

**The Alpine Club of Canada
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 26, 2002**

**Location: Lake Louise Inn, Lake Louise, AB
Time: 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM**

Present: David Toole, President
Rod Plasman, Secretary
Gord Currie, Treasurer
Peter Muir, VP Access & Environment
David Zemrau, VP Services
Cam Roe, VP Activities
Carl Hannigan, VP Facilities
Bob Sandford, VP Mountain Culture
Mike Mortimer, Director, External Relations

Section Reps

Dan Doll, Calgary (afternoon)
Joe Turnham, Central Alberta
Enid Higham, Edmonton
Greg Horne, Jasper/Hinton
Simon Statkewich, Manitoba
Mike Rogers, Montreal
John Warren, Okanagan
Dwight Yachuk, Ottawa
Pierre Gravel, Outaouais
Colin Lynch, Prince George
Ron Scholtz, Rocky Mountain
Dave McCormick, Saskatchewan
André Mahé, St. Boniface
Frank Pianka, Thunder Bay
Willa Harasym, Toronto
Fern Hietkamp, Vancouver
Gerta Smythe, Vancouver Island
Eric Vezeau, Whistler

Staff

Bruce Keith, Executive Director
Nancy Hansen, Director, Facilities & Mountaineering
Audrey Wheeler, Director, Club Programs
Josee Larochelle, Office Manager (morning)

Special Guests

Roger Payne, Sports & Development Director, UIAA
Bill Houghton, President, Colorado Mountain Club
Kristy Judd, Executive Director, Colorado Mountain Club

In addition, some Sections Reps brought an observer with them from their Section.

Recording Secretary - Shauna McGarvey

1. President's Welcome (D. Toole)

D. Toole requested a moment of silence for John Carey, a Toronto Section member that died in a climbing accident this past summer.

D. Toole suggested that since the agenda was quite short, the Board might want to attempt to finish the entire agenda in one day. There was consensus to make that attempt.

B. Keith, M. Mortimer and D. Toole attended the American Alpine Club's Board meeting in Colorado, and their centennial celebrations. They also attended the UIAA General Assembly meeting in Flagstaff Arizona. It was very instructional to see how different volunteer clubs operate that are similar in size and scope to the ACC.

The Alpine Club of Canada Centennial is four years away. D. Toole mentioned that this provides us with a long lead-time to plan such things as a Centennial Hut. He also stated he would like to see the Sections very involved in celebrating the Centennial.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion by P. Muir, seconded by R. Plasman: that the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

3. Approval of Minutes of May 11-12/02 Board Meeting

Motion by C. Roe, seconded by C. Hannigan: that the minutes from the previous Board meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. Reports

a. Sections

ACC Section representatives provided highlights on recent activities, accomplishments, issues, etc., from their respective sections. Section reports that were not submitted for inclusion in the Board package were circulated during the meeting.

D. Toole remarked that the Sections need to indicate if they would feel they might benefit from having additional time during the Board meetings to meet and discuss their mutual needs. P. Gravel suggested the creation an "E group" to facilitate interaction amongst the

Sections. A server would need to be established and a volunteer moderator would need to be involved.

ACTION: P. Gravel

Special guest, Roger Payne, Sports and Development Director for the UIAA talked about his organization and initiated a discussion.

The UIAA is a volunteer organization with two part-time staff. Their responsibilities are devolved to the different member associations and the UIAA responds to the needs of members and member associations. Sharing knowledge and experience is one of the roles that the UIAA shares with the ACC, as it faces similar issues of insurance, liability, leadership development, youth, conservation, best practices and volunteerism. Other issues that continue to be important revolve around access and relationships with land managers. The UIAA went from being a reactive organization to being more proactive i.e. by trying to raise the profile of mountaineering and climbing with the UN and organizations like the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC). For example, there are serious conservation concerns regarding the trans-boundary status of Mt. Blanc, and the UIAA is lobbying various governments to consider a protected status of this region. The UIAA would also like to see various competitive mountaineering sports included in the 2010 Olympic Winter Games.

