

June 10, 2015

President
Steve Meadows

Vice President
Michael Kenny

Secretary
Bill Morrison

Treasurer
Dave McIver

Director
Muhan Guna

Director
Terry Klassen

Director
Hugh Magill

Director
Mike Murray

Director
Sarah Nevill

Advisor
Brian Pincott
(Calgary Councillor, Ward 11)

Advisor
Harpreet Sandhu
(Calgary Water Resources)

Advisor
Darrell Sargent
(Calgary City Wide Policy)

Advisor
Robin Sauvé
(Calgary Community Initiatives)

Advisor
George Stalker
(Calgary Parks)

Attn: Steven Snell

Parks Planning and Development

Business & Policy Planner

City of Calgary / Mail Code 54

**Re: Request for Comments
Draft Terms of Reference for Biodiversity Advisory Committee**

Dear Steven,

This is to confirm our discussion on June 08, 2015.

As indicated in our earlier correspondence, Calgary River Valleys supports the creation of an advisory or steering committee for implementation of the Biodiversity Strategic Plan. We would appreciate the opportunity to be part of that committee and we have committed to providing such membership from our Board.

Some thoughts on the proposed Terms of Reference:

1. We had understood this committee would have some stakeholder and informed citizen advisory aspect to it and therefore representation from recognized stakeholders groups with biodiversity as part of their mandate, such as Calgary River Valleys and Nature Calgary (Calgary Field Naturalists Society). We do suggest and support such representation and Calgary River Valleys has committed to providing such representation. Another group with some similar vision could be Imagine Calgary.
2. Suggest that the committee reporting be expanded to allow it to address matters arising (as appropriate), not just annual reporting to Standing Policy Committee.



3. Suggest that the specified responsibilities be clearer, ensuring steering or advisory involvement on/about regional aspects of biodiversity/stewardship. Biodiversity is at least regional in nature.
4. Suggest composition of the Committee could include other disciplines that are part of ecological evaluation, definition, literacy and planning such as economics, recreational management and community health.
5. Suggest, at least for stakeholder representation but possibly for professional association representation that each representative be allowed an alternate (non-voting) to better ensure continuity and overall consultation.

Other CRV members who have participated in the Biodiversity Reporting/Strategic Planning Process have been away for the past several weeks and are expected to return later this month. Any further comments they may have will be forwarded to you.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment and participate in this honourable undertaking.

Sincerely,

Bill Morrison,
Chair, Watershed Policy and Planning Committee
Calgary River Valleys