

2022

Annual General Meeting

of the

Sea Kayak Association of BC

(SKABC)



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Minutes of the 2022 SKABC Annual General Meeting

Monday, November 7, 2022.

SKABC's 2022 Annual General Meeting was a virtual meeting held using the Zoom platform. The meeting was recorded.

Chair: George Prevost, President.

1. The meeting was called to order by George Prevost at 7:35 PM. A quorum (at least 10% of the voting membership) was verified based on member only pre-registration and log in to meeting. Attendance was 39 members out of a total of 235, which is 17% of the membership.
2. Moved by Deb Merchant that the agenda of 2022 Annual General Meeting be adopted. Carried.
3. Moved by Clark Perry-Bater that the minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting be adopted. Carried.
4. Report of Treasurer and 2021 -2022 Financial Statements.
There were no questions regarding the Treasurer's Report or Financial Statement.
Moved by Deb Merchant that the 2021-2022 Financial Statements be adopted. Carried.

George thanked Treasurer Nick Heath and Assistant Treasurer Mary Yee for monitoring and reporting SKABC's financial affairs.

5. Executive Committee Reports.
Written Executive Committee reports were distributed to members with the AGM agenda and are also appended to these minutes. Any questions may be directed to the executive members responsible.
6. Election of Directors and other Executive members.
The Board of Directors has legal responsibility for SKABC. The Executive carries out the directives of the Directors and day to day business. All directors are members of the Executive but not all members of the Executive are Directors.
 - a. Board of Directors:
The following directors were nominated by the Nominating Committee to serve on the Board of Directors for another term. There were no additional nominations at the AGM so all were elected to the Board of Directors by acclamation.
 - i. President: George Prevost
 - ii. Vice President: John Leung
 - iii. Secretary: Philip Kubik

- iv. Treasurer: Nick Heath
 - v. Director at Large: Helen Beer
 - vi. Director at Large: Kevin Hall
 - vii. Director at Large: Deb Merchant
 - viii. Director at Large: Steve Best
 - ix. Director at Large: Susan Jensen
- b. Additional elected positions on the Executive:
The following members were nominated for the executive positions listed below. Those with asterisks after their names were also elected as Directors at Large. There were no additional nominations at the AGM so all were elected by acclamation.
- i. Safety Officer: Helen Beer*
 - ii. Programs Officer: Kevin Hall*
 - iii. Marine Trails, Parks, and Conservation Officer: Deb Merchant*
 - iv. Howe Sound Site Steward: Steve Best*
 - v. Webmaster & Trips Officer: Susan Jensen*
 - vi. Membership Officer: Kevin Amos
 - vii. Training Officer: Kathleen Cunningham
 - viii. Librarian: Lorraine Sharpsteen
 - ix. Social Committee Chair: Quirine Schuyff
 - x. Outreach & Promotions Officer: Clark Perry-Bater
 - xi. Social Media Officer: Mike McHolm
 - xii. Communications: A volunteer is needed for this position.
- c. Un-elected positions on the Executive.
- i. Past-President: Chantal Ethier
- d. The following members have volunteered to assist as listed below. These are not executive positions.
- i. Programs Committee: Jody Baker
 - ii. Membership Committee: Enoth Hei Ho Li
 - iii. Website Committee: Roberto Dominguez

- iv. Social Committee: Jayne Hardy
 - v. Trips Committee: George Prevost, Jayne Hardy, Peter Kearney, Jonas Lindgren, Kevin Amos, Sarka Lhotak, Limor Friedman
 - vi. Workshops Coordinator: Jody Chan
- e. Outgoing executives. George Prevost thanked all of the outgoing members of the executive for their service.
- i. Sue Johnson: Social Committee Social Committee Chair & Member at Large
 - ii. Mary Yee: Assistant Treasurer
 - iii. Don Osborne: Membership Committee
 - iv. Gunilla Öberg: Communications Committee
 - v. Ian Freemantle: Communications Committee
 - vi. Kelly Robertson: Workshops Coordinator
 - vii. Kapila Jayaweera: Conservation Committee
 - viii. Jody Baker: Outreach and Promotions Committee

7. New Business

- a. Moved by Philip Kubik that membership fees for 2023 remain unchanged. Carried.
- b. SKABC's Christmas Party will be held at the Allan Emmott Centre in Burnaby on Saturday, Dec. 3 at 5:30 PM. Turkey and salmon will be provided by SKABC. The remainder of the meal will be potluck. Please sign up on the SKABC website under Events.
- c. Trip Leader virtual meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 22. Facilitated by Susan Jensen.

8. Next Annual General Meeting

Likely to be the first Monday in November 2023. Format to be decided.

9. The 2022 Annual General Meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM.

The meeting was followed by a presentation about the Howe Sound Recreation Sites by Steve Best.

Executive Committee Annual Reports

President's Report

George Prevost, President

As life began to return to normal this year our club began to function more as it has in the past, with a full roster of trips, a number of course offerings and a full complement of social activities.

Our monthly meetings for members continued to be a key part of the club's program offerings. Based on feedback from members we decided to continue hosting these meetings on Zoom rather than getting together in person. This allowed us to include members who live too far away to attend in-person meetings, including some from Squamish, Sechelt and as far away as Oregon. We again had an excellent complement of presenters and, in a new feature this year, some meetings began with "pre-meeting" presentations on a variety of safety related topics. We also continued to enjoy conversation in breakout rooms both before and after meetings.

As we did last year, we had three virtual film festivals, this time featuring films from the Waterwalker 2021 lineup. Each free festival was attended by from twenty to thirty people who enjoyed a wide variety of different "paddling" films as well as taking part in interesting conversations with other attendees.

With public health rules becoming less restrictive we were able to hold a very successful in-person Christmas party which was attended by almost fifty people. We also held a Spring Fling and a Fall Fling at Cates Park in North Vancouver, serving pizza, salads, and desserts to more than forty people at each. Several day trips were offered before each of these events, and all were well attended. In lieu of our monthly meetings in July and August, we had picnics at Locarno Beach, with twenty to thirty members enjoying each other's company each time.

We were able offer a full roster of trips this year. There were eight multi-day trips including our annual Labour Day long weekend get together at Newcastle Island. There were also more than twenty individual day trips, as well as recurring Thursday night "Locarno Sunset" paddles and "2nd Sunday" paddles out of Barnet Marine Park. And there were several day paddles offered at both the Spring and the Fall Fling. Several courses were also offered.

Our stewardship work in Howe Sound continued, with club volunteers checking in periodically on each of the six BC Marine Trail sites. We also installed five new tent platforms: three at Tantalus Landing and two at Islet View. Work is also continuing on the development of a new site at Apodaca Park on Bowen Island.

In terms of administration, the re-organization of our financial records that we initiated last year is now complete and as, we had hoped, we are finding it easier to keep track of our different accounts. We have also switched our accounting software from Quickbooks to Wave. We have continued to make an effort to conduct our affairs in a formal, businesslike manner and, in particular, to make the distinction between directors and other members of the executive clearer and more explicit.

We are looking forward to another excellent year in 2022-2023 with a full roster of trips and courses, another series of excellent programs at our monthly meetings, and lots of opportunities for in-person socializing.

I'd like to finish by thanking all of the executive for their excellent work this year. It continues to be a privilege to lead such a strong, committed team of talented people!

Financial Report

Nick Heath, Treasurer

I'm pleased to again report that our finances are in good shape.

Mary Yee once more provided amazing assistance with her advice, setting up our new accounting system, carefully keeping records and reconciling our bank statements to the accounts.

We continued to restructure our accounts to make things clearer and to separate our year by year operating funds and budgets from savings and expenditure of previously accumulated funds. Part way through the year we began to use 'Wave', a proprietary cloud-based accounting system that, because of our modest needs, is free for us to use. We expect this will avoid the current need for keeping separate spreadsheet records that are then duplicated in Mary's QuickBooks stand-alone accounting system. It also allows any authorized person, e.g., SKABC's President to view transactions and balances any time she/he might wish to do so.

This year, in addition to having a healthy reserve fund of about \$6500, the Executive chose to set aside an additional \$2000 as an operating contingency fund, but neither fund was needed. Budgets were discussed and planned early for the year and were carefully adhered to. As usual, under-spending was far more evident than over-spending.

We were again successful in asking for and being given grants to help with some of our projects:

RSTBC site maintenance grant	Maintenance of 6 Howe Snd. rec. sites	\$5,000.00
Outdoor Recreation Council of BC	Trails Day outreach event	\$300.00

A big thank you is due to all who worked to secure these grants.

In addition, Valhalla Pure Outfitters Squamish held a Sea to Sky Trail fundraiser event that raised \$3,000 for BC Marine Trails, who, in turn, are expected to spend this on the Howe Sound sites under our stewardship.

Use of Legacy Funds

We continued to cautiously manage our accumulated savings – the Legacy Fund - for long – term investments in the local paddling area. However, with the other money we received, especially the funds received last year, our Directors approved no further expenditures from the Legacy Fund, so we made no dent in the balance, ending the year with even more savings

than when we started! Member input on how best to spend the Legacy Fund is always welcome.

Income Statement (Operating Fund)

Income Statement (Operating)		2021-10-01 to 2022-09-30	
Income	Membership Dues		\$9,015.00
	Training Fees		\$1,300.00
	Trip Fees		\$420.00
	Outdoor Rec Council of BC Contribution		\$300.00
	Workshop Fees		\$15.00
	Miscellaneous Revenue		\$10.00
	Interest Income		\$285.83
	Total Income		\$11,345.83
Expenses	Administrative	Insurance	\$1,506.09
		Website	\$172.87
		Bank Charges	\$39.69
		Stripe Processing Fees	\$418.49
		Rent Expense -storage locker	\$533.60
		Administrative other	\$650.12
		sub total	\$3,320.86
			\$3,320.86
	Social	Social - Xmas Party	\$1,420.71
		Social Fall Fling	\$528.02
		Social Spring Fling	\$526.42
		sub total	\$2,475.15
			\$2,475.15
	Other	Conservation: Parks & Marine Trails	\$296.00
		Film Festival	-\$5.14
		Howe Sound Stewardship	\$500.78
		Library	\$215.07
		Outreach	\$849.87
		Programs	\$583.75
		Training expense	\$107.77
		Trips Expense	\$558.90
		Workshops	\$63.30
		Total Operating Expenses	\$8,966.31
Net Income			\$2,379.52

Balance Sheet

Balance Sheet		As of 2022-09-30	
Assets	Cash and Bank	Legacy Fund 3 (Term Deposit)	\$10,801.76
		Legacy Fund 4 (Term Deposit)	\$10,045.66
		Legacy Fund 5 (Term Deposit)	\$8,749.67
		Legacy Fund 6 (Term Deposit)	\$10,045.66
		Legacy Fund 7 (Term Deposit)	\$10,045.66
		Legacy Fund 8 (Term Deposit)	\$10,045.66
		Legacy Fund 9 (Term Deposit)	\$12,000.00
		Online PayPal	\$215.70
		Online Stripe	\$869.56
		Reserve Fund (Term Deposit)	\$6,566.58
		VCCU Chequing	\$10,720.13
		VCCU Membership Shares	\$403.37
		Prepaid Insurance, Zoom	\$314.24
		Total Assets	\$90,823.65
Liabilities & Equity	Liabilities	2022-23 Training Fees	\$520.00
		Equity	
		Net income FY 2021-22	\$2,379.52
		FYE2020-21 Net Income	\$3,000.00
		Legacy Fund	\$64,607.90
		Reserve Fund	\$6,554.52
		Special Projects Fund	\$13,761.71
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$90,823.65		

Special Projects Fund

Special Projects Fund		2021-10-01 to 2022-09-30	
		Expense/Income	Balance
2021-10-01	Starting Balance		\$9,274.11
2021-10-21	Signage: Zorro Bay	-\$283.22	\$8,990.89
2022-02-15	Lumber for platforms: Apodaca	-\$3,860.00	\$5,130.89
2022-02-22	Material for platforms: Apodaca	-\$731.77	\$4,399.12
2022-03-25	BC Parks Grant: Apodaca	\$5,000.00	\$9,399.12
2022-06-04	Material for platforms: Islet View, Tantalus Ldg.	-\$261.98	\$9,137.14
2022-08-10	RST W.O. Re 6 Howe Sound rec. sites	\$5,000.00	\$14,137.14
2022-09-14	Transport & materials: Islet View, Tantalus Ldg.	-\$375.43	\$13,761.71
2022-09-30	Ending Balance		\$13,761.71

Communications Report

Gunilla Öberg and Ian Freeman, Communications Committee

A Newsletter has been sent out on a monthly basis with information about club meetings, trips, and courses. The Newsletter has also included reports from events such as the Spring and Fall Fling, Howe Sound Stewardship, and the library plus one or two trip-reports.

In April 2022, the platform for communicating with members was changed to Sendinblue, which is considerably easier to use than the previous platform. At times, the limited number of emails allowed delayed the Newsletter, which can be solved by increasing the allowance (at a higher cost). Sendinblue also provides statistics that makes it easy to analyze how many recipients open the messages. As seen in Table 1 below, the Newsletter and Club meeting reminders are opened by approximately half of the members whereas other reminders hover between 30-40%.

Table 1. Statistics for SKABC communications March 2022-Sept 2022.

Sent date	Subject	Sent	Opened	Opening rate
Reminders				
23-03-2022	SKABC Film Night - March 26 at 7pm	172	78	45%
29-04-2022	SKABC film fest continues	178	65	37%
02-05-2022	More spots added for the Spring Fling -- last call!	178	75	42%
20-05-2022	Seeking volunteers for Big Brothers & Big Sisters paddle	178	74	42%
23-06-2022	Summer Picnic At Locarno Beach	198	84	42%
03-07-2022	TOMORROW - Summer Picnic At Locarno Beach	205	85	41%
08-07-2022	August Picnic and Gear Swap At Locarno Beach	205	88	43%
01-08-2022	August Picnic and Gear Swap At Locarno Beach	205	86	42%
29-08-2022	Join us at the Fall Fling!	204	63	31%
Club-meeting reminders				
04-04-2022	SKABC monthly meeting reminder	170	85	50%
02-05-2022	Club meeting reminder	178	85	48%
06-06-2022	Reminder: SKABC meeting tonight -- Zoom link	199	80	40%
12-09-2022	Reminder: SKABC meeting Monday Night, September 12 at 7:30 PM	204	95	47%
Newsletter				
16-04-2022	SKABC Monthly Newsletter	178	83	47%
16-05-2022	SKABC Monthly Newsletter	178	89	50%
12-06-2022	SKABC Monthly Newsletter	198	104	53%
18-07-2022	SKABC Monthly Newsletter	205	95	46%
24-08-2022	SKABC Monthly Newsletter	204	93	46%

Recommendations

The outgoing communications team strongly recommend that:

- The website be set up so members can easily choose the type of communications they wish to receive. This is because there clearly are large differences among member preferences to that end. Some wish to receive only the Newsletter and express irritation over all the reminders whereas others would happily receive even more reminders than presently are being sent out.
- The responsibilities of the communications person/team be limited to the Newsletter and club meeting reminders.
- SKABC makes it possible for individual members of the executive to send out general reminders, for example by creating a forum where each member of the executive can post. Members can then easily decide if they wish to subscribe to these posts.

Conservation Report

Deb Merchant and Kapila Jayaweera, Conservation Committee

Three events were planned this year to remove invasive species in Belcarra Regional Park. The locations were determined by the Metro Vancouver Regional Parks liaison. Our November 2021 event was cancelled due to exceptional rainfall; March 2022 was a successful paddle/pull event; April 2022 became a walk-in/pull event due to strong westerly winds. Thank you to members for your ongoing support for these events.

We represented SKABC at the Outdoor Recreation Council of BC's AGM, BC Marine Trails' AGM, and the Cross Club Group of BCMT. The latter committee meets quarterly to bring paddling clubs together for information sharing and to plan stewardship events. We look forward to more activity in the coming year and welcome your suggestions.

Library Report

Lorraine Sharpsteen, Librarian

SKABC's library currently has 149 books (hardcover, paperback and spiralbound), 21 DVDs, and 4 electronic documents (Government of Canada) listed in the catalogue. At the moment 24 items are checked out.

New this year, the catalogue lists 4 websites from the Government of Canada related to sea kayaking, including weather, nautical charts, and water safety.

Club members have been able to access the collection at the club's in-person social events: the Christmas party, Spring Fling, both summer picnics and the Fall Fling. As well, members have been invited to pick up and return items at my home, where the collect currently resides.

Membership Report

Enoth Li, Membership Chair

As of Sept. 30, SKABC had 222 members, of which 53 are new members since Jan 1st. Another 7 members joined after Oct. 1. The total includes:

- 23 additional family memberships at \$10 each
- 1 additional family membership, free
- 1 honorary life membership, free
- Remainder are standard memberships at \$45 each

Programs Report

Kevin Hall, Programmes Officer

Monthly meetings continued in the virtual format and were generally well attended. Numbers of attendees ranged from approximately 35 up to 80+ at some meetings. The following is a list of our monthly meetings and feature presenters:

- November - AGM + Howe Sound Marine Trail update
- December - Christmas Party
- January - Ross MacDonald, Environment Canada
- February - Frank Wolf, adventurer
- March - Emily Johnson, Marine Mammal Rescue Centre
- April - Alexandra Morton, biologist and salmon advocate
- May - Robin Kort, Swallowtail Tours
- June - Sophie Cheshire & Courtney Smaha, Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative
- July - Picnic
- August - Picnic
- September - Sidney Dixon, Pacific Wild
- October - Beau Miles

In addition to our feature presenters, Bob Salo and Helen Beer (Safety Officer) arranged for at least 3 brief (20-30 min) presentations on safety topics. These were very well received and it's hoped that they will continue.

My hope is that the members are enjoying the virtual presentations and that these will continue for the coming year. At the same time, we need to keep up with offering in-person events and social meet-ups to fill-in for not offering in-person monthly meetings.

Safety Report

Helen Beer, Safety Officer

Safety Talks

Two Safety talks were presented by Bob Salo at the January and March member meetings:

- Emergency...What happens now.
- Cold Water bootcamp - video and discussion

The talks were well received and will continue this winter. There was a fair bit of preparation of the YouTube video quality ahead of time, but I suggest that another platform be used in the future due to the quality of the picture during the presentation. There will be a further talk by Bob at the November meeting. The topic will be Communication.

Rescue Practices

Rescue practices were organized on the following dates:

- May 1 – Philip Kubik & Ted Lam - Jericho Beach
- June 12 - Maureen Benson - Whytecliff Park
- July 17 - Maureen Benson - Strathcona Park
- August 14 - Maureen Benson - Whytecliff Park

Trip Reports

Trip reports for the following trips were reviewed by the Safety Officer. No trip reports mentioned safety issues, except for the April 9 Indian Arm Trip.

- April 9 - Indian Arm - Katya stated that there was wind and chop and due to a new inexperienced paddler, the trip was shortened with a beach landing and drive out to parked vehicles. There were also towing issues that were resolved.
- May 21-23 Nick Heath

- June 12 - Maureen Benson - Bachelor Bay rescue session - Maureen mentioned to make sure to check marine forecast a day prior and again on the morning of due to potential windy conditions in Howe Sound.
- July 17 - Maureen Benson - 3 hours rolling workshop
- July 22-24 - John Leung
- Sept 10/22 Kapila Jayaweera Fall Fling paddle - Cates Park to Twin Islands

Forum Posting

In a forum posting, Roberto gave a good description of the challenges he had after capsizing on a crossing in Collingwood channel west of Bowen Island. This was not a SKABC posted trip. There was a response from a member requesting the club to offer a rescue session in rough seas to prepare member participants for challenging rescues in rough conditions.

Social Committee Report

Sue Johnson, Social Chair

Events

Organized the 2021 Christmas party at the Alan Emmott Centre, Burnaby with help mainly from Darlene Brown and Trudie Vanderburg. A few other members were recruited for specific help. Guests were starting to feel comfortable socializing in terms of COVID-19, perhaps because we had the building to ourselves. 49 guests enjoyed a Secret Santa, Allan Edwin's slide show, and an abundance of potluck items as well as club-supplied salmon and turkey prepared by 4 members. Both Trudie and Darlene volunteered to take a Special Event Server course and serve alcohol. Two Christmas trees and numerous decorations made for a colorful and festive hall.

Organized the Spring Fling. Kallie Cunningham spoke to the group of 38, acknowledging how she has benefited from other club members' experience, skills, and knowledge throughout the years. Unfortunately, because of the cold wind, guests left fairly early after dinner.

Summer picnics were held in July and August. Many people brought food to share, and one member barbecued and also created special beverages for anyone who desired. It was nice to see a few new members attend.

After a pleasant day on the water, the dinner portion of the Fall Fling / Volunteer Appreciation was well attended with about 45 people. Our speakers were Brian Pegg, who encouraged members to contribute volunteer time, as well as Steve Best, who updated the group on Howe Sound.

General

Updated last year's social event Notes (task checklists). These are filed on the club website for future committee members to use as a starting point for these events.

Updated documents: Club Property Inventory List including North Shore Public Mini Storage, Club Property at Members' Homes, and Club Property at Howe Sound Sites.

Training Report

Chantal Ethier, Training Officer

Courses Held:

- 1 Greenland Paddle Carving course
9 spots available and all were filled. One last minute cancellation (8/9).
- 4 Rolling clinics
4 spots available per course and all were filled, but one. One last minute cancellation for each of 2 courses (13/16).
- 1 Navigation course
10 spots available, 6 spots were filled (6/10)
- 1 Paddle Canada Level 1 Skill course, in partnership with PIKA
- 4 spots available to SKABC members and all were filled (4/4).

Courses offered but cancelled due to insufficient enrollment:

- Trip Leader course
- Beginner's course
- Knots and Tarps course
- Weather

We tried to setup a currents course, unfortunately the required accommodations were unavailable this year.

Trips Report

Susan Jensen, Trips Officer

For 2022, a Trips Committee was formed to jump start club trips after a slow period during COVID-19 restrictions. The members were George Prevost, Kevin Amos, Jonas Lindgren, Jayne Hardy, Sarka Lhotak, and Peter Kearney. We met in January to set goals then held a meeting for

potential Trip Leaders and Coordinators over Zoom in February to plan trips for the season. Many club members volunteered to lead trips and since October 2021 we were able to offer the following:

Multiday trips:

- Thanksgiving in Howe Sound (2021)
- Thormanby Island Camping
- Southern Gulf Islands Tour
- Gambier Island SW - Private Cabin
- Tunstall Bay to Pasley Island Group
- Ramilies Recreation Site
- Sechelt Inlet, Sunshine Coast
- Labour Day Weekend at Newcastle Island
- Galiano Island Circumnavigation

Day trips:

- English Bay
- Indian Arm - Deep Cove to Silver Falls
- Ambleside to Eagle Harbour
- Spanish Banks - Siwash Rocks
- Jericho to Secret Beach
- Deep Cove Morning Paddle
- 2nd Sunday Paddles at Barnet Marine Park – monthly series
- Ambleside to Eagle Harbour
- Widgeon Creek with Hike to Falls and Cooking Experiment Series
- Deep Cove to Indian River
- Spring Fling Paddles in Indian Arm
- Howe Sound Archaeology
- Locarno Sunset Paddle - weekly series
- Pitt Lake Day Trip

- White Rock Crabbing Paddle
- Indian Arm Archaeology
- Anvil Island
- Wreck Beach Sunset Paddles
- Bowen Island Circumnavigation
- Tantalus Landing
- Fall Fling paddles in Indian Arm
- Ambleside to Eagle Harbour
- Harrison River Paddle
- Deep Cove to Silver Falls

Notably Nick Heath, Philip Kubik, Ted Lam, Cynthia Rose-Lee, Jonas Lindgren, and Vincent Law each led several SKABC trips – a big Thank You!

SKABC trips are free unless there are campground or ferry costs. Upcoming trips are listed in the monthly newsletter as well as on the website. Some of the trips offered filled up, but many ran with several spaces still available. It is hoped that we will better be able to match offerings to demand in 2023.

The Trip Leaders met at the end of May to debrief the first trips of the year and firm up late season trips. An important goal of the committee is to support Trip Leaders so we all continue to learn and improve our skills. A final wrap-up meeting for all Trip Leaders is being planned for Fall.

Workshops Report

Kelly Robertson, Workshops Officer

- Trip Planning Workshop Apr 9 cancelled due to lack of interest
- Knots & Tarps Workshop Apr 9 cancelled due to lack of interest
- Trip Leader Workshops May 3 & 10 full attendance

Webmaster's Report

Susan Jensen, Webmaster

SKABC's Wordpress website includes a database of members, events, instructor and executive resources, and a forum. The site is hosted at GoDaddy.

A volunteer web committee made up of Susan Jensen, Joe Dupuis and Timo van der Schuit met weekly in the off-season to troubleshoot and make improvements to website performance. A staging site was created and a Trello task board was used to prioritize jobs and keep track of issues. Improvements were made in the membership registration process, event listings, SSL configuration, and forum notifications.

This past year the web and communications teams began using the service “SendinBlue” to send not only club newsletters but transactional emails such as forum notifications and event reminders. This improved the deliverability of club emails.

Roberto Dominguez joined the web team in the Spring to post many of the club trips on the site and set up registration.

The website continues to be a primary way that club members learn about paddling opportunities. Members also utilized the forum to post questions and share knowledge about kayaking.

Howe Sound Marine Trails Report

Steve Best, Howe Sound Marine Trails Steward

Danger Trees

In March, I accompanied staff from Recreation Sites and Trails BC (RSTBC) and a danger tree assessor on a tour of all six sites. Subsequent to the tour, a wildfire crew went to the sites and cut down the danger trees. Volunteers then paddled to the sites and cleaned up branches from the downed trees.

Tent Platforms

In 2021, Murray Sovereign, owner of Valhalla Pure Outfitters in Squamish, donated \$9,000 toward tent platforms at two sites on the Sea to Sky Marine Trail in Howe Sound. We had two suppliers mill cedar for five platforms and, in September of 2021, we delivered the lumber for three 10' x 10' platforms to Tantalus Landing, and for two 12' x 12' platforms to Islet View. Nasty weather held up construction for a while, but in April and May of 2022, we built the three platforms at Tantalus Landing and, in July, we built two 12' x 12' platforms at Islet View.

Thank you to Murray Sovereign and his Valhalla Pure Trail Fund for the funds to build these tent Platforms.

Apodaca Park

In 2021, Nick Heath secured a \$5,000 Parks Enhancement Fund grant to mill cedar for four tent platforms. The cedar has been milled and stored at the BC Parks Works Yard in North Vancouver. Some of it has been delivered by BC Parks to the site. We are awaiting the go-ahead from BC Parks and First Nations to start construction of the platforms.

Food Cache Replacement

In 2017, steel jobsite toolboxes were located at each of our six sites as food caches. Despite a great paint job by Nick Heath, five years later they are rusting. Over the next three years we are planning to replace two caches per year with aluminum caches. Funds from RSTBC and a \$3,000 donation from a film festival put on by Valhalla Pure Outfitters in July will cover the first two caches. We are now narrowing down suppliers.

Outreach and Promotions Report

Jody Baker and Clark Perry-Bater, Outreach and Promotions Committee

Paddling Film Festivals

We held three paddling festival nights where we screened 11 paddling films for the membership. It required a lot of effort with a subcommittee of four to review the films. Attendance fluctuated between and during screenings but was around 25 audience members per night. Switching between Friday and Saturday nights had no impact on attendance.

Future concerns: The festival as a zoom event was adequate but not optimal. The executive should consider whether we should revert to in-person events this winter/spring. We might poll the membership to see how much interest there is for in-person events.

Big Brothers/Sisters paddle

Our Big Brothers and Big Sisters paddle on June 18 was a successful outreach to both adults and youth. 4 double kayaks were rented from Rocky Point Kayaks. The weather was cool, but the water was calm. Despite our strong recommendations, some of the kids did not dress appropriately for the weather, as teens will do. The scenic water and shoreline of Port Moody proved to be an attraction for all the paddlers: we showed them the Japanese village movie set for Shogun, the old Flavelle sawmill, the industrial terminal, and the estuary, until low tide made it inaccessible. There were plenty of herons and seals to watch. We demonstrated navigation, rolling, towing, assisted and self-rescues all of which seemed to interest the participants. It was also a lot of fun for the SKABC paddlers to share our enthusiasm for the sport and connect with the kids and adults.

The planned BBQ was dropped due to expense and more so because of onerous Food Safe BC regulations and requirements. We provided snacks and Big Sisters also brought sandwiches and snacks.

Future concerns: We should put even more emphasis on appropriate clothing for the youth, perhaps with a separate email to all participants to wear warm clothing even if it seems hot out.

Interview with Telus STORYHIVE

Clark and Jody were interviewed by a STORYHIVE crew about SKABC for broadcast on the Telus cable network. We discussed what the club offers members: training, safety, social events, and organized trips.

Budget

We were budgeted \$500.00 and were \$50.00 over our allocated budget this year. We received a \$300 grant from ORCBC for the Big Brothers and Sister paddle.

Social Media Report

Mike McHolm, Social Media Officer

Club Goals For Social Media

1. Expand club exposure to paddlers and potential new members.
2. Disseminate information about events, meetings, trips, etc. with consistent brand identity.
3. Provide a platform for members to have their club activity media posted online (photos, Videos, etc.)
4. Display our values of sportsmanship, teamwork, and community spirit.

Report On Social Media

Over the past year I have posted Club Meetings and Events on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Our YouTube channel doesn't get much engagement. I could share more of my own SKABC videos there but it would be better to have a variety from other club members. The posts have a consistent look to them in terms of branding/identity. In some cases, members have submitted photos and content. I suspect members tend to mostly share photos and videos from their trips on their personal accounts but I'm happy to include them on club accounts as requested. It would be a good idea to ask new members how they heard about the club (if this is not standard procedure already). It would be good to know how many respond with Social Media as the source and which account specifically (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter or YouTube).

Social Media accounts as of October 2022:

- Facebook: 1000 likes, 12 followers
- Instagram: 466 followers
- Twitter: 77 followers
- YouTube: 53 subscribers