

Tourism Fernie Annual General Meeting

Thursday, April 3, 2025

Bayleaf Indian Fusion, Fernie Golf Course



1:38 pm – 1:52 pm

MINUTES

Present:

Jikke Gyorki – EO, Tourism Fernie	Kirsten Madsen – Island Lake Lodge, Catskiing & Activities
Rebecca Hall – Tourism Fernie (Minutes)	Ted Funston – Island Lake Lodge & Catskiing & Activities
Gabriel Cote-Valiquette – AmbassadorWild	Annie Fournier – Fernie Lodging Company
Christine Grimble – Tourism Fernie	Jeremiah & Marina Pauw – Fernie Fox Hotel
Corien Sieders – Tourism Fernie	Maya Pauw – Fernie Fox Hotel
Brona Kekenakova – Tourism Fernie	Lee Phillips – Fernie Fox Hotel
Lizzy Reimer – Tourism Fernie	Dan Savage – Savage Media Inc
Mayor Nic Milligan – City of Fernie	Randal Macnair – Wildsight Elk Valley
Councillor Tracey Audia Kelly – City of Fernie	Andrew Hayden & Jillian Rutherford – Fernie Distillers
CAO Michael Boronowski – City of Fernie	Jeff Johnson – Ski Base
Councillor Kyle Hamilton – City of Fernie	Laurie Beml – Fernie Nordic Society
Director Brett Logan – City of Fernie	Gary Towsely – Fernie Nordic Society
Kathy Cooper – Kootenay Rockies Tourism	Reto & Shelly Barrington – Fernie RV Resort
Greg Klassen – Skift Advisory	Dana Barrons – Fernie RV Resort
Wendy McDougall – Fernie Chamber of Commerce	Oyunaa Gankhuyag – Sushiwood Fernie Restaurant
Cecile Lefort – Fernie Chamber of Commerce	Lkhagvasuren – Sushiwood Fernie Restaurant
Kate Baines – Fernie Chamber of Commerce	Maureen Logan – Elevated Rentals Fernie
Melanie Wrigglesworth – Fernie Trails Alliance	Jody Krienke – Elk Valley Furniture Studio
Ben Martin – Fernie Trails Alliance	Mark Barron – Fernie Brewing Company
Andy Cohen – Fernie Alpine Resort	Lindsay Ranson – Fernie Brewing Company
Mark Ormandy – Slopeside Lodge & Legends Restaurant	Helen Hopkins – Fernie Brewing Company
Karen Pepper – Fernie Alpine Resort	Sonia Gombojav – Loaf Italian Restaurant
Sadie & Joe Howse – Raging Elk Adventure Lodging/Kodiak Lounge	Penelope Simpson – Western Financial Group
Alan Young – Alan D. Young Personal Real Estate Corp	Gitesh Gupta – Canadas Best Value Inn
Dilip Chand – Bayleaf Indian Fusion Restaurant	Neha Gupta – Canadas Best Value Inn
Nick Nault – Photographer & Videographer	Lynn Muller & Blair Craig – Canyon Raft Company
James Woodall – Bramasole Restaurant & Wine Bar/Columbia Basin Trust	Adam Howie – Canyon Raft Company
Laurie K Weitzel – Earth's Own Naturals	Tim Schoas – College of the Rockies
Michael Palamarek – Fernie & District Historical Society/Fernie Museum	Catherine Bodroghy – Elk Valley Adventure Dirt Riders Society
Victoria Flemming – Park Place Lodge/The Pub Bar & Grill/Spirits Store, Cornerstone Lodge/Griz Inn	Max Sherwood – Fernie Golf Club
Veronique Roy & Jason Burt – Snow Valley Lodging/Annex House	Dennis Djonlich – Vogue Theatre
Sherisse Ocampo – Snow Valley Lodging/Annex House	Anne Keery – Fernie Pride Society
Jon Ward – Red Tree Lodge	Duncan Maisels – Hike Fernie
Dave Richards – Nonstop	Niamh Murphy – Kamu Sauna
Wendy & Simon Howse – The Fernie Taphouse/The Tipple/Parastone/Coal Creek Camping & RV	Matt Kuhn – Matt Kuhn Photography
Dave Hunt – The Fernie Taphouse	Karey Pion – Soco Soaps
Graeme Nunn – Rockies Law	Laura Frost – Spa901
Krista Turcasso – Claris Media	Jessica Gamey – Stag Leap Running Co
Vanessa Croome – Claris Media	Lauren Boudreau – Stag Leap Running Co
Carla Rose Kelly – Elk View Lodge	Yetunde Akintola – StellerVista Credit Union
Wade Barkman – Lizard Creek Lodge & Cirque Restaurant	Chelsea – StellarVista Credit Union
Andrew Munro Cockburn – The Royal Hotel	Mark Hatch – Tunnel49
Anne-Caroline Kroeger – Elk River Alliance	Vince Mo – Vince Mo Media
Lee Anne Walker – Elk River Alliance	Stephanie Fleming – Infinita Events
Louise Ferguson – Fernie & District Arts Council/The Arts Station	Sunnil Patel – Dairy Queen
	Stephanie Reithmuller – BeyondBnB

96 in attendance (63 active member businesses/organisations represented)

8 No-shows

1:38 PM – Call to Order: Chair, Reto Barrinton

Reto welcomed everyone to the AGM and called the meeting to order, noting that cards would be utilized for voting procedures, with green indicating 'in favour' and red means 'not in favour.'

