

ACC – Vancouver Island Section

2020 Annual General Meeting: Draft minutes

7:00 pm Saturday 8th February 2020, Vancouver Island Mountain Centre

Meeting called to order at 7:09 pm.

1. Adoption of the agenda

Moved: Derek Sou; Second: Mike Hubbard. Carried

2. Adoption of the minutes of the 2019 AGM

Moved: Colin Mann; Second: Keith Battersby. Carried.

3. Reports:

Chair's Report:

Catrin Brown

The chair reviewed and summarized the year's activities, using the four seasons as a framework for the highlights of the year's activities and accomplishments; for details, see attached.

Treasurer's Report:

Garth Stewart

Financial reports for 2019 and proposed budget for 2020 are attached. The Section's financial status at the end of 2019 is good: there is equity of over \$60,000 and the net income for the year was \$250.

Motion to accept the 2019 financial report and the 2020 budget

Moved: Mike Hubbard; Second: Colin Mann. Carried

Memorial Fund:

Geoff Bennett

See attached

Education:

Colin Mann / Alois Schonenberger

See attached

National Club:

Christine Fordham

See attached

Newsletter:

Mary Sanseverino

See attached

Membership:

Kathy Kutzer

Steady at around 700 for the past two years; see attached report for details.

Schedule:

Karun Thanjuvar

Many thanks to the many trip leaders who have led trips this year. More trip leaders are continuously needed to keep our schedule rich and full. Natasha is ready to help, guide and provide mentorship for new leaders. Don't be shy!

Website:

Jess Scott

Our website is packed with useful information and resources. It is continuously updated and expanded as our programs increase.

Environment and Access:

Barb Baker

See attached

FMCBC:

Anya Reid

See attached

Youth Program:

Derek Sou

See attached; the program has been highly successful in encouraging family participation.

Banff Mountain Film Festival:

Anna-Lena Steiner & Lise Gagnon

Consideration should be given to running a second night in future, as the event sold out very quickly, largely through social media advertising. The displays in the lobby in future will have a greater proportion of relevant non-profit organizations.

Leadership:

Natasha Salway

63 leaders earned points this (slightly fewer than last year). There have been 128 members acting as leaders in the past 5 years. Natasha is looking for someone to take over the administration of the leadership contest.

Equipment:

Mike Hubbard

See report

Hut Committee:

Martin Hofmann for Chris Jensen

The hut has been very popular and successful; there have been 40% more people using it than anticipated, including lots of families. Every weekend is booked up until November 2020. The wind turbines are installed but are not yet fully functional.

See attached for hut finances report.

4. New Business

None.

5. Leadership Awards

Awards for trip leadership at various levels were distributed by Natasha Salway. See attached.

6. Nominations Report

Mike Hubbard

See attached report.

The positions of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary were filled by acclamation. The balance of the nominations were acclaimed as a group. Auxiliary non-executive positions were filled as detailed in the attached report.

7. Any Other Business

None.

8. Announcements

A message from Peter Rothermel was read out to the meeting: Peter has decided to leave the club as he strongly disagrees with the decision to leave the FMCBC. He was involved with the FMCBC for over 15 years in the establishment of the Mt. Arrowsmith regional park.

9. Meeting adjourned at 9:41 pm

Attachments

Chair's Report

Catrin Brown



Winter 2019

Another major landmark for our section passed early in the year: the opening of bookings for our hut on 5040 Peak through the national club. Happily, the first 'official' weekend in January was marked by great skiing conditions and visits from several of the people who helped in the construction project.



Photos by Chris George

The first year of operation of the hut generated many more happy stories - which I will leave to the separate hut report, but suffice to say - spoiler alert - it has been a huge success.

Ski trips, snowshoe trips and local hikes make our short days pass quickly through the winter months. Right off the top I must give a very big thank you to our trip leaders - too many to mention - but truly you are at the heart of our shared goals. We often refer to the trip schedule as the lifeblood of the section, as we would not be this healthy vibrant community without the opportunities to get together out there. And a reminder that we have an ongoing need for people to step up and lead. Our leadership coordinator Natasha and scheduler Karun are always on hand to help you develop your ideas and post the trips you plan. They'd love to hear from you!

February was an unusually cold month, and even in Victoria many of us were able to ski around our neighbourhoods. Tame stuff though compared with what was going on up-island. Our own Chris Jensen

teamed up with none other than Will Gadd to pull off a first ascent of Della Falls via seven pitches of ice. The adventure is beautifully described in “Gripped” magazine and on Will’s Instagram page. Chris’ mountaineering exploits yet again help to put Vancouver Island on the map of national mountaineering, and we can enjoy a share of this vicariously. Congratulations Chris.

Members also enjoyed lots of opportunities for workshops and courses, organised by our education coordinators, Alois Schonenberger and Colin Mann. They are the folks who answer questions many times over, organise fees and venues, and so help to welcome a lot of people to the club and the mountaineering community. Thank you both. Our very popular leadership subsidy program continues to help make these courses more financially available while promoting trip leadership too. Thanks also to Mike Hubbard and Bernard Friesen for helping keep us safe with rental gear.