The ACC can apply to the UIAA for training standard approval on material already in use or they can apply to the UIAA for their materials. To date, 18 countries have applied for standard approval in four categories.

1. Hill Walking
2. Alpine Mountaineering
3. Rock Climbing
4. Ski Mountaineering

The UIAA is currently working on a single-pitch standards and are looking to include more standards for different regions of the world (i.e. ice climbing, jungle mountaineering).

ACC is looking to use what has already been created at the international level. This is particularly useful for eastern Canada. ACMG standards have been applied in the West, however, these are not necessarily applicable to Eastern Canada.

ACC and Student Outdoor Club membership cards should use the UIAA logo so they can be used in Europe for various mountain hut discounts there.

The UIAA website address is: www.uiaa.ch

b. Secretary (R. Plasman)

R. Plasman spoke to his report. He mentioned that the two committees identified in his report were approved at the Executive Committee meeting in September. He highlighted that the Volunteer Committee will meet with Dru Molar, Community Development Officer, from the Province of Alberta to work on volunteer development. He recommended accessing the Province's Board Development program for those Sections that have problems with a static volunteer base. He also mentioned that the website development project is proceeding well, and should yield valuable results in 2003.

c. Treasurer (G. Currie)

G. Currie spoke to his report. He mentioned that there is an increased demand in the Club for activities and events, thereby requiring additional resources and staff. The 2003 Budget includes amounts for these additional resources.

G. Currie also reported that fiscal year 2002 has been a good year and it looks like the ACC will break even. Although the CAC will record a \$46k loss this will not impact the ACC's cash position. The ACC's designated funds have struggled somewhat because of the stock market downturn, but the ACC has most of its portfolio in bonds and therefore the impact has been relatively minor. G. Currie suggested the new programs aimed at fundraising and donations (fund development) would be helpful.

d. VP Access/Environment (P. Muir)

P. Muir spoke to his report. The A/E Committee continues to be successful. Budgetary constraints are a problem, especially with regards to conference calls and communications. Also, most of the volunteer committees have to rely on one or two people, which can stretch their resources too thinly at times.

P. Muir expressed great regret with the news that after 15 years Allison Dinwoodie has announced her intention to retire from the Edmonton Section A/E Committee. He mentioned that she worked very hard on access issues, but she always remained very diligent in her concern for balancing this with the environment. It is the Club's responsibility to be a protector of the environment. P. Muir read a quote that Allison included in her final report, and requested that the quote be included in the minutes: "In the opening article of the first CAJ in 1907, Elizabeth Parker laid down the philosophical foundations of the club. In particular she saw it as a protector of the environment, 'a national trust for the defense of our mountain solitude against the intrusion of steam and electricity and all the vandalisms of this luxurious utilitarian age; for the keeping free from the grind of commerce, the wooded passes and valleys and alplands of the wilderness. It is the people's right to have primitive access to the remote places of safest retreat from the fever and the fret of the market place and the beaten tracts of life.'"

e. VP Services (D. Zemrau)

D. Zemrau spoke to his report. He stated that the Canadian Alpine Accidents Database contains information on accidents from 1899 to the present. There have been over 8000 visitors to the site thus far and the feedback has been very positive. He also mentioned that the ACC Safety Committee would be hosting the UIAA Safety Conference in

Canmore in June 2003. Also, the Leadership Development Committee has been in place for a year, and the summer TNF leadership development course was a big success. There has been on going discussion and progress with Central and Eastern Sections to provide leadership training for their specific needs.

f. VP Activities (C. Roe)

C. Roe spoke to his report and explained the statistics attachment. In total, 297 members went on national camps this year, which is an increase of about 20%. There was a total of \$587k generated in revenue from "mountain adventure" trips and camps this year, with expenditures around \$569k. Brad Harrison, who has been very involved with the GMC in previous years, would like to reduce his GMC-related workload so that it is more manageable for him. C. Roe will discuss options with Brad Harrison and follow-up with the Board.

