

MINUTES OF AGM 2014

Annual General Meeting 2014
For Thursday September 18, 2014
Hilton Hotel Whistler, Cinnamon Bear Grill
Doors Open 6:30, start at 7pm



ORDER OF BUSINESS

President (Jerome David) to chair the meeting
Minutes taken by Christine Cuthbert, Secretary

Board of Directors Attendance:

Benoit Reneault, Gloria Addario, Louise MacDougall, Nina Arnold, Craig MacKenzie, Jerome David, Emily Mann, Mandy Rousseau, Hilary Davis, Tim Andrews, Clark Lewis

Absent: none

ACTIVITY

Secretary to:

Ask for Approval of the minutes for the last AGM, Tuesday September 24th, 2013

Motion to approve the minutes: CRAIG. Second: HILARY. All members showed hands in favour

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

President: Jerome David

- Thanks to Seb from WB for PHAT Wed and Darren Kinnaird from Crankworx for all their efforts, work and donations to WORCA.

Vice President and Youth Director: Craig MacKenzie

- This year I had two areas of responsibility, club Vice President and Director of Youth. Speaking first as Vice President I want to recognize Munny for his 10 years running the Summer Camp program
- I would also like to recognize the job that Jerome does as President. He stepped in mid-term a year and a half ago and done an excellent job. He is passionate about trails and good trail building. He is a bridge builder between different groups in the Club, taking the time to hear them all. He learning how to be a political operative to those that the club deals with and get things done.
- I am going to be sad to see Louise MacDougall our Director of PR leave the board. I struggle with one newsletter a month, Lou manages one a week all season long without seeming to break a sweat.
- As for Youth, it is easy to get caught up in the numbers;
- 25% of our members are under 18
- Summer camp attendance grew 12% to 384
- \$100,000 + budget
- 90%+ approval on our camp survey
- All our coaches are good! But in the end it is about people, great people. Our two program heads, Munny Munro - Summer Camp, Katrina Strand - High School Race Program, are both outstanding and they hire great coaches to deliver their wonderful programs that motivate kids to learn, ride and race.

- For me, the nine summer Monday mornings are a highlight. I get to see the reunions of kids and coaches, a wonderful scene, screams of delight (you know who you are ☺) “oh my goodness how you have grown” and immediate carrying on of last years light hearted banter.
- Our High School program coaches are: Katrina, Dylan Wolsky, Jessie Melamed, Kyle Long, Nick Geddes, & Seb Kemp
- The SummerCamp coaches are: Munny, Jessica Aldigheri, Samantha White, Blake Ramsden, Bree Thorlakson, Calindy Ramsden, Emily Slaco, Emma Bishop, Greg Day, Jennifer McTavish, Jessie Melamed, Jocelyn Ramsden, Kyle Long, Kristina Nedaluk, Mahon Lamont Martin Shrama, and Seb Kemp.
- In addition to the Lumpys Award given this year to Stephanie Denroche and for last year to Spencer Wight the club gives scholarships to two graduates of the Whistler High School. This year’s winners were Jennifer McTavish and Spencer Wight.

Treasurer: Gloria Addario

- Approve budget for 2015
Motion to approve the 2015 budget: Jerome. Second: Mandy. All members showed hands in favour of the 2105 budget

Director at Large: Benoit (Also will be reporting for Membership and Secretary)

Season 2014 has been another great summer for the club membership. Exceeding total memberships by just a few from last year, 2014 has been again a record number of members pushing it to 1826.

We have seen an increase in membership primarily with our child below 12 yrs old segments. The success of the camps and the new Kids Wednesday on the mountain helped increased our membership to 348 children; also more youth members under the age 13 to 17 with now 121 members.

Another aspect that was under the Director at large portfolio this year was the Insurance file. Worca insurance was coming up to maturity in April and we took the initiative to shop around for new quotes and to be able to compare our existing coverage with other insurers. WORCA approached 4 different Insurance companies including the previous insurer. As a board we have selected Jardine Lloyd Thompson Canada Inc. JLT as our new Insurer, due to a better coverage, great service and most importantly a low premium cost for the club. With JLT we have been able to save \$1,032 compare to all the other quotes we received, also lowering the deductible from \$2500 to \$1000, which was an other big factor in choosing the new coverage. The saving from our Insurance cost was allocated to our trails budget.

