

**Minutes of The Alpine Club of Canada  
Board of Directors Meeting  
October 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup>, 2001  
The Canadian Alpine Centre at Lake Louise**

**PRESENT:**

David Toole, President  
Gord Currie, Treasurer  
Rod Plasman, Secretary  
Cam Roe, VP Activities  
Jeffrey J. Potter, VP Facilities  
Peter Muir, V.P. Access/ Environment  
David Zemrau, VP Services  
Bob Sandford, VP Publications (Sunday)  
Mike Mortimer, Director, External Relations  
Joe Turnham, Central Alberta Section  
Jackie Clark, Calgary Section  
Enid Higham, Edmonton Section  
Simon Statkewich, Manitoba  
Mike Rogers, Montreal Section  
John Warren, Okanagan Section  
Andrew Cooper, Ottawa Section  
Dieter Ayers, Prince George Section  
Ron Scholtz, Rocky Mountain Section  
Andre Mahe, St-Boniface Section  
Dave McCormick, Saskatchewan Section  
Frank Pianka, Thunder Bay Section  
Paul Geddes, Toronto Section  
Fern Hietkamp, Vancouver Section  
Gerta Smythe, Vancouver Island Section  
Eric Vezeau, Whistler Section

Bruce Keith, Executive Director  
Leslie DeMarsh, Programs Director (Saturday)  
Nancy Hansen, Facilities Director, Recording Secretary  
Suzan Chamney, Development and Communications Manager

Guests: Peter Fuhrmann, Honorary President  
Bruce Hardardt, Assistant to the V.P. Facilities  
Helmut Microys, UIAA Representative (Saturday)  
David Dornian, CCCC Chair (Saturday)

**Call to Order:**

D. Toole called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

## **1. President's Welcome (D. Toole)**

D. Toole welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

## **2. Approval of Agenda (All)**

**Motion by P. Muir, seconded by C. Roe that the agenda be accepted as presented.**

**CARRIED**

## **3. Minutes of the Oct. 28-29/00 Board Meeting**

i. Approval of Minutes (All)

**Motion by R. Plasman, seconded by C. Roe that the minutes be accepted as presented.**

**CARRIED**

ii. Business Arising (All)

## **4. Reports**

### **a) President (D. Toole)**

D. Toole stated that the Club is in good shape in terms of its activities, facilities and initiatives that are going on across the country. The budget is looking good for this year. Considering the Club brings in 1.5 million in revenue annually, we do well to achieve a break-even situation.

D. Toole explained why R. Sandford was absent today. He is meeting with various individuals to discuss the International Year of the Mountains, as the ACC has been approached by Sheila Copps to get more involved in this initiative.

### **b) Sections**

The Section Representatives spoke to their reports. J. Clark thanked the National Club for getting the Executive Committee minutes and Board meeting agenda and package out to the Sections in a timely manner.

The Board members agreed in principle not to support Granite Publishing of the U.S.A. due to conflicts with the Thunder Bay Section.

M. Rogers and A. Cooper requested assistance from the National Club in getting speakers such as Barry Blanchard to the east.

**c) Secretary (R. Plasman)**

D. Toole stated that P. Geddes has accepted the position of Chair, ACC Awards Committee.

R. Plasman handed out a backgrounder sheet about Heather Mortimer's volunteer history with the ACC.

**Motion by R. Plasman, seconded by P. Muir, that the Board of Directors award Heather Mortimer the A.O. Wheeler Award, for prolonged and dedicated service to the ACC.**

**CARRIED**

**Motion by R. Plasman, seconded by E. Vezeau that two new awards be added to the Club's award structure, namely a leadership award and a service award.**

R. Plasman explained that the award structure had been looked at as a result of concerns expressed by Sections during last year's awards process.

R. Plasman stated that one advantage of the new structure could be that Silver Rope for Leadership nominees would no longer need to be nominated by two Silver Rope holders; if for example they could be nominated by Leadership Award recipients.

