



### OSC Board of Directors Meeting

Date:	Monday January 8 <sup>th</sup> 2024
Time:	7:00 pm
Place:	Tournament Capital Centre Room B

**Directors Present:** Jen Stuart, Dana Manhard, Rich McCleary, Garth Rustand, Joan Bernard, Luc Guilherme, Klaus Mey, Dave Hallinan, Erin Vieira

**Staff Present:** Chelsea Francis (via telephone for part of the meeting)

**Regrets:** Charlene Eden

Meeting convened at 7:00 PM.

#### 1.1 Adoption of December 4<sup>th</sup> 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

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The December 2023 board minutes were approved.

There was a brief discussion on snow conditions and grooming. Luc reported that the snow is still very thin in places. Almost all the trails have been rolled and packed. The trails committee hopes to be able to groom the network before the forecasted cold snap starts. It's about 8-10 hours to do the whole circuit. Luc estimated another 10 cm is needed for the cat to start grooming.

#### 1.2 President's Report

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No report.

#### 3.1 Publicity Report

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Garth reported that the ski/snow report has started on CBC Radio. If anyone would like to submit content for the report, get it to Garth by Thursday night for the Friday report. Jen suggested that the report includes events that the club is hosting.

#### 3.2 Registrar's Report

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Joan reported that there have been some new registrations since December, bringing the total number of members up to 1186.

#### 5.1 Treasurer's Report

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No report. See separate draft Overlander Ski Club Travel and Expenditure Policy, file name [5.4 Travel and Expense Reimbursement Policy](#).

#### 5.2 Trails Committee Report

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No report.

#### 6.3 Board Business – Ski Skool grant opportunities

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Rich reported that he has reached out to KidSport about grant funding to support the Ski Skool program.

KidSport has indicated they are interested in providing a grant to OSC, which the club would use to lower Ski Skool rates and make the program more affordable for families.

#### Discussion:

Chelsea added that one class has cancelled their Ski Skool plans. 38 days of Ski Skool are booked at two classes per day. Chelsea estimated that it cost the club \$20-25K to run the program in 2022-23, plus an investment in about \$5K in gear last year. She further clarified that the program is for Grades 3 – 7. She has noticed that there has been a significant change-over of attendees this year: many of the regular classes didn't register, and many new classes have registered.

Dana provided a bit of history about the program, stating that it started with two schools. Over ten years the program has expanded (by design) to the point where it couldn't be delivered by volunteers.

Jen suggested that the club come up with criteria to support classes that cannot afford the \$20 Ski Skool fee per student. The Board should develop a policy document that outlines the goals and purpose of the Ski Skool program, including provisions for subsidies.

Garth suggested that he could look into corporate sponsorship for the program, as an alternative or addition to grant funding support.

Jen also suggested that the club approach Kim Bojesen's class and offer to pay their fees. Klaus suggested Chelsea reach out to the classes that have previously regularly attended but didn't register this year to find out why they aren't coming.

Dave expressed concern about how to handle feedback the club might get from teachers about the fee structure and the possibility of some classes being subsidized by the club. He also asked how the club could take on a grant application to KidSport. Jen suggested that the General Manager lead the grant application.

Rich explained his experience with a ski skool program in Invermere where the local ski club subsidized their program with grant funding from the Columbia Basin Trust.

#### Action items:

- Chelsea will reach out to Kim B's class and offer to subsidize the class so they can still participate in Ski Skool
- Chelsea will reach out to Skelep School of Excellence to invite them to participate in Ski Skool
- Chelsea will send a follow-up email to the entire Ski Skool distribution list to encourage more registrations to fill up the program, and remind everyone of the opportunity to have the fees waived if the cost is prohibitive for a class
- Chelsea will work with Rich to follow up with KidSport about submitting a grant application
- Garth will look into corporate sponsorships for Ski Skool.

### **6.4 Board Business - Standards of Conduct for Board and Committees**

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**MOTION:** Moved/seconded by Jen Stuart and Dave Hallinan that the Standards of Conduct for Board and Committees be approved.

#### **CARRIED**

Jen commented that she will share the document with the Trails committee at their meeting on January 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **6.5 Board Business – Grant Proposal**

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Chelsea reported on the Tourism Growth Program grant opportunity. Its investment priorities are to support active outdoor tourism, increase tourism benefits for communities, support sustainable tourism, and extend the tourism season. Successful grant applicants must be able to demonstrate high impact

such as increased visitors and revenue. The grant program will provide up to 65% of project costs, with the applicant providing the other 35%. The maximum grant application is \$250,000. The program specifically mentions the following eligibility criteria: infrastructure upgrades such as trail development, purchase of machinery and equipment, and winter tourism product development.

Chelsea stated that she is willing to write the grant and oversee the project if successful. She outlined some opportunities for OSC to use these grant funds such as trail improvements and maintenance (especially to allow for skiing during low-snow years) and purchasing a renovator.

Jen suggested that the opportunity be discussed at the next Trails Committee, with the goal to create a set of options and linkages to the Strategic Plan, to be shared with the Board via email.

## **6.6 Board Business – Club Fundraiser**

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Jen asked the Board if they want to take the same direction with a club fundraiser through CCBC for a new snowmobile as last year. Everyone agreed.

**MOTION:** Moved/seconded by Jen Stuart and Dave Hallinan to adjourn.

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

**Next board meeting:** February 5<sup>th</sup> 2024, 7:00 PM