

Meeting summary of the twelfth annual

Shuswap Trails Roundtable

December 3rd 2025



Draft meeting summary as at December 12th 2025

Meeting facilitated by Mike Simpson, M.F. Simpson Ltd.
mf_simpson@outlook.com

Meeting summary prepared by Erin Vieira

Introduction

Approximately 90 leaders and representatives from various orders of government including Secwepemc, local, regional, and Provincial, as well as from trail user groups, stewardship groups, forestry, commerce, and tourism met in person at Gardom Lake Bible Camp for the twelfth annual Shuswap Trails Roundtable. The objectives for the Roundtable meeting are:

- To provide updates on Secwepemc, CSRD and BC government initiatives
- To provide an update on progress of the Shuswap Regional Trails Strategy this year
- To seek feedback on priorities for the Shuswap Regional Trails Strategy, and endorse the annual work plan
- To convene all trail user groups, build relationships and share information.



There are five appendices at the back of the summary: the agenda (Appendix 1), list of Roundtable participants (Appendix 2), Shuswap Trails Roundtable annual summary report (Appendix 3), list of acronyms (Appendix 4), and a summary of evaluations (Appendix 5).

Presentation slides from the day can be viewed on the Shuswap Trail Alliance website here: <https://shuswaptrails.com/resources/trail-strategy-roundtable/>.

Welcoming comments

The 2025 Shuswap Trails Roundtable opened with a welcome to the Territory from Neskonlith Tk'wemi'ple7 (Councillor) Brad Arnouse and a prayer.

Jen Bellhouse welcomed everyone to the roundtable on behalf of the Shuswap Trail Alliance. She encouraged everyone to check out the displays over lunch.

Mike Simpson welcomed everyone and introduced himself as the facilitator for the day. Mike asked everyone present to arrange themselves in order by birthdate around the room, and a round of introductions took place before people returned to their seats.

Mike briefly reviewed the agenda and the objectives for the day. Mike also provided an [overview](#) of the Roundtable, the Terms of Reference for the Roundtable including quorum, its many members and organizations that participate. He also acknowledged the Working Group, a sub-set of Roundtable members, that meets four times per year and currently has about 45 people actively engaged.

Secwepemc Initiatives

Secwepemc Landmarks Project

Shelley Witzky introduced herself and provided an [update](#) on the Secwepemc Landmarks Project. She began by explaining that the Landmarks Project is a Secwepemc-driven collaborative project guided by elders with administrative support from the STA and CSRD. The project was kickstarted by an elder's trip to review highway development and identify potential areas for protection; during this field trip, it was realized that there were no signs, symbols or insignia about the Secwepemc Nation.

Implementing the project follows Indigenous protocol which emphasizes connection, relationship-building and bonding. There has been extensive Indigenous engagement with elders, Cultural Carriers and Indigenous leadership. This year, elders visited Onyx Falls and provided feedback to STA for the building, management and maintenance of a trail there. They also visited Scatchard Mountain where elders have identified an opportunity for signage and storyboards.

The Landmarks Project has had community involvement for the carving of trailhead posts (there are close to 100) by 200 youth. Shelly touched on the challenges in the project related to community capacity. She also highlighted the many successes in the project including Secwepemc leadership and involvement, the establishment of 16 sculptures to date, relationship-building and new partnerships with various organizations, and outreach through conferences and events.

Stselxmēms r Stselxmēm Management Plan

Tk'wemi'ple7 Brad Arnouse and Colin O'Leary [co-presented](#) about the Stselxmēms r Stselxmēm Management Plan (SSMP), which is an initiative co-led by Neskonlith, Adams Lake, Skwłax te Secwepemculecw and Splatsin in the Chase-Harper watershed. The goal of the SSMP is to redefine land and resource management in Secwepemc territory, grounded in the principles of respect, reciprocity and responsibility and integrating Secwepemc knowledge, values and interests with Provincial forest management frameworks. It was initiated in 2018 when Neskonlith embarked on a collaborative management plan for the Chase-Harper watershed. From there, it grew into a 'Forest Circle' of Secwepemc Elders and Knowledge Keepers along with Provincial and industry representatives. Today, it consists of nearly 40 people from the four local Secwepemc communities, three Provincial ministries, as well as Tolko and BC Timber Sales. Working together, these people combine their knowledge and expertise to create a detailed management plan for the area that braids traditional knowledge with Western scientific approaches.

Colin showed a striking image on the screen of a typical cut-block adjacent to several of the SSMP cutblocks. The SSMP cutblocks have served as a demonstration of different ways of doing forestry. It is a holistic way of managing forests that considers all the elements of the forest – not just the mature trees – such as the understory and medicinal plants.

Sharing knowledge, as well as sharing what is being achieved through the SSMP, is an important part of the work. Trails have been built through the demonstration cutblocks as a way of doing this. Signage and trail markers are designed to complement the Secwepemc Landmarks Project. The SSMP has included ceremony and community engagement, including on-site meetings and walk-throughs on the trails, to gather input.

Kénem es knúncwentsemc en sxpqenwéwllen?

Teaching and sharing knowledge

Small group conversations

At the end of the presentations, Mike asked everyone in the room to consider the following questions and discuss at their tables:

- How does this apply to you or your organization?
- How does this apply to the Shuswap overall?
- What opportunities exist for collaboration?
- What can we do to better support proponents?
- How do we provide capacity to Secwepemc communities?

