

Evergreen Seniors Outdoor Club

2021 Annual General Meeting

Virtual format

Thursday, April 29, 2021 at 10:00 A.M.

Agenda

1. John McLean called the meeting to order at 10:02AM
2. A quorum was established.
3. Agenda was modified to discuss the new user fee for the Kananaskis.
4. **Motion:**
Dave Ardell moved to accept the modified agenda, second by Jill Johnson, carried.
5. **Motion:**
Craig Barnstable moved to accept the Minutes of the April 11, 2019 AGM, seconded by Frank Howard, carried (3 abstain and 1 no vote).
6. **Motion:**
Hugh Powell moved to make a temporary amendment to Article 3 of the Bylaws and Policies, seconded by Barb Brunton, carried (1 member abstained).
Hugh moved that In accordance with Bylaw VII Amendments to Bylaws and Policies, Article (2), the membership ratify the following decisions that the Board made in response to COVID-19 and requirements of Alberta Health Services:
 - a. Deletion of requirement for Club to provide at least 3 activities each week (Policy V).
 - b. Deletion of the requirement that Full members must complete 12 outings in the Club year, 6 of which must be a bus outing. (Policy II.2).
 - c. Waiving annual membership renewal fee of \$20 (Policy II.5) for the club year 2021-2022.
 - d. Waiving requirement to sign the membership application for 2021 / 2022 Club Year (Policy II.4).
 - e. Increasing the club membership cap from 130 to 140 members for this year (Policy II.1).
 - f. Ratify the Board Motion to accept the mid-term resignations of Past President, President and Vice President and filling these positions with volunteers (Craig, John, and Kiyoko) who were identified previously at 2019 AGM for these positions (Bylaws III.3).
7. Reports
 - a. **Treasurer's Report** – Bob Perkins
2019 Financial Results
We have had a pretty good year so far as the finances of the club are concerned. We expected to reduce the equity of the club somewhat this year. In fact we did not reduce it but showed a marginal increase.
The balance sheet shows the equity of the club at financial year end was \$15,593.70 this represents an increase of \$718 or 4.8% over the prior year.

The balance sheet also shows we started the year with a bank balance of \$20,506 and ended the year with \$21,291 or an increase of \$785. As usual this is somewhat misleading due to entry of some items (bus costs, member fees) outside of the financial year. The change in equity more correctly shows the position of the club.

There are several items to note that affected our results this year:

1. We filled more seats on the bus than we did in the previous year. We had an average ridership of 51.7 for the current year compared to 50.00 in the prior year. This represents an increase of \$34 per trip or \$1,428 per year.
2. Our bus costs have increased compared to previous years and will continue to do so (see notes on Bus Operations)
3. Membership revenue increased due to adding new members during the year. [The detailed numbers are shown in the copies of the Balance sheet and Expense & Income report attached to this report.](#)

Summary

As usual for discussion purposes I have chosen to divide our finances into three areas, each of which we would like to be self-supporting. I am happy to report this was the case for the current year:

Bus Operations

Bus operations are by far the largest expense incurred by the Club.

In the financial year we completed 42 trips. Our total payment to bus companies was \$45,727. or an average of \$1,089 per trip (previous year \$46.658 for 44 trips, average \$1.060 per trip).

We completed our third year with Universal Coach Lines without any difficulties.

The second year of the current contract will impose a rate increase of 3%. The rate increase means the break-even point in the summer season will be 55 occupied seats. In the winter it will be 54. This assumes a bus fare of \$20 and no fuel surcharge imposed.

For the year we have managed to keep the bus fare at \$20 and it is our intention to keep the fare the same for the coming year.

Our overall loss was \$204.50 or, put another way, \$0.09 per person per trip. This loss however was offset by additional income of \$230 derived from in-town hikes. The previous year showed a gain of \$33.06 or \$0.02 per person per trip. In addition, in-town hikes contributed \$238.

The attached bus costs report reflects the actual trips made during the financial year. The number of persons shown per trip includes "no shows". It does not match the Cash Flow Summary due to the late billing/payment cycle, which affects February costs.

