



FMCBC's Annual General Meeting

May 30th, 2026, 9 AM - 2 PM
Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

Theme: **Advocacy in the Outdoors**
Chair: **FMCBC Secretary Laura Loomes**

AGENDA SUMMARY (find detailed agenda on page 4)

9 - 10:30 am	Welcome & Territorial Acknowledgment Formal Business Items & Reports
10:30 - 11:10 am	Keynote: <i>Why We Should All Advocate for Nature (& How to Do It Well)</i> Julia Laforge, Nature Canada
11:10 - 11:30 am	Presentation of BC Government's Outdoor Recreation Strategy John Hawkings, Recreation Strategy & Service Transformation with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
11:30 - 11:40 am	Looking Ahead: 2026/27 Advocacy Priorities & Initiatives
11:40 am - 12 pm	BREAK
12 - 12: 20 pm	Keynote: <i>Climate Change in BC's Backcountry: What the Trails Are Telling Us</i> Brad Procter, Gorge Waterway Action Society
12:20 - 12:40 pm	Club Highlights & Success Stories
12:40 - 1 pm	FMCBC Membership Benefits Fundraising & grant support: FMCBC as an intermediary qualified donee
1 - 1:30 pm	Keynote: <i>Propelling Access & Inclusion through Partnerships</i> Carinna Kenigsberg from Power to Be
1:30 - 2 pm	Open Forum, Q&A and Closing



REGISTER FOR THE AGM

Advance registration is required

<https://bit.ly/AGM-FMCBC>



Table of Contents

- Zoom Registration Link 3
- AGM Agenda 4
- President’s Report 5
- Treasurer’s Report 6
 - Profit and Loss 2025 8
 - Balance Sheet 9
 - 2026 Forecast 10
- Insurance Report 11
- Membership & Insurance Fee Changes 12
- Communications Report 13
- Advocacy Report 15
- 2026 Member Club Grants 17
- 2025 AGM Meeting Minutes 18



Zoom Registration Link

****Please note that pre-registration is required to attend this event****

Topic: FMCBC Annual General Meeting 2026

When: May 30, 2026 09:00 AM Vancouver

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/XJ2gS6oVTS-hj05qe-Z3Qw>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

If you have any issues registering for or joining the Zoom meeting, please contact Zanna at admin.manager@mountainclubs.org

Please note that everyone is welcome to join the FMCBC AGM, however, only members are allowed to vote (one vote per club).



REGISTER FOR THE AGM

****Advance registration is required****

<https://bit.ly/AGM-FMCBC>



AGM Detailed Agenda

9 – 9:05 am	Welcome & Territorial Acknowledgment
9:05 – 10:30 am	<p><u>Formal Business Items & Reports:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of Agenda and 2025 Meeting Minutes • President Report • Treasurer Report • Insurance Report • Membership & Insurance Fee Changes • Communications Report • Member Club Grants Report • Budget Review & Approval • Election of Board of Directors
10:30 – 11:10 am	<p>Keynote: <i>Why We Should All Advocate for Nature (& How to Do It Well)</i> Julia Laforge, Nature Canada.</p> <p><i>Nature needs advocates from all over to help protect and conserve more of our natural heritage. This session will take you through the ins and outs of effective advocacy!</i></p>
11:10 – 11:30 am	<p>Presentation of BC Government’s Outdoor Recreation Strategy John Hawkings, Executive Lead of Recreation Strategy & Service Transformation, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy</p>
11:30 – 11:40 am	Looking Ahead: 2026/27 Advocacy Priorities & Initiatives
11:40 am – 12 pm	BREAK
12 – 12: 20 pm	<p>Keynote: <i>Climate Change in BC’s Backcountry: What the Trails Are Telling Us</i> Brad Procter, Gorge Waterway Action Society</p> <p><i>Learn how trail users can mitigate environmental damage, stay safe in an era of shifting conditions, and amplify messaging around climate solutions.</i></p>
12:20 – 12:40 pm	Club Highlights & Success Stories
12:40 – 1 pm	<p>FMCBC Club Membership Benefits Fundraising & Grant Support: FMCBC as an Intermediary Qualified Donee</p>
1 – 1:30 pm	<p>Keynote: <i>Propelling Access & Inclusion through Partnerships</i> Carinna Kenigsberg from Power to Be</p> <p><i>Carinna will highlight practices to enhance inclusion and accessibility in outdoor spaces with the help of the 4 P’s; People, Practice, Place & Purpose.</i></p>
1:30 – 2 pm	Open Forum, Q&A and Closing



President's Report

I am writing my final report to you as President of the Federation of Mountain Clubs of British Columbia, for our AGM.

Serving in this role for the past seven years has been an honour. During this time, I have had the privilege of working alongside dedicated volunteers, passionate outdoor enthusiasts, club leaders, and community partners who care deeply about protecting and promoting non-motorized access to British Columbia's mountains, trails, huts, and wilderness spaces.