Local government initiatives

Fiona Barton introduced herself from the Parks department with the CSRD. Fiona explained that that CSRD is embarking on Parks and Recreation planning, building upon work done previously by the CSRD and community. Sierra van den Eerenbeemt also introduced herself as a consultant working with Urban Systems who is leading the community engagement aspect of the project. She [explained](#) that the scope of the project is for CSRD Areas A, C, D, E, F and G. The project will include reviewing the CSRD parks and recreation assets, set priorities for new investment, and plan for growth. The project kicked off in October 2025 and will run to June 2027 through seven stages. The first phase of engagement is launching in January 2026; it will seek to understand the current situation and gather input on the future vision and priorities.

Contact info: Fiona Barton, fbarton@csrd.bc.ca

BC Government initiatives

Tennessee Trent introduced himself from the BC Ministry of Environment & Parks. He began with a note of appreciation toward the Shuswap Trails Roundtable as an outstanding collaborative of many governments and organizations. He also provided a brief staffing and organizational update, including his new role with the Province as well as the movement of Kevin Eskelin to another role with the Province.

He [explained](#) some organizational changes within the Ministry. The Parks and Recreation Program has two 'operational brands': BC Parks, and Recreation Sites & Trails BC. The Program has seven regions now which aligns better with the natural resource sector.

Management and administration has changed, but there have been no significant changes to operational staff structure. Tennessee explained that Recreation Sites & Trails is focussed on recreation on crown lands under the Forest and Range Practices Act, whereas BC Parks is focussed on parks and protected areas under the Parks Act.

Tennessee provided a few other updates. A new conservancy in the Incomappleux watershed has been established. Additionally, a new recreation district (with new staff) in the South Okanagan was created to better serve the public. He also reported that an ORV Trail Fund that is application-based will be open in mid-December with up to \$400,000 - \$500,000 available (more information can be found on the Province of BC website here: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/sports-culture/recreation/camping-hiking/sites-trails/orv-trail-fund>).

Integrated Transportation Planning

Mike explained that the presenter for this session from the BC Ministry of Transportation and Transit wasn't able to attend today.

Community examples of Vision Zero road safety projects

Anita Ely introduced herself from Interior Health, Healthy Community Development Team. She [explained](#) 'Vision Zero' which is a philosophy that death and serious injuries from crashes on roadways are not acceptable, and it sets a goal for eliminating them. It is a concept that emerged in Sweden and has gained momentum in Europe and in Canada. She explained that a traditional approach to road design is to prevent vehicle accidents, and that road users are responsible for their own safety whereas the Vision Zero approach considers that eliminating serious injuries and death is the goal and that road safety is a shared responsibility.

BC Vision Zero is a grant program funded by the Province for road safety. Since its inception in 2021 there have been 206 projects funded, 73 Indigenous-led projects and over \$3.2 million funds awarded. Anita shared some photos of projects completed including solar lighting for visibility in Ktunaxa territory; a colourful raised crosswalk at Kenpesq't (Shuswap Band); improved pedestrian crossings in Vernon with the use of bollards; and trail maintenance in the Cayoose Creek community. There are many ways to build pathways for pedestrians and cyclists separate from roads, including the use of barrels, flexposts, planters, concrete, and more. Speed is a significant factor affecting road safety and studies have shown significant reduction in accidents by reducing roadway speeds from 50 km/h to 40 or 30 km/h. Speed can be managed by speed readers, the use of speed bumps or humps, and narrowing roads with curb extensions or building structures in the centre of a road between lanes.

Contact info: HealthyCommunities@interiorhealth.ca

Small group conversations

At the end of the presentations, Mike asked everyone in the room to consider the following questions and discuss at their tables:

- How does this apply to you or your organization?
- How does this apply to the Shuswap overall?
- What opportunities exist?
- What fresh ideas can be generated?

Shuswap Trails Roundtable Business

Mike asked everyone present if there is any input or changes needed to the 2024 Roundtable meeting summary; there were none, and the summary was approved by consensus.

Jen Bellhouse gave a progress report for 2025:

- The Working Group met in person four times this year
- Advocated for four-year Roundtable funding, we are currently in year three out of four
- Maintained trail-based tourism promotion through partners and continued to grow a central map database of regional trails through the CSRD GIS department
- Advocated for recreational access management plan for several priority areas
- Continued with Secwepemc learning
- Participated in many, many regional partner-led initiatives

Jen reported that revenues for 2025 are \$29,098 and the projected expenses to the end of the year are \$23,500 which will leave a balance of \$5598.

She also reported that the proposed budget for 2026 has confirmed \$21,098 in revenues and has expenses projected at \$24,500 which means there is a deficit of about \$3402.

Mike asked for input on the 2025 report and 2026 plan from everyone present; there were none, and the report and plan were approved by consensus.

Jen's full report can be found in Appendix 3.

