

Outdoor Recreation Council of British Columbia 39th Annual General Meeting

Saturday June 17, 2017

Yarrow Community School, Wilson Road, Yarrow, BC

MINUTES

In attendance

Board of Directors

Dennis Webb (Past Chair)

Kim Reeves

Ciel Sander

Rose Schroeder

Gordon Weetman

Affiliation

Back Country Horsemen of BC,
Canadian Trails Federation &
Quad Riders ATV Association of BC
Four Wheel Drive Association of BC
Trails BC
Back Country Horsemen of BC
UBC Faculty of Forestry

Staff

Natalia Pisarek

Communications & Administration

Provincial Organization Members

Back Country Horsemen of BC
BC Federation of Drift Fishers
BC Lapidary Society
BC Marine Trails Network Association
BC Speleological Federation
BC Wildlife Federation
Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC
Four Wheel Drive Association of BC
Hike BC
Quad Riders ATV Association of BC

Delegate(s)

Scott Walker
Rod Clapton
Phillip Crewe
Mick Allen
Justin Saukarookoff
David Oliver
Barry Janyk
Rachelle Tomm
Brian Wood
Karen Black and Kim Smith

Regional Organization Members

Powell River Parks & Wilderness Society

Delegate(s)

Eagle Walz

Guest

Daniel Scott

Trails Specialist, Rec Sites & Trails BC

Absent Members of the Board

Jeremy McCall (Executive Director)

Dave Wharton (Chair)

Penney Edwards

Roxanne Rousseau

Canadian Parks & Wilderness Society
Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC
BC Nature
BC Marine Trails Network Association

Welcome

D. Webb chaired the meeting in D. Wharton's absence. Proceedings began at 9.10 AM.

Members' Forum

D. Webb then invited each of the other persons present to introduce themselves and say a few words about the organization they represented. Delegates from the member organizations listed above gave brief reports.

On completion of the Members' Forum the Annual General Meeting took place. See following pages.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1. Call to order

At 11.05 AM Dennis Webb called the Annual General Meeting to order.

2. Establishment of quorum

In addition to members of the Board, 10 paid-up Provincial Organization Members were present and 1 paid-up Regional Organization Member was present, which exceeded the quorum requirement of ten members. A quorum at any meeting of the members shall be ten of the members entitled to vote at the meeting. As per the bylaws, each Provincial Organization Member is entitled a vote on all matters. Each Regional Organization Member is entitled to vote on all matters except the election of directors and amendments to bylaws.

3. Adoption of agenda

Motion: Moved & seconded (P. Crewe/D. Oliver): That the agenda be adopted.

Motion carried

4. Approval of minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting have been posted on the Council's website since 2016 and they were also displayed on the wall of the meeting room during this meeting.

Motion: Moved & seconded (D. Oliver/R. Schroeder). That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on June 11, 2016, be approved. **Motion carried.**

5. Business arising from the minutes

P. Crewe asked for an update regarding **ORC Resolution 2016 – 07 – Motor assisted bicycles in BC Parks**. This motion was tabled at the 2016 annual general meeting. D. Webb said that ORC is not actively working on this issue at the present time. D.Scott reported that he is currently compiling research about motor assisted bicycles and is preparing a report to be completed in 2018. This report will make a recommendation about the designation of motor assisted bicycles on trails managed by Recreation Sites and Trails BC. D. Scott said that BC Parks typically follows the precedent set by RSTBC.

6. Chair's Report

The Chair did not provide a report.

7. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director, Jeremy McCall, was not in attendance. See Appendix A for the Executive Director's Report.

8. Financial Report

See Appendix B for the Financial Report for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2017.

R. Schroeder pointed out that it would be helpful for Directors to receive monthly financial statements, as this would help them to understand the organization's financial needs more comprehensively and to fulfill their fiduciary duty. R. Schroeder proposed a motion for ORC to produce monthly financial statements. P. Crewe

seconded the motion. B. Janyk commented that an organization's ability to produce monthly financial statements is directly related to its staffing size. B. Janyk suggested that quarterly statements are more appropriate. R. Schroeder's motion was withdrawn in favour of B. Janyk's amended motion. E. Walz believes that J. McCall has done exemplary work for many years and that he is fully confident in J. McCall's management of ORC's finances however, he agrees that producing quarterly financial statements would benefit the organization's Directors. E. Walz added that sharing financial information with Directors and staff would help facilitate successful succession in the future when J. McCall chooses to step back. J. McCall has been supporting the organization on a volunteer basis for the past ten years and he is not a paid staff member. Currently only J. McCall is capable of producing ORC's financial reports. R. Schroeder requested that a note be included in the AGM minutes for official record stating that ORC's members fully support J. McCall and appreciate the work he does for the organization. R. Schroeder added that this request is categorically not an issue of trust but rather a question of what would benefit the organization now and into the future.

B. Janyk added that financial statements are the foundation of annual budgets and that annual budgets serve as an important guiding post for an organization. B. Janyk proposed a motion for ORC's members to receive an annual budget to review at future annual general meetings.

Motion: (R. Schroeder/P. Crewe): To have monthly financial statements produced for the Board of Directors. **Motion set aside for pending vote on amendment.**

Motion: (D. Oliver/P. Crewe): To amend the set aside motion for monthly statements in favour of quarterly financial statements produced for the Board of Directors.

Motion carried.

Motion: (R. Schroeder/P. Crewe): To have quarterly financial statements produced for the Board of Directors. 12 votes in favour, 1 against. **Motion carried.**

Motion (B. Janyk/D. Oliver): To have an annual budget produced for members at future AGMs. 12 votes in favour, 1 abstention. **Motion carried.**

Motion (D. Oliver/K. Reeves): To accept the financial report for the year ended March 31, 2017. **Motion carried.**

9. Resolutions

ORC RESOLUTION 2017 - 01

An amendment to the bylaws of the Council to reduce the notice period for a Notice of Meeting, including the text of special resolutions.

Withdrawn by the Board of Directors on June 7, 2017.

ORC RESOLUTION 2017 - 02

A resolution to increase the dues payable by members of the Outdoor Recreation Council to take effect for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2018.

Proposed by the Council's Board of Directors. All members are eligible to vote on this resolution.

Whereas the membership dues of the Outdoor Recreation Council have not increased since 2010; and

Whereas the membership structure of the Council was altered with the introduction of the 2016 Bylaws without changes being made to the dues to reflect the changes in membership categories;

Now therefore be it resolved that the following membership dues take effect from April 1, 2018:

- Provincial Organization Members: \$192 per annum;
- Regional Organization Members: \$96 per annum;
- Individual Members: \$50 per annum.

Discussion: D. Webb reported that the Board of Directors discussed this issue at length. Directors concluded that this moderate increase of dues is fair and that it's in the organization's best interest. B. Janyk asked how much additional funding this would generate for the organization. D. Webb replied that the increase is modest and would generate about \$1,000 more each year.

Motion carried: 13 votes in favour, 1 against.

Note: Each member of the Board of Directors exercised one vote, and voted either as a member of the Board or as a representative of their affiliated organization if it was not otherwise represented.

ORC RESOLUTION 2017 – 03

Proposed by the British Columbia Federation of Drift Fishers. Moved/Seconded R.Clapton/D.Oliver.

Preamble: Environmental development concerns future generations as they will be the stewards of the fisheries resource. Fisheries & Oceans Canada (DFO) recently cancelled the "Salmonids in the Classroom" program." This program is presented annually to 35,000 children at a cost of \$600,000. Many would suggest it's a wise expenditure of our license fees and tax dollars as an investment in the future. With this action DFO is failing to observe an agreement with the Province of British Columbia established many years ago to mitigate the impact of millions of additional salmon smolts which compete for food with steelhead smolts. Other DFO cuts include staff cuts in the habitat protection division and, as stated by DFO, they will be allocating more funds to the Aboriginal Fisheries initiatives and legislative responsibilities.

The B.C. Federation of Drift Fishers is adding its voice to the growing and passionate opposition to these recently announced cuts in the Pacific Region.

Whereas Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) has announced cancellation of hatchery production of steelhead and cutthroat at a time of extreme conservation concern for many British Columbia stocks; and

Whereas DFO has also cancelled the "Salmonids in the Classroom" program a program presented annually to 35,000 children at a cost of \$600,000; and

Whereas the proposed cuts by DFO severely impact fish stocks, habitat and the environmental development and potential stewardship by our children

Now therefore be it resolved that the Outdoor Recreation Council of British Columbia supports the position of the BC Federation of Drift Fishers and vigorously opposes these cuts.

