Friends of the South Slopes Fall 2014



Box 28011 RPO East Kelowna Kelowna BC V1W 4A6

http://www.foss-kelowna.org

info@foss-kelowna.org

Meet You at the "Junction"

A new Teddy bear is now in residence at Teddy Bear Junction in Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park. We hope that our bear sign will be a popular place for photo-ops and a destination to which families will hike, bike or ride. FOSS would love to see your photos posted on our Facebook page, FOSS-Kelowna.



Please Mark on Your Calendar....

FOSS' AGM will be Thursday January 15th at 7 pm. More information will be sent out to our members in late December



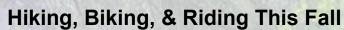


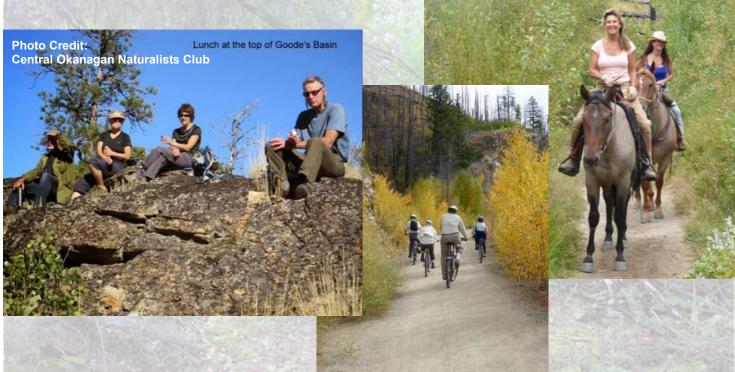
Myra-Bellevue — Creatures Great & Small



Photo Credit: Marilyn Westlake







Friends of the South Slopes Newsletter Fall 2014

Trail Expansion Announcement

On October 2, 2014, the Regional District of Central Okanagan announced that work will soon begin on extending Mission Creek Greenway Regional Park upstream from where it presently ends in Scenic Canyon Regional Park. Funding for Phase 3a of the Greenway is from the Friends of Mission Creek Society. (Thanks FOMC!!) The project includes a pedestrian bridge over KLO Creek as well as over two kilometers of new and upgraded trails. The new trail will lead to a picnic/ rest/swimming site along Mission Creek.

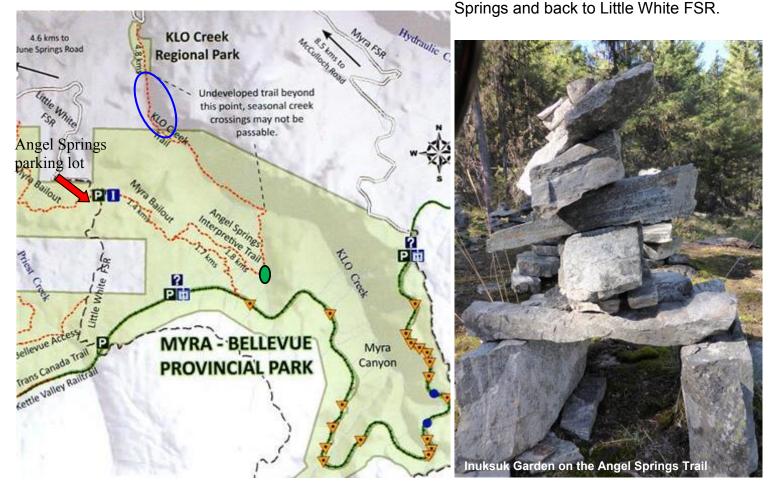
KLO Creek Trail Announcement

The second announcement made by the Regional District on Oct. 2 is that a five year sub-lease agreement was reached with a private landowner for access to lands along KLO creek for a future connection to the Mission Creek Greenway. This trail (circled in blue on the map below) connects KLO Creek Park (a City park) with Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park on an existing trail that continues upstream along KLO Creek and then crosses the creek and goes uphill to Angel Springs.

Currently, the trail is only marked with signs between Angel Springs (green dot on the map)



and Little White Forest Service Road (location of the Angel Springs parking lot). In 2015, signage will be installed on the section of trail between Angel Springs and KLO Creek. PLEASE BE AWARE that the trail from Angel springs to KLO Creek is rough with sharp drop off and that you will need to navigate four water crossings on KLO Creek (no bridges!). It is a seasonal trail that is only passable when the water level is low in KLO Creek. Know the creek conditions before you go or you'll be taking a long, steep hike back up to Angel



In early October, FOSS volunteers put the finishing touches on the Stewart Rd. East notice board.

The Stewart Road East Trailhead parking lot will remain open over the winter . However, the BC Parks' Facility Operator does not maintain the trailhead facilities during winter so the parking lot will not be plowed or maintained and toilets will not be cleaned.

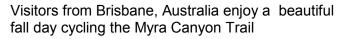


Okanagan Mountain Provincial Park — BC Parks Plans for 2015.

Ryan Elphick, BC Parks Area Supervisor/East Okanagan, met with the FOSS board in November to discuss plans for 2015. Under a new contract with the Park Facility Operator (the contractor hired by BC Parks), the PFO will be required to clear blowdowns and brush Boulder Trail and Wild Horse Canyon Trail once annually. The time line for this will likely be May/June. FOSS is hopeful that this will lighten the work load for our Adopt a Trail volunteer, Andrew Stevenson, who had a monumental task this year trying to keep Boulder Trail open. And if you've hiked/cycled or ridden Wild Horse Canyon Trail in the last year, you'll know that sections of it are almost impassable because of the thick brush.



Boulder/Wild Horse are the only trails in OMPP that are part of the PFO's contract. The Central Okanagan Naturalists Club (CONC) will continue to maintain Goode's Basin Trail as part of FOSS' Adopt a Trail program and BC Parks' staff will clear Mt. Goat Trail & CN Trail.



"Like" FOSS on Facebook FOSS-Kelowna





....And Thanking our Generous Supporters for Recent Donations



Oct. 31, 2014 Personal Trainer Dawn Balic (Body by Balic) presents FOSS with a \$500 cheque. Dawn is a HUGE supporter of FOSS — this is her 3rd donation in a year. Dawn loves to run on the trails in Myra-Bellevue and she's proud to be able to support FOSS.



Thank you to Megan Rose, Event Manager of the *BC Enduro* for her \$500 donation. BC Enduro hosted a mountain bike race June 28, 2014 in Myra-Bellevue Park.



Students Who Care.....School Makes Donation to FOSS

Once a week student volunteers at L'école de l'Anse-au-sable collect the juice boxes, cans and plastic bottles at the school and recycle them. Recently they made a \$100 donation to FOSS to help with projects in Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park. Teacher Vicky Boivin said her students "work very hard....and believe in change!". L'école de l'Anse-au-sable is the French language school located at the corner of Gordon Drive and Lequime Rd. We applaud the students for their commitment to recycling and their support of trails.



FortisBC is a FOSS Adopt a Trail Corporate Platinum sponsor. Their recent \$500 cheque to FOSS goes above & beyond their Adopt a Trail sponsorship commitment.

Rogers' Family Charitable Trust

For the past twelve years, Kathy & Jim Rogers and their family have made an annual donation to FOSS. Their ongoing support is very much appreciated. Jim and Kathy are long time "neighbours" to Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park and they enjoy horseback riding on the trails.

The Back Page.. Recognizing our Adopt a Trail Sponsors



FOSS Director Malcolm Robson (left) presents an appreciation plaque to Andrew Macrae of Blue Tree Mortgages. Andrew is the Adopt a Trail sponsor of Bullwinkle Trail in Myra-Bellevue Provincial park.



Staff from *Wave Physiotherapy* (Adopt a Trail sponsors of Salamander Trail) receive an appreciation plaque from FOSS President Ken Wiklund..



View from Myra Bailout Trail, looking at Hromek (Photo Credit: Marilyn Westlake)