

2019 Annual Newsletter

January 2019

Time waits for no one and life is moving faster than ever. Places like Willmore Wilderness Park are becoming more and more precious as it is a place of inspiration and rejuvenation.

The Willmore Wilderness Foundation was busy in the 2018 year, which we started off with our last newsletter. It costs the Foundation \$5000 for publishing and mailing it, and over a month of the staff's time to prepare it. The Board decided that we would reach out to our members with an annual letter and financial accounting. We have moved into the digital realm, using our three websites, three Facebook sites, two Instagram sites, two YouTube sites and Vimeo site to keep our members up to date. Furthermore, every annual newsletter, along with this letter and financial accounting are posted on <http://willmorewilderness.com/newsletter/>, so we try and be transparent. We post on most sites several time a week and are constantly uploading new content several times a week. I will provide the links to these sites on an attachment.

We started our year off with an email from Alberta Parks requesting a meeting regarding new safety requirements. Board of Director Mark Wood and myself attended a meeting in Hinton with Alberta Parks. The end result is that we agreed to comply with Alberta Occupational Health and Safety regulations regarding our trail clearing initiatives. The Willmore Wilderness Foundation organized a Chainsaw Safety Course. Luckily Mark Woods is the Construction Superintendent for ConocoPhillips and has worked extensively with OHS. Mark worked with Randi Lester, who had a background in OHS in the oil patch over six years. She had experience in writing OHS and safety regulations. Randi worked with Mark and helped write and implement the safe operating procedures for the Willmore Wilderness Foundation.

We got off to a rough start on our first trip. We trucked the horses down to the Berland River Camp Ground on July 2, 2018. This would mean four loads of horses and gear, as we only had one horse trailer. This would normally be a two hour round trip, but there was highway construction, so it turned into a 3 ½ hour ordeal. Tom and I were in the last truck on the last trip from the Berland Campground back to town. It was 1:30 am and our truck and horse trailer hit the ditch in a torrential downpour. It was raining so hard there was no visibility. We had no other choice but to walk in the freezing rain at 1 degree Celsius. We were cold and wet by the time we reached cell reception and put a call out for help. Tom and I crashed but were still up for breakfast at the Big Horn Restaurant at 8 am. Our entire crew met for what would be an eleven-day trip. We had an agenda to put a spirit house on Madeleine Joachim's and Washy Joe Agnes' 16-year-old daughter's gravesites, as well as to put interpretive plaques on five gravesites.

Our trail clearing initiatives continued throughout the summer and we put in over fifty days. We did a rough cut from Zenda to Big Grave Flats but ran out of chainsaw gas, from our clearing earlier, up the Berland River. There was a lot more downed timber than we anticipated. We cleared through the 2002 Copenhagen Hill burn and 2007 Jackpine burns to Jackpine Falls and Ptarmigan Lake. We also cleared up Mount Stern.

People & Peaks Productions is owned and operated by the Willmore Wilderness Foundation, specializing in high-quality documentary films and multimedia that feature breathtaking imagery and compelling, dramatic narratives. We were nominated in 2018 for two Alberta Film & Television Rosie Awards. Laura and Dave Martineau were nominated for Best Original Musical Score and Arthur Veitch and Susan Feddema-Leonard were nominated for Best Cinematography for Trials & Tribulations of Old Trailmen. We feel that this is quite an accomplishment considering we are filming in a remote region of the Rockies on Horseback. We have other challenges of poor to terrible Internet speeds, and we are competing against high budget documentaries. Our creative have also launched a new social media platform that we will be unveiling early in 2019. We are currently in the process of reinventing our foundation for our newest social media launch.

We are hoping to spread more awareness and increase support both locally and internationally. We are now shifting our focus to sharing more long, and short-form content on streaming platforms such as YouTube. If you would like to see more of the Willmore Wilderness Park, it's wildlife, history, and way of life, please **subscribe** to **[Youtube.com/WillmoreWilderness](https://www.youtube.com/WillmoreWilderness)**

Our staff continues to research and build a database on the history of the greater Willmore area. We have a server dedicated to this cause and have been actively pulling North West Company records, Hudson Bay Company records, scrip, church records, census, photos, and film footage and more. Our team has and will continue to acquire a searchable and comprehensive database of information on the region.

