

KDCA FALL MEETING

Wednesday October 6, 2004

IN ATTENDANCE:

JIM ANTLER	MINISTRY OF TOURISM & RECREATION
JIM GRAYSTON	OTMPC
AL ERRINGTON	NOTO - PRESIDENT
DAVE FROSTIAK	KEYSTONE LODGE
PETER BURNS	MCAULEY & PARTNERS
SHARON HRON	CEDAR POINT LODGE
KARLA CLARK	CLARK'S CAMP / KC'S LANDING
MIKE BILSBARROW	PATRICIA REGIONAL TOURIST COUNCIL
HELEN JOHNSON	PINE BEACH LODGE
RICHARD A.	PINE BEACH LODGE
JOHN CHRISTISON	BIG EAGLE LODGE
CHRIS LAVOIE	PINE ACRES
JACQUI HAUKENESS	RUGBY LAKE LODGE
EARLA HAUKENESS	RUGBY LAKE LODGE
LARRY F. SUKAVA	CANADIAN OUTDOOR CONNECTION
STEVE HARTLE	BIG HOOK WILDERNESS CAMPS
MAL TYGESSON	EVERGREEN LODGE
PAT TYGESSON	EVERGREEN LODGE
HARALD LOHN	KABEELO LODGE
GERRY CARIOU	SUNSET COUNTRY
GARY BEARDSLEY	LAC SEUL EVERGREEN LODGE
PATTY BEARDSLEY	LAC SEUL EVERGREEN LODGE
GORD BASTABLE	VERMILION BAY LODGE
RUTH PRICE	DEER TRAIL LODGE
JOHN FAHLGREN	SYDNEY LAKE LODGE
DON MOORE	GOLD ARROW CAMP
BRAD HOULDEN	BDO DUNWOODY
GUINEVERE ORVIS	NORTHWEST DESIGN + COMMUNICATIONS LTD.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 9:28 a.m. by Harald Lohn as President.
2. **INTRODUCTIONS** Self introductions were made around the room.
3. **VICE PRESIDENT POSITION** An email to Harald Lohn from Judy Henrickson expressed that Judy was resigning as KDCA Vice-President and a new vice-president will have to be selected or elected. Steve Hartle moved to move this item to new business in the afternoon, so that members could discuss this over lunch. John Fahlgren seconded the motion. Carried.
4. **OFFICE SERVICES PROPOSAL** A traditional office services proposal was submitted by northwest design + communications ltd. Harald Lohn said a second proposal is in that would make the position have more of a lobbyist function. The office services contract was extended to northwest design for 30 days while the executive discusses the direction they wish to take. Patty Beardsley asked what was proposed in the new contract. Mal said they want a coalition of chamber of commerce's, NWOTA and KDCA to get more active together to lobby the government. Harald said it may be split up so that one organization performs lobby duties, and the other designs and maintains a web site with common issues to all organizations. He will report back in 30 days.

5. **AGENDA ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS** A new speaker was added to the morning session of the meeting. Earla asked if camps could have access to KDCA's by-laws. Harald thought this was a good idea. Steve Hartle suggested posting them to the web site.

6. **MINUTES OF SPRING MEETING** Minutes from the 2004 spring KDCA meeting were previously circulated. Gary Beardsley moved to accept the minutes as presented. John Fahlgren seconded. Carried.

7. **TREASURER'S REPORT** Karla Clark as Treasurer circulated copies of the Treasurer's report. KDCA made 2 donations this year. The outstanding donations owed to KDCA were less than anticipated. Term deposit is up. Mal pointed out that fewer people were at the KDCA meeting due to conflicting events. Ruth Price moved to accept the report. Gary Beardsley seconded. Carried.

8. **MEMBERSHIP REPORT** Allied members are up a lot and regular members are up a bit. Harald noted that Guin had prepared and handed out a list of members with their contact information for members to have a record of. Guin volunteered to put this information on the KDCA web site for reference.