ACTION: C. Roe

g. VP Facilities (C. Hannigan)

C. Hannigan spoke to his report and noted that he has just assumed the position as VP Facilities. He mentioned that a large part of the Facilities Report was prepared by N. Hansen. He also mentioned that there was a report circulated that outlined the work done to bring the stovepipes in certain huts up to code, and that the work was well done. Upgrading the toilet systems at the Elizabeth Parker Hut and Wates-Gibson Hut is on the list of upcoming projects as well as upgrading staff accommodation at the Clubhouse. C. Hannigan suggested that the proposed Centennial Hut have easy access for summer and winter mountaineering. Also, he mentioned that the ACC would put in a bid to operate the new Kokanee Glacier Hut.

h. VP Publications (B. Sandford)

B. Sandford spoke to his report. He noted that the ACC has recently published *Every Other Day*, the journals of A.J. Ostheimer III, in a trade edition and a special collector's edition. Two additional publications, one about the Grizzly Group titled *Once Upon a Mountain, The Legend of the Grizzly Group*, and the other about the Parks rescue service titled *The Highest Calling, Canada's Elite National Park Mountain Rescue Program*. There has been a lot of media on the publications and activities that have been carried out in the name of IYM e.g. climbs on Mount Columbia, Mount Brown, and Mount Logan. The Mount Brown trip received a full-page write up in the Edmonton Journal. Next year's major celebration is called the "Wonder of Water" and its basis is the United Nations 2003 International Year of Fresh Water. It will be celebrated in many parts of Canada, including at headwaters located within the mountain National Parks.

D. Toole discussed the ACC's proposal to establish a National Museum of Canadian Mountaineering in Canmore. He explained that there a variety of perceptions on the concept, and that a committee has been formed to look into it (B. Sandford is the chair).

i. Director, External Relations (M. Mortimer)

M. Mortimer stated that this position requires representing the Club externally, e.g. at international meetings and conferences. He expressed his view that generating good relationships with overseas clubs can be very positive, and will also lead over time to increased demands for ACC-provided camps and trips.

j. National Office (B. Keith)

B. Keith informed the Board of a situation that has arisen with the renewal of our liability insurance coverage. Renewal of the Club's insurance policy usually takes place November 1st, but the current provider has just recently decided not to renew the policy. As was explained to B. Keith by our insurance agent, insurance companies are trying to reduce risk and ours has resolutely refused to renew at any price. B. Keith is now attempting to identify possible alternate sources of insurance. P. Muir added that this is a consistent pattern in insurance right now and only relates to 3rd party indemnification, not facilities. There is no problem getting insurance for the ACC's facilities.

Discussion ensued and included ideas about creating a fund that could eventually allow the ACC to be self-insured. However, most agreed that self-insurance is probably not possible in the immediate future. P. Muir mentioned other possible approaches in dealing with the issue to reduce Club risks. He agreed to pursue these approaches.

ACTION: P. Muir

B. Keith will notify Section representatives no later than 12 noon on Thursday, October 31st with regards to the status of the ACC's insurance.

ACTION: B. Keith

ADDED NOTE: On October 30th, the Board was notified that the Club's current insurance provider had changed its mind and has renewed the ACC's insurance at the premium rate that was budgeted.

B. Keith continued and thanked A. Wheeler, N. Hansen and the rest of the National staff for all the work they have done, particularly in the last six months. He stated that the ACC should be especially proud of them.

5. Decision Items

a. 2003 Operating and Capital Budgets (G. Currie)

G. Currie summarized the proposed budget for 2003, and mentioned that it adhered to the ACC's desire for a "zero bottom line" (i.e. no deficit budgeting approach).

Motion by G. Currie, seconded by P. Muir: that the ACC Board adopt the 2003 budget as presented.