Spring 2019

The longer days of spring bring flowers to the hills and some more great ski touring in the mountains. Skiing at the hut was amazing, as featured on the front page of the Spring edition of the ACC Gazette. A lodge-based back-country ski week was organised to the Kootenays, and members enjoyed many other trips to destinations such as Mt Cain, the Sooke hills, Mt Arrowsmith and an early start to the rock-climbing season at Quadra Island.

Our Kids and Youth Group was especially active in the snowy months. This program has become a flagship of our section’s activities, and this year an impressive total of 21 different families and 24 different kids/youth ranging in ages from 7 - 18 took part in trips. One overnight snowshoe trip had 24 participants including 13 kids and youth! The organisation of this could boggle the mind, but it happens calmly through the dedication and unfailing humour of our leaders Derek Sou and Stefan Gessinger with Shanda Lembcke. As I always say, those lucky kids. It is perhaps one of the best tributes to the program that one of its ‘graduates’, Iain Sou, is now helping in its running and also stepping up to help with our education program. Our sincere thanks and respect to these leaders.

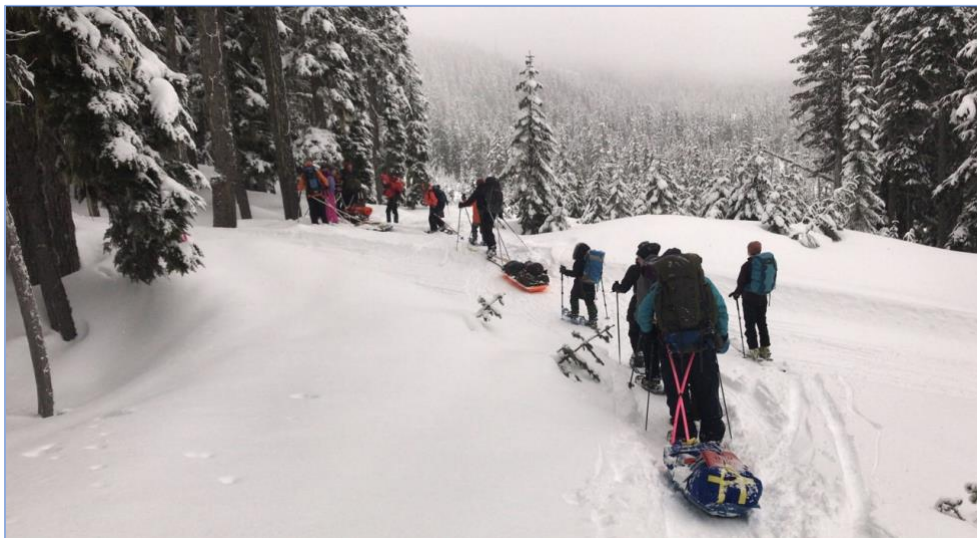


Photo by Derek Sou

A new development this year was a successful partnership with the youth program of the Inter Cultural Association brokered by Karun Thanjuvar. This led to some successful trips, culminating in a lively snow-

shoe trip to Mt Washington in March. Exposing youth from such diverse backgrounds to our snowy wilderness is a rewarding experience indeed, and we are confident this connection will continue to grow.

As we know all too well, our wilderness environment is constantly under threat from the forces of urban development, logging and the vested interests of private land-owners. Sigh. A recent merger of the forest companies under the new management company “Mosaic” gave us a new challenge, but Barb Baker, our indefatigable champion of all things access, lost no time in making herself and our concerns known to them. It is good to know that Barb will not take her foot off the pedal as she continues to push for public corridors to public spaces.

In the south island, another round of threats to the Sooke hills (a potential highway through the park) set several of us heading to the CRD podium to help stare down such a plan. One positive from the increased number of backcountry users is a stronger voice in these matters, or so I choose to believe. CRD provided opportunities for us to contribute to workshops on their plans for the Sooke Hills Wilderness Park, while the rock-climbing community harnessed (as it were) their energies to develop a new society, South Island Climbers Association.

In a related way, the executive spent considerable time analysing our membership of the Federation of Mountain Clubs of British Columbia, FMCBC. At issue was the question of the Fed’s effectiveness in supporting our concerns on Island-specific issues, and their per-member fee structure which became increasingly onerous with our burgeoning membership. Beginning at the AGM in January 2019, consultation was widespread including communications with FMCBC. Ultimately a vote by the full executive determined we would cease membership in the FMCBC, but continue to support its work through annual donation. This change also gave us the opportunity to diversify and expand our financial support for other organisations committed to conservation and advocacy on the Island.

Our executive, now numbering 21, meets about every six weeks, with minutes posted efficiently on the website. This is a good place for me to thank our wonderful team of communicators - Martin Hofmann, Brianna Coates, Kathy Kutzer, Karun Thanjuvar and David Lemon. Jes Scott, who is part of this team, deserves special mention for her ongoing work with maintaining and updating the website. I encourage you to spend time exploring the many pages and files now hosted there - it truly has become a treasure trove of information and active resource.



And despite all this administrative talk, let me reassure you that the executive members are people too - between them celebrating two weddings and a birth in the spring. Congratulations to Kathy and Skafti who married in Canmore in February, Colin and Natasha who married on the summit of Kings Peak during a club trip in May, and Anya and Hayes who welcomed Teslin into the world in June.