9. **PRESENTATION: WORK PERMITS** Peter Burns from McAuley & Partners explained the new criteria for obtaining a work permit, effective July this year. You must prove in your application that no Canadian can do the job. He said it is reasonable that as a tourist camp owner, you expect to be able to work at your own business. Your application should reflect the economic benefit to Canada and number of Canadians employed. Applications are approved on the basis that your business is a benefit to Canada. Applications are now processed in Toronto, where they are unfamiliar with seasonal tourist businesses in Northern Ontario, and this may be an obstacle to your application. New regulations apply to nonresidents. Gary Beardsley noted that Harvey at the Fort Frances border said this is only for a non-owner. Peter said that the officer has discretion and can demand this from the owner. He recommended calling the border before coming up and asking their advice on what to do regarding work permits. Peter recommended filling out the forms and submitting them in January for next year's work permit. Al Errington noted that in Sault Ste. Marie a plant operator who employs 500 people was held up at the border there for 6 hours over his work permit. Ruth Price noted that immigration wanted this information this spring, before the regulation came into effect, and warned that it must be completed for next year. Peter suggested that the best remedy is to get landed immigrant status in Canada. Mal noted that landed immigrant has been changed to, "permanent resident". Steve Hartle noted that it is not that hard to get a permanent resident card. You must be in the country for 1 day over 6 months out of the year for it. Mal said that financials about your business may be requested by immigration for your work permit. Gary & Patty Beardsley noted that even if you had landed immigrant status before, you have to get a permanent resident card now. Peter said even now, some people are being allowed in the Fort Frances border without their work permit. Gary Beardsley said that they are definitely asking for it if you arrive via commercial airline. Peter said that hopefully in time, the people processing applications in Toronto will become familiar with the unique business situation in northern Ontario. Patty Beardsley said that border officials in Fort Frances didn't know about it 3 days ago when she called there. Peter Burns said that it's been in effect since July 24th, so they should know about it.

10. **PRESENTATION: NOTO** Al Errington as President of NOTO presented.

a) **NOTO Guide:** Provincial funding for the guide was expected, but did not come through. The guide was produced nevertheless. Next year's guide will have provincial and federal funding. Distribution of the guide will be doubled.

b) **Water Regulations:** 75% of the calls NOTO receives currently are about questions over the changing water regulations. There is no engineer on NOTO staff, but Doug there can answer most

questions. As it is now, water must be chlorinated. Al noted that other methods are more effective to get clean water. The Ministry of Environment has said there will be changes to the regulations, but not what they would be. Al speculated that other methods of water filtration may be accepted in the future, but regulations will not go away. Many other rural organizations such as rural schools and churches are also affected by this regulation. NOTO would like to see water filtration as a public safety issue regulated under the Ministry of Health, not Environment. This would do away with needing engineers and biweekly testing and instead bring in inspectors to test the water, which would prevent fraud in the system. Gary Beardsley stressed that the regulations need to be results oriented, not technology oriented- that it should stress the safety of the final drinking water, not requirements of specific technology. Al agreed and said this is a huge flaw in the current regulations. Chlorine is being used to change the colour of the water, when the colour has no health implications. Adding toxic chlorine chemicals into drinking water may make the water less safe to drink. There is also no distinction made between clean and dirty water sources, which need different filtration systems. NOTO is not giving up on changing water regulations. NOTO sent a letter to Dalton McGuinty and received a good reply. Al asked camps to write letters to their ministers on this issue to keep pressure on for changes. Harald said that he had written letters on KDCA's behalf, but that it will go a long way for camps to write their own also. Patty Beardsley has sent samples in for 2 years now, and warned that they are very picky about the accompanying paperwork. Al noted that there are new technologies that are inexpensive and allow people to self-test, rather than typing up the labs. Al said that the web site www.wellsafe.net is a good resource that keeps up to date on water regulations in Ontario. Peter Burns said these regulations are a reaction to Walkerton, but that this is a pristine part of Ontario, and regulations that are needed in farming or rural areas may not apply here. Jim Antler said that his ministry realizes NOTO is a big group and that government will facilitate with NOTO to make regulations better for the industry. The Tourism Federation of Ontario consulted with the Ministry of Environment and said that the regulations were okay as is. Al said this affects a lot of other groups, not just tourism. Jerry Cariou asked if ministers can't communicate with one another? Jim Antler says it does happen. Al said that Deputy Minister Bill Allen from the Ministry of Tourism has helped facilitate communication a lot. Chris Lavoie asked Al Errington's opinion on bear hunting as his position as an eco-outfitter. Al said he will address this shortly.

c) Fisheries License: An 8 day license may be in the future as well as slot size changes in some areas.

