

# **SANS Board of Directors Meeting Agenda**

**May 7th, 2023, 9:00 AM, Inn on Prince Hotel, Truro, N.S.**

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Welcome and Introductions:</b>	Don Stewart thanked everyone for attending
	<b>In Attendance</b>	Shaun MacDonald (DMSC, Zone 2 VP); Allison Munro (PCSC); John Delorey (Chedabucto); Clifford Aucoin (Cabot); John Austin (Cape Clear, Zone 1 VP); Jeremy Cromwell (Sno-Dusters, Zone 3 VP); Mary Harnish (Crossburn); Andrew Johnson (AVRR); Gordie Ryan (SLTGA); Neil Jennings (Fundy) George Pugsley (Zone 4 VP); Jason Crowell (Northshore); Mike Gillis (Capers); Lisa Butcher (SANS); Grace LeCreux (SANS); Don Stewart (SANS) Mike Eddy (SANS
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Agenda, minutes of Previous Meeting</b>	
<b>2.1</b>	<b>Establishment of a Quorum</b>	Confirmed
<b>2.2</b>	<b>Additions Approval of the Agenda</b>	Hearing no additions to the agenda, George Pugsley moved, seconded by John Austin to accept the agenda.
<b>2.3</b>	<b>Approval of minutes of the Nov.6/2 (in handout)</b>	Motion to approve by Clifford Aucoin, seconded Allison Munro.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Presentations: SAFETY Jeremy Cromwell</b>	Signs made available to those present, 10 each, stop & stop ahead; SANS would appreciate if clubs could post pictures of them as they are installed so we and public can see them; follow signage guide; it is recommended that steel decking be covered w/wood to prevent skis catching; Jeremy willing to attend any club to assist on the

		trail for proper placement of signage etc. (better then hosting a signage event at club meetings)
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Ongoing Business</b>	
<b>4.1</b>	<b>TIR Pilot Program/ Side of the Road (President)</b>	ATVANS has been working on a pilot for rubber wheeled OHVs to ride along side roads. We were not included in initial process, and Mike started working on our inclusion. Once ATVANS became optimistic that the motion was going to the house for approval, we stepped back to allow the process to move forward unimpeded. We will be moving forward with this again. Any clubs that have a specific issue for access, right now, please reach out. (Inverness/Margaree Clubs need help for road ride along to Salmon Lodge)
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Ad Sheets for Sno' Trails (GM)</b>	The sheets were to be updated and will be available before the coming season. A discussion on Sno' Trails will take place under New Business and this could impact the editing of the program.
<b>4.3</b>	<b>Direct Spending Survey (President)</b>	The Direct Spending Report is completed, and a copy is available for every club. (More available). Whiles its all OHV, shows a lot of snowmobile info and works well when approaching for support or funding
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Reports</b>	
<b>5.1</b>	<b>President's Report</b>	Circulated at meeting
<b>5.2</b>	<b>Office Report (GM)</b>	Circulated by email
<b>5.3</b>	<b>Financial Report (Treasurer)</b>	Copies circulated at meeting. Reviewed by Lisa Butcher (Grace is the treasurer but Lisa manages the financial reports for SANS and has a better understanding and info for questions).

	<p>Currently GIC is high but is a direct result of limited spending for the years of Covid. Now that we are back to traveling and hosting events, costs have increased.</p>
<p>5.4 Zone Reports (Zone VPs')</p>	<p><b>Zone 1</b>  <u>CAPERS</u> - No big updates. We had our final meeting of the spring season last week. We will begin our ticket sales on the Kubota zero turn mower in the coming week or so. Draw date July 15<sup>th</sup>. Plans for trail maintenance late summer early fall with some upgrades to be done on our warming shelter in Trout River.  <u>CROWDIS MOUNTAIN</u> -After a long long wait, the new Groomer has arrived. Very pleased with the machine and workmanship. Still managed to get 45 hours grooming on it with the delivery being so late. The PB the club bought from Cheticamp also worked very well. Leaving a machine at TNT on Hunter's Mountain was a game changer for us. The Club had the AGM and Appreciation BBQ for our volunteers on April 22. Results of our Election: President (Sheldon Garland) Vise President (Ernie MacIntosh) Secretary (Katie Garland) Groomer Coordinator (Ernie MacIntosh) Treasurer (Bob MacKay) Grant Coordinator (Wilf Kaiser) Safety and Trail Warden (Allan Nunn) Membership Trail Pass Coordinator (Sharon MacLean). Once the snow is gone in the Highlands, the club is going to spend sometime scoping out new trails off the 104. These will be GPS and hopefully be added to our trail system. CRMC will be electing a Capital Committee to work towards funding for a storage/service for the groomers and supplies. The first annual Robert Berk Memorial Rally was a great success. Robert was an avid snowmobiler that lost his live to medical problems way to soon. Robert was known all over the province. Part of the proceeds will be used to start a Scholarship in his memory at Baddeck Academy.          Thanks,          Sheldon</p>

MARGAREE - Not much change since last report. Groomer activity reports are due end of April. Maybe this could be changed to end of May. We are still grooming in April not giving us much time to complete them.

