



BCWF News



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Participants:
Mel, Bill, George, Doug, Cyril, Doug P., Ted, Bob, Ron, Erin, Merrill, Joan, Darlene, Wilf, Marisha, Jorge, Paul, Wes, Richard, Rod, Peter, Mike, Manon, Patti, Jim.

Strategic Planning Meeting for your BCWF Board and Staff

The third week of June saw the BCWF's Board and Staff dedicating a day to review and study strategic directions for future actions of your federation. The sessions began with personal introductions. The group expressed their expectations for the day and then brainstormed around BCWF's accomplishments and also detailed the many strengths of this organization. The political & organizational, social & cultural, economic and environmental trends were identified. Before lunch, small groups worked to describe the opportunities and challenges BCWF is facing.

Major concern themes were described and consolidated before the large group brainstormed the details of valued, ambitious and desirable future scenarios. After considerable discussion to clarify and expand on the vision details, small groups developed strategic goals, measures of success and results expected by June 2009. Those goals were presented by group leaders and the session ended with an evaluation of the day's process.



This exercise is expected to continue on an on-going basis with regular reports due to the Board starting by next October. Measuring current results against planned actions will be a guide the Staff and Board in their functions.

This meeting was also instrumental not only for talking about strategic directions but for gathering the full Board and Staff for the first time in an informal setting to have a frank exchange of ideas and to set a positive organization tone for the rest of 2009.

BCWF Staff attending the Board & Staff Strategic Planning Meeting



From Left to Right: Jorge, Manon, Merrill, Patti, Marisha (seated) Wes and Erin (seated)

September 23rd to be Declared National Hunter and Fishing and Trapping Day

Initiative to Have September 23rd to be Declared as National Hunter and Fishing and Trapping Day Supported by BCWF.

BCWf is supporting Rick Norlock , M.P. in his personal initiative to declare September 23rd as national Hunter and Fishing and Trapping Day.

Rick Norlock, Member of Parliament for Northumberland Quinte West has made a proposal that will result in a motion to be raised and debated in the House of Commons. The motion will state that, "in the opinion of the House, the government should designate the 23rd day of September as National Hunting, Trapping, and Fishing Heritage Day."

Mr. Norlock explained, "This day would be in recognition of the important contributions of Canada's hunters, anglers, and trappers who made the development of our country a reality by mapping and traversing the prairie, forests, streams, and rivers from coast to coast; and in recognition of the important part they play in the sustainability of ecosystems and in the economy of the country.

"This Day would also support those native hunters and trappers who maintain our sovereignty in the Arctic with their presence in our far northern territories. The Day would also match the National Hunting and Fishing Day observed on September 23 by our neighbours, the United States."

The next step in proclaiming this national day will be when it is moved and debated in the House of Commons.

Legal Defense Fund

Legal Defense Fund Advances

The BCWF Executive is consolidating actions around the Legal Defense Fund. We are extremely pleased to be in reception of two donations: \$5,000 from Ed George and \$1,000 presented by Mike Fowler on behalf of the Quesnel Rod & Gun Club. With donations from clubs and individuals committed to ensuring BC residents rights are represented in access and allocation issues, we are confident that our objective to raise \$250,000 for this fund will be realized. BCWF immediate plans contemplate having a pro-bono legal advisory consisting of legal professionals in place in 60 days.

The recent Knapp decision by the Supreme Court of Canada illustrates the need to have a fund dedicated to protect BCWF positions with regards to legal issues. This fund will allow the BCWF to defend the rights and opportunities of the membership. As a member of the Federation pointed out, with this decision "Under the Constitution, all Canadians are equal before the law but with this decision some are more equal than others." We need to ensure the rights of all for future generations.

The recent Supreme Court decision shows a lack of consideration for the infringement on the common rights of all Canadians to fish but it focused more on Section 15 of the Constitution. Previous Supreme Court decisions or rulings have declared an Aboriginal right to a commercial fishery does not exist; this time the ruling is based on constitutional rights.

The primary appeal was centered on a discrimination against commercial fisheries. With this decision, there is no recourse before the Supreme Court, the BCWF will have to deal with common rights issues that will arise from the William case and the harvest agreements under the treaties process. One critical issue was that the Supreme Court did ****not**** reject the common rights of all Canadians.

2009 AGM & Convention Prep Work at Fernie, BC

2009 AGM & Convention Prep is Underway

The local clubs at the Elk Valley have started their preparations to host the 2009 AGM and Convention. As you may know, the theme of the conference is "History & Heritage – The Road Behind & The Road Ahead". A tour of all venues, including Hotel, Community Centres and Gymkhana grounds in Fernie; plus visiting the Sparwood Arena was completed on July 5-6. All these locales look great and we're anticipating great venues to host you next year!

The Fernie's Host Club Organizing Committee has already been very active not only selecting venues but discussing Youth Programs, Donation Letters, Corporate Tables and Major Donors. BCWF is in the process of sending invitation letters to all the non-members; including MPs, MLAs and other senior government officials and VIPs. We'll be calling on the Clubs shortly for sponsorship ideas and your thoughts on how to make this upcoming AGM & Convention an outstanding event.

Following the Lead of a Cow Moose in the Elk Valley



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We want to hear from you



Send us your news, stories and items of interest. If your article is selected for an upcoming newsletter we will send you a T-Shirt:

The purpose of the BCWF Newsletter is to provide your club with news and information that you want to see. This is your Newsletter containing your news.

If you have any comments, questions or an article for future newsletters please contact Jorge at development@bcwf.bc.ca or 604-291-9990 Ext. 223 or feel free to contact any BCWF staff member.