

Evergreen Seniors Outdoor Club

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, April 6th, 2023

12:30 pm at Rosemont Community Association



Peter Kubica called the meeting to order at 12:31 pm. Quorum was confirmed as ninety-three members were in attendance.

The agenda was reviewed; Hugh Powell moved to accept the agenda, seconded by Jane Fraser. **Carried**

The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting on April 14, 2022 were reviewed. Approval of the minutes was moved by Tom Gibbs, seconded by Carol Morris. **Carried**

Business Arising From the 2022 AGM:

- ESOC now has 14 working two-way radios.
- Day Leader Guidelines have been updated and are posted on the website.

Motions tabled during the 2022-2023 Board Meetings

Motion: Bylaw VII. Amendments to Bylaws and Policies, Article (2) states: Any changes to Club Policies by the Board during the year shall be presented for ratification by the membership at the Annual General Meeting. In accordance with this policy Sharon Hanwell moves that the following decisions, made over the course of the 2022-2023 year, be ratified by the ESOC membership:

- ESOC will continue to have 150 full members.
- We will request a voluntary \$10.00 contribution from every person who comes to events via self-driving rather than on the bus.
- Rescind the motion: In the case of a Covid positive case everyone on the bus and the bus company will be notified. Secondly, the next week's bus would be cancelled and thirdly everyone in the club will be notified.
- In the case of a Covid positive case, the member with Covid (or designate) will contact the Bus Coordinator or President. The member will be asked if his/her name can be shared with all ESOC members. The Bus Coordinator or President will send an email to all ESOC members with the pertinent information. Board members will be consulted if there are extenuating circumstances to determine if further actions are necessary.
- The minimum number of passengers for a bus trip will be 35, effective January 12, 2023.
- The bus fare be increased to \$25.00, effective January 12, 2023.

- We will remove the requirement that members provide proof of vaccination in order to attend ESOC events, effective January 12, 2023.
- The revised ESOC Handbook and ESOC Policies will be accepted and posted on the website.
- Mask wearing will be optional on the bus and at ESOC events effective April 13, 2023.

Seconded by Gerrit Voordouw.

Discussion: Do we need to add more than 150 full members in order to meet our costs? Our bus attendance was down in early 2022 as Covid issues were still quite significant and some members were cautious about riding the bus. We have now raised the bus fee and more people are riding the bus which means we are regularly breaking even. We have signed a new bus contract and more information will be shared in the Finance report.

In favour: 92; Against: 1. **Carried**

Introduction of the 2022-2023 Board and Coordinators

Jennifer	Aikenhead	Social Director
Carolyn	Ardell	Winter Transportation Director
Barb	Brunton-Johnstone	Vice President
Peter	Dankers	City Hikes Coordinator
Kyra	Fisher	Summer Hiking Director
Sharon	Hanwell	Secretary
Douglas	Kosowan	Winter Activities Director
Harold	Kroeger	Summer Transportation Director
Peter	Kubica	President
Eric	Leavitt	Website Director
Greg	McKenzie	Summer Transportation Director
Joan	McLean	Newsletter Coordinator
Kiyoko	Miyanishi	Past President
Carol	Morris	Telephone Coordinator
Bob	Perkins	Treasurer
Kim	Tidswell	Social Director
Cheryl	Whitehead	Membership Support Coordinator
Johanna	Voordouw	Membership Director

REPORTS

Bob Perkins, Treasurers Report: 1 March 2022 – 28 February 2023

Financial Results

At last year's AGM we agreed that we should further reduce the Club equity and this has been achieved.

The Balance Sheet shows that the equity of the club at Financial Year End was **\$12,551.60** this represents a **decrease of \$1,228.15 or 9.78%** from the prior year.

The Cash Flow report shows that we started the year with a bank balance of **\$17,778.80** and ended the year with **\$17,396.85** or a decrease of **\$381.95** This statement reflects all transactions during the financial year.

This year we added e-transfer capability for the members convenience. However, there is a cost involved, this past year we paid \$125 in service charges for the deposits. Because of the nature of our account, we were not able to use AutoDeposit so this has necessitated entering a password when making a payment.

Some may wonder why I asked that a standard password be used. This is because it becomes a chore for the Treasurer to process hundreds of deposits when everyone is making up their own password. This may sound like a small thing but it does make the process much faster. The reason is that an answer (even if correct) may have several different possible variations. For example, if the question was "what is the name of our club?". Possible answers could be (a) Evergreens (b)evergreens (small cap), (c) ESOC, (d) esoc, (e) Evergreen Seniors Outdoor Club etc. It is not possible to make that many guesses on each payment.

The detailed numbers are shown in the copies of the Balance sheet and Cash Flow report that are attached to this report.

Summary

As usual, for discussion purposes I have chosen to divide our finances into three areas.

Bus Operations

Bus operations are always the largest expense incurred by the Club

In the financial year we completed **43** trips with an average ridership of 48. Our total payment to bus companies was **\$45,122 or an average of \$1,049 per trip** (previous year \$21,779 for 23 trips, average \$947 per trip). The difference in cost per trip reflects the reduction in discounting applied by Universal Coach Lines due to COVID.

Our overall loss was **\$1,943** or, put another way, **\$0.94** per person per trip. The previous year showed a loss of \$2.07 per person per trip.

We completed our sixth year with Universal Coach Lines without any difficulties. Universal has continued to be flexible in pricing, offering discounts where we did not fill the bus but, as mentioned above, the discounting has been reduced.

We found it necessary to increase the bus fare to members to \$25 per trip, this was implemented with Board approval in January and has eliminated losses on subsequent trips.

This became necessary as the Club Equity at the end of December was rapidly approaching the \$10,000 threshold that we had previously set as the point where such action would become required.

While the new fare results in minor “profits” on some trips we have to bear in mind that Universal is still discounting the amount that can be charged according to our contract and the contract is due for renewal this year so ultimately our costs will increase. The current fare is I feel robust enough to withstand such increases.

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 by our membership dues.

This year we showed a **surplus of \$701 for these items** on the Cash Flow report (last year a surplus of \$1,143). However, if we adjust the pre-paid membership expenses to reflect the current year, the surplus is actually \$621

The only unusual expenditures during the year were the purchase of club crests (\$910) and club shirts (\$1,106)

Social Events

Fortunately, we were able to hold our usual social events again this year.

The Board authorized a subsidy of up to \$10 per member for the Fall Luncheon and the BBQ.

Thanks to the success of the Raffle (a profit of \$1,020), the Fall Luncheon made a loss of only \$376 which represents a subsidy of \$3.65 each for the 135 members who attended the event.

The BBQ showed a loss of \$536 which represents a subsidy of \$8.13 each for the 66 members who attended the event.

Auditors

I want to once again express my thanks to the auditors for their efforts to understand my files – Hugh Powell and Craig Barnstable!

Treasurer

It has been my pleasure to serve as your Treasurer since 2014 but I shall be retiring at this time. Hugh Powell has agreed to be my replacement.

Discussion arising from the report:

We have signed a new bus contract with Universal for the year and now, in order to break even, we will need 48 bus riders in the summer and 47 bus riders in the winter.

We have many ESOC crests which are being sold for \$5.00. Please consider purchasing a crest as they are an equity item, but we only have equity if people are willing to purchase the crests!

Motion: Cheryl Whitehead moves to accept the Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements for 2022-2023. Seconded by Elsie Boutillier. **Carried.**

Motion: Hugh Powell moves to appoint Keith Johnstone and Peter Serafini as the auditors for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Seconded by Bernie Nemeth. **Carried.**



Balance Sheet Comparison February 28, 2022 to February 23, 2023

Balance Sheet

	Current Year		Prior Year	
Assets				
Bank Statement	\$	17,396.85	\$	17,778.80
Cash Float	\$	0.00	\$	0.00
Pre-paid Fall Lunch Deposit	\$	0.00	\$	0.00
Prepaid Natl Park Permits	\$	267.75	\$	213.00
Pre-paid WW. Society	\$	200.00	\$	0.00
Promo items	\$	826.00	\$	0.00
Total Assets		\$ 18,690.60		\$ 17,991.80
Liabilities				
Bus Payments	\$	3,339.00	\$	1,492.05
Admin Expenses	\$	0.00	\$	0.00
Misc. Expenses	\$	0.00	\$	0.00
Prepaid Membership Dues	\$	2,800.00	\$	2,720.00
	\$	0.00	\$	0.00
Total Liabilities		\$ 6,139.00		\$ 4,212.05
EQUITY		\$ 12,551.60		\$ 13,779.75
Prior Yr	\$	13,779.75	\$	17,273.6
Current Change	\$	(1,228.15)	\$	(3,493.85)
Current Yr		\$ 12,551.60		\$ 13,779.75

Prepared by Bob Perkins, Treasurer

President, Peter Kubica

2023-03-27



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Prepared by Bob Perkins, Treasurer