Discussion: R. Clapton reported DFO has withdrawn its decision to cut funding to the above mentioned programs due to an overwhelming volume of letters and email in opposition to their decision. R. Clapton explained that the cost of these programs represents a tiny proportion of DFO's annual budget but that the value of these programs is immense. R. Clapton suggested withdrawing the resolution in light of DFO's reversal. K. Reeves pointed out that it would be prudent to still vote on this resolution to show support for these programs.

Motion carried: Unanimous.

10. Election of Executive Board of Directors for 2017 – 2018

A summary of the current and proposed members of the Executive Board of Directors with brief resumes was distributed to the attendees at the meeting.

R. Schroeder proposed the following:

Continuing incumbents

Penelope (Penney) Edwards. Director from June 2013. Affiliation: BC Nature.

Jeremy McCall. Director from June 2016. He previously served as a director for six years. Affiliation: Canadian Parks & Wilderness Society.

Kim Reeves. Director from June, 2015. Affiliation: Four Wheel Drive Association of BC.

Roxanne Rousseau. Director from June, 2015. Affiliation: BC Marine Trails Network Association.

Dave Wharton. Director from June 2013. Affiliation: Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC.

Incumbent nominees

Dennis Webb. Director since June 2012. Nominated by the Board of Directors. Affiliated with the Quad Riders ATV Association of BC, Back Country Horsemen of BC and the Canadian Trails Federation. Nominated for a one year term.

Ciel Sander. Director since June 2016. Affiliation: Trails BC. Nominated for a two year term.

Additional nominees

Karen Black. Affiliation: Quad Riders ATV Association of BC. Nominated for a one year term.

Scott Walker. Affiliation: Back Country Horsemen of British Columbia. Nominated for a one-year term.

Motion: Moved/seconded (R. Schroeder/K. Reeves) That the slate of 9 nominees be elected as directors for the 2017 – 2018 year. **Motion carried.**

11. **Other business**

D. Webb presented ORC's "Trail User's Code of Ethics" brochure which was republished in May 2017 from an older version. Printed copies can be requested from the ORC office and a digital copy is available online at http://orc.bc.ca/pub_list.htm. No other business was raised.

12. **Adjournment**

The Annual General Meeting was adjourned at 12.00 PM.

Jul. 13/17
np/jm

Appendix A
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
JUNE 2016 – JUNE 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- First year with the new bylaws
- First paid employee for 10 years!
- Provincial Trails Advisory Body finds its feet
- ORC Access Committee
- E- newsletter

NEW BYLAWS & THE BC SOCIETIES ACT

The new bylaws are a long overdue overhaul of bylaws which had become increasingly dated. They were approved at the June 2016 AGM and put into force after they were accepted by the Corporate Registry on October 18. These bylaws were drafted to comply with the new BC Societies Act. It now remains for ORC to transition to the new Act before November 2018.

One of the principal objectives of the new bylaws was to rationalize the voting privileges of different membership classes. Previously Provincial Group Members had a vote, and so did Individual Members, but other non-profit groups did not. This was an anomaly. Some of the groups with provincial status had no clubs associated with them or they did not have a true provincial mandate. The new definition of Provincial Organization Members now requires members to have two or more clubs associated with them. All members now have a vote on issues, which gives Regional Organization Members the

same voting privilege as Individual Members. This change is especially relevant to votes on matters of concern to the outdoor recreation community. Any individual can be nominated for the Board of Directors, but only Provincial Organization Members can vote for the election of directors or a change to the bylaws.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board now has 10 members. There is generally a reasonable balance between motorized and non-motorized representation. It meets in the first week of the month for most months of the year to discuss issues of interest or concern to ORC's member organizations. Most directors participate by phone. Matters discussed by the Board during the year have included preparation for the Share the Trails Workshop in Penticton in May, motorized and non-motorized access to BC's Provincial Parks, access to private forest lands, and funding for BC Parks. Meeting minutes are available on the ORC website.

ORC'S MEMBERSHIP

Unlike years when the National Trails Coalition federal trail funding program takes place, such as in 2010/2011 and 2014/2015, during the past year there were few changes in membership. There are presently 18 Provincial Organization Members and 33 Regional Organization members. We were pleased when the BC Wildlife Federation (BCWF) with its 50,000 members decided to become a member in 2016. ORC has also been working with the mountain biking community to encourage mountain bikers to form a BC provincial organization to represent the interests of mountain bikers and their clubs at the provincial level and to play a coordinating role in safety and education.

ORC'S COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT

Natalia Pisarek was hired on a part-time basis in January. For the past 10 years ORC has relied entirely on volunteers for its administration as well as the Board so she is the first person we have employed for 10 years! Natalia is a self-starter who has quickly learned the ropes and she has already made a big contribution. Among other tasks, she has mastered management of the website and has initiated ORC's new monthly e-newsletter *The Outdoor Recreation Report*.

THE PROVINCIAL TRAILS ADVISORY BODY (PTAB)

The PTAB was formed to implement the *Trails Strategy for British Columbia*. ORC is a partner with Recreation Sites & Trails BC in the administration of the PTAB and ORC's Board of Directors appoints five persons to represent public outdoor recreation. I am also as one of the PTAB's two co-chairs, Tennessee Trent of Recreation Sites & Trails BC being the other. ORC also hosts the PTAB on its website and posts the minutes of PTAB meetings and other documents of public interest related to the PTAB's work.

In the past year the PTAB has had two productive face-to-face meetings, in Richmond and Penticton, and one meeting by conference call. ORC's members are urged to visit the PTAB pages on the ORC website to review the PTAB's work and other documents.

SHARE THE TRAILS WORKSHOP

On May 12, 2017, ORC was pleased to again partner with Horse Council BC in sponsoring the annual *Share the Trails* workshop in Penticton. This workshop was attended by about 45 members and others. The topic was the rail trails in southern BC and visions and views of the rail trails were presented by the Thompson Okanagan

Tourism Authority, the Okanagan Similkameen Regional District, Trails BC (which is responsible for the Trans Canada Trail in BC), the Summerland ATV Club and Horse Council BC. Tennessee Trent, Provincial Trails Manager with Recreation Sites and Trails BC, presented the views of his agency which is effectively responsible for the rail trails. All participants took a constructive approach to the workshop with the assistance of a very capable facilitator and the day ended with a positive outcome. The intention is for a steering committee of participants and other interested parties to review what was discussed. They will then develop a so-called “recreation advisory group”, or RAG, of interested individuals from the region similar to the successful Chilliwack Recreation Advisory Group. The RAG will then work out ways to extend the non-motorized sections of the rail trails with the object of having about 150 kms of the 600 kms total available for bicycle touring.

ORC ACCESS COMMITTEE

As a follow up to UVic Environmental Law Centre’s report *Enhanced Access to Privately Owned Wild Lands*, published in 2016 (available on the ORC website), the ORC Access Committee was formed last fall. Chaired by Kim Reeves of the Four Wheel Drive Association and also a director of ORC, its dozen or so members meet monthly by conference call. Members have conducted a thorough review of the various alternatives practiced by other jurisdictions round the world which are described in the ELC Report. Members of the Access Committee have also met with the Private Forest Landowners Association, a non-government organization which represents the interests of the private forest owners. Members have also been in communication with Island Timberlands and Timberwest, the two most significant private forest landowners on Vancouver Island. The Access Committee is now developing recommendations for the ORC Board of Directors to consider with respect to possible approaches to improving access. These might include a recommendation for legislative action on the one hand and developing arrangements with a consortium of private forest landowners on the other. Access to private lands for public recreation continues to be an ongoing problem which seems to get worse rather than better and it doesn’t only impact forest lands. It was noteworthy that access was one of the reasons given by the President of the BCWF for becoming a member of ORC.

FUNDING FOR BC PARKS

For the second year ORC made a submission to the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services in the fall. The Committee’s recommendation from its 2015 sessions did not result in an increase in the BC Parks operating budget in the 2016/2017 Provincial Budget. Although the operational funding was not increased in the 2016 provincial budget and has not been increased in the 2017 budget, BC Parks will benefit from the BC Parks Future Strategy which was announced by Premier Clark in November 2016. The Strategy includes additional funding for park rangers, for campsites and for setting up a new BC Parks Foundation. There is still a need for increased operational funding and ORC will continue to use its best efforts in that direction.

ONGOING SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Notification of Crown Land tenure applications by adventure tourism operators

Natalia is continuing to notify ORC’s member organizations about FrontCounter BC’s Referrals for Crown Land tenure applications submitted by adventure tourism operators.

