

## SLNC BOD Meeting

September 24, 2025

Via Teams

Present: C. Flores; D. Dennier; A. Klein; T. Klaschka; B. Miller; T. Fulop; L. Bot; C. O'Conner; W. Shannon

Regrets: L. Lennie, D. Embleton

**Meeting called to order at 6:30pm**

### **Land Acknowledgement**

Agenda: Approved

- **Approval of Agenda and Minutes:**
  - Dave requested that AGM planning be discussed at the end of the meeting
  - **Correction to Minutes:** Alex pointed out an error in the August board meeting minutes regarding the S2S event contribution, clarifying that \$15,400 was contributed to each of Sovereign and Silver Star, not split between the two. This will be agreed corrected and posted.
- **Five-Year Capital Plan and Financial Forecast:** Alex presented the five-year capital plan, developed with input from Wendy and committee members, detailing capital requirements, the approach to grooming equipment maintenance, and the implications for cash flow and operating surplus, with additional input from Laura, Wendy, and Dave.
  - **Capital Plan Structure:** Alex explained that the five-year capital plan is a living, rolling document, updated quarterly, and excludes lodge renewal projects to avoid duplication, focusing instead on operational, sustainability, and competition needs.
  - **Groomer Maintenance Strategy:** Wendy and Alex described the plan to rebuild the hydraulic systems of the two Piston Bully groomers at 8,000 hours, with Eddie, the mechanic, conducting annual assessments to determine timing, and estimated costs of \$70,000 per rebuild, mostly for parts.
  - **Cash Flow Analysis:** Alex reviewed the cash flow analysis, showing that current savings would decrease from \$354,000 to \$181,000 over five years if

capital expenditures proceed as forecasted, emphasizing the need to increase operating surplus to \$100,000 annually to avoid depleting reserves.

- **T2 Tax Return Filing:** Dave inquired about the new requirement to file T2 tax returns; Alex clarified, based on advice from their accountant, that all non-profits are required to file, and the organization meets the criteria for tax-exempt status, with no anticipated negative consequences.
- **Fund Development Committee Update:** Bill and Laura provided an update on the Fund Development Committee's first year, outlining its structure, grant identification processes, and the transition of committee leadership to Laura, with contributions from Wendy and Alex regarding grant tracking and approval mechanisms.
  - **Committee Structure and Transition:** Bill described the committee's composition—himself, Laura, Elaine, and Hugh Hamilton—and its focus on coordinating grant applications, with Laura set to assume the chair role to leverage her programming expertise.
  - **Grant Identification and Tracking:** Laura and Wendy explained that while external software for grant tracking was trialed, the most effective approach has been maintaining a shared spreadsheet to monitor applications, reporting deadlines, and responsible parties, addressing challenges with staff turnover.
  - **Grant Approval Process:** The BOD discussed the need for a clear approval process for grant applications, agreeing that large capital grants should go through the Finance Committee, while smaller operational grants can be managed by staff, with the Finance Committee acting as the main approval body.
  - **Grant Reporting Accountability:** Cynthia and Wendy highlighted the importance of assigning responsibility for grant follow-up and reporting, suggesting the committee formalize this in their tracking system to ensure compliance and continuity.
  - **External Grant Writer Consideration:** Laura noted that hiring an external grant writer, as done successfully by Prince George, is under consideration for future large-scale grant opportunities, particularly for the lodge committee.

- **Operational Updates and Pass Enforcement Strategies:** Wendy presented operational updates, focusing on strategies to address unauthorized trail use during race events, improvements to pass enforcement, and technology considerations.
  - **Race Team Pass Compliance:** Wendy described ongoing efforts with Silverstar Mountain Resort to address teams skiing without passes during race events, including exploring targeted ticket packages and improved communication with teams.
  - **Pass Scanning and Enforcement:** The group discussed the limitations of current scanning technology, the need for staff (rather than volunteers) to enforce pass compliance, and the potential for increased staff presence at key access points.
  - **Physical Access Control:** It was suggested using snow barricades or turnstile gates to funnel users through controlled entry points, with Wendy agreeing to investigate costs and feasibility, though noting that such infrastructure is not budgeted for the current season.
  - **Staff Training and Planning:** Carolyn recommended providing staff with scripts for pass enforcement interactions, and Laura requested a formalized plan for staff deployment and enforcement procedures to be presented at the October meeting, which Wendy agreed to develop in collaboration with Gareth.
- **Program Registration and Financial Impact:** Wendy and Alex explained the process for tracking variances to budget and the timing for reporting updated figures, particularly in advance of the AGM.
  - **Registration Tracking:** Wendy stated that program registration numbers are still in flux, with final figures for high-level programs expected soon, and that a more concise season pass report will be provided for the next meeting.
  - **Financial Reporting:** Alex clarified that the budget will not be changed mid-year, but variances between actual and budgeted revenue will be tracked and reported, with a comprehensive update to be presented at the AGM.
- **Strategic Plan Midterm Update Approval:** Dave presented the updated strategic plan for 2024–2028, incorporating previous feedback, and the board, after discussion about financial priorities and document formatting, unanimously approved the midterm update.
- **MOTION:** That the board approve this mid-term update to the 2024-28 strategic plan to focus on

a smaller number of strategic priorities.

## **MOTION PASSES**

- **Plan Revisions and Focus:** Dave explained that the revised plan narrows focus to a smaller set of high-impact priorities, particularly those aimed at improving financial outcomes, with less emphasis on deferred items like communications and environmental initiatives.
- **Financial Prioritization:** Laura questioned how the need to increase revenues is reflected in the plan; Dave responded that the retained priorities—such as program review, partnerships, and fund development—are all intended to drive financial improvement, even if not explicitly stated.
- **Committee Reports and Task Force Updates:** Committee chairs provided brief updates, including Laura on programs, Dave on the programs task force and governance manual, and Cyndy on the elections committee, with action items identified for upcoming meetings.
- **Scheduling of Upcoming Meetings and AGM:** The board agreed to move the next meeting to October 29th to allow more time for financial statement preparation, and confirmed the AGM date for November 17th, with plans to allocate time for AGM preparation at the next meeting.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm**