

## Kaslo Trail Alliance

### Backgrounder for Public Meeting

Thursday April 12, 2012

7 pm to 9 pm

United Church Hall

#### Agenda:

- 7:00 Welcome and Introductions, Review Agenda
- 7:10 General background of the Trail Alliance
- 7:20 Overview of the DRAFT Management Plan and completion process
- 7:40 Detailed review of DRAFT Management Plan trails and uses
- 8:30 Summary of input received and next steps
- 8:45 Questions and Answers
- 9:00 Adjourn

**Purpose:** The primary goal of the Kaslo Trail Alliance is to build public support for a managed trail network in Kaslo and surrounding areas. The Alliance will focus on public consultation to develop a Trail Management Plan.

**Members:** The Kaslo Trail Alliance is comprised of the main forest tenure holders and trail user groups: Kaslo and District Community Forest Society, Woodlot 494 (Lofstedt), Kaslo Trailblazers, Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society, Kaslo Riding Club, Kaslo to Sandon Rails to Trails, Kaslo Motorized Recreation Group.

**Trail Management Plan:** The Kaslo Trail Alliance will develop the Kaslo and Area Trail Management Plan that will guide stewardship, outline roles and responsibilities, define permitted uses, summarize best practices, ensure maintenance and clarify public expectations for the use of trails in and around Kaslo.

**Trail Use Options:** The Alliance is considering different types of trail use, including

1. No Trail Use is for areas that are too sensitive for recreation. These areas have been identified as an outcome of community consultation;
2. Unmanaged Trail Use on Crown land has the fewest restrictions. Generally, trails on Crown land are open to the public within fairly broad legal requirements. In these areas trails are not publicized, designated or used for commercial purposes
3. Managed Trail Use comes with some specific rights and some restrictions. Trails need to be legally designated if they are to be built, signed and maintained. Legal designation requires public consultation and provides a level of protection from non-designated uses. Not all existing trails are publicized or designated. Legal Designation would be under Section 56 and / or Section 57 of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*.
4. Section 56 is legislative mechanism for designating a trail on the land base. It does not, by itself, confer a right to any group or individual to use, construct or to do work on a trail.

5. Section 57, on the other hand requires anyone doing work on a trail (construction, rehabilitation and maintenance) to have authorization from the Minister (or delegate). Section 57 is not a type of trail designation. It establishes authority for an applicant or proponent and is specific to that applicant, not to the trail. It does not matter if the trail in question is established under section 56. So if a new group or individual wants to work on a trail for which authorization may have been granted previously to a different group, additional authorization would be required.
6. Commercial Trail Use occurs on both designated and non- designated trails. Legal Designation would be under Section 56 and / or Section 57 of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*. Public consultation is required for commercial use of trails adjacent to communities.

**What we need from you:** The Kaslo Trail Alliance needs your input into how trails in and around Kaslo should be used, including:

- What sensitive values exist near the existing trails on Crown land;
- What uses for specific trails do you support: hiking / running; horses; mountain bikes; motorized use; all of these uses?
- What signage would be appropriate for these trails?
- What trails do you support being publicized?
- What trails do you support being managed?
- What trails do you support being legally designated?
- What trails do you support being commercial?
- What else do we need to know about?

**How can you get involved:** Copies of the DRAFT Kaslo and Area Trails Management Plan are available on-line at [www.kaslotrailblazers.org/alliance.html](http://www.kaslotrailblazers.org/alliance.html) as well as at the Village Office and the Kaslo Library. Written comments can be submitted to:

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