When I first stepped into this position, I could not have imagined the breadth of experiences, challenges, and accomplishments we would share together. Over these years, our federation has continued to strengthen its voice in advocacy, stewardship, recreation, education, and collaboration. We have seen our member clubs grow and evolve, navigated changing environmental and recreational pressures, and worked collectively to ensure that future generations can continue to enjoy the extraordinary mountain landscapes and trails that define our province.

I am deeply proud of what we have accomplished together. None of it would have been possible without the countless hours contributed by volunteers throughout the province. Your commitment, expertise, and generosity are the true foundation of this organization. I also want to acknowledge the staff, many board members, committee chairs, and past and present executives with whom I have had the pleasure to serve. Your support, wisdom, and friendship have meant more to me than I can adequately express.

Leadership transitions are both reflective and hopeful moments. While stepping down as President marks the end of an important chapter for me personally, I do so with confidence in the future of the federation. We are fortunate to have committed individuals ready to continue the work with fresh energy and ideas. I look forward to supporting the organization in my new role as Past President and continuing to contribute where I can.

These incredible and rewarding seven years have reinforced my belief in the value of community, volunteerism, and shared stewardship of the outdoors. The federation's work matters – not only for today's recreationists, but for the long-term protection and responsible enjoyment of the wild places we cherish.

Thank you for the trust you have placed in me over these past seven years. It has truly been a privilege to serve as your President. I leave this role with gratitude, pride, and optimism for the future of the federation.

With sincere appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Liz Bicknell'.

Liz Bicknell, President of FMCBC



Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Jim Spencer, FMCBC Treasurer

Financial Management Report for the 9 month transition "year" ended December 31, 2025.

Transition year

The "transition" period is the period April 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025.

The transition was required because of our decision to align our fiscal year with the calendar year with the goals of simplifying CRA reporting, payroll remittance reporting and T4 generation.

The 9-month Transition period included both Spring and Fall membership & insurance invoicing as per a "normal" year while expenses were reduced to $\frac{3}{4}$ of a "normal" year. Expenses also decreased due to the absence of a bookkeeper for several months.

As a result...

- Total Revenue for the period was \$143,744.04.
- Total Expense for the period was \$118,774.35.
- Net Revenue for the period was \$24,969.69.

Accounting system

Our move to QuickBooks Online accounting and QuickBooks Payroll was completed in early 2025. This move has streamlined the accounting process.

Payroll Remittance Liability

Over a period of several years, the Federation has occasionally made overpayments to CRA for Payroll Remittances. During 2025, we were able to resolve the differences with CRA and as a result we received a refund from the CRA.

Part of that overpayment/refund was reflected in our books and is shown as a negative Payroll Remittance Liability in these statements.

The other part of the refund was related to overpayments made several years ago which were not reflected in our books due to switching accounting systems. As the refund was received in early 2026, we decided to include the payment from CRA as "Other Income" for 2026.

Restricted Assets

Charities often are given assets with restrictions placed on the use of the assets. These assets are shown on a Balance Sheet as "Restricted Assets" to differentiate them from Unrestricted Assets. Some of the Federations previously reported Unrestricted Assets in fact, do have restrictions. Our Balance Sheet now reflects that status.



Cash position

The Federation is in a strong (unrestricted) cash position of \$130,000 at the end of the year. This amount has been accumulated over the past several years and includes revenue from a Trail Marker program, CERB loan forgiveness and other activities that are unlikely to be repeated.

Rather than use the cash to support running annual operating deficits, the current thinking is to use the cash in a way to benefit clubs and programs on a long-term basis. One such move will be to establish an Endowment Fund, managed by the Vancouver Foundation, where invested funds will grow and will provide a flow of money in perpetuity to enhance Federation programs such as the Club Grants program.

2026 Forecast and going forward

Starting January 1, 2026 our Fiscal year is aligned with the calendar year. Our 2026 (12 month) Forecast/budget shows a small operating deficit of \$3,047. Some items are difficult to forecast so actual results will likely vary.

After 2026, the deficit will continue to grow as the cost of insurance and other operating costs increase past the level of fee revenue.

The Federation is moving to separate costs into two cost centres....“Membership & Advocacy” and “Insurance”. This will allow fees to be clearly aligned with the respective services provided.

Currently, a significant amount of work is being done by “working” volunteer Directors. This is not sustainable. As budgets allow, this work will move to contract staff.

Fees need to be increased in accordance with program services delivery. Please find more information about proposed fee changes under section “*Membership & Insurance Fees - Proposed Changes*” on page 12.

