

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

5.00 PM Monday, November 6, 2017

1101 - 207 West Hastings Street, Vancouver

**MINUTES**

<u>Present</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Jeremy McCall	Executive Director	Canadian Parks & Wilderness Society
Natalia Pisarek	ORC Communications & Administration	
<u>By phone</u>		
Dennis Webb	Director, Past Chair	Quad Riders ATV Association of BC
Roxanne Rousseau	Director, Vice Chair	BC Marine Trails Association
Kim Reeves	Director	Four Wheel Drive Association of BC
Ciel Sander	Director	Trails Society of BC
Scott Walker	Director	Back Country Horsemen of BC
Gordon Weetman	Director	Advisory Member, UBC Faculty of Forestry
Karen Black	Director	Quad Riders ATV Association of BC
<u>Absent</u>		
Dave Wharton	Director, Chair	Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC
Penney Edwards	Director	BC Nature

**1. Roll call/regrets**

The meeting began just after 5:00pm. D. Wharton (Chair) was absent as he is traveling. D. Webb chaired the meeting.

**2. Approval of agenda**

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

**3. October 2 Board meeting minutes**

a. Approval, errors & omissions:

**Motion.** Moved & seconded (SW/GW). That the minutes of the Oct. 2 Board meeting be approved. **Motion carried.**

b. Action items in October 2 meeting minutes:

4(b) Action: JM to send signed contract to Patrick Lucas. – **completed.**

4(d) Action: NP to draft a strategic planning backgrounder. – **work in progress.**

5(b) Action: JM to write draft letter to the Environment Minister. – **cancelled.**

5(c) JM to send Dave's letter re financial statements to Directors – **completed.**

7(b) Action: JM to complete submission to Select Standing Committee by Oct. 16. – **completed.**

c. Business arising from minutes. None.

**4. Administration, membership & general**

a. October e-newsletter – The Outdoor Recreation Report

Natalia provided a brief update on the e-newsletter. JM suggested that Trails BC be featured as November's "Member of the Month". Dennis suggested that moving forward, Natalia should send "Member of the Month" invitations up to 3 months in advance, to provide members sufficient time to prepare. Kim added that members can also be asked to submit a bio or their own content for the newsletter.

**Action: NP to finalize the “Members of the Month” candidates for the upcoming 3 months.**

- b. Funding for ORC directors to travel to Gatineau for Trailhead Canada  
Jeremy explained that ORC will provide some financial assistance to ORC Directors who attend the Trailhead Canada conference in Gatineau/Ottawa. The compensation offered to ORC Directors is based on the compensation offered to Directors of the Canadian Trails Federation (CTF). There will be a deductible of about \$400 to even the playing field, since some Directors have further to travel than others. Dennis told the Board that ATV BC has offered him a \$1,000 grant to attend the conference. Jeremy said that he used credit card points to purchase his plane ticket to Ottawa. From the ORC Board, currently only Jeremy and Dennis are attending the conference.

**Action: JM to include this agenda item next month’s agenda.**

- c. Proposed ORC membership campaign  
Jeremy plans to carry out an ORC membership campaign. The foundation of the campaign will be a letter outlining advantages of membership in ORC. Jeremy intends to send this letter to a number of organizations, including Mountain Equipment Co-Op (MEC), the Underwater Council, and the North Shore Mountain Bike Association. The primary purpose of the membership campaign is to attract organizations representing user groups that are not currently represented in ORC’s member base (e.g. divers).

**Action: Natalia to send Master Membership List to all Directors.**

- d. Proposal to develop a strategic plan  
Natalia is in the process of developing a backgrounder document for the ORC Board. The backgrounder document is intended to precede a formal strategic planning process and will include data on outdoor recreation as well as ORC’s past and current projects to help the Directors decide on next steps related to a future strategic plan, which may include hiring a professional consultant.

**Action: Natalia to send backgrounder document to Directors 1 week ahead of the next board meeting.**

## 5. Correspondence

- a. LF Minister of Environment letter dated Aug. 18 re priorities – cancelled  
Jeremy suggested cancelling the proposed letter to the Minister, since the task had not been completed and too much time has passed. No one objected and the Board agreed to cancel the response letter to the Minister.
- b. Proposed LT Minister of Environment to support Dennis Perry’s Oct. 6 letter re South Chilcotin Mountains Provincial Park  
Dennis Perry is a former Deputy Leader of the Green Party and was also a founder of the South Chilcotin Mountains Wilderness Society, which existed

from 1979 to 2005. Mr. Perry recently wrote a letter to the Environment Minister, George Heyman, regarding land deletions to South Chilcotin Provincial Park. In 2001, the NDP government declared a 71,487-hectare Class A Park, however when the Liberals won the subsequent 2001 election they declared a reduced 56,796-hectare Class A Park which was made official in 2010. Mr. Perry is asking the NDP government to re-establish the original 71,487-hectare South Chilcotin Mountains Park. Jeremy believes that ORC should support Mr. Perry's initiative. Gordon suggested that Jeremy contact Mr. Perry and assist him by providing reports and information on South Chilcotin Provincial Park.

