

**Outdoor Recreation Council of British Columbia  
43<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting**

Saturday June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Virtual

***APPROVED MINUTES***

---

**In attendance**

**Board of Directors**

Kim Reeves (Chair)  
Ciel Sander (Vice-Chair)  
Allan Edwin  
Dave Wharton  
Rod Clapton  
Wayne Mercer  
Ken McClelland  
Regrets:  
Barry Huber (Treasurer)  
Cooper Quinn (Secretary)  
David Oliver

**Affiliation**

Four Wheel Drive Association of BC  
Trails Society of BC  
BC Marine Trails  
Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC  
BC Federation of Drift Fishers  
ATVBC  
BC Off-Road Motorcycle Association  
  
Back Country Horsemen of BC  
International Mountain Biking Assoc.  
BC Wildlife Federation

**Staff**

Louise Pedersen  
Erin Normandeau

Executive Director  
Communications & Membership  
Engagement Officer

**Provincial Organization Members**

BC Federation of Fly Fishers  
BC Marine Trails  
Recreational Canoeing Assoc. of BC  
ATVBC  
Trails Society of BC  
Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC  
International Mountain Biking Assoc.  
BC Off-Road Motorcycling Assoc.  
Four Wheel Drive Association of BC  
BC Federation of Drift Fishers  
Horse Council of BC

**Delegate**

Phil Rogers  
Paul Grey, Allan Edwin  
Ashley Tyler  
Chris D'Silva, Wayne Mercer  
Ciel Sander, Leon Lebrun  
Dave Wharton  
Erik Vanderkruk  
Ken McClelland  
Kim Reeves, Leah McQueen  
Rod Clapton  
Sarah Allison

**Regional Organization Members**

Sea Kayak Association of BC  
Golden Cycling Club

**Delegate**

Deborah Merchant  
Glenna Jefferies

**Guest**

Janet Beltz

ORCBC Volunteer

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

### **Welcome**

K. Reeves began the proceedings at 10.00AM with a welcome to all those present. Waited a few minutes as people joined the virtual meeting before beginning.

### **1. Call to order**

At 10.02AM K. Reeves called the Annual General Meeting to Order.

### **2. Establishment of quorum**

In addition to the members of the Board, 11 Provincial Organization Members were present and 2 Regional Organization Members were present, which exceeded the quorum of requirement. A quorum at any meeting of the members shall be ten (10) of the members entitled to vote at the meeting. As per the bylaws, each Provincial Organization Member is entitled to vote on all matters. Each Regional Organization Member and Individual Member is entitled to vote on all matters except the election of directors and amendments to bylaws.

### **3. Adoption of Agenda**

**Motion:** Moved & seconded (D. Wharton/G. Jefferies): That the agenda be adopted.

**Motion carried.**

### **4. Approval of the minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting**

The minutes of the 202 Annual General Meeting have been posted on the Council's website since 2020 and were sent out to ORCBC members through email in the lead up to the 2021 Annual General Meeting.

**Motion:** Moved & seconded (K. McClelland/C. Sander): That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on October 17, 2020 be considered as read and approved.

**Motion carried.**

### **5. Business arising from the minutes**

None.

### **6. Chair's Report**

K. Reeves shared his Chair's Report. See Appendix A to read the full report.

### **7. Executive Director's Report**

L. Pedersen shared her Executive Director Report. See Appendix B to read the full report.

### **8. Treasurer's Report and Financial Statement**

Treasurer B. Huber was not in attendance. K. Reeves shared the Treasurer's Report in his place, and L. Pedersen shared highlights from the Financial Statements. See Appendix C to read the full Treasurer's Report.

D. Wharton shared a comment that for those not familiar with reading financial statements, like the one presented, that these numbers indicate that the ORCBC is in a healthy financial position.

P. Grey asked if the funding granted from the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development is a one time grant or recurring grant. L. Pedersen answered that it is a one-time grant.