Wildfire Preparedness and Resiliency

Mike Simpson introduced Randy Spyksma, a forester living in Salmon Arm and working for Forsite Consultants. Randy [presented](#) on the Landscape Fuel Management Strategy in Salmon Arm. The purpose of the strategy is to prepare for future wildfires. It is one piece of a wildfire prevention plan (in addition to other pieces such as FireSmart practices at the home-owner level). In general, the strategy is about fuel management and creating strong awareness of fuel corridors at the landscape level. Currently, the strategy is in pilot project stage, and the preliminary area of interest is established in the 'Salmon Arm bowl'. The

planning team consists of representatives from the City of Slamon Arm, First Nations, Splatsin Development Corporation, Canoe Forest Products, Tolko, BC Timber Sales, BC Wildfire and the BC Ministry of Forests. The planning team members to provide funding, input and guidance, and data to the strategy. Proposed collaborators include the Shuswap Trail alliance, local woodlot associations, and ORV/ATV clubs. The next steps for this project are to finalize a workplan.

Contact info: Randy Spyksma, rspyksma@forsite.ca.

Sub-regional Discussions

Participants were invited to break into one of seven small groups to discuss work underway and priorities in the sub-regions. Each group reported out briefly on the top three sub-regional priorities that were discussed.

West Shuswap

- Skmana Lake summer use plan and connection to Sun Peaks; explore possibilities with STA, equestrian users and Backcountry Horsemen, and Skmana ski/snow club
- Chase-Harper connectivity to create a loop, and continued collaborations with Neksonlith, Village of Chase and Backcountry Horsemen
- South Skimikin – ongoing trail maintenance
- Completing projects in Chase and Scatchard Mountain (signage for new MOTT pullout)
- Trail from highway bridge at Chase to second falls and circle-route on switchbacks.

North Shuswap

- Continued progress and phases for North Shuswap Parallel Trail – engineering and planning new sections
- Destination trail planning framework, the drivers are Chambers of Commerce and CSRD and the involvement of trail user groups, needs funding. It will include Lee Creek bluffs, mountain bike trails, Onyx Falls and others.
- Crowfoot Mountain – snowmobile club.



East Shuswap

- Section 57 for summer use connectivity in Sicamous between Owlhead trails and Blue Lake trails
- Education and enforcement for wheeled vehicles in the backcountry alpine, needs partnerships with media for education and engagement, and tools for enforcement
- Gorge Creek falls – washed out bridge needs fixing, needs collaboration between MOTT and STA.

South Shuswap

- Incorporate landscape environmental values into the Forest Landscape Plan for Electoral Area C
- Re-convening partners for South Shuswap trail group
- Community connectivity between White Lake fire hall and John Evdokimoff bike park
- FSR relocation out of White Lake protected area
- Parallel path and trail development.

Salmon Arm Bay

- Mount Ida and West Bay are high priority but currently on pause
- Mallory Ridge conservation status
- Larch Hills – communications, tourism marketing campaigns and event planning.

Shuswap River

- Mara Mountain lookout partnership agreement
- Rosemond Lake management
- Rose Swanson trails Section 57 application
- Thomas Hayes ecological park needs to renew occupation licence for next year.

Falkland

- Kelly Mountain Motorized draft plan completed in 2025, needs a motorized club to come on as a partner with RSTBC and implement the plan, pursue a Section 57
- Improvements to staging area at Glenemma
- Consultation and community engagement, trail design and assessment for trails at Glenemma
- Need a non-motorized trail advocate for the area, Backcountry Horsemen could advocate for equestrian trail development.

Upcoming events later in 2025 and 2026

Jen Bellhouse announced that the STA fundraiser silent auction is in February, seeking items for the auction. Visit the STA website for more information. Membership drive is also underway, speak to Hanka about that.

Trail Your Way tourism marketing campaign by Salmon Arm Economic Development Society and Salmon Arm Tourism. Reach out to SAEDS for collaboration opportunities or for more information.

Mallory Ridge completed a membership drive.

Next steps and closing comments

Mike reported that a roundtable evaluation will be sent out within a day or two (see Appendix 5). A meeting summary will be out in about two weeks.

The 2026 work plan will be updated based on input from priorities identified in today's roundtable meeting. Mike invited all present to join the Working Group, meeting on the following dates in 2026: January 16th (virtual), April 17th, June 19th, and October 16th.

A few roundtable participants vocalized their appreciation including Barb Fairclough, Gene Dodd, Carmen Massey, and Garry Landers. There was a suggestion to find a way to engage youth in the Roundtable.

Jen Bellhouse expressed her thanks and appreciation for everyone's attendance and participation today to make trails better in the Shuswap and in the province.

Shuswap Trails Roundtable

Wednesday December 3, 2025 | 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Gardom Lake Bible Camp, 651 Glenmary Rd Enderby, B.C (in person only, no virtual option)

Agenda as of Nov 26, 2025

Objectives

- To provide updates on Secwepemc, CSRD and BC government initiatives
- Provide update on progress of the [Shuswap Regional Trails Strategy](#) this year
- To seek feedback on priorities for the [Shuswap Regional Trails Strategy](#), and endorse the annual work plan
- Convene all trail user groups, build relationships, and share information