**Action: JM to contact Mr. Perry.**

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

### **a. ORC Access Committee: Update – Kim**

The Access Committee convened twice since the summer break via conference call (Sept. 27 and October 25). The Committee is continuing the process of evaluating access regimes from other jurisdictions, with the intention of advising the ORC Board about what kind of access framework would be appropriate for BC. The Committee is also identifying the fundamental principles which underpin each access regime. Kim pointed out that in BC the province spans a varied landscape across vast distances, and therefore vehicle access is central to a functional access regime for BC. The Access Committee intends to recommend an access framework and supports legislative change in the long-term, but in the short to mid-term, the Committee is also interested in negotiating access directly with landowners.

### **b. PTAB – October meeting, proposed November meeting and priorities – Jeremy**

At the October 17 conference call meeting of the PTAB, a motion was passed that the PTAB write to the Premier and the Minister of Forests Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development, explaining the need for resources to be made available to the PTAB for the implementation of the Trails Strategy for British Columbia. As directed by the meeting, a letter was drafted. However, during the drafting process a number of issues became apparent, which the proposed letter would not have addressed. The PTAB will convene via conference call on November 16 to discuss a change in strategy.

### **c. Rail Trails Steering Committee – Draft Terms of Reference – Jeremy**

The Rail Trails Steering Committee convened via conference call for the first time on July 17. ORC is providing administrative support for the Steering Committee, which is comprised of a diverse group of organizations. Jeremy has been working on a draft Terms of Reference (ToR) based on input from the Committee. Once ToR are adopted, the Committee may consider the creation of a pilot Recreation Advisory Group (RAG) in southern border country along the rail trail corridor.

### **d. Trailhead Canada – Ottawa – November 21/23 – Program & BC representation (Tennessee Trent, etc.)**

The current number of registrants is approximately 80. The CTF (the hosts of the conference) hope to attract at minimum 100 attendees. Scott asked whether the BC attendees will produce a report following the conference.

Jeremy and Dennis advised that this had not been discussed, but that something can be put together. Gordon asked whether the impacts of social media (e.g. the “Joffre Lakes” phenomenon) is on the conference agenda. Dennis said that he will raise the issue at the conference.

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

- a. Update on Southern Mountain Caribou recovery strategy – Natalia  
Natalia and Jeremy have listened in on two conference call regarding the Southern Mountain Caribou Recovery Strategy. In June 2017, the Province of BC and Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) produced a joint study called the Southern Mountain Caribou Protection Study. The Southern Mountain Caribou are listed as threatened under the federal Species at Risk Act (SARA). The Protection Study was completed to inform a forthcoming assessment by the federal government of whether individuals of Southern Mountain Caribou and their critical habitat are effectively protected. Currently the Province of BC is exploring a Section 11 Conservation Agreement under SARA. Section 11 authorizes a minister to enter into a conservation agreement to benefit a species at risk. The purpose of this Agreement would be to formalize provincial and federal government commitments to support recovery of the Central Group herds, outlining collaborative recovery measures including: species monitoring, assessing and protecting habitat, restoring habitat, and non-habitat recovery measures, such as captive rearing and predator management.
- b. Proposed Park Issues Committee  
Mel Turner (ORC Advisor and Director of the Elders Council for Parks in BC) and representatives from Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC recently met with BC Parks staff to discuss the Cypress Backcountry Access (BAC) issue. Cypress Resorts has been blocking backcountry skiers from going through the Cypress Recreation Area before 9:00am. The meeting with BC Parks was productive but nothing has yet been confirmed. There is eagerness to resolve this issue as there have been reports that Cypress Park Resort intends to open for business on November 10.

**8. Upcoming events, meetings, etc.**

- Trailhead Canada 2017 – Gatineau QC – November 21/23
- Proposed next Board meeting – Monday December 4 at 5pm

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35PM.

Draft 2

NP/JM

Nov. 17/17