C. Roe expressed concern that some Silver Rope for Leadership Award recipients might think that the value of the Silver Rope for Leadership award could be lessened by allowing nominations from Leadership Award recipients.

J. Clark asked if the vote could be delayed until the Board had more information on the new awards (criteria, timing, etc.).

D. Ayers asked if the mandate of the new Awards Committee is still the same as it was for the old committee. D. Toole stated that it is the same.

P. Geddes told the Board who the new Awards Committee is made up of:  
Paul Geddes (Toronto Section, Chair)  
Dave McCormick (Saskatchewan Section)  
Bev Bendell (Rocky Mountain Section)  
Rod Plasman (Rocky Mountain Section)  
Tom Haslam-Jones (Montreal Section)  
Mike Thompson (Vancouver Section)

J. Potter suggested that the Board give the Awards Committee the mandate to create and immediately implement the criteria for the new awards, based on input from the Sections.

**Motion amendment: Motion by R. Plasman, seconded by P. Muir, that the Awards Committee be mandated to develop the criteria and names for the new awards, and these criteria be submitted to the Board for approval in time for the 2002 awards cycle.**

**CARRIED  
ACTION: P. Geddes**

D. Zemrau stated that there are unaffiliated members that also deserve ACC Awards.

R. Plasman suggested that Sections approve their members for awards, and then pass them to the Awards Committee.

C. Roe stated that Sections should have leadership awards, but that current awards should not be modified.

R. Scholtz stated that ACC membership numbers have increased enormously since the awards were first created, and this demands a change to the awards structure.

P. Muir stated that he agreed with J. Potter's idea of allowing the Awards Committee to create the criteria for the new awards, but that they would not be able to implement the awards criteria without approval of the Board, due to ACC by-laws.

**Original motion as presented above was carried.**

R. Plasman reviewed the remainder of his report.

J. Potter talked about the idea of current sections mentoring potential new sections to help them understand the structure and operating methods of the Club. He suggested that in the future, the Board may want to consider a by-law change to make such a process mandatory for new sections.

**d) Treasurer (G. Currie)**

G. Currie reviewed the Designated Funds report to October 7, 2001. He said that the designated funds have been effected by the world-wide economic downturn, and that the short term effects on the funds are relatively significant; the total value of the funds are down \$20,000 to \$810,000. The losses are on paper only, and it is hoped that the values will return to their previous levels. Only 30% of the total funds are invested in stocks; the rest are in bonds.

The fixed income portion (bonds) of our funds have benefited from low interest rates. None of the bonds are up for renewal until 2003. If interest rates remain low, these bonds will unfortunately be re-invested at lower rates of return. The ACC's designated funds currently generate \$38K in annual interest income.

D. Toole thanked G. Currie for being a good steward of the ACC's designated funds and working hard to maximize the investment income.

**e) VP Access/Environment (P. Muir)**

P. Muir said that he has received A/E reports from most Sections. These reports are attached to the minutes of the Board meeting.

P. Muir talked about the Banff Centre's Human Use Management in Mountain Areas conference which he and N. Hansen attended in June of 2001. He said the conference was very useful and that he learned a lot about global access and environment issues.

P. Muir said that he had been contacted by Alan Dennis, a climber in Dawson City, regarding Tombstone Territorial Park. A. Dennis asked the ACC to provide a letter of support to allow climbing in the new Tombstone Park. P. Muir is in discussions with the NAECC Committee regarding this letter.

**ACTION: P. Muir**

P. Muir said that the NAECC meetings are continuing successfully.

P. Muir spoke with the director of the American Access Fund. They agreed to keep in touch to discuss mutual issues.

P. Muir showed a copy of the Access Fund's new book "Climbing Management; A Guide to Climbing Issues and the Production of a Climbing Management Plan". He said that he will order a copy for each NAECC member.

