



British Columbia Recreation & Parks Association
Region 2 - Lower Mainland Parks Network
Minutes - January 21st, 2009
Port Coquitlam - Leigh Square Arts Village Building

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chair: André Kolbér

David Turner, Heather Muter, Jim Mason, Kathy Reinheimer, Len Walters, Richard Boulton, Ron Myers, Shirley McKell, Sue Nagata, Todd Gross,

CALL TO ORDER: 9:05 A.M.

1.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

2.0 ADOPTION OF December 17th 2008 MINUTES:

Moved by: Todd Gross

Seconded by: Dave Turner

3.0 PRESENTATION: Bill Hardy from Northwest Landscape & Stone Supply will give an update about the BCLNA and the Landscape Standards.

4.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS:

4.1 HortEdBC – Todd Gross

- <http://www.horteducationbc.com/>

4.2 BC Communities in Bloom (CIB) – Kathy Reinheimer

- http://www.bccommunitiesinbloom.ca/BCCib_About.htm
- Heather Edwards was nominated to the new position of Vice Chair. Daphne Kelly continues as our Treasurer. Peter Crawshaw filled the vacancy left by retiring member Bill Manning. Our other BC CiB Board members are: Suzanne Anderton, Barbra Fairclough, Shirley Fowler, Len Walters and Peter Vandergugten
- CIB is looking for new judges

4.3 BCRPA (2009) Spring Training Committee - Nancy McLean (co-chair), Todd Gross (co-chair), David Turner, Len Walters, André Kolbér, Steve Whitton, Sue Nagata, Sandy James, and Heather Muter (BCRPA Representative). Conference dates Feb 10th & 11th 2009 at the Langley Conference Center

4.4 IPM Accreditation – Richard Boulton

4.5 BCRPA Regional Meeting – André Kolbér

4.6 National Recreation and Parks Association – Geoff Mallory

4.7 Education & Conferences Attended

David Turner - A few notes from the Environmental Managers Association Legal Updates speaker session (Note please call the presenters directly if you need definitive answers on any of these topics).

1. Janice Walton Associate – Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP – Spoke about Recent developments in wildlife law and why you should be concerned.

- a. The focus was on Endangered Species and Migratory Birds
- b. Legislation mainly focuses in the areas of bird hunting and protecting bird nests.
- c. Covered under the 'Migratory Bird Convention Act'
 - i. Many common birds are covered.
 - ii. There is limited enforcement of the act.
 - iii. 3 years ago they started to work on amendments to address incidental harm and new regulations are coming
 - iv. An example was given where a developer was doing everything according to the rules but cut down a tree with a Robins nest in it. They were charged and were required to identify every tree that had a birds nest in it.
 - v. You need to be aware of the birds nesting season.
 - vi. In New Brunswick they were building a forestry road and a machine hit a Heron Rookery and destroyed 6 nests. They received a \$60,000 fine.
 - vii. Usually these charges are complaints driven.
 - viii. Within two years they should have completed the development of Management Plans for birds in all jurisdictions across Canada.
- d. Species at Risk has had legislation in existence for the past 6 years.
 - i. Once a species is on the list and you find it in an area you are about to disturb you must develop a recovery strategy that begins by identifying 'critical habitat'.
 - ii. The critical habitat must be protected within 6 months of identifying the species at risk.
 - iii. Once habitat is designated 'protected' it's against the law to destroy it.
 - iv. An example was given of the 'Nootsack Dare Fish' which is listed as threatened and possibly endangered. When identifying critical habitat they found that some of the habitat went onto private lands.
 - v. The requirement is they have 6 months to protect the habitat so it's now in the courts. The Fisheries Act might not be good enough in this case. If private lands are prohibited from destroying critical habitat it can have a profound effect on development.
 - vi. An example was given about a couple of types of Killer Whales that are listed as threatened. The Fisheries Act doesn't protect their habitat therefore the Act is being challenged. This is an important decision before the courts since it could impact things like shipping.
- e. Ontario has an Endangered Species Act.
 - i. It is the most stringent legislation in North America and protects many plant species that help form critical habitat.
 - ii. This is affecting companies like gravel pits that are mining on the North Shore of Lake Erie and the Forest Industry is worried.
 - iii. A scientific body decides which species get listed.
- f. BC is currently expanding their endangered species list and Species at Risk legislation is coming soon and the Wildlife Act is under review.
- g. Regarding migratory birds you aren't allowed to deposit deleterious substances that can harm migratory birds. McCain's in New Brunswick were charged when they left open paint cans in a dumpster. Sea Gulls went in and ate the paint and died. McCain's received a \$5,000 fine.
- h. You have to consult when you are developing your recovery strategy.
- i. Farmers can lose use of their lands while all of this is taking place.

2. **William K McNaughton, Partner – Borden, Ladner & Gervais LLP** – Spoke about Contaminated Site Case Law
 - a. Case about highway yard maintenance and salt leaching onto neighbour's property.
 - b. The case was slow to prosecute; they wanted it thrown out because of delays. It took 6 years to determine the remediation costs and by then the time limitation was up. The action was dismissed because of inordinate delay. There was no satisfactory explanation for the delay. This is a strange case so don't rely on it.
 - c. A septic field was installed without a permit. They were fined under a health provision plus they had to rip out the septic field.
 - d. Due diligence – you must take all reasonable steps to prevent the occurrence of an offence. It isn't necessary to show that every employee exercised due diligence just the corporation. Proving that you have a competent crew is enough.
 - e. Falsifying records resulted in conviction, company fined and lost licence for two years (offender didn't show any remorse)
 - f. Air Quality – GVRD has the right to increase the air quality requirements above provincial levels.