d) Moose Hunting: Moose populations are good in some areas, poor in others. Some areas with suffering populations may be due to targeting of calves. Also, where bear populations are high, moose populations are low. The biggest problem with population isn't hunting, it's habitat. In Al's area, there has been no hunting since 1925, but since recent logging, bear population has soared due to availability of food, driving moose populations down. Gary Beardsley also noted that a population explosion of white tailed deer, which competes with moose food source and, "gang hunt" methods of harvest have also hurt moose populations.

e) Bear Hunting: Al addressed Chris' question saying that his personal feeling is that if nursing bears are not targeted, there is nothing wrong with hunting bear. Gary Beardsley asked if there is potential to work with the OFAH on this issue. Al said that cooperation is possible on some, but not all issues. Chris Lavoie said that 5700 bears were harvested last year, but that number includes nuisance bears. Regarding spring bear hunt, Minister David Ramsay tried to get it reinstated, but higher-ups in government stopped it. Al said that the moose hunt is mismanaged by the M.N.R. but the recent black bear population explosion may in itself bring back the hunt. Jacqui said that baiting deer may set tourism up for future problems. Al expressed concern that baiting deer transfers disease. Mal noted that it is legal to bait deer in Ontario.

f) Provincial Parks: The fee structure has been canceled by the MNR. Al said that parks need to be operated as a benefit for local communities recreation & employment.

g) Meat Inspection: There is a proposal out there required fish processing through slaughterhouses. David Ramsay brought this to NOTO's attention immediately when it came across his desk. Doug will be sending out information on meat inspections.

h) Resource Stewardship Agreements: Having a forester on staff at NOTO has made a big difference for camps arranging their RSAs. There will be an RSA summit on November 3rd in Dryden. Al encouraged everyone to attend.

i) Small Vessel Regulations: Al said this is a dysfunctional regulation that both the boat manufacturer's and OPP are having problems with. Studies have shown that PDFs are effective life saving methods and that full life jackets are not needed in all situations. Karla asked if guides have to have a life jacket on. Al said he didn't know. Steve Hartle asked if airplanes on floats are considered small vessels bound by this regulation. Al didn't know, but mentioned that canoes do fall under these rules. The regulations are under the Ministry of Transportation, not the coast guard Gary asked if NOTO could provide a minimal of regulations so that camps could inform their guests of what to do.

j) NOTO Guide: Al said this guide turned out fairly well, but not as well as hoped. This year, it will be better as OTMPC is partnering. Errors from last year have been corrected. Steve Hartle asked if non-NOTO members are still listed? Al said yes, this is necessary for the provincial funding for the guide. The province wants it to be comprehensive.

k) NOTO Conference: The NOTO conference will be held November 24th-27th in Thunder Bay at the Valhalla Inn. This year, the seminar is part of the eco-conference. NOTO is hoping turnout will be better. Gary Beardsley asked if you have to register for both parts of the conference. Al said yes. David Ramsay will be speaking at the conference.

l) Border Crossing: Jim Antler is helping with this issue and will discuss it later.

m) Provincial Land Tax: Al warned that additional income as part of a land tax is coming up.

n) Ontario Tourism Strategy: Al said this was a bit of a disappointment due to a focus on Toronto. He said as an international icon, our area has something unique in the world whereas Toronto offers what most cities do. Harald had a published copy of the strategy and said it is also on the Ministry of Tourism's web site. Al said he would like to see Ontario promoted as a destination, not specific spots within Ontario. Al said access to capital to produce a better product is also needed, as well as resource security.

o) Tourism Licensing: NOTO's position is this has to have a benefit to the industry and they won't support a money grab. Liability is an issue that must be tackled, but NOTO's resources are finite.

p) Internet Marketing: Seminars are proposed for across Ontario. A corporate sponsor may be approached to help. NOTO is looking for interest to have seminars every year in a few different communities each year.

11. PRESENTATION (MTR): BORDER ISSUES Jim Antler presented. Jim explained that his ministry works on policy, not marketing. 4 people work in a unit specific to resource based tourism within the ministry. They try and look at issues that effect the industry as a whole. They try and deal with issues on a broad level basis in partnership with the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines. MTR deals with high level policy and gives feedback on industry effect. MTR also administers the whole licensing system. Jim said that the past coalition that tourism had with chambers of commerce's was good, so that border crossing issues were tackled as a community

issue, not just a tourism issue. After a few meetings, this coalition fell apart, but would be good to resurrect. Jim reported that issue is becoming larger than just the Fort Frances border, as borders in Southern Ontario area dealing with this too. Jim encouraged building a liaison with groups on the other side of this issue, so that they see this isn't an issue they have to fear, it is not a public safety issue. This is a federal issue. Karla asked for a list of contacts to write letters to. Jim said he will go back to Harald on who best to write to. Steve Hartle suggested that local MPP Roger Valley can help. Al said if potential visitors received documents saying why they were refused entry to Canada it may be a smaller problem. Steve Hartle said that they do get this. John Christison expressed his frustration that more of his guests had problems at the border this year than any other year, and that the problem is getting worse. He also said that problems are bad both also with U.S. customs going back to the U.S.. Harald said that many people there encountered unreasonable delays. Karla said she had lost 2 partial parties due to minor criminality, but that guests had received information on how to rehabilitate. Karla said that potential guests are hearing these stories and being scared away. Sharon Hron said that it is an embarrassment to that people are getting harassed over potatoes. Harald said that camp owners need to make the difference with guests. Jim Antler said good information is needed so that it can be relayed to guests. Gord Bastable said we need to zero in on the Fort Frances problem spot. Chris Lavoie also said that local game wardens are harassing hunters and being rude. Harald said he will get information from jim and try to resurrect a group to tackle this important issue. Mal said that customs need sensitivity training and immigration needs to be on duty 24 hours/day since the border is open 24 hours/day. South of the border, this issue is being used against Canada as a marketing tool to keep fishermen in the U.S.. Under NAFTA, a group can challenge unfair treatment of tourists, and that should be pointed out to the minister. Al said he thought the idea of a NAFTA challenge was good. John Fahlgren said that the leads of the past committee were being red flagged at the border, so they were reluctant to continue. Jim said that not a lot of progress has been made on this.

11:55 Break for lunch. Harald thanked Mal & Pat for hosting the meeting and Bob Paluch for his contribution. He reminded everyone there are KDCA t-shirts.

12:55 Meeting resumed.

12. **VICE-PRESIDENT** Earla moved to appoint Gary Beardsley to the position of Vice-President, as he was runner up for the position at the last elections. Mal seconded. Carried. Gary Beardsley accepted the position for the balance of the term.

13. **OTMPC** Jim Grayston presented.

a) TV Campaign: Jim first showed the group 6 commercials developed as part of the marketing campaign. They were on: fly-in fishing, family, lodges, the contest, trophy fishing & urban access. All commercials had the URL www.ontariotravel.net/gofish. Celebrities from 4 fishing shows were in the commercials which aired during 88 shows per week. Commercials were shown in the U.S. on the Outdoor Life Network. The urban commercial did not appear on U.S. television, just the Canadian T.V. campaign. Commercials will also be aired on ESPN in January in the U.S. during prime time. 206 commercials will air during prime time. Angling celebrities came to northwest Ontario this summer to film shows and will do the same next year. OTMPC needs host camps for next year. OTMPC pays to get the host to your camp (or base camp for a fly-in) and the operator takes care of them after that point.

b) Camp Listing: Call Julie Larstone at 705-945-6578 to add your free listing to OTMPC's web site if it isn't on there already.

c) NOTO Guide: OTMPC no longer produces its own guide, but supports NOTOs guide instead. A free basic listing is provided to all camps in the book. They hope to increase publication numbers to 120,000 books and 85,000 DVDs. 10 sport shows are also attended, 2 in Ontario, 8 in U.S.

markets. Creative cover for the guide is being developed, as well as informative editorial content (1 pages on angling, 8 on hunting). Al Errington said that the editorials are excellent.

d) Angler Award Program: OFAH has a new program to compete with Manitoba's Master Angler Award. This program gives entries a form, a digital photo on the web, a crest and certificate to the entrant. The participation in this program this year was poor and Jim would like feedback on how to improve it. Mal said that the word about it didn't get out. Jim said that information was sent in the mail to every camp operator in Ontario. Al Errington said that 16,000 packages were sent out in early summer about it. Jim said to contact Julie Larstone or OFAH at 705-748-6324 and ask for Spiros who can send you information. Steve Hartle said he got only 1 poster and would like some more. Jim said that OFAH can provide you with brochures and posters. Jim suggested putting the poster in a central location like your office or fish house. Mal asked if OFAH gets a copy of the submissions? Jim said they all go to OFAH for processing. Jim also said this program is open to residents, and last year 90% of entries were from residents and is open for ice fishing as well.