CARRIED

b. Bylaw Amendments (2) (R. Plasman)

Motion by R. Plasman, seconded by C. Hannigan: to change the ACC bylaws as was first presented at the May 10, 2002 Board meeting i.e.:

1. Change VP Publications to VP Mountain Culture.

a. Section II, subsection B, #5 will be changed to read:

"3. A Vice President for Mountain Culture whose duties shall include the celebration of art, science, literature, history and mountain culture in Canada, the overseeing and coordinating of the work of the Mountain Culture Committee and programs of the ACC related to its history and culture as determined by the Board, and rendering such assistance and support to the President as he may require and request."

b. Section II, subsection D will be changed to replace the term "Vice President for Publications" with "Vice President for Mountain Culture".

2. Board voting:

Section IX, sub-section B will be deleted and replaced with the following new subsection IX. B: *"Except where otherwise stated in these bylaws, at any meeting at which a vote is taken, the vote of the majority of those present shall govern and the chair is entitled to a vote on all matters. In the case of a tie vote, a motion will be considered as having been defeated."*

Section IX, a new section D will be added; *"Between Board meetings, the Secretary may authorize the holding of a vote via email or other similar means on a matter deemed to be too urgent to wait until the next meeting. In such situations, the requirements regarding a quorum and the votes needed for the approval of a motion shall be the same as for regular Board meetings. The Executive Director shall ensure that a Board motion voted on in this manner be documented, and that those casting the majority of votes provide their signatures on the related document."*

CARRIED

c. Member Information Release Policy (B. Keith)

B. Keith recommended to the Board that the ACC move towards a no-distribution policy of personal information to 3rd parties, especially given the planned direction toward increased use of members' email addresses for internal Club communications.

Motion by R. Plasman, seconded by D. Zemrau: that the ACC does not release personal information to third parties unless members have given their express consent.

CARRIED

6. Information Items

a. Nominations Committee Report (M. Mortimer)

M. Mortimer handed out copies of the Report of the Nominating Committee for the slate of Executive Committee officers being named for the Spring '03 to Spring '05 period. The Nominating Committee consisted of David Toole, Mike Mortimer and Peter Muir. The proposed slate is as follows:

David Toole: President
Gord Currie: Treasurer
Rod Plasman: Secretary
Cam Roe: Vice President, Activities
Peter Muir: Vice President, Access & Environment
Carl Hannigan: Vice President, Facilities
Bob Sandford: Vice President, Mountain Culture
David Zemrau: Vice President, Services

The Nomination Committee Report recommends that this slate be accepted by acclamation.

This slate will be published in the February 2003 Gazette and, provided there are no further nominations, will be declared elected next spring.

ACTION: A. Wheeler

M. Mortimer also indicated that he is hoping to implement a staggered slate so that there is not a complete turn-over at election time

b. Centennial Committee Report (M. Mortimer)

M. Mortimer stated that 2006 is the Centennial of the ACC and the celebrations will start in 2005, which also ties into the Centennial of Alberta. F. Hietkamp agreed to funnel suggestions for Section projects to the ACC Centennial Committee.

ACTION: F. Hietkamp

M. Mortimer outlined centennial projects funding requirements and parameters:

1. The Committee feels they must do the following in 2006:
 - a. Hold the UIAA General Assembly in Canada
 - b. Provide opportunities for Sections to celebrate
 - c. Provide a special report to members
 - d. Hold special winter and summer camps
 - e. Work with traditional partners (i.e. Parks Canada)
2. The Committee feels they would like to do the following:
 - a. Hold a camp in the Yukon and invite international clubs (particularly British and American, since they both have traditional ties to the ACC)

- b. Provide a separate report for members
 - c. Create a digitized version of all CAJ's since 1907
3. These are also some "dreams" the Committee feels are worth considering:
- a. Construct a Centennial Hut
 - b. Mount an exhibit with the cooperation of the Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies

M. Mortimer suggested a possible slogan for the centennial celebrations: "Century of Adventure". He then asked the Board to trust the Executive to come up with a plan that will show that the celebration is in keeping with the goals of the ACC, as articulated in the Club's constitution.

ACTION: M. Mortimer

Motion by R. Plasman, seconded by P. Muir: be it resolved that the Executive Committee will exercise priority-setting and budgetary authority over the projects and initiatives planned by the Centennial Committee for the Club's 2006 centennial celebrations.