CAPE CLEAR - Even though we had low snow, this winter, we had a real good March and two weeks in April. Our club is getting ready to do some more trail work for spring due to Fiona damage. Overall, I think our club has very similar problems to a lot of clubs, ageing population, and no youth coming up in the sport.

I think we really must work hard at getting the youth more involved. I attended a permit review meeting, that went very well. Yes, we're still snowmobiling in Cape Breton.

CABOT - We are coming to the end of our half descent season, yes, we had a slow start but fairly good ending. Hope we kept our trails in pretty good conditions. We took the groomer down Sunday April 16<sup>th</sup> after grooming over 480 hrs with the 2 groomers. We are very please to have received the green light to start building the Mary Barker Trail to Cape Smokey & Ski Hill (12km) . I am glad that the decision was made to keep the sales of Early Bird & family pass with the clubs. The alternative would have resulted in clubs lost of passes & memberships sales, also potential great lost to the suppliers which are great supporter to our clubs. Looking forward to improved trails for next year. President Clifford Aucoin.

## **ZONE 2**

- ANTIGONISH SNO-DOGS – No report

- DMSC – Final Meeting held April 4. Tine Cock Crawford has completed her term as President of DMSC. She was very grateful of all the work DMSC was able to accomplish over her term as president.



Shaun MacDonald will step into the President role until DMSC AGM. Next fundraiser will be May 6th, the annual Mudfest Rally. Other important fundraising events are being planned, Ivan Cock memorial Gold Tournament June 14th. DMSC has received a grant from NS Trails to repair damaged trails with a focus on the trail 551, as well as a cheque from the Province of NS for a generator to be installed as part of our Phase 3 renovations of the Clubhouse.

Pictou County Snow Riders – No report.

Chedabucto Snowmobile Club – No report

### **Zone 3 report**

AVRR - The club has a New refurbished groomer on the way, 2016 Prinoth & purchased a new Drag to go with it. Club has arranged financing through CIBC. There are Proposed races for next season grass, snow & hill climbs. 2023 new president & vp. Are Hayden & Andrew Johnson. Very little grooming this season. The club is selling tickets on a 18ft enclosed trailer. Visit the AVRR Facebook page for a link to the raffle box site.

CROSSBURN-Another season is behind us and it was a short one! We only had two weeks of decent snowmobiling in the area this year, but we did have increased permit sales once again. We put up some signs and rebuilt a ramp that was vandalized. We had a scavenger hunt bike run which everyone seemed to enjoy. Hopefully we can do it next year with our snowmobiles. We continue with the toonie drop fundraiser as a means to purchase a new groomer. Hoping for lots of snow next year!

DRIFTCLIMBERS-Minimal grooming this season due to low snow conditions. On going issues with Barrett lumber lands.

HANTS SNO-DUSTERS -Approximately 2 weeks of snowmobiling this season. Successful Vintage Snowmobile Show last weekend with 101 snowmobiles + parts in attendance. Auction, supper & dance coming up on May 27.

### **Zone 4 Report**

FUNDY - We had a poor winter. Our new groomer didn't get out with the drag on it until March 3. With conditions the way they were we only groomed 51 hours this year. That said our late season conditions were very good. But, couldn't go down to the lowlands. Our clubhouse kitchen was open on the weekends and we had pretty good uptake even on the days you couldn't sled. We were able to replace the warming hut we lost to fire last fall with a van trailer donated by John Ross and Son. The late start to winter did allow our volunteers enough time to get all of our trails reopened after Fiona. We have over 900 man hours in the effort.

CHIGNECTO GLOOSCAP- CG plans a closing supper at the restaurant in Parrsboro on May 6. The Club continues to move forward with a new Groomer Shed in Parrsboro. The Club is selling \$50 tickets on a Sea Cruise (or \$1000) again this year. They are also selling \$10 tickets on a Chain Saw donated by a generous sponsor.

CG supported the Parrsboro Winter Carnival at the new Groomer Shed property.

A few Clubs had to deal with automobiles stuck on the Trail system. This creates a safety problem and 1 Club was told by Police they could remove the auto.

ROUTE SIX Assisted Cumberland Trails and Sunrise ATV to clear trails from Fiona damage. Cumb Tr worked with NS Trails to cover immediate trail repairs in order to open Tr 360. The groomers were out with compactor bars but were unable to maintain any sustainable sledding on their system. They got some complaints looking for pass refunds but once engaged...all were reasonable and understand we do not control the weather. The Oxford groomer needed a lot of work and the costs doubled, for example a track that was \$7500 is now \$15,000.

ROUTE 6 thanks the sponsors that supported the Sledhead Rally. It was postponed and eventually cancelled. Sponsors provided much needed funds. The Club hopes to get a failing culvert near Wallace replaced this summer. the work failed last year due to delays with permits. Rte 6 is waiting for funding announcements and hope to access Small Project



	<p>Grant funds to move a trail due to landowner requirements.</p> <p><u>NORTH SHORE</u> - NS hosted a training session for new riders. NS also hosted a grand opening for their new groomer shed.</p> <p><u>CUMBERLAND</u> - Cumberland thanks their many sponsors and volunteers. They hosted a successful Fun Run near Springhill. Snow conditions were VARIABLE but Groomer Operators and Sledgers made the best of conditions. Some effort was required to keep all riders on the trail and off fields. The season was short but the conditions on many trails were great. A family headed to Halifax Airport following their GPS had to be rescued after getting stuck on the trail.</p> <p><u>SLTGA</u> Fall / Winter highlights 22/23</p> <p>Season</p> <p>Highlight of 22/23 season is the completion of the Cable bridge /suspension bridge; Replaced a couple of bridges on the 104 trail; Seemed to be the year of tree removal from the Hurricane to ice storms; Sign upgrades as general maintainance/added bump rails to cable bridge trail bridges; Seen membership and permit growth again this year; Successful club opener and Rally; Winter weather was rare. Our groomer operators managed to groom 265 hrs and we were fortunate enough to have our Winterfest although divided into two days approx. 250 in attendance and as always our off trail skating, lake music etc was extremely well received; Chase the ace this year was well attended and remains one of our strongest events and fundraisers; We have plans to do phase 5 of the Cable bridge trail improvements on the Castlereigh side; We have our planned annual spring clean up on April 29 c/w complimentary Chilli; Spring Rally is booked for May 13,23 and we are looking forward to it; We also have plans to buy a new drag for our groomer ,we will keep the old one as it works very well with proper snow conditions; We voted in a new Vice President Ramona Randell super excited to work with her; Club opener will be on October 7/23.</p>
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5.5 Human Resource Committee Report (President)	Nothing to report currently.
	Moved by Jeremy Cromwell, seconded by Mike Gillis to accept reports as submitted.
6.0 New Business	
6.1 Small Grant Fund-OHVIF (President)	<p>The SG Fund has increased to \$150,000 overall and there will be a limit of \$7,500 per grant request. Changes to the SG process were reviewed.</p> <p>SANS Small Grant Fund Application and Final Report Logbook sheets included in meeting handout.</p>
6.2 Trial Losses	<p>We have lost 2 sections of Trail 104 this spring. Both are in the North Shore Club area and main links for connectivity. The reasons for this were “listening to snowmobiles” and “disrespect of private property.” We need to be diligent as these may be only 2 property owners but reflect what some are thinking about trails on their land.</p> <p>Work arounds are being looked at by Northshore &amp; hopefully in place by next winter.</p> <p>Discussion held on how to get the message out. The only thing all snowmobilers have in common is where they buy sleds etc., so we need the support of the manufacturers and the dealers. But their priority is selling (for example – top selling sled in the Maritimes are those with paddle tracks. We really do not have the snow depth or mountainous terrain for them, and they hard on groomed trails, but dealers still sell them because they are in demand).</p>

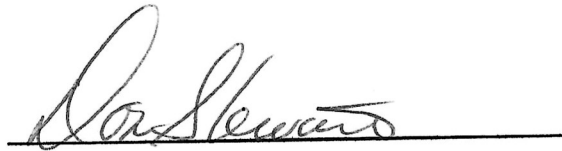
		We need to do the educating and find ways to get the message out through dealers. As well, enforcement can play a huge part!
6.3		<p>The date for the large OHVIF grants is November 15<sup>th</sup>. Again, this year it is possible to get more than 50% funding BUT all opportunities must be sought for alternate funding.</p> <p>Start early to get landowner permission.</p>
6.4	Sno' Trails (Lisa) A discussion on the magazine will take place.	<p>Basically, a wash in costs, between what advertising brings in and the expenses. General discussion is to keep the hard copy of magazine &amp; also provide an online link, that clubs can share.</p> <p>November 15 is deadline, but it is a constant struggle getting articles from clubs. Maybe look at making it a year end action for clubs and have details from the previous season. Currently we wait as late as we do, to get the pictures in from our Awards Night.</p>
6.5	SANS Trailer Purchase (President)	<p>SANS Trailer Purchase (President) Purchasing a 2<sup>nd</sup> smaller and lighter trailer for SANS will be discussed. The current trailer is very heavy and large for a normal ½ ton truck but has benefits when a ride requires more than 3 sleds to travel to a location. Motion by Gordie Ryan to purchase a new trailer, Show of hands in agreement that we have a smaller trailer for everyday use and a larger trailer for bigger functions. Don has investigated costs with good pricing (only their cost) from Adventure Motors. Executive can make the final decision.</p>
6.6	On-Line Permit Sales (President)	<p>VP Shaun MacDonald chairs the Permit Review Committee. A committee of clubs reviewed Shaun's research and a plan was</p>

	<p>forwarded to the Executive Committee. The EC approved a variation of this plan and offer it here today for your consideration, discussion, and approval.</p> <p>Permit Committee recommended that we have online sales for full season, vintage, classic and 3 day. Early Bird would have no on-line presence for 1 year. Allowing clubs to basically prepare their permit holders for the hybrid model in the future.</p> <p>Discussion at executive level led to a change to include early bird on line BUT clubs will continue to have Early Birds on hand to sell direct.</p> <p>Expectations are that permit sales for the coming year are going to have a decrease in sales because of the past seasons low snow.</p> <p><i>Motion by Shaun MacDonald, seconded by Alison Munro.</i></p> <p>That Full Season, 3 Day, Classic and Vintage will be sold online <i>by SANS ONLY</i>. Early Bird permits will be sold on line and at club level (volunteers, local businesses, and clubs with online presence). Family permits will be available until Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, for Early Bird permits and Full Seasons after Dec. 15. You may NOT combine Early bird and Full season to create a family package.</p> <p>8 in favour, 4 against.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>
6.7 Policy TRL-001 (GM)	<p>This policy has one change and this is to change the due date for Groomer Reports to May 15<sup>th</sup> from April 30<sup>th</sup> to compensate for late grooming activity.</p> <p>Motion by John Austin, seconded by Clifford Aucoin to accept the change, motion carried</p>



<p>6.8 Social Media Policy (GM)</p>	<p>A policy to deal with the use of social media is required to address SANS needs for respectful use of these mediums. Clubs should look at their use of these platforms as well.</p> <p>(see meeting handout)</p> <p>SANS did a Risk Register with Risk Management &amp; it was recommended that we have a Social Media Policy. Mike checked with Privacy Commission &amp; there is no law in NS, requiring that all present in pictures give permission for posting.</p> <p>Motion by Mike Gillis &amp; seconded by Shaun MacDonald, to accept the policy, motion carried.</p>
<p>6.9 Business Continuity and Data Security Policy (GM)</p>	<p>Business Continuity and Data Security Policy (GM) This policy was written as a security measure for SANS electronic documents and mainly impacts Staff and the President.</p> <p>(see meeting handout)</p> <p>Motion by Jeremy Cromwell, seconded by Neil Jennings, to accept the policy. Motion carried.</p>
<p>6.10 Core Funding from OHVIF (covered by GM).</p>	<p>A request was made to increase OHV funding, by 50% for the 3 motorized groups.</p> <p>The committee instead decided to take \$200,000 of new money (came from the OHV fund, but we would rather have seen any increase in moneys come from a red plate increase and leave the OHV funds alone, to go toward projects), and decided to give 70% of the \$200,000 to ATVANS, 25% to us and 5% to NSORRA on top of our original funding (in our case, additional \$50,000 on the current \$107k)</p> <p>We have expressed our dissatisfaction with this</p>

	decision. Mike will be attending meeting with OHVIF to discuss our concerns and we will go as high as necessary to resolve this.
7.0 Announcements:	CCSO Excellence Awards, Nominated by NS, Adventure Motors will be the Dealer of the Year for CCSO, will be presented at the ISC in June.
8.0 Upcoming Events:	Clubs should let us know of any events they have planned. SANS Awards Banquet October 28 <sup>th</sup> Next BOD Meeting is October 29 <sup>th</sup> .
9.0 Adjournment	Jeremy Cromwell, motion to adjourn



Don Stewart, President



Mike Eddy, General Manager