Time	Topic	Who and/or format
8:30	Doors open, registration, coffee on, set up displays	
9:00	Welcoming comments and prayer Introductions around room, review agenda Acknowledge Working Group members, reminder of history, purpose, etc.	Welcoming prayer Jen Bellhouse, Executive Director, Shuswap Trail Alliance Mike Simpson, Facilitator
9:30	Secwepemc Initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaging elders and knowledge keepers, and Secwepemc Landmarks update • Chase-Harper Trail opening ceremony and connections to forestry planning Discussion questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does this apply to you or your organization? • How does this apply to the Shuswap overall? • What opportunities exist for engagement? • What can we do to better support proponents? • How do we provide capacity to Secwepemc communities? 	Shelley Witzky, Secwepemc Landmarks Project Manager, Shuswap Trail Alliance Brad Arnouse, Councillor, Neskonlith Colin O'Leary, O'Leary & Associates At your table
10:00	Local government Initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Columbia Shuswap Regional District parks master planning 	Fiona Barton, Manager, Community Services, CSRD
10:15	BREAK	
10:45	BC Government Initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Transportation Planning • Recreation Sites and Trails BC update 	Megan Pasquill, Senior Planning Mgr, MOTT Tennessee Trent, Regional Director, RSTBC
11:15	Community Examples of Vision Zero Road Safety Projects	Anita Ely, Healthy Built Environment Specialist Env Health Officer, Interior Health

Appendix 1 - Shuswap Regional Trails Roundtable Agenda for December 3rd 2025

Time	Topic	Who and/or format
11:30	Discussion at your table (BC, Health initiatives) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does this apply to you or your organization? How does this apply to the Shuswap overall? What opportunities exist? What fresh ideas can be generated? 	At your table
11:40	Shuswap Trails Roundtable business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2024 meeting summary 2025 report on what was done 2026 Annual Work Plan and Budget (subject to subregional input) 	Jen Bellhouse, Mike Simpson
12:00	LUNCH BREAK	
1:00	Wildfire Preparedness and Resiliency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildfire resiliency and coordination with trails 	Randy Spyksma, Senior Planning Forester, Forsite Consultants
1:30	Sub-regional discussions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use the overview map By area of choice – stay in one, rotate to all No set timing Review ground rules Identify key projects in each of 7 sub-regions <p><u>Sub-regional discussion questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What new priorities have emerged? What new partnership opportunities do these new priorities present? What are the top 3 sub-regional priorities going into 2026, and for each, the key next steps, by who? What Shuswap Regional Trails Strategy updates have yet to be identified for this sub-region? 	Small group discussions by area of choice Sub-region and facilitator: Inner Shuswap – Janelle Rimell East Shuswap – Tanya Osborne Shuswap River – Nayo Raincock-Ekunwe Falkland – Erin Vieira Salmon Arm Bay – Anita Ely North Shuswap – Evan Houle West Shuswap – Callie Anderson
3:00	BRIEF debrief from sub-regional discussions – top sub-regional priorities	Everyone
3:30	Updates on upcoming events (1min each)	Everyone
3:45	Next steps, closing comments Thank you, acknowledgements	Everyone
4:00	Adjourn	

Appendix 2 - List of Roundtable meeting registrants

First name	Last name	Title or position	Organization (if none, enter "none")	Email address
Adrian	Bostock	Operations Manager	Shuswap Trail Alliance	adrian@shuswaptrails.com
Alan	Harrison	Mayor City of Salmon Arm	City of Salmon Arm	aharrison@salmonarm.ca
Anita	Ely	Healthy Built Environment Specialist Environmental Health Officer	Interior Health	anita.ely@interiorhealth.ca
Barbra	Fairclough	President	Sunnybrae Canoe Point Stewards	sbcpstewardship@gmail.com
Beverley	DeSantis	Destination Management	TOTA	Bev@totabc.com
Bill	MacPherson	President	Skmana Ski and Snowshoe Club	bmac04@telus.net
Brad	Vickerson	Independ motorized	Shuswap Dirt Riders	brad@vickerson.ca
Brad	Arnouse	Councillor	Neskonlith	no consent to share
Brian	Pratt	Regional Director	Four Wheel Drive Association of BC	brianp@4wdabc.ca
Callie	Anderson	Community Health Facilitator	Interior Health	callie.anderson@interiorhealth.ca
Callista	Collins	Membership director	Shuswap Dirt Riders	chursky1@telus.net
Carly	Procyshyn	Executive Director	District of Sicamous Development Corporation	c.procyshyn@dosdc.ca
Carmen	Massey	Planner	Forsite	ctmassey@hotmail.com
Celia	Nord	Archaeologist	Skwlax	celia.nord2018@gmail.com
Clint	Smith			
Colin	O'Leary	Technical Lead	Neskonlith	Colin@olearyandassociates.ca
David	Crowfoot	Director	All Terrain Vehicle Association of British Columbia	david.crowfoot@atvbc.ca
David	Lepsoe	Mayor	Chase	david.lepsoe@chasebc.ca
Debbie	Seymour		North Shuswap Chamber	executivedirector@northshuswapbc.com
Doug	Hearn		Gardom Lake Community Park Society	hearn.doug@gmail.com