**ACTION: P. Muir**

P. Muir will attend a conference called "Conservation that works! For nature, for communities, for the economy" in Winnipeg on November 7-8, 2001.

**f) VP Services (D. Zemrau)**

D. Dornian explained the purpose and goals of the Canadian Competition Climbing Committee. The CCCC currently has about 100 members, mostly aged 18-20. Interested members can find out more about the CCCC through the ACC's website.

M. Mortimer congratulated D. Dornian on his good work with the International Climbing Committee. J. Potter congratulated D. Dornian on the improvements in the financial management of the CCCC.

P. Fuhrmann suggested that the CCCC needs more publicity within the Club. He suggested that an article in the Gazette would go a long way in explaining the initiatives of the CCCC to ACC members.

D. Dornian suggested that the International Ski Mountaineering Commission will likely contact the ACC to become involved in the commission. The ISMC is currently running World Cup competitions. D. Dornian suggested that there should be a Canadian team.

D. Zemrau thanked D. Dornian for his good work in chairing the CCCC. D. Zemrau introduced Helmut Microys as the ACC's UIAA Representative and as the ACC's representative on the UIAA's Safety Commission.

H. Microys said that the ACC has been on the UIAA Safety Commission for 25 years. He explained the structure and purpose of the Commission, and the ACC's role on it. He reviewed the recent work of the Commission, including safety findings on ropes and ice screws. H. Microys said that there is insufficient communication within the ACC's Safety Committee, and that the ACC's website has too little information about the Safety Committee's findings.

D. Zemrau said that he would be speaking to the Safety Committee about taking a more active role.

**ACTION: D. Zemrau**

D. Zemrau reviewed the remainder of his report. He asked the Board members to encourage their sections to complete the Section Leadership Development survey which was recently sent out. He has so far received completed surveys from Vancouver Island, Vancouver, Central Alberta, and Jasper-Hinton.

**ACTION: Section Reps**

D. Zemrau indicated that given the current situation, there was no reason why the ACC would change its involvement in the Banff Film Festival.

#### **g) VP Activities (C. Roe)**

C. Roe spoke to his report. He said that the GMC was a huge success once again, with about 150 members attending. He promoted the terrific location of next year's GMC in the Trident range.

C. Roe discussed the 2002 Mountain Adventures brochure. He asked that proper photo credit be noted in the Board meeting minutes: The three photos on the inside front cover belong to Roger Laurilla. The Mt. Little photo on page 8 belongs to Dave McCormick.

C. Roe reviewed the various mountain adventures which will be taking place in 2002.

C. Roe thanked L. DeMarsh for her 14 years of service with the ACC. He said that the Board and members have benefited enormously from Leslie's contributions since 1987.

C. Roe explained the Karl Nagy Scholarship award to the Board.

#### **h) VP Facilities (J.J. Potter)**

J. Potter reminded the Board that the ACC's facilities provide a lot of the funds that allow the Club to undertake various Club initiatives.

He pointed out that the Board needs to take particular note of the new facilities policies. He asked the Board to remind their section members of the new policies.

**ACTION: Section Reps**

J. Potter said that he hopes to get more members from across Canada involved in work parties. Facilities will send out notices to Sections regarding upcoming workparties.

**ACTION: J Potter**

J. Potter explained the Club's policies on exclusive bookings at the Clubhouse buildings. He said that in general, if there is an exclusive booking at the Clubhouse, the Bell Cabin will be available to members, and visa versa. There may be exceptions to this rule in exceptional circumstances.

J. Potter showed a copy of the new "Backcountry Huts and Lodges of the Rockies and Columbias". He pointed out the ACC's logo on the front cover.

J. Potter asked the Sections with huts to get back to him within a week if they want their hut to appear in the new huts brochure.

**ACTION: Section Reps**

J. Potter said that the Clubhouse Committee and Publications are working on a display space in the Clubhouse which will be used to highlight the history and attributes of each Section. Each Section will be highlighted in a rotating exhibit.

