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## **News Around BCWF**

# Science-Based Fish and Wildlife Management

In response to recent B.C. Government decisions, Harvey Andrusak, president of the BC Wildlife Federation sent the following response to Premier John Horgan. Government's recent decisions on fish and wildlife management issues are of great concern to the BC Wildlife Federation. We cite three "populist" decisions that were not based on science, and more importantly, do not address the needs of fish and wildlife and their habitats:



- 1) Restricting licenced moose hunting in the Cariboo Region while ignoring cumulative effects that fragment habitat, destroy moose food, and enable predation;
- 2) Banning sustainable grizzly bear hunting while ignoring major threats which have been identified by bear ecologists;
- 3) Supporting the use of chum fishing technologies that result in the death of endangered Interior Fraser River steelhead populations.

These three examples represent populist decision-making, rather than management decisions based on science. Currently the question on our members' minds is whether your government will continue to make wildlife management decisions based on populism rather than on science. British Columbia supports the widest diversity of animals found anywhere in North America. It is incumbent on the provincial government to ensure the province's fish and wildlife resources are managed sustainably based on science, the cornerstone for effective wildlife management throughout the Western world.

Most fish and wildlife issues today are rooted in previous governments' lack of commitment to protect, to maintain and to invest in enhancement of key fish and wildlife habitats that have been eroded for decades due to human development. These shortcomings were recently cited by the Auditor General's report on grizzly bears. The principles of effective science-based management are well documented by the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation.





#### **North American Wildlife Conservation Model**



#### Science-Based Fish and Wildlife Management

In the Public Trust Ownership in all wildlife in British Columbia is vested in the government.

#### **Prohibition on Commerce of Dead Wildlife**

It is illegal to sell the meat of any wild animal in North America, which prohibits a commercial value to wild game meat.

#### Allocation of Wildlife is by Law

Laws developed by the people and enforced by government agencies regulate the proper use of wildlife resources.

#### **Opportunity for All**

A person has the right to hunt and fish in accordance with the law.

#### International Resources

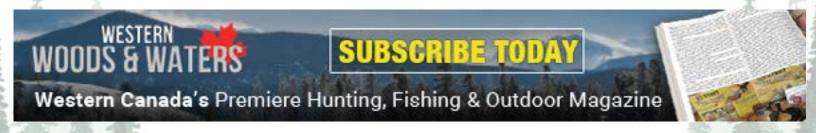
Because wildlife and fish freely migrate across boundaries between provinces, states and countries they are considered an international resource.

#### Managed by Science

The best science available will be used as a base for informed decision making in wildlife management.

Continued decision making based on populism is inherently dangerous, ill-advised and has already had a demoralizing impact on government biologists who believed that science was the underlying premise of fish and wildlife management in British Columbia.

I am requesting a clear statement from government to the following question: Does government intend to continue to make decisions on wildlife management based on populism rather than based on science? I would appreciate a concise answer to this question.







#### 2018 AGM and Convention



The 62 BCWF AGM and Convention will be held in Kamloops this year. This year's theme is "Wildlife and Fisheries under Fire." The Board of Directors decided that the convention will be held over three days, from April 11-14, 2018, to allow more time for discussion and debate by attending delegates.

Early Bird Registration will be accepted until February 9, 2018- Visit our website to register and save money now! Take advantage of special BCWF hotel room rates before March 11, 2018- visit our webstie for more details.

For full details of the AGM programming, speakers and workshops, and about the resolutions that are up for debate and voting, please visit the **www.bcwf.bc.ca website and select the AGM menu.** 

Some of the topics that will be covered include; effective advocacy, volunteer recruitment and engagement, and meeting with elected representatives. Sports shooting issues are on the radar of many of our clubs and the BCWF has created and updated resources to assist with lead and noise management issues. There will be a review of federal issues related to sports shooting such as: Firearms Marking, Federal Legislation, Shooting Range Licence Renewals and Steel Targets.

As per BCWF Bylaws: Accredited delegate entitlement for member clubs shall be based on each Club's membership numbers as submitted for the 2017 Renewal on or before December 31, 2017. This should be reported to the Federation 30 days prior to the Annual General Meeting, as follows:

- With 100 OR Fewer Members are entitled to "ONE" Voting Delegate
- Clubs with 101 200 Members are entitled to "TWO" Voting Delegates
- Clubs with 201 500 Members are entitled to "THREE" Voting Delegates
- Clubs with **OVER 501** Members are entitled to "**THREE**" Voting Delegate AND "**ONE**" Additional Delegate for each **additional 500** Members
- Each of the 10 Regions are entitled to "ONE" Regional Voting Delegate and "ONE" Regional Youth Voting Delegate
- Other Non-Voting Youth may register but they will not receive a Voting Card.





# 2018 Annual General Meeting and Convention Programs and Activities



The 2018 Annual General Meeting and Convention will host a variety of programs and activities for members to enjoy.

# **Spousal Program Activities:**

#### Friday, April 13th Day 1 of Spousal Program

Visit the Secwepemc Museum and Heritage Park where you can experience the rich cultural history of the Secwepemc People. Attractive museum exhibits incorporate the oral history and legends of the Secwepemc People, along with historical photographs, illustrations and artefacts. On display you will find a birch bark and dugout canoe, and displays on hunting, fishing, clothing, games, food gathering and cooking.

More than a kilometer of trails lead visitors through the archaeological remains of a 2000-year old Secwepemc winter village site, four reconstructed winter pit houses and a summer village, hunting leanto, fish drying rack, fish trap, smoke house and traditional plant foods. The Secwepemc Ethnobotanical Gardens located in the Heritage Park represent the ecosystem found within the Secwepemc Territory. Interpretive signs located at each garden describe the ecosystem in which the plants grow naturally

Lunch is also incuded during the Spousal Program, then it is followed by a visit to the Kamloops Fire Centre. Located close to Kamloops airport, the Kamloops Fire Centre coordinates the wildfire response across south central B.C.; from Blue River in the north to the U.S. border in the south and from Bridge River in the west to Monashee Mountains in the east.

#### On Saturday, April 14th Day 2 of the Spousal Program activities include:

A visit to the Kamloops Courthouse Gallery, a co-operative art gallery that was founded in 2007 by a small group of dedicated artists from the Kamloops area. The Courthouse Gallery is intended to provide a location for member artists to sell their work while offering the Kamloops area and its visitors the opportunity to view different forms of visual and functional art. The gallery also aims to educate present and future artists through offering demonstrations and workshops. Spouses will take part in one of the gallery's classes as part of their visit.

Followed by Lunch/Fashion Show at Brownstone- Brownstone is set in the historic 1904 Canadian Bank of Commerce building and was once the workplace of poet, Robert Service. While dining at Brownstone, spouses will also be entertained by a fashion show.

And to end the day off right, shopping at 406 Sportswear- 406 Sportswear has been operating in the downtown core of Kamloops for over 30 years, offering high quality comfortable clothing from a range of suppliers.





# 2018 Annual General Meeting and Convention Programs and Activities

## **Youth Program**

This year the AGM's Youth Program focuses on getting youth outdoors, developing, and sharing the skills that the Federation is built on. The youth will engage in the following activities:

#### Lake Fishing-

Youth will head off to a local lake where they will spend the day fishing in boats guided by experienced Kamloops District Fish and Game Club (KDFGC) volunteers. Fish caught may either be retained (within daily limits) or released dependent on the wishes of the youth participant. Youth will be provided with fishing gear and life jackets. Although fishing gear will be provided, youth are welcome to bring their own fishing equipment. Youth over the age of 16 years must be in possession of a valid angling licence for the 2018 year.



#### Range Day – Trap & Skeet Shooting / Archery

Youth will be brought to the Kamloops Shotgun Sports (KSS) Shooting Club outdoor range to participate in trap and skeet shooting as well as archery. Shotguns, clay bird targets, shotgun shells, hearing and eye protection, and archery equipment will be provided for all youth participants. A fly-tying demonstration in the clubhouse may also be held in conjunction with the shooting activities – time permitting.

#### **Hiking and Outdoor Skills at Tranquille River**

Youth will be guided on a hike by both KDFGC volunteers and BCWF staff at Tranquille River, just outside Kamloops. There, youth will be taught advanced 'Bear Aware' and AdventureSmart programs. Time permitting, youth will also be taught outdoor skills (e.g. firebuilding and shelter-building) tailored to their skill level.

For all activities, Youth should be prepared to deal with potentially inclement weather during this event and are responsible for bringing appropriate clothing.





**BCWF Awards Nominations Due January 31st, 2018!** 

## Who's your Conservation Super Hero?Barsby Trophy Conservationist of the Year

This trophy honours Ted Barsby of Nanaimo, who was the first president of the BC Wildlife Federation as we know it today and is the greatest honour the Federation can bestow on any individual for an outstanding contribution to conservation over many years. Nominate your Conservation Hero Here.

