

- **2006 Executive Director Report:**

- **Financials** – I was responsible for processing all of the incoming and outgoing financial requests. Contributed to budgeting and financial planning
- **Communications** - The office is the main source of ongoing communication between all members, clubs and disciplines. There is a substantial amount of daily electronic communication that filters through the association. I spend considerable time fulfilling communication requests and tasks.
- **ASRP&WF Funding Grant** - I have been finalizing details of the 2005 year and initiating the application process for 2006. I have met with our Foundation representative to discuss details for our 2006 submission. Deadline for our submission is March 1, 2006
- **Society Annual Return 2005** - Completed the application process to submit our return. Sent this in to Alberta Registries.
- **Daily Operations** – I maintained the AWA office in the Percy Page Centre in Edmonton. Daily operations included processing and responding to general correspondence, maintaining the AWA computers and acting as the AWA liaison to other organizations including the ASRP&WF.
- **ASRP&WF Review Meeting** – I have met with our foundation representative to complete the requirements of our funding agreement. I provided a copy of our 2005 Business Plan, 2005 Financial Statement along with responses for the AWA Association Review Questionnaire.
- **Membership** – I have maintained the 2005 AWA membership database, performing updates on a regular basis.
- **NCCP / Provincial Education** - I have acted as the AWA liaison between the NCCP head office and our course conductors regarding course documentation.
- **STEP Program** – I completed all necessary forms to qualify for a STEP employee during the summer of 2005. This program was implemented through the Canada Employment youth work strategy. The Summer Temporary Employment Program provides funding to organizations like AWA to help fund summer staff. We will apply again in 2006.
- **Casino Report** – Completed One Casino report for the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission. Casino Reports have been filed up to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005.

- **Future Tasks & Projects:**

In December 2005, I submitted a letter of resignation to the AWA Executive effective January 31, 2006.

Before I leave the AWA I will complete the following tasks:

- Finish updating the AWA filing system
- Bring AWA accounts up to date as of January 31, 2006
- File 2005 T4's
- Complete the 2005 AWA Funding Review process with our ASRP&WF representative
- Complete a reformat of the AWA office computer

I have also submitted to the AWA Executive a list of Administrative tasks that I will complete on a contract basis.

As stated in my letter of Resignation I would like to thank the AWA Executive as well as many of the individuals who I have met during my time at the AWA. I wish everyone involved with the Alberta Whitewater Association continued success in the future.

**2005 Alberta Whitewater AGM  
Paddler Development Chair North  
Report – Rena Murrie**

The position of **AWA Paddler Development / Education** was split into two positions [North and South/one vote] at the AB Whitewater AGM in 2002. **Susan Azofeifa** has filled this position alone for most of the year. I came in late and am basically getting familiar with the tasks at hand. The **AWA Education Chair duties** required clarification – nothing had been set up for Susan to take on. She has created an impressive task list; one that will be properly effective when completed.

Ideally, Alberta Whitewater should have a smooth system of education opportunities for all paddlers. The Education 'core' would have a **database of certified AWA Instructors and Course Conductors**, with information on types of courses, times, location, cost and on-line registration procedure. Eventually, every paddling Club would have properly accredited paddling leaders.

The Education Core, based at the Administrative office and on-line/web site, would also act as a **Resource Center for AWA Instructors and Course Conductors**. Basically, there would be access to AWA publications, course handbooks, effective paddling publications, instructional videos/DVD's and updated website information.

This will take time, dedication and funding.

Currently, an **instructional Rolling DVD** is being created with the help of students at the **Grant MacEwan College Media Dept. Roy Sharplin** has compiled video footage aimed at educating paddling instructors about the correct and incorrect methods of kayak rolling instruction. As Education Chair, it seemed appropriate that this footage should be developed into a useable DVD production. With the expertise of the Media students, the AWA will have access to a solid technical Instructional product for Instructors and Course Conductors. Completion of this project is set for late March, 2006.

Based on this experience, Roy can potentially determine the best choice for a second project. Other needed productions might follow – for example: **Stroke Improvement Techniques, Slalom Techniques, Slalom Gate Officiating, Freestyle wave spots in Alberta, River Rescue techniques, Zone Race organization** etc.

This is an area of serious potential for AB Whitewater Education.