3. **Ron Ezekiel, Partner – Fasken Martineau LLP** – Spoke about Carbon Regulation – What you need to know
 - a. BC has aggressive, fast paced targets.
 - b. They have just introduced 6 new pieces of legislation on this.
 - c. 33% reduction by 2020, 80% reduction by 2050
 - d. Carbon neutral by 2010
 - e. Municipalities have strong incentives to sign up.
 - f. All office paper, all energy from buildings etc. are targeted.
 - g. Reporting obligations are increasing.
 - h. Fleet emission standards, failing auto industry might cause this to change.

4.8 Upcoming Training & Conferences

January 26th (7-10 PM) - Presentation on Lyme Disease titled 'Under Our Skin'. Adrian Dix (Health critic for the NDP) and NDP MLA David Cubberley will be speaking on the subject.

Location: Vancouver Public Library - Alice McKay Room

January 28th & 30th - 13th Annual Workshop and Conference for the Integrated & Environmental Plant Management Association. Ramada Hotel in Kelowna BC 250-48-0899 iepma@yahoo.com

February 10-11th 2009 - 31st Annual BCRPA Parks and Grounds Spring Training

Location: Langley, B.C.:

http://www.bcrpa.bc.ca/recreation_parks/parks/spring_training.htm or contact Parks & Recreation Coordinator Heather Muter at 604-629-0965 ext 229 or hmutter@bcrpa.bc.ca .

February 17th, 2009 – Tree Biology & Care – Part 1: Selection & Planting for Urban & Built Landscapes

Location: Vancouver, BC

Contact: 1-877-268-8733 www.arborcanada.com

February 22-25th, 2009 - 46th Western Canada Turfgrass Association Annual Conference & Show

Location: Victoria Conference Centre, Victoria, BC

Contact: Bob Wick: (604) 467-2564 www.wctaturf.com

February 22-27th, 2009 – Pacific Northwest Resource Management School

Location: Fort Worden State Park Conference Center, Port Townsend, WA

<http://www.nrpa.org/pnwrms>

February 22-27th - Society of Municipal Arborists Municipal Forestry Institute
Ridgeland, SC

February 24-26th, - Building SustainAble Communities Conference, Kelowna's Delta Grand Okanagan Resort. www.regonline.ca/bsc2009

February/March 2009 (exact date to be announced) CPRA Playground Safety Awareness Course will be held in Coquitlam in Feb/March.

<http://www.cpra.ca/main.php?action=cms.trainPlaySafety>

March 10-13, 2009 International Northwest Parks & Recreation (INPRA) Administrators Academy

Location: Fort Worden Conference Centre in Port Townsend Washington.

The Theme for 2009 is "Leadership Management and Talent Development"

<http://www.inpra-usacan.com/default.html>

March 16 & 17, 2009 Inaugural Canadian Gardens and Tourism Conference to be held in Toronto on March 16 & 17, 2009 and co-hosted by Alexander Reford and Marjorie Harris. Registration Form and Preliminary Program are available online at:

<http://www.horttrades.com/gardensandtourismconference>

March 17-20th, 2009 – National Legislative Forum on Parks and Recreation

Location: Grand Hyatt Washington, Washington, D.C.

<http://www.nrpa.org/content/default.aspx?documentId=968>

March 18th BCRPA Meeting – Township of Langley

Contact Tab Buckner

April 15th BCRPA Meeting – City of Abbotsford

Contact Rick Dayken 1 604 859 3134

May 20th BCRPA Meeting – City of Langley

Contact Len Walters 604 514-2912

May 20-22nd, 2009 - BC Land Summit *A Better Future Adapting to Change*

www.bclandsummit.com

TELUS Conference Centre, Whistler, B.C.

Contact: Tara Culham - BC Society of Landscape Architects (604) 682-5610

May 27-29th, 2009 - BCRPA Symposium Conference *Strength in CommUNITY*

TELUS Conference Centre, Whistler, B.C.

http://www.bcrpa.bc.ca/training_symposium/symposium/2009.htm

June 17th BCRPA Meeting – *Location still to be determined*

Contact

Sept 16th BCRPA Meeting – *Location still to be determined*

Contact

October 13-17th, 2009 - NRPA Congress & Exposition

Location: Salt Lake City Convention Center, Salt Lake City, Utah

<http://www.nrpa.org/content/default.aspx?documentId=618>

October 21st BCRPA Meeting – West Vancouver

Contact Shirley Mckell smckell@westvancouver.ca

November 18th BCRPA Meeting – *Location still to be determined*

Contact

December 16th BCRPA Meeting – Year End Wrap-up meeting

Location still to be determined

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

- Discussion about BCRPA Parks Association Region 2 – Lower Mainland Parks Network meeting locations for June 17th, Sept 16th, Oct 21st, & Nov 18th 2009.
- Discussion on possible municipalities hosting the 2-4 day CPSI Playground Inspector Certification Course. <http://www.cpra.ca/main.php?action=cms.trainPlaySafety> If you are interested in hosting this course then please Contact Heather Mutter at the BC Recreation and Parks Association (604) 629 0965 ext. 229

6.0 ROUND TABLE

- General Discussion on snow removal.

AJOURNMENT: 11:15 A.M.

Moved by: Shirley McKell

Seconded by: Kathy Reinheimer

NEXT MEETING(s):

- **February 10-11th 2009 - 31st Annual BCRPA Parks and Grounds Spring Training**
Langley, B.C.: http://www.bcrpa.bc.ca/recreation_parks/parks/spring_training.htm
- **March 18th BCRPA Meeting – Township of Langley**
Contact Tab Buckner 604 532 3504