

Treasurers Report 2016

Pete Gulliver

This AGM will be my final one as Treasurer after ten years I will hang up my quill and abacus. I have found being Treasurer and more importantly a Board member a rewarding, if at times frustrating, experience. I have however had the pleasure of working with some very dedicated members of our “rallying community”. We didn’t always agree but I do know and appreciate that betterment of Rally was a commonly shared goal.

Over the past ten years technology has changed our lives and for Rally it is no different with Electronic timing, Electronic tracking and Social media all of them blending together to give ‘as it happens’ reports to the phones/computers/tablets of Rally fans around the World. Tall Pines 2016 was probably the most amazing example of this.

Over the years I have been guided as Treasurer by two gentlemen known as the ‘reviewers’ Dennis Wharton and the late Eric Curtis. Both helped me a lot in allowing us to have books that are easily managed. Over the years we have also been able to create a system that allowed me to supply financial information to whoever needed it in a timely manner.

In 2016 we adjusted rental fees for use of Timing system and services of a timing team to “out of province” events. Finally the timing system is generating income which in turn helps our bottom line.

2016 was the first full year for RSO to use the EZTrak Tracking system. We calculated a levy to be a break even number and we achieved that target. With the constant fluctuations in exchange rate at times it was a guessing game. While there is some controversy over which system is best Rally Safe or EZTrak I believe that some method of electronic tracking is here to stay. Timing, which is an unused part of both systems, continues to improve and may in time replace Electronic timing. I think we are a few years away from that happening; however the Board should be aware that our ECM timing system does have a limited shelf life.

The Board arrived at the number of \$35000 which we wanted to have on hand to cover costs of operations and Road Damage. We are slowly working towards that target and this year’s financial report shows that. We are still a few thousand dollars from reaching that goal but I hope future Boards keep working towards that target.

Road Damage is always a challenging cost to deal with and so many factors (mainly weather) influence how much damage we do each year. Many times RSO spends money to grade roads before an event and the day prior a major storm washes all that work and money away. Literally down the ditch. Future boards must strive to keep an adequate amount available to deal with major road damage. If for instance we took out a bridge it would never be covered by RSO funds and would become an insurance issue. However that will also result in higher insurance costs to competitors. RSO and all regions have tried to avoid this by paying road repairs out of Region funds.

Thank you for the privilege of allowing me to be your treasurer for the past ten years.