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2023-03-27



Cash Flow Summary 2022-2023

Category	Current Year		Prior Year	
Income				
Bank rebate	\$	59.40	\$	59.40
Membership Sales	\$	800.00	\$	480.00
Membership sales Prepaid	\$	2,800.00	\$	2,720.00
Promo items	\$	1,264.00	\$	0.00
Donations	\$	0.00	\$	0.00
Other income Total	\$	4,923.40	\$	3,259.40
Bus Fares	\$	43,360.00	\$	20,464.00
Fall Lunch	\$	5,255.00	\$	2,765.00
BBQ	\$	1,860.00	\$	2,270.00
Social Events Total	\$	7,115.00	\$	5,035.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$	55,398.40	\$	28,758.40
Expenses				
AGM expenses	\$	11.55	\$	21.50
Bank Fees	\$	292.49	\$	93.88
Donations	\$	620.00	\$	300.00
Equipment purchase	\$	158.51	\$	17.96
Gratuities	\$	150.00	\$	125.00
Insurance	\$	281.25	\$	266.67
Memberships	\$	155.00	\$	50.00
Membership expenses	\$	0.00	\$	95.50
Newsletter	\$	0.00	\$	90.32
Promo items	\$	2,016.42	\$	0.00
Sunshine Expenses	\$	0.00	\$	1.84
Treasurer expenses	\$	20.00	\$	3.60
WebSite hosting	\$	516.68	\$	1,050.00
Expenses Total	\$	4,221.90	\$	2,116.27
Bus Costs				
Bus costs	\$	43,275.75	\$	20,637.11
Park Passes	\$	191.25	\$	0.00
William Watson Lodge Fees	\$	64.00	\$	0.00
Bus Costs Total	\$	43,531.00	\$	20,637.11
Social Events				
Fall Lunch	\$	5,630.60	\$	2,702.02
BBQ	\$	2,396.85	\$	2,371.80
Social Events Total	\$	8,027.45	\$	5,073.82
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	55,780.35	\$	27,827.20
Profit/Loss	\$	(381.95)	\$	931.20
Opening balance	\$	17,778.80	\$	16,847.60
Closing balance	\$	17,396.85	\$	17,778.80
Difference	\$	(381.95)	\$	931.20

Johanna Voordouw, Membership Director

Thankfully we are seeing light at the end of the COVID- tunnel. February 2022 till March 2023 was a good hiking, skiing, and snowshoe year. We had 46 successful outings with only 5 cancelled bus trips because of low attendance or cold weather. We also had 14 very interesting Tuesday City walks organized by Peter Dankers. Guests joined us on hikes on many Thursdays, contributing to filling the bus.

In the course of the year, we raised the full membership number to 150 to accommodate these loyal guests.

In March 2022 we started out with 166 members; 138 full and 28 associate members. We welcomed 24 guests as new members in the past year.

After the renewals for the year 2023-2024, 21 members did not renew. Twenty-eight full members did not make their 12 outings, and therefore became associate members. Sadly 3 members passed away in the past year.

Overall, this means that we now have 170 members of which 122 are full and 48 are associate members. Since March 2023 14 new members have joined the Evergreens and this is included in the 170 members. Approximately 140 members came out 2500 times on 46 hikes. Sixty guests came out 145 times and resulted in 38 new members.

Thank you to Eric for all the website assistance and to Bob for handling all the email transfers.

Greg McKenzie & Harold Kroeger, Summer Transportation Directors

Covid continued to affect our trips in a number of ways: masking and other protocols on the bus, a number of people avoiding the bus entirely, a few cancelling at the last minute due to suspected Covid. We waive the \$20 fee if people are cancelling for suspected Covid reasons. This has happened three or four times. We simply thank them for being cautious and thinking of others on the bus.

Despite Covid, we have done remarkably well in numbers on the bus this past summer. We usually had 50 or more. Only once, on a really rainy day did it drop to 32. On four occasions we had almost 70 hikers register with 10 to 15 choosing to drive to the trailhead rather than take the bus. This many on the bus and in cars made it a challenge to coordinate for the Day Trip Leader. Those who drove were mostly Covid cautious folks. Many of those driving made a voluntary \$10 donation such that the Club usually broke even on these trips. A happy but unintended consequence of so many drivers is that not a single member nor guest has had to be bumped this year.

I was away for three trips and could not handle the bus duties. Harold Kroeger has really stepped up and has done a great job. He is now very good at it. Even when I'm around and handling routine bus matters, Harold has been looking after the Guest administration which involves ensuring that we have waiver forms and vaccination information. He and Eric enter their data into the User list on the website so that guest names show up on the attendance list along with their Park Pass information, if they have a Park Pass. Most guests do not have a member sponsor, therefore it's particularly important to have unsponsored guest emergency contact data readily available should something befall that person. Harold or I have an up-to-date list of guests in our possession when on the bus. Harold and I used to chase folks to update their Park Passes as we noticed an absence of a number on the sign-up sheet. Kirk Odland has now volunteered to be what I call the 'Park Pass Prodder'. He's already well into chasing those who are not up to date.

Universal Coach lines continued to give good service in every way. They even subsidized some of the trips if the bus was not full.

Carolyn Ardell took over as the Winter Bus Director starting November 1.

