

CRANBROOK HILL GREENWAY SOCIETY

www.cranbrookhillgreenway.bc.ca

CHAIR'S REPORT

Presented at the 23rd Annual General Meeting of the
Cranbrook Hill Greenway Society on January 29th 2019

The following summarizes the accomplishments of the Cranbrook Hill Greenway Society during the past year of operation. This is presented to the membership as our annual report.

- Best of Banff Film Festival for the 23rd year. Sellout crowd. Over \$2,000 to the endowment.
- 20th Annual Greenway run/walk held. Over \$1,200 from this event to the endowment. Many thanks due to Dick, Karen and Roger for keeping this going.
- The Mad Moose Marathon held for the 12th year.
- Buy-a-Meter program continues to grow. The endowment is now over \$91,000. A return of over \$2,700 to our annual maintenance. Thanks to Dick for his never ending enthusiasm.
- The Society received a very generous donation of over \$2,600 from the Voneugen Family Fund that was established by the Prince George Community Foundation in honour of Dick being named Citizen of the Year a few years back.
- Appreciation is given to the students from the Outdoor Recreation Program at UNBC who volunteered and painted all the km and directions signs along the Greenway.
- Bjorn Norheim died in August of 2018. Bjorn was a great advocate for the Greenway from the beginning of the project and it was due to some of his earlier work on Cranbrook Hill that made the route selection through the woodlot go very smoothly. We owe a big debt of gratitude to Bjorn for his enthusiasm and encouragement in making the Greenway a reality.
- Maintenance work was completed on the Shane Creek bridge which we hope will result in less damage from the spring melt each year.
- Caledonia Nordic Ski Club is working to amalgamate all the pieces of land they currently have under various tenures which includes sections of the Greenway. We have been providing input to ensure the integrity of the Greenway continues. This may be completed in 2019.
- The Greenway was mowed from Blue Spruce to UNBC to Otway. Many hazard trees were also removed. Thanks to regular contractors Rob Slavik and sons for completing this work.
- There were several wind events this past year that resulted in many trees coming down. Unfortunately this will be the norm in the years ahead due to dead pine and just the large number of mature trees in the Greenway.
- Greenway winter grooming continued this past year and has been positively received with a noticeable increase in winter use from skiers, snowshoe use and runners.
- The Pit House continues to be used by school groups.
- It is encouraging to observe the increased use the Greenway is receiving especially in the UNBC/FFTW/Blue Spruce areas.
- Since the inception of the Greenway project we have had expenditures of over \$620,000
- There was an incident of major damage to the Greenway access gate at the Blue Spruce end in September 2017. A claim was made to ICBC for funds to repair the gate and almost a year to the day of the incident a cheque was received to cover these costs.
- There was a fair amount of maintenance this past year to boardwalks, bridge and also some minor earth works undertaken to improve sight lines etc.
- Finally many thanks to the regular volunteers who over the last year have been out to keep the trail clear of the windfalls and other debris. I would especially mention Ralph Tyson who regularly cuts out windfall in the UNBC/Blue Spruce/FFTW area, your effort is very much appreciated.

Appreciation is due UNBC for continuing to look after the regular maintenance of the garbage containers and snow removal at the UNBC parking and Greenway access area.

In closing, once again, I would like to acknowledge the support of all the directors of the Greenway Society, without your contribution none of this would have been possible.