This season we did not report any claim to our insurance, no major issues affected our coverage or premium, which will help to renew with the same company with the same low premium cost.

Finally I have been working on our Volunteers appreciation day, which is coming this Sunday, where Monday night Coaches, Trail days workers, and Swap volunteers have been invited to ride the bike park with a complementary day ticket from Whistler Blackcomb and then an après at The GLC for refreshment. We had a total of 160 volunteer this year helping out WORCA. So a big thank you to all of you those came out and help.

Planning: Emily Mann

As Director of Planning, my role on the Board is to act as a liaison between WORCA any of the various levels of government, groups and individuals that manage or own land in the Whistler valley about issues relating to mountain biking trail maintenance and development. The geographic scope

of the trail system that WORCA uses for events and (informally) maintains extends from Trash in the south end of the valley to Kill Me Thrill Me to the north. Within this zone there are numerous jurisdictions, tenures and levels of government:

1. BC Rec Sites and Trails (Province)
2. Lil'wat First Nation
3. Squamish Lillooet Regional District (SLRD)
4. Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW)
5. Cheakamus Community Forest (CCF)
6. BC Parks (Garibaldi Provincial Park)
7. Whistler Blackcomb
8. Other Recreation Tenures
9. Private Land

Mountain biking in Whistler is a seamless experience for riders, but in fact trails crisscross into different jurisdictions throughout the valley and as a result WORCA is in on-going communication with all of the entities listed above to ensure that the trail experience is maintained to a high level and remains as a seamless experience for riders. WORCA has expanded its mandate to include trail building so we are now engaged with BC Rec Sites and Trails in the process of obtaining Section 57 authorization for all of WORCA's trail building projects on Crown Land. A fundamental step in the process of envisioning and developing new trails in the Whistler Valley is understanding all of the various existing jurisdictions, leases and land ownership so we can plan for successful, sustainable and legal trails.

Inventory of Mountain Biking Trails in the Whistler Valley

As part of the process of getting a handle on understanding where mountain biking trails in Whistler exist in relation to land ownership etc., I worked on establishing an inventory of existing trails to achieve two main goals:

1. Identify and assess all existing trail conflicts on private property.
2. Prepare a Section 57 Application for 5-10 trails in the Whistler Valley to form a Partnership Agreement with BC Rec Sites and Trails.

Jerome, Tim and I documented all trails in the valley based on zones and noted trail difficulty and any existing conflicts. All of the trails on Crown Land that were suitable for Section 57 Application were compiled and WORCA then retained Cascade Environmental (500\$) to provide a GPS inventory of trail length and coordinates for start and end point which is required for the application process. We were also particularly interested in trail conflicts on private property and Cascade prepared a set of PDF plans that clearly illustrate property lines, titles and GPS tracks of existing trails. I brought these maps to a meeting with Planners at the RMOW and we discussed the inventory data and strategies that could be used for preserving existing trails as well as information about the Occupiers Liability Act which is a law that releases land owners from all liability for recreation trails on private property. The RMOW was very appreciative of the work that had been done and the Inventory of Mountain Biking Trails on Private property will be integrated into the RMOW's Recreation and Leisure Master Plan with the intention of creating a mechanism that existing trails and connections will be preserved should the properties be developed. This year we learned about the extent to which existing established mountain biking trails can be impacted by conflicts with private property with the Prism property conflict so we want to manage this situation properly and avoid similar scenarios in the future.

Trail Planning Working Group (TPWG)

This year WORCA had on-going participation in the RMOW's Trail Planning Working Group and after almost two years of planning we moved into the construction phase. The TPWG was made up of RMOW staff, BC Rec Sites and Trails, the ACC (Alpine Club of Canada), WORCA, Cheakamus Community Forest, Cascade Environmental and Canadian Wilderness Adventure. The goal for this group was to give input on the RMOW's Alpine Trail program with the objective of developing hiking and mountain biking trails in the alpine around Whistler. Both WORCA and ACC had trail concepts and we spend many meetings talking about environmental impacts, user conflicts and best practices in trail building standards. The planning process was a collaborative effort led by the RMOW and the 3-5 year trail development plan was submitted this winter for Section 57 authorization by the RMOW and was approved. This summer the first phase of the construction of new trails began and WORCA has started building the descent trail that ends on the Flank. This trail will be built by paid WORCA trail builders as well as volunteer labour on Trail Days and will descent 8km from the alpine near the summit of Sproatt. As of September 15th, 1km of trail has been constructed.

The RMOW is responsible for building the ascent trail to the alpine which extends off the flank and is machine built. The ACC has also worked on a new trail called the Skywalk which is a hand built trail extending from Screaming Cat Lake around the north side of Rainbow Mountain and connecting back to the Flank Trail.

The TPWG will meet again in October to review the summer 2014 construction projects and evaluate the plan moving forward.

Garibaldi Park Management Plan Amendment Published February 2014

WORCA's and the RMOW's role in lobbying for increased mountain biking access to Garibaldi Park was noted in the Management Plan and the plan acknowledged that there was a strong interest from the public in developing access for mountain bikes to the Spearhead Area. However, the report also cited serious concerns about potential cumulative environmental impacts, impacts to the wilderness experience of park users and the need to evaluate other examples of high alpine biking trails as the reasons against expanding mountain biking access in the Park. But, there were two significant objectives written into the plan that were big wins for the mountain biking community:

- a. Study the development and impacts of high-elevation cross-country biking trails in other areas such as the new trails on Sproatt. The success of these trails could greatly impact the future of mountain biking in Garibaldi Park.
- b. Undertake an assessment of the feasibility of mountain biking in the Spearhead Area that considered impacts, visitor experience and trail design and maintenance standards. This assessment should be undertaken jointly with BC Parks, WB, RMOW and WORCA to illustrate a concept for how mountain biking access could work in the singing pass area.

The success of the Sproatt project will impact future decisions about mountain biking in Garibaldi Park. There is an opportunity for the RMOW, WORCA and Whistler Blackcomb to collaborate on a planning project to analyze, assess and envision the optimal cross-country mountain biking experience on Singing Pass that can be evaluated by BC Parks.

It's been an interesting and exciting year working on the WORCA Board! If you have any questions about the projects described above or any other planning related issues please don't hesitate to contact me at planning@worca.com.

Public Relations: Louise MacDougall

Website

- To mark WORCA's 25 year milestone I decided to re-do the logo and website
- last winter started working with Virginia at Cloud9 Marketing.
- She gave us a 60% discount as part of a sponsorship package
- website has more trail information (ex. Sproatt page)
- better calendar which is linked to Facebook
- Toonies still on home page
- highlighted important things such as "Events & Programs, Calendar & Trails with buttons on the top of the home page
- kept news to just headings so we could list more and free up space on the home page.
- Thank you to Suki for helping me keep the website up to date
- Also thank Chris Armstrong from Patent Pending Ideas for donating his hosting services

Newsletter

- Cloud 9 Marketing also updated our Mailchimp newsletter with our new brand and logo.
- send out every Monday to 2876 recipients
- include Toonie race / course, trail days and updates, upcoming events, all WORCA-related news and any other bike-related community items.

Facebook

- 2229 likes
- everything that is on newsletter and in website news gets posted plus other communication

Promotional Material

- Thank Toad Hall Studios for giving us a discount on printing and Nicole Wellstein of Clever Design for a buddy rate for designing our event posters

Advertising

- weekly Toonie ad in the Pique which also includes trail days and other upcoming events

Local Coverage

- a.) Pique's first edition of Crank'd Magazine Andrew Mitchell wrote a story about the Sproatt project
- b.) Feet Banks wrote a piece in the summer edition of Mountain Life called "25 years of WORCA" talking about the club's history
- c.) Feature story in the Pique in June by Eric Mackenzie titled, "Fat Tires, Trails & Toonie" which also covered the evolution of WORCA over 25 years.

XC Toonies/Race: Nina Arnold

This is my second year as the director focused on XC Toonie Rides. This year we focused on streamlining the event coordination and certainly achieved it! We welcomed both new and longtime sponsors to our roster to fill out a great (and busy!) season of 22 Toonie races. I'm happy to report that the season has been strong with great attendance. And I hope to continue working with the Muni and the WORCA team towards a goal of efficiency and keeping WORCA costs down. I will be focusing on developing a quicker and less time consuming sign in process for 2015.

DISCUSSION by Members:

- Todd: I've been encouraging members to toss in more than \$2.

- Members think \$5 is not much to ask for a race, beverage and a bite to eat.
- Sell beer after the race.
- Have a Toonie pass pre paid at the beginning of the season (\$2/race or \$50 for the season). Drop in is \$5. Adults \$5 kids \$2.
- Sponsors to give prizing ??
- Grant – wants to give the \$100 winners' money to trails.

Downhill/Special Events: Clark Lewis

- SEB/WB put on 9 PHAT Wednesdays with 2000 starts and 9 downhill specific events. 525 singles within the program.
- JR races (PHAT KIDZ) – 4 categories and had to be approved by the coaches. 30 kids raced below 12 yrs old. Up to 40 kids. Seb will run grassroots endures.

Skills: Mandy Rousseau

Guide & Coach training with ZEP

Monday Night Rides

Guide training held May 21, total of 6 guides required training

Liaised between program manager & PR Director important information for Monday Night Rides (first ride, last ride, après & ride sponsors, call out for more guides, etc)

Dirt Camp Coaches Training

PMBI Level 1 Coach Certification training

4 coaches total required training, which they obtained throughout the spring based on their schedules coinciding with courses. While the coaches registered directly with ZEP, ZEP invoiced WORCA post-training

Explored & implemented x-promotion of ZEP Techniques within WORCA's website & newsletter

Teeny Tiny Toonies

May 29

June 19

August 14

Approximately 20 teeny tiny racers at each race, not including their parents/guardians

Reached out to sponsors hosting Toonies in Lost Lake area to host a Teeny Tiny Toonie event

Assisted sponsors to obtain marshals for each race

Ensured accurate messaging of upcoming races & regulations was included in all of WORCA's communication channels

Bike Tech Skills Sessions

June 3 (setting up suspension and pre-ride bike)

June 10 (flat tire repairs and fixing chains)

June 17 (trail-side brake & shifting adjustments)

Reached out to Whistler Village Sports for their bike tuning clinics & dates, confirmed they were fine with WORCA sharing on their behalf & with Comor facilitating their own session of Bike Tuning Clinics.

Liaised with Comor to set up registration on WORCA.com, shared dates & relevant communication with PR Director to promote sessions effectively

Wonder Women Skills Prep Clinics

Coached by Sylvie Allen throughout June & early July to prepare for the Women's race

Poor participation, of the 8 clinics scheduled 7 were cancelled

Parallels the low numbers in the Wonder Women race overall
Sylvie would love to try again for next year, should WORCA facilitate another women's race

Toonie Skill Sessions

June 3

June 10

June 17

Coached by WORCA's Youth Program coaches prior to Dirt Camps starting

Strong turn out with positive feedback

Program operated at a break-even point, providing learning opportunity for WORCA members, hours for our coaches, & did not accrue loss/revenue for WORCA

25th Anniversary

Just over 300 guests in attendance

Worked with Dusty's to coordinate a menu & beverages for the event

Recruited 22 volunteers & allotted tasks accordingly

Received donated items from 7 businesses

\$4,141.00 raised

Assisted with Fundraising initiatives, such as Raffle prize donations, SWAP, etc.

Trails: Tim Andrews

It's fair to say I couldn't have gotten anywhere near as much done and well directed action without the efforts of people who have come to our sub Committee meetings and Trail Forums we have held this past year. Mostly trail builders and people who understand the network and ride it a lot! Thanks go out to all that have come and chatted and had an input. Also, thanks to all those who have used the trails@worca.com address and new trail maintenance request link to pass on work needed.

Trail work

This season has seen 16 trail Days so far with another 2 weekend days planned for the 20/9 and the 4/10. In total we have had 921 volunteer man hours from over 95 people (451 hours in 2013) and \$38,207 on trail building (Alpine Trail) and maintenance to date in 2014. Approximately \$5000 on Maintenance and \$33000 on the new trail. We have had over 90 volunteers (40-50 in 2013) and 1 full time builder and 3 paid builders working casually.

We also spent money on capital for 2014 with the ROKON bike and trail tools and materials adding up to \$17,129. The Rokon was the main expense at around \$9,000.

We have claimed around 42 lift tickets donated from Whistler Bike Park as a reward for the efforts volunteers have shown on trails (1 ticket per three trail day sessions)

We have accomplished much good work with the supervision of professional paid builders planning and running these small projects. This theme will be continued into the future as we see it as a great way of getting quality work from volunteers and great for sharing of knowledge and skills with anyone looking to learn more about trail building etiquette and styles.

- Work Began on A Cut Above to link Whip me Snip Me to Beaver Pass. This is ongoing and is being built solely as a volunteer project. Aiming to spend some money there next season if we attain our desired funding
- Danimal Middle received some re routing to make it climb better accessing Lower Sproat to deal with the private property issues.
- The Alpine Trail has begun with over 1 km completed above the flank. Work was slowed considerably as we have only had one builder working on the trail for a large part of the summer.

If the funding comes for next season we will be planning to have multiple builders working on the trail..

- Also Many hours were spent clearing winter deadfall on trails all over...

Trail Day Sponsors.

We have had a number of businesses help with the expense of trail days. These are , Bear Back Biking, Trek Dirt Series Camps, Skiis and Bikes, Arbutus Routes, Whistler Bike Park, Slope Side Supply, along with WORCA sponsoring our own trail days ;-)

Any Businesses and or food places wanting to help out and get recognition via our Website and trail sponsor plaques for larger donations can get in touch with WORCA!

RMOW / DFLR related works.

- Big Timber has had a new ski out constructed and Boyd Mc Tavish was contracted to rebuild the bike trail. This is in a Municipal park and so is being hand built to Whistler standards. Boyd has made a fun descent to replace the old line. Thanks Boyd!
- The RMOW has been charging ahead on the multi use Alpine climb. WORCA has been in close consultation with the RMOW trying to push our wants on this.

Rogue Building

There has been a lot of rogue building this year, some of it good, some of it unsustainable. We are still trying to discourage rouge building, especially by people who are not staying long term in the valley and able to maintain their creation or by people not choosing sustainable lines. Also some trails are popping up in areas where we have future plans. WORCA encourages rouge builders to get the proper permission and become involved with the community in planning for new trails

Trail signage

We have begun installing 4x4 treated pine posts last summer are waiting on the RMOW signs standards for these posts. This will be continuing into the next summer and is part of our responsibility in getting the WORCA maintained network of trails in the valley sanctioned by the Department of Forests, Lands and Resources (that oversee Crown Land) The materials have been donated by the Province. We will be paying for the signs and installing with the help of the Trail Maintenance Department with RMOW. These signs are similar to that found in Squamish and are the standard required in the Province.

This is a good reason to ask for more funding from the community Enrichment grants or RMI funding. Along with our planned works on Sproat and A cut above described below.

Build applications from 2013

- A cut above

This connector between the top of Beaver Pass to Whip Me Snip me has been approved and we have begun work. Lack of extra funding means this is a slow process as it is completely volunteer driven.

- Sproat

Building has begun on the Sproat Descent and we are hoping to have the funding in place to employ more help for Dan Raymond to continue with this the next two summers.

Future Maintenance plans

So along with the above build projects there are maintenance Projects being identified by the trails subcommittee. Some of these include

- Young Lust,
- Comfortably numb/Foreplay new bridging in North Secret
- Continued Signage improvements.
- Work on Section 102 climb involving better drainage.
- Works on Hey Bud, Crazy Train and A new climbing route in that area being done by Crankworx and Whistler Blackcomb. Thanks go to all those involved in getting the mountain to invest in these old gems..
- Bobs Rebob armoring/protecting tree roots and line definition.
- Any other thoughts are happy to be considered.

Training

- Planning for a start of season training day for Volunteer day, leaders, builders, etc. to make sure we have our duty of Care covered.

FUNDRAISING

SLRD application – declined, they continue to support the Sea to Sky Trail.

MEC application – not approved.

CEP application- \$30,000 funds received for the Alpine Trail and kids programs.

IRON MAN – \$2,000 received. Thanks to Christine for her time organising the volunteers for this.

Gloria (treasurer) and the board or directors collected useful data for improving fund applications.