Federation of Mountain Clubs of British Columbia

Profit and Loss

April - December, 2025

	<u>Total</u>
INCOME	
Donations	
Donations - Club Member Grants	365.95
Donations - General	1,125.85
Donations - Trails & Access	288.65
Total Donations	\$ 1,780.45
Insurance Recovery Fees	80,318.00
Interest earned	2,275.59
Membership Fees - Club	59,320.00
Membership Fees - Individual	50.00
Total Income	\$ 143,744.04
GROSS PROFIT	\$ 143,744.04
EXPENSES	
Admin & Communications	
Payroll Expenses	
Taxes	2,569.52
Wages	33,054.40
WorkSafeBC	71.82
Total Payroll Expenses	\$ 35,695.74
Total Admin & Communications	\$ 35,695.74
Affiliate Dues and Memberships	192.00
Bank charges	44.60
Bookkeeping	3,556.00
Grants to Member Clubs	
Grants to Non Qualified Donees	3,000.00
Grants to Qualified Donees	3,000.00
Total Grants to Member Clubs	\$ 6,000.00
Insurance Program	
Insurance - Comprehensive General Liability	53,058.00
Insurance - Directors & Officers Liability	16,560.00
Total Insurance Program	\$ 69,618.00
Office expenses	16.31
Computer Reimbursements	450.00
Other general and administrative expenses	127.69
Total Office expenses	\$ 594.00
Promotion & Events	50.00
Software Subscriptions	
Adobe	463.59
CyberImpact	1,105.19
Google	44.79
Groups.io	155.50
Intuit - Quickbooks	763.84
Zoom	240.69
Total Software Subscriptions	\$ 2,773.60
Taxes and Licenses	55.00
Travel	195.41
Total Expenses	\$ 118,774.35
PROFIT	\$ 24,969.69

Federation of Mountain Clubs of British Columbia
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2025

	Total
Assets	
Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalent	
Vancity - Holding Account	20,000.00
Vancity - Operating Account	14,892.62
Vancity - Smoke Bluffs	5,171.80
Total Cash and Cash Equivalent	\$ 40,064.42
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	
Accounts Receivable	7,404.00
Total Accounts Receivable (A/R)	\$ 7,404.00
Term6824 No-Redeem 3.4% Mat 04-Aug-26 Singing Pass Trail	34,502.49
Term7356 Cash 90 Day Lock 2.65% 08 Dec 25 Mat 08 Dec 26	50,000.00
Term9626 Cash 30 Day Lock 2.1% 07-Jul-25 Mat 07-Jul-26	20,000.00
Term9659 Cash 90 Day Lock 2.2% 07-Jul-25 Mat 07-Jul-26	20,000.00
Term9675 No-Redeem 2.95% 07-Jul-25 Mat 07-Jul-26	30,000.00
Total Current Assets	\$ 201,970.91
Non-current Assets	
Property, plant and equipment	
Property - Smoke Bluffs Property	69,184.00
Total Property, plant and equipment	\$ 69,184.00
Vancity Shares	125.75
Total Non Current Assets	\$ 69,309.75
Total Assets	\$ 271,280.66
Liabilities and Equity	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	324.82
Total Accounts Payable (A/P)	\$ 324.82
Credit Card	
Credit Card Payable	211.32
Total Credit Card	\$ 211.32
Payroll Liabilities	
Federal Taxes	3,031.85
Total Payroll Liabilities	\$ 3,031.85
Payroll Remittance Liability	-931.06
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 2,636.93
Total Liabilities	\$ 2,636.93
Equity	
Restricted - Insurance Reserve	30,000.00
Restricted - Singing Pass Trail Building Reserve	34,502.49
Restricted - Smoke Bluffs Property	69,184.00
Restricted - Smoke Bluffs Tax Account	5,171.80
Restricted - Vancity Membership	125.75
Retained Earnings	104,690.00
Profit for the year	24,969.69
Total Equity	\$ 268,643.73
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 271,280.66

**Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC
2026 Forecast**

	2024 03 31	2025 03 31	2025 12 31	2026	Assumptions & notes
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Forecast	
INCOME	12 month	12 month	9 month	12 month	
Donations - Member Club Grant Program	378	0	366	366	use same as 2025
Donations - General	1,697	3,894	1,126	1,407	use same as 2025 plus 25%
Donations - Trails & Access			289	361	use same as 2025 plus 25%
Insurance Recovery Fees	76,723	74,594	80,318	80,318	use same as 2025 actual
Membership Fees - Club	51,715	53,452	59,320	54,320	use 2025 actual less \$5,000 re large clubs
Membership Fees - Individual			50	50	
Miscellaneous Income (CRA Historical)					
Interest	1,333	754	2,276	3,000	based on current investments
Trail Marker Recovery	12,064				
Grant Project Revenue	6,352				
CEBA Loan Forgiveness	20,000				
Vancity Dividend		0			
Total Income	170,262	132,695	143,744	139,822	
EXPENSES					
Admin & Communications					
Contract - Jacqueline					
Contract - Zanna				42,203	
Payroll - Wages	21,244	29,437	33,054	4,452	
Payroll - expenses	6,000	8,434	2,570		
Advertising		319		100	
Advocacy				1,000	Monika
Affiliate Dues & Memberships	589	602	192	300	
Bad debts		66		0	
Bank charges	96	97	45	75	
Bookkeeping		3,003	3,556	4,632	12 hours per month
Grants Directed to Member Clubs		4,950	0	0	
Grants Awarded to Member Clubs	8,403	2,298	6,000	6,000	?? for discussion
Insurance Program					
Bookkeeping					
Communications - Zanna					
Insurance - CGL	42,909	47,222	53,058	59,956	est 13% increase (Monika)
Insurance - D&O	12,032	14,550	16,560	18,713	est 13% increase (Monika)
Legal Fees		80		0	
Meals & Entertainment		156		100	
Misc				50	
Office expenses	1,624	1,442	466	500	
Other general & admin			128	100	
Worksafe BC	72		72	100	
Projects					
ORC AGM				1,000	estimate from Liz
Trail Markers	12,137				
Migrate accounting system		7,534			
Strategic plan	25,000	1,838			
Donation cost	202				
BC Societies Fee	700			60	
Promotion & Events	3,751		50	100	
Software subscriptions	2,637	2,060	2,010	2,200	
Accounting software			764	900	Quickbooks & Payroll
Taxes & Licenses		26	55	28	
Telephone & Communications		241			
Travel	357		195	300	
Total Expenses	137,753	124,353	118,774	142,869	
Net Income	32,509	8,342	24,970	-3,047	



Insurance Report

Submitted by Monika Bittel, Director

2026/2027 Membership & Insurance Renewal

FMCBC now has 54 member organizations, with two new organizations joining this year:

- Fridays Hike Club Society
- BIPOC Rocks Foundation

In total, the 54 member groups represent slightly more than 7,400 members. One member club chose not to renew because it is dormant.

Of the 54 member organizations, 50 are participating in FMCBC's insurance program, covering approximately 5,500 individuals.

Renewal Process

The 2026/27 renewal process was smoother and more efficient thanks to the new renewal form and procedure developed with assistance from Anastasia Stolzenberg and Helene Sorel. Timely responses – for the most part – to our renewal call-out helped ensure FMCBC met EQUA's timeline for the submission of club details.

Coverage Details

At the time of writing this report, we are still waiting for the coverage details for 2026-2027, including any restrictions on activities covered under the General Commercial Liability policy. Coverage particulars will be shared with members when they become available.

Waivers and Risk Management

The Insurance Risk Management team is reviewing and updating both printed and online waiver forms and related best practices. As online registration and waiver platforms have evolved over the past 10 years, so too have the requirements for creating legally enforceable waivers. Best practices updates will emphasize:

- Providing prior notice and sufficient time for participants to review waivers,
- Verifying the identity of the person signing the waiver, and
- Requiring waiver completion prior to payment or participation in activities.

Online Registration and Waiver platform

Earlier this year, Bob St John (who had been developing an online registration and waiver platform for use by FMCBC clubs) advised he had to step away from the project for personal reasons. This was unfortunate news, as several member groups had hoped to use his online membership and waiver platform. Recognizing that some clubs can develop their own online systems, while others cannot, the Insurance Risk Management team will be investigating and evaluating third-party online waiver platforms which meet our best practices, and which may be affordable solutions for member clubs.

Anyone interested in joining the Insurance Risk Management team or helping investigate online waiver platforms, please reach out to insuranceriskmanagement@fmcdbc.groups.io



Membership & Insurance Fees - Proposed Changes

FMCBC Board will be recommending an increase in membership and insurance fees to reflect increasing administration costs and overall insurance premium increases. The proposals are as follows:

1. **Membership fee increase:** Proposal to increase FMCBC membership fee from \$8/member to \$10/member to come into effect in 2027.
2. **Large club fee discount proposal:** Proposal for “Flat Fee Plus Discount” model where the first 500 members of any club pay the set Membership Rate, then members over 500 pay a discounted rate. Large club fee discount to come into effect in the current year, 2026.
3. **Insurance fee increase:** Proposal to increase fees from \$14/member to \$18/member, subject to premium increase for 2026/2027 and administrative costs associated with the insurance program. As the time of writing this report, FMCBC is still waiting to receive the coverage proposal. Insurance fee increase will come into effect in 2027.

The proposals and supporting financial documentation will be reviewed at AGM, followed by discussion and motions for approval.

Background & Context:

- The Federation has not changed its membership fee since 2019 (when it was reduced from \$10 to \$8), and the insurance fee has held at \$14 since 2022.
- Insurance costs increase by approximately 12% per year.
- The 2026 Forecast is projecting a deficit of \$3,400. With no increase, the deficit will continue to increase significantly year over year.



Communications Report

New Communications Manager

In February 2026, Jacqueline Rimmer stepped down as Communications Manager after two years. We're deeply grateful for her leadership, expertise, and commitment to FMCBC's mission. She has left a lasting impact and we wish her all the best.