Discussion arising from the report:

Lately the bus appears to be full, based on registrations, but on the actual day there are a few empty seats due to cancellations or no-shows. Pre-Covid, members who were going to drive because they could not get on the bus would come to Montgomery to see if there were any last-minute spaces and this often ensured that the bus was full. It was also a much more environmentally friendly option. Members do not seem to be meeting at Montgomery now and that would be a helpful strategy to encourage.

Carolyn Ardell asked that members text or email her as soon as they know they cannot make the trip, even early on the morning of the event, as this helps with Bus and Day Leader planning. Please note that texts and emails are preferred over phone calls.

Carolyn Ardell, Winter Transportation Director

Thursday November 3, 2022 was our first “Fall/Winter” outing.

The Fall/Winter session consisted of 23 weeks and during this time 5 events did not require a bus due to cold weather, lack of riders or an ESOC special event – Fall Luncheon and AGM. There were 18 bus requests for our Fall/Winter season.

Initially listing our trips as “Winter Outing”, was not conducive to attracting participants. I am suggesting that for the next Winter season we post our trips at

least 3 weeks in advance with the understanding that the trip may need to be changed due to snow, or road conditions and or weather.

This past Fall/Winter Season, Rick Dobson sent out an invitation to our guests to invite them to join us for the next outing. This was fabulous as it encouraged our guests to keep coming out and joining in the Events. It is the participation of the guests that keeps a bus viable in the Fall/Winter months. Events during the two weeks during Christmas generally has low bus ridership. Now that we are out of COVID this may not be the case next Fall/Winter Season.

From November 3, 2022 to January 6, 2023 there were 6 events which were a loss to the club. After January 11, 2023 when the bus fee was raised to \$25.00 there were no further losses to the club with our current contract price for Universal.

Date	Registered	Guests	No Shows	Location	Notes
Nov 3	45	4	5	West Bragg Creek	Loss to club
Nov 10	Bus Cancelled: ESOC Fall Luncheon				
Nov 17	55	5	0	Sheep Valley & Diamond Valley	
Nov 24	43	5	0	Fullerton, Elbow Valley	1 self drive pd; Loss to club
Dec 1	39	4	0	Lake Louise	very cold -32; Loss to club
Dec 8	32	0	0	Lake Louise	Loss to club
Dec 15	50	5	0	PLPP William Watson Lodge	48 on bus; Loss to club
Dec 22	Bus Cancelled: Extreme cold & low registration				
Dec 29	Bus Cancelled: Self-drive to Canmore & West Bragg Creek due to low registration				
Jan 6	43	7	1	Lake Louise	Loss to club
Jan 12	54	0	2	PLPP – William Watson Lodge & Upper Kananaskis	Fee increases to \$25.00
Jan 19	47	0	1	Chester Lake & Burstall Pass	
Jan 26	55	1	0	Emerald Lake	
Feb 2	47	6	2	Lake Minnewanka	
Feb 9	54	6	0	Banff Townsite	
Feb 16	46	6	5	Upper Kananaskis & William Watson Lodge	
Feb 23	Bus Cancelled: Extreme cold				
Mar 2	53	7	0	Mount Shark & Marushka Lake; changed to WWL & Upper Kananaskis	2 walk-ons for a total of 55
Mar 9	46	5	1	PLPP – William Watson Lodge	
Mar 16	55	4		Kananaskis Village & Ribbon Creek	
Mar 23	55	1	4	Lake Louise	1 walk-on guest

I have been approached by another bus company, to consider their services. I would like to confer with Greg McKenzie and Harold Kroeger with respect to this. Universal has been very good to the club and has been willing to work with our

club to absorb some of the loss when the ridership was low. However, it is good to ensure we are informed and stay current.

I am asking that Greg and Harold join me in a meeting with Canada Coach to see what they can offer.

Discussion arising from the report:

We greatly appreciate our guests and are finding that we can accommodate and need more guests in the winter. In the summer the bus is more often full with Full and Associate Members. Carolyn also noted that if members decide they would like to go on a trip and have missed the Tuesday deadline they should text or email her as there is often at least 1 space that opens due to a last-minute cancellation.

When bus trips are over 10 hours, there may be a surcharge to cover distance and fuel costs. In these cases, members may be charged \$30.00, rather than \$25.00.

Kyra Fisher, Summer Hike Director

I assumed the role of Summer Hiking Director last year. The **Evergreens 2023 Summer Trip Schedule** was posted Monday, March 27th on the Evergreen website under **Member Resources** and **Club Documents**. This daunting task was made easier by the advice of many experienced Evergreen members – Barb Brunton-Johnstone (my predecessor), Eric Leavitt, Hugh Powell, Greg McKenzie, Keith Bagnall, Anne Lyon and Bernie Nemeth. As well I received input from Jill Johnson, from the Seniors Outdoor Club of Calgary SOCC.

