



# Friends of the South Slopes Society

Spring 2003

Mailing Address: Box 28011 RPO East Kelowna, Kelowna, BC V1W 4A6

## Finally....it's Spring!!!

The snow is disappearing from the south slopes, and we are all watching closely for those first signs of spring. As we wind down from our winter recreational activities, we will soon be back hiking, biking, running and riding the South Slopes!

Since the AGM in November, a number of committees have been hard at work preparing for the upcoming summer. The **Kiosk Committee** has chosen the site for the kiosk (on the connecting trail between Lost Lake Trail and the eastern end of the parking lot), finalized plans, solicited financial support, and is ready to go. The committee anticipates a construction date of late May or early June. The information kiosk will be a 12 panel structure. Three panels will showcase BC Parks, (a protected areas message, park map, and information on other Provincial Parks in the region). The Central Okanagan Regional District will provide a panel on regional parks. Other panels will outline trail etiquette, special places in the park, flora, fauna, park regulations, and a map of the trail system for the lower slopes of Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park. As well, a panel will recognize groups, clubs, foundations, businesses and individuals who provided financial or "work in kind" support for FOSS projects. On behalf of all FOSS members, the FOSS Kiosk Committee wish to give a BIG THANK YOU to

**Jamie Browne (Somerville Corner)** Jamie has generously donated the services of a contractor to construct the kiosk.

Major funding for the kiosk project is provided by a grant from:



The **Angel Spring Interpretive Trail Committee** (chaired by Dan Wood) is working on its plans for this project. Plans include a small parking area and interpretive signs about the Tufa deposits, area geology and the local flora and fauna. As well, the trail will be upgraded and mapped.

This project will proceed thanks to the generous support of **Interior Savings** who provided the funding.



## "On Site" Toilets

Yes, we have really come up in the world....there are now two pit toilets located at the Stewart Road East Trailhead. Please use them!!! Regular cleaning of these toilets will be contracted out by FOSS, as it's hard to find a volunteer willing to do this job!

Any costs resulting from vandalism at the Trailhead come from FOSS's budget so the less we need to spend on repairing vandalism the more we will have available for trail work, signs, and improvements in the Park.

**Please help stop vandalism-observe, record, report BC Parks - (250) 490-8200 (new number)**

Remember, unauthorized motor vehicles (including quads and motor bikes) are **NOT** permitted in Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park. This is a provincial regulation. If FOSS, the Kelowna Mountain Bike Club

Bridge over Hachey Creek Oct. 02



or any other authorized volunteer group is working within the park, they will be identified as "authorized volunteers".

**Park Entrance at Harvard Road to be Gated**

Many unauthorized vehicles are entering the Park from Harvard Road. In May 2003 BC Parks will install a gate to close off this access. It will only be accessible to

Aquila personnel for repair and maintenance of their utility lines. Please note that where the Aquila utility lines traverse the Park, the power line is considered in the Park and is therefore subject to its regulations.

Once again your directors suggest that if you witness non-compliance with the BC Parks regulations (eg. quads, dirt bikes, other motorized vehicles) avoid confrontation - our

goal is to .....**educate**.....

**Thanks!!!** In October 2002, the **Sunrise Rotary Club** donated \$1,200 to FOSS for the purchase of signs for Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park. Thanks to this generosity, F.O.S.S. installed more "Welcome to Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park" signs, and also purchased twenty five "No unauthorized motor vehicles" signs. Some were erected in November 2002, and the remainder will be installed this spring/summer. F.O.S.S. is fortunate to have this level of community support.

## F.O.S.S. is On Line

David Brooke of **dwb communications** designed a website for F.O.S.S. We think you'll be impressed!

David will also be the site's webmaster. His time is volunteered - and we thank him very much for this.

Visit the F.O.S.S. website at:

[www.foss-kelowna.org](http://www.foss-kelowna.org)  
contact: [info@foss-kelowna.org](mailto:info@foss-kelowna.org)



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## Project M.E.E.T. II

Watch for the M.E.E.T.II crews throughout the spring and summer of 2003. They will be working on numerous projects on the South Slopes. Project M.E.E.T. (Making Educated Environmental Tracks) is a youth employment initiative made possible through a funding partnership between Human Resources Development Canada and Katim Enterprises. Their objective is to employ youth in environmental projects through partnerships with local groups.

In 2002, they undertook projects on the south slopes for the Central Okanagan Regional District, BC Parks, Myra Canyon Trestle Restoration Society, Kelowna Mountain Bike Club and F.O.S.S. In 2003, Katim will be involved in the construction of the Angel Spring Interpretive Trail, rehabilitation of trails above the Stewart Road East Trailhead, development of hiking circuits in Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park, work on preparing the site for the kiosk, and other worthwhile projects. As well, in early May they will be installing the gate (provided by BC Parks) at the Harvard Road entrance to the Park.

### F.O.S.S. Receives Registered Charity Status

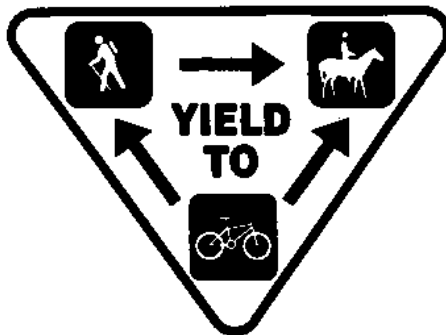
On January 23, 2003, Canada Customs and Revenue notified FOSS that we qualified for tax-exempt status as a registered charity. What this means is that F.O.S.S. can now issue tax receipts for your donations. We have the receipts printed and ready to write! Tax receipts will issued for all donations of \$10 or greater, not including the membership fee.

Please make your donation by forwarding your cheque to:

**Friends of the South Slopes**  
Box 28011 RPO East Kelowna, Kelowna, BC V1W 4A6

## MULTIPLE USE TRAIL GUIDELINES

### TRAIL COURTESY



### BICYCLISTS

*IMBA Rules of the Trail:*  
-Ride on open trails only  
-Leave no trace  
-Control your bicycle  
-Always yield trail  
-Never scare animals  
-Plan ahead



### EQUESTRIANS

-Control your horse  
-Avoid cross-country riding



### HIKERS

-Yield to equestrians  
-Allow equestrians and bicyclists to pass  
-Don't cut switchbacks

### ALL USERS

*For Your Safety Please:*  
-Observe Rules and Regulations  
-Stay On Designated Trails  
-Be Alert and Courteous  
-Avoid Muddy Areas



There is an extensive network of trails adjacent to the Stewart Rd. East Trailhead on the lower slopes of Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park. These trails are enjoyed by walkers, runners, horseback riders and a great number of mountain bikers who have really embraced this area for their recreational enjoyment.

**MOUNTAIN BIKERS** — you can help make outdoor recreation safe and enjoyable for everyone. Please follow IMBA's (International Mountain Bicycling Association) "Rules of the Trail". Your cooperation will help preserve trails and reduce user conflicts.

### RIDE RESPONSIBLY

(Multiple Use Trail Guidelines and IMBA Trail Rules courtesy of the International Mountain Bicycling Assoc.)