeting of the Executive: 5.30 PM Monday February 1.
- b. ORC Annual General Meeting: Saturday June 11. Location TBD

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7.30 PM.

As approved
Feb.1/16
jm
