



2019 AGM

The Yukon Wild Sheep Foundation is dedicated to the conservation of wild sheep. As a chapter of the Wild Sheep Foundation, our membership is united in its mission to put and keep wild sheep on the mountain.

2018/2019 Annual Report

Time: 1030

Voting members in attendance: 11

Board Members in attendance: 9

1.0 2018-19 YWSF Board

NAME	POSITION
Helen Christiansen	President
Geoff Wooding	Vice-President
Denica Christiansen	Secretary-Treasurer
Mac Watson	Director
Mark Willms	Director
Bernard Stehelin	Director
Joseph Humphries	Director
Josh Johnson	Director
Greg McHale	Director
Richard Christiansen	Director
Vacant	Director

Putting and Keeping Sheep on the Mountain

2.0 Treasurer's Report

2.1 Motion: To approve 2018 AGM Minutes by Denica

Seconded: Richard

All in favour: Yes

Motion carried

2.2 Review of Financial Statements

2019 Financial Statements

Yukon Wild Sheep Foundation
Income Statement
For the Year Ending April 30, 2019

REVENUE

Sales Revenue

Inventory Sales	100.39
Memberships	5,927.48
Banquet Prior Year	40,450.17
Donations	22,925.56
Pins	870.00

Other Income	0.82
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Total Revenue	70,274.42
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TOTAL REVENUE	70,274.42
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EXPENSE

Expenses

Amortization	226.13
Inventory Purchases	1,020.00
Banquet Prior Year	15,821.11
Bookkeeping	307.13
Courier & Postage	422.18

Interest & Bank Charges	163.92
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Office Supplies	232.65
Meeting Expenses	600.00
Project Funding	11,574.50
Sponsorship	4,538.09
Website	472.48
Total General & Admin. Expen...	35,378.19
TOTAL EXPENSE	35,378.19
NET INCOME	34,896.23

Yukon Wild Sheep Foundation
Balance Sheet
For the Year Ending April 30, 2019

ASSET

Current Assets

Chequing Bank Account	26,368.83
RBC Deposit Account	14,286.09
Prepaid Expenses	2,222.91
Total Current Assets	42,877.83

Inventory Assets

Inventory	200.00
Total Inventory Assets	200.00

Fixed Assets

Equipment	2,261.28
Accum Amort Equip	-226.13
Net: Equipment	2,035.15

Total Fixed Assets	2,035.15
TOTAL ASSET	45,112.98
LIABILITY	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	238.88
Prepaid Sales/Deposits	100.00
Total Current Liabilities	338.88
TOTAL LIABILITY	338.88
EQUITY	
Equity	
Retained Earnings - Previous Year	9,877.87
Current Earnings	34,896.23
Total Owners Equity	44,774.10
TOTAL EQUITY	44,774.10
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	45,112.98

2.3 **Motion:** To approve the 2019 Financial Statements by Denica
 Seconded: Richard
 All in favour: Yes
 Motion carried

2.4 **Special Resolution:** To waive the hiring of a CPA to review our 2019/2020 financial records for the purpose of annual reporting.
 Seconded: Bernard
 All in favour: Yes
 Special Resolution carried

3.0 President's Message by Helen Christainsen

Any new organization, while in its formative stages, needs time to develop its volunteers, and get a foothold in its environment. YWSF has not been immune to

the struggles faced by any organization in its early stages, however this year we were successful in positioning YWSF to contribute to wild sheep conservation by

building a positive and productive relationship with government and ensuring that when decisions involving wild sheep are being made, YWSF has a voice at the table. With YWSF's mission clearly defined, one of initial objectives as a new chapter was to establish a membership base to support our conservation efforts here in the Yukon. To meet this objective we held our first membership drive in April which was successful in welcoming 15 new or reinstated members.

Another important milestone that was achieved this year was to advance our ability to fundraise as a recognized non profit under Yukon Lotteries. After two previous rejections, YWSF successfully attained the ability to hold raffles giving YWSF future fundraising potential.

Our board has been actively planning our 3rd Annual Convention being held May 4th, at the Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre. This event will feature youth and adult education seminars, culminating with an evening banquet and fundraising activities, and key note address by Kevin Hurley from Wild Sheep Foundation.

This past year saw YWSF continue to focus on engaging with government and supporting wild sheep projects. YWSF has allocated almost \$12000 through the YWSF Project's account in support of initiatives focused on herd health and surveillance. Our Projects Committee continues to meet with government to explore and identify future conservation opportunities which YWSF can inform and support.

This year YG announced a significant initiative to address domestic wild sheep interactions how the threats to wild sheep health are to be managed. The new YG Control Order regulating domestic sheep production, while a positive step for protecting wild sheep, is a controversial and hot button topic for some of Yukon's domestic sheep stakeholders. YWSF supports evidence based planning, regulation, and action and is seeking a better understanding of the implementation process and the expected impacts resulting from this order. While viewpoints may differ and positions may not fully align, YWSF is committed to finding common ground and helping to support the agricultural community in complying with the Control Order. Off Road Vehicles and pending regulations continue to be a major concern for our members and YWSF's position on ORV use and the negative impact on sheep and sheep habitat will be expanded when new regulations are shared. In addition to our position that focuses on the impacts to wild sheep, we support the work of our

partners in their efforts to address ORV issues for the protection of wildlife and habitat. Finding common ground with other conservation groups is recognized by YWSF as an important means of ensuring a strong and united voice is heard when advocating for the protection of Yukon's sheep habitat.

YWSF has the interests of wild sheep first and foremost; however the issues that are common to wildlife management as a whole are also within YWSF's mandate. The B.C ban on grizzly hunting continues to be of great concern to all of us who recognize the need to scientifically manage wildlife. While the Yukon government has not yet displayed this kind of political approach to wildlife management to the level of an outright ban, we cannot rely upon a stance that this won't happen here. The ban on grizzly hunting in B.C could easily expand to a ban on sheep hunting given the right political climate, where politicians require the leverage to ensure re-election. Groups that have targeted B.C are expanding their reach and are now targeting the Yukon as the next jurisdiction to strong arm government into a ban. While the Yukon population is a jurisdiction that embraces hunting as an accepted cultural norm (compared to other jurisdictions), it is not a stretch to imagine, that given the right political climate, lobbying by special interest groups could reduce access for grizzly hunting or even sheep hunting. Wildlife management should never be a pawn in politics. YWSF will be continue to be strong voice for sound wildlife management and will serve to ensure that reason, and not emotion, special interest group pressure, or political agenda, will interfere with this management approach.

Yours in wild sheep conservation,

Helen Christiansen
President, Yukon Wild Sheep Foundation

4.0 Committee Reports

4.1 Administration Committee

Chair: Denica Christiansen

Goals for 2018/2019

- I. Continue to seek efficiencies in record keeping
- II. Committee Oversight
- III. Gain Charitable Status
 - I. Draft a new application for gaining status with Yukon Lottery Corporation to operate raffles.

As our foundation has grown exponentially this year, it was paramount to seek efficiencies in record keeping. After consultation with a CPA, they recommended the use of a bookkeeper to handle our growing financial records. Therefore, in October I set up bookkeeping services with Chinook Bookkeeping.

I opened a second RBC account to house all direct donations for conservation initiatives. For example, Jim and Adrienne Fink's proceeds from their donated hunt went directly into that account, and were used in part to fund our M.ovi testing of thinhorn sheep and other ungulates in the Yukon. YWSF is receiving \$3,500, as part of a court ordered fine from a hunter harvesting an illegal ram, and these funds from the Department of Environment will be directly deposited into this account.

In terms of committee oversight, I work closer with all Directors to ensure the general functioning of our society. This is partly accomplished by acting as liaison between Directors, partners, members, and the public. This year there was a marked increase in communication between our board and the membership. We published our newsletter in December, and plan to generate these updates on a quarterly basis. We also shared our funded Project Report Surveillance for Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae in Yukon's thinhorn sheep (2015-2018) with current and lapsed members, so they could see a tangible product of our conservation efforts.

Another part of this oversight is to assist the board more directly when necessary, such as creating the advertisement content for our membership drive, and uploading this media to Facebook, our website, and by email to our past and present members.

Our President and Vice-President were able to draft the application and secure charitable status for YWSF. At our banquet this year we will be holding three raffles! In addition, YWSF has obtained two square card reader devices, one for reading credit card magstripes, and one for processing tap and chip supporting credit cards, as well as apple and google pay. This should greatly expedite the payment process at our events and fundraisers.

4.2 Communications Committee

Chair: Joshua Johnson

The bulk of this year's communications focus was strong communication and updates to the membership as YWSF projects were being completed. This was

accomplished with newsletters, WSF magazine articles, the membership drive, and surveys. YWSF designed for advertisements both for the WSF magazine and banquet planning, and communications made up a large portion of this job as well. Lastly just providing effective and open communications amongst the board (mostly Denica's job).

4.3 Projects/Wild Domestic Committee

Chair: Richard Christiansen

After the 2018 YWSF fundraiser we committed to pursue a working relationship with YTG (and other stakeholders) to be able to work proactively for the well being of Thinhorn sheep. We requested opportunities to partner with The Department of Environment's Wildlife Division, Animal Health Unit and the Conservation Officer Service as well as Energy, Mines and Resources Agriculture Division and YWSF contributed nearly \$12,000.00 over 3 separate projects in the past year.

- 1) At the request of the Animal Health Unit we funded a report by Cassandra Andrew, BScH, DVM Candidate who complied and presented a mapping summary of previous M. ovi testing in the Territory.
- 2) We funded the hats as an incentive for hunters to supply M.ovi samples and assisted with funding for the testing of the samples.
- 3) Funded additional sampling of other ungulates.

In 2018, 118 sheep were sampled (found dead, compulsory inspection and hunter nasal swabs), as well as 2 mountain goats, 22 mountain caribou, 10 moose, 16 elk, 8 muskox, and 6 mule deer. These rounds of testing provide valuable base line information on the presence and distribution (or lack of) of respiratory diseases in wild sheep and other ungulates. We are pleased to announce that all samples returned negative results!

4.4 Fundraising Committee

Chair: Geoff Wooding

- Lottery License
 - Experienced challenges due to their guidelines for what you can apply for, and what proceeds can be used for.
 - Couldn't co-fund a project, but we will use proceeds to fund a scholarship, taxidermy fees for donated sheep hide.

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- Approved sheep camp, rifle, and sheep horn raffle. Lotteries will require supplemental documentaion, so we need to draft language in way that adheres to their requirements.

4.5 Membership Committee

Chair: Mark and Bernard

- Update and continue to market membership program.
- Ran one membership drive in April and acquired 15 new members total.
- SITKA donated hats and Hougen's Sports lodge donated a pair of Hanwag boots.
- Nine of the 15 memberships were three year, and three were 1-year memberships.
- All new members will receive a SIKA hat and are entered in a draw for the pair of boots. Mark Willms will send out the hats.
- A survey was conducted this year to engage the membership. The results from the survey indicated that the membership wanted to know what we are up to, and it's our goal to increase membership communication.

5.0 Questions From Members

5.1 Questions:

- Question: Are we open to the Thinhorn Sumit III moving to a new date?

Currently it will be held in Whitehorse in 2020, but if we could move it to Spring 2021, because the Northern Sheep and Goat council meeting will be in Canmore Alberta. It would be tough to fund travel authorization for both events. Would YWSF be open to finding a venue to accommodate 150 or more people during this time?

Answer: Yes, this is a good opportunity for the Yukon, and we have already given our support. We could house the event at the Yukon College auditorium, or perhaps Kwanlin Dun.

- Question: Could we describe what the Thinhorn Summit is?

Answer: It's a meeting for all different interest groups on the status of thinhorns. We address questions such as; are stone sheep populations decreasing? What is their health status and trends? What are we doing about disease management, and other needs? What are our challenges and opportunities for management? It is also to discuss different jurisdiction's concerns. WSF will be orchestrating the organization and fundraising, they (YWSF) just need to supply the venue and local support for logistics planning.

- Question: Are YWSF projects being posted?

Answer: Yes, but this is a work in progress, and we are working on improving that. We plan to utilize the WSF magazine better, and send out quarterly updates to our membership.

5.2 Motion: To accept the 2019 annual report by Denica

Seconded: Richard

All in favour: Yes

Motion carried

End of Annual Report

6.0 Election/Acclamation

- Present list of nominations

6.1 Motion: To accept acclaimed candidates by Denica

Seconded: Bernard

All in favour: Yes

Motion carried

Position	Current	Nominations	Elected/Acclaimed	New Board 2019/20
President	Helen Christiansen	Continues		Helen Christiansen
VP	Geoff Wooding	Continues		Geoff Wooding
Secretary Treasurer	Denica Christiansen	Richard Christiansen	Richard Christiansen	Richard Christiansen

Directors		Gibson Pearson Bernard Stehelin Joel Potié Denica Christiansen	Gibson Pearson Bernard Stehelin Joel Potié Denica Christiansen	Gibson Pearson Bernard Stehelin Joel Potié Denica Christiansen
		Vacancy		Gibson Pearson
Director (two years)	Josh Johnson	Open	Gibson Pearson	
Director (two years)	Bernard Stehelin	Open	Bernard Stehelin	Bernard Stehelin
Director (1 year)	Richard Christiansen	Open	Denica Christiansen	Denica Christiansen
Director (two years)	Greg McHale	Open	Joel Potié	Joel Potié
Director	Joseph Humphries	Continues		Joseph Humphries
Director	Mac Watson	Continues		Mac Watson
Director	Mark Willms	Continues		Mark Willms
Director	Vacant	Open		Vacant

7.0 Adjournment

7.1 **Motion:** to adjourn the AGM by Denica

Seconded: Joe

All in favour: Yes

Meeting adjourned at 1115