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Doug	Easterbrook		North Shuswap Trail Alliance	doug@artsman.com
Doug	Noakes		Shuswap Outdoors!	noakesd63@gmail.com
Eleanor	Marshall	President (MRCTS) and Board member of GLSS (see below)	Mallory Ridge Community Trails Society (MRCTS) and Gardom Lake Stewardship Society (GLSS)	toelmarshall@gmail.com
Erin	Vieira			evieira@fraserbasin.ca
Eva	Smith	Board member	MRCTS	brianevasmith964@gmail.com
Felicya	Lau	Planning Forester	BCTS	felicya.lau@gov.bc.ca
Fiona	Barton	Manager, Community Services	Columbia Shuswap Regional District	fbarton@csrd.bc.ca
Garry	Landers	Haney Park Director, Member Shuswap Trail Alliance	None	garrylanders23@gmail.com
Gene	Dodd		Gardom Lake stewardship Society	dodd.gene@gmail.com
Glenn	Gytenbeek	Director Armstrong Spallumcheen Trails Society	Armstrong Spallumcheen Trails Society	no consent to share
Gordon	Bose		Gorge Ski Tour Association	gjbose@shaw.ca
Hanka	Mosher	admin	STA	admin@shuswaptrails.com
Hannah	Treleaven	Maintenance Coordinator	Shuswap Trail Alliance	maintenance@shuswaptrails.com
Ian	McLellan	North Okanagan District Recreation Officer	Recreation Sites and Trails BC	ian.McLellan@gov.bc.ca
Jamie	Sherlock	Recreation & Events Programmer	District of Sicamous	recreation@sicamous.ca
Jan	Thingsted	Community Parks & Recreation Coordinator	Columbia Shuswap Regional District	jthingsted@csrd.bc.ca
Janelle	Rimell	Community Health Facilitator	Interior Health	janelle.rimell@interiorhealth.ca
Jay	Simpson	Director	CSRD	jsimpson@csrd.bc.ca
Jen	Bellhouse	Executive Director	Shuswap Trail Alliance	jen@shuswaptrails.com

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Jenna	Robins	Tourism Marketing Coordinator	Salmon Arm Economic Development Society	projects@saeds.ca
Jennifer	Wilson	Manager of Engineering	City of Salmon Arm	jwilson@salmonarm.ca
Jim	Cooperman	President	Shuswap Environmental Action Society	jimcooperman@shuswappassion.ca
John	Woods	Resident	None	woods@telus.net
Kate	Watson	Executive Director	Salmon Arm Economic Development Society	edo@saeds.ca
Keith	Cox	President	Shuswap Outdoors	kncox22@shaw.ca
Ken	Chapman	Member of Armstrong-Spallumcheen Trails Society	ASTS	no consent to share
Kristin	Parsons	Executive Director	ATVBC Quad Riders Association of BC	executivedirector@atvbc.ca
Kyra	Evans	Executive Director	Hunters Range Snowmobile Association	kyra.c@live.com
Linda	Buchanan	Back Country Horsemen of BC - Chair Trail Committee	Back Country Horsemen of BC - Shuswap Chapter	Lindaturtlevalley@gmail.com
Luke	Gubbels	Woodlands Planning Manager	Canoe Forest Products	lukegubbels@canoefp.com
Lynnea	Baker	District Recreation Officer - Columbia Shuswap - TA	Recreation Sites and Trails BC	lynnea.baker@gov.bc.ca
Marge	Sidney	President	Armstrong Spallumcheen Trails Society	marg.sidney@gmail.com
Mark	Raymer	Vice president	Revelstoke ATV Club	mark.raymer01@gmail.com
Mark	Bourgeau		Salmon River Valley Business Society	MarkBourgeau@outlook.com
Marshall	Kronewitt	GM	CKMP	marshall@carlkuster.com
Melisa	Hickson	Community Health Facilitator	Interior health	melisa.hickson@interiorhealth.ca
Mike	Simpson	President	M.F. Simpson Ltd.	mf_simpson@outlook.com

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Myles	Bruns	Senior Regional Manager	Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth	myles.bruns@gov.bc.ca
Nayo	Raincock-Ekunwe	Community Health Facilitator	Interior Health	nayo.raincock-ekunwe@interiorhealth.ca
Nicole	Jeans-Williams	Sta chair/RPBio	STA Board	jeanswilliamsn@gmail.com
Patrick	Frank	President	White Lake Residents Association	president@wlra.ca
Phil	McIntyre-Paul	Senior Consultant	Shuswap Trail Alliance	phil@shuswaptrails.com
Rhona	Martin	Director	CSRD	rmartin@csrd.bc.ca
Richard	Anderson	Director	District of Sicamous Dev Corp	rdanderson1987@gmail.com
Robyn	Cyr		Brabyn Business Solutions	robyncyr@brabynbusiness.ca
Rose	Schroeder	Provincial Secretary and BCHBC Provincial Trails Committee member	Back Country Horsemen Society of BC	milkmaidrose@gmail.com
Shelley	Witzky	Secwepemc Landmarks Project Manager	Shuswap Trail Alliance	shelley@shuswaptrails.com
Sherri	Madden	Community Services Coordinator	Thompson-Nicola Regional District	smadden@tnrd.ca
Sue	Hunt	Chapter Chair	Back Country Horsemen of BC - Shuswap Chapter	sue35insa@gmail.com
Sue	McCrae	President	Shuswap Ec Dev Society	sue@shuswapecdev.ca
Susan	Ghattas	Rep Vernon outdoor club	VOC	supepghat@hotmail.com
Suzanne	Fordyce	GIS Technologist	CSRD	sfordyce@csrd.bc.ca
Tanya	Osborne		Interior Health	tanya.osborne@interiorhealth.ca
Tennessee	Trent	Regional Director	Parks and Recreation Program	tennessee.trent@gov.bc.ca
Trevor	Poole	Owner/President	Reet Resources Ltd.	tpoole.reetresources@hotmail.com
Usoff	Tsao	Electoral Area A Director	Thompson Nicola Regional District	director.utsao@tnrd.ca
Valerie	Bourgeau	Treasurer	Gardom Lake stewardship Society	no consent to share
Denise	Ackerman	Community Parks and Recreation Coordinator	Columbia Shuswap Regional District	dackerman@csrd.bc.ca
Walter	Scheidegger	Board Member	Shuswap Outdoors Club	ws41ch@gmail.com
Sierra	van den Eerenbeemt		Urban Systems	svondeneerenbeemt@urbansystems.ca