J. Potter said that he will be visiting the east next April or May, and can present a facilities slide show if any of the sections are interested.

J. Potter spoke of his recent trip to the Coast huts. He complimented the coastal sections on their wonderful facilities. He said that Facilities is giving the Wendy Thompson and Tantalus huts greywater systems. These will be brought out from Canmore at the Spring AGM.

J. Potter said that the Facilities portfolio is investigating the possibility of a Nationally operated hut on Vancouver Island.

J. Potter said that Suzan Chamney is working on grants for Facilities.

J. Potter said that we are looking at expanding the hut system in a responsible, logical and methodical way. He reviewed some of the ideas for facilities expansion.

#### **i) VP Publications (R. Sandford)**

The Publications report is attached to the October Board meeting minutes. R. Sandford reviewed this report.

D. Toole stated that some time will be set aside at the next Board meeting to discuss the ACC's involvement in major projects.

M. Mortimer congratulated R. Sandford for the Hans Schwarz publication.

D. Toole encouraged each Section to consider initiatives to celebrate the International Year of the Mountains (IYM). He said that we need to think of a way to coordinate Section ideas. He stated that the National Club will be creating initiatives as well.

A. Cooper suggested a cross country speakers tour might be a good way for the ACC to celebrate the IYM.

F. Heitkamp summarized the Section initiatives she has heard of so far. The Rocky Mountain Section is planning on hosting a festival called "Mountain Visions". The Vancouver Section is considering using a room at the Vancouver Museum to display historical mountaineering equipment and information.

F. Heitkamp asked the Sections to contact her if they have plans that need funding. She is planning putting forward an application for funds to the Endowment Fund. She handed out a summary entitled "International Year of the Mountains – ACC Section Involvement".

M. Mortimer passed out the UIAA's Summit Charter 2002 which summarizes the UIAA's plans for celebrating the IYM.

M. Mortimer said that the UIAA President, Ian McNaught-Davis has been asked to be the Patron of the Guides Ball for 2002.

R. Sandford said that it will be important for the ACC to present a strong plan and statement so that Canada is recognized internationally for our contributions to the IYM.

**Motion by A. Cooper, seconded by R. Plasman, that a committee be formed under the Director, External Relations to explore and coordinate possible events at all levels of the Club in celebration of the IYM.**

**CARRIED**

**j) Director, External Relations (M. Mortimer)**

M. Mortimer passed out a two page article from the most recent UIAA newsletter. The editor, Ernst Haase, wrote a positive article about the recent UIAA club FAM tour to the Rockies. M. Mortimer explained the purpose of the FAM tour: to introduce other alpine clubs and their members to the Rockies and the ACC's huts. The ACC will set up trips for other clubs, using the ACC's underutilized huts. Proceeds will go to the Leadership Fund. M. Mortimer reviewed his reports.

M. Mortimer talked about his recent visit to the American Alpine Club's Board of Directors meeting.

**Motion by R. Plasman, seconded by C. Roe, that The Alpine Club of Canada host the UIAA General Assembly in 2006.**

**CARRIED**

D. Toole explained that hosting this event will be a big event for the Club, and will require a lot of volunteers. It will be held at the same time as the Guides Ball.

J. Potter said that the National Club could count on support in the form of volunteers from the Rocky Mountain Section.

J. Clark asked how the meeting will be paid for. M. Mortimer said that the ACC will be responsible for hosting costs, but delegates will pay their transportation.

L. DeMarsh said that the last time the General Assembly was hosted by the ACC in 1987, it was a break-even event.

D. Toole thanked M. Mortimer for his work on this project.

**k) National Office (B. Keith)**

B. Keith reviewed his report. B. Keith thanked the Clubhouse committee for the terrific job they did on creating the new National Office.

B. Keith said that the coming year will see a focus on the ACC's website. We will be making the website more interactive with on-line bookings and membership renewals.

