

From Andrew Cripps, President
January 29, 2018

Dear All,

I wanted to start the new year with a commitment that I will send out a summary of Society business. It is a privilege to work with such as committed Board and staff and together we are all serving the Society and its objectives.

Welcome:

We now have two new staff members at the office - Courtenay Nielsen that most of you have met as our Skills Coordinator, and Sarah Sproull as our Event Coordinator - who join Cheryl Serpanchy as our ED.

Focus:

Our focus in 2018 is to live out the Society's mission of promoting the bicycle as viable means of transport by increasing our revenue either in cash or in kind through developing and fostering partnerships. This gives us the opportunity to deliver on a huge number of strategic ideas generated over the past few years.

Board Executive:

Treasurer:

This year Jack, our Treasurer, has indicated he would like to step down in 2018. He has really moved us forward in maturity of record keeping and understanding of the Society's finances and I am extremely grateful for all the hard work, insight and experience Jack has brought to the Society. While Jack continues in the role, I have said we will look for a Treasurer. If anyone knows of someone who might consider the role, please pass along their names.

Secretary: Mia Frankl continues to devote her time to the Society in this role and we are really grateful for excellent notes and record keeping. We have moved the last three years of the Society's files to a professional DropBox account and I am working with Cheryl to give you all access. We will need to make a decision about whether to keep the "board files" section of the Wordpress-powered BiketoWorkVictoria.ca site going or whether to migrate to a file-based approach.

Vice President: Kryn Zedel in this role has huge experience with the Society's history, formation and with the cycling community in Victoria. I have asked Kryn to manage our membership. We have a legal responsibility to manage our members and keep accurate records and Kryn has offered to look after this for us. Kryn is also thinking through what we could offer members if we were to increase our membership fee. Basically, Kryn is thinking through options for ramping up a membership program.

President: The last few months have been incredibly busy and like all of you I have donated tons of time to the Society. Much of it has gone into the hiring

process as we have sought to put wonderful, creative people in place for the Society. I am excited to work with you all!

Here is my list of To Dos that I wanted to share with you:

New Directors at Large

We need to bring up to six new directors at large in order to execute on a wide range of strategic initiatives. If you know of people who are willing to work on particular portfolios (see role description attached), I would be grateful if you could put me in touch.

Sub-Committees

What a roadblock I have become! I have been talking about the following sub-committees, but wanted to establish common Terms of Reference for them all before launching any. So I am most of the way through drafting Terms of Reference (ToR) and will issue them by mid-March.

First committees to launch will be:

Skills/Education Committee: Mia Frankl, Lana Taves, Hu Wallis, Courteney Neilson. I will work with this committee to figure out strategic objectives and hone the ToR but the ideas the committee will consider making a priority that have surfaced time and again include

- Bike skills at schools - something I know we are all passionate about and that Bike to Work BC is keen to see us move on
- how to monetize our skills programs
- offer lunch hour skills programs at workplaces for a realistic fee
- offer electric bike training programs
- develop material that could be sold as a manual/course
- offer over 55s training
- offer skills courses at bike stores
- incorporate mechanics into skills courses

Bylaw/Policy Committee

We need another Bylaw/Policy Committee to work on revising bylaws. We still have complex rules that don't really need to be there, we have a somewhat dated constitution that could use minor updating, and we have submitted to the BC Registrar bylaws that have errors, so we need to correct them.

Amalgamation Committee

The Board passed a motion late last year to begin looking at opportunities for closer cooperation with the Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition. Corey Burger and Chris Foord have agreed to work with me and the GVCC on this one. Corey sits on both Boards and is a huge help to everyone.

What I've done (personally) is register bikevictoria.ca (yes, it's live) and we want to work with Edward Pullman at GVCC to create common messaging that fits

both of our Societies' constitution. A common message about cycling in Victoria for transport is what we're after. If we achieve that then we would move to other collaborative projects.

I am really keen to see us all work together more closely to achieve greater consolidation of purpose and develop a united front to promote cycling.

IT changes & Logistics

- The office has as new router - much improved internet speeds
- We have bought a DropBox plan so that our staff can work when on the road or at home, and the Board will have access to all the Society's material.
- new office space. The office space we have is far from ideal and any suggestions from the Board for ideally free office space would be helpful. Many organisations need to meet "green" criteria - and offering office space to the Society might be their way to do it.

I hope this gives you a sense of what is happening at the Board level. I'm open to suggestions for improvements.

Any thoughts or suggestions are welcome.

Thanks,

Andrew