MOTION to Approve the 2025 Agenda by Dan Savage
Seconded by Alan Young
All in favour; CARRIED

MOTION to Approve the Minutes of the 2024 AGM by Mark Ormandy
Seconded by Jillian Rutherford
All in favour; CARRIED

MOTION to Approve the 2024 Annual Report by Jon Ward
Seconded by Mike Palamarek
All in favour; CARRIED

Presentation of the 2024 Audited Financial Statements by Treasurer, Mark Ormandy

MOTION to Approve the 2024 Audited Financial Statements by Dan Savage
Seconded by Anne-Caroline Kroger
All in Favour; CARRIED

Presentation of the 2025-2026 Board of Directors – Graeme Nunn, Rockies Law

Graeme Nunn gave an overview of the nomination process and noted that the number of nominees matched the available seats, so no election was required. In line with the board election process, several board members are currently in the middle of two-year terms, the remainder of the seats were available for nomination to members in good standing. Graeme noted that the same number of nominations had been received as available seats, and therefore no election had been required. New board members Veronique Roy and Victoria Flemming were invited to stand and introduce themselves. All board members were presented for election by acclamation:

Graeme Nunn listed the Board of Directors for 2025-2026:

MRDT Accommodator Seats (5):

- Reto Barrington – Fernie RV Resort
- Jeremiah Pauw – Fernie Fox Hotel
- Jon Ward – Red Tree Lodge
- Wade Barkman – Lizard Creek Lodge
- Veronique Roy – Snow Valley Lodging & Annex House

Non- Accommodator/Member-at-Large Seats (4):

- Andrew Hayden – Fernie Distillers
- Alan D Young – Personal Real Estate Corporation
- Kirsten Madsen – Island Lake Lodge Catskiing & Summer Activities
- Victoria Flemming – The Pub & Bistro at Park Place Lodge

MOTION to Approve the Board of Directors for 2025-2026 by Randal McNair
Seconded by Wendy McDougall
All in favour; CARRIED

Announcements & Recognitions

Jikke Gyorki thanked departing board member Mark Ormandy.

MOTION to adjourn the AGM by Alan Young 1:52 pm

Additional Announcements & Recognitions

Following the AGM, Jikke made an acknowledgement of the many people, businesses and organisations that contribute to the success of the Tourism Industry in Fernie, recognizing in particular the contributions of The Elk River Alliance, The Arts Station, Fernie Museum, Fernie Nordic Society, Fernie Snowmobile Association, and many others.

In recognition of 30 years in business, Jikke made a presentation to Blair Craig and Lynn Muller of Canyon Rafting Company, noting that they have now passed the business on to the management of one of their employees, Adam Howie. Blair and Lynn were presented with a commemorative plaque.

Jikke then invited Jeremiah Pauw of the Fernie Fox Hotel to make an announcement. Jeremiah began by thanking Jikke, Brona, Corien, Christine and Rebecca for their work with Tourism Fernie.

Jeremiah then announced an extensive expansion project to the Fernie Fox Hotel, which will include 100% accessible enhanced lodging, conference facility, spa amenities, covered parking, cocktail lounge, and more.

Reto returned to the floor to recognize ED Wendy McDougall, Fernie Chamber of Commerce, & Councillor Tracey Audia Kelly, City of Fernie – Tourism Fernie board liasons.

Staff followed this with a presentation to Jikke Gyorki, EO of Tourism Fernie, in recognition of 15 years with Tourism Fernie, and her recent nomination for Tourism Woman of the Year at the TIABC Tourism Industry Awards. Jikke then thanked everyone for attending and invited them to join the social at the Legion later in the afternoon.

- Catering was provided by Bayleaf Indian Fusion.
- Flowers were purchased from The Green Petal.
- Door Prizes were purchased from Tourism Fernie member businesses: Edge of the World, Interior Envy, Three Sisters Day Spa, Local, & Polar Peek Books.

The formal AGM was preceded by presentations:

- Tourism Fernie Annual Report, presented by Tourism Fernie Staff EO Jikke Gyorki, Corien Sieders, Brona Kekenakova and Christine Grimble
- Keynote Speaker, Greg Klassen – Skift Advisory

A Tourism Social was held at Fernie Legion Branch #36 following the event, from 4:30 – 6:30pm.

- 66 guests attended, including 11 new guests who did not attend the daytime event, with 15 no-shows.
- Catering was provided by Sushiwood & The Chopstick Truck.
- Industry updates were provided by:
 - Jikke Gyorki – Tourism Fernie
 - Jessica Gamey & Lauren Boudreau – Stag Leap Running
 - Laurie Bemis & Gary Towsley – Fernie Nordic Society
 - Anne Caroline Kroeger – Elk River Alliance