

Friends of the Rossland Range (FoRR)
Annual General Meeting 2024 **MINUTES**

Issued: December 27th, 2024

November 27th, 2024 7:00pm **at Seven Summits Centre for Learning**

Present: Directors: Les Carter, Kim Deane, Dan Derby, Larry Doell, Demitri Lesniewicz, Rob Richardson & John Stephens. Plus four FoRR members.

Chair (Kim Deane) welcomed all present.

- 1) Call to order at 7:07pm
- 2) Motion to accept Agenda as circulated in the AGM Handout. Carried.
- 3) Quorum confirmed (5 members required) – all 11 attendees were members.
- 4) Minutes of 2023 AGM (on Website during 2024). Motion to approve these Minutes. Carried.
- 5) President's Report: See (A) below.
- 6) Interim Financial Report: See (B) below.
- 7) Fees for 2025. Motion to continue \$5 Lifetime Membership fee. Carried.
- 8) Elections:
Up to 11 Directors (must have at least 5) serving 2-year terms in alternating groups.
6 Directors continuing through 2025: Les Carter, Kim Deane, Dan Derby, Gerry Heacock, Stewart Spooner & John Stephens
5 positions vacant: Members nominated at this meeting: Bob Bechaud, Troy Colautti, Larry Doell, Demitri Lesniewicz & Rob Richardson

Calls for additional nominations – three calls. No further nominations.
The 5 persons nominated were declared elected by acclamation.

- 9) Discussion – arising from President's & Financial Reports, and from Old & New Business
 - a) Spacing for down-skiing in 2024 tested with heavy November snowfall – very positive feedback;
 - b) Gate's (3) installed to curb summer motorized access to Eagle's Nest and Chimo Cabins; due to bonfire forest fire risk, firewood use and wear & tear on steep access roads;
 - c) Alders on road/trails – Rob advised annual brush-saw clearing is most effective control;
 - d) Fund-raising – especially for plowing lots – many suggestions: higher membership fee for new members, Tourism Rossland ('\$100,000' budget & uses Rec Site in promotions), businesses who benefit from the Rec Site (eg: Josie recent Instagram video featuring Lepsoe Basin area), and somehow utilize 'card-swipe' means (although no cell connectivity at Rec Site) and more;
 - e) Funding during recent years from Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Area B (Director Linda Worley) has been very significant enabling the Accessible Trail and much of the site upgrading;
 - f) Plane Crash Site – Larry Doell advised of new YouTube video online with good information;
 - g) Risk Management – Dan suggested FoRR contact the Alpine Club of Canada for ideas, and John proposed that FoRR be more explicit about banning candles in cabins; and
 - h) Old Glory scrap metal (including lead battery plates) - removal suggested. Demitri advised that FoRR has helicoptered out some 'garbage' while being mindful that some has heritage value (as per Chilkoot Trail example).

- 10) Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm

(A)

President's Report - FoRR Annual General Meeting Nov. 27th, 2024

- 1) **2024 Operations:** Rec Site facilities have been in good order with very high usage during winter, and busy during the summer. Old Glory hikes continue to be popular.
New Cedar Trail by the Trail Society is increasing use of Eagle's Nest Cabin.
Snow plowing for parking by Simm (overseen by Rob) was much appreciated (16 plowings).
- 2) **2024 Maintenance:** Accomplished by the Cabin Keeper groups involved. Only significant work was at the Igloo Cabin to upgrade the outhouse, redo the slippery floor, and paint the siding.
The essential annual trail (road) brushing, and some seeding was done (by Rob).
Old Glory Lookout shutters were taken off for the summer & put back on for the winter by Demetri.
Website (Sheree) was well maintained.
- 3) **2024 Developments:**
 - a) Spacing by contractor (Chris DeRosa) in Lepsoe Basin and Crowe (below old Lost Cabin site).
 - b) Old Glory: interpretive signs on Met Station foundation walls; and Lookout partly painted.
 - c) Old Growth Trail – wood pieces in eroded bottom section; culvert cleared (by draining pool).
 - d) Bench at Eagle's Nest (with a great view).
 - e) Gates (cable) on roads to Eagle's Nest (1) and Chimo Cabins (2).
 - f) Machine work to upgrade lower Midline Trail and clear alder on Gordski Road.
 - g) Parking lots expanded at Crowe Road and 100 Acre Wood (trees removed for snow piling).
 - h) New direct trail route to Red Dog Cabin cleared (Les & helpers).
 - i) Cookie Painting signs removed and replaced with durable signs – professional photos and field installations by Larry and Audrey Doell. A major contribution to Rec Site history.
- 4) **Governance:**

FoRR maintained close ties with RS&T BC (Justin & Travis in Nelson), highway contractor YRB, Ministry of Highways and Search & Rescue. The Board (11 Directors) had 5 meetings.
The FoRR – RS&T BC Partnership Agreement is up for renewal after an initial 10 years.
FoRR is considering a structured Risk Management Plan appropriate for its activities

Financial – year-end 2024 situation expected to be:
Revenues \$32k (including \$10k drawn from bank balance carried into 2024);
Expenditures for Operations & Maintenance \$11k (of this about \$9k for snow plowing); and
Expenditures for Development \$21k.
Bank balance carried into 2025 will be about \$55k (which includes a "Reserve" of \$10,000).
- 5) **Comment on Future:**

Challenges will include (a) maintaining road-trails that suffer from erosion and vegetation growth, and (b) tree spacing sufficient for down-skiing as the original clear-cut areas are growing in (faster every year). The latter will also block views from some cabins.
- 6) **Other items:**

FoRR keeping contacts with Highways should they abandon the Pit area - FoRR has a plan.
FoRR is a partner with the Museum to archive historic materials
FoRR is working for heritage status and upgrading of the Plane Crash Site (Rob & Ron Dennett)

Friends of the Rossland Range (FoRR)

2024 INTERIM FINANCIAL – for AGM November 27th, 2024

UP-TO-DATE as of NOV. 8th, 2024

Opening Bank Balance: \$ 17,345.00 (plus \$40,000 Term Deposit)

Closing Bank Balance: \$ 20,483.31 (plus \$40,000 Term Deposit)

EXPENDITURES Total: \$ 27,409.75

Operations & Maintenance

Administration \$ 770.51
Snowplowing \$ 8,816.58
Cabins & General \$ 194.24
Tools & Equipment \$ 1,142.47

Sub-Total: \$10,923.80

Development

Spacing Project \$ 10,980.90
Eagle's Nest Bench \$ 2,796.55
Cookie Painting Signs \$ 799.16
Gates on Roads (3) \$ 656.89
Igloo Upgrade \$ 400.78
Old Glory Signs \$ 203.83
General Development \$ 647.84

Sub-Total: \$16,485.95

REVENUES Total: \$ 30,548.06

CanadaHelps (via Website) \$ 3,010.88 KMC \$ 500.00
GST Rebate \$ 1,204.70 Interest (Term Deposit) \$ 2,099.48
Donation Box (& Membership) \$ 583.00 RDKB Area B \$ 8,000.00
Rec Sites & Trails BC \$ 5,000.00 Teck Employees \$ 150.00
Cashed in portion of previous Term Deposit \$10,000.00

Note: Estimated at year-end 2024, the Expenditures will be \$5,000 higher (billings yet to be paid, etc.) and Revenues \$1,500 higher than as of Nov. 8th, 2024 as set out above.

All expenditures by cheque (double-signed) issued by L. J. van der Ham & Associates Accounting.

Detailed records available.

Prepared by: (Kim) R. D. Deane Director, Friends of the Rossland Range

AGENDA

- (1) Motion to accept Agenda as circulated.
- (2) Call to order
- (3) Confirm quorum is present
- (4) Approve Minutes of 2023 Annual General Meeting
- (5) President's Report
- (6) Financial Report
- (7) Approve fees for 2025. Board will suggest continuation of \$5 Lifetime Membership.
- (8) Elections: 11 Director positions available (must have at least 5 Directors). Two-year terms.
5 positions vacant. Proposing Bob Bechaud, Troy Colautti, Larry Doell, Demetri Lesniewicz & Rob Richardson
6 Directors continuing through 2025: Les Carter, Kim Deane, Dan Derby, Gerry Heacock, Stewart Spooner & John Stephens
Nominations and elections.
- (9) Old Business
- (10) New business
- (11) Open Discussion