



Trail Stewardship Advisory Groups: Terms of Reference

Version Updated: July 22, 2013

“Respect, Cooperation, Stewardship”

The purpose of a Trail Stewardship Advisory is to work with the Shuswap Trail Alliance in support of the ongoing planning and management of a trail or system of trails, by:

1. acting as the point of contact for stakeholder engagement
2. providing direction to the Shuswap Trail Alliance on project priorities and planning
3. providing direction to the designated land managers responsible for decision-making
4. actively reaching out and inviting participation from community stakeholders
5. maintaining ongoing communication with all stakeholders
6. assisting with the development of an Annual Operating Plan
7. helping to coordinate community volunteer participation in trail care, including annual inspections, monitoring, maintenance, and reporting
8. and liaising with the wider regional Shuswap Trail Stewardship planning circle

Trail Stewardship Advisory groups are:

1. a working committee under the Shuswap Trail Alliance
2. based on values of respect, cooperation, and stewardship
3. accountable through the Shuswap Trail Alliance to the designated land manager(s)
4. open to participation by all with a vested interest in the success of the trail or system of trails
5. operate within the operational and safety policies of the Province of British Columbia, regional and municipal authorities, and the Shuswap Trail Alliance
6. consensus-based

Definitions: “What’s a . . . ?”

- **Stakeholder** – any group or individual (both formal or informal) with a vested interest in the trail or trail system, the activities of its users, and/or its presence within the landscape.
- **Steward** – any group or individual in the community who builds, monitors, and maintains a trail or trail system (and the environment and communities surrounding them).
- **Advisory** – a formal group organized to engage stakeholders and stewards in the ongoing planning and management of a trail or trail system.

Guidelines:

1. All trail work must be authorized by the appropriate designated land manager(s)
2. An Annual Operating Plan is developed each year, and submitted through the Shuswap Trail Alliance to the designated land manager(s)



The Shuswap TRAIL ALLIANCE

3. Annual Operating Plans outline all the trail maintenance and new project activities proposed for a trail or system of trails each year
4. New proposals and projects require a documented plan developed according to Shuswap Trail Protocol guidelines and Provincial Trail Standards (See the Shuswap Trail Protocol)
5. A chair person or co-chair person(s) will be appointed to chair the meetings of the Advisory
6. The chair person may be appointed by the Shuswap Trail Alliance, or where appropriate, chosen by participants of a Stewardship Advisory or wider stakeholders group
7. A recording secretary will be recruited by the chair to keep minutes of Advisory meetings
8. A steering group may also be appointed to assist with coordinating the Advisory
9. Any financial obligations of an Advisory are managed by the Shuswap Trail Alliance

