



**Boundary Country Trails Agreement
Regarding Collaboration and Cooperation
For the Benefit of All Recreational Resource Users**

Between

**Boundary Horse Association
and
Boundary Area All Nations Aboriginal Council
and
Christina Lake Fire Rescue
and
Grand Forks ATV Club
and
Grand Forks Community Trails Society
and
Grand Forks Cycling Club
and
Grand Forks Search and Rescue
and
Granby Wilderness Society
And
Kettle River Mountain Bikers Association
and
Metis Community Association
and
Phoenix Mountain Alpine Ski Society
and
Phoenix Cross Country Ski Society
and
Snowmobile Club – Christina Lake
and
Snowmobile Club –Grand Forks
and
North Fork Trails Maintenance
and
Christina Lake Parks and Recreation
and
Corporation of the City of Grand Forks
and
Regional District of Kootenay Boundary, Area C
and
Regional District of Kootenay Boundary, Area D
and
Government of British Columbia, Recreation Sites and Trails**

(Collectively referred to as the "Parties" or as the "Working Group")

Introduction

Grand Forks and the surrounding areas are rich in natural, manmade and historical trails. The trails provide significant opportunities to the people living in and visiting the area to observe and enjoy wildlife and the environment. The trails are used for many types of outdoor recreation. They are shared by people traversing the trails on foot, by bicycle, on horses, on snowshoes, on ATVs or UTV's, Motorcycles and snowmobiles as well as on skis.

Various user groups have come together with a desire to formulate a working group with membership from representative user groups. Our desire is to protect the environment and actively participate in the decision making process related to trail usage, maintenance, formulation and management in and around Grand Forks and area. The group hopes to foster good will between all users and the community. The group also wants to achieve, through cooperation and collaboration, solutions that satisfy the needs of all users and the affected communities.

Purpose

Successful management of trails for recreational opportunities requires that all trail users work together to achieve a common purpose, being the creation of sustainable and environmentally sensitive trail networks for the benefit of all users recognizing individual needs and requirements. The achievement of this goal will require all parties to work together in the identification and establishment of networks that fulfill this goal. The overriding philosophy will be:

"Trails for everyone, but not every trail for everyone."

Agreement Regarding Collaboration and Cooperation

The vision of this group will be:

To provide collaborative input and planning into recreational projects and operations for the social/economic benefit of Grand Forks and surrounding areas primarily known as Area 'C' and Area 'D' of the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary.

Objectives of the Agreement

Initially, with the commitment to work together, the parties share the following objectives:

- To work together in a cooperative and collaborative manner openly sharing any pertinent information that may affect the collective memberships and/or all recreational activities in the Boundary Country.
- To identify the differences between the various types of recreation and the differences in their activities based on the season of operation (Summer/Winter) and type of recreation (motorized/non motorized) and to represent all issues with the best interests of our combined users and recreational activities in mind.
- To provide a means through local planning and activities to resolve and reduce current and future trail conflicts and promote voluntary compliance in the preservation of the trails regardless of their designated use.
- To enhance the recreational opportunities in the local area that will not only benefit the local user but also provide opportunities for the development of the local economy through tourism opportunities.
- To identify and develop protocols that will lead to enhanced trail safety and trail etiquette.
- To work together in maximizing trail sustainability and opportunities.
- To collectively manage, share and promote recreational opportunities in the area be they motorized or non-motorized.
- To create an atmosphere that promotes mutual respect between all trail users and the combined use of all available resources in the development of opportunities.
- To work together in the education of the public and trail users to the benefit of all recreational activities regardless of type.
- To inform and educate their members or unaffiliated trail enthusiasts on the need for safe and responsible use of recreational trails.
- To foster shared environmental stewardship behavior among all users.
- To take a cooperative and collaborative approach to protect and enhance our opportunities for backcountry recreation in the Boundary Country.
- To work together in a cooperative and collaborative manner to increase or enhance sustainable trail initiatives or networks that will be of mutual benefit to all parties including the needs of other trail users both motorized and non motorized regardless if the trails are single or mixed use.

Agreement Regarding Collaboration and Cooperation

Trail Planning

- The parties agree to work together in the various levels of planning that surround recreational trails. This will extend to reviewing the Recreational Opportunities spectrum currently in place for the Boundary Country. This in turn will stimulate planning exercises designed to enhance the opportunities valuable for the various trail based recreational activities and maximize their socio/economic benefit to the area and its communities. Each organization signatory to this agreement will work collaboratively to achieve this goal. The ultimate goal will be the creation of a strategic recreational plan for the area.
- The parties agree that all trails will be sustainable in nature and environmentally sensitive and reflect the values of the local community while respecting the values of non-trail users.
- The parties agree that first Nations have a historical interest in how the land is used and commit to the involvement and consultation of First Nations in the planning and development of recreational trail opportunities.
- The parties also agree that within the geographic area covered by this agreement there exists local communities and interest groups and it is essential these parties be involved and/or consulted in a meaningful manner during any planning process.

Trail Networks

- The parties agree that each recreational resource user has unique requirements necessary to achieve the goals of each recreational network. In order to achieve this each party will respect the needs of those individual requirements and work collectively to achieve each goal. With that being said all parties also realize there may be instances where mixed or multiple use is necessary and in those cases all parties agree to work together to find a mutually beneficial means of achieving mixed use.
- The parties agree to work together collaboratively in assisting each organization in the achievement of trail networks that work towards satisfying an acceptable recreational experience for each individual sport.

Principles of Working Together

The following principles provide a foundation to fulfill the objectives of this Agreement. They will guide our approach to working together.

- **Collaboration.** The Parties agree to work together to effectively achieve Agreement objectives.
- **Open Communication.** The Parties agree to communicate clearly and candidly with one another about expectations, objectives and limitations, in an effort to build a common understanding and maintain positive relationships.
- **Integrity and Respect.** The Parties agree to consistently act with integrity and honesty, respecting the differences of our partners and stakeholders.

Agreement Regarding Collaboration and Cooperation

- **Inclusive engagement.** The Parties agree to attempt to identify other groups or individuals that may have an interest in, or are affected by the agreement and offer meaningful opportunities for representatives of those groups or individuals to be informed of our activities.
- **Integration.** The Parties agree to integrate these Principles for Working Together within our organizations and decision-making processes over time.
- **Mutual Respect.** Any decisions required to be made under this agreement will be consensus based and mutual respect amongst the parties must be given priority during any discussions leading to a decision.
- **Organizational Integrity.** The parties recognize that each organization has an obligation to operate independently in meeting the expectations of their members and the Mission, Vision and Goals of their respective organizations.

Operating Principles

- All parties agree that collectively they will select a Coordinator whose responsibilities will be:
 - To provide a single point of contact for the working group.
 - To guide discussions.
 - To set up meetings as required and provide agendas.
 - Any other related duties as agreed to by the working group.
- All parties agree that collectively they will select a Scribe whose responsibilities will be:
 - To provide a record of all and any meeting of the working group.
 - To maintain a list of contacts for the working group.
 - Write letters as and when needed.
- All parties agree to the following frequency of meetings of the working group:
 - Meetings will be held as and when needed by contacting the Coordinator who in turn, with adequate notice will set up a meeting of the working group.
 - Subject to approval of the working group, two annual meetings will be held yearly, one in the spring to review upcoming plans and the previous season and one in the fall to review upcoming plans and review the previous season.
 - Upon the first inauguration meeting the working group will develop reasonable guidelines for interacting, such as Roberts Rules of order for subsequent meetings, designed to meet the "principles of working together".
- All parties agree that membership in the Working Groups will be as follows:
 - Upon Request and with the agreement of the working group membership in this agreement can be gained through an addendum to the agreement in which the new member agrees to abide by the terms of the agreement and is cosigned by all current members. No application for membership will be turned down without the agreement of the current Group.

Agreement Regarding Collaboration and Cooperation

- As the working group evolves all parties will periodically review membership criteria and make any changes that are deemed appropriate. Any changes must be with the full agreement with all members of the working group.

Term, Extension, Modification or Termination

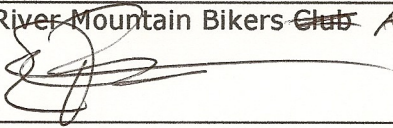


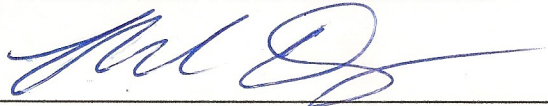

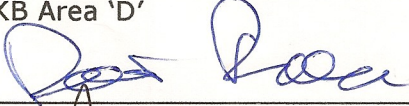
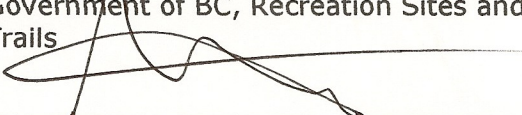
The Parties agree that the term of this Agreement will be for five years from the date of signing. Any modification or extension of this Agreement will be by agreement between all the Parties. Any Party, by providing sixty days written notice to the other Parties, may terminate the Memorandum of Understanding.

Legality

This document does not create legally enforceable conditions. It is an expression of the shared intent of the Parties on how to do business together.

This Agreement made effective April, 29, 2013

Boundary Horse Association <i>[Signature]</i>	Date <i>April 29 /13</i>
Boundary All Nations Aboriginal Council <i>[Signature]</i>	Date <i>April 29/13</i>
Christine Lake Fire Rescue <i>[Signature]</i>	Date <i>April 29 2013</i>
Grand Forks ATV Club <i>[Signature]</i>	Date <i>APRIL 29, 2013</i>
Grand Forks Community Trails Society <i>[Signature]</i>	Date <i>April 29. 2013</i>
Grand Forks Cycling Club	Date
Grand Forks Search and Rescue <i>[Signature]</i>	Date <i>April 29 2013</i>
Granby Wilderness Society <i>[Signature]</i>	Date <i>April 29, 2013</i>

Kettle River Mountain Bikers Club Assoc 	Date APRIL 29/13
Metis Community Association	Date
Phoenix Mountain Alpine Ski Society BA Cornelius	Date Apr 29. 2013
Phoenix Cross Country Ski Society 	Date Apr 29 2013
Snowmobile Club - Christina Lake E. Hock CLEMENS	Date April 29 2013
Snowmobile Club - Grand Forks	Date
North Fork Trails Maintenance 	Date April 29 2013
Christina Lake Parks and Recreation 	Date 4/29/13
Corporation of the City of Grand Forks Patrick O'Doherty	Date 6/5/2013
RDKB Area 'C' 	Date 4/29/13
RDKB Area 'D' 	Date 26 JUNE 2013
Government of BC, Recreation Sites and Trails 	Date 04/29/13

Christina Lake Parks & Rec

April 29, 2013