W. Mercer commended B. Huber and L. Pedersen for their incredible work revamping ORCBC's financial reporting.

R. Clapton mentioned ORCBC's good financial standing as well, especially since many similar organizations have not been able to host their usual fundraisers of two years due to the ongoing pandemic. R. Clapton also mentioned the importance of ORCBC's financial contributions to the Douglas Lake Cattle Company v. Nicola Valley Fish & Game Club appeal.

K. Reeves also commended L. Pedersen for amazing work contributing to the ORCBC's financial position and highlighted the importance of continuing to pursue predictable financial stability through new funding sources.

## **9. Election of Executive Board of Directors for 2021 - 2022**

A summary of the current and proposed members of the Executive Board of Directors with brief biographies was posted to the ORCBC website and sent to members ahead of the meeting.

### **Continuing incumbents**

**Ken McClelland.** Director since 2019. Affiliation: BC Off-Road Motorcycling Association of BC. Serving second year of two year term.

### **Incumbent nominees**

**Barry Huber.** Affiliation: Back Country Horsemen of BC. Nominated for a two-year term.

**David Oliver.** Affiliation: BC Wildlife Federation. Nominated for a two-year term.

**Dave Wharton.** Affiliation: Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC. Nominated for a two-year term.

**Ciel Sander.** Affiliation: Trails Society of BC. Nominated for a two-year term.

**Rod Clapton.** Affiliation: BC Federation of Drift Fishers. Nominated for a two-year term.

**Wayne Mercer.** Affiliation: ATVBC. Nominated for a two-year term.

### **Additional nominees**

**Ashley Tyler.** Affiliation: Recreational Canoeing Association of BC. Nominated for a one-year term.

**Mike Riediger.** Affiliation: Kootenay Adaptive Sport Association. Nominated for a one-year term.

**Eric Vanderkruk.** Affiliation: International Mountain Biking Association of Canada. Nominated for a one-year term.

**Motion.** Moved & seconded (R. Clapton/P. Rogers): That the slate of 9 nominees be elected as directors by acclamation for the 2021-2022 year. **Motion carried.**

## **10. Other business**

P. Rogers is requesting that notifications sent out by the ORCBC that ask for member input/opinion be sent out with much more notice. Currently the time frames being given do not give enough time for member organizations to consult with their own members for input, meaning they cannot provide comment even though they wish to. K. Reeves agrees with this point. Specifically, FrontCounter BC does not give enough lead-time for Public Comment Periods. K. Reeves suggests that the next board should consider creating a sub-committee to look at FrontCounter BC requests and give feedback to FrontCounter BC to approve the process. L. Pedersen notes that FrontCounter BC is not alone in this, many other engagement processes also provide a short time for public comment. L. Pedersen will do whatever she can to make sure more time is provided for these notifications.

## **11. Adjournment**

The Annual General Meeting was adjourned at 11.06AM.

Approved by members at the 2022 Annual General Meeting on May 14, 2022.

---

### ***Appendix A CHAIR'S REPORT***

Good morning,

This past year that my report covers was like no other year that any of us has ever experienced. A world wide pandemic closed down communities, limited movement, closed parks, and eliminated all but the smallest of events. Non profits, like the ORC, had to pivot to virtual meetings, a loss of events, and different styles of working with one another.

For our board, this was the year that we had committed to our strategic planning for the future of the ORC. We hired Vantage Point, an organization that specializes in strategic planning for non profits, and met with our facilitator, Brian Mills in June of 2020. We had a modest budget and very high expectations. Early on, we all recognized that the ORC was in the midst of a turn around and had hopes of returning to being a high performing advocate for the recreation sector in BC. Covid had other ideas for us. Vantage Point, and pretty much all orgs had a policy of 'no in person meetings' during this time. However, we were able to 'meet in the middle' and employ Dr Henry's statement that meeting outdoors had "infinitesimally small risk". We found a closed camp for kids in Hope, Camp Squeah, and convinced them that our outdoor strategic planning session would be low risk and Vantage Point agreed.