In March, we welcomed our new Communications Manager: Zanna Ekeroth. Zanna brings a background in nonprofit leadership & marketing alongside a genuine passion for environmental stewardship, and equity in the outdoors. She is also the founder of Rock On Collective - a nonprofit providing rock climbing mentorship and inclusive learning opportunities that foster meaningful connections with each other and the land.

Social Media Growth

Our social media presence has seen significant growth in followers, reach, and engagement, primarily driven by:

- Collab posts with member clubs.
- Covering highly relevant issues and FMCBC public engagement opportunities, such as the Spearhead Range heli permit campaign.

Social Media Metrics Last 30 Days vs. Q1 2026

Metric	Last 30 Days	Growth Rate
Number of views	46,031	+479%
Accounts reached	11,114	+445%
Interactions	859	+74%
Profile visits	472	+282%
New followers	83	+25%
External link clicks	88	+363%

Branding

Our social media post templates, visuals and branding have been reviewed and optimized for consistency. Key improvements include updated picture formats, fonts, and visual identity to ensure a cohesive look and feel.

Alignment with Strategic Plan

1. United & Bold Advocacy:

- Championing the interests of member clubs by inviting input from backcountry users on current issues.
- Inspiring advocacy action, including mobilizing 1300+ backcountry skiers to submit feedback on the Spearhead Range heli permit.

2. Organizational Sustainability:

- Repeatable processes and flexible templates for marketing and event promotion.
- Prioritizing value and impact over volume.

3. Partnerships & Collaboration:

- Highlighting member clubs and amplifying their trail projects, community programs, and advocacy work.
- Strengthening partnerships with industry leaders such as Nature Canada, Power To Be, BC Parks Foundation, and BC Adventure Smart to cross-promote valuable content and events.



Looking Ahead

Club Communications Review & Optimization

- Clubs will be invited to share feedback on current communications process, and ease of access to handbook, documents, and other info.
- Input will inform future communications structures and potentially a new platform to simplify and increase transparency and accessibility.
- Timeline: July-November

Membership benefits & Outreach

- Clarify and amplify membership benefits beyond insurance access in communications with existing clubs and outreach to new potential clubs.
- Prioritize outreach to underserved areas and demographics.

Handbook Review & Updates

- A comprehensive review of the handbook will be conducted to ensure it remains a valuable resource for clubs.
- Update of best practices, and club guidelines.

Social Media Strategy Revision

- With help from incoming Director Anastasia Stolzenberg, who brings expertise in creating social media engagement in outdoor spaces.

Let Us Support Your Club

We're here to help! Send us your:

- Events, programs, or fundraising efforts for promotion on our social media and in newsletters.
- Ideas for additional support or membership benefits you're looking for.

How Clubs Can Help FMCBC

- Follow our Social Media accounts, engage & tag us in your posts
 - [Facebook](#) (please note that FMCBC lost access to our old Facebook page with 1.7k followers 2 years ago. Unfollow the old page and follow the [active one](#))
 - [Instagram](#)
 - [LinkedIn](#)
- [Subscribe to our newsletter](#)
- Add contact@mailier.zeffy.com to your safe sender list to ensure our club emails and newsletters don't go to spam
- Share our posts and news with your community, when relevant.
- Nominate speakers for upcoming roundtables and webinars.
- Update us: Send us club news, trail work updates, program highlights, access issues/wins & more. Please include a few pictures or videos and we will highlight it in our communications!
- Keep us up to date if Club Rep and/or contact info is changing.

Contact Zanna Ekeroth, Communications Manager at admin.manager@mountainclubs.org



Advocacy Report

Submitted by Monika Bittel, Director, Chair of FMCBC's Recreation & Conservation Committee

The FMCBC Recreation & Conservation Committee (Rec & Con) advocates for self-propelled backcountry recreation across BC. The Committee meets virtually each month (except July and August) and includes participants from across the province, with most currently based in southwest BC. Through monthly discussions, collaboration, and participation in the Outdoor Recreation Council of BC (ORCBC), the Committee works on recreation access, conservation, and land-use issues affecting outdoor recreation.

The FMCBC welcomes any feedback and comments about how to strengthen our advocacy. If interested in joining the Rec & Con Committee or listserv or if there are matters of interest or concern to your organization, please contact the Committee Chair (advocacy@mountainclubs.com). A big thank you to all Committee members and participants for your support, contributions and efforts over the past year.

Overview

Outdoor recreation participation in BC continues to grow, increasing pressure on recreation infrastructure, land management systems, and backcountry access. Climate impacts, resource development, rising costs, and conflicts between recreation uses are also creating new challenges for recreation organizations, volunteers, and land managers.

This year, the Committee focused on three key advocacy priorities, which will continue to require attention.

1. Recreation Access and Resource Roads

Forest Service Roads and other resource roads are critical for accessing trails, campsites, climbing areas, ski touring terrain, and parks throughout BC. Increasingly, however, roads and bridges are being deactivated, gated, damaged, or left to deteriorate after industrial use ends, often with no clear responsibility or funding for ongoing recreation access.