Summer 2019

And so on to the long days of settled summer weather. Hunter Lee and Chris Jensen again gave us something to look up to, from Nootka Sound that would be, climbing the dramatic Conuma Arch on the west coast of the Island. "Respect the Mountains" day, an initiative of the main club and organised by Christine Fordham at Mt Washington in June, brought together families for a focus on human impact. The stickers on backcountry toilet etiquette that were distributed later in the year developed from the ensuing discussion - please place them where you think they will be useful to help our ongoing efforts to share good practice.

Our community and far beyond was rocked by tragedy in late June with the loss of Clarke Gourlay in an accident in Strathcona Park. In his passing we lost an active member and trip-leader, our treasurer, a unifying force of up-island mountaineering groups and very much more. Clarke completed his Island Qualifiers in August 2018, and was well on his way to completing the Vancouver Island 6000' ers. Clarke lived life large - as a family man, a successful entrepreneur, a newly-elected politician and of course a very active mountaineer. We were privileged that he gave so much to our community and hold him in our hearts with gratitude. A fuller tribute is on our Memorial page.



Once more the summer camp committee facilitated four smoothly run weeks of back-to-back heli access for our summer camps during July and August. The vicinity of Meditation Mountain, just outside the Stein Valley park, was a glorious location for hikes and scrambles to the many accessible peaks in all kinds of weather, with the bonus of a reprieve from the effects of forest fires this year. Our Family Week group of 20 again achieved the airiest traverses, most technical summits and longest days of any of the groups. This seems to be becoming a tradition.

New this year was a week's section 'camp', or more accurately "glamp", at our hut. Participants enjoyed exploring the terrain of 5040 Peak, including the delightful and intriguing limestone plateau below the east col, and the long ridge in the direction of Nahmint. The wild flowers in August were spectacular. Trail Rider trips, which are always noted for their camaraderie and team spirit, enabled people who cannot otherwise access wilderness to get out there. Thanks to Caroline Tansley for helping to make this possible.

Our youth memorial grant, ably steered by Geoff Bennett, was this year awarded to our youth group for an expedition to Mariner Mountain. When Stefan Gessinger reported afterwards that this was their most ambitious trip ever, that really told me something. Please enjoy the separate report of this great adventure starring kids, bikes, and a summit climb via rock and glacier.



Mike Hubbard and Colleen Kasting again opened their forest garden in Saanichton to the hungry hordes in late August. There we celebrated the national club's *Distinguished Service Awards* to Chris Jensen and Chris Ruttan for their outstanding leadership and work in all stages of the vision, planning and construction of our hut on 5040 Peak. I'm told that the national club is in awe of the way in which this project unfolded on schedule and in budget. Although Chris and Chris graciously acknowledge the full community effort involved, we all know it wouldn't have

happened without the two of them. Hearty congratulations to you both.

Ken Wong and George Butcher each received the Charles Turner Award on successful completion of the 53 Vancouver Island peaks over 6000'. That brings the total to five of members who have now achieved this 'hall of fame of Vancouver Island mountaineering', as nicely represented on a new page on our website. Meanwhile the list of recipients of the Rick Eppler Award for completion of the Island Qualifiers grows steadily with the addition of Dan McKean, Laurence Phippsen and Tyler Maclachlan this year. Congratulations all.

The 2018 edition of the Island Bushwhacker Annual was distributed in August to rave reviews. It is an extensive and diverse collection of tales of our members' adventures, also serving as an important store of Island mountaineering history. Our editor Rob Macdonald did a superb job, not only with the print version but also for the first time producing a full colour edition available online. It is a visual treat - indulge yourself if you have not yet done so.

Our section is well represented at the national level with representation on committees and participation in the General Mountaineering Camps. Special congratulations to Natasha Salway who, as the recipient of the Karl Nagy memorial scholarship, worked as an assistant guide during the GMC, and apparently did a superb job, as judged (so to speak) by Mike Hubbard.

Fall 2019

Lengthening evenings herald the return of our monthly slide shows at Swan Lake Nature Centre in Victoria. Our thanks to Peggy Taylor, Neil Han and Dave Suttill for ensuring we are always welcomed there with appropriate program, technology and snacks respectively. Our annual photo contest in October, organised by Brian Parsons, led to the usual high-stakes competition for the coveted trophies. Or not. The executive has since decided that we will replace these behemoth trophies-that-noone-really-wants with gift vouchers for each category next year. The stakes are rising!

In October, we celebrated what was described as "the icing on the cake" of the hut project, the hut-naming ceremony. "Hišim̓yawīł" (pronounced Hi-SHIM-ya-wit), which means "Gather Together" in the Barkley Sound dialect of the Ucluelet First Nation, was the name chosen after consultation by Geoff Bennett with the Ucluelet, Toquaht and Tla-o-qui-aht Nations. The ceremony in October featured

members of the Warrior Youth program and our own youth group, using makeshift drums from paint cans. Another happy day in the mountains.