Our planning committee met August 15 and 16 at Camp Squeah and we had a wonderful two days of high energy and positive engagement working with Brian and hammering out the foundations of what would become our renewed Mission, Vision, Goals and strategic priorities. We prepared our own food and spent the

two days together in nearly every respect. I cannot emphasize strongly enough how important it is for our board and/or committees to get together and build relationships between us. In my view, all of our differences fall away and we are left with understanding how much we have in common that brings us together. In my opinion, our best work is done once we have established good relationships!

Our committee continued to meet throughout the fall and winter with completion of a draft strategic plan being shared with the board of the ORC in March 2021. This plan was adopted by our board and shared with our member organizations. This plan is very ambitious with some goals that may appear to be very difficult or near impossible to attain. However, these issues that the goals address reflect the realities of our recreational situation here in BC. Our embracing of these situations show that the ORC is taking on the difficult issues of our community and seek to bring them to amicable resolution. I believe this reflects the courage of our board to meet these challenges head on where in the past we may have shelved them.

With our strategic plan in place, our Executive Director has clear direction to make decisions about what issues are most important and where to dedicate her valuable time and also allows her to direct other staff on how and where to invest time.

The ORC had as one of its funding sources the Outdoor Recreation Foundation, which was set up to hold funds for the ORC many years ago. The ORF has been winding down for some time and funds available would run out in about 2 years from now so the directors of the ORF decided to retire this organization and transfer remaining funds to the ORC. We have moved these to a 'reserve' which we will continue drawing upon in the same fashion that we did with requests for funding from the ORF.

Seeing that we were in decent financial shape and also knowing that we had a strategic plan in place, our board recognized the excellent work of Louise Pedersen with an overdue increase in salary as well as an increase in hours per week. We also extended Erin's contract by one year as she has been working excellently with Louise. The time to strike is now and our board invested in our staff as the ORC is making great progress in representing our membership, working with government, getting our message out in the media and effecting policy change to the benefit of recreationists in this great province.

This is my last year as a director and as chair. I have enjoyed my time on the board immensely. I have witnessed the turn around of the ORC and the passing of two directors; Jeremy McCall and Alistair Ball. They are both missed as they were exceptionally passionate and altruistic individuals who gave their heart and soul to the non profit community.

The future boards and Chairs of the ORC have their work cut out for them, not just in advocating for recreation and working with government, but in coming to

terms with what reconciliation means with First Nations. In my view, the maps of old are outdated and do not take into account the changing ground of what constitute public lands and if indeed they will remain shared resource. There is no more challenging task on our collective plates. Government, Industry and First Nations are tackling this issue and now the non profits, rec orgs and the general public will need to as well. I welcome the incoming members to our board and will be honoured to serve as "Past Chair".

Thank you,

Kim.

---

## ***Appendix B*** ***EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT***

Hello ORC members, nominees and directors,

I want to start by acknowledging that I'm speaking to you today from the traditional and unceded territory of four nations native to the Revelstoke area: Sinixt, Secwepemc, Ktunaxa, and Syilx.

Special thank yous to everyone who is part of this great and growing community; our members, directors, donors, funders, volunteers, partners and advisors. It's clear that the Outdoor Recreation Council of BC wouldn't exist without your support. We have made many new friends of the past year and vastly expanded our network and awareness of the organization and the work that we do through meetings, coalitions and media.

I would like to give a shoutout to organizations like the Tourism Industry Association who've provided valuable input into our advocacy campaigns over the past year and supported and shared these calls for action. If I have learned one thing from the past year it's that you can find supporters for outdoor recreation everywhere, and collaborating with others who are different than us makes us stronger. As an example, our request to Premier Horgan for more funding for Recreation Sites and Trails BC was signed by more than 20 different groups representing public and commercial recreation, tourism and Indigenous culture. Next time we'll seek to build an even broader coalition.

