

VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Sunday, April 24, 2016 - 1:30 pm

Ladner Leisure Centre

4600 Clarence Taylor Crescent, Delta BC

1. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT:	Brenda Dudfield	President
	Christine Desjardins	Juan de Fuca Pathfinders
	Frank Dudfield	Surrey Trekkers
	Rita Hopkins	Surrey Trekkers
	George Copley	Garden City Wanderers, Proxy for Victoria "Y"
	Joan Sanderson	Treasurer/Materials Manager
	Linda Warnick	Secretary
	Ada Robinson	Garden City Wanderers
	Beverley Catrall	Vice President & Past President
	David Catrall	Website Coordinator
	Jan Bortolussi	Surrey Trekkers
	Rick Bortolussi	Surrey Trekkers
	Hinda Avery	Garden City Wanderers
	Verni Brown	Vancouver 'Venturers
	Diane Copley	Garden City Wanderers
	Joyce McDougall	Victoria "Y"

The meeting was called to order at 1:23 pm by President Brenda Dudfield

- a) A moment of silence was held in memory of Al Hollinger (Vancouver Ventures) and Carole Pearson (Juan de Fuca Pathfinders)
- b) Verification of attendance - all clubs represented except Nanaimo and Comox.

2. AGENDA

The Agenda was accepted and adopted by Verni Brown and seconded by Christine Desjardines. Carried.

3. AGM 2015

- a) The minutes were approved
- b) No new business arising from the minutes.

4. REPORTS

- a) **President** - Brenda - report attached
Confirmed 2015 was a good year but numbers are down a bit.
- b) **Vice-President** - Beverley - no report
- c) **Treasurer** - Joan - report available on request
The report was accepted and Moved by Verni, seconded by Christine, all in favour.
- d) **Secretary**, Linda - no report
- e) **Volkssporting BC** - Brenda

Brenda prepared the 2016 issue, Speedo Copy & Print, Surrey did the printing and everyone agreed that Volkssporting BC should stay the same.

f) **Materials Manager** - Joan

Joan said that book sales were down. Joan will supply books and other VABC materials for sale at the CVF Convention at Surrey at the Surrey Trekkers sales table. No other report.

g) **Sanctions Co-ordinator** – Kaye Farmer - Ada reported on Kaye's behalf, attached.

A hard copy of this report will be sent to Comox and to Nanaimo.

Kaye has done a wonderful job over the past 18 years.

Walks are up, why are \$'s down? VABC sponsored walks are down, individual Clubs are doing well.

Amounts for membership and sanction fees, will be determined, sent to Clubs and cheques sent to Ada.

One financial factor brought up was that "Walk Hosts" of VABC and BC Director Walks do not have to remit payment for their walks and this would account for discrepancies in number of walks and amount of walking fees submitted.

George moved that Kaye's report be accepted, Christine seconded. Carried.

h) **Website/Mail-ins Coordinator** - David - report attached

A motion was made by Verni to have Hope's PT made a mail-in starting in 2017.

Christine seconded this motion. Carried

i) **Director at Large** - Christine - report attached

Walk on Maine Island P.T. to take place July 26th and Galiano Island on August 29th Map Walk.

5. CLUB REPORTS - see attached

Vancouver 'Venturers - Verni

Surrey Trekkers - Rick

Garden City Wanderers - George

Juan de Fuca Pathfinders - Christine

Victoria "Y" - no report

Comox - no report

Nanaimo - no report

6. OLD BUSINESS - none

7. NEW BUSINESS

a) VABC Bylaws - George

George moved that the VABC Bylaws, last revised in December, 2004, be repealed in their entirety and replaced by the text of the proposed VABC Bylaws drafted in October 2015 and considered by the Board of VABC on January 14, 2016 which is attached to this motion as Schedule "A", dated February 2, 2016; this text was adopted by the Board at its meeting on January 14, 2016. Seconded by Christine.

George explained that this was a Special Resolution, which required a majority of 75% of members present to pass.

After much discussion it was decided the Board will appoint an ad hoc committee to review the new Bylaws and present Constitution, taking into account concerns that VABC members have and the requirements of the new BC Society Act (effective November 2016). Motion passed by 80%.

Motion was made by George that the Board appoint a committee to review the new Bylaws and present Constitution taking into account the requirements of the new BC Society Act and any other concerns that the members of VABC might have. Seconded by Verni. All in favour, carried.

b) Invermere Mail-In Seasonal Walk

Christine and Rick have done the walk. Verni in favour. Christine will e-mail the map and route to David to be put on the Website. This walk will be in place prior to the Convention. To be in effect from May 15 to October 10 each year.

c) For the Special Programme A - Z, we require A & J - possibly Abbotsford or Armstrong. These would be BC Director Walks.

d) Brenda wondered if a Review of the Treasurer's Report should be done as is done for other Clubs? This would be reviewed in the Bylaws.

8. ELECTIONS

Beverley handled the nominations:

- a) Secretary - Linda Warnick accepted
- b) Treasurer - Joan Sanderson accepted
- c) Director - Sanctions - Ada Robinson accepted
- d) Director - Publicity - Verni nominated Anita Beecroft who has accepted
- e) Director - Website - David Cattrall accepted
- f) Director - Materials - Joan Sanderson accepted
- g) Director - Mail in Walks - David Cattrall

9. OTHER DISCUSSION - none

10. NEXT MEETING

The date and place for the next annual general meeting of VABC is yet to be determined. It was requested that this meeting not be held in conjunction with the Victoria Phoenix Walking Festival. Brenda will put out the request to other clubs.

11. ADJOURNMENT - Christine moved to adjourn at 3:30 pm.

Submitted by

Linda Warnick
Secretary

VABC President's Annual Report 2015 - Brenda Dudfield

The seven clubs in BC were still very active all year with a total membership of 372, which is slightly lower than in 2014. There were a total of 95 Scheduled Events, just 2 down from 2014. However, there was an increase in the numbers of walkers to 3,825 from 3,356 in 2014. This was mostly due to the very successful Victoria Phoenix Festival held in a new location, which had 825 walks completed.

There were 78 sanctioned Permanent Trails in the province with 8,787 walkers. All the Permanent Trails in BC have a cost of only \$1.00. We have decided to keep our remote walks, the directions for which can be downloaded from the VABC website: <http://www.volkssportingbc.ca> so there are walks available when walkers travel across the province. Our Mail-In Registration process for the remote walks continues to be well utilized. As the CVF BC Director, I sanctioned the Field – Emerald Lake Seasonal walk that was included in the walks at the Banff CVF Convention in 2014. Three walkers did the route in 2015.

I prepared the VolkssportingBC magazine, which lists all the walks in the province, with assistance from Surrey Trekker member Anita Beecroft. I thank her for her expertise and guidance. The free distribution of the 1,600 copies goes to clubs for their members as well as walkers outside of the province, who request them.

The Surrey Trekkers Volkssport Club has been busy preparing for the upcoming 2016 CVF Convention to be held May 26 – 30 in Langley. The theme is “See BC”. There will be 7 walks offered plus the usual President’s and Convention walks. There will also be a Post Convention Bus Tour on May 30, Walk, Wine and Dine – with 2 walks, visits to two wineries, lunch and dinner included. Registrations for both the Convention and the Tour are still being accepted. Please see the website: [ww.cvfconvention2016.ca](http://www.cvfconvention2016.ca) for more information. I hope walkers will take advantage of the walks as they travel to the Convention.

We look forward to a successful year in 2016.

REPORT TO VABC BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND VABC AGM

By Kaye Farmer, Sanctions Coordinator and Statistician
April 2016

SANCTIONING:

For 2016, 79 permanent trail walks have been sanctioned, with 28 sanctioned by the 5 Vancouver Island clubs, 15 by the 2 mainland clubs, 25 by the CVF BC Director, and 11 by VABC. There are 97 scheduled events sanctioned for 2016: 48 on the mainland, and 49 on Vancouver Island and other islands. Surrey Trekkers have scheduled several multi-day walks for the convention, which are included in the number of scheduled walks.

I thank all the clubs for their cooperation in letting me know when there has been a change in an event that has been sanctioned, as this enabled me to notify the appropriate people at CVF and VABC.

STATISTICS:

Attached are the 2015 summaries and comparisons with previous years for both the scheduled and permanent trail events. Your prompt return of slugs and statistics has enabled me to promptly prepare my monthly reports for CVF.

SUMMARY:

I thank you all for your support for the past 18 years! And now it's time for a change. I continue to believe that it's a significant benefit to all the BC clubs that the sanctioning is done here in BC, and I'm know that Ada Robinson will do an excellent job in this position. Please give her your support.

Kaye Farmer

Sanctions Coordinator and Statistician

SUMMARY - BRITISH COLUMBIA 2015 PERMANENT TRAILS

Club	Sanction CVF PT 15/	Total Participants	Club Total
Bastion City Wanderers (6)	096, Nanaimo - Downtown	401	949
	097, Nanaimo - Neck Point	48	
	157, Nanaimo - Country Club	232	
	158, Nanaimo - Westwood Lake	75	
	199, Ladysmith	95	
	307, Cedar	98	
Comox Glacier Wanderers (2)	001, Comox	320	358
	010, Courtenay	38	
Garden City Wanderers (6)	019, Victoria - Harbour Towers	273	1,479
	025, Victoria - Harbour Towers	231	
	029, Victoria - Henderson Park	238	
	140, Victoria - Pearkes	181	
	260, Victoria - Broadmead	499	
	W004, Victoria - Broadmead RLDW	57	
Juan de Fuca Pathfinders (9)	026, Sidney	466	1,529
	083, Langford - Running Room	124	
	088, Langford - Frontrunners	254	
	102R, Sidney Bicycle	116	
	108, Elk Lake	98	
	109, Brentwood Bay	110	
	160, Sooke	84	
	163, Colwood	134	
	180, Metchosin	143	
Surrey Trekks (9)	023, Surrey - Crescent Beach	328	2,148
	055, Surrey - Fleetwood	238	
	080, Delta - Sunshine Hills	255	
	101, Vancouver - False Creek	129	
	106, New Westminster	179	
	138, Langley - Langley Parks	256	
	139, Delta - Nordel	242	
	154, Surrey - Green Timbers	289	
	156, Surrey - Cedar Hills	232	
Vancouver 'Venturers (6)	053, Vancouver - Stanley Park	164	512
	063, Delta - Ladner	88	
	079, Vancouver - Downtown	81	
	162, Vancouver - Kitsilano	72	
	164, Vancouver - Shaughnessy	52	
	252, West Vancouver - Ambleside	55	
Victoria "Y" (5)	007, Victoria - Downtown	182	
	015, Victoria - Oak Bay	95	

	253, Esquimalt	122	
	256, Victoria - Oak Bay	110	
	306, Victoria - Cedar Hill Rec Centre	143	652
CVF/BC Director (24)	64, Whistler	24	
	082, Lake Cowichan	11	
	095, Mount Robson	2	
Mail-in Walks Except For 136, 200, and 251	103, Kamloops	11	
	105, Kimberley	3	
	110, Chemainus	18	
	136, Duncan	39	
	137, Qualicum Beach	17	
	159, Prince George	7	
	196, Mill Bay	7	
	200, Penticton	32	
	251, Parksville	40	
	254, Oliver - Riverside	5	
	255, West Vancouver - Lighthouse Park	6	
	257, Salmon Arm	8	
	259, Okanagan Falls	3	
	301, Princeton	9	
	302, Keremeos	4	
	303, Mayne Island	14	
	305, Summerland	5	
	308, Ucluelet	34	
	309, Tofino	30	
	310, Golden	5	
	330, Field	3	337
VABC (11)	009, Hope	24	
	046, Richmond - Centre	82	
	081, Richmond - Steveston	115	
	104, West Vancouver - Horseshoe Bay	68	
	107, Peachland	53	
	155, Richmond - Terra Nova	84	
	176, Coquitlam - Town Centre	86	
	177, Port Moody - Rocky Point	106	
	178, Kelowna	58	
	179, Burnaby - Central Park	81	
	322, Coquitlam - Mundy Park	66	823
78			8787

SUMMARY OF B. C. SCHEDULED EVENTS FOR 2015

Volkssport Club	Number of Sanctions		Total Walkers
Bastion City Wanderers	6		191
Comox Glacier Wanderers	7		135
Garden City Wanderers	24		827
Juan de Fuca Pathfinders	11		295
Surrey Trekkers	22		720
Vancouver 'Venturers	8		228
Victoria "Y"	11		327
Sub-Total	89		2723
Victoria Int'l Walking Festival Society	4		825
Volkssport Association of BC - AGM	1		256
CVF Director	1		22
Total	95		3826

COMPARISON 2005 to 2015 - BRITISH COLUMBIA PERMANENT TRAILS

Club	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Bastion City Wanderers	1,088	1,043	1,020	1,086	852	723	634	671	799	734	949
Comox Glacier Wanderers	1,931	1,553	1,717	1,366	1,078	1,106	661	534	525	511	358
Garden City Wanderers	1,703	2,001	1,952	1,678	1,732	1,495	1,375	1,529	1,438	1,352	1,479
Juan de Fuca Pathfinders	1,362	1,651	1,646	1,262	1,685	1,498	1,346	1,227	1,504	1,436	1,529
Kimberley		40	23	10	3	5					
Mid-Island	201	141	108	52	39	24	55	63	40		
Mount Cheam	241	280	276	247							
Northern Lights Pacers	4										
Peachland	475	82	474	413	249	319	152				
Richmond Trailblazers	560	492	635	419							
Surrey Trekkers	2,108	1,509	1,787	1,554	1,719	1,547	1,550	1,824	1,815	1,781	2,148
Vancouver 'Venturers	588	520	696	475	330	486	613	817	736	666	512
Victoria "Y"	645	851	897	825	820	781	758	707	794	546	652
Westcoast Walkers	280	309									
Wine Country	68										
Volkssport Association of British Columbia					645	683	739	993	886	896	823
CVF/BC Director	19	118	566	682	154	288	221	262	317	664*	337
Total	11,273	10,590	11,797	10,069	9,306	8,955	8,104	8,627	8,854	8,586	8,787

*Includes YRE 330, sanctioned by St. Albert Trekkers as part of CVF Convention held in Banff 2014.

COMPARISON - 2005 to 2015 (Total Walkers) - BRITISH COLUMBIA SCHEDULED EVENTS

Volkssport Club	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Bastion City Wanderers	881	797	934	98	66	139	244	360	305	373	191
Comox Glacier Wanderers	645	572	343	261	396	291	210	132	94	112	135
Garden City Wanderers	1,154	1,189	911	1,013	757	822	687	716	818	809	827
Juan de Fuca Pathfinders	649	603	635	532	489	371	233	358	379	249	295
Mid-Island	118	125	183	101	34	26	11	16	10		
Mount Cheam	298	385	124	148							
Peachland	89	51	53	47	39	21	27				
Richmond Trailblazers	156	226	241	142							
Surrey Trekkers	684	633	631	493	884	916	855	767	799	1052	720
Vancouver 'Venturers	362	318	320	247	274	259	193	255	331	317	228
Victoria "Y"	488	683	543	438	528	501	562	520	342	375	327
Westcoast Walkers	47	76									
Wine Country	14										
VABC			36	15	9	16					
VABC - AGM**	49	85	70	49	229	46	258	76	258	42	256
Sub-Total	5,634	5,743	5,024	3,584	3,705	3,408	3,280	3,200	3336	3329	2979
CVF Convention			481				309				
CVF Director								36	7	27	22
Cowichan Family Caregivers				7	3	0					
International Wanderers			31								
Victoria Int'l Walking Festival**	1,799	1,614	1,197		547		597	48	607		825
Total	7,433	7,357	6,733	3,591	4,255	3,408	4,186	3,284	3950	3356	3826

**2009 - VABC AGM walk was the Sunday VIWF (Phoenix) walk - total Phoenix participation was 776.

2011 - VABC AGM walk was the Sunday VIWF (Phoenix) walk - total Phoenix participation was 855.