The 30 trips, plus the hikes linked to the various levels of ability – A, B1, B2 and C were selected in a number of ways to make the trips varied. Members' suggestions were solicited. Old favourites were included - Moraine Lake to see the larches, Bow Valley Provincial Park, Mt. Lipsett & the Highwood Pass, Wind Ridge, and Sunshine for the flowers and Drumheller for the unique landscape and cacti! Hikes that we have not done for some time – the Columbian Icefields, Johnson Canyon and Mount Ware & Gorge Creek were resurrected. The memberships' abilities and preferences were taken into consideration. A - level hikers need to be challenged. C - level hikers prefer hikes which are not overly taxing – not as long, less elevation and the terrain needs to be an important consideration for footing. It is important to bear in mind that the schedule is not written in stone. We have to keep some flexibility due to the fluctuating weather pattern. As well, not all trails are accessible due to the upgrading of trails. Canmore is an example for instance.

Although the Trip Schedule has been completed there is still a lot of work to be done. Each season brings to the fore areas which can be improved. This Summer mentoring will be offered in order to recruit new Day Leaders. Day leaders are

required for each week during the summer season. Their role is multifaceted. Day Leaders are very important as they recruit members to volunteer leading hikes. In an emergency they would need to coordinate with the Incident Coordinator. On the bus they inform everyone what to anticipate in terms of weather conditions. They ensure members know who will be their hike leader, and that hike leaders know how many will be in their group. They review the different hike options and set the pick-up times. As well they welcome guests, thank the hike leaders and our excellent bus driver!

The Hike Leaders, recruited by the Day Leaders, make each hiking day a success! We need their participation and we value their involvement!

Another area of focus are the club radios. Last year, Hugh Powell brought to our attention the need to have a different person, other than the Day Leader, to be responsible to look after the club radios. Amy Trehwitt, generously volunteered to be the radio person. This entails taking the radios home after a hike, charging them and ensuring they are all in working order. The radios need to be brought to the Day Leader every week during the year! This is an unrealistic expectation. So later on in the season we will be asking for a few more people to volunteer to look after the club radios.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of the Club! Without member participation we would not be one of the best Senior Outdoor Clubs in Calgary! I look forward to a great summer of hiking with you!

Discussion arising from the report:

We have had one person looking after the radios for the full year and this has proven to be a daunting task as it requires that person to come on every trip. It has been suggested that this job be divided into two-month blocks as this is a more reasonable time commitment for members. Kyra is looking for volunteers to take up this role and will be asking for people to sign-up in the weeks ahead.

Douglas Kosowan, Winter Activities Director

The first year for this new Winter Trip Director is rapidly coming to an end. I would like to thank all of the members for their enthusiasm, support, feedback and suggestions. I would also like to acknowledge the members who stepped up and volunteered to be Day Leaders, particularly those who took on this role on more than one occasion. Special mention goes to Ann Nickerson who, in response to strong feedback from the skiers within the club, was willing/able to switch the destination from Lake Louise to PLPP. However, the award for staying cool under pressure surely must go to Greg McKenzie who was able to switch from Mt Shark to PLPP when the Smith-Dorrien Road proved to be impassable. Lesser mortals would have wilted in that situation.

We missed 2 days due to extreme cold. One day was converted to a U-drive due the Christmas season and the uninspiring destination (e.g. Bragg Creek) resulting in a low registration. Next year we may consider Banff or Lake Louise to perk up the destination at least!

Greg McKenzie has volunteered to assist me next year with skiing options and recruiting day leaders.

Next year I will endeavor to 1) aggressively seek out people to assume the role of Day Leaders, 2) recruit backup Day Leaders to help the snowshoers with choosing skiing options and the skiers with snowshoeing options and 3) to have the schedule firmed up (subject to weather, snow conditions, etc.) at least 3 weeks in advance, and 4) firm up the process for reserving/paying for WWL.

With one season under my belt and Greg's assistance, my next year's resolutions should fall nicely into place.

Eric Leavitt, Website Administrator

Web Site Performance: During the past few months there have been several instances where the web site was temporarily unavailable. It was determined that this was occurring because we were exceeding some of the usage limits under the terms of our service. This has been rectified by upgrading our service to the next higher level at Web Hosting Canada (WHC). This costs us about twice what we were paying.

This is probably due to the large number of media files, especially maps that we have uploaded to the web site. We are investigating whether we can reduce the amount of space occupied by the files.

There were two instances where one of our Plugins caused our web site to crash. This was rectified by reloading the web site from a backup. Our web designer, Curtis Fraser, investigated the cause of the failure and we now have a procedure in place that should prevent further issues with the particular plugin.

Continuity Planning: I am pleased to announce that Mike Gervais has agreed to become a co-web administrator. Over the next few months I will be helping Mike come up to speed. As part of this I have begun to develop more complete documentation on the duties of the web administrator.