B. Keith said that the National Office has been making strong attempts to improve the communication with Sections. He asked the Sections to present suggestions or comments regarding communication to him.

B. Keith thanked L. DeMarsh for her hard work and said the Club has benefited enormously from L. DeMarsh's contributions.

B. Keith handed out an organizational chart for the ACC. The chart shows the relationships amongst the staff and key volunteers.

## **5. Decision and Information Items**

### **A. 2002 Budget (G. Currie)**

It is projected that the Club will break even in 2001

G. Currie reviewed the projected revenues and expenses for 2002.

**Motion by G. Currie, seconded by D. Zemrau that the 2002 operating and capital budgets be accepted as proposed.**

**CARRIED**

J. Potter reviewed the Facilities re-capitalization plan. \$2.25 from each bednight in 2002 is budgeted to go into the Huts, Clubhouse, and EWWM Funds.

### **B. NAECC Committee/Policy**

E. Higham said that the Edmonton Section Access and Environment Representative has expressed concern over the progress of the NAECC committee and over the wording of the Access and Environment policy. She reviewed her questions and concerns stated in her agenda item report.

D. Toole explained the long history of the Access and Environment policy and said that he feels the policy adequately explains the ACC's position regarding Access and Environment issues. He would like to see the Sections use the document and move ahead with their work.

J. Potter said that the Access and Environment policy is a living document which can be amended when suggestions are appropriate. It is his opinion that the suggested changes be considered.

C. Roe cautioned the Board to consider changes carefully, as the policy has been discussed and changed at almost every Board meeting for several years. He feels that the policy is well balanced and should be left as is.

C. Roe strongly disagrees with the statement in A. Dinwoodie's report that reads that the ACC is "seen as promoting only its 'elitist' interests (which) undermines the ACC's credibility as a responsible organization."

R. Plasman asked if the NAECC committee had any comments on the proposed changes.

P. Muir explained the recent history of the proposed changes to the A/E policy. He said that the NAECC committee has had the opportunity to review the proposed changes, and that he has only received two comments to date. He has asked A. Dinwoodie to collect comments on her proposed changes. He said that he does not have problems with some of the proposed changes.

R. Plasman said that the NAECC is charged with reviewing the policy and should recommend changes to the Board.

P. Muir said that the intent of the A/E policy is to provide a process by which the Club can respond by its Sections to local issues.

B. Keith asked if any Sections had stated specific problems they had experienced due to the wording of the Access and Environment policy. P. Muir said that he was not aware of any.

P. Muir said that some of A. Dinwoodie's suggested changes were statements that the ACC's Board of Directors had previously rejected.

**Motion by E. Higham, seconded by J. Potter, that the NAECC be directed to re-examine the Access and Environment policy and bring any recommendations to the next Board meeting in May 2002, after full discussion with their respective Sections.**

**3 in favour, 15 opposed, 6 abstentions  
MOTION DEFEATED**

### **C. Adoption of Ethical Fundraising and Accountability Code (B. Keith)**

B. Keith said that the ACC is planning on applying for several grants in 2002. He said that many fund providers request that non-profit organizations adopt the

“Ethical Fundraising and Accountability Code”, as presented in the Board package.

**Motion by R. Plasman, seconded by J. Potter that the ACC accept the “Ethical Fundraising and Accountability Code”.**

**CARRIED**

**D. Student Outdoor Club Program (R. Plasman)**

R. Plasman stated that Patagonia has withdrawn their funding to the ACC. \$3000 of the funding supported the Student Outdoor Club program. He stated that each Section will now have to decide whether to continue with their Student Outdoor Club affiliations on the merit of the program.

B. Keith summarized the National Office contributions to the Student Outdoor Club initiatives.

B. Keith stated that he is continuing to look for a replacement sponsor.

E. Higham said that the Edmonton Section selected 21 of the most interested students and gave memberships to those people.

