

Friends of the South Slopes

February 2023



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Save the Date!

FOSS' Annual General Meeting will be held Wed., March 29th, 2023 at the Environmental Education Centre, Mission Creek Regional Park, Springfield Rd. 6:00 - 9 pm.

Refreshments, membership renewals, socializing—after two years of holding the AGM via Zoom—let's reconnect!

An information package will be sent to 2022 & 2023 FOSS members prior to the March 29th AGM. If you haven't yet renewed your FOSS membership for 2023, please renew on-line by visiting:

<http://www.foss-kelowna.org> and choosing the 'membership' button.

If you are one of FOSS' awesome Adopt a Trail sponsors, your FOSS membership is included in your sponsorship fee.



FOSS Thanks the Trail Maintenance Crew

On Monday January 9th, 2023, FOSS hosted a volunteer appreciation evening for members of the FOSS Trail Crew. Milt Stevenson, FOSS' Trail Manager, organized the evening at *Barn Owl Brewery*. 30+ members of the trail crew, all volunteers, attended and enjoyed a selection of Villages pizza and Barn Owl refreshments courtesy of FOSS. Camaraderie and conversation were abundant. The work that FOSS has completed over the past two years in both Myra-Bellevue and Okanagan Mountain Parks would not have been possible without the volunteer members of our (now) large, highly skilled and incredibly dedicated trail crews. The FOSS Board of Directors, not to mention all those who use the trails in both Parks, are very thankful for the hours and effort that our volunteers expend to make Myra-Bellevue and Okanagan Mountain Parks the jewels that they are.

Big shout out to Villages Pizza and Barn Owl for helping to make the evening such a success!



By the Numbers:

2022—Volunteer Hours
logged by FOSS' Trail
Maintenance Crew:

3400+

Volunteer Hours logged by
volunteers in FOSS' Adopt a
Trail Program:

Business Sponsors: 371+ hrs.

Community Program: 547 hrs.

**Thank you to all our
Volunteers** 



FOSS Director Alan Milnes—accepting a \$1,000.00 donation from Ben Vos, owner of Myra Canyon Bike Rentals.

Thank you Ben, and **THANK YOU** for the generosity of so many FOSS supporters over the past twenty-five years.

Yes, that's right—twenty five years ago this spring FOSS held its first Annual General Meeting under its new mandate—supporting recreational opportunities on Kelowna's South Slopes. A small group of people passionate about recreation on the South Slopes had been meeting informally for 2+ years, and it became 'official' on April 15, 1998 when the Friends of the South Slopes Society elected its Board of Directors.



Chevy's Source for Sports FOSS welcomes its newest Adopt a Trail Sponsor!

Owners Greg & Beate Evtushevsk 'adopted' Galloping Trail in Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park. They are looking forward to working with FOSS' Trail Maintenance Crew to maintain and improve their trail.

FOSS Board member Alan Milnes (R) presents the Adopt a Trail appreciation plaque to Greg & Beate



FOSS & Kelowna Fire Department Access to Okanagan Mtn. Provincial Park

The locked gate at Timberline Rd., an entrance to Okanagan Mountain Provincial Park, prevents unauthorized vehicular access to the Divide Lake Trail. However, both FOSS (for trail maintenance) and Kelowna Fire Department (fire protection & safety) **need** to have access to the Park, and FOSS has obtained keys from BC Parks for this purpose. This improves the safety of our community.

Pictured (L-R)
Alan Milnes (FOSS),
Brandon Chown and Torren
Freeman (KFD) and Milt
Stevenson (FOSS).

Photo Credit: Craig (KFD)



*Just a couple of senior citizen
pups enjoying the winter trails!*

We acknowledge that our community is located on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the Syilx/Okanagan people