

Volume 15, Number 2

Spring 2004

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Spring has arrived at Selkirk College. The snow has gone from our grounds but not from our surrounding mountains - some of it will still be on the mountains tops when you visit us in July.

We are looking forward to seeing all our NAWTA friends July 11 - 16 for our AGM. In addition to our general meeting session we have planned some exciting field trips to see some of our project sites as well as the history and scenery of our surrounding landscapes.

Within this newsletter is an agenda and itinerary for four to five days of meetings and professional development activities. Our college sits in a spectacular setting on 60 ha at the confluence of the Columbia and Kootenay Rivers. With over 8 km of trails we don't have to go far for our labs, but have a fleet of 9 vans to take us on a wide variety of field trips outside the valley.

The agenda is still tentative at this time but the following outlines some of the activities we are considering.

Our Fisheries instructor is planning to visit our local dam sites (we have 5 dams within 35 km of the college) for discussion of the effect of the hydro developments on the fish populations, especially the white sturgeon research project on which she stills works.

We will also look at some stream enhancement projects.

We will take a tour to visit a wildlife enhancement project that our students have been involved with, a nuisance bear collaring project, a bighorn sheep transplant. It is seldom we make these trips and not see some wildlife, perhaps some of the sheep or a herd of elk, or even a flock of wild turkeys which are making a dramatic comeback in the area.

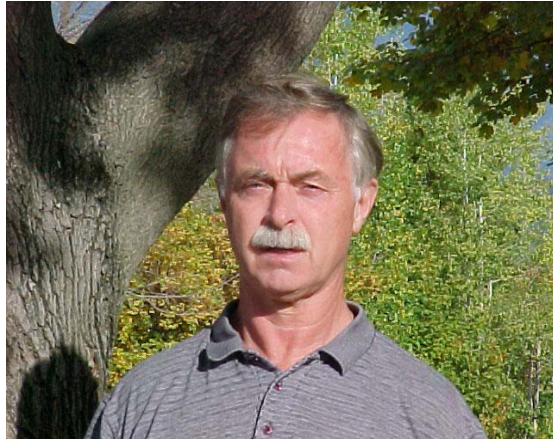
Since many of our guests have never visited our corner of British Columbia, we have planned a day long field trip to some historic sites - a ghost town, a World War II Japanese internment camp, an old fire lookout located in a high mountain meadow (if the snow is gone to allow access), and we'll end up with a swim at Ainsworth Hot Springs. And then there is the afternoon spent canoeing the Columbia with our Recreation instructor.

If anyone wants to stay an extra day (July 16) we can arrange a day long hike into Kokanee Glacier Park to a new cabin that our group was involved in planning. For the very energetic, perhaps an additional climb onto the glacier could be attempted. And we do have to get in some meetings!

For those planning on flying into Castlegar, Air Canada has three flights a day, two from

Vancouver and one from Calgary. Spokane, Washington is served by many airlines and is just three hours south of us. We could make arrangements to pick up people at Spokane and return them after the meetings.

I have included an Agenda/Itinerary in the newsletter along with a registration form. Please let me know if there is anything extra that you might wish to do while you are visiting us.



Gord Gibson, President

North American Wildlife Technology Association

Annual General Meeting - Selkirk College July 11 - 15, 2004

Tentative Agenda

July 11	7 pm	Arrival wine & cheese, registration
July 12	8 am	Greetings from College Administration & School of Renewable Resources. Tour of college, college grounds
	10 am	Start of Business Meeting
	1 pm	Tour of local area, woodlots, dams, fisheries projects, etc.
July 13	8 am	Business meeting continued.
	1 pm	Tour to Pend d'oreille and wildlife enhancement projects, etc.
July 14	8 am	Business meeting wrap-up
	1 pm	Canoe the Columbia
July 15	8 am	Day long tour - Slocan Valley, Sandon, Idaho Peak, Kaslo, Ainsworth Hot Springs, Nelson
July 16		Optional - for those wishing a good mountain hike - day hike to Kokanee Glacier Park, old & new cabins, glacier.

