

PARK PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

85900-20/SPPAC

DATE: February 11, 2005

TIME: 6:00 PM

LOCATION: CONFERENCE ROOM, PARKSVILLE OFFICE

LAST MEETING: October 26, 2004

ATTENDANCE: RON QUILTER, WLAP
ANNE FIDDICK, SPPAC
FRANK HOVENDEN, SPPAC
WARRICK WHITEHEAD, SPPAC
PAUL ERICKSON, SPPAC
GARY SCHAAN, SPPAC
SANDY BRIGGS, SPPAC
DAVID VINCENT, SPPAC
JOHN WILSON, SPPAC

PUBLIC: JOHN MILNE, FRIENDS OF STRATHCONA
PETER ROTHERMEL, BC FEDERATION OF MTN. CLUBS
JIM FIDDICK
KEN RODONETS, COMOX DISTRICT MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

GUESTS:

ABSENT: ROD WIEBE, SPPAC
RICK ROLLINS, SPPAC

CHAIR: ANNE FIDDICK, SPPAC

SECRETARY: SUSAN HUGHES

1. Opening Remarks – Anne Fiddick

Introduction of SPPAC members and public attendees.

2. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

Naming of falls

3. Review Previous Minutes

October 26, 2004 – No comments on previous minutes.

3.1 Boliden Name Change

Ron stated that Boliden was taken over by North Vancouver Island (NVI) mines. Legally, a name change is required and Ron said that an amendment to the permit was being pursued to reflect the name change.

David Vincent asked who picks up the cost of this legality?

Ron stated that BC Parks makes this change – there is no cost.

Ron further stated that the Park legal name is Strathcona Westmin. To change the name, there would have to be an OIC and the change would need to go through the legislature.

Warrick expressed concern over the naming of the Strathcona Park site, and asked if we should be “downplaying” the name change of the mine.

Frank inquired if the name is going to be changed to Breakwater Resources, or will it be NVI?

Ron confirmed that the name is likely to be NVI.

Paul stated that this is one unit - a legal entity. Breakwater Resources is an umbrella operation over all these other units.

Warrick stated that this is a good time to take the commercial name out **the park**.

Paul said that it might be more confusing if you were to label it Strathcona "B". The concern is to make it different - to have a clearly defined name, not just "A" or "B".

Gary Schaan said that this is a difficult discussion with other alternatives that should be considered.

The Committee agreed there needs to be more information given on this name change.

Ron said the name change would first have to be agreed upon, then go thru an Order-in-Council (OIC) process, and then be officially changed during a sitting of the legislature. He further stated that this process cannot happen overnight.

Anne stated that to move this through the legislature may be difficult, if it is not carefully thought out. She recommended that SPPAC needs to consider all the options and be in firm agreement on this name issue.

Warrick suggested that this matter be moved to the next SPPAC meeting for further discussion.

ACTION – bring forward at next meeting.

3.2 Paradise Meadows Trailhead

Ron mentioned that there are two issues for discussion: the trail update and the Parking issue.

Trailhead update: Ron stated that a couple of months ago, Ted Foster, a director of Mount Washington met with Andy Smith regarding a donation from Len Rossiter. Len had indicated a willingness to donate money to Strathcona Park for ongoing projects. Ted discussed the possibility of the money being donated towards the new trailhead and connector trail, which Len had apparently agreed to. Unfortunately, Len Rossiter passed away and his will was not changed.

Ron stated, however, that Ted Foster and at least one other Mount Washington director, who are both Rotary members, were donating funding of their own to match what Len had originally discussed. The Rotary club of Campbell River is now actively fundraising other organizations for funding to build the trail. If a third party holds the money, BC Parks will not have to go through a contracted process. There would be a standards agreement signed off with the Rotary Club and they would spend the money on the trail as per the trail plan.

BC Parks would still be in charge of this project, but the Rotary Club would fund the project and build the trailhead and connector trail.