It is the Treasurer's recommendation we continue to charge a bus fare of \$20 (subject to the \$5 surcharge for longer trips). We will monitor progress during the year and impose an increase if and when deemed necessary.

General Expenses

Our general expenses represent all expenses of the Club excluding Bus Operations and Social Events. This includes insurance, donations, AGM expenses, Membership director's expenses, Treasurer's expenses, web site costs etc. these expenses are covered principally by our membership dues.

This year we showed a surplus of \$868 (last year a deficit of \$1,504).

Social Events

The two social events (the BBQ and the Fall Luncheon) are normally approximately self-funded. We generally make a profit from the BBQ and then make a loss at the Fall Lunch. Add the two together and we normally show a small surplus. This year

we broke even on the BBQ and had a loss of \$202 at the Christmas Function. Overall we showed a loss of \$202 (last year \$427 surplus).

Auditors

I want to express my thanks to the auditors who have managed to check the books and the year-end financial reports despite COVID restrictions.

– Hugh Powell and Betty Weightman.

Motion:

Jane Fraser moved to accept Treasurer's Report for 2019-2020, second by Cheryl Whitehead, carried

2020-2021 Financial Results

Unlike the world we have had a pretty good year so far as the finances of the club are concerned. We expected to reduce the equity of the Club somewhat this year, in fact we did not reduce it but showed an increase.

The Balance Sheet shows that the equity of the club at Financial Year End was \$17,273.60 this represents an increase of \$1,679.60 or 10.7% over the prior year. The cash flow report shows we started the year with a bank balance of \$21,291.55 and ended the year with \$16,847.60 or a decrease of \$4,443.95. As usual this is somewhat misleading due to entry of some items (bus costs, member fees) outside of the financial year. The change in equity more correctly shows the position of the club.

There are two items to note that affected our results this year:

1. We only operated 5 bus trips during the year. Three of these trips were affected by COVID so only operated at half capacity. We had an average ridership of 35.2 for the current year compared to 51.7 in the prior year.
2. Membership revenue was restricted to mostly new memberships as the Board decided there would be no requirement for membership fees to be paid for the 2021-2022 season. As membership payments are typically collected in the prior financial year it has resulted only a few renewal fees being collected during the current year.

[The detailed numbers are shown in the copies of the Balance sheet and Expense & Income report are attached to this report.](#)

Summary

As usual for discussion purposes I have chosen to divide our finances into three areas, each of which we would normally like to be self-supporting.

Bus Operations

Bus operations are usually the largest expense incurred by the Club.

In the financial year we completed 5 trips. Our total payment to bus companies was \$6,011 or an average of \$1,202 per trip (previous year \$45,727 for 42 trips, average \$1.089 per trip). The average is distorted by the fact that we used buses at half capacity during the summer.

We completed our fourth year with Universal Coach Lines without any difficulties. We renewed our contract for a further two years and this will impose a rate increase of 3% per year.

The rate increase means the break-even point in both seasons will now exceed 55 occupied seats. This reflects our intention to maintain the bus fare at \$20 (\$25 on longer trips) once normal bus operations resume. If we resume bus operations using 50% capacity we will also maintain the \$30 bus fare we used last summer. Parks Canada have also increased their daily park pass charges to \$8.40 and we currently charge \$7 to members and guests who do not have annual park passes. I do not propose to change the charge at this time as it is a minor item.

Both the bus fare and the park pass charge will have to be adjusted at some point in the future but I do not propose to recommend any changes until the amount of the Club Equity has been reduced to approximately \$10,000.

Our overall loss was \$531 or, put another way, \$2.52 per person per trip. The previous year showed a loss of \$0.09 per person per trip.

The attached bus costs report reflects the actual trips made during the financial year. The number of persons shown per trip includes "no shows". It does not match the Cash Flow Summary due to the late billing/payment cycle, which affects February costs.

