

# Board of Directors – Meeting Agenda

Monday, May 15, 2023, at 5 PM.

This will be a virtual meeting. Join the call from your computer, tablet or smartphone:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81785446397>

1. Roll call: Wayne Mercer (Chair), Eric Vanderkruk (Vice-Chair), Barry Huber (Treasurer), Phil Rankin (Secretary), Rod Clapton, Ken McClelland, David Oliver, Kim Reeves, Ciel Sander (past Chair, ex-officio) and Louise Pedersen (Staff, ex-officio).  
Regrets Dave Wharton Mike Riediger

2. Approval of agenda. m/s/c.

3. Approval of the [April 16, 2023, meeting minutes](#). m/s/c.

- a. Approval, errors, omissions  
None
- b. Action items and business arising from the minutes  
None

4. Reports

- a. Chair (WM). Wayne raised the issue of a Recreational Conference put on by ORC next year and there was discussion. Kim floated an idea of a recreational conference at Apex because of geography, great hiking, high altitude, cooler, reasonably accessible and probably available. Some expressed doubts and remembered controversy between Apex and local Indigenous people when development was burned etc.

Also, it was noted there will be a large mountain bike conference in 2024, hosted by the Mountain Bike Tourism Association, which we might consider joining instead, so nothing was decided. It was put on our to-do list possibly hosting recreation conference 2024 but Louise cautioned we need to start early if ORC takes this on.

- b. Executive Director (LP): Louise apologized for not providing the board with a written report in advance of the meeting. It's been a busy month - Outdoor Recreation Fund announcement, responsible recreation conference, recruitment of a new communication and engagement officer (if all goes well, Louise will make an offer to the top candidate this week) and planning for BC Trails Day.
- c. Treasurer (BH) Barry revised financial statements with Natalie, our bookkeeper has a proposal for future bookkeeping with 3 rates depending on what we need. The range is from \$260.00 to \$433,00. No decision was made, and will wait for the new board following the AGM.

Barry amplified his report by saying essentially, due to the recent funding and the availability of start up costs from the first \$100,000 money, which is locked into our bank Vancity for only 30 days, we have money that we had not expected.

So our projected deficit projected of \$50,000 is far less. Barry has changed it on the financials to show this. In short, it is not as big a deficit, and we are “in good shape”

Barry did some rough calculations on the amount of interest each of the 2 possible foundations: Vancity 4% or Vancouver Foundation 5% would generate.

Barry shared his report and answered questions. He reminded us we lose complete control of the funds once we have a foundation. If ORC dissolves then the money would go to a similar organization with similar purposes. Rod opined that maybe ORC should manage it, but few thought we had the expertise or time.

There was discussion on needing financial advice for potential donors and so forth. Apparently, Vancity and, of course, most financial institutions have a financial advisory arm.

The most pressing issue is who should operate our Endowment Fund. So far, we have only considered the Vancouver Fountain a billion-dollar fund with a higher interest rate on our deposit than the other contender Vancity. A fund of about 160 million. There was no decision, and Ximena is tasked with looking at more foundations and money management options for our consideration.

Barry reminded us his term as Treasurer is up but he is hopeful that the Backcountry Horsemen will nominate Ken Mathews, who is well qualified to do Barry's job with the new executive.

- d. Reconciliation Committee (RC) Rod Clapton said due to the recent announcement on Recreation Funding and all the activities, the committee has not met recently but will.
  - e. Policy Committee (DO): David Oliver reported on the Policy Committee's work. We discussed some of the issues on who can nominate and who can be a Board member, Quorums and shortcomings of our current By-laws that are inadequate. We have had many fruitful discussions with Deb McClellan, who has volunteered her time. But now, with the endowment, we need legal advice on our by-laws. Louise has sought bids from three lawyers who do Society work and will circulate them to the policy committee following the meeting for a decision. David will set a new meeting of the committee to discuss.
5. Matters for board discussion and information.

Manitoba Trail Fund presentation (30 minutes, including Q&A's) with Executive Director, Tim Coffin.

Tim Coffin the executive director of Trails Manitoba spoke about their fund in Manitoba, which they have had 3 years of experience. They have a small administration, just him and an assistant.

They have major differences compared to ORC who can only spend the interest on 10 million, whereas ORC can spend only interest on the principal, perhaps \$400,000 per year.

In Manitoba, they have three funds plus two which Tim refers to as spend-down funds, where the principal has to be spent, or it is clawed back, and so they put out a lot more money than ORCBC will. He gave examples as they have major projects with the Winnipeg Foundation with the city of Winnipeg and a Trail Manitoba fund which is for everything outside Winnipeg.

They have given the City of Winnipeg a large donation, in one case 450,000 and outside Winnipeg in Trails Manitoba, they have had projects as large as \$75,000.

Mostly there are many small donations, from a few hundred to a few thousand. They often get the same small proposals every year. Their experience has been to keep standardizing the grant proposal process, which has many objectives: one being generating business activity in Manitoba, but also reconciliation diversity and inclusion. They received 88 proposals in their first year.

Their experience shows that the quality of the proposals they receive varies, and they are moving to a standard application which focuses on their goals to eliminate verbose and irrelevant boilerplate and get to the criteria simpler and faster.

Any proposal they receive must ensure that for every dollar they donate, there are two dollars provided by the applicants in their proposal. Importantly they accept "in Kind" donations and have developed ways of valuing in-kind donations, which ORC might need to consider as well.

They have encountered delays as not all proposals are "shovel ready" but they try. Often development permits and things slow the disbursement of money which ideally should be spent in the financial year.

Also, the work load of their board greatly increased in the first six months they met weekly. They also require audited statements and a lot of changes that ORC will face. There were many questions on subjects like administration fees, carrying the money over more than one financial year, staffing and audits.

6. Next steps for OR Fund (LP): One of the most pressing issue is which entity should operate our Endowment Fund. So far, we have only considered the Vancouver Fountain a billion-dollar fund with a higher interest rate on our deposit than the other contender Vancity. A fund of about 160 million. There was no decision, and Ximena is tasked with looking at more funds for our consideration
  - a. Debrief/reflections from CMI's responsible recreation conference (KR/EV/KM/CS)
  - b. 2023 AGM on June 24 (LP) Tabled to the next meeting
  - c. ATVBC's request for a motorized working group (LP): Tabled until after the AGM.
  - d. Membership applications for approval: m/s/c that the following groups be accepted into ORCBC:
    - Kaslo Outdoor Recreation and Trails Society
    - Cowichan Trail Stewardship Society
7. Establishment of next Board meeting - June 12, 2023, at 5 pm PT m/s/c.
8. Adjournment.