**13/09/2024 FoKLSS Board Meeting 7 am – 7:45**

Attending: Sukhananda, Ben, Melanie, Robin, Martin, Alanda

1. **Grant Updates**

* Grant submitted by Melanie to Teck was for 25,000. Received 2000. plus 300. from a grant request from Lily.
* Fish & Wildlife grant application not done as more scientific info and background was needed for submission. Plan for next year.
* October and November are important times for grant applications but we don’t have the resources to make the applications right now.
* Robin forwarded information on various grant information he has received.
* Ben advised that we are close to having enough to receive a wage subsidy program with Eco-Canada. Potentially 75% of wages for a ½ year which could set us up well for next phase. We are close to having enough funds to receive a wage subsidy so important to conserve whatever funds we can.

ACTIONS:

* + 1. **Melanie** will put together a “grant application package” from the material she created with the grant submissions in August, to provide a map for new applications.
    2. **Melanie** will look at the grant application list and the material from Robin to see what she, perhaps with the help of Lily and David, might do in the coming months
    3. **Ben** to advise on how much we need to raise and by when for applying for a wage subsidy grant from EcoCanada

1. **Updates from Robin**

* Robin had prepared, for Teck and other partners, lots of material and action on marshland creation to reclaim and clean selenium and other metal contamination. He was left out of the project and is working/trying to find out what happened.
* Setting out plans for control burns every 4 to 8 years
* New signage at Balfour for kokanee restoration projects and another, larger one at Summit Creek. In Meadow Creek, already 250,000 kokanee counted, which is a large peak for this time of year. (usually occurs at end of month)
* Lots of exciting projects and plans happening
* He welcomed the suggestion to have Robin speak at FoKLSS’s planned spring Summit, about these ongoing initiatives.
* Robin reiterated the importance of collaborative approach to grants. Also mentioned there are American grants available now that could relate to shared waters.
* Robin explained that the Ktunaxa (Creston) were the source of the moratorium on mining in Trout Lake and Duncan area. One of the tailings ponds is starting to give way, leak? and poses a huge threat. Robin has been writing to the Ministry of Mines about Lardo and their concerns. He has been unable to communicate/reach Brittney Spears about this.
* Robin invited the Board to a meeting with him on land for Oct. 9 or 10.

ACTIONS:  
i. **Robin** will send us the information about the Trout Lake and Duncan area. FoKLSS may be able to agree a letter of support (either to our MLA or to the Ministry).

ii. **Sukhananda** will consult so that the Board can respond to his invitation.

1. **Financials update from Ben**
   * Ben talked with Clailie and she will have the financials ready next week.
   * Currently: about $4600. in account. $1,800. owed to WorkSafeBC.
   * Grants from Teck are for next fiscal year
   * Asked about request for Gwen to receive another 10 hours. Sukhananda explained this is mostly background administration. Our systems are currently not automatic and require time to manage, entering data manually. Until we can change our situation, she is our “running cost.”

We AGREED to the next payment for Gwen.

* + Ben expressed intention to step down as Treasurer. He has not moved us onto QB as he feels the new Treasurer needs to look at this.

ACTIONS:

**Ben** to circulate the financials when he receives them.

1. **AGM**
   * Proposed date - Oct 26, 3 – 5 pm.
   * A theme of Sustainability selected, both for FoKLSS itself and for the work it does
   * We still need to establish an operating financial model so that FoKLSS has adequate operating funds to continue, to be sustainable.
   * Board membership needs to be determined. Martin has offered to work on this.
   * The Grant report on the work we did on charitable status was approved. (The money is spent.) A vote to change our constitution and Bylaws is required at the AGM, to allow us to acquire charity status.

ACTIONS:

* + 1. **Ben** will the reserve of the board room at the Jam Factory for the meeting.
    2. **All** of us to bring Pot Luck refreshments
    3. **Martin** will contact existing and new Board members to confirm the officer retirements and nominations for the AGM.
    4. **Martin** will respond to the email about charitable status
    5. **Sukhananda** will make the necessary edits to the charitable status and bylaws drafts (without going back to the lawyer) so long as these are straightforward.