General Expenses

Our general expenses represent all expenses of the Club excluding Bus Operations and Social Events. This includes insurance, donations, AGM expenses, Membership director's expenses, Treasurer's expenses, web site costs etc. these expenses are covered principally by our membership dues.

This year we showed a surplus of \$2,326 (last year a surplus of \$868).

Social Events

There were no Social Events this year, however, we do show a \$1,000 gain. This represents a refund of a deposit to Heritage Park paid in the previous financial year and returned during the current year.

Auditors

I want to express my thanks to the auditors who have managed to check the books and the year-end financial reports despite COVID-19 restrictions.

– Hugh Powell and Betty Weightman.

I would like to offer my services as Treasurer for the 2021 – 2022 year.

Motion:

Barb Brunton moved to accept Treasurer's Report for 2020-2021, seconded by Erlinda Howard, carried.

Betty Weightman indicated she is stepping down as auditor, Hugh Powell offered to continue. Craig Barnstable volunteered to be the second auditor.

Motion:

Keith Bagnall moved to appoint Hugh Powell and Craig Barnstable as auditor for the next financial report, second by Jane Fraser, carried.

Discussion:

Barb Brunton clarified the bus price would remain at \$30 per person until the COVID restrictions are lifted. Once the restrictions are lifted we will return to our \$20 bus fee.

Erlinda Howard asked when the bus fee be raised from the \$20 rate. Bob Perkins indicated the bus fee would be re-visited when our bank balance gets to \$10,000.

Jill Johnston asked how many national park passes we currently have on hand, Bob Perkins indicated we have about 50 costing about \$8 per entry.

Annette Marks asked if the new Kananaskis user fare will affect the bus fee. Bob Perkins reported the cost is about \$130 year per bus. Since this will be shared between all the clubs currently using Universal Coach Lines the cost will be negligible.

John McLean thanked Bob for being our Treasurer.

b. **Membership Director** – Johanna Voordouw

My name is Johanna Voordouw and I am the membership director since March 2020.

On March 15, 2020 our bus trips were cancelled due to COVID. To continue hiking we offered self-drive hikes for small groups on our website. Self-drive was not a good option for all.

The hiking season included 28 Thursdays from June 4th till December 3rd but it was different. Limited social interaction, distancing on the trail and at lunch time, but at least we were outside and the season had very nice weather.

There were multiple hikes for different levels offered. We had 104 trips, 1263 hikers including 123 guests. When health measures allowed, Greg McKenzie organised 3 bus trips: to Bow Lake/Helen Lake, to Moraine Rd, and to Bull Cr Hills. More than 100 people travelled on the bus. To organise all those different trips was a huge job and a dedicated group of members worked hard each week. Thank you to all. To name some leaders on those trips: Greg, Hugh, Barb, Keith, Andrea, Erlinda, Art, and John Boyd. Sorry, if I forgot someone.

The membership was capped at 130 full members when I started in March 2020 and this number quickly filled up. The board raised it to 140 full members in September 2020. Because guests could register themselves on the website, there was good interest which resulted in 17 new members. So the total tally for the membership is now 171, 133 full and 38 associate members.

We now have separate renewal and waiver forms. This year renewal was through a confirmation email or snail mail. I phoned members whom I had not heard after 3 weeks. The response was very quick. There is no \$20 membership fee this year. Signed waiver forms came via email or Canada post. If you have problems getting the form to me, please give me a shout. Please remember, the signed waiver form is required before you join us on an outing.

Lynn Whittingham reminded everyone to keep their emergency contact information current on the document included with their name tags. John McLean confirmed the importance of keeping this information current.

c. **Summer Transportation Director** – Greg McKenzie

It was March 16 2020 when we learned COVID 19 meant the cancellation of all charter bus trips for the foreseeable future. Much later in the summer charter buses were allowed to travel with significant safety protocol requirements and limited ridership. Our Club switched to self-drive hikes to the trailhead. In September COVID numbers were down enough to allow modified coach trips to resume. Coach numbers were limited to a maximum of 30. September 3, two coaches of 30 people each went to Bow Lake and Helen Lakes. On September 24, two coaches went to Moraine Lake with approximately 25 passengers on each coach. Bus fare for these trips was \$30. Fortunately, Universal Coach Lines provided us with a 30% discount such that the \$30 per person allowed us to break even. It was hoped to continue with at least monthly coach trips, but a second wave of COVID19 hit about that time and all subsequent summer trips were cancelled.