Ron further stated that a contractor did a site design plan a few years ago and the estimated cost to complete the work would be \$220,000.

Paul asked if someone donates money to the Park, what percentage of actual funds go towards the project?

It was stated that donation accounts are set up and can span fiscal years. They are set up within the BC Parks bank account and funds do not go to general revenue.

Anne further stated that 100% of the funds goes into the project.

Ron said that the money brought in goes to the Rotary Club and not to BC Parks.

Ron reviewed the Rotary fundraising document, which was handed out to members. He stated that the news is encouraging and that there is forward movement.

Warrick asked why there is no money for this project provided directly from government.

BC Parks has requested funding through the capital program but this project has not been able to receive funding yet because of other regional priorities.

3.3 Timberwest Tlools Creek

Ron informed the Committee that he received a phone call from Rod Visser, regarding a phone call he received from Brian Gunn of Strathcona Park Lodge. Brian expressed concern that the Tlools Creek land exchange was not proceeding.

Ron said that everything is still on track and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed with Timberwest. Timber and land evaluations are now complete and negotiations are ongoing.

Ron mentioned also that Parks is working with the Ministry of Forests on a corporate level regarding this issue.

Gary inquired about where negotiations are at currently. He asked at what point should we be in a position to make a comment on this process once again?

Ron said that a piece of upper elevation timber is being exchanged for lower elevation timber, and a deal is still being negotiated. Ron said that at this point, government has this issue on the table and will try to work out a land trade/purchase arrangement. If the parameters are to change, Ron stated that this issue would come back for consultation to Parks

Gary mentioned that if things change, it would be very important that SPPAC be consulted and it should be presented for serious discussion.

Ron agreed that this is very important and will make sure that this happens.

3.4 Wood Mountain Update

Ron provided an update on Wood Mountain. He stated that government might be willing to de-Park Wood Mountain. An agreement on the piece of land would ensure long-term access to Strathcona Park is maintained.

Ron further stated that Wood Mountain still has a number of liability issues: chairlift, contaminated soil, etc.

Gary mentioned that there is also a problem with vehicles getting into the area past the gate.

Ken Rodonets mentioned that there are some cement blocks in place to stop people from entering the area, but others are getting past those barriers. He noted that he has seen 4x4 vehicles up in the area, bonfires being burned, etc.

Ron agreed and stated that, for safety and security reasons, there should be no means of entry.

Frank said there are some members of the Cumberland Chamber of Commerce interested in Wood Mountain. They want to know what is going on in terms of development connected with that area.

Gary mentioned that one of the gates has been ripped open and at the moment, anyone can access Wood Mountain.

ACTION: recommend to Parks that some investigation and action be taken to see access can be restricted primarily for 4x4 vehicles in this area.

3.5 Plaques

Ron said that BC Parks was going to send a letter out to people connected to illegally placed plaques in the park; however, that action has not yet been taken.

Ron informed the members that Warrick had sent him an e-mail on the matter of removing the plaques from the Park. Ron then provided members with a copy on an e-mail from Sandy Briggs. The e-mail states what position SPPAC is taking on the issue of plaques in the Park. It is hoped that once this information gets out, perhaps people will think twice about putting up plaques without permission in Strathcona Park.

Committee members read the e-mail.

(Peter Rothermel joined the meeting).

Gary stated that the local Rotary Club is a perfect organization to make plaques and post at a distinct location in the park (eg. Visitor center). If plaques were required to be made through Rotary, it may deter people from posting plaques indiscriminately in the Park.

Anne asked Sandy if it is possible to pass his e-mail on to Ruth Masters.

Sandy agreed that this e-mail could be passed on to Ruth Masters.

Anne stated that she likes Gary's idea- doing something positive and providing an idea, such as using the Rotary Club to make plaques.

Ron stated that BC Parks has received an official inquiry regarding the naming of "Doran Falls," a small falls in the Lower Bedwell.

John Milne stated that Stan Doran passed away, and Ruth Masters got on to his name at his funeral and wanted it memorialized on a feature.

Ron said that there is nothing wrong with naming features, that it is a legitimate process through the Geographic Names Branch within the Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management. However, due to previous discussions on this issue, the naming of the feature is being brought to the SPPAC table for information and discussion.

Warrick would like to see all plaques taken out of the Park this year

John Wilson said he has no objection with naming features in the Park. However, he further stated that you cannot tell people that you will just store their plaques if removed from their current locations. He stated that he really does not see how these could be removed this year.

Anne said the point is that SPPAC has made its position clear on plaques. Taking them out now or not is really the issue that has come to the table.

Gary asked if we could write to the Rotary Club to see if they could work on this issue for the Committee. The idea would be to work with them on a standard design and encourage raising funds for this.

Frank asked about official government plaques in the Park.

Ron stated that many plaques are legitimate in certain locations, including government plaques. Ron further mentioned that plaques in the last few years that have been put up by people are the problem, especially in wilderness conservation zones. Plaques in wilderness conservation zones are not legitimate.

Ron agreed with John that there should be a time limit established and a viable alternative available prior to removing these plaques.

ACTION: That SPPAC recommend a letter be sent to Dick Heath to ask Rotary to assist in developing a plaque wall for contributors to the park. These plaques could be placed at entrances to the Park and at the proposed Paradise Meadows Visitor Info Centre (located on land outside the park). Individuals or organizations that have an interest in establishing a plaque in the Park should be informed that there are appropriate places set for these.

Paul asked if it is SPPAC that determines what is deemed an appropriate plaque and what is not.

Ron said SPPAC could work with Rotary in establishing guidelines as to what type of plaques are acceptable (for the location outside the park). BC Parks has policy standards and guidelines on plaques and memorial markers, which were distributed at the last SPPAC meeting.

David said that the Committee needs to establish the concept to work on plaques first.

It was suggested that in the letter to Dick, it could be asked if Rotary would have an opportunity to fundraise on this initiative.

Anne said that SPPAC can recommend initiatives, but does not need to write directly to the Minister on this issue. She further stated that this needs to go through Ron and through the appropriate channels.

Warrick stated that he would like to see SPPAC make it known that we do not like plaques going into Park, and to have SPPAC put through a recommendation on this matter.

Dave said that there needs to be an alternative; a frontal approach has simply not worked in 12 years on this issue.

3.6 Group Campground-Croteau

Ron mentioned that a Group Campground at Croteau would be a very useful additional facility, especially for large groups going up into that area. At the present time, there are only three campgrounds in the core area of Forbidden Plateau and there is a problem of overcrowding, particularly when large groups take over one of the regular campsites. The area around Croteau Lake is heavily impacted from previous uses and Parks is not looking at rehab of this area in the near future. Ron further noted that Parks supports this idea and it could be as simple as putting in an outhouse.

Anne agreed that this could be a good idea for this area.

Ron said that many groups are looking for camping opportunities. Many of these groups are not looking to climb Albert Edward, but are just looking for a base for day hikes. Croteau is well suited for this. No work has been completed on this project yet – it is just in the idea stage.

Paul expressed his concern that this may create even more use on Forbidden Plateau.

Ron said a group site might lessen the impacts, as it would concentrate the groups in one area, lessen the impacts at the regular campsites, and spread the use over more areas of the Plateau.

Sandy asked about the Environment Management Plan (Ecosystem Management Plan).

Ron said that Parks is hoping to get funding to start on the Plan this summer.

Anne agreed that the committee could support BC Parks to look into the Group Campground further and see if it is a worthwhile venture.

Ron said the maintenance costs might be covered by the backcountry facility operator .

3.7 Crest Creek Planning Group

Ron stated that BC Parks would like to get the Crest Creek Planning Group up and running again. This was a successful committee looking at the development of the Crest Creek Crags Climbing area. Sandy Briggs has agreed to sit on the committee representing SPPAC interests.

Anne asked if BC Hydro is involved in this.

Ron said they are and were before. Ron further said that he will invite a BC Hydro representative to participate on the planning group.

3.8 Homasun Lake Trail

Ron mentioned that BC Parks staff investigated the information regarding trail building and creek crossings in the Homasun Lake area. The cable car crossing had been removed and they met a couple of people involved in the process. Ron stated that Andy now has an opportunity to discuss this and other issues with the local people involved, and he will be going to Port Alberni for a meeting with members of the Alberni Outdoor Club and others in the near future.

It was noted that there should perhaps be some re-thinking of this type of issue, since the trail has been dropped out of the Management Plan in the last review. Parks is not

pursuing any charges at this point with regards to the cable car, as no malicious intent was meant and the people involved have been cooperative and removed the structure.

Anne said that she was glad that the Port Alberni issues are coming to the forefront and higher profile of this area is a positive thing. She stated that she would like to see more interest in this side of the park.

Gary asked if a public SPPAC meeting could be held in Port Alberni to further discuss this and other types of issues, perhaps in the summer of 2005.

Anne agreed that would be a good idea. She noted that charges came close to being laid in this situation, yet nothing is happening with the problem of plaques being posted in the Park.

John Wilson said that if you open up a trail, you are inviting traffic. If you post a plaque in the wilderness, there is an obvious difference between these types of issues. Some are bigger issues than others. It should be noted that there are some imbalances in these discussions.

Warrick stated that his e-mail on plaques was related to the Homasun Trail. He feels strongly that plaques must come out and people are breaking the rules. We cannot move forward with Homasun Lake. He stated that it should be a clear decision that plaques come out of the Park and Homasun Trail is in fact not a trail, but is only a route. Access to that area should be by boat.

Gary stated that there are political sensitivities there – this is simply not a management issue. This is a more difficult situation to deal with.

Ron said that BC Parks are after compliance – the bridge was removed and Parks is trying to get people compliant with Park rules. Enforcement or laying of charges is not the end goal – the end goal is compliance and how we achieve compliance can differ in many circumstances. This is really the target and working with compliance on plaques will happen.

NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Paradise Meadows Trailhead Parking

Ron said that there was a recent incident where Hans Jorgenson's vehicle was towed from the new highway area at the old trailhead while he was in the Park. There is a serious lack of parking available at the current trailhead. There were no complaints for the 2004 summer season, but now several complaints have been received.

Ron stated that there was a parking situation that did occur. A Ministry of Transportation and Highways contractor put up no parking signs around the old trailhead. The Ministry

did not want people to park there due to snow clearing considerations. Hans Jorgensen parked there and when he came back, he discovered that his vehicle had been towed.

Ron mentioned that apparently Hans stated that he did not see any signs and disputed the towing. He did get his money back for the tow and an apology from the contractor. There was concern expressed that there no longer is any trailhead parking. Some people are offended by having to park at Raven Lodge and walk back to the trailhead.

Ron handed out a recent letter to the editor to SPPAC members from Ruth Masters regarding the parking situation. She stated that BC Parks should not partner with that Mt. Washington and should look at a BC Parks controlled parking lot instead.

Ruth said there might be an area available just south of the old trailhead. Ron mentioned that he and Andy looked at that area and the road is too far away from the existing trail. They have looked at other parking options, and nothing reasonable has been found, and there is no appetite to build a parking lot within the Park.

Anne said that people are supposed to check in at the Nordic lodge if they want to park there overnight. The problem with that, is that there is potential for commercial enterprise, namely, that it forces people to walk through the lodge to say that they going to park overnight for a day or two.

Gary stated that they do "allow" overnight parking, if the public checks in first with Nordic Lodge.

Frank wondered if this is really such a big issue.

Sandy stated that there are impracticalities of having to inform people of parking regulations.

Warrick said that Hans Jorgensen inquired at Mt. Washington about parking. Mt. Washington told him it would cost him \$8/night to park there. Another bigger deal is accessing the park from the Raven Parking Lot. You cannot ski on the Mt. Washington trails without a trail pass and the access to the Park from the parking area is used as a snow dump, making skiing extremely difficult.

There is a need to look at not only parking, but also access for backcountry skiers from the parking lot. Snow is being dumped there from the whole parking lot and makes access to the trailhead near impossible.

Ron said that Parks has never had a parking lot for winter or summer users and winter overnight parking has always been an issue due to snow removal. Access for backcountry skiers is not much different than before, although a slight increase in the distance may be involved.

Gary said that parking lots are cleared by Mt. Washington. There is road access and there is trail access for backcountry skiers.

Warrick said that a letter from the Ministry of Transportation and Highway was sent to Hans and the letter said that vehicles that do park anywhere on the highway where they clear snow, will get towed.

Ken stated that maybe Parks should come to some agreement with Mt. Washington about parking at the Hawk lot. That lot is not being used right now and perhaps a letter could be drafted to that effect.

Ron said that Parks has discussed this option with Mt. Washington, but any parking decision at the Hawk is up to Mount Washington as it is their private land.

Warrick said this summer they will allow parking on the road anyway, so additional Hawk parking may not be needed.

Gary further stated that people who park overnight may be expected to pay an overnight charge to stay in the parking lot.

David recommended that there should be a designated area for skiers and another area for overnight campers and that may resolve this problem.

Jim Fiddick asked if this is a safety issue as well - that of checking in once you come to the area -- who has gone out and who has not come back.

Ron stated that there is a voluntary check-in with the RCMP, but Mt. Washington does not have to do this type of check-in. It is not a legal requirement for them to do that.

ACTION: recommend that Parks negotiate with Mt. Washington to designate an overnight area for winter parking. Make clear access for groups parking overnight and those who park for day use only.

4.2 Strathcona Wilderness Institute Support

John Milne presented a letter on behalf of Steve Smith of the Strathcona Wilderness Institute. The letter stated that the Wilderness Institute has asked BC Parks for funding to carry on with their park programs within Strathcona Park. The Wilderness Institute is looking for operational funds this year to run two information huts in the Park and funds for other volunteer activities.

Ron said that the Institute was given some funds, totaling \$15,000 last year. While BC Parks endorses SWI and their programs, the funding is currently not available to provide financial support.

Gary said that SPPAC should recommend that we support this and that a priority should be placed on providing funding for the Wilderness Institute.

Frank mentioned that the Institute does good work and feels too that they should be given support for whatever they request.

Ron said that the Institute should also be approaching the Rotary Club in regards to the proposed Visitor Center at the Paradise Meadows Trailhead.

Gary said that would be a very good idea -- recommend that the Rotary Club work immediately with the Wilderness Institute.

ACTION: that SPPAC recommend support be given to the Strathcona Wilderness Institute for activities and funding if available, and the Rotary Club and Info Centre be linked to their activities and support be given to both.

4.3 Potential Resort Development in Strathcona

Anne said that she heard an interview on CBC with Patty Sahota, Minister of State - Resort Development.

Ron said that Patty Sahota and the Resort Development Ministry is not connected to Parks - it is Crown Lands outside of Parks.

It was noted that the Park Act Legislation was changed to allow for potential lodge development in parks about two years ago. Also, it reflects that there are a number of lodges already in parks. The resort process is on going and there is some interest within BC Parks on this issue, but nothing yet has been followed through on and nothing has been endorsed. In the Parks Management Plan, there are two opportunities identified for lodges or cabins. These are in the general vicinity of Buttle Narrows and also a skiers cabin is identified for Circlet Lake.

4.4 Strathcona Website

Warrick brought up the fact that the website for Strathcona was not up-to-date and did not include all the information it should. This issue is related to parking at the Paradise Meadows trailhead and how the website should have more accurate information on where a person can park. A local had his car towed while he was in the park for the day and the incident has been very upsetting to all parties involved.

He further stated that the reason why the Strathcona website should be looked at is that there is a paragraph about the new road in place, but not enough information about the new entrance. If that information were there, perhaps this situation would have never happened.

Warrick asked SPPAC members if the website could be worked on; people do not know what is happening within the Park. He suggested that the website be expanded to cover the goings-on in the Park, so the public has a heads-up on what is happening ahead of time.

Ron said that Parks runs the website - webmaster is located in Victoria. Andy does the updates. Ron did not disagree with Warrick.

Ron suggested posting a link to SPPAC minutes and the minutes could be posted on the website. He stated that the majority of issues are discussed at SPPAC meetings with members and a link could be established to that for public information.

Once Anne has approved the minutes, they get sent to a mailing list and that could be posted on the website.

Gary stated that a newsletter would be better, as it is more filtered information, rather than minutes.

David said that BC Parks has lost all capacity to manage information and that is the key point. Putting on the website is not what is really needed. Parks need to communicate with the public on a real time basis.

Anne agreed and said that Parks needs staff to deal with issues like this, rather than behind a website. She asked about posting a link to a SPPAC page on the Strathcona Park website.

Dave made the recommendation that Parks fund proper communication in the way of getting more staff to answer these issues.

Anne said that lack of communication with the public and parking lot issues at Paradise Meadows is one of many issues that arise and the situation is worse because of poor communication with the public. These can cause potential safety issues.

Warrick said we need to get serious with these issues with the Minister.

Ron agrees but said that there are monetary issues and the resources are just not there.

Warrick said that we could take the SPPAC minutes and get the Friends of Strathcona Park to put information in their newsletter.

Ron said that this is happening – the Friends are on the mailing list already and have this information available to them.

Gary said that the minutes posted on the website are a good idea, but the minutes should be adopted for approval before linking on the website. However, he stated concerns over just how many readers there would be of the minutes.

Ron said that if there is critical information, it does get on the website; however, resources are very limited.

Anne said that when she and Ron are finished with the minutes, they get e-mailed to SPPAC members and have a specific cut-off time for feedback.

Ron suggested that a firm time period be established for members to approve draft minutes - two weeks.

Anne asked for agreement on the two-week time limit to approve minutes.

The members agreed.

ACTION: SPPAC recommend that posting a link for the Strathcona Park Public Advisory Committee be set up. The link would have all the finalized minutes and terms of reference of the committee.

4.5 Expenses

Ron stated that he is doing the upcoming budget for SPPAC, and is looking at how much it will cost to run SPPAC for the following year. He handed out expense forms to members and asked that they get in their expenses for this fiscal, or risk not receiving reimbursement.

5.0 Park Update

Ron stated that government has announced 25 new seasonal Park Ranger positions for the province; however, he is not sure what, if any, resources Strathcona Park will get.

Government announced the Youth Initiative -- funding will be \$3 million per year over three years for conservation projects. BC Parks on Vancouver Island has made five proposals one of which is a crew to do work in Strathcona Park. Ron stated the Strathcona proposal includes conservation inventory, backcountry tourism and compliance and enforcement issues.

Work is continuing on the Elk Enhancement Program and the NVI Mines operations.

The road at the trailhead of Price Creek flooded and washed out the culvert. Road access was decommissioned and the culvert has not been replaced and road up Price Creek has

not been replaced. Ron stated that the culvert before the gate has washed out regularly in the past and NVI are no longer interested in maintaining road access.

Terrain analysis study has been completed by NVI on the area above the waste pit and the final report will be forwarded to SPPAC.

Gavin Durom of NVI has taken a new position with the federal government in Vancouver and will be leaving NVI in March. Gavin has been a pleasure to work with for many years at the mine and will be missed.