A Fundraising subcommittee has been formed and the following applications are in process;

1. NTC – application submitted for \$48,000 ... thanks to a Nicole Kochure
2. MEC – new application being written for next deadline in 2014
3. A sponsor package has been created thanks to Martine Lafontaine
4. BC Hydro – video application, thanks to Mandy for leading and taking on Fundraising and Mike for volunteering his video talent.. Please vote assuming we are short listed to that stage, for \$10,000

Raffle tickets sales over 2 months - \$5,500 Thanks you for our donated prizes.

SWAP - a new location and an auction were added this year - Over \$90,000 in revenue, profit for bike SWAP about \$8,000. Adding raffle and membership revenue taken that day we raised over \$13,000 profit on the day.

Trail Passes – \$1,113 to date

Longhorn fundraiser during Crankworx - \$520

A Thermometer graphic was created on the website to add awareness and transparency to our membership of our financial situation.

The website ‘Donate Now’ button has yet to be marketed.

Activity	Secured	Probable	Possible	
SLRD	0			
MEC	0			
MEC2			15,000	

CEP	30,000			
Iron Man	2,000			
NTC			48,000	
BC Hydro			10,000	
Sponsors to be sourced		10,000		
Raffle tickets	5,500			
SWAP	8,000			
Trail Passes	1,113			
Longhorn	520			
'Donate Now'			1,000	
TOTALS	47,133	10,000	74,000	
Potential				131,133

DISCUSSION from Members

MUNNY – explore other areas like the zappas. A LOT of ‘user groups’ are in at lost lake and its overrun.

ELECTIONS

PRESIDENT

Jerome David offered to stay on. No nominations mentioned. By acclamation, Jerome stays on as President

VICE PRESIDENT

Hilary Davison nominates Clark Lewis. No other nominations mentioned. By acclamation, Clark accepts as VP

TREASURER

Craig MacKenzie nominates Gloria Addario. No other nominations mentioned. By acclamation, Gloria stays on as Treasurer

SECRETARY

Tim Andrews nominates Jenna Fox. No other nominations mentioned. By acclamation, Jenna accepts position as Secretary

Directors at Large

- PLANNING: present Director at Large is Emily Mann. No challenges. Emily continues to accept responsibility of the Planning portfolio
- XC/TOONIES: present Director at Large is Nina Arnold – No challenges. Nina continues to accept responsibility of the XC Toonie portfolio
- TRAILS: present Director at Large is Tim Andrews – No challenges. Tim continues to accept responsibility of the Trails portfolio

- **FUNDRAISING:** Hilary Davis nominates Mandy Rousseau. Munny Munro nominates Emma Bishop. In show of hands, members voted: Emma 6/Mandy 22. Mandy accepts position as Director at Large, responsible for Fundraising
- **DIRECTOR AT LARGE:** Mandy Rousseau nominates: Hilary Davison. Munny Munro nominates: Emma Bishop. In a show of hands, members voted: Emma 12 / Hilary 18. Hilary accepts position of Director at Large
- **YOUTH:** present Director at Large is Craig MacKenzie. No challenges, Craig continues to accept responsibility of the Youth portfolio
- **MEMBERSHIP:** present Director at Large is Benoit Reneault. No challenges. Benoit continues to accept responsibility of the Membership portfolio
- **SKILLS:** Tim Andrews nominates Mark Hill. No other challenges. Mark Hill accepts nomination for of director at large with responsibilities for the Skills portfolio!
- **PUBLIC RELATIONS:** Corrine Harris nominates Peter Oprsal. Shaun Fry nominates Kate Whitely. In show of hands, members voted: Peter 19 / Kate 14. Peter accepts position as Director at Large, responsible for PR
- **DH/SPECIAL EVENTS:** Christine Cuthbert nominates Yogesha Lacroix. Dan Harmon nominates Shaun Fry. In a show of hands, members voted: Yogi, 23 / Shaun 12. Yogesha accepts position as Director at large, responsible for DH/SE.

OTHER BUSINESS

Craig: Tonight's meeting was completely sponsored by The CBBR restaurant and pub so a big thank you to Tim Koshul and team

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

Jerome David set motion to adjourn

Todd Hellinga seconds

All showed hands in favour