SLNC Annual General Meeting

November 17, 2025

Elk's Lodge

Recorded by: T. Klaschka

Land Acknowledgement

Operating within SilverStar Provincial Park, SLNC acknowledges that we are situated on the ancestral, traditional and unceded territory of the Syilx and Secwépemc Nations. We are grateful to have the opportunity to collaborate, play and work on these lands.

Approval of Agenda and 2024 AGM Minutes

Cyndy Flores presented the agenda. Taschi Klaschka presented the 2024 AGM minutes with one correction.

- **MOTION:** That the agenda be approved as presented. Moved: Cyndy Flores. [MOTION PASSES]
- **MOTION:** That the 2024 AGM minutes be approved as amended. Moved: Taschi Klaschka. [MOTION PASSES]

Correction: In the financial discussion, the passage about whether season pass and cookie revenue from program participants goes to program budgets was removed.

Membership Survey – Cyndy Flores

The 2024 survey showed members' top concerns, ranked by share of responses:

1. **Lodge and facilities (35–40%):** the lodge needs upgrading or expanding; seating is limited and the design is outdated.
2. **Grooming (25–30%):** quality and timing are inconsistent; members want earlier grooming after snowfall.
3. **Trails and signage (15%):** members want clearer maps and signs and more beginner-friendly routes.
4. **Parking (10%):** parking is limited and chaotic at events and on peak weekends.
5. **Communication and inclusivity (10%):** members want more transparency from leadership and more effort to engage newer members.

6. **Dog and snowshoe trails (10%):** members want more and safer options.

GM Report – Wendy Shannon

- SLNC was named an Official Development Centre by Biathlon Canada.
- Youth programs (Track Attack, Biathlon Bears) and coach development are continuing.
- The grooming team has 2 full-time and several part-time staff.
- A new pass and ticket checking procedure was introduced.
- Upcoming events include the Continental Cup, Biathlon NorAm, the Okanagan Teck Cup, Night Sprints, Tour de Soup, Tails on Trails and the International Women's Day fundraiser.
- Wendy thanked the volunteers, community partners and sponsors: Watkin Motors Ford, Stussi Sport, Algra Bros, Sun Country Cycle and Armstrong Regional Co-op.

Questions

- **Can staff check who a passholder is?** Yes, passholders can be looked up in the system.
- **Are photos attached to passes?** No.
- **Will passes still be scanned?** Yes, scanning is still best practice.

Strategic Plan Update – Dave Dennier

The board has narrowed its 13 strategic priorities to seven primary objectives, with a focus on finances. Limited board and committee capacity meant the top priorities were moving too slowly.

- **Programs:** A Programs Strategy Task Force (Dave, Barb, Wendy) was formed in August to review how programs are run.
- **Fundraising:** This is now part of the Finance Committee. Grants, donations and sponsorships raised $46k, triple last year.
- **Volunteers:** A volunteer management framework is being developed, starting with coaches.
- **Competitions:** Biathlon races had record participation, and the OK Cup was added at Sovereign.
- **Partnerships:** Seven sponsors are secured for this year, and Supercamps were revamped with SilverStar.

- **Completed:** The community events calendar, the communication plan and the updated policy manual are done.
- **Deferred:** The paved trail will wait until after lodge renewal.

Lodge Renewal – Rob Oxenham

The Lodge Legacy Project has raised $3.08M, 63% of its $4.89M goal. That includes a $1.4M commitment from BC Parks.

- Footings, drainage and a new roof were completed this summer.
- New floor plan sketches go to the architect by year-end, and an updated cost estimate is expected in Q1 2026.
- BC Parks will manage the expansion, and SLNC will manage renovation of the existing space.
- Current fundraising includes a $20K matching challenge (to Dec 27), the sold-out Cambium Dinner, and an online raffle and 50/50 draw.

Financial Report – Alex Klein

SLNC had an operating surplus of $59.9k in 2024/25, up from a $21.4k deficit the year before. These figures are unaudited.

- Revenue was $1.33M, 12% above last year and 8% above budget.
- Expenses were $1.12M, 1% under budget. Salaries and wages make up 62% of costs.
- Season passes (31%) and day tickets (27%) are the main sources of revenue. About 2,100 season passes were sold, down from about 2,800 in 2020–22.
- Cash on hand is $1.31M. Of that, $1.04M is restricted or designated for specific purposes, leaving $268k for general use. $506k was invested in term deposits and a redeemable GIC at year-end.
- The 2025/26 budget forecasts a $63.9k surplus. That is below the $100k target because the budget was built conservatively.
- Risks to the forecast are snow conditions, lower season pass and program registrations, and unexpected equipment repair costs.
- The 2025/26 capital budget is $82,750. That includes $27,750 from operations for a wax hut wood stove, POS equipment, lodge stair improvements and a septic pump for the Tech building, plus $55,000 from lodge funds for the roof replacement.

- The 5-year capital plan needs about $491k, mostly for groomer rebuilds in 2027/28 and 2029/30.

Questions

- **Are program costs going up?** All program costs were reviewed, and a cost allocation model is now in place.
- **What is the plan for the programs deficit?** Programs will run a deficit again this year, and the board has formed a task force to address it. Program money mainly goes to coaching.
- **Can the groomers run past 8,000 hours?** The plan assumes a rebuild in 2027/28. Records show one day of machine downtime.
- **Isn't a $60k surplus good enough?** The club needs a $100k surplus each year to avoid drawing down its reserves.

Elections – Janice Nicol

Five directors were elected by acclamation to two-year terms: Martin Steinruck, J. Michael Storey, Chris Williamson and Michele Wolfe (new), and Alex Klein (returning). Cyndy Flores, David Dennier, Bill Miller and Laura Bot continue until 2026.

The board thanked outgoing directors Diana Embleton, Taschi Klaschka, Tara Fulop, Leif Lennie and Carolyn O'Connor.

Open Q&A

Member questions are recorded under the reports they relate to above.