

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING

for members of the

Shuswap Trails Roundtable

Appendix 8 of the [Shuswap Regional Trails Strategy](#) as at 2 October 2015

BACKGROUND

Since 2001, a series of planning initiatives and community projects in the Shuswap have provided a strategic thread for a regional trail strategy to build upon. The concept for this strategy was championed by Secwepemc Nation (as described below), Shuswap Trail Alliance, Recreation Sites and Trails BC (part of BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations), Shuswap Tourism and Columbia Shuswap Regional District Parks in 2010; however an expanded steering committee with broader representation has been developing this strategy since fall 2014. The purpose of the strategy is to protect, enhance and recognize trails as an integral part of the Shuswap lifestyle, culture and economy; going forward, the strategy will be implemented by the Shuswap Trails Roundtable.

PURPOSE

This Letter of Understanding outlines the role, composition, and principles of the Shuswap Trails Roundtable (STR).

ROLE AND EXPECTATIONS

The role of the Shuswap Trails Roundtable is to implement the Shuswap Regional Trails Strategy, as follows:

- To set direction and provide course correction, as needed
 - in collaboration with the 'Working Group' who have an operational mandate
- To communicate (two ways) with their respective organization and across all orders of government
- To communicate, share information, and learn from one another
- To access or leverage funds to enable sufficient resources for implementation
- To resolve disputes, as needed

The expectation is that any order of government or organization that is part of the roundtable will work to fulfill the roles.

The STR provides a forum for collaboration, communication, and forms an agreement to work together; however it is recognized that it is non-regulatory and has no authority for decision-making regarding land use, permitting or authorizations.

The Shuswap Regional Trails Strategy is the guiding document for the STR.

COMPOSITION

Representation and participation for the Shuswap Trails Roundtable is desired from the following groups:

- Adams Lake Indian Band
- BC Parks
- Chase
- Columbia Shuswap Regional District
- Enderby
- Little Shuswap Lake Indian Band
- Neskonalith
- Regional District of North Okanagan
- Recreation Sites and Trails BC
- Salmon Arm
- Sicamous
- Splotsin
- Environmental Stewardship and Naturalist Organizations (Shuswap Environmental Action Society, Salmon Arm Bay Nature Enhancement Society, Adams River Salmon Society, Watershed Roundtables)
- Education including School District 83, post-secondary, and outdoor education and interpretive organizations (e.g., Shuswap Outdoor Learning Foundation, Kingfisher Interpretive Centre)
- Motorized recreation groups
- Non-motorized recreation group
- Agricultural Land Commission
- Thompson Nicola Regional District
- Shuswap Indian Band
- Shuswap Trail Alliance
- Shuswap Tourism
- Commercial Guide Operators
- The Switzmalph Cultural Society
- Natural Resource Industry
- Ministry of Transport
- Health
- Economic Development
- Arts and Culture
- Fish and Game

These groups will make appointments to the STR at their discretion.

PRINCIPLES

The principles by which the STR operates are consistent with those in the Regional Trails Strategy:

- Stewardship or *Y'icwetsutce*
- Recognition of Aboriginal title and rights
- Collaboration
- Respect

OPT-OUT, DISPUTE RESOLUTION

An opt-out clause and a dispute resolution process will be developed in the terms of reference.

SIGNATURES

Name

Organization

Date

(repeat signature rows as needed)