Carving by Chris Ruttan

A quick glimpse of our financial statements will show how much we depend on the profit from the Banff Mountain Film Festival to drive most of our activities. Happily, thanks to Anna-Lena Steiner and Lise Gagnon, this was again secured by achieving a sell-out crowd at the event. Following our decision regarding FMCBC membership, we were able to increase our donations to organisations with a specific focus on Island environmental and advocacy issues. These included the Vancouver Island Trail Association, the Vancouver Island avalanche bulletin, the Marmot Recovery Foundation, Ancient Forest Alliance, Strathcona Wilderness Institute and SICA.

There is one thank you that deserves its own place in this report, and that is to our new treasurer, Garth Stewart. In the midst of the difficult days following Clarke's death in June, Garth stepped up out of the blue with a generous offer to help. Since then he has invested countless hours in learning and untangling the web of our finances, without of course the benefit of a normal process of succession. Garth's thoroughness, patience and expertise have been greatly appreciated, and it has been a pleasure to welcome him to the executive. Additionally, Colleen Kasting, our former treasurer, quietly and supportively picked up all kinds of additional tasks to help with this transition. I am very grateful to you both.

Mary Sanseverino, our ebullient newsletter editor, is stepping down from her role after many years. So December 2019 saw the last in the current series of these editions, always beautifully constructed and packed with interest. As Mary herself noted, it has become more of a magazine than a newsletter. Our sincere thanks to Mary as she takes a well-earned break from this task.

We were touched and grateful that the Gourlay family once more offered their home to the broader mountaineering community for a get-together in November. In Victoria a Christmas party was once more hosted at the home of Tom and Pam Hall, with catering ably provided by Lynne Moorhouse and friends.

Looking ahead to 2020

And so the cycle of seasons continues as we look forward to a new year. Last year I pictured the life of our section as a healthy tree, this year I am thinking of us as a forest with this circle of life. And an old-growth forest for sure - beautiful, diverse and inter-connected. We are shaped by every contribution as we learn from each other and share what matters to us. Thanks to everyone for your part in nourishing and sustaining this community.

Financial Reports and Proposed 2020 Budget

1:12 PM

2020-02-05

Accrual Basis

**ACC Vancouver Island
Balance Sheet**

As of 31 December 2019

	<u>31 Dec 19</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
Coast Capital Chequing	27,615.71
Odlum Brown Contingency Fund	
OB Contingency - Fixed Income	<u>10,497.54</u>
Total Odlum Brown Contingency Fund	10,497.54
Odlum Brown Memorial Fund	
OB Memorial - Fixed Income	<u>21,422.80</u>
Total Odlum Brown Memorial Fund	21,422.80
Total Chequing/Savings	59,536.05
Other Current Assets	
Owing from the Hut Fund	510.75
Prepaid expenses	<u>3,551.09</u>
Total Other Current Assets	4,061.84
Total Current Assets	<u>63,597.89</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>63,597.89</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Youth Scholarship Funds	<u>100.00</u>
Total Accounts Payable	100.00
Other Current Liabilities	
GST Payable	-478.26
Holding Funds	
Equipment Fund	2,308.85
Summer Camp 2019	<u>1,416.87</u>
Total Holding Funds	3,725.72
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>3,247.46</u>
Total Current Liabilities	3,347.46
Total Liabilities	3,347.46
Equity	
Retained Earnings	60,000.34
Net Income	<u>250.09</u>
Total Equity	60,250.43
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>63,597.89</u>

12:53 PM

02-05-20

Accrual Basis

ACC Vancouver Island
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
 January through December 2019

	Jan - Dec 19	Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Banff Mountain Film Festival	19,361.32	26,000.00
Equipment Rentals	695.00	2,400.00
GST Recovered	1,015.27	1,300.00
Interest Income	10.04	10.00
Investment Funds Income	1,131.69	1,000.00
Membership Dues (from National)	9,378.85	9,400.00
Swag, Books, Misc.	99.00	300.00
Total Income	31,691.17	40,410.00
Expense		
Banff Film Festival	3,062.99	11,000.00
Bank Fees	81.00	100.00
Donations (Outgoing)	5,600.00	2,300.00
Education	5,105.32	5,600.00
Family Camp Bursary	0.00	3,500.00
FMCBC Dues	1,962.50	3,300.00
GST Paid	1,786.97	
Island Bushwhacker Annual (IBA)	9,225.25	4,750.00
Leadership Awards	1,133.35	1,200.00
Meetings	1,174.62	2,700.00
Misc. Projects, Events, Meeting	374.34	1,500.00
Newsletter	45.86	
Office & Supplies	820.88	50.00
Rental Equipment	0.00	3,200.00
Website Maintenance	168.00	210.00
Youth Scholarships (Mem. Fund)	900.00	1,000.00
Total Expense	31,441.08	40,410.00
Net Ordinary Income	250.09	0.00
Net Income	250.09	0.00

1:38 PM
2020-02-05
Accrual Basis

ACC Vancouver Island
Profit & Loss Budget Overview
January through December 2020

	<u>Jan - Dec 20</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Banff Mountain Film Festival	20,000.00
Equipment Rentals	3,000.00
GST Recovered	1,300.00
Interest Income	20.00
Investment Funds Income	1,000.00
Membership Dues (from National)	9,400.00
Swag, Books, Misc.	100.00
Total Income	<u>34,820.00</u>
Expense	
Banff Film Festival	3,500.00
Bank Fees	120.00
Donations (Outgoing)	5,600.00
Education	
ACCVI Education	2,500.00
Leadership Subsidies	4,100.00
Total Education	6,600.00
Family Camp Bursary	3,500.00
Gifts and Awards	900.00
Island Bushwhacker Annual (IBA)	5,200.00
Leadership Awards	1,200.00
Meetings	
AGM	300.00
Slide Shows	1,200.00
Summer BBQ, Xmas Party	1,300.00
Up Island Events	1,500.00
Total Meetings	4,300.00
Misc. Projects, Events, Meeting	1,500.00
Newsletter	600.00
Office & Supplies	100.00
Rental Equipment	600.00
Website Maintenance	200.00
Youth Scholarships (Mem. Fund)	900.00
Total Expense	<u>34,820.00</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>0.00</u>
Net Income	<u><u>0.00</u></u>

Memorial Fund

Geoff Bennett

The purpose of this fund is to disburse youth grants every year to deserving applicants. The capital value of the fund (donations plus Section contributions) must not be encroached. Section contributions are in effect a long term loan from the Section to the MF. In an emergency, the Section funds can be reclaimed from the MF. Since 2018, the Section has offered \$1,000 in youth grants each year, regardless of the underlying Fund performance. If the Fund yields less than \$1,000 then the Section makes up the balance.

- Year end 2019 balance in Odlum Brown account \$21,423 (same as 2018)
 - book value of corporate bonds (2): \$20,642
 - cash: \$781
- Total donations and matching section contributions since 2009: \$20,230
 - This is the capital in the Memorial Fund
- Total disbursements since 2009: \$7,694 on 11 projects
 - An additional \$1,181 has been contributed by the ACCVI Section (total \$8,875 to grant recipients)
- Total investment return since 2009: \$8,887
- **Funds available for disbursement in 2020:**
 - **Current balance in MF (\$21,423) less capital (\$20,230) = \$1,193**
 - **However, the cash balance is \$781, which is the maximum available for disbursement**

CONTINGENCY FUND

- The purpose of this fund is to hold \$10,000 in reserve for emergencies and to generate annual income for the Section.
- Original investment (2009): \$10,000
- Year end 2019 balance in Odlum Brown account \$10,469
 - book value of corporate bonds (2): \$10,118
 - **cash: \$351 (available for deposit to the ACC Coast Capital account)**

INVESTMENTS

- The CF and MF invest in the following corporate bonds through Odlum Brown:
- JOHN DEERE CANADA 2.05% 13MAY22
 - John Deere manufactures agricultural, construction and forestry machinery, diesel engines, drivetrains (axles, transmissions, gearboxes) used in heavy equipment, and lawn care equipment. The company also provides financial services and other related activities.
- ALLIED PROPERTIES REIT SR B 3.934% 14NOV22
 - A leading owner, manager and developer of (i) distinctive urban workspace in Canada's major cities and (ii) network-dense urban data centres in Toronto that

form Canada's hub for global connectivity. Allied's business is providing knowledge-based organizations with distinctive urban environments.

- GRANITE REIT Holdings Limited Partnership 3.873% S3 30NOV23
 - A Canadian-based Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) engaged in the acquisition, development, ownership and management of predominantly industrial, warehouse and logistics properties in North America and Europe. Granite owns over 85 investment properties representing approximately 33 million square feet of leasable area.

Since inauguration of the Memorial Fund in 2009, ACCVI has disbursed \$8,875 to 11 different youth groups in the alpine:

- 2010 - \$1,200 for the Brooks Peninsula Expedition (Gillian Nicol, Cory McGregor, Cody Gold, Derek Cronmiller)
- 2012 - \$250 for first ascents on the SW Buttress of Mount Arrowsmith (James Pierzchalski)
- 2013 - \$1,400 for a General Mountaineering Camp for youth at Mount Matchlee (Harry Steiner)
- 2013 - \$600 for a first ascent of North Needle Peak in the Great Bear Rainforest (Christina Service, Laura Grant, Vernon Brown)
- 2015 - \$925 for a study of weather conditions and climate change at 20 remote fire lookouts in the Rockies (Kristen Walsh)
- 2016 - \$1,500 to purchase climbing gear for a First Nations youth rock climbing camp near Ucluelet (Carlos Mack)
- 2018 – \$2,000 total
 - \$700 for a Strathcona Park traverse including first winter ascents of Tom Taylor and Mariner (Evan DeVault)
 - \$600 for a S-N hike of the entire VI Spine Trail (Isobel Glover)
 - \$500 for a ski tour of Liberty Bell, Washington by the ACCVI youth group (Derek Sou)
 - \$200 to purchase equipment for an expedition by Nanaimo Scouts to climb several major peaks in the UK (Andy Chapman-Coombs)
- 2019 - \$1,000 for a bike trip and climb by the ACCVI youth group of Mariner Mountain from Bedwell Sound (Derek Sou)

2019 was a busy and successful year for the Education portfolio of ACCVI. We coordinated a number of volunteer-led workshops, including Intro to Backcountry Skiing, Intro to Steep Snow, and Backcountry Cooking, as well as a number of professionally-taught courses including AST1, Crevasse Rescue, and Wilderness First Aid. The Intro to Rock Climbing course & workshop, which combines an IAG course and volunteer-led workshop, continues to be a popular offering. As the popularity of climbing gyms grows, so does the need for introductory courses for outdoor climbing and the ACCVI course/workshop has been popular with this crowd. Many thanks to the volunteer leaders who have helped lead workshops.

I also owe a debt of gratitude to Colin Mann. He and I took on this portfolio together, and 2019 was his last year. I couldn't have done it without him! I'm lucky to be joined by Iain Sou this year, but there's certainly room for more help if you'd like to join us as an education coordinator!

2020 will be another busy year, with many of the same workshops, courses, and also a few new offerings. As always, we welcome ideas for workshops, and if there's one you would like to lead then please be in touch with us. We'll work with you to develop workshop outcomes and will assist with any other details such as venue bookings.

National Club

Christine Fordham

Some National Initiatives:

- The long awaited - "**Summer Mountaineering Leader Field Handbook**" has now published. These are available on the national Website online bookstore for a nominal fee
- **State of the Mountains Report**, which was initiated from Member Survey of 2017, is one of a kind publication. It is now useful as an ongoing resource to policy makers, because the material is well researched and written by people with academic credentials and specialisation in the field they are reporting. This years "State of the Mountains" Report has an article about our hut.
- The National Access and Environment portfolio is going back and checking on the previous GMC summer camp locations and studying the long term impacts of camps in the mountains.
- This Summer ACC will participate in **Ice Core Sampling on Mt. Logan**. To study, amongst other things "elevation dependent warming". It is estimated that global warming occurs 6 times faster at higher elevation.
- ACC now has **25 sections**, as Squamish is now a section. That makes 7 for BC.
- The 2019 Mountain Guides Ball, for the first time featured a west coast (ie non –rockies) mountaineer and explorer John Baldwin was patron.

THE NATIONAL CLUB HAS TO OFFER

- **GMC's**, summer camp where members from all over Canada can climb, meet and learn.

- The **North Face Leadership Camps**

- Subscribing to the bi-weekly mountain muse **ACC DISPATCH**

Newsletter

Mary Sanseverino

For the past six years it has been my pleasure and privilege to serve as the editor of the Island Bushwhacker Newsletter. I've enjoyed reading, editing, and displaying your adventures from all over the VI Section, the rest of Canada, and the world. I produced my last Newsletter in Dec of 2019 and have happily passed the Newsletter baton over to Janelle Curtis. Her first edition will be out in March 2020.

In the past year we've also instituted a new feature – the Island Hi-Points Bulletin. This quick-to-read email is a summary of what's upcoming in the months to follow and includes key announcements for the Section. This baton has been passed to Anya Reid, who already has a few Hi-Points successfully under her belt.

My thanks to the entire ACC-VI membership. Not only for contributing – without too much arm twisting – but for reading and supporting the Newsletter and Hi-Points Bulletin. Give yourselves all a well-deserved round of applause! A final thank you to the ACC-VI executive – your encouragement and support have belayed me to some fine editorial vantage points over the years.

I know everyone in the ACC-VI Section and beyond will welcome, support, contribute, and – perhaps most importantly – read the Newsletters and Bulletins produced by Janelle and Anya. Looking forward to doing so myself!

Island Bushwhacker Annual

Robie Macdonald

The 2018 journal was printed in time for distribution at the summer barbecue at the end of August. New this year a full colour edition online, in addition to the printed version, which is mostly black and white. Members had the opportunity to opt-out of receiving a printed copy by email.

Membership

Kathy Kutzer

Individual Adult Memberships: 353
Student Members (1 UVic Student Membership): 28
Lifetime Memberships: 9
Youth: 0
Family Members: 312
Family Memberships: 116

Updates: - Bushwhacker Annual - Moving forward with an "opt-in" format for anyone wanting a hard copy of the Bushwhacker Annual. An online version will be available to all. An email will be sent out asking for those interested in receiving a hard copy to "opt -in". Lifetime members will automatically have one mailed to them.

Environment and Access

Barb Baker

- **Alberni Valley Community Forest & RSTBS** resolve to authorize trails so that maintenance, etc can be authorized & funded.
e.g. Gibson Plateau RSTBC trail...closed due to unsafe infrastructures.
Klitsa North approach supervised deactivation Br 268? Locals brushed out trail.
Adder north side...will keep the upper & older lower approach roads driveable.
Teodora Trail Sproat Lake Lookout 650 m
- **RDN** Joan Michel Park & Trails Coordinator retiring. RDN New Manager of Parks Services is Yann Gagnon. Janelle Curtis attended RDN Parks & Trails Strategy Workshop for their parks plan revision. Emphasized our interests in Arrowsmith Massif Regional Park access & signage, CPR Trail, assuming responsibility for the ACRD Regional Park. etc. Nanoose Notch area wetlands in their jurisdiction is another area threatened by development.

Marmot sighting on Arrowsmith. Looking for wardens.

- **ACRD** replaced bridge over China Creek on Stage 1 Inlet Trail, part of Vancouver Island Trail
 - **WFP** gives us heads up on any operations on Runners Trail (connection east to Cowichan Lake & part of VT). Also operate on Nootka Island & north Vancouver Island.
 - **FLNRO** Robert Thomas, RFT
District Engineering Officer
Information posted to the "South Island Natural Resource District Road Safety information" webpage is for major closures. For local information, call.
 - **Mountain Bikers** initiative gathered an impressive gathering of users, officials, Cumberland consultants mid November but has not taken off to date.
 - **UVic Environmental Law Centre** Calvin Sandborn Legal Director Published Enhancing Public Access to Privately Owned Wild Lands for ORC 2016, now working on a Citizen's Guide to Public Access, due soon. Also monitoring Vancouver Island Trail & other disputes.
Noah Ross, Nanaimo lawyer is looking at recent research data on the provenience of industrial roads. These two suggest legal attacks on specific road gates which could be launched on behalf of some group. Hence the invitation from Mr. Sandborn to apply for

legal assistance/research before April 1. Have done nothing thinking that ACCVI would be reluctant to pursue a lawsuit. Both to get back to me in the new year.

- **Mosaic**..ACCVI turned down offer of partnership. Offering us Oyster River...too remote & infrequently used to trouble with onerous partnership requirements. New interactive gate access map: to be updated Thursday, usually Friday. Includes the entire Island. Difficult to read the Connector status. ZOOM IN.

GOOD NEWS

Mosaic approached the ACRD to develop an access MOU specifically for the ACRD, and they have indicated that they would like to use this as an example for other communities. Following the first meeting (which happened in December 2019), Mosaic and the Province are drafting some terms of reference for the ongoing dialogue with the parties. The parties involved in this group are ACRD, Mosaic, FLNROD Forest Tenures staff, and FLNROD (Patrick Russell Manager Forest Tenures Br) Rec Sites and Trails staff. ACRD staff are involved in setting the terms of reference for the MOU. Mosaic “continues to work on improvements & solutions” . Expects some public announcement once TOR signed.

Sent ACCVI letter Jan 29 to ACRD supporting the efforts & offering assistance but no reply.

FMCBC

Anya Reid

January to March information was collected on the FMCBC’s activities on Vancouver Island and discussions continued from 2018 on whether the fee to the FMCBC is providing adequate value to ACC-VI members. Opinions were sought from the membership.

In the executive meeting on 30 April 2019 the following motion was proposed but not voted on: *That ACC-VI terminate membership in the FMCBC effective 31 May 2019.* Moved by Christine Fordham, Seconded by Jes Scott.

To ensure enough time was provided to make an informed vote the motion was emailed to the entire executive.

The executive voted by email on the motion by May 24th. The motion was passed and the Federation notified.

Individual members are still able to join the FMCBC.

The ACC-VI aims to continue support for the FMCBC with an annual donation.

We will also increase our annual donations to include organizations that focus on advocacy/environmental work, including FMCBC. This is in recognition of the fact that current members’ fees include an allocation to advocacy through FMCBC.

Youth Program

Derek Sou

As Program Coordinator, it is my pleasure to announce that the Kids and Youth Program went on 9 trips in 2019:

Trip #	Date	Trip	Type	Total	Families	Adults	Kids/Youth
75	Jan. 2019	Ski / Snowshoe	Ski	8	3	4	4
76	Jan. 2019	Ski / Snowshoe	Ski	14	5	7	7
77	Feb. 2019	Ski / Snowshoe Overnight	Ski	24	8	11	13
78	Mar. 2019	Mt Cain	Ski	19	6	8	11
79	May. 2019	Hut Steep Snow	Alpine	16	6	8	8
80	Jul. 2019	Mariner Mountain	Alpine	4	3	2	2
81	Jul. 2019	Family Week	Alpine	19	8	10	9
82	Aug. 2019	Climbing Camp	Climb	9	3	5	4
83	Oct. 2019	Hut Naming	Other	14	3	7	7
				127	45	62	65

These trips were led by either me or Stefan or both of us. My son, Iain, assisted the leaders on the trips he came on.

We had 21 different families and a total of 24 different kids/youth, ranging from ages 7 to 18, come out on our trips. 9 families came on one trip, 6 on two trips, 3 on three trips, and 1 on each of six and seven trips. Our largest trip was our overnight ski/snowshoe with 24 participants, 13 of which were kids/youth.

A highlight was the hut naming trip, which included the ACCVI Kids and Youth and Warrior Youth from Ucluelet, Toquaht and Tia-o-qui-aht First Nations. We are planning further trips with both of these groups for 2020.

I would like to conclude by acknowledging the support of the executive for the Memorial Fund Youth Grant for our Mariner Mountain trip in July, continued bursaries for *Family Week* and providing free gear rentals for Kids and Youth trips, which included ropes, harnesses, helmets, crampons, and snowshoes this year.

Equipment

Mike Hubbard

Receipts for rentals for the calendar year 2019 for gear handled by me amounted to \$639. The only substantial purchase has been for the upgrading of our Avalanche Transceivers by replacing the old Arvas with 10 Barryvox for \$2673.10. Two of these are in the Up Island Gear which has been taken over by Val Wooton and Lindsay Elms in Courtenay and the remainder are with me in Saanichton. The climbing gear, (ropes, harnesses and helmets) which Bernard Friesen had been looking after is moving to Peter Morgan's in Esquimalt. I am continuing to look after the remainder of the gear from our home in Saanichton. It is a little out of the way for members but I am prepared to continue with it until a more central location is found.