## Roderick Haig-Brown Conservation Award for Completed Project

This prestigious award recognizes the accomplishments of a Club whose recently completed conservation project benefits fish, wildlife or habitat. Nominate your Conservation Project <u>Here</u>



This award is presented to a youth or youth organization for participating in activities aimed at the conservation of wild organisms in natural habitats. Nominate your Youth Conservation Hero Here.

# That's a keeper!-Lee Straight Fishing Award

Enter the big fish you caught in 2017 Here.

#### **Youth Fishing Award**

This award is open to youth members of the Federation who are 18 years of age or younger and who have caught the fish in B.C. Download the form <u>Here</u>

#### Are You a Young Gun?- Youth Big Game Award

This award is open to youth members of the BC Wildlife Federation who are 18 years of age or younger and who have taken a big game animal in B.C. in 2017. Enter <u>Here.</u>





#### Meet the BCWF Staff-Tina Coleman Director of Corporate Operations



Tina Coleman comes to the BCWF from Variety – the children's charity of B.C., where she was the director of support services. Tina is a designated Certified Professional Accountant – Certified General Accountant, with; Over 14 years experience in managerial accounting, including budget preparation, variance analysis, reporting and presenting financial statements from government grants to multicurrency corporate consolidations. Tina was born and raised in Burnaby, B.C. Her fiancé Gerry Lepage works away in the Elk Valley. Between Gerry and Tina they have four grown children and one granddaughter. Tina's current baby is her golden retriever Sally who walks her several times daily and sometimes comes to work with her.

Tell us a bit about the background you bring to your work at the BCWF? I bring a very diverse background to the BCWF. As a CPA of course I bring financial and administrative leadership, however I have very a diversified education and experience from; broadcast communications, advertising, computer systems, strategic planning and board leadership experience. I am a life-long learner with a solutions-orientated approach. I have had many years of experience with non-profit associations and charities, either reporting to a board of directors or serving as a volunteer board member myself on the SOS Children's Village of B.C. Working in the not-for-profit sector you learn to wear many hats which led to my experiences in planning and management of events, conferences, capital projects, government programs, a number of system implementations and lotteries.

How will you apply your background expertise to the current role you play at the BCWF? I would like to build a solid foundation of team, processes and procedure. Leading organizations are looking to technology and innovation to increase efficiencies and communication and we will be no different. There will be a strong learning curve involved, but in the end we will come out stronger and better positioned to protect, enhance and promote the wise use of the environment to protect the rights and benefits of present and future generations. I would like to foster an open communications approach full of trust and respect, setting strategy with measurable goals and targets. We are in a rebuilding year full of exciting new possibilities.

What made you interested in working at the BCWF? Like so many people, I would like to lead a life full of purpose in an effort to make a positive difference in the lives of others. In the past I have done this with children's charities. The majority of the general public in B.C. may not realize the severity of the diminishing fish, wildlife and natural habitat that will negatively impact future generations. I would like to be part of educating the public on the importance of their role in maintaining this beautiful province and all it has to offer.

How do you enjoy the outdoors? Over my life I have participated in many different activities to enjoy the outdoors including: camping, fishing, boating, hiking, snowshoeing, skiing, cycling, ATVing, ziplining, parasailing and jetsking. I am proud to have passed the love of the outdoors to my two children who have together hiked the Westcoast Trail and well as many others. My daughter enjoys challenging herself on hikes alone, and my son is an avid sportshooter.

What would you like our members to know about you? I want to listen to the needs of our membership and serve them with passion and commitment.

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## Meet the Staff- Jack O'Halloran Manager of Programs



Jack O'Halloran is an Operations/Team Building Specialist with a significant record of achievement in the areas of strategic planning, brand development, operations management, guest-focused training, and management development with leading domestic and international organizations, focusing on helping organizations to increase operational effectiveness in ways that increase its profitability by joining his unique expertise and experience with the organization's strategic goals

For the past two years Jack has been following his passion of working to change the face of the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver working with United We Can as the director of business development. Through sales skills honed over the years, Jack serves the environment, economics, and the social stigmas seen in downtown Vancouver. Previously Jack served as the Director of Operations of the Vancouver Whistler Games Network and the Christian Community planning outreach initiatives/volunteer opportunities in partnership with VANOC towards the 2010 Winter Olympics.

Tell us a bit about the background you bring to your work at the BCWF? I have worked in the nonprofit world for approximately 15 years and thoroughly enjoy working towards something meaningful. By bringing my strong business acumen to the nonprofit world, I have always been part of a growing team doing something good to make a difference.