The National Park again last summer had limited parking in many venues. Our coach however, was allowed to proceed in to Moraine Lake to drop off and pick up

passengers. Procedures for summer 2021 will be even stricter for automobiles but Charter Coaches may still operate as before.

Since the Summer Transportation Director didn't have much to do, he volunteered to help the Summer Hike Director by looking after procedures for the many guests who wanted to hike with us. Each week there were typically six to 8 guests who drove out to the various trailheads to hike with us. We attracted lots of good new people, some of whom became members. It took some time to work out procedures to insure each guest signed the waiver form and gave it to us in advance. This included their Park Pass number and an Emergency contact number. We discouraged collecting waiver forms on the bus or at the trailhead to avoid risk of COVID transmission through handling paper and pen. Usually this meant finding out which Club Member had sponsored the guest, and the contacting the member to get the guest's phone number and e-mail address. We then sent a waiver form to sign and e-mail back. The signed forms were sent to the Trip Leaders so they knew the guests had a signed waiver and to them with the guest's emergency contact information. The waivers were also sent to the Membership Director. Meanwhile, Eric Leavitt did similar waiver work with any guests who didn't have a sponsor, but had found us on the website.

Charter Bus Procedures COVID-19 Protocol

1. Passenger name, address, and phone number will be shared with Universal Bus lines to facilitate later contact tracing if necessary. Information will be destroyed after 14 days.
2. By registering for the trip on-line, you are agreeing to abide by the Evergreen Club Policies and Safety procedures. Sign in sheets will not be passed around.
3. Masks to be worn throughout the time inside the bus. Masks to cover both nose and mouth. Exception is when being careful while taking a quick drink or taking mask up or down briefly between bites of a snack.
4. Two metre physical distancing to be maintained wherever possible. (Physical distancing does not apply to members of the same household). This includes while boarding and disembarking.
5. Passengers are expected to enter, exit and manage their own belongings inside and outside the bus without engaging the driver.
6. Passengers are to deposit and retrieve their own gear from the vehicle's baggage bins being very careful of physical distancing requirements. Good idea to have poles etc. labeled.
7. Passengers will occupy seats starting from the back and ending at the front. People who have motion sickness and need seats closer to the front are to advice the trip leader a few days in advance.
8. The driver is required to wear a mask and gloves when engaging passengers outside of the bus.
9. The driver must be the last person to board the bus and then the first person to disembark from the bus on arrival at the destination.
10. Passengers must use the same seat throughout the trip both going to and from the destination.

11. Passengers are to remain in their seats at all times except for the Trip Leader.
12. Bus washroom is not available except for emergency use. A washroom stop will be made on route at a visitor centre.
13. Passengers to bring their own masks, gloves (if desired), tissues, and hand sanitizer.
14. There is no trash disposal bin on the bus. Passengers to take home their own trash and dispose of it safely at home.
15. Disembarking starts from the front seats followed by the next rows in turn.
16. Nothing to be passed around on the bus which means no binders with maps, no sign in sheets, no cards nor treats etc.
17. Bus fare will be collected by the Day Leader coming down the aisle with a bag. Each passenger will place their fare in the bag. No change will be given, so please bring the exact amount (\$30 with a Park Pass, \$37 without a Park Pass). Cheques for \$30 or \$37 are welcome.
18. Bring your own radio and bear spray if you have them. Club radios not available.
19. Stay home if you are not feeling well or have any COVID-19 symptoms, or might be at risk in any other way.