Shuswap Regional Trails Roundtable - Annual Summary Report

December 03, 2025

Prepared by: Jen Bellhouse

Updated: November 21, 2025

2025 Progress Summary:

Quarterly Working Group – all working group meetings for 2025 were held in-person, most with a hybrid virtual option available. In January the WG met at the White Lake Hall, in April at the Larch Hills Nordic Chalet, in June at North Fork Wild (A CSRD park), and in October at the Sicamous Health Centre.

Maintained regional project and information sharing/consultation at working group meetings.

Advocated for four-year Roundtable funding strategy – framework include shared financial support from all orders of government, in-kind support from stewardship and sector organizations, administration support from the Shuswap Trail Alliance, and contracted facilitation support with Mike Simpson. Funding commitments from participating municipalities are in place until 2026, next year updated proposals will be circulated to partners to look at 2027-2030 agreements.

Maintained Trail-Based Tourism Promotion through Shuswap Tourism and partners and continue to look to Secwepemc lead tourism initiatives.

Continued to grow central map database of regional trails through CSRD GIS department.

Advocated for Recreational Access Management Plans integrated into broader comprehensive land management plans, including priority pilots: Joss-Tsuius-Mabel Alpine, Owlhead/Blue Lake/Hunters Range, Gorge Winter Backcountry Area, Larch Hills Non-Winter, Kela7scen (Mt Ida), Glenemma, and South Shuswap.

Met with BC Government staff re support for the Roundtable and planning efforts and followed up with Secwepemc leadership regarding Government-to-Government land management.

Continued growing Secwepemc learning, awareness building, and collaboration each meeting.

In addition, regional partner-led legacy initiatives currently underway were regularly reported on and engaged collaborative direction, feedback, and participation, including:

- Bayview Area Trails (DoS/DoSEDC/STA lead)
- Balmoral/White Lake Trail Plan (STA/CSRD lead)
- Cedar Creek/White Lake Conservation Trail Plan (BC Parks/WLRA/STA lead)
- Chase Creek Falls (Skwlāx/STA/VoC lead)
- Chase Harper Collaborative Demo Block Trails (Neskonlith/ALIB/Skwlāx lead)
- Chase MOTT Trail (Voc/STA lead)
- Cliff Ave – Enderby (complete) (STA/City Enderby lead)
- Coldstream Ranchland Trail (VOC/RDNO lead)
- Crowfoot Use and Management (North Shuswap Chamber lead)
- CSRD Parks Plans (CSRD lead)
- Eagle River Valley Nature Trail (BC Parks/STA lead)
- East Vernon Hill (VOC)

Appendix 3 – Shuswap Regional Trails Roundtable Annual Summary Report

- Foreshore Bird Viewing Platform (SABNES/STA lead)
- Glenemma Rec Site and Trail Access Plan (CSRD Parks lead)
- Gordon Sidney Cabin (HRSA)
- Gorge Winter Recreational Access Plan (GSTA/EVSC/CKMP/K3/RSTBC lead) –
- Hidden Lake (STA/RSTBC lead)
- Hunakwa Lake (STA/BC Parks Lead)
- Hunters Range S. 57 Application (HRSA lead)
- Ida View Trail (STA lead)
- Joss-Tsuius-Mabel Mountain Recreation Access Management Plan (RSTBC/Splatsin/STA/Roundtable)
- Kela7scen (Mt Ida) Management Plan (Neskonlith lead)
- Kelly Mountain (STA lead)
- Larch Hills Summer Use Trails Plan (LHNS/SO!/STA lead)
- Larch Hills Nordic Beginner Trail & Lighting Plan (LHNS lead)
- Larch Hills Link trail (LHNS lead)
- Larch Hills Interpretive Trail (LHNS lead)
- Larch Hills Non-track set trails (SO!/LHNS lead)
- Larch Hills Traverse Additions – 109 & Raspberry Hill (STA with RSTBC lead)
- Larch Hills Traverse Trailhead (DoS, STA lead with Splatsin and MOT)
- Lee Creek Bluffs Concept Planning (STA/CSRD Parks lead) – on hold
- Loftus Fen Universal Trail/Dog Park (CSRD Parks lead)
- Mallory Ridge (Mallory Ridge Community Trail Society lead)
- Mara Lookout Maintenance (4WDABC lead)
- Mt Ida Dirt Bike Trails (SDR lead) – part of Kela7scen working group
- Mount Baldy (CSRD/STA lead)
- Mount MacPherson alpine north access management (SO!/STA lead)
- North Fork Wild (CSRD Parks lead)
- North Shuswap Parallel Pathway – Squilax-Anglemont Road to St Ives (NS Chamber/CSRD Parks lead)
- Owlhead/Cummings/Blue Lake/Hunters Recreation Access Management Plan (EVSC/BCParks/Splatsin/SBR/STA/HRSA/4WDABC/RSTBC lead) – ongoing
- Onyx Falls Indigenous Engagement (STA lead)
- Play/Clean/Go Invasive Trail Sign program (CISISS lead)
- Queest Mountain Sec. 57 Application (EVSC lead)
- Reinecker Creek West Trails and bridge (CSRD/STA lead)
- Rosemond Lake Recreation Site Access Management (Splatsin/RSTBC/SNORT/STA lead) - ongoing
- Rubberhead Mountain Bike Trail System Additions & Plans (Shuswap Bike Club lead)
- Salmon Arm Active Transportation Plan - complete (City Salmon Arm lead)
- Salmon Arm Greenways Strategy (City Salmon Arm lead)
- Secwepemc Landmarks and Trail Sign Project (Secwepemc/STS/STA lead with CitySA/Shuswap Tourism/Chase)
- Scatchard Mountain Chase Creek Canyon Trail Master Plan (Chase/STA lead)
- School District 83 Greenways (CitySA/SD83/STA lead)
- Scotch Creek Hlina Trail (CSRD/STA lead)
- Shuswap North Okanagan Rail Trail (Sicamous-to-Armstrong) (Splatsin/CSRD/RDNO lead)
- Sicamous Motor Park Trail Concept Planning (Sicamous/Sicamous ATV/EVSC lead)
- Sicamous Mountain Bike Park (Sicamous/STA lead)
- Sicamous Mountain Bike Park Plan Phase 2 (Sicamous/STA lead)