What made you interested in working at the BCWF? I believe in what the BCWF is all about. Providing a voice for our membership with government officials, to create a province where conservation and a long heritage of hunting come alongside each other. Working with our clubs and partners to show others how they can enjoy the outdoors and provide safe practices, that will leave a legacy and an environment that will be enjoyed by generations to follow.

How do you enjoy the outdoors? I use the outdoors to disconnect; to leave technology and noise behind, to marvel at our beautiful province and its resources and to enjoy the quiet. I love animals and to be able to see them in their natural habitat it truly inspiring. I also enjoy fishing, although like many I am sure, the fish usually end up winning.

What is your vision as a leader of the BCWF? My vision is to see our membership come together and grow, to see conservationist and hunter sharing thoughts and ideas on a better environment. To see our clubs, align with the home office in partnership to grow across the province, and to share our memberships' voice with our provincial, federal and municipal leaders.

What would you like our members to know about you? I have had the distinct privilege of travelling all over the world delivering sports camps and leadership workshops to individuals and low income kids around major sporting events. I have worked with at risk individuals in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside (DTES) to give them a hand up instead of a hand out. My goal now is to help make BCWF a leader in Canada when it comes to our programs and practices to ensure that our hunting practices are safe and ethical, and that environmental conservation of our wetlands and forest habitats are first and foremost on everyone's mind.





2018 Gator Tough 1652 WOF Boat & Yamaha F40 Jet Drive Motor and Trailer

Grand Prize valued at over



Early Bird Prize (Draw Feb. 28th)

Redhead 40-Gun Safe



2nd Prize

**GunWerks Mountain X Precision Hunting Rifle Package** 



**3rd Prize** 

WestJet Gift of Flight Voucher Valued at \$2,900



4th Prize

Vortex Viper HD 10x42 Binocular and Ranger 1500 Rangefinder



5th Prize

Icon Pro 7200 Backpack Full Kit & Mountain Star 2P Tent



6th Prize

EF200is Generator

@YAMAHA

7th Prize

4 Person/ 8 Hour Sturgeon Fishing Excursion



8th Prize

Round-trip for 2 from Vancouver to Victoria (except seaplane routes)

Pacific Coastal

9th Prize

\$500 Gift Card



10th Prize

\$350 Storm Tech Jacket & \$150 Gift Card



11th Prize

Husky Plush & \$250 Gas Card



**Buy Your Tickets Today!** 

www.bcwf.bc.ca 1-888-881-BCWF (2293)

Tickets can also be purchased through your local BCWF Club

PRIZE SHOWN IS FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSE ONLY.

A minimum order of FIVE tickets must be purchased for telephone and online orders if tickets are required to be mailed. Otherwise, tickets can be picked up at the BCWF office. Ticket Sales Cut-Off: May 30, 2018 Ticket purchasers must be 19 years of age or older. Winner of second prize must have proof of a valid P.A.L. If a winning ticket bears a minor's name, the prize will be lawfully delivered on behalf of the minor to the minor's parent, legal guardian or trustee. For a complete list of prizes and rules of play, visit www.bcwf.bc.ca

Chances are 1 in 20,000 (total tickets for sale) to win a grand prize

B.C. Gaming Event License # 99885



## **BCWF Featured Events- 2018 Ice Fishing Event at Beaver Lake**



The 2018 Learn to Ice Fish Event at Beaver Lake was a huge success with over 400 people attending. Close to 200 kids were able to drop a line in Beaver Lake and learn all about ice fishing at the event, hosted by BC Fishn, the Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC and the BC Wildlife Federation.

The organizers thank the incredible team at Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC (Go Fish BC), and the team from the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, BCWF Club Members and our fellow BC Fishn Members who all showed up to help host this event. These events would not happen if it wasn't for these incredible volunteers!

Thank you to Beaver Lake Mountain Resort for allowing use of their wonderful facility to host the event.

#### **BCWF Photo Contest**

With the launch of BCWF's Instagram account, BCWF is holding a weekly photo contest on all of our social media platforms.

If you want to take part in the photo contest please send us your photos by tagging #BCWildlifeFederation in your photos or by emailing them directly to marketing@bcwf.bc.ca.











#### **Tell Us Your Stories!**

If you have a story to tell that may be of general interest to other BCWF members, send a brief email to **BCWFNews** Editor, Casey Dale, at marketing@bcwf.bc.ca

**GET SOCIAL WITH US!** 







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