Summary of Web Administrator Activities: Here is a short summary of the Web Administrator activities

Web Site Maintenance

Update plugins as necessary
Pay subscription fees
Very occasionally restore web site from backups
Interface with the web designer, Curtis Fraser, for support as needed.

Assisting Members with the Web Site

Assist Members and Board Members with accessing the site as needed. An example would be resetting a password for them.

Specific Support for Board Members and Day Leaders

Assign Roles to Board Members
Adjust Roles as needed
Assist Membership Director

Responding to Contact Us Enquiries

Answering people who contact the club using the Contact Us Page – emails are directed to the evergreenseniorscalgary@gmail.com. This typically varies from one to three per week. Some companies and individuals use this page to try and sell services, etc. These messages are ignored. All messages from people who contact us to ask for more information about the club, are answered. This includes how to join us on a trip and information about our outings, and how to become a member.

Maintain a Guest Data Base

With assistance from the bus coordinator the club maintains a guest data base. This includes their email, emergency contacts, and National Park Pass information.

Summary

Except as detailed above the web site has been reliable.
The ability to view people's desired activities continues to assist Day Leaders in planning for their outing.
The backup plan has proved worthwhile.

Discussion arising from the report:

Eric has responded to 60 to 80 contacts through the website this year which shows that there is significant interest in ESOC.

It is important that members who are bringing a guest ensure that the guest waiver form is completed and sent to Eric in advance of the trip.

There is a link to maps alongside each trip option and these are very helpful for both the Trip Leader and members who would like more information when

deciding upon their choice of activity. If members come across an option that does not have a map, please let Eric know so that one can be added.

Jennifer Aikenhead & Kim Tidswell, Social Directors

The Summer Barbecue was held at Boundary Ranch on July 21st, 2022. The cost for members being \$25.00 and non members \$36.00. A subsidy for members was \$8.00. It was a beautiful day with 73 people attending for a hamburger luncheon and the staff at Boundary Ranch provided excellent service. Member feedback regarding food and the setting was very positive. Some members requested returning to William Watson Lodge, but unfortunately, they can only accommodate 50 people.

Christmas Luncheon was held at the Glenmore Inn on November 10th, 2022. This was a special occasion as it celebrated our 35th Anniversary the club. Founding members and Past Members were invited to this Special Occasion and 134 people attended. The club subsidy for members was \$10.00, with the cost for past and present members being \$30.00 and \$40.00 for guests.

Congratulations and a big thank you to Bernie Nemeth and Peter Kubica who spent many hours reviewing photographs and providing an amazing presentation of previous hikes and hikers. Sheila Perkins we are ever grateful for her amazing skill in making all the wonderful baskets for the Christmas raffle. Sheila shops all year and then has a big push before the Luncheon to complete the Baskets. Bob Perkins also needs a big thank you for all the accounting he did, trying to juggle payments for the Anniversary shirts, the Luncheon and supporting Sheila.

A special thank you to all members who donated money and gifts for the raffle and to all the past and present members that were gently cajoled into selling the raffle tickets. The raffle was so successful that the club subsidy was reduced from \$10.00 to \$3.65 per member!

Thank You to Kyra Fisher also played a big part by taking photographs of the special event. Congratulations to Carol Rose Kelly, who was responsible for the design and sales of the commemorative shirts. The shirts are a wonderful reminder of the amazing outdoor club to which we belong. Thank you to all the volunteers, that are too many to mention, who make this club so successful.

We expect to hold the summer BBQ at Boundary Ranch and the Fall Luncheon at Glenmore Inn in 2023, as we have established very positive relationships with both venues and they provide exceptional venues and food for very reasonable costs.

Discussion arising from the report:

William Watson Lodge is now saying they can accommodate 80 people for the summer BBQ however our attendance is usually greater than 80 and we would then have to turn people away.

Peter Dankers, City Hikes Coordinator

The current version of the City Hikes program started on May 17, 2022 and runs every third Tuesday. Since the beginning, a total of 15 hikes in all quadrants of the city were organized. The hikes typically start at 10:00am and wind down around noon. At the start of the hike a brief overview of the history of the park is given and during the hike details of the natural environment are discussed. A total of 321 participants registered for the hikes, 291 members and 30 guests. About 50% of all club members, or 71 people, have been on a city hike at least once. The program has grown from a modest 14 people to a maximum of 34 people per hike. Occasionally the group split into two smaller groups to manage the numbers better. Thanks to Gerrit Voordouw and Bernie Nemeth who helped me out when I was not available or when the group was too big. All hikes are checked ahead of time to assess suitability and safety. Two-way radio communication during the hikes has been made possible by a generous donation of radios by Margaret Morck.