Hut Committee

Chris Jensen

With the long term hut replacement fund + unallocated funds =~\$6,600. Also no major upcoming expenses have been earmarked yet

And thanks to our shrewd treasurer, the project stayed in the black the whole time.

Please make sure to welcome Peter Gilbert to the crowd and thank the 2019 donors. With the donations we were able to add the wind turbines. The deck was also finished in 2019. No major capital expenses identified for 2020. Some \$ might go into access improvements.

Hišimýawił Hut Financial Report

Colleen Kasting

Jan 1, 2019 to Dec 31, 2019

Income

Hut bed night rentals	\$29,821
Donations	\$ 6,425
Last installment of ICET grant	\$ 9,000
Income from 2018 GST rebate	\$ 1,446
Interest	\$ 2.

Total income **\$ 46,694**

Expenses

Supplies (hut maintenance and materials for hut completion)	\$26,888
GST paid out 2019	\$ 1,372
Helicopter and transportation	\$ 6,290
Hut fuel and heating	\$ 1,064
Pay back loan to ACCVI	\$ 4,500
Total expenses	\$40,114
Hut replacement fund (for long term replacement costs)	\$ 3,996

Total costs **\$ 44,109**

Difference **\$ 2,583**

Bank Reconciliation

In bank account Dec 31, 2019	\$2807
In bank account Jan 1, 2019	\$ 224
Difference	\$ 2,583

Other information

Number of paid hut nights

Members	442	
Non members	946	
Youth under 17		<u>155</u>
Total	1543	

Unpaid nights by volunteers and custodians not included in these numbers.

Notes of interest**From the beginning of the project:**

1. The total number of private donations since the beginning of the project were \$118,221 from 181 people.
2. Contributions from ACCVI were \$28,105
3. Other grants totalled \$145,925

Leadership awards

Natasha Salway

1st prize Gamma MX jackets, tie between Colin Mann and Derek Sou (19 Points)

2nd \$100 VPO gift card Natasha Salway (16 Points)

3rd place \$100 VPO gift card each, tie between Jes Scott and Stefan Gessinger (15 Points)

4th place \$50 VPO gift card each, tie between Catrin Brown and Martin Hofmann (11.5 Points)

Waiver draws

Mountain Hard Hat, Erich Schellhammer

\$25 VPO gift card to Peggy Taylor

\$25 VPO gift card to Andrew Pape-Salmon

Nominations Committee

Mike Hubbard

I have once again canvassed the existing members of the executive. Mary Sanseverino and Colin Mann have both indicated that they would like to stand down and on behalf of all of us I would like to thank them for their substantial contribution to the work of the executive. Mary for her amazing work on the Newsletter and Colin for all the energy he has put into the education program. A request for expressions of interest in serving on the executive was published in the Winter Newsletter and a similar request was circulated by email to all members. We are fortunate in that Janelle Curtis has stepped forward and volunteered to take on the Newsletter and serve on the executive and Iain Sou has agreed to assist Alois with education as a volunteer coordinator. Josh Slatkoff has offered to serve on the executive and to assist the communications team and Laura Darling has agreed to also serve and assist Anna-Lena Steiner with the Banff Film Festival whilst also continuing on the Summer Camp Committee.

It is not however too late and we will be asking for any proposals from the floor at the AGM. On the basis of the responses I have received I propose the election of the following executive for the next year all of whom have agreed to run:

Chair: Catrin Brown

Secretary: David Lemon

Treasurer: Garth Stewart

Access: Barb Baker

Banff Film Festival: Laura Darling

Bushwhacker Annual: Robie Macdonald

Bushwhacker Newsletter: Janelle Curtis

Communications/Website: Martin Hofmann, Karun Thanjavur, Jessica Scott, Josh Slatkoff and Kathy Kutzer.

Education: Alois Schonenberger

Gear: Mike Hubbard

High Points: Anya Reid

Hut: Chris Jensen

Leadership: Natasha Salway

Library and Archives: Tom Hall

National representative: Christine Fordham

Safety: Brianna Coates

Summer Camp: Liz Williams

Youth Programme: Derek Sou

In addition to the executive we have a large number of volunteer coordinators and committee members who contribute a fantastic amount to the club. Lise Gagnon, Peter Morgan, and Bernard Friesen are standing down as Banff Film Festival, summer camp committee and climbing gear coordinator respectively and we thank them for all their work . Peter has however agreed to take over the ropes and rock climbing gear from Bernard. The following have agreed to continue or join:

Geoff Bennett: Memorial fund and First Nations Liaison

Anna-Lena Steiner: Banff Mountain Film Festival

Lindsay Elms: Historian

Peter Morgan: Ropes and Rock Climbing gear

Caroline Tansley: Trail Rider

Peggy Taylor: Swan Lake slide shows

Neil Han: Slide show Technology

Brian Parsons: Slide show Technology

Dave Suttill: Slide show Hospitality

Jeff Beddoes: Summer Camp Committee

Gary Croome: Hut Committee

Peter Gilbert: Hut Committee

Colleen Kasting: Hut Committee Treasurer

Iain Sou: Education Committee