

For Immediate Release

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Be Part of the Community Process to Create the Future of the Rossland Range

The Friends of the Rossland Range invites the community to a workshop to create a proposal to Ministry of Forests describing how the community will protect and take care of the Rossland Range.

The Friends of the Rossland Range Society has been working for several years to have a comprehensive recreation plan for the Rossland Range created by the provincial government, within FORR's goals to foster the traditions and community spirit of the Rossland Range, work toward keeping this gem a great place to play, and teach the natural recreational, cultural, historical values of the area. In spite of strong community support and the support of regional provincial staff, so far we have had no success implementing a comprehensive plan.

In order to provide some level of protection and management for the key high-use areas of the Rossland Range in the absence of a comprehensive plan, the FORR Board has decided to apply for a tenure, known as a "Designated Recreation Area" (under S. 57 of the Forest and Range Management Act). This tenure is like those held by the [Castlegar Nordic Ski Club](#) for their trails and huts at the Paulson summit, and the [Kootenay Mountaineering Club](#) for their chain of huts in the Bonnington Range.

The FORR is writing the proposal through a process of public consultation and review, taking into account the guidelines for a "Designated Recreation Area". The final document will be a clear reflection of the community's will.

FORR intends that the proposal, and eventually the tenure and its management plan, to belong to the community, not just to FORR. All are encouraged to attend participate in the process.

The workshop will be held **Thursday, May 20, 2010 at 7pm** at the Rossland Miner's Hall –participation in this process is strongly encouraged and appreciated. Those who cannot attend the workshop are encouraged to complete the questionnaire on www.rosslandrange.org under "Emerging Issues" and return it to FORR, PO Box 701, Rossland, BC V0G 1Y0, so FORR may incorporate all comments into the FORR proposal to the Ministry of Forests. (Anyone who prefers to submit the questionnaire electronically or other pick-up/drop-off options, please contact Les Carter, 250-362-5677, retrac01@telus.net.)