

**The Alpine Club of Canada
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
May 10-11, 2003**

Location: Westridge Country Inn, Canmore

Present:

Executive:

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

Sections Reps:

Dan Doll, Calgary
Neil Bosch, Edmonton
Simon Statkewich, Manitoba
Susanna Oreskovic, Montreal
Dwight Yachuk, Ottawa
Pierre Gravel, Outaouais
Mark Earle, Prince George
Ron Scholtz, Rocky Mountain
Dave McCormick, Saskatchewan
Andre Mahe, St. Boniface
Nick Buda, Thunder Bay
Willa Harasym, Toronto
Fern Hietkamp, Vancouver
Gerta Symthe, Vancouver Island
Eric Vezeau, Whistler

Staff:

Bruce Keith, Executive Director
Nancy Hansen, Director, Facilities and Mountaineering
Audrey Wheeler, Director, Club Programs
Josée Larochelle, Office Manager

Guests:

Bev Bendell, Library & Archives
Lynn Martel, Mountain Culture Committee
Stacy Karalash, NAECC Secretary

Regrets:

David Toole, President
Sonja Findlater, Central Alberta Rep
Brian Gibson, Jasper/Hinton Rep
John Warren, Okanagan Rep

1. President's Welcome (M. Mortimer)

M. Mortimer welcomed everyone to the meeting. He also expressed D. Toole's regrets for not being able to attend this meeting. He then turned the chair over to C. Roe who had been appointed by D. Toole to act as chairperson in his absence.

2. Approval of Agenda

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

3. Approval of Oct. 26-27, 2002 Board Meeting Minutes

**Motion by R. Plasman, seconded by G. Currie: that the minutes as presented from the previous Board meeting be approved.
CARRIED**

4. Reports

a. Section Reports

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

Following the section reports, some discussion took place regarding the situation in Quebec vis-à-vis insurance and the FQME.

Motion by P. Gravel, seconded by D. Yachuk: that

1. The ACC strike a committee (under the auspices of the Access and Environment Committee), consisting of representatives of the Ottawa, Outaouais and Montreal sections to draft a national agreement between the ACC and Federation Quebecoise de la montagne et de l'escalade (FQME) for access by ACC members to FQME-ensured climbing areas; and

2. The committee bring their draft agreement to the Board for a vote.

CARRIED

b. Executive Committee/External Relations Reports

Treasurer (G. Currie)

G. Currie said that the ACC is currently projecting an operating income loss of \$67,000 this fiscal year. This projected loss is due mainly to: lower revenues from the Canadian Alpine Centre; lower bookings at the huts this past winter; and the general effects on tourism from the war in Iraq and SARS. He advised that we must all exercise some fiscal prudence with regard to upcoming operating and capital expenditures. The situation will be closely monitored over the coming months.

The ACC funds investments are doing well. In addition, G. Currie is developing a Fundraising Committee and program to assist with a variety of ACC projects.

ACTION: G. Currie

Membership Commission Report (P. Muir)

P. Muir reviewed the highlights of the Commission report, particularly the thinking behind the suggestion that the national portion of the Club's membership fees would have to be raised approximately \$30 per membership if the Club were to adhere to the principle of having national membership fees cover all national membership-related expenses.

It was pointed out that for the past several years, the "surplus" the Club has enjoyed at the national level from the operation of its facilities (Clubhouse and huts) has effectively been used to "subsidize" national's costs associated with national membership-related programs. C. Hannigan pointed out that continuing with this practice over the coming years would have serious negative consequences for the Club's facilities program, since it was now at the point where it needs to retain and use its operating surpluses over the coming years just to maintain those facilities. He spoke to the level of capital expenditures Facilities has estimated it needs over the next 5 years – expenditures he said it would only be able to afford if the "subsidies" to the Club's national membership-related programs were significantly reduced or eliminated.

Board members expressed their preliminary views on the subject of a potential national membership fee increase in the range of \$30. Most stated they believe some level of national fee increase appears justified, although there was debate over how much of an increase was appropriate, and over what period of time the increase should be implemented.

At the conclusion of the discussion, it was agreed that:

1. Each Section Representative would discuss the issue with their section, and provide feedback to David Toole prior to the Executive Committee meeting in the Fall (Sept 6)

ACTION: Section Reps

2. To facilitate the section discussions, an issues summary document would be prepared and forwarded to the sections within a month

ACTION: B. Keith.

Secretary's Report (R. Plasman)

R. Plasman spoke to his report, and stated he is working on improving volunteer recruitment. There is now a capability via the bulletin board on the National website by which people can post their volunteer skills and volunteer jobs can also be posted. He also stated that more website enhancements are on the way. There have been two new section inquiries from Sudbury, Ontario and Smithers, BC.

Activities Report (C. Roe)

C. Roe spoke to his report, and stated the GMC is virtually full and summer camps are at or above last year's registrations, so Activities are generally in a healthy position. Also the Alpine Club of Canada now offers a portering service. Finally, statistics were collected and indicate that half of the participants on ACC national activities reside in Alberta and BC.