e) Marketing Opportunities: Magazine sales opportunities for November to March publications are available. There is also a radio program called, "Barclay's Real Fishing Show" that runs from December to March which feature interviews from operators. The show has 59,000 listenership. It is on at 7 a.m. Central on Saturday on, "The Fan" 590.

f) Last Cull Show: A reality type TV series where people compete for a 50,000 prize plus a pilot for their own fishing show. It will run 9:00 p.m. on Saturday night on CHUM (City TV).

g) Celebrity Sweepstakes: This contest runs October 1st to March 31st and the winner gets to go fishing with 4 celebrities in northwestern Ontario. There is big interest in this contest. Celebrities will also be at 8 U.S. markets during the sport shows on, "Celebrity Days".

h) Hunting: In the past, the government has been reluctant to market hunting, but that perspective has changed. OTMPC can now market hunting and are developing a strategy to do so.

Harald thanked Jim for his presentation.

14. **GST/PST AUDITS:** Brad Bowden & Jim Lockhart from BDO Dunwoody presented. Auditors are looking at package prices offered by tourist camps to ensure that enough PST is being charged on each component of the package. Auditors will examine exchange rates, package plans, purchases made that were exempt from PST and common errors. BDO recommends making a master calculation worksheet with each component in your package, broken down, then calculate the total PST rate. This will still allow you to create non-itemized bills. 8% tax rate applies to bait, tackle, boat & motor rentals without an operator, snacks, meals over \$4 and souvenirs. If you buy a boat and motor exempt from PST, you must charge PST to your guests. If a guide drives the boat, that is not considered a rental, so you must pay PST on your boat purchase. You can charge separately for a guide instead. Mal asked if you must pay PST on the boat up front if you don't charge for it in your package plan? Brad said only if your guide drives it. A 5% tax rate applies to accommodations and American Plan meals and accommodations together. Exemptions include: boat launching & docking, camp & trailer, guides, accommodations less than \$10/day and a month or more accommodation. There are special rates on mixed gas, depending on the mixture. BDO handed out a sample master calculation worksheet, also available from their office. Brad Bowden said that regarding exchange rates, they won't want to see a flat rate applied, if the exchange rate has fluctuated a lot. Patty asked if a monthly adjustment to the exchange rate is okay. Brad said yes, or an average for the period, just be consistent as you could get a 25% penalty. Auditors will ask what you bought for capital assets to ensure PST has been paid. You are obligated to self-assess on your return. If you charge too much PST, this is considered to be collected in trust, and you are not credited the amount in excess paid. A person charged too much PST however, can get it back from

the government. Brad said to keep 7 years of your records, keep your general ledger forever. When importing items from the U.S., your broker may not have charged PST on items where PST is owed. You have 6 months to object to a notice of assessment. Brad also notified members that desk auditors had backed off of gas tax rebates, so valid rebates should be submitted still. Jim Antler said that the auditors did not understand the remote situation of camps here. Brad said that auditors should communicate their expectations. Brad said that if you make an out of province purchase, in Manitoba for example, you pay 7% PST to Manitoba, but Ontario still wants their 8% PST. You can get 7% back from the Manitoba government. They will charge you interest on this. Brad noted that businesses can now still get compensation when remitting PST forms, even if they are late. Also, he reminded members that you can claim PST and GST written off from a bad debt. A nonresident contractor may not charge you PST for work, but you still have to remit it. Mal said that incorrect assessments can be fought and won. Harald thanked Brad for presenting.

15. OMBAAC BEAR/MOOSE UPDATES: Arnold Beebe presented. Arnold said there will be lots of new regulations and that OMBAAC wants feedback from KDCA to bring to the minister. OMBAAC is dealing with BSE issues at the border. Customs in Pigeon River have people qualified to receive meat. Animals are best exported fully dressed out and quartered. Last year, a number of animals were turned back. Karla asked if there was a web site to reference? Arnold said he will get to KDCA. Arnold said that although moose is not a ruminant and cannot contract BSE, they are being restricted. Gary Beardsley said that last year Arnold did a good job with the vet certificate and asked if we should continue with this. Arnold said it is hard to get good information to answer that. Karla asked if this also effects deer? Arnold said yes. 2005 quotas are not yet decided, but Arnold is asking for more tags for tourism. The trouble is that outfitters don't want to harvest cows, so the ratio of cows versus bulls harvested are too many, and there are unused cow tags leftover. It was suggested that bulls are worth more to tourists and the economy, so residents hunting for meat should be given more cow tags. Arnold said this has been suggested many times before and that OMBAAC agrees. Arnold said that calf population is down and calves are not harvested much from the tourism industry. Gary Beardsley suggested if there was a group of people on 1 tag, that any one of the people listed on the group could take the bull, to avoid taking more calves. This would help the moose population, and doesn't hurt the economy. Arnold said this is a good suggestion, but that change of regulation would have to take place for this to happen. Arnold says that tags won't increase, but they may not be decreased. Arnold encouraged members to use cow tags so that they get used and aren't seen as surplus. There were 165 cow tags not used, so the minister will not give out more bull tags. Al Errington said that some allocation areas have lots of tags, and few outfitters and others have lots of outfitters and not enough tags. Al said that allocation has to also have an economic and employment benefit to Ontario. Arnold said there is a higher percentage of tags used in areas where more tags are and that some tags are going to be removed from both tourism and residents. Al Errington said that tourism can't move to another district to hunt, but that residents can and that businesses need to know what they can sell in advance, not be told year to year. Allocation should be 3-5 years at a time. Gary Beardsley suggested swapping the 165 cow tags with bull tags from the residents pool. Arnold said there are concerns with longer allocation, in case populations get in trouble quickly. A 75% allocation guarantee was suggested, as businesses need long term predictability. Arnold said that OMBAAC is fighting for this. Al said that tourism doesn't need more moose tags, but more quality tags and predictability. Gary Beardsley said that there has to be a change to the resident party system, as it is becoming a gang hunt. There was 100% harvest last year at his camp by residents and only 55% by nonresidents. Arnold said this is a valid point as there is 65% harvest now whereas there was only 28% a few years ago. Al Errington said that OFAH recommended a \$100 hunting license. Arnold said that residents have the concern of declining people in the hunt, but maybe a system where if you draw an adult tag, you pay more would work. Gary Beardsley said that in some states, if you hunt in another part of the state you have to pay a nonresident fee. Chris suggested getting rid of transferring to another person. Arnold said there are instances of preferential treatment and some new regulations stiffen transferring of tags. Gary Beardsley said that transferring tags only on a permanent basis isn't

good, that it would be better to transfer annually only. Arnold said this wouldn't happen as you can't sell a tag itself, as it is a resource. Arnold again asked for feedback from camps. Harald thanked Arnold for presenting.

2:55: Break

3:25: Meeting resumed.

16. **SARS FUND:** Gerry Cariou presented. KDCA contributed \$7500 for a marketing initiative last year. Other organizations combined money with provincial money for a total pot of \$129,000. The money flowed through Sunset Country for the project. Over 200 commercials in 3 markets were bought with this money. MidWest Outdoors TV in Chicago was the main market, and the two other markets were general TV markets. Northwestontario.ca was advertised in the commercials. A total of only 277 inquiries were received. 1/2 of the inquiries were received from Chicago, which showed generic TV was a less responsive market. Commercials ran in May and June, which also may have had an impact on low numbers. The commercials reached 900,000 but only 277 requested a guide. Member contribution of various organizations were \$40,000 out of the \$129,000. Harald said that Gerry can post his report on the KDCA web site. Gerry encouraged target, not generic advertising.

17. **KDCA TOPICS:**

a) **Web Site/Newsletter:** Harald suggested that we separate the two, instead of doing them simultaneously. A committee will decide what to do by the end of the month.

b) **Water Systems:** There was a hand out made available for members.

c) **Membership/Email Listings:** Hands out were made by Guin, any corrections should be submitted to northwest design.

