



Shuswap Cycling Society

Winter Newsletter January 2016

President Report

Alan Journeau

2015 was a great summer to be a mountain biker in the Shuswap. Our trails were in fine shape due to little rain and the work of many dedicated volunteers and trail maintenance crew from the Trail Alliance. I hope you all agree that it has been great to ride well maintained trails. Thanks to funding from Singletrack Six and revenue from the Annual Shuswap Cycling Society (SCS) bike swap at the Salty Street Fest, Shuswap Cross – Cyclocross Race, map sales, and various fundraising activities the SCS is off to a fine start for 2016.

Beside trail maintenance there has been good progress on the polygon application for Rubberhead. Once all goes through, the intention is to establish an area based polygon for easier approval of individual trail lines. The polygon approval should happen quickly once we complete and send all the information needed to Front Counter. The individual climb line application has made progress as well. We are waiting for more information before Front Counter can move on the approval but this should happen quickly.

2016 planning priority for Rubberhead is the up trail connector at 4km. The main objection will be to find funding thru the Shuswap Cycling Society, Trail Alliance and RST BC. Meat Grinder needs new cedar wood work and we are looking for members to volunteer and coordinate with local companies on funding this project. All the wood work needs to be replaced and inventory will need to be done on completion of this project for insurance purposes.

The parking area at Rubberhead needs a new Kiosk and we will look at the possibility of installing a composting toilet and a permanent repair bike stand.

Shuswap Cycling Society members need to develop a 5 year plan for Rubberhead to submit to RST BC for development of new trails, inventory, and updated maps. These are all integral components to secure future funding for trail networks.



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Shuswap Cycling Society is considering entering into a partnership agreement directly with Recreation Sites and Trails (RST BC) for the Rubberhead trails. The benefit is that the club would have direct permission from the province to operate/maintain the trail network and we could also use this as support for funding applications. This partnership would come with administrative requirements and the club will have to decide if there is the capacity to take this on. Administrative work would include submitting an annual operating plan at the start of the season and an annual report at the end, plus providing annual estimated summary stats on the number of volunteers and volunteer hours. An added benefit is that the agreement comes with accidental death and dismemberment insurance and liability insurance for volunteer works associated with maintaining the trail network.

South Canoe had some great development in 2015 with the new Troll Bridge, maintenance and reroute work on my favorite trail Mo Buddah and also work on P2 and triangle. If you have any ideas or concern for the trail system in South Canoe you can contact Dan Capek or Ray Mills. They sit on the advisory team for the South Canoe trail advisory team.

During the summer of 2015 the free Trailforks mobile app was released and now all trail users have the ability to easily upload a trail report to let everyone know about new problems (trees down, bad draining, washout, etc.) as well as problems that have been resolved. You can even upload a geo-tagged photo from the area in question and Trailforks will locate it on the trail to help the maintenance crew or volunteers to locate and resolve the issue. To report an issue on Trailforks you must have a pinkbike.com account. I think it would be a good idea to use this platform to keep abreast of trail problems and have a link from our web site to Trailforks. It will also provide a quick and easy way for guests riding our trails to make a donation directly to SCS via Trail Karma program. Encourage your visiting friends and family to contribute to help fund new trails – the minimum donation is \$2.



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Other activity for the SCS in 2015 included the Family Fun Ride and Bike to Work month, involvement in the Salty Street Fest, and the ShuswapCross – CycloCross Race. The SCS constructed a portable pump track with lumber donated by Canoe Forest Products. This pump track was used at various events and enjoyed by many. The SCS made contact with the City of Salmon Arm to propose a permanent pump track location in the back of Klahani Park. The City is currently in the process of developing a master plan for Klahani Park and we are hopeful that our input will be taken into consideration. The 2015 ShuswapCross - CycloCross race was again successful with great feedback from the participants and spectators. Our Club has been chosen to host the final race and awards ceremony of the 2016 series which means we can expect a large turnout of participants. The race is scheduled for November 13th, 2016.

In 2015 the SCS supported our local youth through Grad night scholarships, and we will continue to support our local youth in years to come.



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AGM 2015

The SCS Annual General meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 2, 2016 from 7pm until 9pm at the Community Center.

Have you ever consider about getting more involved and joining the SCS board? This year we have several board positions whose terms have come to an end and will have to be voted upon. The positions are as follows:

- President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Membership Director
- Communication/Urban Trails Director

All members are welcome to attend the meeting and vote on who your directors will be for the 2016 season. Non-members can observe the meeting but cannot vote.

Thanks to everyone who helped to make 2015 a successful year, and we look forward to a great 2016!

Alan Journeau