CARRIED

c. Endowment Fund Grants (M. Mortimer)

M. Mortimer expressed a strong recommendation to encourage using these funds to celebrate the ACC's centennial event properly so as to gain national significance. It is estimated that the fund would generate approximately \$12,000/year for the next 4 years.

Motion by R. Plasman, seconded by D. Zemrau: be it resolved that, for the years 2003 to 2006 inclusive, all ACC Endowment Fund grant monies be set aside within the Fund and used for Centennial-related purposes.

CARRIED (one abstention)

The Executive Committee made it very clear that a Centennial Hut will be the capital expenditure priority for the centennial celebrations. This is absolutely contingent upon funding, and finding an appropriate location. It will be the number one external fundraising priority for the ACC.

Motion by J. Turnham, seconded by D. Yachuk: that The Board of Directors expresses support for the centennial committee to pursue, as its major priority, the location and building of a "Centennial Hut".

CARRIED

c. 2002 Board Meeting/AGM in Vancouver (D. Toole)

D. Toole expressed his thanks and gratitude to the Vancouver Section for a successful Spring Board Meeting. Very few costs went over the proposed budget and the Vancouver Section graciously absorbed any additional expenses.

d. Membership Commission (P. Muir)

P. Muir stated that the report is in progress. He is now undertaking a "microanalysis" of the ACC membership.

ACTION: P. Muir

e. Corporate Partnership (B. Keith)

B. Keith indicated that corporate sponsorship is more difficult to come by, and if any Board members know of potential corporate sponsors they should let him know. The ACC is particularly looking for a new sponsor for the Youth Program to replace funding Patagonia used to provide.

f. Canadian Alpine Centre Update (C. Roe)

The Canadian Alpine Centre is now under new management and is working towards making the Café and the facility more profitable. New staff accommodation has been built and appears to be quite successful.

g. Bylaw Amendments Notice (R. Plasman)

Notice of the upcoming by-law amendments were presented to the Board as follows so it can be voted on by the Board at its meeting in May of 2003. The proposed amendments will alter the Executive Committee election process to clarify the timing of various steps, and to facilitate the carrying out of those steps independent of the Gazette newsletter publication schedule and the actual AGM date.

Three amendments are required:

1. Section IV, subsection C, #1 last sentence currently states: "The preliminary slate of nominations shall be presented to the Board at its Fall meeting not less than three months before the mailing of the ballot." This sentence will be deleted and replaced by: "The preliminary slate of nominations shall be presented to the Board of Directors before November 15 of the year preceding the year in which the election is to be held."
2. Section IV, subsection C, #2 last sentence states: "Such additional nominations will be accepted up to one month before the proposed mailing of the ballot." This sentence will be deleted and replaced by: "Such additional nominations will be accepted up to one month following the mailing date of the National newsletter (or its replacement from time to time) containing the preliminary slate of nominations as described in Section IV (C) (4) hereof."

3. Section IV, subsection C, #4 first sentence states: "Notification of a preliminary slate shall be published in the National newsletter by the Executive Director so that it reaches the membership at least three months before the ballot is mailed." This sentence is deleted and is replaced by "Notification of a preliminary slate shall be published in the next regular publication of the National newsletter (or its replacement from time to time) by the Executive Director."

h. Water Sports (B. Keith)

B. Keith explained that when the ACC is looking for general insurance they might look for coverage for water sports activities as well.

i. Upcoming Meetings (R. Plasman)

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held April 12, 2003, and the Spring Board Meeting will be held on May 10 & 11, 2003 (both in Canmore).

j. Other (All)

B. Keith stated that, in response to official ACC incidents or accidents that happened this year, the ACC has put an "interim" accident-reporting program in place. The ACC Safety Committee will review this program, and an official accident reporting policy will be presented to the Board at an upcoming meeting.

7. Adjournment

D. Toole thanked the ACC staff for all their work. What they do is exceptional.

Motion by C. Roe, seconded by P. Muir: that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm