



ATV/BC NEWSLETTER JULY, 2008

BY MOIRA JAATTEENMAKI, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

Finally summer is here and most of the riding areas are open across the province. With the dry weather comes the bane of dust but that is offset just by the enjoyment of being out riding.

This is my last Newsletter so it is appropriate that it's a rather large one full of good and important information.

Some of this has been initiated by questions from members, some is update on ATV/BC business and some is items I thought might be of interest.

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riding away in her new Polaris ATV. Next big winner was Brody MacLennan of Fort St. John who won the Yamaha Raptor in the kids draw contest. Finally, Darren Hill of Maple Ridge won the Polaris ATV raffle. A full list of all winners is at www.atvbc.ca/assets/pdf/PRWinners.pdf During the weekend there was a dunk tank which raised a nice sum for local charity, kids' movie nights, 50/50 draws

and the infamous mud bog which saw many come to grief in the mud much to the delight of those watching.

A busy weekend, a big vote of thanks to co-chairs Cal and Monika for all their hard work as well as all volunteers and sponsors. Go to the following link to see the full list of thankyou.

www.atvbc.ca/assets/pdf/PRThankyous2008.pdf

2. TRAIL BLAZERS RIDE

The ride is all set to go with about 20 riders and as many supports. We have riders coming from Alberta, Fort St. John, East Kootenays, Revelstoke, Vancouver Island, Lower Mainland. Next Newsletter presumably will have a full report on this.

3. ATV/BC PROMOTIONAL TRAILER

The trailer is seeing lots of BC and being well received as it goes. Areas covered so far are Prince George and area, Fort St. John, Elkford and area, Revelstoke, Nakusp, Sicamous, Salmon Arm and Vernon.

A perfect example of the positive opportunity and image it projects is shown in an article from the Nakusp News. Go to this link to read the whole article which shows what can be achieved.

http://www.bclocalnews.com/kootenay_rockies/arrowlake_snews/news/24071914.html

4. HUSKY/MOHAWK REBATE CARDS

The Husky card program is one that has been running for several years. Maybe you don't know what it is or what the benefits are to both ATV/BC and your club. Here is an article that explains it all.

Husky/Mohawk Community Rebate Program

As a good corporate member and community sponsor, Husky/Mohawk supports ATB/BC clubs with a 2% rebate off all fuel, repairs, lubricants, grocery items as well as meals purchased at all Husky House Restaurants by club members. The rebate card must be presented to the cashier during the payment transaction. You cannot combine another reward card along with the rebate card – it's one or the other, but if you use it here is how it can add up for the club.

Example: If your average fuel purchase for one month is \$200 – that's \$4 coming back to your club. \$4 x 100 members = \$400/month! Or \$4800 per year. All for just using that reward card. Something to think about.

5. LAND ISSUES – WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR- By Terry Wardrop, LICC

I have been back for half of my 8 month term which ends October 31 and I would like to take the opportunity to let everyone know what has happened so far. To say the least it has been eventful and busy. To start with it proved a bit difficult in that I wasn't able to drive any distance due to an ear problem. Fortunately I was able to get it fixed in May

and everything is back to normal with some adverse effects. Though I couldn't really travel that much without a chauffeur I did spend a lot of time in the office working for your benefit.

Last year we spent most of the time putting in a foundation for the program. This year has been spent so far reaping the benefit of that. We now have credibility with the various levels of government and our voice now has weight. This trend should continue and the benefit to the Quading community should grow proportionally. Now here is how our voice is being heard.

Training

Attended a Social marketing Workshop put on by Ministry of Environment in January. This provided a unique perspective on planning and marketing nonprofit organizations.

Trails Strategy Meeting

I attended a session of the Governments Trails Strategy in February on Bev Felske's behalf. This gave me a good insight into the process and was encouraged by the level of cooperation between the various users. It showed me that respect for our sport was growing.

Trade Show

I attended the "Sportsman Trade Show" at the Tradex in Abbotsford in early March. It was quite encouraging the level of interest being expressed by the public in our sport and our programs.

Major Referrals

Three major referrals were responded to. As these had the potential to impact our access to areas normally used by Quads it took quite a bit of time to obtain the background necessary to respond in a manner that will convey our concerns. In review of the Gov't website it appears our comments had some impact on one and the other it appears to be on hold.

National Off Road Vehicle Conservation Council, Albuquerque New Mexico

This conference provided a good insight into the American system and the issues facing them. A report is contained on the website.

The Resource Road Act

A fair amount of time was spent reviewing this new legislation and its potential to affect our sport. We were able to provide input at the draft stage and I feel as a result of this we able to gain recognition of our sport and some elements were included in the Act that will be of benefit to us. A brief summary will be put on the website sometime in the future.

Forest Road Use

A minor issue regarding the legality of using Forest Roads came up that required me to carry out a legislative review and put together a paper that shows it is legal for ATV's to ride on Forest Service Roads. This potential issue was brought to the attention of the Deputy Minister of Forests and Lands with the intent of getting the RCMP, the Conservation Officers and the Forest Service all working off the same page. We are still awaiting a reply from his office.

Fort Shepherd Nature Conservancy

I have been working with the Nature Conservancy to continue to allow Quads within the new Conservancy. So far everything has been positive and we are doing whatever we can to foster responsible riding in the area including the donation of signs. If this is successful, it sets a great precedent.

Lower Mainland Areas to Ride

As a result of comments from the lower mainland clubs, it became very obvious that there is a big issue there on areas to ride for the Quad enthusiast. In response to this need I set up a meeting between the three clubs and with John Hawkings the Provincial Trails Manager. The end result of this was the formation of a steering committee made up of the clubs to assist John and his staff in addressing this problem. The approach is to address the needs of the estimated 25,000 quads in this area and to target the day rider. Once this is done, we can move on to the more intensive experienced rider and weekend excursions. This is the first time the Government has used local clubs in this type of planning exercise and is a good indication of where we stand with government.

Trails BC

It has become increasing obvious that we needed to work with the non motorized sector to try and overcome some of the issues that plague us both. A meeting was held to initiate discussion in order to determine common ground and establish mutual respect within our respective sports. The Outdoor Recreation Council of B.C. was asked to moderate. I'm not going to say it was successful but we are talking and that is what counts. The main topic of course was the Spirit of 2010 Trails or what we know as the KVR. We emphatically stated we're are willing to work together but we will not lose historical riding areas. In my opinion this will continue but I personally feel a balance will be obtained.

Memorandum Of Understanding.

This is our primary focus, the completion of this MOU. I'm not going into too much detail here as there is an update contained in this newsletter. The only thing I will add is that I intend on doing whatever I can to get this done this year.

Outreach Plan

A component of the MOU is an outreach plan for which the government provided funding. The plan is more or less

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complete and the number one feature is the development of "Wildlife Guidelines for Backcountry Motorized Recreation". While the content is not difficult as we intend using the current guidelines done up for commercial operators, the translation is what is going to take time. When the final draft is complete it will be sent out to all the clubs for comment.

Strategic Planning

I am guiding the Executive and the Board of Directors through a Strategic Planning exercise which is intended to guide our organization for the next 5 years. Once the initial draft is completed by the Board of Directors it will be sent out to all clubs for input from which we will develop a final draft for approval by the Board.

General

As with any job there are always things that come up that don't fit into any specific category. As we gain in credibility these increase not only from members but also the general public. It has got to the point that these types of activities are taking up a significant portion of my time. Fitting into category there were meetings and the Poker Ride.

What's Next?

Well I hope it is finishing what got started but I am a realist, as much of what we have on the go is dependent on other people. Thus I don't think I am going to try and make any promises except to say I will work as hard on the last half of this year's term as I did on the first half.

6. TRAIL SYMPOSIUM/TRAIL PATROL

Originally scheduled to be one Symposium in Kamloops early October, it has been changed to be three smaller and more efficient symposiums based on the well used adage of "take the instructor to the participants". Thus the three symposiums being finalized for this year will be held in Kelowna, Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island. Next year they will be held in the Kootenays, Prince George and Fort St. John.

The comments on the evaluation forms have been addressed and the material will be user friendly and practical. The symposium will be a full day and will be followed the following morning with a trail patrol session which will be limited to 15 per session (area) as that is the material we have on hand.

Dates and locations will be announced as soon as they are finalized.

7. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – by Terry Wardrop, Land Issues Coordinator

Our Memorandum of Understanding – Progress To Date

Over the last 2 years there has been a lot of talk about this mysterious Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and it may seem that that is all it has been i- talk on how it will benefit our organization without any tangible results. Well it seems to be time to let you know what has happened. First it might be appropriate to define what a Memorandum of Understanding actually is. A MOU is a document describing an agreement between 2 parties which expresses the mutual will of both parties and an

intended common course of action or joint agreements. This is a system used by government to establish agreements that do not qualify or should not be handled by the legislature and are potentially time sensitive. Though not legally binding they provide strong direction to government ministries on how their respective Ministers want things to be handled. Simply put this is about as strong an agreement we can get without having it go through the Legislature.

Now back to our MOU and the progress to date.

The process was initiated in 2006 by our President Bev Felske, who convinced the Government representatives that there was a need and a desire to enter into a MOU.

Starting the actual negotiations was one of my first tasks last year. Discussions were initiated in May 2007 by getting four Ministries on board and involved, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Tourism, Sports and the Arts, Ministry of Forests and Range and Ministry of Agriculture and Lands. The lead agency for Government in this process was Ministry of Environment, Stewardship Outreach division. Once a commitment was received from each Ministry, a meeting was organized and held on June 4, 2007. This meeting set the basis for negotiations and started the ball rolling. At the time, the intent was to have a final draft ready for signature by the Ministers ready by August 2007 which ended up being too optimistic. We went through three drafts in 5 months and the process seemed to stall at the fourth draft which was to be reviewed in November 2007.

Everything seems to slow down with people moving within Government and various reorganizations and my term ending in December 2007. An encouraging event at the start of negotiations was the Ministry of Tourism, Sports and the Arts providing our Association with a grant of \$5000 to support our Trailer project and to get reprints of a key brochure.

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2008 arrived and in a planning seminar held in Vernon that I attended on behalf of ATVBC, I was reassured that our MOU was still a high priority with Government and was stalled primarily due to staff turnover and my absence as ATV/BC's representative. Once back full time, contact was reestablished with the new staff and a revised version of draft four was sent in April, which I responded to in May. This was interesting process as the style of the agreement was changed to a more user friendly version that was plainer than the original format. In my opinion this is a significant improvement and will be easier for the general public to understand. Another delay occurred when it was necessary to review the MOU with the Assistant Deputy Minister. I have been told everything is now back on track and the current target is to have a final draft by the end of summer. This is of course contingent upon other Ministries providing input in a timely manner. On a positive note government has shown their commitment to working with us as representatives of the Quading Community. This spring we received an unsolicited grant in the amount of \$25,000 from Ministry of Environment which was intended to assist ATV/BC in promoting responsible and environmentally sustainable riding through outreach programs. An outreach plan has been drawn up and is in the process of being reviewed.

Once all feedback is obtained and recommended changes are incorporated into the next draft, I may be in a better position to start talking about what the MOU contains and the potential benefits.

To someone not involved with Government process and the fact this requires coordination between various ministries it would be very frustrating but I have been involved in similar process and the progress, though frustrating, is not unusual.

Rest assured we will get there.

8. YOUTH PROGRAM COORDINATOR UPDATE

As I previously announced, we received 11 applications for this position and Lori Bradstock was the successful applicant. She started work immediately and met with us in Kamloops on July 20th. She is making significant progress in the development of the manual and other material. So far, she has been doing extensive internet research, has consulted with various people and groups and has traveled to Alberta to talk with the Alberta youth instructor. Alberta has very little written material but Lori had good discussions with them and will definitely be able to resource ideas and concepts from them.

Lori will have an update for the AGM followed by the draft plan, trial teaching in a rural school and final material to be presented to the Board in October.

9. MARKETING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS UPDATE

On July 22nd, the Executive interviewed 4 applications for this position. They were all very different presentations and qualifications. Following this, the contract was offered to one applicant who has accepted pending a contract being drawn up satisfactory to all parties. This applicant is very well qualified for the position and the time frame. On acceptance of the contract, he will start on the marketing plan immediately. He should be able to provide an update for the AGM with a completion date for all aspects in October.

10. AGM UPDATE AND INFORMATION

The AGM will take place in Revelstoke on August 23rd commencing at 1pm. The notice of meeting and nomination form appear at the end of this Newsletter. More information is available on the web site.

11. INVITATION TO REVELSTOKE

ATV/BC is holding their Annual General Meeting in Revelstoke on Aug.23, 2008. This is not a jamboree with formal rides and events. However, many fellow ATV'ers have made enquiries about the weekend. Yes, we will be going riding and you are welcome to tag along. Not formal, just friends riding together.

We are considering one trip to follow along on the last day of the Trail Blazers Ride. A very scenic 220+ Km. circle tour.

We need you to contact us the week before if we are to make arrangements to meet up with them. Contact Tom (250) 837-3541 tdicks@telus.net

Camping - There are no serviced campgrounds close to town with direct access to riding. However, Glacier House Resort, a high end resort and tour company has a few dry camping spaces and grassy area for RVs. They would charge \$10.00 per person and would include access to washrooms, showers, pool, etc. Direct access by quad to 100+ Km of forestry roads. - no riding around the hotel.

www.glacierhouse.com (250) 837-9594. For other camping, there are several campgrounds in and near Revelstoke. You will find a listing at

<http://revelstoke.travel.bc.ca/camping/>

Any enquiries about rides with us or on your own, or other questions, contact Rough Country Marine (250) 837-6738 or roughcountry@rctvonline.net and they will direct you to the right people.

Have a fun weekend.

12. ATV/BC PRESIDENT AND TREASURER NOT SEEKING REELECTION

At the Executive Meeting of ATV/BC in Kamloops on Sunday, President Beverley Felske and Treasurer Gordon Galloway announced that neither would be seeking re-election to their respective positions at the 2008 AGM. Beverley Felske is a founding member of ATV/BC and its first President, serving for three years before stepping down. She was elected again as President for 2006-07 and 2007-08. Since inception, ATV/BC has grown from 50 members to a membership of 2500, has established an

office and staff members and has embarked on a series of projects and programs under her leadership that have improved services to members, established ATV/BC as the Provincial authority with the Government and numerous other items. Her passion and vision together with a huge amount of time have been instrumental in achieving this progress.

Gordon has been Treasurer for the past three years and a member of the Executive prior to that. He has guided the transformation of our accounting system from spreadsheets to the modern system we enjoy today.

Gordon is well known for his attention to detail and could always account for every penny!

Both Beverley and Gordon have one year left in their current terms as Directors and will thus be on the Board of Directors for 2008-09.

ATV/BC members owe a great deal to both for many years of service to ATV/BC which has brought ATV/BC to where it stands today. On behalf of all members, I would like to thank both of them most sincerely for their dedication, hard work and inspiration.

13. CALLS FOR INTEREST IN HOSTING AGM/JAMBOREE 2009

A notice has been sent to all clubs asking for any club interested in hosting the 2009 AGM/Jamboree to contact the office immediately. Need more info? Please contact Elly.

14. NOMINATION FORM FOR AGM 2008

On the next page you will find a nomination for 2008 AGM. There are seven positions to be elected this year with three current Directors who will not be standing for reelection. So if you want to work for the Association, this is the time to come forward.

Nominations must be in by August 8th, 2008.

15. UPCOMING EVENTS

Here is the listing of the upcoming events I know of. The first one is a unique event which Revelstoke ATV Club hopes to make an annual event.

1st Annual GPS poker ride by Revelstoke ATV Club Aug. 17, 2008

If you have an ATV and a GPS you will **NOT** want to miss this EVENT. You will get some experience using your GPS and can win a prize. Here is how it works.

You buy your hand for \$10.00 which gets you five cards your 1st card is free for taking part in the poker ride. The remaining four cards have to be earned. To do this you draw four sets of coordinates that you will have to find. When you find the 1st set of coordinates you will find a yellow marker. On this marker is a unique serial #. Mark this number down and better yet take a picture of it with your digital camera just in case you write the number down wrong. You then go on and find the remaining three markers that are left in your hand recording their serial #'s as well. When you have found all four of your markers you

return back to the staging area and give your serial #'s to the ride controller. If the four serial numbers match the serial numbers of the four coordinates you picked you then receive four more cards for your hand. The controller of the ride enters these cards into the computer and after all riders have returned and have been entered a 1st prize winner(s) will be awarded as well as a 2nd and 3rd prize.

This ride is not a race we want you to enjoy this scenic area and have fun riding your ATV and using your GPS. Things you should bring with you other than your ATV and GPS are MAPS or MAP BOOK i.e. Back roads Map Book Vol. 3, Compass, Paper & pencil, Lunch, Rain gear & extra gas.

This ride will be held Sunday Aug. 17, 2008 Just off the #1 highway on the Wap Lake Mabel Lake FSR west end of Three Valley Lake(50° 55.672" N by 118° 28.920" W Alt. 540m). The ride will start at 8 am and riders should be back at the staging area by 4 pm. There is lots of parking at the staging area as well as lots of area to dry camp if you want to make a week end out of it and come on Saturday and ride the area a bit the day before.

For more information call 3 Valley AI at 250-837-4582 or E-mail at 3valleyai@accesscomm.ca.

Hope to see you out there this is going to be a great ride and I look forward to meeting you.

Allan Obrigewitsch, President of the Revelstoke ATV Club.
Disclaimer: The Revelstoke ATV Club reserves the right to make changes to the ride rules before Aug. 17 2008 without notification to participants.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 17th, 2008

1st Annual GPS Poker Ride, Revelstoke ATV Club

August 19-22nd, 2008

Trail Blazers Ride

August 23rd, 2008

AGM in Revelstoke

August 22-24th, 2008

Invitation to Revelstoke

September 20th, 2008

Quads.ca 2nd Annual Trail Clean-up day

October 2008 TBA

Trail Symposiums/Trail Patrol Symposiums

More details on these can be found at

www.atvbc.ca/events/ or www.atvbc.ca/news



ATV/BC Quad Riders ATV Association of British Columbia

#203 – 1139 12th Street, Kamloops, BC, V2B 7Z2

Email: atvbc@telus.net Website: www.atvbc.ca

Dear ATV/BC Members,

The 9th Annual General Meeting, AGM, of the Quad Riders ATV Association of British Columbia, ATV/BC, will take place on the 23rd of August, 2008, at Revelstoke Community Centre, 600 Campbell Avenue, Revelstoke, B.C commencing at 1pm, PDT.

Remember that in order to vote at the AGM proof of membership will be required - do remember to bring your Membership Card with you!

The Nominating Committee would like to ask that you submit names of nominees for the position(s) of Director(s). **These nominations must be received in writing by August 8th, 2008**, at the ATV/BC office address, fax or email address below, no later than the date of August 8th.

Each nomination form **must** be accompanied by a one page bio outlining the nominee's qualifications.

Thank you,

Nominating Committee Chair: David Galloway
#203 – 1139 12th Street, Kamloops, BC, V2B 7Z2
Toll free fax: 1-866-215-7114
Email: atvbc@telus.net

Nomination Form

We hereby nominate _____
(Print Name) (Membership No.)

for the position of **Director** of the Quad Riders ATV Association of British Columbia, ATV/BC.

The nominee has agreed to allow his or her name to stand as shown on this nomination form.

Two (2) signatures are required for each nomination:

Nominator 1: _____
(Sign name) (Print name) (Membership No.)

Nominator 2: _____
(Sign name) (Print name) (Membership No.)

I will allow my name to be submitted: _____
(Signature of Nominee)

All spaces on the nomination form must be filled out or the nomination will be considered spoiled.