

# Friends of the South Slopes

December 2017



Rose Lookout, Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park

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## ***Happy Holidays to all of you!***

The weather is holding and we still see many of you out there enjoying the trails on the South Slopes! How lucky are we?!

We would like to apologize for the lack of communication this past year but we are now back on track and moving forward with great enthusiasm! Posts on Facebook will be more frequent and we are hoping to update/improve our website in the near future. Thank you for your patience and thank you for your continued support!

This has been a challenging year – first with the June floods, and then the constant threat of wildfires. Finally, however, our crews were able to access Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park with equipment to repair/replace the Fairlane Trail and Lost Lake bridges – job well done! In early December, Allen's Bridge and the bridge over Peterson Brook (both on Fairlane Trail) were dismantled and new bridges were constructed.

Apparently this is FOSS' *'Year of the Bridge'*! You can read more about these projects on pages 3, 4 & 5 of this newsletter.

It's also that time of the year for FOSS to hold its Annual General Meeting. It's scheduled for

Thursday January 11, 2018 and you'll find more information on the last page of this newsletter, along with information on 2018 membership renewals.

Autumn is one of the most spectacular times of the year to enjoy the trails in Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park.

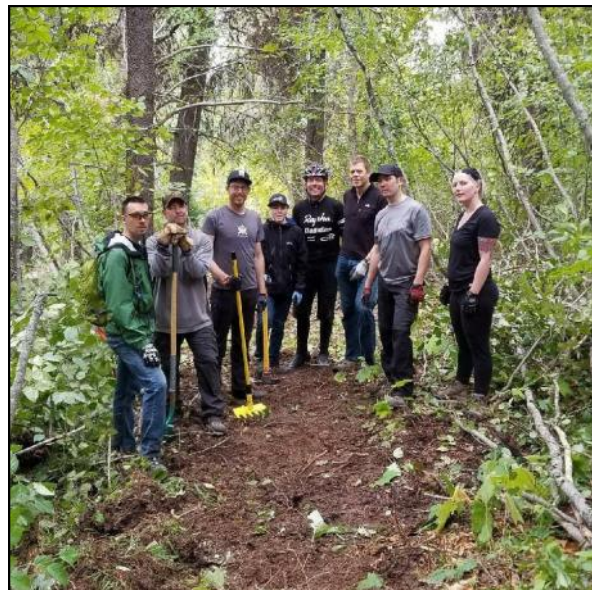




## FOSS Welcomes Its Newest Adopt a Trail Sponsor



Earlier this year, Mountain Equipment Co-op joined FOSS' Adopt a Trail Sponsorship Program. Under the guidance of MEC employee, Nicole Barby, volunteers worked on their adopted trail, Crawford Trail south of the KVR.



### 2018 Board of Directors (to be elected at the Jan. 11, 2018 AGM)

*Are you passionate about the trails on Kelowna's South Slopes?* Please consider joining FOSS' 2018 board. Each year your board works with BC Parks staff to plan and implement projects aimed at improving and maintaining the South Slopes Parks. We are seeking representation from all user groups: hikers, cyclists, equestrians, runners, naturalists— and we need 'special talents' too (ie IT, Communication, etc.). For more information on joining the board, please contact FOSS Director Daphne Richard at: [daphnedr@shaw.ca](mailto:daphnedr@shaw.ca)

### Canada 150 Project—Trail Maintenance, Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park

Projects completed under FOSS' *Canada 150 grant* will wrap up this month. Throughout the fall, FOSS' Contractor, Cabin Forestry Ltd., has been working on this \$40,000 project which is 50% funded by FOSS and 50% funded through a *Canada 150 Western Diversification Grant*. Additionally, BC Parks' provided funding and labour for the Peterson Brook Bridge and Allen's Bridge. More information is on page 5 of this newsletter.



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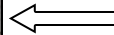
Donations to  
FOSS—large &  
small, funded  
FOSS' \$20,000  
contribution to  
this project.



# The Floods of June 2017—Priest Creek



As residents of the City of Kelowna braced for rising lake levels and flooding, *Priest Creek* roared down the South Slopes, leaving a path of destruction behind. Here are a few photos of the flood damage and the remediation work done by FOSS on Lost Lake Loop Trail (by Lost Lake) and Fairlane Trail.



Washout at Bellevue Access Trail

*Priest Creek west of Lost Lake*—In this photo, Lost Lake Loop Trail bridge is high and dry in the background, after spring flooding redirected the creek around it.



Following an assessment by BC Parks' staff it was decided that since this was the 3rd time this location has washed out, the bridge would be removed and the section of trail at the south end of Lost Lake Loop Trail would be decommissioned. On Lost Lake Trail, look for the junction for the new Lost Lake Loop Trail leading down to where the two bridges have been repaired, providing access to Lost Lake and Piper's Trail. This project was completed by Cabin Forestry Ltd., through a contract with FOSS and under the direction of FOSS Director Brad Wright and Project Manager Herb Blamire.

This was another Canada 150 grant project — \$2,000 of FOSS' matching funds for the Lost Lake Loop Project came through a 2016 donation in memory of former FOSS Director Bill Redston.



Bridge Repair,  
Lost Lake Loop Trail



Lost Lake Loop Trail—the new  
connection to Lost Lake Trail



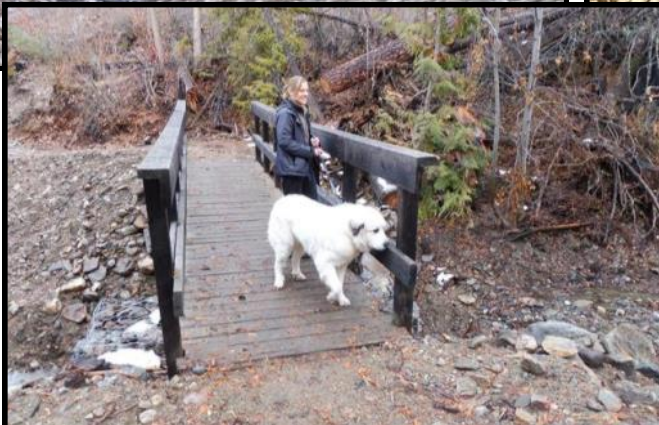


**Washed out! Fairlane Trail Bridge over Priest Creek (Myra-Bellevue PP)**

In September, FOSS volunteers Herb Blamire, Nick Fiorante and Brad Wright constructed gabions, raised the bridge and moved it to its new location. This was a 100% volunteer-led project and its success was also due to the support of Ed Krause, the adjacent property owner, who gave FOSS permission to transport machinery and materials through his property. Ed also generously donated \$1,000.00 towards materials for the project. Now that's a great neighbour! Winn Rental once again generously assisted FOSS by providing the machinery.

*Herb working his magic with a machine from Winn Rentals*

*Moving the bridge Fred Flintstone style!*



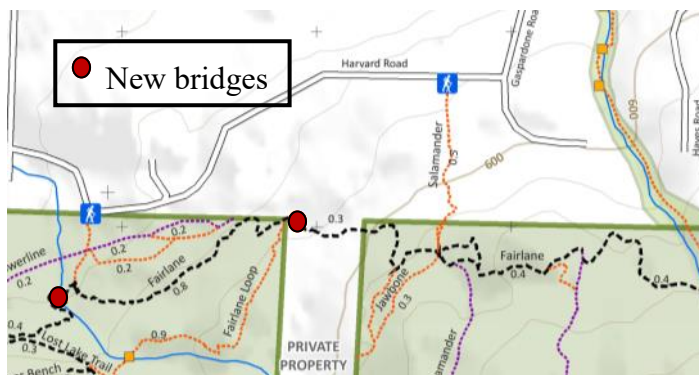
*Fairlane Bridge.....back in service.*



## ...And yet another bridge project ! (we warned you it was 'the year of the bridge')

In December, two bridges on Fairlane Trail were removed and replaced. This time it wasn't because of flood damage, the bridges had simply reached the end of their life and needed to be replaced.

This project was a collaborative effort between FOSS and BC Parks. Under FOSS' Canada 150 grant, the crew from Cabin Forestry Ltd. removed the old bridges and constructed the footings, framing and approaches for the new bridges. BC Parks funded the bridge materials and the labour to deck the bridges.



'Allen's Bridge' - almost finished



## Priest Creek Park (City of Kelowna Park)

This linear park lies between Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park and Baldock Rd. The trail has three bridge crossings of Priest Creek. Two of these bridges were impacted during this spring's historic flooding.

Currently, the park remains closed.

# Notice of the Annual General Meeting

## Friends of the South Slopes Society

<http://www.foss-kelowna.org>

Contact: [info@foss-kelowna.org](mailto:info@foss-kelowna.org)

Facebook: FOSS-Kelowna

**Date:** Thursday, January 11, 2018

**Location:** EECO Centre, Mission Creek Regional Park, 2363 Springfield Road, Kelowna, BC

**Time:** 7 p.m. Meet & Greet and Refreshments  
7:30 p.m. - Annual General Meeting

**Guest Speaker**—Former FOSS director (he also served in positions of President and Vice-President) *Herb Blamire* will present a PowerPoint and talk on what FOSS does for you in the Parks. He will look back on FOSS' twenty years of collaboration with the land managers to spearhead projects that have seen the development of trails, bridges, and infrastructure to enhance recreation on the South Slopes. Herb will begin with a little history of the South Slopes prior to the 2003 Okanagan Mtn. Provincial Park wildfire and he'll take us **where we were, where we are, and where we are going**. FOSS' AGM is open to everyone! Please invite your cycling, hiking, riding and running friends!

**2018 FOSS memberships:** (1) can be purchased at the AGM (2) you can complete the attached membership form and mail it in, or (3) pay on-line at: <http://foss-kelowna.org/> (under membership/donate tab)

### *Friends of the South Slopes Society*

### *2018 Membership*

Annual Membership (\$20.00) \_\_\_\_\_

\*Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

\*You will be issued a tax receipt for donations of \$10 or greater

Please make your cheque payable to:

**Friends of the South Slopes Society**

And mail to FOSS at: Box 28011 RPO East Kelowna, Kelowna, BC V1W 4A6

### Membership Information:

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please leave blank if you do not wish to receive information electronically)

I wish to receive my FOSS newsletter electronically in pdf format: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: Club/Organization (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_