A bus trip to Drumheller on May 6 is currently up on our website, 19 people have so far registered. Greg reminded us we need to be careful with the case numbers being high. Although he did recognize people may need to get out to maintain some mental health. We need 25 riders for the bus to breakeven. A second bus can be added if required. The Tyrell museum is currently closed, washrooms are currently available at Horseshoe Canyon and the Big Dinosaur visitor centre. Hugh Powell reported if you click on the May 6 outing to Drumheller the complete list of COVID protocols are there.

Once Eric Leavitt or a member has registered a guest, the guest is required to complete a waiver form and send it to either Greg McKenzie or Johanna Voordouw. The park pass number and emergency contact information is also required for the trip leader.

Parks Canada currently does not allow for parking at both Lake Louise and Moraine Lake, buses are however allowed.

There has been no changes for Universal's capacity rules due to current high COVID numbers, our current 30 passengers rule is below the provincial requirements. Both Universal and the [club](#) have procedures to protect all passengers.

Erlinda Howard asked if there is a vaccination requirement to ride the bus. Greg indicated there is no vaccination requirement.

John McLean reiterated the [protocols](#) established last year will continue this year.. Tyrell museum is currently closed, but horseshow has bathrooms and the visitor center also has washrooms.

d. **Summer Hiking Director** – Barb Brunton

A full schedule of 2020 summer bus trips was developed with the help of a team of experienced hike leaders by March, 2020...then COVID hit us! Trips were temporarily suspended in April and May. When restrictions eased to allow outdoor activities, we were able to adjust course quickly and set up processes to offer

weekly self-drive car hikes in compliance with COVID regulations between June and October. We also offered some bus trips in September and October. Winter activities began in November, under Hugh Powell's direction.

For the 2020 summer hiking season 79 outings (76 self-drive and 3 bus trips) were enjoyed by our members for 22 weeks June 4 – Oct 29. An average of 53 members and guests enjoyed these hikes each week.

Bus and self-drive car trips will resume May 6th, you can sign up for the self-drive a week ahead. The bus trips allow for a longer registration period. If more than 10 register for a self-drive hike a waitlist is developed. A second trip leader is then required and potentially to a different location depending on the size of the parking lot. As a result a number of additional hike leaders may be required so please contact Barb Brunton if you are prepared to lead a hike.

Kyra Fisher asked since Alberta has raised the alert why is the club offering outings and why is the bus still allowed. Barb Brunton responded Alberta has not changed the rules since last year and people make their own decision, which is why we have self-drive option.

Cheryl Campbell asked can two self-drive groups go to the same destination or do we need a separate destination required. Barb Brunton responded there is a potential problem with the size of the parking lots so we would likely offer a different destination. Barb also reminded us about the need to be careful about people getting together in the parking lot. Two groups in one destination may look like we have groups larger than 10.

Cheryl Campbell reminded us you should wear a mask if you can't maintain 2 meter distance. Barb confirmed we recommend members to carry a mask and she will add this information to the self-drive trips.

John said the club is grateful for all the work Barb puts into planning summer activities.

e. **Winter Activities Director – Hugh Powell**

Typically the winter season is from 01 November to the AGM in April of the next year. This year as you know, we've been impacted by COVID-19 and regulations established by the Alberta Government and AHS. I began to organize the winter activities in a similar manner to the summer activities which basically meant U-Drive car trips to the trail heads. Based on information provided by members, I posted trips. We had one bus trip 29 Oct 2020 to Grass Pass which was effectively the last Summer Trip.

We offered a bus trip to Lake Louise on 26 November but due to insufficient members signing up, this was cancelled. We had 'official' trips as advertised on the web on 8 and 10 December. Acting on a proposal by Andrea Zahn, we organized an unofficial overnight club trip to Lake Louise for 8-10 December inclusive. We had approximately 17 people sign up for cross-country skiing or snowshoeing. Individuals were responsible to make their own hotel reservations, meals and getting themselves to and from Lake Louise. On the afternoon of 8 December, the Alberta Government announced new regulations which effectively shut down the restaurants at the end of that week.

Then the club cancelled official trips as of 13 December 2020. This made it much easier for me as the winter activities director to have all official trips cancelled. Individuals then organized their own trips via personal email and phone calls. Using emails, I started organizing what I called A/B1 hiking or snowshoe trips for each Thursday. After 28 January 2021, we split this group into an A group with Sam Cooper and Andrea Zahn as contacts and I continued with the A or B1 group. I developed a mailing list and managed to go out every Thursday with varied groups of up to 10 people. The AHS regulations allowed a maximum of 10 people to physically exercise together outside provided they maintained 2 metre spacing or wore a mask. We attempted to abide by the regulations. Greg McKenzie organized the trips for cross-country skiers, sending out emails Sunday & Tuesday as there is an overlap with the Calgary Seniors. Art Johnson, Anne Norberg, John Boyd and Ann Lyon organized a B2 / C group who went out for City hikes, and to Banff and Kananaskis. Art said he has 13 on his mailing list. There were others getting out regularly but as there were no official trips I don't know what others were doing.

I think it is important the club offer open trips for all members and not have trips arranged just for an "in group". This will be possibly be part of the summer activities director's mandate. Dr. Deena Hinshaw and AHS clarified outdoor physical activities up to a maximum of 10 people are permitted provided they maintain the specified 2 metre separation or wear masks if this isn't possible. Groups of 4 plus are safer for participants and I've been on trips this winter and heard reports of recent trips where people have had relatively minor incidents that required minor first aid and attention administered by other group members. Possibly we've been lucky that none I know of have required outside assistance.

Hugh did ask participants to wear a mask if 2 meters distancing was not possible. He indicated we always try to adhere to Alberta health regulations. There is however a concern with people socializing in the parking lot. It is possible to organize two trips in one parking lot according to Hugh. Hugh volunteered to be winter director next year and hopes things will be normal by then.

f. **Website Director** – Eric Leavitt

The web site has been functioning normally with no problems to report. If they haven't done so recently everyone is encouraged to try logging into the site to confirm they remember their username and password. If anyone encounters any problems in accessing or using the site please contact Eric Leavitt at ericduaneleavitt@gmail.com or 403-701-1796.

Eric Leavitt reported that guests cannot register for a hike on our Website. People use the contact page which is sent to Eric Leavitt, he then registers them for the outing. A waiver is then sent along with a request for park pass and emergency contact information.

Peter Kubika asked how long the waiver is good for. Eric Leavitt indicated the waiver form has been revised, if you have not completed the new waiver, it should be completed and sent to Johanna. Voordouw.

Mary Jane Kilpatrick asked if it was valuable for the club to keep track of people who have been vaccinated. Eric Leavitt indicated this is difficult to maintain on the website. John McLean responded it may make people more comfortable but the reality is it is a personal decision to get the vaccine and should not be posted on the website. If you are not vaccinated you are the one at risk.

Barb Brunton indicated the club does not have the right to collect and store that information. Governments are struggling with whether vaccination passport is appropriate. Although it would be nice to know, we as a club we record that information and share it.

Cheryl Campbell commented although a person is vaccinated, that person can potentially still spread the infection.

John reminded us we need to keep up with all protocols as we can spread the infection after being vaccinated.

g. **Social Director - Stefa Fassina**

Assuming the COVID restrictions are lifted we will hold our summer BBQ on Thursday July 15, 2021. The cost will likely be \$27 for members and \$30 for guests. The menu will be BBQ chicken breast complete with baked potato, Caesar salad, baked beans, rolls, pie and ice cream.

The fall luncheon will be held at the Glenmore Inn on November 25, 2021. It will be a buffet style function.

h. **Summer In-town Hikes – Carol Morris**

2019-2020

In-town hikes were planned for weeks when the bus returned after 6pm. The summer of 2019, was an experiment to hold some in-town hikes on a Tuesday instead of the usual Thursday hikes. There were 7 In-town hikes, with 4 on Thursdays and 3 on Tuesdays. 20 to 30 people participated in each Hike. A \$2/person donation was again collected with \$238.25 donated to the Club.

2020-2021

The Covid-19 summer!!! I helped to organize one in-town hike. I did not feel comfortable leading in-town hikes with the seemingly ever changing health rules. Pathways were congested, parking areas overflowing. I was unsure of less busy locations. It did not seem prudent to organize members to further congest already congested areas. Eventually Individuals who were more familiar with locations/parking, etc. organized hikes abiding by Alberta Health rules. Some were offered on the our website and later in smaller informal cohort groups maintaining social distancing and the Alberta Health suggested regulations at those times. There were suggestions of just posting weekly hike locations as other clubs had done. I did not feel comfortable encouraging people to gather when it was not known who or how many might show up when the Club was keeping track of member's names, dates and hikes to assist in contact tracing if anyone should become COVID-19 positive.

As I live outside of Calgary and am not currently actively walking within Calgary city limits, I have chosen to resign my position and encourage someone within Calgary to take over. The Board is a great group to work with and everyone respects and values everyone's input. It has been a pleasure to work with all of you.

John McLean agreed parks in Calgary have been very busy, thanks for your work.

i. **Newsletter Editor – Joan McLean**

The newsletter schedule has remained the same in the past year even though events have been modified. Thank you to all members who have contributed photos and stories. Many have become part of the newsletter. Photos and items can be sent to joanmcl@shaw.ca for the post Annual General Meeting edition.

Four people receive their newsletter via snail mail, with the majority accessing it from our website.

j. **Phone Coordinator – Elsie Boutillier**

At present, there four members that require phone contact because they do not have computers, Jo Bands, Lucie Baradoy, Rob Cormack and Maria Melnychuk. All four are not able to actively participate in winter club activities for medical reasons. They will reassess their capabilities once summer hiking resumes and pandemic restrictions affecting club activities are lifted. I continue to update them with email notifications when they are sent out. They appreciate receiving ESOC Newsletters by mail to keep them connected. I am happy to continue as Phone Coordinator with the new executive.

k. **Sunshine Person – Sheila Perkins**

Since we have not been on the trails I may not have heard of all illnesses, so sorry if I missed you. 13 get well cards have been sent over the last two years. I hope this is because everyone is doing well.

Sad to report several condolence cards have been sent in response to the following losses:

Members	Former Members	Spouses of Members
Jan Heath to cancer	Marie Purvis*	Bill Davitt*
MJ Butala to cancer	Roger Banderk*	Diane MacCallum
Judy Rarog to cancer		Bob Hanwell*
Bill Laidlaw		Al Millar

* indicates a card was sent to these former members as they had been very long term members and were well known in the club.

Sheila will continue as Sunshine girl (unless someone would like to take over) until next year. Hopefully she can recruit a replacement. Please stay COVID free and healthy.

John McLean thanks Sheila for her efforts.

l. **President 's Report – John McLean**

Well, it definitely goes without saying, this has been a remarkable year in the life of our club! As the year began, we were just becoming familiar with the idea the Covid-19 pandemic was not going to make life easy for us. We hunkered down in our homes for the first while, not knowing what the future held or how this was going to play out. On our last organized bus trip, newly established protocols seemed very foreign to us and no one really knew what was necessary and whether we were doing enough or too little to make things safe for all. Looking back, it seems we were naïve to a degree about what we should do to protect ourselves and others. We demonstrated this very well as we rode in a full bus

(March 12) with no face masks and only minimal precautions, one day after the World Health Organization declared a global pandemic!

We have learned a great deal since then and have adjusted our behaviours in ways we once would have thought impossible. The resilience of our organization through these difficult times is a combined effort of all members and it is something to be recognized and celebrated!

Last summer, after the initial lockdown period, we were able to organize ourselves and adapt in order to safely continue hiking on Thursdays. Multiple hikes in multiple locations with members driving themselves to the trailheads became the norm and proved to be a great success. It is of course, very unfortunate not all members were able to take part in these organized activities and we all missed their company on the trails. A protocol with Universal, our bus provider, was also developed which made it possible to run several bus trips with limited capacity, strict masking rules, and sanitation practices which allowed a few of our members another avenue to participate in activities.