2012 - CVF 25th Anniversary Walk hosted by VIWF.

2013 - VABC AGM walk was the Sunday VIWF (Phoenix) walk - total Phoenix participation was 865.

2015 - VABC AGM walk was the Sunday VIWF (Phoenix) walk - total Phoenix participation was 1081.

Website/Mail-ins Coordinator - David Cattrall

The VABC Website continues to receive, on average, about 7 hits per day – about 2600 hits in 2015. The website is actually pretty simple – just informational, not transactional. So, the major workload is at year end when the event schedule and the PTs for the following year are updated and entered. After that, the job of keeping the site up to date as changes occur has been quite straightforward and low volume. We have discussed accepting payments for mail-in walks through the website using something like PayPal or credit cards but for the small amount of money involved have decided that it is not worthwhile.

I am also responsible for managing the mail-in registration process. It continues to work well and is quite successful as measured by the volumes, the financial returns, and the positive feedback from those who did the walks.

At the beginning of 2016 there were 22 mail-in PTs, an increase of 1 from 2015 since Yale has been added. Yale is a seasonal which will begin on May 15th. The 22 locations have 50 routes. I act as trailmaster for these routes, keeping them up-to-date and making a few improvements as necessary.

Numbers in 2015 were down by about 40% from 2014 when many walkers did mail-in routes on their way to or after the Convention in Banff (including 100 people on the bus tour following the Convention who did the Mount Robson walk). No doubt this year's numbers will be boosted by people walking before or after the Convention in Langley.

Overall 226 walks of mail-in PTs were done. The walks are all CVF Director's Walks and cost us \$210 last year for insurance. There were \$30 of expenses for postage and paper and a few donations. Also we had decided to charge just \$1 per walk in line with all other PTs in BC. Overall, the mail-in program 'lost' \$13 for the year and several walks did not fully pay for themselves. It should be noted that Qualicum Beach and Ucluelet have shown increased numbers thanks to the A to Z program – there aren't many Qs or U's. This year Yale will be a similar attraction. I believe that the program as a whole is well worth while and continues to serve the purpose of encouraging walking right across BC. So, I feel that we should retain all of the walks.

Director at Large - Christine Desjardines

Again this year I've scheduled walks on the island supporting the VABC sanctioned walks. We scheduled Lake Cowichan in March but only 7 people came due to pouring rain but we still had a lovely walk and lunch. We had 2 Mayne Island walks last summer, one a map walk and the usual PT, but people had a hard time getting their heads around 2 Mayne walks so very few showed up for the second walk. This year we are doing Duncan in April on a Saturday morning so walkers can attend the market or do another PT in Mill Bay on the way home. I have not scheduled Mayne Island this year as Brenda has scheduled it this summer and also Galiano Island is scheduled for Aug 29. Rick and I drove to Invermere recently to check out the viability of putting in a walk to support the Canada A – Z program.

CLUB REPORTS:

Vancouver 'Venturers – Verni Brown

The Vancouver 'Venturers Volkssport Club had a good year in 2015. We currently have 40 members.

During 2016, we are again hosting 8 map walks and 6 PTs, as well as coordinating 5 Lower Mainland PTs on behalf of VABC.

We continue to have a joint weekend walk schedule with the Surrey Trekkers, and we thank them for supporting our events.

We also have 5K walks in Vancouver on Tuesday evenings and Thursday afternoons. These have attracted a few non-Volkssporters, some of whom have become club members.

We are pleased to be hosting the 2016 VABC AGM today in Ladner.

Surrey Trekkers - Rick Bortolussi

2015 year was a good year for the Trekkers. Our club membership has remained near the 100 mark. Today we are pleased to announce that we have 100 active members. During 2015, we had an increased turn out of participants for our map walks, scheduled weekend PT walks, our Wednesday morning walks as well as our Thursday evening summer period walks.

Our membership endorsed a motion during our 2014 Club AGM to submit a proposal to CVF to host the 2016 CVF Convention and AGM. The Board accepted our proposal, scheduled for May 26-29, 2016 at the Coast Inn and Convention Centre in Langley BC. The Club has been busy with the planning, training of volunteers and pre-walking trail routes, and I'm pleased to announce we are ready to go. This will be a fun event for the 250+ registrants at the convention; we hope that you will be able to participate with us. Please refer to the convention website at www.cvfconvention2016.ca for update information on both the convention and the post convention one day, "Walk, Wine & Dine Tour".

During this past year the club held 21 map walks with an average of 38 participants on the walks. We added a new PT walk at Surrey Green Timbers to increase our total PT walks to 9. During the year we had a tremendous increase of 21% participation in walker turn-out on our PT walks, from 1781 walkers during 2014 to 2148 walkers in 2015. For 2016, we will facilitate 34 map walks (including the Convention and Thanksgiving Events). The Wednesday morning walks are now expanded to all year around while the Thursday evening walks will recommence from May-September.

This Thanksgiving weekend we again will sponsor the Wine Walks in the Kelowna area. Mark your calendars for October 8-10, 2016. A guaranteed good time you can drink on that! Please come and join us! Registration information advertisements for this event will be distributed shortly after the Convention dust settles we'll need a breather!

I am happy to announce as noted above, that for 2016, the Surrey Trekkers Volkssport Club has stepped up to undertake its most challenging year of activity during our 25th anniversary for the Club. The Club was officially issued its CVF club status on April 12, 1991.

See you on the trail,

Garden City Wanderers - George Copley

GCW Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Celebrations: Garden City Wanderers was formed in late 1990 and accepted into the CVF on January 10, 1990. The twenty-fifth anniversary celebrations were kicked off at the annual Anniversary Walk at Willows Park on January 31, 2015, with a cake and recognition of the anniversary committee which included four previous GCW presidents. During the year blue cards were stamped by walkers for each 25 event walks they did and the completed 25 event cards were entered in a prize draw held at the annual anniversary walk at Willows Park on January 30, 2016, which marked the close of the twenty-fifth anniversary celebrations. Both the opening and closing anniversary walks were well attended by over 65 walkers at each event. During the anniversary year about 1,000 special GCW commemorative pens were distributed at event walks and other events.

The annual WALKFest, held at Cadboro Bay United Church Hall in April, 2015, was attended by about 60 walkers. Eight walkers completed a 25 km walk laid out to commemorate the anniversary while the other walkers did 5 or 10 km walks. WALKFest was celebrated with an anniversary theme featuring picture displays of events from the last 25 years, a potluck lunch, morning and afternoon walks and the walkers were treated to a musical performance by Ross Holloway on the guitar which featured a special GCW anniversary commemorative song written for the occasion.

WALKFest 2016 was well attended by 57 walkers who mostly did the morning 5 and 10 km walks before enjoying the potluck lunch at Cadboro Bay United Church Hall where they were entertained with songs by Ross Holloway on the guitar and were the recipients of a very generous prize draw. The afternoon saw a few walkers doing the 5 and 10 km walks, which were different routes from the morning walks. All walks had been specially revised for this WALKFest.

US/Canada Friendship Walks were held again this year with the Port Angeles Volkssporters visiting Victoria on August 29 and the Victoria Volkssporters visiting Port Angeles on July 25. The Victorians hosted a picnic for their guests at Windsor Park after the walk around Oak Bay and the Port Angelenos reciprocated with a picnic next to the Elwha River where their walk was held.

The GCW AGM was held at a recreation centre in Broadmead on November 1, 2015, at which some 40 walkers attended for the walks and 30 stayed for a potluck lunch and the AGM. Elections for the Board returned all the previous incumbents except the president, Beverley Cattrell, who had chosen to step down this year. George Copley was elected president. The new Board was treated to a generous razzing by the members blowing into New Year's Eve noise makers to ensure that they did not take themselves too seriously in the coming year. As of the date of the AGM GCW had just in excess of 100 members.

Juan de Fuca Pathfinders - Christine Desjardins

JFP is still a very active club. We have not grown our membership much. We are at about 25 members but we still put on 10 events annually as well as run our 9 PTs and the only bike PT.