Appendix 3 – Shuswap Regional Trails Roundtable Annual Summary Report

- Sicamous Trail Plan (Sicamous/STA lead)
 - Silver Creek Parks/Haines Creek Bluffs Plan (CSR/D/STA/SMC lead) – tied to Kela7scen
 - Skimikin Lake Rec Site & Trail Management (RSTBC/BCHBC/SBCR-Shuswap lead)
 - Sorrento Blind Bay Park accessible/universal trail (CSR/D Parks/STA lead)
 - South Canoe Trail Additions (CitySA/STA/SCAdvisory lead)
 - South Shuswap Destination Trails Master Plan (CSR/D Parks/STA lead) – report complete
 - Sunnybrae Parallel Pathway (SCPS lead)
 - Switzmalph Cultural Heritage Trail (SCHS/STA lead)
 - Tsútswe'cw Provincial Park Secwepemc Winter Home Interpretive Project (BCParks/Skwłāx/ALIB lead)
 - Vernon Trails (Grey Canal Extension) (VOC lead)
 - West Bay Connector Trail (Switzmalph/Neskonlith/Adams Lake/Little Shuswap/CitySA/STA lead)
 - White Lake Parks Enhancement (WLRA/STA lead)
 - Wildfire Recovery – Mt Baldy and Scotch Creek Hlina (CSR/D/STA lead)
 - Yard Creek Park Japanese Internment Project (CSR/D Parks lead)
- (NOTE: this is just a partial list of the trail-related initiatives underway by regional partners reported on during Shuswap Regional Trails Roundtable working group sessions throughout 2025 and encompassed within the Shuswap Regional Trails Strategy framework.)

2025 Continuing and Emerging Priorities: The following is a summary of emerging recommendations, to be guided by the November Roundtable discussion and finalized by the Roundtable Working Group. . .

- Secure Roundtable **funding**, follow-up on partner invitations – thank you to RSTBC, Municipal/Regional partners, clubs/organizations that have contributed funding in 2025, partial funding confirmed for 2026
- Maintain quarterly project and information **sharing/consultation** through working group
- Continue to explore/advocate for **collaborative land management partnerships** with Province
- Continue to use **Secwepemc referral process** for local pre-authorization planning – process is evolving, stay tuned for presentation regarding referral processes
- Continue implementation of **Secwepemc Landmarks and trail signage** project – and continue adaptation of trailhead signage and naming
- Continue to support **partner led legacy initiatives**, including recreational access planning
- Expand use of the Shuswap Trail Strategy's **structured adaptive management planning** model
- Secure **funding** to develop structured adaptive planning model that includes **capacity for cumulative effects assessment modelling**, and support **recreational access management planning** pilots – Note: funding for this continues to be difficult to resource
- Continue to **coordinate master trail mapping** files through CSR/D GIS department, and follow-up on **data sharing agreements** with Secwepemc and municipal/regional partner governments
- Continue **coordinating trail-based promotion** through Shuswap Tourism, and expand promotion to include both motorized and non-motorized recreation, and be guided by/integrated into the emerging Secwepemc Lakes Tourism strategy

Appendix 3 – Shuswap Regional Trails Roundtable Annual Summary Report

2025 Financial Summary:

Expenses*

Action	Actual Expense	Notes
Project Coordination	\$9,500.00	STA support, planning, reporting, admin
Four Working Group Meetings	\$5,250.00	Facilitation X 4 working group meetings; Roundtable gatherings; database coordination; communications; minutes;
Annual Shuswap Trails Roundtable – Dec 2025	\$8,000.00	
Additional Materials & Supply	\$750.00	
2025 Projected Expense Total	\$23,500.00	