d) **Abandoned Roads:** Don Moore said that a road washed out by Ord Lake this summer, so he went out to fix it and got in trouble by the MNR. The MNR also didn't want to fix the road, and they said that the road doesn't have to be maintained by the timber company that created it. Don said that the roads are used by lots of people, but with nobody fixing them, people are losing road access. Harald asked if the game warden gave suggestions on getting it fixed. Don said no, and he's seen camps getting charged for fixing the only road into their business. Road fixes need to be done right away, not months down the road when businesses can't use them. Jim Antler said that the local MNR had a committee to look at this years ago and it came down to a question of liability. Down the road, businesses may have to assume liability of these roads. John Fahlgren said there are 90,000 defined water crossways in Ontario and MNR is download responsibility of these. Harald said he would write a letter to the MNR to ask permission to perform emergency road repairs. Don Moore said that the MNR doesn't have the power to allow that. Jacqui pointed out that an RSA issue that tourism had was wanting new logging roads that were created to be close, and that now we're asking them to remain open and for them to be repaired. Tourism should decide what they want before letter writing. Harald said this was a good point. Al Errington said that RSA were not about liability, that this could effect the main roads going into your business. We may need to take on responsibility of roads and ownership of bridges. Jim Antler suggested talking to the MNR district manager about this issue. Don Moore said the liability is no greater if someone was on a trail and got hurt, rather than a road. Jim Antler said that people would look for someone to blame if there was an accident. Every new road built will have to have a use management strategy. Harald asked Don to ask an MNR representative for information. Earla said we should invite Bob from the MNR to the spring meeting. Al said that snowmobile clubs are already having cost recovery through on trail fees to maintain roads.

e) **Deer Hunt:** Harald report on the meeting at Pine Acres Camp in the spring. A letter was written

to minister David Ramsay and a response from him was received June 24th. Another letter was sent back to the minister on August 11th and a response from that letter is awaited. A fax from the ministry says that nothing is changing. Issues will come up in the future and the affected people will continue to meet.

18. **EAR FALLS AIRPORT**: Harald asked KDCA for a donation to keep the Ear Falls Airport open. The town of Ear Falls wants to close it. There is a town council subcommittee set up to try and save it. Harald is on the committee.

19. **SPRING MEETING**: The KDCA spring meeting will be held Friday May 6th at the Waldhof Hall.

20. **NOTO CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVE**: KDCA usually sends a person to the NOTO conference at KDCA's expense. This year, it is a 5 day conference. A written report from whoever attends on behalf of KDCA must be submitted after. John Fahlgren and Harald Lohn cannot attend. Gary Beardsley said he may possibly be able to attend. Mal offered to fill in for Gary if he cannot. It is \$350 for registration. Accommodation and meals are extra.

21. **BRUCE MONTAGUE DEFENSE FUND**: Earla Haukeness reported that Dryden resident Bruce Montague is fighting bill C-68 through civil disobedience and if he succeeds, this will have an effect on those offering hunting. His defense is estimated to cost upwards of \$300,000. Earla moved to donate \$500 to the Scrap Bill C-68 fund. Patty Beardsley seconded. Gord Bastable said he didn't see how this related to tourism. Jacqui said that there are issues for hunters with registration that this addresses. Karla also said that tourism is regulated to death and that this regulation gone would be welcome. Chris said he was for it if that's all that was being challenged. Jacqui said that the challenge is constitutional and that's all that is being challenged. Carried.

22. **EAR FALLS AIRPORT DONATION**: Earla moved to donate \$500 to the Ear Falls Airport fund. Patty seconded. Harald said it is critical for the Ear Falls area. Carried. Harald thanked KDCA and will send a letter to the mayor of Ear Falls. Earla suggested getting a photo in the paper of the donation. Harald said he will make sure that happens.

23. **DONATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**: Ruth Price pointed out that the term deposit is high and asked if this is ok for a nonprofit group. She said maybe some should be sent to charity. Gerry Cariou said that nonprofit groups can maintain a surplus. Earla asked what the by-laws say should be done? Karla said it's a good war chest if a big hit comes. Harald said if KDCA does a combined web site and new newsletter, there is more money in there for it. Mal suggested a working group to decide how to determine who to donate to. KDCA should have criteria in place to decide who gets donations. Steve Hartle said lost of businesses have trust fund boards for that purpose. Harald asked for volunteers for this group. John Fahlgren, Earla Haukeness, Mal Tygesson and Steve Hartle all volunteered. Harald recognized that members can still vote for or against a donation, but that guidelines are needed.

24. **RSA SUMMIT**: Jim Antler reported there will be an RSA summit in Dryden on November 3rd at the Best Western. Forestry and tourism industries are invited. He encouraged people to attend.

25. **ADJOURNMENT**: Gary Beardsley voted to adjourn the meeting. Steve Hartle seconded. Gary thanked the meeting's hosts: Pat & Mal and Evergreen Lodge. The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.