**North American Wildlife Technology Association
Annual General Meeting
July 11 - 16, 2004**

Gord Gibson
Recreation, Fish, and Wildlife Technology
Selkirk College
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Castlegar, BC, Canada
V1N 3J1

Contact Information for Gord Gibson:

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Registration Form: **Registration Fee: \$50 C.**

Name: _____

College/University: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Fax:** _____

email: _____

Accommodations: This would be in our residence - they are all single-bed rooms, two rooms sharing one washroom. We could put couples in adjoining rooms.

In space provided please indicate how many nights and which service.

Full Service (includes bedding & towels) \$32 C. per night

Reduced Service (guests supply bedding & towels) \$20 C. per night

Meals: In our cafeteria - breakfast, lunch, dinner- \$28 C. per day # of days =

Note: If you would like a list of local area hotels and campgrounds, please email me. Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions regarding our AGM

PLEASE SEND COMPLETED FORM TO GORD BY JUNE 15, 2004

Executive Director's Notes

The school year is almost over, so its time to start thinking about the NAWTA Annual General Meeting. Several important issues arose from last year's meeting. One of the major concerns was the validation of the NAWTA standards. Should there be an external organization that ensures that the criteria established for inclusion in our organization is appropriate? If an external agency is needed, what would it be and who would be involved? This issue was sent to committee last year and perhaps there will be answers at least some of these questions at this year's AGM.

Roeb Loeb of Penn State brought up the idea of our organization become involved with accrediting four year wildlife programs. In my opinion, the members of our organization are not the appropriate group to be making the decisions about the quality of four year programs. If institutions with four year wildlife programs are interested in an accreditation process, they should meet, set the necessary standards and then decide if they would like to use NAWTA for accreditation purposes. At this point the NAWTA members could look at the proposal from these institutions and decide if it is to our benefit to include them in our organization.

I am also particularly interested to find out what John Marks and Keely Roen suggest in respect to the revision of our website.

On another note, I would like to reiterate my appeal to institutions applying for accreditation or re-accreditation to make sure that all of the documentation has been properly completed. It takes up far less time at the AGM if the NAWTA members can simply accept applicant institutions on the recommendation of the accreditation committee, without having extended discussions because requisite material has not been included in the accreditation submissions.

This year's AGM is at Selkirk College in the beautiful Columbia River Valley. Gord Gibson has set up an extended agenda to showcase British Columbia's impressive topography and wildlife. Hopefully members from all accredited institutions can attend this year's AGM to take advantage of this extraordinary opportunity. I would also like to suggest that this would be a great year for wildlife institutions not currently affiliated with NAWTA to come and find out what we are all about.



Hugh Banks, Executive Director, NAWTA

*NORTH AMERICAN WILDLIFE TECHNOLOGY
ASSOCIATION - ACCREDITED INSTITUTIONS*

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College – Tifton, Georgia USA

Central Carolina Technical College – Sumter, South Carolina USA

College of the North Atlantic – Corner Brook, Newfoundland CAN

Haywood Community College – Clyde, North Carolina USA

Holland College – Prince Edward Island CAN

Lakeland College – Vermillion, Alberta CAN

Muskingum Area Technical College – Zanesville, Ohio USA

Pennsylvania State University DuBois – DuBois, Pennsylvania USA

Selkirk College – Castlegar, British Columbia CAN

Shawnee Community College – Ullin, Illinois USA

Sir Sandford Fleming College – Lindsay, Ontario CAN

NAWTA Member Colleges or Universities
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Aurora College
Central Carolina Technical College
College of the North Atlantic
Haywood Community College
Holland College
Keewatin Community College
Lethbridge Community College
Muskingum Area Technical College
University of Minnesota – Crookston
Minot State University – Bottineau
Pennsylvania State University – DuBois
Sir Sandford Fleming College – Lindsay
Selkirk College
Shawnee Community College
Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (S.I.A.S.T.)

North American Wildlife Technology Association 2003 – 2004 Officers / Committee Chairpersons

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please identify items of importance to be included in our Fall Newsletter 2004. Send or email all announcements, committee updates, articles, photographs or other materials by September 1, 2004 to:

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Zanesville, OH 43701



*North American
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