



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

January 16, 2008

City of North Bay 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Board Room  
200 McIntyre Street, North Bay

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

|                                |                                   |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mark King, Chair               | Laurie Bachelder, Member-at-Large |
| Susan Christian, Vice Chair    | Mike Martel, Member-at-Large      |
| Sharon Kitlar, Member-at-Large | Vic Trahan, Member-at-Large       |
| Walter Reich, Member-at-Large  |                                   |

### REGRETS:

|                          |                                 |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Bill Beckett, Past-Chair | Arne Schmidt, Member-at-Large   |
| Ken Turner, Treasurer    | David Thompson, Member-at-Large |

### ALSO PRESENT:

Jennifer McCourt, Program Manager      Julia Hogan, Marketing Assistant  
Keith Harriman, Harriman and Associates

#### 1. Welcome

Mark King chaired the meeting and thanked everyone for coming.

The meeting began with talk about two issues that Discovery Routes needs to consider. The Chair of Discovery Routes was involved in a lengthy 'examination of discovery' against the organization brought on by the lawsuit regarding an accident on the abandoned CN rail corridor in 2003. Discovery Routes must look into ways that it can protect itself against future legal liabilities.

The North Bay and District Chamber of Commerce will be writing a letter to the City of North Bay regarding the dangerous trail situation on Birches Road, where trail users are using the shoulder of the road. The City's capital budget does not have money allocated to trail development until 2010.

#### 2. Adoption of minutes of November 21, 2007

The minutes of November 21, 2007 were approved.

*Resolution No. 01-01-16-08 Reich/Bachelder*

"That the minutes of the November 21, 2007 Executive Committee Meeting be accepted as written."

#### 3. Correspondence

Six total correspondences were received – summary attached

Regarding the nomination to the Nipissing Forest Local Citizens Committee, the Program Manager will remain the trail representative.

#### 4. Trans Canada Trail Progress Report

The progress of the Trans Canada Trail construction through Callander was presented. There is some concern that the budget will not allow for the trail to be completed between Stone Road and Soul Road. Expenses will be tracked closely to ensure that the trail does not exceed the budget. Alternative to the Stone/Soul Road connection, the route will be signed along Highway 654.

## **5. Voyer Road Trail**

An issue has arisen that will cause delays for the Voyer Trail. There had been an agreement made between Discovery Routes and a private property owner to allow the Voyer Trail to cross over the property as long as Federal safety distances were maintained. However, this permission was rescinded in correspondence with the owner. It is speculated that this change could be due to rumours of a future sale of the property. Advice was requested from the Committee as to whether the study should proceed. The Committee agreed that it should continue, but to include a few options as to where the trail can be re-routed in case the property issue cannot be resolved.

The Committee was informed that the municipalities of East Ferris and North Bay both agreed to contribute \$3,000 each towards the study. Discovery Routes will submit applications to both NECO and CIAF for an additional \$3,000 each to be put towards the study.

The following resolution was carried:

*Resolution No. 02-01-16-08 Martel/Trahan*

“That Discovery Routes Trails Organization supports the Voyer Trail Action Plan and the application to the Ministry of Health Promotion through the Communities in Action Fund for funding for the project.”

*Resolution No. 03-01-16-08 Bachedler/Reich*

“That Discovery Routes Trails Organization supports the Voyer Trail Action Plan and the application to NECO - Community Futures Development Corporation through the Local Initiatives Program for funding for the project.”

## **6. 2008 Budget and Project Overviews**

### **a. Trail Map**

The Trail Map project will be designed as an annual fundraiser for the organization. It is anticipated that \$10,000 will be raised as a result of selling advertising to the business community. An information package is attached.

### **b. School Program**

The initiation of a youth program is based on the assumption that Discovery Routes will be eligible for a lottery license if the proceeds are directed towards this program. A representative from the City of North Bay will speak to a colleague who is involved with issuing lottery licenses for the City, and a representative from the Township of Corbeil will speak with the East Ferris Anglers and Hunters about their lottery license to see whether either can advise Discovery Routes how to proceed.

### **c. Voyer Trail Feasibility Study**

Discovery Routes will work with the consultant on the report allowing for some of the funds raised to be paid out to the organization for services rendered.

### **d. Almaguin Highlands Economic Development**

The Almaguin Highlands Economic Development committee is interested in putting together a trails project. The project will include an inventory of the trails within the Almaguin Highlands. The inventory will be the basis for a Trails and Tours kit available for distribution by municipalities and information centres that will be updateable and easily photocopied so

that visitors to the region will be able to access trail information. As part of the project, the municipalities will be required to become members of Discovery Routes. The Program Manager has a meeting with the group on January 17, 2008 and will have more information following this meeting.

The following resolution was carried:

*Resolution No. 04-01-16-08 Christian/Reich*

“That Discovery Routes proceed with the Almaguin Highlands Economic Development trail guide project.”

**e. Membership**

The membership campaign will be officially launched during the Coordinating Council meeting in mid-February.

**7. Financial Report**

An Income Statement and Balance Sheet covering the period from the last Executive Committee meeting until the end of 2007 are attached.

The following resolution was carried:

*Resolution No. 05-01-16-08 - Trahan/Martel*

“That the financial report be approved as presented.”

**8. Coordinating Council Meeting/Membership Launch – mid-Feb 2008**

Discovery Routes is in the process of planning the event. No date has been set as Discovery Routes is waiting to hear from the MPP’s office as to when the MPP is available for the Trillium Foundation recognition.

**9. New Business**

- a. The group was questioned as to whether Discovery Routes has considered an interpretive signage project. This type of project can attract sponsors, and therefore be a revenue generator as well as an information provider. The group was informed that the Magnetawan Area Business Association was involved with an interpretive signage project, and that MABA should be contacted for further information. The City of North Bay will be involved in a signage project through the Black Forest trails in the summer.
- b. The Committee that Greening Nipissing is hosting a meeting on January 24, 2008.
- c. A member of the South Shore-Restoule Snowmobile Club has requested a position on the Board of Directors. The Committee agreed that it would be more appropriate for them to become a member of the Coordinating Council representing the South Shore/Restoule Snowmobile Club. Discovery Routes will send out invitations to various clubs within the region inviting them to the upcoming Coordinating Council meeting where they can elect a member of their organization to sit on this Council.

**10. Adjournment**

*Resolution 06-01-16-08 Reich/Martel*

“That the meeting be adjourned.”