**E. 2002 AGM – Vancouver (F. Hietkamp)**

F. Heitkamp said that AGM/Board meeting plans are coming along well. The dates are planned for May 11-12, 2002. The Section is organizing some pre-meeting trips for any interested Board members. Further information will be forthcoming.

**F. National Website Strategy (R. Plasman)**

R. Plasman said that we are still waiting for Telus to implement a high speed internet connection to the National Office. They are telling us the connection will be available by the first quarter of next year. He spoke to his report, agenda item 6.v.iii.

D. Toole asked how many Sections maintain e-mail lists. 11 Sections responded that they do.

A. Cooper asked for new member e-mail addresses be sent directly to the Section e-letter coordinator or Section Representative. B. Keith said that the National Office is trying to find other ways to make e-mail information available to Sections and Club Members (eg. through an interactive page on our website).

**G. CCM Committee Implementation (C. Roe)**

C. Roe stated that the CCM committee structure of a GMC committee, Winter Camps Committee, a Leadership committee and a Women's Program committee are in place and functioning appropriately.

#### **H. Helly Hansen Merchandise Approach (M. Mortimer)**

B. Keith said that Helly Hansen is still committed to providing merchandise to the ACC. The dollar value of the merchandise will be confirmed in the near future.

#### **I. ACC Centennial Committee (M. Mortimer)**

M. Mortimer said that the Centennial Committee met in May of 2001. He reviewed his report, which contained the ideas presented at the May meeting.

He stated that any projects related to the ACC's Centennial must be approved by the Centennial Committee. He encouraged the Sections to start thinking of ideas for their Centennial celebrations and e-mail the information to M. Mortimer.

#### **ACTION: Section Reps**

D. Toole said that we need to have some firm ideas and plans by the March Executive meeting.

**Motion by J. Potter, seconded by R. Plasman, that from 2002-2006, the ACC set aside all Mountain Guides Ball proceeds on an annual basis for the Centennial celebrations.**

**CARRIED**

P. Muir expressed concern that we may not want to commit all of the 2002 funds for the Centennial, as we may need to use some of the funds for the IYM. D. Toole suggested that the motion be tabled until the May Board meeting when we know what funding is required for the IYM.

J. Potter stated that he would like to see the motion voted upon now, as plans need to get underway.

R. Plasman said that IYM will almost be over by the time 2002 funding is available from the Guides Ball.

#### **J. Mountaineering Museum(s) (P. Fuhrmann)**

P. Fuhrmann said that virtually all mountain nations have a mountaineering museum, yet Canada does not. P. Fuhrmann and Eric Lomas are exploring the idea of setting up a museum in Canmore. P. Fuhrmann is in discussions with the Town of Canmore and the local MLA to secure space for a museum in Canmore.

He is working on partnerships with the Canadian Avalanche Association and the ACMG.

J. Potter added that the mountaineering museum ideas are being developed through the Facilities portfolio, as they are Club spatial requirements.

**K. Canadian Alpine Centre (C. Roe/B. Keith)**

C. Roe said that the staff housing plans have been approved. The cost will be \$1.1 million and will provide housing for 16 staff. The housing will not change the CAC's current financial contribution to the ACC. The project is expected to be completed by June 2002. Once the staff housing is complete, we will be able to begin work on planning Phase 3 of the hostel.

**L. ACC Grants Application Deadline Date Change (B. Keith)**

B. Keith said that the deadline for applications for ACC grants last year was December 31. The various committees decided to change the deadline to January 31 so that the deadlines do not coincide with the busy Christmas period. The new deadline will apply to the 2001 applications.

**M. Upcoming Meetings (R. Plasman)**

Spring Executive meeting – March 17  
May Board meeting – May 11-12  
Fall Executive meeting – September 7-8

D. Toole thanked everyone for attending and contributing to the meeting.

**Motion by R. Plasman, seconded by P. Muir that the meeting be adjourned.  
CARRIED**

Meeting adjourned at 11:30am Sunday October 21, 2001