The impacts include:

- Loss of access to recreation areas
- Increased pressure on remaining accessible locations
- Challenges for volunteer trail maintenance
- Economic impacts on communities that rely on recreation tourism

FMCBC is participating in an ORCBC-led provincial working group examining recreation access and resource roads. The FMCBC shared their road data collection initiative, which aims to identify roads important for recreation access, assess impacts of access loss, and explore long-term management and funding solutions. Several ORCBC members are interested in the road data collection project, with the goal of generating a comprehensive inventory of access roads used for recreation.

Recognizing the importance of access roads for recreation, FMCBC believes a coordinated approach is needed to identify access roads which are critical for recreation and to find sustainable solutions. Through collaboration with other recreation users, Indigenous communities, local governments, industry and the province, there is a greater likely of finding practical, long-term sustainable solutions.



2. Motorized and Non-Motorized Recreation Conflicts

Conflicts between motorized and non-motorized recreation users continue to increase as more users compete for limited recreation space.

Trails BC recently adopted [a position statement](#) recognizing that both motorized and non-motorized recreation have a place in BC, while also acknowledging that many quiet recreation experiences are incompatible with motorized use on the same trails or terrain.

Common concerns raised by non-motorized recreation users include:

- Noise and loss of solitude
- Safety concerns
- Environmental impacts and trail degradation
- Reduced quality of outdoor experiences
- Displacement from traditional recreation areas

While shared-use approaches may work in some areas, the Committee recognizes that some recreation experiences require separation of uses to maintain safety, environmental values, and user experience.

The Committee is exploring development of an FMCBC position statement on recreation compatibility and user impacts.

3. BC Parks Fees, Transparency, and Equitable Access

In early 2026, BC Parks announced phased increases to camping fees in high use frontcountry and selected backcountry parks, along with new non-resident fees. While FMCBC recognizes the need for investment in parks infrastructure and maintenance, concerns remain regarding affordability, transparency, and equitable access, particularly for backcountry and wilderness recreation.

Backcountry camping fees in parks such as Garibaldi, Golden Ears, Joffre, and Mount Assiniboine have increased from \$10 to \$25 per adult per night despite limited infrastructure and services compared to frontcountry campgrounds.

Further, the same backcountry fees apply to Garibaldi Park's wilderness zone, where there are no designated campsites and facilities. While one can justify higher fees in heavily serviced areas, the same price model does not apply to lightly used, remote, difficult to access wilderness areas, with no facilities, amenities or infrastructure.

FMCBC supports:

- Equitable access to parks and backcountry recreation
- Greater transparency and accountability regarding the use of park fee revenues
- Fee structures that reflect levels of infrastructure and service
- Recognition of the important role volunteers play in maintaining recreation infrastructure

Conclusion

BC's outdoor recreation system faces growing pressures from increased visitation, aging infrastructure, climate impacts, rising costs, and competing land-use interests. Addressing these challenges will require collaboration between governments, Indigenous Nations, recreation organizations, volunteers, industry, and local communities.

FMCBC remains committed to advocating for sustainable, accessible, and inclusive outdoor recreation opportunities throughout British Columbia.



2026 FMCBC Member Club Grant Committee Report

The annual FMCBC Member Club Grant has been empowering our outdoor clubs by providing funding support since 2012. Grants have been used to fund trail upgrades, extensions & maintenance, backcountry hut builds, equipment purchases, educational events, mentorship programs and more.

Below are the five recipients of the 2026 FMCBC Member Club Grant.

Club	Purpose	Grant Amount
Pacific Northwest Outdoor Association	To support the club's annual Park and Shoreline Clean-up Initiative, by funding the purchase of cleaning & safety equipment, waste truck rental, transportation, and food & snacks for volunteers.	\$1000
Mountain Mentors	To support essential avalanche safety and wilderness first aid training as part of their winter mentorship program, helping make backcountry education more financially accessible and inclusive.	\$1000
Apex Community Association	To support an expansion of the club's Trail Building Tool Library. The tool library will help advance the building and maintenance of trails as well as trail navigation through the installment of trail sign and markers.	\$500
Rock On Collective	To support subsidized skills-building courses led by certified guides and social events as part of their rock climbing mentorship program, helping make rock climbing more financially accessible and inclusive.	\$1000
Fridays Hike Club	To support facilitation costs for a Talaysay workshop led by experienced Cultural Land Ambassadors, sharing Coast Salish teachings and promoting respectful and culturally appropriate hiking practices.	\$800

The Grant Committee, Adam Steele, and Judy Carlson, would like to congratulate all recipients, and look forward to learning more about the success of their projects.



Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC

Accessing the backcountry one step at a time

Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC

2025 Annual General Meeting

Saturday, October 4, 2025

9 am - 2 pm

Virtual Zoom ([here](#))

In Attendance:

Directors:

Liz Bicknell, President

Monika Bittel

Judy Carlson

Dave King

Laura Loomes, Secretary (AGM Chair)

Paula McGahon

Jim Spencer, Treasurer

Adam Steele

Participants:

Name	Organization	Name	Organization
Cristy Taylor	Penticton Outdoor Club	Duncan MacIntyre	Varsity Outdoor Club
Robyn Solland	Rock On Collective	Christina Jacob	North Shore Hikers
Mike Stewart	VOA	Jacqueline Rimmer	FMCBC Staff
Gregory Wetterlind	Caledonia Ramblers	John Peebles	Victoria Club Tread
Sandra Hobbs	Kelowna Canoe and Kayak Club	Richard Stranks	Ribbons of Green Trail Society
Iain Braidwood	NVOC	Maria Osipova	TrailQwest
James Floyer	Avalanche Canada	Geoff Mumford	Island Mountain Ramblers
Patrick Ramsden	Chilliwack Outdoor Club	Greg Watson	Caledonia Ramblers
Allen Birnie	Fraser Headwaters Alliance	Sylvia Wallace	North Shore Hikers
Lesley Chapman	Penticton Outdoors Club	Christine Strub	Squamish Search & Rescue
Paul Levett	Chilliwack Outdoor Club	Mary Barquest	Kamloops Outdoor Club
Bob St John	Club Services	Mari Karch	Nature Vancouver
Mike Nash	Caledonia Ramblers	Urvi Joshi	BCMC
Madi Hansen	Ridge Meadows Outdoors Club	Jane Burford	Club Tread
Christine Faulconbridge	Chilliwack Outdoor Club	Karen George	Alberni Valley Outdoor Club
Brenda Harrison	North Vancouver Outdoors Club	Erica Clark	Individual
Dave Wharton	Valley Outdoor Association/ Outdoor Recreation Council		



Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC

Accessing the backcountry one step at a time

Minutes:

1.0 WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & ATTENDANCE (President Liz Bicknell)

Liz Bicknell welcomed participants to the AGM, before handing off to Laura Loomes as chairperson.

1.1 Liz provided Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

1.2 Laura confirmed that quorum was present per FMCBC bylaws.

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA

Motions for approval and any amendments

2.1 Approval of 2025 AGM Agenda

Motion: To approve the agenda as presented.

Moved by: Christine Falconbridge

Seconded by: Christy Taylor

MOTION PASSED

2.2 Approval of 2023 AGM Minutes

Motion: To approve the 2023 AGM minutes as circulated.

Moved by: Dave King

Seconded by: Gregory Wetterlind

MOTION PASSED

3.0 REPORTS (All written reports included in 2025 AGM package, refer to package for details)

3.1 Executive Reports

3.1.1 President (Liz Bicknell)

Liz highlighted achievements over the year and key challenges faced, as reflected in the written report.

Motion: To accept the President's report as presented.

Moved by: Judy Carlson

Seconded by: Dave King

MOTION PASSED



Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC

Accessing the backcountry one step at a time

3.1.2 Treasurer (Jim Spencer)

Jim presented the Treasurer's report, detailing financial health, a transition to a calendar-year fiscal cycle, and insurance reserve updates.

Motion: To adopt the Treasurer's report.

Moved by: Paula McGahon

Seconded by: Dave King

MOTION PASSED

3.1.3 Insurance Report (Monika Bittel)

Monika reported on the Federation's insurance program, as detailed in the written report, highlighting that 49 out of 53 members get their insurance through the Federation, which covers over 5,000 individual members. She emphasized the importance of completing annual renewal forms thoroughly, as new questions were added to better understand club activities and practices. Monika also discussed exceptions to coverage, such as Class 3 e-bikes and U.S.A. trips, and encouraged clubs to declare all activities for proper coverage. She addressed questions about carpooling compensation and damage claims in shared spaces. She invited volunteers to help with the insurance team.

Motion: To accept the Insurance Report as presented.

Moved by: Jim Spencer

Seconded by: Adam Steele

MOTION PASSED

3.2 Committee Reports

3.2.1 Recreation and Conservation Committee (Monika Bittel)

Monika provided an update on the Recreation and Conservation Committee's activities, including a recent meeting with the Minister of Environment about stable funding for provincial parks and trails. Dave Wharton announced the upcoming opening of the Outdoor Recreation Council's grant application process, offering funding opportunities for FMCBC member clubs. The application period
in January 20,



Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC

Accessing the backcountry one step at a time

2026, at 11:59 PM PT. Monika invited anyone interested in becoming involved with the committee to reach out to her.

Motion: To accept the Recreation and Conservation Report as presented.

Moved by: Adam Steele

Seconded by: Judy Carlson

MOTION PASSED

3.2.2 2025 Member Club Grants (Dave King)

Dave highlighted impactful projects supported by FMCB grants in 2025 and discussed the distribution of grants to clubs, with 7 clubs (of the 9 who applied) receiving approximately half of their requested amounts due to budget constraints. Dave provided an overview of the grant recipients and their planned uses for the funds. Further details can be found in the written report.

Motion: To accept the Member Club Grants Report as presented.

Moved by: Paula McGahon

Seconded by: Allen Birnie

MOTION PASSED

3.3 Staff Reports

3.3.1 Communications (Jacqueline Rimmer)

Jacqueline presented the communications report, highlighting changes made to Cloudburst Connect, including a shift to a multi-channel series and simplified schedule. She outlined plans for future improvements, including growing the email list, creating a welcome series, and increasing accessibility and inclusion. The board expressed appreciation for Jacqueline's work and discussed ways clubs could contribute content to support the communications efforts.

Motion: To accept the Communications Report as presented.

Moved by: Judy Carlson

Seconded by: Greg Watson



Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC

Accessing the backcountry one step at a time

MOTION PASSED

5.0 ELECTION OF 2025-2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

5.1 Election of Directors. Judy Carlson, Director

Nominations presented; no additional nominations received. Judy noted that Dave King is stepping down from his longtime role as a director, and thanked him for his incredible service to the Federation and to outdoor recreation in BC. Liz noted that he will still be around, providing assistance and wisdom where he can.

Name	Board Position
Liz Bicknell	President
Laura Loomes	Secretary
Jim Spencer	Treasurer
Monika Bittel	Director
Judy Carlson	Director
Adam Steele	Director
Jim Spencer	Director
Paula McGahon	Director
Hélène Sorel	Director
Greg Watson	Director - Newly appointed

With no further nominations, the persons above were acclaimed to their board positions.



Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC

Accessing the backcountry one step at a time

6.0 DISCUSSION: The Year Ahead; Advocacy in Action; and Q&A

6.1 The Year Ahead

Liz led a discussion starting with a reflection on 2025, including touching on the tragic death of a club member on a hike, and her renewed passion for ensuring all clubs are prepared to respond should an emergency occur. She also highlighted the success of our webinars; and the importance of succession planning, building partnerships, and advocating. She then moved into a discussion on a major 2026 initiative: Advocacy in Action, and introduced Maria Osipova.

6.2 Advocacy in Action

Monika introduced Maria, who has an impressive background in marketing communications. Maria shared her passion and ideas surrounding using story to showcase the vital work being done by clubs and volunteers, and use this to build awareness and advocate for increased funding and support at all levels. She will work closely with both Jacqueline and Monika on this initiative.

7.0 PRESENTATIONS (full presentations can be found in the [Zoom recording](#))

7.1 Emergency Preparedness and Response in the Backcountry: Christine Strubb, Squamish Search and Rescue

Christine presented on emergency preparedness and response protocols, emphasizing the importance of proper planning and immediate action in backcountry emergencies. Visit [Adventure Smart BC](#) for more resources to help you and your clubs stay safe.

7.2 Avalanche Safety and Companion Rescue: James Floyer, Avalanche Canada presentation on avalanche safety, focusing on the critical first 10 minutes of response time, rescue equipment, companion rescue techniques, and the importance of working as a team and calling for external help. Excellent resources are [available through Avalanche Canada](#).

7.3 Online Waiver Process Update and Q & A: Monika Bittel & Bob St. John

Bob provided an update on the online waiver process, explaining that while he initially aimed for a quicker rollout, he is now targeting completion by October or November. He detailed several key developments, including enhanced security measures such as encrypting personal information in PDFs and implementing blockchain-based timestamping to verify document integrity. Bob also discussed accessibility features like adjustable font sizes, color palettes, and contrast modes, as well as self-onboarding capabilities. \$2,500



Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC

Accessing the backcountry one step at a time

annually, is currently being used by the Outdoor Club of Victoria and is designed to serve clubs across Canada beyond the FMCBC. Bob will continue to provide updates to Monika and Jacqueline to keep members updated.

Monika provided an overview of waiver requirements and best practices, emphasizing that minors cannot legally sign waivers and highlighting the importance of collecting enforceable signatures on e-waivers. The group discussed the need for date of birth information on waivers, with Bob explaining that he is working to ensure the system meets legal requirements while protecting personal information.

8.0 New Business

8.1 Open floor for questions from members

The meeting wrapped up with a discussion from various board members surrounding Kakwa Provincial Park and the access issues it faces with its only BC access road, Walker Creek Forest Service Road, becoming increasingly difficult and no longer serviced.

Monika agreed that this is an excellent example of the broader need to clarify government jurisdiction and for funding to maintain access roads to Provincial Parks and recreation areas. It was agreed that further discussions and action on Kakwa access and on identifying other at risk roads are needed.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

Motion: That the meeting be adjourned at 1:39 PM.

Moved by: Jim Spencer

Seconded by: Paula McGahon

MOTION PASSED