

FRIENDS OF THE ROSSLAND RANGE SOCIETY  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 19, 2009

ORDINARY RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: that the Society undertake a Streamkeepers project, within the framework provided by the Pacific Streamkeepers Federation; and that the Directors take the actions necessary to ensure that a) the relationship between the Streamkeepers project and the Society is clear, b) the Streamkeepers project is appropriately supported by the Society, c) the Streamkeepers project does not over-extend the resources of the Society, and d) liability issues related to the Streamkeepers project are properly addressed.

DISCUSSION:

Streamkeepers is a well-designed, long-standing, and highly respected concept, originally developed in the Fraser Basin, that focusses on hands-on gathering of data about local streams, and on education about the natural stream and stream-side environment. It provides an opportunity for many linkages in the community - school curriculum, public "walks and talks," watershed stakeholder awareness (e.g. water impacts of development). The Streamkeepers function supports the work being done by the City's Sustainability Commission and Water Stewardship Task Force.

The Columbia Basin Trust has funded Streamkeepers, e.g. for the Salmo River, has been pleased with the outcome, and would apparently be willing to consider assisting a Streamkeepers project in Rossland.

Many Streamkeepers groups are stand-alone societies. However, becoming a society entails finding resources, directors, and administrative capacity, all of which tends to divert energy from the more important (and interesting) hands-on activities. By being incorporated within the Friends of the Rossland Range, the people in our community interested in Streamkeepers will be better able to focus on "the real thing." It may also be an advantage to be associated with the credibility that the Friends have developed over the years.

From the Society's point of view, a Streamkeepers function would help fulfil our objectives relating to stewardship of natural values in the Rossland Range, and public education about the importance of our natural backyard. Streamkeepers, like our mountain hikes and heritage displays, would be an opportunity to engage people in Rossland in activities that both satisfy and enlighten.

The Directors have considered how a Streamkeepers project fits with the Society's goals, and how it could be managed without over-committing the Society, and are in favour of adopting this resolution.