*Note: includes projected expenses to Dec. 31, 2025

Revenues

Revenue Summary – Confirmed to Date	Actual	Notes
STA Partner Contribution	\$9,500.00	Project Coordination support
Carry Forward (Funding)	\$6,156.66	2024 Reserve Funds
Municipal/Regional Partner Contributions (Fund)	\$6,000.00	Municipal/Regional funds confirmed
Provincial Contributions	\$5,000.00	
CKMP, BCHM, SOI, KC, HRSC, NSC	\$2,441.25	
2025 Revenue Total – Confirmed to Date	\$29,097.91	
Balance	\$5,597.91	Anticipated Funding surplus

2026 Budget Proposal

Expenses *Based on in-person meetings

Action	Actual Expense	Notes
Project Coordination	\$9,500.00	STA support, planning, reporting, admin
Four Working Group Meetings	\$6,250.00	Facilitation X 4 working group meetings; Roundtable gatherings; database coordination; communications; minutes;
Annual Shuswap Trails Roundtable – Nov 2026	\$8,000.00	
Additional Materials & Supply	\$750.00	Documents, meeting supply, honorariums
2026 Projected Expense Total	\$24,500.00	

Revenue Confirmed to Date

Revenue Summary – Confirmed to Date	Actual	Notes
STA Partner Contribution	\$9,500.00	Project Coordination support
Carry Forward (Funding)	\$5,597.91	2025 Reserve Funds
Municipal/Regional Partner Contributions (Fund)	\$6,000.00	Municipal/Regional funds confirmed
2026 Revenue Total – Confirmed to Date	\$21,097.91	
Balance	(\$3,402.09)	Anticipated Funding Deficit

Appendix 4 – List of acronyms

ALIB - Adams Lake Indian Band
ASTS – Armstrong Spallumcheen Trail Society
BCTS – British Columbia Timber Sales
CISIS - Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society
CSRD - Columbia Shuswap Regional District
FSR – Forest Service Road
GIS – Geographical Information Systems
LHNS - Larch Hills Nordic Society
MOF – BC Ministry of Forests
MLWRS – BC Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship
MOTT - BC Ministry of Transportation and Transit
ORV – Off Road Vehicle
RDNO - Regional District of North Okanagan
RSTBC - Recreation Sites and Trails BC
SAEDS – Salmon Arm Economic Development Society
STA - Shuswap Trail Alliance
TOTA – Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association
VOC – Vernon Outdoors Club
WLRA - White Lake Residents Association

A Roundtable evaluation survey was open from December 4th – 10th and was answered by 26 people. Here is a summary of the responses (an 'x2' indicates that a response was given twice, 'x3' for three times and so on);

1. What did you like about this year's Roundtable meeting? What worked well?

- Great venue, beautiful room and nature setting, warm and comfortable, delicious food, good sound system and screen, wood-burning stove was nice (x12)
- Great presenters/speakers, agenda, interesting and relevant content (x10)
- Networking, lots of time for discussions (x5)
- The facilitation and time management of the day (x4)
- The right amount of time for presentations, short and concise (x3)
- Appreciated having assigned facilitators and note-takers at the break-out sessions (x2)
- Great turnout and participation by many organizations, being with a group of like-minded individuals (x2)
- Lively, respectful debates about issues and human use impacting the environment (x2)
- The format of the day works well
- I always learn something at the Roundtable
- I like the introductions game
- It was the best Roundtable meeting in several years

2. What do you think should be changed or improved for next year's Roundtable meeting? What didn't work so well?

- Everything worked well (x7)
- Keep an emphasis on time for networking, informal discussions and less time allocated to presentations (x3)
- Include more presentations about trails – that was missing this year, one presentation wasn't relevant (x3)
- Screen was hard to read from the back of the room (x2)
- Play a slideshow or video of a local trail during breaks, that was missing this year (x2)
- Break-out sessions need to do better at staying on topic
- Break-out sessions would benefit with a presentation and a Q&A
- Break-out sessions could be shortened from 1 ½ hours to an hour or even 45 minutes
- Break-out sessions could take place in different rooms to reduce the noise, make it easier to hear
- Schedule the next Roundtable in November rather than December for better driving conditions
- Name tags in bold black lettering
- We need more time! (can't be changed but one can wish)

Appendix 5 – Summary of evaluations

- It was my first Roundtable, no suggestions for improvement

3. Do you have any comments about the logistics leading up to the meeting, the venue, or the catering?

- Everything was great (x11)
- The venue was great, wonderful food (x7)
- Parking was a bit of a challenge (x3)
- I like the changing venues each year
- Nice to see Gardom Lake
- I appreciate the gluten-free options available
- Please include de-cafeinated coffee next time
- I would like some savory snacks, in addition to desserts/pastries
- Great work team, thank you

4. Any other comments?

- Great event, well done, thank you organizers and everyone (x12)
- Looking forward to the next Roundtable, future collaborations (x3)
- Thanks to everyone for their continued participation, sustaining the Roundtable (x2)
- Engage youth and/or local high schools in the future; “we need more people born 1985 and younger” (x2)
- Is there a connection between Shuswap Trail Alliance / Roundtable and the Outdoor Recreation Council? Their participation and what they do is useful and relevant.
- I’d like more trail content/focus in the future, we need to celebrate trail successes
- Give Jen a raise!
- Can you provide a list of participants at the start of the meeting
- I learned much more than expected
- Fit in the budget after lunch instead of at the end.