BC Parks Management Plans

ORC will notify members when BC Parks is seeking public input for new or updated park management plans or other parks policies. The Management Plan for the South Chilcotin Mountains Provincial Park is long overdue and we want to see the management plan for Pinecone Burke Provincial Park initiated as soon as possible. Overcrowding of BC Parks in the Sea to Sky corridor has become a huge problem and Pinecone Burke could act as a safety valve for increasing numbers of the public who are seeking places for outdoor recreation.

Rivers Day

ORC continues to sponsor BC Rivers Day on the last Sunday of September (September 24 in 2017). Members are urged to organize events by or on their local rivers and register the events on the Rivers Day pages on the ORC website. The Great Shoreline Cleanup also occurs in September so there is a choice of ways to celebrate the day.

ORC`s GOVERNMENT RELATIONSHIPS

Recreation Sites and Trails Branch - Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO)

ORC continues to work closely with the Recreation Sites & Trails Branch on trail issues especially with respect to the PTAB.

Ministry of Environment & BC Parks

ORC will continue to liaise with BC Parks when appropriate, especially for Park Management Plans and BC Parks policies.

THE TRAIL USER'S CODE OF ETHICS

ORC has published a revised version of its classic brochure *The Trail User's Code of Ethics*. Copies of the original *Water Recreation Code of Ethics* and *Back Country Sanitation* are still available. Copies are available from the ORC office.

REPRESENTATION BY ORC

The Canadian Trails Federation (CTF)

ORC is one of three BC provincial members of the CTF, the others being Hike BC and Horse Council BC. The latter is currently the only equestrian organization among the CTF's members. ORC acts as the lead BC member and also looks after the CTF's banking and secretarial functions.

The CTF is working hard with the other members of the National Trails Coalition to encourage the Government of Canada to provide a third round of funding for trails.

The CTF is currently planning the Trailhead Canada 2017 Conference which will take place in Ottawa on November 22 and 23, 2017. ORC's members are urged to consider attending this conference and the planning committee is currently in the process of finalizing the program. Any ORC organization member which would welcome a national platform is urged to consider making a presentation. Visit the CTF's website at www.canadiantrails.org

Respectfully submitted

Jeremy McCall

Appendix B

OUTDOOR RECREATION COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Financial summary for the 12 months ended March 31, 2017

See financial statements for comparison with 2015/2016

2016/2017 Revenue

Total revenue for the 12 month period was \$22,422. Principal sources were membership dues of \$6,106, grants from the Outdoor Recreation Foundation of \$5,825 and a \$10,000 grant from Recreation Sites and Trails BC. The amount of interest earned on ORC's GICs was limited to \$390 due to low interest rates.

2016/2017 Expenses

Total expenses for the period were \$26,112, resulting in a loss of \$3,689. Principal expenses were office rent (\$8,400), ORC's contribution to the costs of the 2016 Share the Trails Workshop in Salmon Arm (\$3,040), and wages for the Communications and Administration Assistant who was hired in January (\$3,492).

Financial position and comment

Following the losses in recent years ORC's balance sheet shows negative equity of \$4,086. This does not present an accurate picture because the liabilities on ORC's balance sheet include unexpended grants of \$24,963. These were grants provided to ORC in previous years. There are no restrictions on how these grants may be expended so they are available for the Council's use when required.

It should be noted that ORC also holds \$24,413 in trust for a fund set up for the Sea to Sky Back Country Forum. Expenditures are made from the fund from time to time.

Comments

ORC obtains most of its revenue from sources other than membership dues. However ORC needs a strong membership base to carry out its mission and payment of membership dues forms the link between ORC and its members.

ORC expects to receive further grants from Recreation Sites & Trails BC to assist it with expenses related to the Provincial Trails Advisory Body (PTAB), including expenses for maintaining PTAB material on the ORC website.

The Outdoor Recreation Foundation has currently approved a quarterly grant of \$3,000 for ORC. The amount of this grant will need to be increased in 2017 to cover the cost of wages for ORC's part-time employee.

Jeremy McCall

Executive Director & Treasurer

Note: *I shall not be attending ORC's AGM but on my return from vacation I will be more than ready to respond to any questions about ORC's finances and the finances of the Outdoor Recreation Foundation. Questions should be directed to my office at jeremymccall@orc.bc.ca*