The future potential of an **artificial whitewater facility**, based in Edmonton/St. Albert or southern Alberta requires serious consideration and planning. With the problems encountered accessing rivers, due to natural or artificial challenges and the need for facility convenience for our whitewater sports, the development of artificial facilities is vital. It is especially important that AB Whitewater cultivates a **professional system of volunteers and employees** that effectively meets the needs of Alberta paddlers, both recreational and competitive. Sport building is important, but establishing a **viable Association** is critical.

For this AGM, it seems best that the **duties of the Education Chair[s], Administrative and Technical Directors plus Executive and Chair positions** be discussed and determined. **Mike Pugh** has established a solid base of accounting and good communication with the Foundation and other government departments for AWA. He has created an atmosphere of respect and there is now an opportunity for AB Whitewater to move forward and create much needed systems for further communications.

**Education goals** can only flourish under a workable system. Let's discuss what needs to happen.

Rena Murrie  
Jan. 2006

# ROCKayakers

## Roslyn Outdoor Club Kayakers

### Club Report 2005

ROCKayakers had a year of successes and challenges.

The competitive Slalom athletes attended a number of training camps and competitions, in Canada, U.S., and overseas. Paul Manning-Hunter and Ben Hayward competed in Europe as part of the Junior National Team. A separate record of their activities and accomplishments is attached. Tom Murrie joined trip leader Greg Hunter and Coach David Manning, on the three week U.S. Tour to Carleton Minnesota, Wausau Wisconsin and Southbend IND. Lots of good experiences for all.

Edmonton centered activities included springtime pool sessions, novice kayaking courses, slalom training, River Day demos, Novice Slalom Zone event and three days of demonstrations at the Grand Prix. Our thanks to David Manning for connecting us with Travel Alberta for the Grand Prix pool demo event. We all enjoyed a unique experience at the Edmonton airport watching the NASCAR races a few metres away from us. Scott Feindel joined our group and provided some excellent freestyle demos for everyone.

The weather was a challenging factor this year. The North Sask. River flooding took away our slalom gates under the Quesnell Bridge. The continued flooding limited the moving water training times. Unsettled cold weather also limited the participation numbers at the Flatwater Courses at Rundle Park Paddling Centre.

Membership is down this year – 43 members. Parents and youth are interested in learning to kayak in Edmonton, with youths interested in trying out for the AB Summer Games. A problem area for Edmonton parents is traveling to whitewater training across the province. Convenience is a priority. Facility development is vital for the development and growth of whitewater sports in Edmonton.

The Club benefited from a \$3000.00 CCA grant and \$1500. STEP Grant for youth programs. We also received \$1000. Club funding from Travel Alberta for our demo. Chris Murrie, Amy Paran, Rena Murrie and assistant Brad Steinbring were the Instructor/Coaches in Edmonton during 2005. Roy Sharplin coached at the Quesnell site and also had a successful 2 hour Stroke Improvement Intro session.

This year, we will have more pool sessions at our Winter Paddling Centre at Scona Pool. We hope to train a number of youth athletes from Zone 5 and 6 for the Summer Games experience plus volunteer again at the Grand Prix. And of course, the competition athletes will have fun again in their travels – AB, Canada and beyond.

Rena Murrie January 2006

## 2005 Report on Ben Hayward and Paul Manning-Hunter

### Paul:

Australia - for a month in January - coached by Shaun Pearce - 2nd place Australia Jr Tm Trials

Dickerson, Maryland for 10 days. Coached by Toby Rossingh

### Paul and Ben:

MKC - 10 days in April - Coaches Toby and Saskia

Paul was 1st and Ben 3rd overall for Jr Team

Raced at Jr PreWorlds in Solkan, Slovenia - Paul placed 5th overall, Ben was 2nd Canadian

Trained in Bratislava and Augsburg

Raced in Prague - both Paul and Ben made the Semi- finals (Ben's second international race). Paul was 11th

Nationals in Kananaskis - Paul was 1st and Ben was 3rd

Raced in US Nationals and Pan American Championships on the Kern River in California - Paul was 1st Jr.

Provincial Championships, Kananaskis - Ben was 1st - Paul was injured

Ben raced at Nooksack Race in Washington State on Thanksgiving and placed 1st

Ask Ben sometime about his adventure in Prague - roaming the streets at night with his boat and all his gear - after getting kicked off the train (didn't allow boats). Above the thunder - Paul heard a knock on their trailer door at 2 AM and there was Ben - soaking wet - illuminated by lightning. Ben raced the next day.

Submitted by: Greg Hunter

AWA Slalom Chair

## **Waterwerks Kayak Club Society**

***Report to the AWA AGM, January 29, 2006***

***submitted by Ian Jobe, President, Waterwerks Kayak Club Society***

WaterWerks Kayak Club Society (WKC), is developing a record of success in 2005:

- With the support of a modest Whitewater Canada coaching grant and in collaboration with 3 other clubs in our region, over 40 days of coaching were delivered for youth in slalom and freestyle kayaking on the Kananaskis and Bow Rivers. Some beginner instruction was also offered.
- Awarded equipment grant by the Parks Foundation, Calgary for purchase of recreational boats for instructional sessions and for support of a high performance race boat lease program in 2005 and 2006.

At a well attended General Membership Meeting in September, the club started it's rejuvenation with a slide show followed by selection of the Executive;

VP Adult	Phil Price (Chair, Adult Committee)
VP Youth	Lynn Jobe (Chair, Youth Committee)
Treasurer	Sue Azofeifa
Secretary	Jerry Luntley
President	Ian Jobe

### **Membership 2005**

- 49 members with annual membership of \$25 per person.
- Current WKC Club membership is required for participation in any club events as membership includes coverage by the AWA's insurance policy.
- Club programming is augmented by AWA weekend events and camps.

### **Our Recreational Paddlers**

- Pool Sessions were a big hit in the 2004-2005 winter season and are being offered again in the 2005-2006 season; Thanks to Aquabatics who has provided for the administration of these sessions and boats at the pool.
- Phil Price, as VP Adult, is taking the lead in 2006 to provide coordinated river trips and outings for the recreational paddlers.
- Phil is 'stoked' and is ready to take on this charge. We look forward to the events and training sessions to come. Courses and events under consideration for 2006 include
  - Trip Leader and River Rescue
  - A River Rendezvous

### **Our Competitive Athletes in 2005**

- Several club junior members are competing at provincial and national competitions.
- 1 club junior competed at the 2005 National Slalom Team Trials in Ontario in May
- 4 club juniors competed at the 2005 National Slalom Championships in Alberta in August
- 2 club juniors were part of a team that represented Alberta and Canada on a three week US Cup Tour which included the US Junior Olympics and American Age Group Championships
- Andrew Jobe was invited to join the Junior National Developmental Tour as a result of his strong performance at the National Team Trials, in Ontario, May 2005.
- 5 club juniors were active members of AWA ATS – Andrew Jobe, Graham Jobe, Haley Daniels, Matt Garner and Breanne Lyons
- 2 club juniors were active members of AWA TAK – Andrew Jobe, Matt Garner
- Several club Juniors participated in winter training sessions offered throughout 2005 in the 'off-season' (Jan-March / October-December):
  - New Years Camp, Chilliwack

- January Camp, Chilliwack
- Richie Weiss Camp, Chilliwack, March
- Thanksgiving Camp, Thompson River, October
- November Camp, Chilliwack
- December Camp, Chilliwack

### **Fund Development**

- CCA Coaching Grant – Bow Valley Region Coaching Project – primarily Calgary (Waterwerks) and Bow Valley – provided support for mid week coaching of high performance athletes by the Alberta Team Coach – this was the first time ever in a long time for Calgary paddlers
- Parks Foundation, Calgary – WKC was awarded an equipment grant for purchase of recreational and competitive boats for club use and instructional sessions
- Other fund development activities – Several initiatives are either in place or in development that provide means to create funds for both the general club equipment account and athlete accounts. Monies in athlete accounts are used to off-set the costs of eligible expenses for coaching and training.

### **Development plan for 2006 encompasses the following goals:**

- 1/ to recruit more members
- 2/ to deliver more programming for both recreation and competitive paddlers
- 3/ to develop our members and volunteers through education and certification
- 4/ to gain access to local facilities, e.g., temporary slalom gates to facilitate our paddlers to train in Calgary when travel to the Kananaskis or other locations is not convenient

### **Our Philosophy**

A recreational program is just as important at WKC as coaching is for our competitive members. The strongest clubs are a marriage of young and old, recreational and competitive paddlers. Recruitment of new paddlers along with retention of experienced paddlers and parents as volunteers are key to a healthy club.

The broader our base of participants, the more robust our programs can be for all paddlers in our club. Successful competitive paddlers don't exist in isolation. A healthy club supports these athletes as they face the costs of high performance training and competition.

### **Partnering**

At WKC we would like to avoid to direct competition with other groups in any sector. Instead, we want to develop collaborative partnerships to avoid duplication of resources and infrastructure and to develop synergies. For example:

- The Sprint (flat water) racing coach in Calgary has much to offer our slalom (whitewater) athletes. Several WKC athletes joined the Sprint group for fall and for off season paddle specific strength and conditioning work at the Calgary Canoe Club. It's a win-win.
- Other local clubs and businesses have programs and instructors in place to introduce beginners to flatwater and whitewater. By promoting our programs through these avenues and asking for their referrals we can largely avoid the labour and time intensive beginner stages and concentrate on more advanced paddlers.

### **Strategy**

Finding ways and means for Calgary's young athletes to stay at home to train is a priority. Our goal is to offer the highest quality coaching possible locally. Sending Alberta athletes to other provinces and outside Canada to compete is great exposure and experience but we must strive to grow high performance training programs in Calgary for today's and tomorrow's Calgary athletes.



**Bow Valley Kayak Club**  
57 Riverstone Road  
Canmore, AB T1W 1J4

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## Club Report 2005

*Abbreviated version presented at the AGM*

2005 was the Bow Valley Kayak Club's first full year of operation as a club. The club had 39 members in 2005; including 31 youth members.

Most of our youth (24) joined in order to take one of the 4 novice courses we held in May and June. These courses were instructed by David Manning, with assistance from Mark Dobson, Jared Dobson and Bryce Shaw. Bryce and Jared pretty much completed their volunteer hour requirement stipulated by Canmore Collegiate High School.

The BVKC's novice race, the Rundle Riot, was held on June 17/05 on the Rundle Canal. David Manning and Saskia von Mourik did the coaching and orchestrated the course setup. Congratulations to the 17 kids who showed up, had fun and raced despite the pouring rain. The race included a barbeque supper, award certificates, MEC gift certificates for race winners and draw prizes.

During the summer we had Guy Pollard running rolling sessions at the Canmore Pool. Guy is hoping to become AWA certified this spring.

The BVKC had a lot of volunteers helping with Nationals. We hosted a breakfast and also a lunch after the novice race.

The BVKC was involved in getting kayak polo going this fall at the pool. Several members of the club (Bryce, Mike, Mark & Jared) play regularly. The sessions are usually very well attended, with the numbers / session sometimes reaching 16. During the year there have also been sessions of kids polo.

Our club does not currently own any kayaks. However we do have gear, and we have the use of kayaks, decks and paddles thanks to the Aquatics Department / Town of Canmore. We have money (thanks to grants from the AWA and Lafarge) and are in the process of purchasing 3 used slalom kayaks.

We plan to run more novice courses in 2006 and some river trips. Details, when available, will be on our website: [www.kanpaddle.ca](http://www.kanpaddle.ca) .

## **Recreation Goals for 2006**

- 1. Maintain agreement with Rapid Magazine and provide AWA members with upcoming issues.**
- 2. To help revise/modify AWA website:**
  - A) Possible new web-host.**
  - B) Create web-editing access to AWA chairs wishing to make monthly/seasonal modifications.**
  - C) Provide Alberta paddling clubs with an easier means to further promote themselves through the AWA website.**
- 3. AWA sponsored breakfast for the 2006 Kananaskis Whitewater Festival.**
- 4. AWA support towards the 2006 Pincher Creek River Rendezvous.**
- 5. New AWA Recreation event which may be held in conjunction with the Brierlies Whitewater Classic in June. This event will be considered a Central Alberta River Rendezvous and provide opportunities for all levels of paddlers to come together for the weekend.**

## Summary

The *2005 Freestyle kayak* season had nine participants join the TAK program. David Manning and Scott Feindel conducted the majority of the coaching. Other coaches throughout the season included Mark Basso, Sean Allen and myself. A number of events were held throughout the season. These include:

### **May 7-8 Clinic at the Kananaskis River**

This is an opportunity for participants to gain a greater understanding of the program and to establish team members.

### **June 11-12 Brierlies Whitewater Classic**

This event is held annually and the AWA sponsors this event. The water levels were extremely high due to flooding in Southern Alberta. The TAK members all performed very well at this event. Bryce Shaw performed a number of new moves in this feature, specifically Donkey Flips. As well, Andrew Jobe had some great rides and demonstrated his abilities in the outrageous wave. Mathew Gardner had his first experience at the Brierlies when it was at it's best!

### **June 18-19 Aquabatics Cup #1**

This event was scheduled for the Red Deer River but due to 1600cms+ flow the road in was impassable, as well as unsafe to run this event. The event was moved to the Kananaskis River, which was also at very high water levels. The water was so high that the features were washed out and a Downriver Race was held instead. Participants in this event included Paul, Andrew, Bryce, Matt and James. The event was won by Paul Manning-Hunter – congrats Paul!

### **June 30 - July 1 Wilderness First Aid**

The Wilderness First Aid session was conducted by Inside Out Experience at the North Saskatchewan River (Brierlies). This was a 2-day session that allowed TAK members to gain a better understanding of what to do in an emergency, as well tools in the environment that are useful in a rescue situation. This was practical experience for the participants as it used specific paddling scenarios. The program was well conducted and used excellent props (i.e. blood). TAK members that attended this session included David, Jared Dobson, Andrew Jobe, Bryce Shaw, Matt Garner, Matt Frank, James Hastings. Next year, a River Rescue Course will be offered. The long-term goal of these clinics is to certify TAK members so that they can use these skills in the future.

### **July 2-3 Aquabatics Cup #2**

Aquabatics Cup #2 was held at the Brierlies on the North Saskatchewan. This weekend included a skills session and a competition. Results were as follows:

Junior Women

1<sup>st</sup> – Jessica and Katie

Junior Men

1<sup>st</sup> Andrew Jobe 2<sup>nd</sup> Bryce Shaw 3<sup>rd</sup> Kyle Saganiuk 4<sup>th</sup> Jared Dobson

5<sup>th</sup> Matt Frank 6<sup>th</sup> Matt Garner 7<sup>th</sup> Rob Leland 8<sup>th</sup> James Hastings 9<sup>th</sup> Brad Steinbring

### **July 4-10 Winnipeg Trip**

The boys got together and rented a van and drove to Manitoba in search of waves...and waves were found...and a good time was had by all! Scott and David worked on Freestyle skills during this week. Jared, James, Matthew, Rob, Matt F, and James all survived the road trip.

### **August 6-7 Aquabatics Cup #3**

Typically there is low attendance at this event since families are holidaying. Scott was the man this weekend and tackled it all by himself. At this Kananaskis event, Andrew, James, Jared, Alex and Matt F. duked it out on the river. The placing was as follows: Andrew, Jared, Alex Clark, Matt F and James Hastings.

### **September 3-5 Aquabatics Cup #4**

This turned out to be a river run weekend on the Clearwater and Fraser River. The focus of this weekend was to work on all around free boating skills. Andrew, Bryce and Matt attended this weekend. The Clearwater and Fraser were a first time for most. These were challenging rivers that allowed them to practice the skills they have learned at a higher level. They had the chance to run the Fraser Canyon and the last 5 miles of the Clearwater. These are two of my personal favorites as well as possibly some of the best whitewater in BC.

### **October 8-10 Brierlies, Cataract, Sheep River**

Surprisingly the water levels were good around Calgary so we decide to stay close. The Juniors had the opportunity to run some rivers that they have never run before. The Cataract and Sheep River both have challenging but straightforward ledges and waterfalls. This was a successful weekend that I thoroughly enjoyed.

### **Creek nights on the Sheep and Elbow**

These evenings were tentatively booked for one week night a month during the paddling season. We were able to get out once to the Elbow and once to the Sheep. The boys had a chance to practice waterfalls on the Sheep and a play run was held on the Elbow at high water. These evenings were well received by the participants and we would like to hold more in the future.

All in all, we had 24 days on the water this season. Thanks to all the coaches and participants for making this year a success! We look forward to next year!

\*Our sponsors for the season generously donated helmets, hoodies and stickers. One hundred promotional TAK stickers were made in an effort to spread the word about the TAK program. We can thank Matt Garner for making the arrangements.

## **Recommended Goals for 2006**

1. To start a dry-land program for the TAK team. This would be an independent commitment from the members.
2. To begin a certification process for the Juniors to enable them to become accomplished River Guides and Instructors.
3. To develop a legitimate instructor certification program for the TAK coaches.
4. To explore different rivers and tidal rapids throughout Canada, as well as to attend bigger competitions out East (pending funding).
5. To continue with the Aquabatics Cup and regular scheduled events.
6. To develop an elite program, as well as novice orientated program.
7. To get a Freestyle Grant in an effort to obtain video equipment and transportation (15 passenger van).

# 2005 Slalom Report

**1. Provincial Level:** See attached Provincials Story. Successful: Totem Cups, Six Provincial Team Trials and Provincial Championships. Many young new athletes showing excellent improvement.

**2. National Level:** Medals by:

Saskia Van Mourik, 2<sup>nd</sup> K1W, Daniel and Thomas Purcell, 2<sup>nd</sup> in C2

Jessica Groeneveld 3<sup>rd</sup>, K1JW Paul Manning-Hunter, 1<sup>st</sup> and Ben Hayward 3<sup>rd</sup> in K1JM

Barry Morton, K1MastersM., Chuck Lee 2<sup>nd</sup> C1MastersM

**Many young athletes have the ability to be challenging for medals in the future.**

Saskia and Mike Holroyd made the Sr A Team. Connor Curson and Paul made the Sr Dev Team.

Paul and Ben made the Jr A Team.

**4. International Level:**

Saskia 16<sup>th</sup> at World Championships in Australia giving her Sr carding for 2 years. Best Canadian result besides David Ford. Very encouraging for making Beijing Olympic Team.

Paul 5<sup>th</sup> at Jr PreWorld Championships in Slovenia- the second time a Canadian has made the top 10. Albertan, Sara Donnelly was 10<sup>th</sup> in 1995.

**Mike was 6<sup>th</sup> at Pan American Championships in California – he made WWC’s International Criteria at every World Cup he attended – (“an exceedingly hard thing to do”, WWC) I will show a DVD with some great shots of Mike and some other Canadians at the Pan Am games.**

Thomas / Daniel won 3 US Cup Races in the Midwest, winning the C2 Overall Standing with a perfect 15 pts

Paul and Ben made the Semi Finals in Prague

Ben 1<sup>st</sup> at Nooksack WA.

Jessica Groeneveld US/Can Jr Olympic Champion in Southbend Indiana

Connor and Chris McTaggart were under 106% at 2 large European Races.

Issues relevant to next year:

- 1. Novice Level:** Novice Races, TAK, and friends brought in new kids. One new club joined AWA for a new kid. AWA TD, paid 50/50 worked very well at ATS and TAK weekends to integrate new athletes into ATS program and linking ATS/TAK/ASG/Post Games Camps etc.
- 2. Athlete Development model** from Sven : 1) Active living – 2)FUNDamentals – 3)Learning to Train – 4)Training to Train – 5)Training to Compete – 6)Training to Win – 7)Active Living (and helping the sport). Perhaps AWA TD looks after 1 and 2 and bridges 3.
- 3. ATS Program:** Continued with Saskia as main coach – athletes were attending more regularly making excellent progress. ATS, what levels do we want to start. Original idea was gates at Miami Beach – could start in plastic boats. Last ATS weekend instructed athletes on how to train on their own. Using a model courtesy of Roy Sharplin – each session should have an appropriate Energy System and Technique Focus and designed so everyone can enjoy it.
- 4. Club coaching** – appeared to me to be much more consistent. Each ATS camp I noticed an improvement from the weekend before due to this. Consistent club coaching and training is great to see. I felt it was the most important thing that AB lacked in the past.
- 5. Responsibility of Slalom and Freestyle Chairmen:** should be decided for the future. A few times in the last 2 years the executive made decisions on significant ATS and TAK issues that I felt should have been decided by the Slalom/Freestyle Chairmen – along with the parents and athletes. **Clarification is important for all chairmen.**
- 6. National Jr Team Trials,** according to WWC athlete rep are scheduled for May in Kananaskis. Will they be under AWA or Slalom (WSAA).
- 7. Sr Team Trials** are scheduled for Prague at the end of April. **Coaching will be needed for some athletes.**
- Should slalom be run through **WSAA** next year? I would see this as working the same as the past few years, with a different name. WSAA would look after whitewater slalom – AWA would look after introductory slalom and the AWA TD would bridge the two with shared funding. When can WSAA get a Casino. Will WSAA president be Slalom Chairman will WSAA and AWA AGM’s be together.
- 9. WSAA election.** It has been suggested that we hold the WSAA election for 2006 executive at the planning meeting. I am suggesting then that anyone who wants to join WSAA for the 2006 year would

be able to do that and vote. Because of the bylaws this vote might have to officially have to come into affect one month from then but that would just be a technicality as the executive can certainly start planning immediately.

10. **Provincial Coach** – with half time or full time responsibilities including monitoring/club coaching and off season training. Funding? Location? Travel? Salary? Responsibilities? Sharing with Clubs? Etc
11. **US Tour**, athletes really improved. - three on the tour beat Jr A Team athletes at Nationals. Should continue every year. Also just a great way to spend the summer, lots of kids around, lots of good racing and training. Thank you to Gord for lending his van and Judy for being our mom. Next year each province is expected to contribute to coaching (only AB did this year). WWC may select some athletes for funding, everyone may attend. Jr A Team may be able to attend next year. USACK is discussing having the races in Wash. State, Chilliwack and Kananaskis. We should let them know if we want to do this before their meeting Nov 18. Will WSAA allow use of STEP grant?
12. **Events as fundraisers:** Perhaps if we host the last US Cup, we could call it the North American Championships. This way we could get up to \$10 000 in grants (as with the wireless timers worth \$7000; \$10 000 is possible - maybe bibs/facilities upgrade, DVD camcorders for start and finish/ projector/scoreboard/ extra timers/ computer/software etc.). Funds would have to go towards something useful for the race. Even PTT 6 made \$1750 gross - \$720 pizza. Pan Am's may be held in Quebec (this would be a much higher level race with much more organization required). USACK meeting is Nov 18 so it would be good to decide before.
13. **ASG** would fall under AWA I expect. Could see conflict with US Tour. Dan Groeneveld is head of the local Canoeing Organizing Committee
14. **Volunteerism:** Respect for athletes, coaches, volunteers, the sport and each other should be our guide. Volunteering should be fun. This has not always happened.
15. **Facilities:** Brendan did a great job on the Kananskis Gates. New system much nicer. Eddies to be cleared in the Spring. Quesnel Bridge wires need repairs. Rundle Park Edmonton good. Rundle Plant or Reservoir would be nice. Little Red I heard was good. Old Man Boulder Run was flooded but will be repaired I heard. Calgary Canoe Club has flat water gates. Calgary Weir, hope to have a really good training site. Edmonton Whitewater Park still a proposal. Dan is working on ASG site. An urban Whitewater Park would be great!!!! Sven had a talk about having a club house at your site really helps Slalom Clubs.
16. **Bibs:** I think Slalom (or AWA) should get bibs (Patch thinks so too) – see US Tour
17. **Totem Outfitters:** has been a great sponsor for 5 years. Very supportive – well over \$25 000 in value donated. If you get a chance thank them, say hi to Patty and Tyson. They have a sale on kayaks.
18. **Coaching Certification:** How many are interested, when would be good? What levels?
19. **Volunteers:** All the jobs are being done really well. It is really neat that at races we have skilled people who have taken on – calculations/results, officials (and athlete's) clinics, organizing the officials and wireless timing units, judging, timing, setting the course, demo runs, registration and medals. Pause for a moment to think about how well and with such positive attitudes, all those jobs have been taken on
20. **Wireless timing:** I think we need to improve the wireless software to make it simpler for Mike and Mark (they should get to enjoy the race too). We usually have almost immediate results now but the software is tricky and requires too much of the operators
21. **Officials training:** Bruce Waldie has done a great job of educating our officials and athletes. I hope the AWA (WWC?) can send him to the WC in Prague next year to get his International Certification.
22. **Nationals:** Thank you to Ed and the executive and all the volunteers for putting on an excellent Slalom and Wildwater Nationals. I was told to also pass on thank you's from a number of out of province parent's coaches and athletes. For the future: it seemed there was an awful load placed on the head man, Ed, probably some of this was because of how late the venue was chosen. Perhaps next big race, well in advance, people should be asked what areas they would as USACK suggests, "like to take ownership of".
23. **I would like to thank** everyone who has helped and supported our slalom program and me as it's chairman for the last 6 seasons. I would like to thank the athletes and wish them good luck in the future.