We have had an exceptionally busy but rewarding year. We have seen good signs of progress on many fronts. The challenge for us as an organization with a very small staff team is to continue to move forward in a way that helps us reach our organizational goals while getting the day-to-day work done. In addition to myself, our current team is Erin Normandeau, our very hard-working communications and membership engagement officer, and for the next couple of months, Ximena Lopez who's our business analyst and joining us on her third internship from UBC Sauder School of Business. I also want to recognize the

extraordinary contributions of Mark Angelo, our River Chair, the co-founder of the ORCBC (1976) and the creator of BC and World Rivers Day. Mark continues to lead our work on salmon and rivers, specifically our advocacy on the decommissioning of the Enloe Dam and designating the Heart of the Fraser as an Ecologically Significant Area under the new federal Fisheries Act.

As some of you know, we used to have a significantly larger team of staff who worked on policy, research, programs, education, membership engagement and fundraising. It's my aim to explore ways that we can grow sustainably as an organization and gradually increase our capacity to provide enhanced value to our members and recreationists across BC; the need for the leadership, expertise and collaborative spirit of an organization like us is clearly there.

One of our focus areas is creating a fundraising strategy that is based on a number of different revenue streams - government funding, foundations, sponsorships, memberships and individual donations. You will likely have seen us ask you for support - asking our members and supporters for their financial support is absolutely critical. We now have more than 50 much-valued donors and individual contributions account for a growing proportion of our overall fundraising. Fundraising is an area that we have to constantly work hard at.

Just a few of the highlights of this past year - we'll share our annual impact report as soon as it's done.

We finally have a strategic plan, which will guide us for the next few years:

- Ensure provincial government policies and funding are in place that promotes the protection of recreation values and access to improve and sustain the recreation experience
- Pursuing Indigenous reconciliation and relate the process to the outdoor recreation sector within the context of BC's legislation to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- Increase the positive influence of the outdoor recreation sector through advocacy, relationship-building, research and education.
- Increasing the long-term sustainability of the ORC through investment in our people, technology, and systems
- Establish broad agreement within the outdoor recreation community on a new way forward for rail trails in BC through ORC's leadership bringing together the outdoor recreation community.

We have a lot of work ahead of us so to move forward we'll require strong relationships with our members, supporters and others who share our vision along with an increase in our internal capacity.

ORC participated in the [2021 provincial budget consultation](#) with requests for more funding for BC Parks and Recreation Sites and Trails BC and we

coordinated two separate letters to the premier signed by a large number of tourism, labour, recreation and conservation organizations. We were very pleased to see a historic funding boost for BC Parks of \$83 million over three years in the 2021 budget. There was no new funding for RSTBC and our advocacy continues.

The [Trails Strategy for BC](#) is an important document that guides how trails are planned and managed in BC. The Provincial Trails Advisory Body (PTAB) is a working group that is co-chaired by the ORC and composed of representatives from various provincial government ministries, local government, the outdoor recreation sector and tourism. The PTAB's mandate includes the mandate to conduct periodic formal reviews and make recommendations for improvements to the Trails Strategy. The PTAB has undertaken a comprehensive review of the Trails Strategy and has now put forward its recommendations to government for how best to update and implement the new Strategy.

The ORC in partnership with the PTAB is researching [options for establishing a trail fund](#) that provides sustainable funding to trail groups for maintenance. Based on this research, we'll pursue the best option. The model that the PTAB is leaning towards at the moment is to set up a partnership with an existing foundation and there might be a role for the ORCBC to do the actual administration of the funding program.

We celebrated the 40th anniversary of BC Rivers Day in 2020 and in spite of last year being impacted by COVID and many restrictions, [more than 63 Rivers Day events](#) were hosted by community groups and organizations all over the province.

We worked a small team of Ph.D students to design a trail steward program to educate trail users about responsible recreation behaviours, which we were hoping to launch in the summer of 2021. Unfortunately, we didn't get the necessary funding so we're using this year to reconsider what a responsible recreation program might look like.

We received funding from the Pacific Salmon Foundation to undertake a [Fraser River Juvenile Salmon Study](#). The main goal of this project is to learn more about the presence of juvenile salmon in the Herrling and Carey area in the Heart of the Fraser as well as start to identify a tangible initial boundary for Ecologically Sensitive Area designation under the Fisheries Act.

---

**Appendix C**  
**TREASURER'S REPORT**

See next page.