

GUARDIANS OF NICOLA LAKE BOARD MEETING

Monday, January 12, 2026, 6pm

Virtual Meeting

1. Call to Order – John 6.06

Attending: Dawne, Brent, Dan, John, Peter, Lisa, Doug, David Laird and Herb Graham

2. Meeting with David Laird and Herb Graham, TNRD Directors

We asked David and Herb to join our meeting to discuss who is responsible for monitoring TNRD Bylaws, and Provincial Acts relating to agriculture, forestry, fisheries and the environment. David and Herb will refer our questions to TNRD staff for clarification.

They suggested we contact 1. MLA, Tony Luck's office regarding monitoring of Provincial Acts. 2. BC Cattleman's Association regarding Right to Farm and Best Agricultural Practices. 3. Doug Allan regarding fishery monitoring. 4. Phil Braig from Douglas Lake Cattle Company, to set up a meeting to discuss how we can work together in ensuring we protect our water ways. 5. David will provide the Link to the Nicola Dam website which provides in-time information about water flow through the dam.

Action Items from this discussion:

1. **David and Herb to connect with TNRD staff to discuss responsibility for monitoring TNRD bylaw 2400 (specifically – section 6.3.6 as it pertains to feedlots)**
2. **David to provide contact information for the BC Cattleman's Association and provide the link to the Nicola Dam website.**
3. **Dawne to contact Corally regarding Provincial Environmental, Farming, Environmental, Fisheries and Forestry Acts that pertain to protection of water sources from contamination.**
4. **John to contact the BC Cattleman's Association to set up a meeting to discuss Right to Farm Legislation and Environmental, Agriculture, and Fisheries Legislation and Best Agricultural Practices.**
5. **Peter to contact Doug Allan to request he meets us to discuss fishery information that is pertinent to our work to advocate for clean water courses.**
6. **John, with the recommendation from David, to contact Phil Braig from the DLCC to discuss how we can work together to protect the Nicola watershed.**

3. Approval of Minutes from December 2, 2025, Board Meeting. This occurred through emails to post the minutes online before the last member update was sent out.
4. **Treasurer's Report** – Brent. Brent provided a financial update. There was a discussion regarding investing our funds in a short-term investment to earn interest on our funds. **Motion: Brent to invest \$10,000.00 in a Term, 12-month, cashable investment. Moved by Peter, Seconded by John, AIF.** When our second grant is received this will also be invested in a similar instrument.
5. **Dam Update** – John. John received a polite response to our letter requesting information about dam operations. John has contacted Corally to request help in connecting with the dam operators. David to provide a link to the Dam monitoring website.
6. **Meeting with Interior Health** – Lisa. Dawne and Lisa will meet with IH this week to discuss the process of sharing data from our testing. We will ask for clarification on what testing IH does, what resources are available, and how they will make a call on safe use of the lake from our Cyanobacteria data.
7. **New Funding** – Dawne. Dawne is looking into new funding opportunities for riparian restoration. Dawne to attend a funding meeting in March.
8. **Fish of Nicola Lake** – Lisa. Lisa discussed the idea of setting up a Facebook page to which fishers self-report what fish are being caught in the lake, the size and the condition. Peter suggested that this should be a broader website that covers the whole watershed and suggested that the fish store in Merritt might be interested in this. This is a project that we can explore over the summer.
9. **Insurance Policy** – John. John reported that as of January 1, 2026, we have Directors and Officers Insurance in place for a cost of \$750.00. We will consider the need for General Commercial Liability Insurance in the future.
10. **Art Galley Exhibition** – Peter reported that the Merritt Art Gallery will have a show focused on Nicola Lake based themes. Peter to let us know if they need any support.
11. **AGM Planning** – Dan/John – to be discussed at our next meeting.
12. **Fundraising** – Doug/Dan – to be discussed at our next meeting.
13. **Sign Manufacturing and Installation** – Dan. Dan is working with local companies to push forward with this project.
14. **Welcome Doug Stoneson as a board member of GONL**
15. **Lisa Schlagintweit to take on secretary role of GONL**
16. **Action Items out of this Meeting:**
 - a. **Dawne – Connect with Corally re Provincial Acts and Right to Farm legislation.**
 - Dawne- Connect with Heather re the testing program.**

Dawne – Thank David and Herb for attending our meeting and send up follow-up action items.

- b. John – Connect with Corally to pursue dam management information.
John – Connect with the Cattleman’s Association re Best Practices.
John – Connect with Douglas Lake Cattle Company regarding a meeting to discuss how we can work together to protect our water resources.**
- c. Peter – Connect with Doug Allan regarding discussing the history of fisheries in our area and suggestions how we proceed in protection fish resources. Request Doug attend our next meeting.**
- d. Lisa and Dawne – Connect with IH regarding the process of sharing test data.**
- e. Dan – Connect with Signage Providers to ensure smooth manufacturing and installation**

17. Next Meeting. Dawne to send out a poll.

18. **Motion to Adjourn.** Dawne, John. AIF