Survivor Canada – still working on the Crown Council report. Crown will decide what further steps to take in regards to this situation. Ron stated that BC Parks has a three-year window to pursue charges.

Ron handed out a copy of a letter to SPPAC members from The Back Country Horsemen Society of British Columbia. Letter is in reference to Strathcona Park – Master Plan designated areas for horse use. Andy has had discussions with the group and they may follow up at a later date.

Ron said that he will also send out project lists to all SPPAC members to review to establish the important projects for the year ahead.

Public Question Period

Peter Rothermel asked about plaques in the Park. Can existing plaques be grand fathered in and therefore cannot be asked for removal? If people cannot fly in to remote areas to remove plaques, how will they get it out?

Peter mentioned that the access to Comox Glacier is slated to be logged by Timberwest. He wondered if Parks could approach Timberwest and do some similar work that he had success with Weyerhaeuser on. This is in regards to protecting the access trail up Mount Arrowsmith on their private land. It was asked if SPPAC could write a letter on this issue.

The corporate attitude of the two companies (Weyerhaeuser and Timberwest) seems very far apart.

Anne confirmed that SPPAC is an advisory committee and does not write letters to outside groups or companies. She did state however, that SPPAC can make a recommendation to Parks and they can write the letter. SPPAC could advise that we support a letter to be written.

Gary said that it would be appropriate to have Parks write a letter on this cooperation issue and to hold up all agreements.

Ron said that discussions about the Comox Glacier area have already taken place with Timberwest. Timberwest is interested in other areas of the Park for trade, which BC Parks will not entertain. However, Ron stated that it would be good to follow up with a letter to Timberwest indicating our concerns.

Ken Rodonets mentioned that ATV's and motorcycles are a problem in the meadows area and if it continues, there will be no meadows area left. These vehicles are damaging the area and he would like to see a gate put up to keep these types of vehicles out.

ACTION: That SPPAC recommend to Parks that a letter be written to Timberwest on protecting the trail on Comox Glacier. Include a request to have a gate put up to keep out all vehicles.

Jim said that elections are coming up in May and this could be a good opportunity to talk to government candidates about the problem of jobs being cut in Environment and Parks. The loss of people getting cut from government services is critical and there is a need for more people in outlying areas than in Victoria.

Anne reaffirmed that there are not enough people answering phones for the public in Parks.

Jim also stated that the Olympics are coming in 2010 and that means there will need to be more resources in our parks and more people to look after them.

Anne would like to add to the next agenda the need for First Nation representation on SPPAC. It has been a failing effort and it is in the mandate to have such representation. Anne asked members to concentrate efforts in locating a First Nations representative from an area surrounding the Park.

Warrick also mentioned concern over fires in the Park. There needs to be a program to talk to people in getting rid of fire rings inside the park. Warrick stated that he is against fire rings and said that if hikers took out these fire rings along the trails, people are less likely to build a fire.

Peter stated that Mt. Arrowsmith has a very good chance in becoming the next provincial park and he passed around a detailed sheet outlining this information.

Meeting adjourned: 9:53 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Saturday, May 14, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. (Port Alberni)

Filename: SPPAC Minutes FINAL - FEB 05 Meeting.doc
Directory: C:\Documents and Settings\tliddico\Local Settings\Temporary Internet
Files\OLK96F
Template: C:\Documents and Settings\tliddico\Application
Data\Microsoft\Templates\Normal.dot
Title: STRATHCONA PARK PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Subject:
Author: Susan
Keywords:
Comments:
Creation Date: 01/04/2005 11:58 AM
Change Number: 6
Last Saved On: 01/04/2005 12:20 PM
Last Saved By: wgibbons
Total Editing Time: 13 Minutes
Last Printed On: 24/08/2005 1:18 PM
As of Last Complete Printing
Number of Pages: 16
Number of Words: 27,757 (approx.)
Number of Characters: 158,215 (approx.)