



Elders Council for Parks In British Columbia

March Minutes

Tuesday March 10, 2026 -- 10:00 am

Meeting held via Zoom

In Attendance: Mark Haddock, Nancy Wilkin, Bev Ramey, Wayne Stetski, Ric Careless, Colin Campbell, Denis Moffatt, Tory Stevens, Bob Peart, Bill Henwood

Regrets: Kaaren Lewis, Mel Turner

The new zoom account provided some technical issues. They will be addressed before our next meeting.

1. **Approval of February Minutes.** Moved by Bev, seconded by Colin, *that the minutes be approved.* **Carried.**

2. Treasurer's Report

Bill reported that the \$9000 term deposit will turn over in 21 days. We have \$21,617 total. We received \$3900 from the Gaming Commission. Mel has gone back to the Gaming Commission for more funding.

Motion by Bill, seconded by Wayne, *that we allow the term deposit to roll over.* **Carried.**

Discussion of membership dues. Bill will send notice to members about the annual fee and how to pay it.

Motion by Wayne, seconded by Bob *to accept Invictus Report.* **Carried.**

3. **Mel and Mark met with Minister Davidson** and Ministerial Assistant Mary Wood at Seymour Park. The Minister and MA Wood are open to future meetings with us.

4. **Correspondence** from Minister Farnsworth on Goldstream Park was received by the Board.

5. Priorities

Discussion on the future of DRIPA and it's influence on the management of parks.

We need clarification on DRIPA and how the provincial government is choosing to approach it.

Constitution not fettered by FN on environmental issues.

Parks are for all people and all species at the global level. They are a civilizational responsibility.

Watch Carolyn Elliott – may be future leader of BC Conservative party, wants to rescind DRIPA.

FN believes BCWF is a racist organization.

Suggestions for moving forward:

- a. Invite some experts to our meetings: lawyers, trusted FNs, ADMs, Parks Foundation, LG
 - b. Encourage more public notices (letters, pamphlet) about the value of parks from ourselves, Parks Foundation, government, nature groups
 - c. Advocate for a strong, healthy park system. Need metrics. *Tory will ask the Conservation Group at BC Parks about how they evaluate the state of parks.*
 - d. Collect photos about the state of the infrastructure kicked off by Wayne's photos from Wasa Park. Ask public to contribute.
6. Should we revisit our motion about rolling over the GIC from the beginning of the meeting? We have lost many members of the meeting at this point so may raise this in an email. Very little difference in interest rates between the GIC and a high interest savings account. This would give us access to the funds for lawyers, projects, etc.

7. Next Meeting

Next meeting April 14, 10am

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:30