I wish to thank our Board of Directors who includes Vice President Tom Thackeray, Secretary-Treasurer Arthur Veitch, and Directors, Loretta Belcourt, Emily Bequette and Mark Wood. Our Annual General Meeting will take place as follows: Sunday June 16, 2019 at 10:30 am. It will take place at the Smoky River Ranch if the weather is good or alternatively at the Willmore Wilderness Foundation office if it is raining. There will be a lunch served after the meeting.

All the best in 2019

Bazil Leonard, President

WILLMORE WILDERNESS PRESERVATION AND HISTORICAL FOUNDATION
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018

WILLMORE WILDERNESS PRESERVATION AND HISTORICAL FOUNDATION
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2018

	2018 \$	2017 \$
ASSETS		
Current		
Cash	19,285.31	0.00
Accounts Receivable	14,521.90	11,697.80
Security Deposits	200.00	200.00
	<u>34,007.21</u>	<u>11,897.80</u>
Capital Assets		
Building	287,000.00	287,000.00
Equipment	15,175.20	15,175.20
Office Equipment	6,062.85	6,062.85
Camera, Video & Film Equipment	66,605.20	72,649.40
Computer	73,471.55	73,741.55
Furniture & Fixtures	18,933.71	18,933.71
	<u>467,248.51</u>	<u>473,562.71</u>
Less: Accumulated Amortization	133,081.50	132,689.06
	<u>334,167.01</u>	<u>340,603.65</u>
	<u>368,174.22</u>	<u>352,501.45</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Current Liabilities		
Bank Overdraft	0.00	6,411.28
Accounts Payable	54,368.94	72,904.57
	<u>54,368.94</u>	<u>79,315.85</u>
Equity		
Retained Earnings	313,805.28	273,185.60
	<u>368,174.22</u>	<u>352,501.45</u>

WILLMORE WILDERNESS PRESERVATION AND HISTORICAL FOUNDATION
STATEMENT OF EARNINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
REVENUE		
General Sales	390.00	20.00
Grants	384,122.93	392,598.79
Memberships	790.00	3,136.00
Book Sales	3,202.00	8,390.00
DVD Sales	693.50	612.50
Donations	4,151.00	180.00
Contracts	75,581.00	86,952.95
Rental	2,250.00	0.00
Gain (Loss) on disposal of Assets	-738.29	0.00
Interest	18.44	92.01
	<u>470,460.58</u>	<u>491,982.25</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Accounting & Consulting	500.00	1,357.57
Advertising & Promotion	19,990.61	23,990.52
Donations	7,189.86	0.00
Amortization	13,470.62	13,942.35
Bank/Credit Card Charges & Fees	2,878.12	2,089.58
Insurance	2,330.73	2,479.05
License, Fees & Permits	1,796.27	2,497.77
Supplies	40,000.78	34,845.48
Conventions, Banquets & Meetings	6,015.23	10,092.15
Training & Clinics	5,023.35	59,312.08
Office	19,211.59	17,618.22
Utilities	5,173.55	4,696.42
Book & Film Production Costs	39,714.36	27,932.39
Telephone & Fax	4,644.11	3,953.68
Basement Reno Costs	0.00	19,474.74
Maintenance & Repairs	6,081.72	2,126.96
Travel	9,882.16	10,800.82
Wages & Benefits	150,667.20	149,748.13
Contract Services	95,270.64	96,252.46
	<u>429,840.90</u>	<u>483,210.37</u>
EARNINGS (LOSS) FROM OPERATIONS	<u>40,619.68</u>	<u>8,771.88</u>

Financial statements reviewed & approved by:

Title President

Signature 

Bazil Leonard

Title Secretary-Treasurer

Signature 

Arthur Vietch