Hike #	Date	Location	Distance	Members	Guests
1	May 17	Weaselhead	6.5 km	14	0
2	June 7	West Nose Creek	6 km	12	2
3	June 28	Bowmont Park & Botanical Gardens	6 km	16	1
4	July 19	Griffith Woods	7 km	14	4
5	August 9	Douglas Fir Trail	7 km	22	1
6	August 30	Fish Creek West	6 km	21	3
7	September 20	Nose Hill East	7 km	22	3
8	October 11	12 Mile Coulee	6 km	26	2
9	November 1	Carburn Park	6 km	17	1
10	November 22	Bowness Park & Baker Park	7.5 km	32	2
11	December 13	Pearce Estate & Inglewood	6 km	15	2
12	January 17	Dale Hodges Park	7 km	27	5
13	February 7	Fish Creek South	7 km	14	2
14	February 28	Nose Hill West	6 km	18	1
15	March 21	Confederation Park	6 km	21	1
	TOTAL			291	30

Discussion arising from the report:

Appreciation was expressed for the research that Peter does before each hike as members share they always learn something new.

Joan McLean, Newsletter Editor

The Newsletter is produced three times a year: Summer, Winter and Spring. Four members receive their newsletter by mail. Submissions or article ideas can be submitted to joanmcl@shaw.ca

Carol Morris, Telephone Coordinator

Currently there are 3-4 members receiving regular phone calls to update them on Club activities and news, especially those notices that come via email. One member will call me when he wishes for more information. Two members have no computers and 2 are experiencing computer issues.

They all have appreciated receiving...

- the Membership list (thanks Johanna)
- mailed ESOC newsletters (thanks Joan) and
- mailed summer hike schedule (thanks Eric).

Cheryl Whitehead, Membership Support Coordinator

As you have likely noticed, the Sunshine Girl position has been re-named Membership Support. This change in nomenclature, as supported by the Board, seems to me to be consistent with modern terminology and intent.

Dorothy Lloyd was so capable and consistent in this role that it was difficult to find a replacement. So, for several months, Kyra Fisher did double-duty with her role as Summer Hike Leader. Over the Winter of 2023, I decided I might give it a try. My main qualification being that that I have been an Evergreen member since September 2009. And, have more than once marvelled at the caring support of various Evergreens. Plus, whether on the bus, at the pub or coffee shop, or on annual summer hiking trips, I have enjoyed the Evergreen camaraderie. This continues to be typical of all the fresh Evergreen faces of the past few months.

Over the past year, we have lost two Evergreen members, who had left their mark on the Club.

On October 4, 2022, John Morck died peacefully at home, at age 74. John, who was a lifelong educator, would quietly impart, his wisdom and outdoor experience to the many hiking, and snowshoe groups that he led in the Evergreen club. Staying hydrated, taking along electrolytes, and doing on-the-spot equipment repair were all well within John's bailiwick. John loved wild flowers and was expert in their identification.

Wonderful memories of John will be cherished by his wife, Marg, and Family, many friends that he had made in the Calgary Weekend Hikers and the Norseman Ski Club.

Recently, on March 8, 2023, Kirsten West, died unexpected after a short illness at age 75. Kirsten, who was an avid quilter, treasured time spent with her children and grandchildren. As had her spouse, Jorn 'Ole' West, who had pre-deceased her, at age 70, on April 20, 2018. The prevailing thought seems to be that they are happy once again together.

In summary, 2022-2023 seem to have been up-beat times, as we emerge slowly from the grip of Covid. Alas, there have been some remarkable slips and falls this Winter. That being said, it is wonderful to see the speedy recovery of Peter Dankers surgery for a complex right elbow fracture. The initial day-to-day backup of Peter's Evergreen member friends for he and Marja is a wonderful example of Evergreen hospitality.

Similarly, Nancy Kiff showed up right on time to board and ride the Evergreen bus from Banff home to Calgary. Remarkable in that the sling on her right arm belied the fact if a sizeable fracture of her right upper arm (humerus). Spunky lady!

While cards were circulated on the Bus, I do acknowledge that member emails were not sent. This would include condolences for Elsie Boutillier, a previous ESOC President, who had nursed her 100-year-old Mom through her final illness. About the same time, Diane McCallum, a retired long-time Evergreen member, returned for a triumphant snowshoe outing, following a series of illnesses.

In closing, I would like to sincerely thank the Evergreen members, including Eric, who have given me their patient support in this role. Where things go from here depends on what we as individuals and a group need and want.

Discussion arising from the report:

It is very helpful when members let Cheryl know about people who would benefit from receiving a call or a card. Cheryl also welcomed members who have been absent for some time and provided updates on others.

Barb Brunton-Johnstone, ESOC Resiliency Workplan

During 2022, Board members met several times to clarify the priorities of our club and its most critical functions. From that, we identified what was required to ensure those functions continued no matter what.

It became clear early on that our Club was already quite resilient and has successfully weathered many unexpected events, from relatively minor ones (e.g. bus not available on short notice) to major ones, such as the Covid pandemic, which required abrupt changes in the nature of our club outings.

In many organizations, equipment or buildings or computer support are very vulnerable to continued operations, but Evergreens is much less reliant on equipment and buildings and we have taken steps in the past few years to make our computer systems and website more robust and able to be restored quickly. For our Club, our main need is for people, all volunteers, so many of the actions identified on the workplan related to supporting people in their various roles (e.g. Day Leader, Group Leader) through training, documentation, tools and improved procedures.

A workplan has been developed listing the main actions needed and Board members have been working on them over the past year; progress is reviewed at each Board meeting.

Some highlights of actions in the past year:

- Articles on volunteers are regularly included in our newsletter; anyone can submit ideas or write an article.
- Training sessions have been held for members interested in becoming Group Leaders on hikes or winter events; supporting documentation on tips and responsibilities have been developed or updated and are available on our website
- A new Incident Response process and team has been developed and is being implemented, as Peter described in his report.
- Guest procedures have been modified and their emergency contact and park pass information and waiver are captured their first time as a guest and is available for their future trips with us.

This Resiliency Workplan with status updates will be posted on the website under Club Documents.

Peter Kubica, President's Report

Last year we started again with regular weekly bus trips. While attendance was frequently reduced the Board decided to subsidize the bus cost if there were at least 30 people signed up. Except for rainy or cold days, we managed to run bus trips every Thursday. It was encouraging to have new guests on most of the trips, which allowed us to have the bus going on several occasions. Our membership increased up to the limit of 150 full members with some guests on a waiting list.

We initiated a training session for new members to become Group Leaders. This was very successful, attended by 12 people who later volunteered to lead the hikes. We plan to do another session this year in the morning before the summer barbecue. We would also like to increase the number of volunteers to be the Day Leaders. This will be done by asking new members to shadow Day leaders or having the seasoned Day Leaders near them in the bus for any needed assistance.

Some of our members are apprehensive about volunteering for Day Leaders in case some unexpected event occurs on the trip (be it an injury or missing person). To alleviate this situation, we have decided to form a small group of volunteers who would be Incident Coordinators. We will aim to have at least two of these volunteers on each bus trip to assist in any unusual situation. It is my hope that this assistance will encourage more members to volunteer to sign up as Day Leaders.

There will be new instructions for Day Leaders and Group Leaders published on our website. Our website is a great help for organizing trips now with being able to sign up for your choice of outing ahead of the trip. This allows the Day Leader to know the size of each group and to find and assign the Group Leaders ahead of the trip.

Our social events were a great success with the barbeque in the summer at the Boundary Ranch that allowed us to have a short hike before lunch. We are planning to have this year's barbeque there again. The Fall luncheon was the 30th year celebration of our club with a record attendance of 130 members and guests. We were fortunate to have with us one of the founding club members and several past club members from the early days of the Club.

By the end of the 2022 calendar year, we were finding ourselves rapidly depleting our club funds from subsidizing the bus trips due to low trip attendance. Therefore, in January the Board decided to increase the bus fare to \$25 to balance the bus expenses with the trip revenue. I am happy to report that following this fare increase our trip attendance also immediately increased!

All in all, the Evergreen Seniors Outdoor club is again in a good financial situation with a great plan for the summer hiking season and with enthusiastic membership. In closing, I would like to thank our past board members for their contribution to organizing our events, and to all the volunteers and club members for their participation in our outings.

Appreciation was expressed for those stepping down from the Board: Dorothy Lloyd, Kiyoko Miyanishi and Bob Perkins. Members also noted that they value all the work that has gone into keeping ESOE going and thriving during the challenging pandemic years.

The Nominees for the 2023-2024 Board of Directors and Coordinators are as follows:

Barb	Brunton-Johnstone	President
Dane	Bridge	Vice-President
Peter	Kubica	Past President

Hugh	Powell	Treasurer
Sharon	Hanwell	Secretary
Johanna	Voordouw	Membership Director
Eric	Leavitt	Website Director
Kyra	Fisher	Summer Hiking Director
Douglas	Kosowan	Winter Activities Director
Greg	McKenzie	Winter Activities Director
Carolyn	Ardell	Summer Transportation Director
Harold	Kroeger	Winter Transportation Director
Kim	Tidswell	Social Director
Jennifer	Aikenhead	Social Director
Peter	Dankers	City Hikes Coordinator
Joan	McLean	Newsletter Coordinator
Carol	Morris	Telephone Coordinator
Cheryl	Whitehead	Membership Support Coordinator

Seeing no nominations from the floor, these nominees were acclaimed.

New Business: None

Meeting adjourned at 2:12 pm.