Although we did not run any bus trips in the winter months, self-drive day trips as in the summer, became the norm and were well attended. One multi-day trip to Lake Louise was organized in early December and a small number of members took part.

As numbers in ICU's continued to rise and more restrictions were imposed in the "second wave" the board made the difficult decision to suspend all organized and sanctioned club activities temporarily, as of December 17, 2020. A decision was to be made in four weeks as to whether or not we should extend this time frame which we did.

Having said that, it is now spring and many of us have had our first vaccine and a number have also had their second dose. This gives us hope for renewing our organized events through the website and in fact, the board has decided to move in that direction early in May.

In summary, I would like to thank all the members of the board who have contributed so much this past year and who have shown such dedication to keeping us strong and active through this difficult time. Also, a big thank you goes out to all the volunteers who agreed to lead day trips and those who took on other responsibilities. As always is the case in an organization such as ours, we rely on everyone to do their part and we always pull through!

It has been an honour to have the opportunity to take on the role of president. It has been a particular challenge this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Suspending club activities for so many months was definitely not an ideal situation, but the board made these decisions together after much discussion and I believe they were the right decisions for the times we are living through. Our new club president, Kiyoko Miyanishi, and the board will also be faced with challenges as we move forward. It is my hope that we will be able to get through this time, possibly even stronger than ever.

8. Appreciation for those stepping down
Carol Morris
Craig Barnstable

9. Call for Nominations for Board of Directors and Volunteers 2021-2022

Nominees:

John McLean - Past President
Kiyoko Miyanishi – President
Peter Kubica – Vice-President
Bob Perkins – Treasurer
Stefa Fassina – Secretary
Johanna Voordouw – Membership
Eric Leavitt – Website Director
Hugh Powell – Winter Activities Director
Barb Brunton – Summer Hike Director
Greg McKenzie – Summer Transportation Director
Gary Kerr – Winter Transportation Director
Stefa Fassina – Social Director
Jennifer Aikenhead – Co-Social Coordinator
Joan McLean – Newsletter Coordinator
Sheila Perkins – Sunshine Person
Elsie Boutillier – Phone Coordinator
No additional nominees

Motion:

Mike Gervais moved to accept the officers as listed above, seconded by John Mclean second, carried.

Barb Brunton anyone interested in leading a in-town hike can add it to the website. She also suggested this position could be shared by a couple of volunteers.

10. John McLean thanked the volunteers and board members. He appreciated their cooperative work effort and the enthusiasm.
11. New Business
Kyra Fisher asked if the \$90 Kananaskis fee could be shared by two individuals since two vehicles can be registered. John McLean reported the \$90 fee per year is for one person or household and allows them to register two vehicles. Craig Barnstable reported the two vehicle rule cover people with trailers.

Frank Howard asked if there is a need for the club to have so much money, he is unsure why we would have so much. Frank would like to see some funds go to subsidize the social activities. Stefa Fassina agreed. Greg McKenzie confirmed the ski lessons were not subsidized by the club. John McLean suggested this is something the new board should possibly consider. Cheryl Campbell indicated while she was the social director the summer BBQ made money which partially subsidized the fall luncheon. The club did authorize a fall luncheon subsidy of \$5 per member which was not fully utilized. Cheryl Campbell does support a subsidy to social activities if it does not put the club at risk. Gary Kerr reported for the time he has been on the board he has promoted reducing our bank balance while providing members the opportunity to have the benefit. Gary believes most activities should be self-funded. Carol Morris reported when she joined in 2007 the club's account barely had sufficient fund to keep going and the social aspect was stronger in the past. Before having a website, the club members phoned other members to setup outings. She agreed with subsidizing social events.

Kyoko, thanked John McLean and the board for getting us through difficult time. She is happy we have settled into a new normal.

12. Meeting adjourned at 12:00



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