Facilities Report (C. Hannigan)

C. Hannigan spoke to his report, and congratulated N. Hansen on her successful work leading to BC Parks contracting to the ACC the operation of the Kokanee Glacier Cabins and campground. He also reported that a new policy is in place regarding action on hut trespassers. Finally, he spoke about the work he and his volunteers have carried out in identifying possible Centennial Hut locations.

Access and Environment (P. Muir)

P. Muir spoke to his report. He also thanked P. Geddes for his service as secretary to the NAECC and introduced Stacy Karalash (Calgary Section) as the new secretary for the NAECC. P. Muir said the last NAECC conference call was held in March, and all NAECC Section members were invited. The frequency of these calls is limited due to the high cost. The next conference call will take place in June.

V.P Services (D. Zemrau)

D. Zemrau spoke to his report, and reported that the Canadian Alpine Accidents website continues to grow and receives about 1000 visits per month. The UIAA Safety Commission Meeting will be held in Canmore June 11 to 14. The Safety Committee is finalizing a helicopter safety brochure. The Leadership Development Committee is looking into ENEQ's training programs to evaluate their value to the ACC. The Leadership Development Committee is looking at holding an Eastern Section leadership camp. Competition Climbing Canada now has 67 competitive members. Their name has been changed to the CEC to properly reflect both French and English languages. The Banff Mountain Book and Film Festival's relationship with the ACC is solid and will continue in the future.

External Relations (M. Mortimer)

M. Mortimer spoke to his report, and stated that plans are underway for the ACC hosting of a recreational Ski Mountaineering Competition to be held at Sunshine ski area in 2004, with 120-130 people expected to compete. The Mountain Guides Ball patron this year will be Hans Gmoser. The chair of the MGB Committee, Mike Haden, will be stepping down following the 2003 Ball.

VP Mountain Culture (B. Sandford)

B. Sandford spoke to his report, and introduced Lynn Martel. He said he would like to ask for the help of ACC Sections for a special initiative to raise \$10,000 to publish Jane Gooch's book of Lake O'Hara art. The CAJ will be published as a 2 volume set for the Centennial. A book on "40 years of guiding" will be produced for this year's Mountain Guides Ball.

The Melting Mountains brochure prepared by Ian Bruce will be distributed with the Fall Gazette. Given this ongoing issue in the future, B. Sandford suggests this club commit itself to the

education of our members and the Canadian public regarding the impacts of climate change on our alpine environments.

Motion by B. Sandford, seconded by D. McCormick: that the ACC Board of Directors endorse the creation of a committee under the auspices of the VP Access and Environment to explore our Club's potential role in the growing public debate about climate change as it relates to impacts it may have on the alpine regions of Canada.

CARRIED

National Office Report (B. Keith)

B. Keith reported that although the National Office is expecting some higher than usual staff turn-over, the staff will do their very best to maintain service as usual.

5. Decision Items

a. Bylaw Amendments (R. Plasman)

R. Plasman spoke to the amendments that were presented at the Oct. '02 Board meeting. Those amendments, which are intended to de-link the Executive Committee nominations process from a fixed Gazette publications schedule, are:

1. Section IV, subsection C, #1 last sentence 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 is to 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 is to 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 to be deleted and 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."

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

CARRIED

6. Information Items

Nominations Committee Report (M. Mortimer)

The Nominating Committee report on Executive Committee positions for the period May 2003 to May 2005 was presented by M. Mortimer. Those nominated were as follows:

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

This slate was published in the February 2003 Gazette. No additional nominations were received. As a result, R. Plasman will announce at the AGM that those nominated on the slate have been elected by acclamation.

Awards (P. Geddes)

i) Committee Report

P. Geddes listed the names of the Awards Committee which is made up of 6 members from various Sections: Tom Haslam-Jones (Montreal), Dave McCormick (Saskatchewan), Rod Plasman (Rocky Mountain), Mike Thompson (Vancouver Section), Gerta Smythe (Vancouver Island), Paul Geddes Committee Chair, (Toronto)

P. Geddes said that 9 awards were approved this year.

SILVER ROPE FOR LEADERSHIP

Dave Dornian - Unaffiliated

Doug Nelson - Calgary & Rocky Mountain Section

ACC LEADER AWARD

Peter Woodsworth - Vancouver Section .

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Cyril Shokoples - Edmonton Section

Peter Amann - Jasper/Hinton Section

Liz Scremin - Vancouver Section

Manrico Scremin - Vancouver Section

Dave Cousins - Calgary Section

Bruce Keith - National

P. Geddes reminded everyone that the award nomination deadline is December 31st each year.

ii. Notification/Presentation Process

P. Geddes circulated a draft of the ACC Awards Protocol to gain feedback. Once the protocol is approved the Club will have guidelines as to how to proceed with the annual process of award notification, presentations and publication.

ACTION: P. Geddes

ACC Insurance Update (P. Muir/B. Keith)

P. Muir and B. Keith have spoken with the ACC's insurance broker about concerns regarding section requests for insurance certificates. P. Muir believes that, to properly manage the risks associated with our liability insurance, the ACC needs to develop guidelines for issuing certificates.

ACTION: P. Muir

Canadian Alpine Centre Update (C. Roe)

B. Keith reported that the Canadian Alpine Centre has a well developed business plan in effect, but the CAC Board is also waiting to see if the CAC experiences some financial challenges in getting back to a profitable position. Overnight fees for this summer have been increased.

Fundraising Strategy (G. Currie/B. Keith)

G. Currie said the ACC is adding structure to its Fundraising Program. An email package will be distributed to the Board of Directors outlining its plan, the fundraising plan (the which include establishing a committee and a need for volunteers).

ACTION G. Currie

Mountaineering Leadership Section Documents Inventory (D. Yachuk)

D. Yachuk is attempting to collect documentation on leadership development and training that can be shared with the Sections and the National office. Lists of various training initiatives can be sent to D. Zemrau.

ACTION: Section Reps

Committee Chairs' Reports

At 3:00 pm Committee Chairs persons were invited to join the meeting to update the Board on their Committee's activities. The Committee chairs in attendance were Bruce Hardardt (Clubhouse Committee), Dave Dornian (Competition Climbing Canada), Bev Bendell (Library & Archives), Helmut Microys (ACC Rep on UIAA Safety Commission), John Rollins (Energy, Waste & Water Management) and Masten Brolsma (GMC). Each person gave a brief summary of their Committee's activities and issues.

Bruce Hardardt - Clubhouse Committee Chair

B. Hardardt updated the Board on the on-going renovations taking place at the Clubhouse which included: staff housing will be upgraded, lockers downstairs will be replaced for increased security; and flooring will also be replaced. A meeting has been arranged for April 29th with an engineer to discuss long term plans for the entire Clubhouse property. Also, the recent "Associate Hostel" agreement signed with Hostelling International increase Clubhouse occupancy.

Dave Dornian - Competition Climbing Canada

D. Dornian stated that the Competition Climbing Committee has changed its name to CEC (Competition Escalade Canada) to better reflect English and French languages. This Committee started in 1988 with early competitions and now there are 8 full time committee members. National teams go to the World Youth Champion and Open Adult teams go around the world to countries in Europe and Asia. All competitions are held on artificial surfaces due to environmental issues of climbing on "real" rock, and it helps with competition consistency. The UIAA hopes to see Competition Climbing become an Olympic event. More information about membership and resources is available on the CEC's website.

Bev Bendell - Library and Archivist

B. Bendell informed the Board that the Whyte Museum holds some of the ACC's library and all of the ACC's archives. She will be looking at the recent collection of ACC archives soon to send to the Whyte Museum. The ACC is in the process of negotiating with the Museum a fee that they will charge us for storing our archives.

Helmet Microys - ACC Rep on UIAA Safety Commission

H. Microys informed the Board the Commission needs new members badly and the website needs to be given more attention. He identified a major problem with UIAA Safety Commission: is their standards are outdated. The Annual UIAA Safety Commission will be held in Canmore June 11 to 14.

John Rollins - Energy, Waste & Water Management (EWWM)

J. Rollins spoke about the focus and emphasis in flying out waste in the ACC's hut system. The EWWM Committee is being proactive on improving energy and waste management in the backcountry.

Masten Brolsma - GMC Chair

M. Brolsma said the GMC is almost 100 years old. The Committee is responsible for camp supplies, maps, guides and physicians.

Centennial Report (M. Mortimer)

M. Mortimer anticipates that the Centennial fund will have amassed \$120,000 in place between 2002 and 2006. He reviewed the projects that each portfolio will undertake.

Activities portfolio:

GMC celebrating 100 years of teaching mountain craft in Canada, Stanley Mitchell Camp and Yukon Camp.

Mountain Culture portfolio:

100th Edition of the CAJ, Electronic Edition of past CAJ's.

Facilities:

Centennial Hut foundation stone to be laid

Meetings & Events:

Executive Meeting in Winnipeg, Mountain Guides Ball in Banff, UIAA General Assembly in Banff.

The ACC is also talking with Canada Post about special (set of) stamps and a Canadian Mint coin for the ACC Centennial. He said there will be many volunteer opportunities, and feedback on the Centennial program would be appreciated.

Section Centennial Committee

F. Hietkamp is heading this Sub-Committee and hopes to gain input from Section representation from across Canada. She would like to record all Section initiatives regarding the Centennial, and hopes each Section will submit an idea for a camp that can be put into a brochure. Some funding will be available through a process similar to that used for the Endowment Fund grants.

Upcoming Events and Meetings (R. Plasman)

Fall Executive Committee Meeting - September 6, Canmore

Fall Board of Directors Meeting - November 1 & 2, Lake Louise

Other (All)

B. Keith stated that the Explore magazine subscription deal is ending soon. He and P. Muir encouraged members to renew as the Environment Fund will benefit from a \$2 donation made for every ACC member's subscription renewal.

B. Keith reported that he ACC has written to the Mayor of Canmore to say that we will provide moral support for the Mountaineering Museum in Canmore, but are unable to provide financial or human resource support at this time.

Motion by C. Roe, seconded by R. Plasman: that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED