

July 15, 2018

Karlene Fine, Outdoor Heritage Fund Industrial Commission 600 East Blvd. Ave. Dept. 504 Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Dear Ms. Fine,

Thank you for advancing our request to the Outdoor Heritage Fund for a grant of \$865,000 to help **conserve**, **access and expand recreation and wildlife activities** at Frost Fire Park in the Pembina Gorge, near Walhalla, North Dakota. The request would aid in providing access via a lift system to downhill trails for sportsmen, as well provide access and funding for a Wildlife Observation Point to be located on one of the Pembina Gorge's highest points located in the Park.

The PGF Board felt a duty to preserve Frost Fire, purchasing it June 19, 2017. Ensuring future generations could enjoy the natural wonders of the gorge, learn about the geography, paleontology, rich history/culture, and natural resources, as well take part in the vast recreation and leisure opportunities.

Frost Fire provides access to recreation enthusiasts of all types – from bow hunters, wildlife watchers, skiers, hikers, mountain bikers, and more. However, we've uncovered equipment and facility needs that have presented challenges for continued program expansion and operation sustainability. That is why we are looking to the Outdoor Heritage Fund for urgent assistance.

First, in all due respect, as you read the application – you will note, we interpret Directives D, and A as both being met. **Recreation, Sportsmen, Conservation, Access and Preservation being key words and critical to the work we are doing.** While some members may have had different intentions when establishing the fund, that is not the way all the directives read.

Second, the lift brings a sustainable revenue which helps to keep the doors open for this nonprofit business model. It meets the OHF goals of providing "ACCESS" for sportsmen to wildlife and trails. Also, recreation is the easiest way to attract kids to conservation and

reconnect children with nature. As hunting numbers are on the decline, Frost Fire has the ability to create programming to introduce and teach others about wildlife and hunting opportunities.

Third, this project is part of two ND Parks & Recreation approved master plans. The broad vision has the potential to draw more visitors, and types of outdoor recreational activities, that will in turn generate revenue to manage these resources and strengthen both the local and state economies.

Programs like these will be taught through our Kano Folk School, or by opening up our space to Boy Scouts, Archery Groups and others.

Fourth, the Foundation has established an endowment fund, which is permanently invested and provides 4-5% annual returns to the operation to support scholarships or greatest needs. All individuals can participate regardless of their ability to pay (similar to YMCA model).

Fifth, while economic impact may not be on your mind while making this grant – it should be. As a steward of tax dollars – a grant to support this project will leverage more philanthropic support, as well will increase tax revenues through increased wages, and result in more local and state spending through drawing an increased visitor level by about 30,000 annually.

Finally, Frost Fire delivers on the three pillars of the Main Street ND Initiative for Governor Burgum and the State: Healthy Vibrant Communities, 21st Century Workforce, and Smart, Efficient Infrastructure. To be successful, each of the three needs to work well and intertwine with one another. We understood the challenges of eastern ND when we took on Frost Fire – for example, talent retention and attraction, shrinking communities, shortage of labor, limited things to do – including places to go, to eat, etc. But the opportunities were much bigger; a natural aesthetic, existing infrastructure, the ability to create many social offerings for different types of recreationists, etc. – and we had a natural partner with the NDPRD. The PGF moved forward in good faith.

While we know we have much work to do, we ask that you support this urgent request, so we can begin to meet the mission driven programs and have a sustainable operation. This would truly be a ND Legendary investment and a tribute to ND Heritage.

Sincerely,

/s/ Kristi Mishler Wilfahrt, Interim Director Pembina Gorge Foundation

Outdoor Heritage Fund Grant Application

The purpose of the North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund is to provide funding to state agencies, tribal governments, political subdivisions, and nonprofit organizations, with higher priority given to projects that enhance conservation practices in this state by:



<u>Directive A</u>. Providing access to private and public lands for sportsmen, including projects that create fish and wildlife habitat and provide access for sportsmen;

<u>Directive B</u>. Improving, maintaining and restoring water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity, animal systems and by supporting other practices of stewardship to enhance farming and ranching;

<u>Directive C</u>. Developing, enhancing, conserving and restoring wildlife and fish habitat on private and public lands; and

<u>Directive D</u>. Conserving natural areas and creating other areas for recreation through the establishment and development of parks and other recreation areas.

Exemptions

Outdoor Heritage Fund grants may not be used to finance the following:

- A. Litigation;
- B. Lobbying activities;
- C. Any activity that would interfere, disrupt, or prevent activities associated with surface coal mining operations; sand, gravel, or scoria extraction activities; oil and gas operations; or other energy facility or infrastructure development;
- D. The acquisition of land or to encumber any land for a term longer than twenty years; or
- E. Projects outside this state or projects that are beyond the scope of defined activities that fulfill the purposes of Chapter 54-17.8 of the North Dakota Century Code.

NO CONSIDERATION:

In addition to those specific items in law that are ineligible for funding, in the absence of a finding of exceptional circumstances by the Industrial Commission, the following projects will NOT receive consideration for funding:

- A completed project or project commenced before the grant application is submitted;
- A feasibility or research study;
- Maintenance costs:
- A paving project for a road or parking lot;
- A swimming pool or aquatic park;
- Personal property that is not affixed to the land;
- Playground equipment, except that grant funds may be provided for up to 25% of the cost of the
 equipment not exceeding \$10,000 per project and all playground equipment grants may not
 exceed 5% of the total grants per year (see Budget Form for how this will be calculated);
- Staffing or outside consultants except for costs for staffing or an outside consultant to design
 and implement an approved project based on the documented need of the applicant and the
 expenditures may not exceed 5% of the grant to a grantee if the grant exceeds \$250,000 and
 expenditures may not exceed 10% of the grant to a grantee if the grant is \$250,000 or less (see
 Budget Form for how this will be calculated);

- A building except for a building that is included as part of a comprehensive conservation plan for a new or expanded recreational project (see Budget Form for definition of comprehensive conservation plan and new or expanded recreational project); or
- A project in which the applicant is not directly involved in the execution and completion of the project.

Application Deadline

Applications for this grant round cycle are due on <u>July 15, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. CT</u>. All information, including attachments, must be submitted by that date. See instructions below for submission information.

Instructions

Please download this Word document (available on the Industrial Commission/Outdoor Heritage Fund Program website at http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-infopage.htm) to your computer and provide the information as requested. You are not limited to the spacing provided except in those instances where there is a limit on the number of words. After completing the application, save it and attach it to an e-mail and send it to outdoorheritage@nd.gov or print it and mail it to the address noted in the next paragraph.

Attachments in support of your application may be sent by mail to North Dakota Industrial Commission, ATTN: Outdoor Heritage Fund Program, State Capitol – Fourteenth Floor, 600 East Boulevard Ave. Dept. 405, Bismarck, ND 58505 or by e-mail to outdoorheritage@nd.gov. The application and all attachments must be received or postmarked by the application deadline. You will be sent a confirmation by e-mail of receipt of your application.

You may submit your application at any time prior to the application deadline. Early submission is appreciated and encouraged to allow adequate time to review your application and ensure that all required information has been included. Incomplete applications may not be considered for funding. Any item noted with an * is required.

<u>Oral Presentation.</u> Please note that you will be given an opportunity to make a ten-minute Oral Presentation at a meeting of the Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board. These presentations are strongly encouraged.

<u>Open Record.</u> Please note that your application and any attachments will be open records as defined by law and will be posted on the Industrial Commission/Outdoor Heritage Fund website.

Name of Organization * Pembina Gorge Foundation (PGF)

Federal Tax ID# * 81-4438550

Contact Person/Title * Kristi Wilfahrt, Interim Director

Address * PO Box 888

City * Walhalla

State * ND

Zip Code * 58282

E-mail Address * Kristi.wilfahrt@outlook.com

Web Site Address www.frostfirepark.org

Phone * 701-317-6729 (Kristi Cell); 701-549-3600 (Frost Fire)

Fax # (if available)

List names of co-applicants if this is a joint proposal

MAJOR Directive: (select the Directive that best describes your grant request)* Choose only one response

- O <u>Directive A</u>. Providing access to private and public lands for sportsmen, including projects that create fish and wildlife habitat and provide access for sportsmen;
- O <u>Directive B</u>. Improving, maintaining and restoring water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity, animal systems and by supporting other practices of stewardship to enhance farming and ranching;
- O <u>Directive C</u>. Developing, enhancing, conserving and restoring wildlife and fish habitat on private and public lands; and
- X <u>Directive D</u>. Conserving natural areas and creating other areas for recreation through the establishment and development of parks and other recreation areas.

Additional Directive: (select the directives that also apply to the grant application purpose)*

Choose all that apply

X <u>Directive A</u>. Providing access to private and public lands for sportsmen, including projects that create fish and wildlife habitat and provide access for sportsmen;

- O <u>Directive B</u>. Improving, maintaining and restoring water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity, animal systems and by supporting other practices of stewardship to enhance farming and ranching;
- O $\underline{\text{Directive C}}$. Developing, enhancing, conserving and restoring wildlife and fish habitat on private and public lands; and
- X <u>Directive D</u>. Conserving natural areas and creating other areas for recreation through the establishment and development of parks and other recreation areas.

Type of organization: (select the category that describes your organization)*

- O State Agency
- O Political Subdivision
- O Tribal Entity
- X Tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation.

Project Name* Ensuring Access for Sportsmen to ND's First Mountain Bike Terrain Course & Wildlife Lookout Point.

Abstract/Executive Summary. An Executive Summary of the project stating its objectives, expected results, duration, total project costs and participants.* (no more than 500 words)

Preservation, access, with expanded recreation and leisure activities was in hearts and minds of the Foundation's Board of Directors on June 19, 2017 when they signed the papers to purchase 172.5 acres of land, including Frost Fire Ski Area and Amphitheatre, in the Pembina Gorge. There was an urgency to purchase the property – ensuring Frost Fire would be protected from a private purchase and could remain open in perpetuity for public use. A private public partnership with North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department (NDPRD) was formed and work began to implement the 2014 Pembina Gorge State Recreation Area (PGSRA) Master Plan and the ND Trails Master Plan.

One year later, the partnership continues to move forward with the goal of expanding mountain recreation by adding North Dakota's first downhill Mountain Bike Terrain Park as well as the Foundation's plan to construct a Wildlife Observation Point to provide viewing from one of the highest points of the Gorge on the Frost Fire property. There are at least 79 species of breeding birds on this central fly way and common game found in the Gorge include white-tailed deer, elk, snowshoe hare, ruffed grouse, wild turkey, moose and coyote.



Figure 1: Moose tracks on the recently constructed mountain bike terrain park

Mountain Bike Terrain Parks have grown in popularity in the United States with over 40 million active mountain bikers today. There are four sportsman categories in mountain biking which include Cross Country (XC), Downhill (DH), Observed Trails and Free-Style. There is also mountain biking for the casual cyclists, who are usually attracted by the natural beauty of the off-road setting or "the road less traveled". The PGSRA has over 24 miles of Observed Trails and through the construction of DH trails. Phase I of the DH trails includes three of seven total trails through forested acreage at Frost Fire. Each of the DH trails are just under a mile in length offering climbing, beginner, intermediate and advanced trails when complete. Just like a fishing lake requires a boat ramp and dock, a mountain bike terrain course requires access via some sort of tram or lift, which is the majority of the expense and our request.

The estimated project total is \$1,748,090. The Foundation respectfully requests the Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Committee invest \$865,000.00 (38%) in this North Dakota Legendary project to help ensure access for all types of sportsmen and wildlife observers, so all people can enjoy continued recreation and leisure opportunities.

The Foundation will contribute approximately \$883,090 (51%) to match the project total costs. Additionally, the Foundation's partner, NDPRD will contribute \$470,000 for the mountain bike trails and the Foundation will contribute \$60,000 towards the completion of the mountain bike trails.

The lift will be complete by early November 2018. Ski, snowboard and bike equipment purchases for rentals complete by summer of 2019, and Phase II of the DH trails will be completed in 2020, but no later than 2021. If NDPRD is not able to obtain funding, the Foundation will fundraise to assist with the completion of Phase II to assure the target dates are met.

Thank you for your consideration in helping to provide access to a wildlife viewing point and an expanded recreation area.

http://www.parkrec.nd.gov/information/department/attachments/pembina_gorge_master_plan.pdf

Project Duration:* (Please include information regarding the intended time schedule for drawing down funds, if any, awarded by the Industrial Commission.)

The funds for the geotechnical boring and lift would be drawn down by October of 2018. The funds for the wildlife observation point would be drawn down by August of 2019.

Amount of Grant request \$ * \$865,000

Total Project Costs \$* 1,748,090

(Note that in-kind and indirect costs can be used for matching funds)

<u>A minimum of 25% Match Funding is required.</u> Amount of Matching Funds \$* 883,090 approximate, pending on contingencies, taxes, etc.

Please indicate if the matching funds will be in-kind, indirect or cash.

Matching funds will be cash and some in-kind services such as a donation of cement.

Source(s) of Matching Funds*

Please provide verification that these matching funds are available for your project. Note that effective as of July 1, 2015 no State General Fund dollars can be used for a match unless funding was legislatively appropriated for that purpose.

The sources of matching funds include Cavalier Rural Electric USDA loan for \$150,000.00, \$600,000.00 in donor pledges including an in-kind gift of cement. An additional \$325,000 will need to be raised in the community campaign this fall and through the winter to cover the match and pledges. Donor commitments may be shared upon request to maintain donor confidentiality.

Certifications *

X I certify that this application has been made with the support of the governing body and chief executive of my organization.

X I certify that if awarded grant funding none of the funding will be used for any of the exemptions noted on Page 1 of this application.

Narrative

Organization Information – Briefly summarize your organization's history, mission, current programs and activities. *

Include an overview of your organizational structure, including board, staff and volunteer involvement. (no more than 300 words)

PGF incorporated as a North Dakota nonprofit in January 2017 with a mission "to preserve and enhance the experience of the Pembina Gorge while connecting people to positive, life changing experiences." The Foundation develops and supports historical, cultural, educational, natural, interpretive and recreational opportunities in the Gorge. There are 11-16 members that may serve on the board of directors, two ex-officio members, an interim foundation director, operations/hospitality manager, mountain manager, theatre manager, folk school manager, and part-time accountant. When fully operational, it is anticipated there will be 18-24 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees which include seasonal, part-time and full-time positions. The Frost Fire volunteer base continues to grow and is an important strategy for continued resource development.

Frost Fire originally began in December of 1976 with skiing, and added tubing and snowboarding, and in 1984 adding a summer theatre. The past few years the operation has been limited to tubing and the summer theatre as equipment and infrastructure were not in place to support full winter operations. Necessary equipment includes but not limited to skis, groomer, chairlifts, equipment rentals, snowmaking equipment, etc.

The Foundation is working to expand its recreation leisure programs for 2018/19 to include mountain recreation – skiing, tubing, snowboarding, mountain biking, and wildlife/scenic viewing observations. The leisure programs include summer theatre, outdoor concerts, arts camps, and Kano Folk school. Hospitality has been expanded to include a restaurant and lounge, and providing access to the 172.5 acreage for community gatherings, events, weddings, picnics, and more.

The nonprofit business model allows for grants and philanthropy, along with partnerships to ensure the park be open to the public. Capital is necessary for property purchase, necessary site and facility improvements, and equipment replacement. However, the business model is self-sustainable once fully operational.

An endowment offers a scholarship program based on income, so all can participate. (This is similar to the YMCA scholarship model).

Purpose of Grant – Describe the proposed project identifying how the project will meet the specific directive(s) of the Outdoor Heritage Fund Program *

Identify project goals, strategies and benefits and your timetable for implementation. Include information about the need for the project and whether there is urgency for funding. Please indicate if this is a new project or if it is replacing funding that is no longer available to your organization. Identify any innovative features or processes of your project. Please note that if your proposal provides funding to an individual, the names of the recipients must be reported to the Industrial Commission/Outdoor Heritage Fund. These names will be disclosed upon request.



Figure 2: DH trails bring people to the forest on natural trails

The purpose of the grant is to provide access to the top of the mountain at Frost Fire for several uses including mountain bike terrain DH trails, wildlife observation point, and skiers and snowboarders. The lift will provide year-round access to the top of the mountain to support recreation as well as wildlife observers enjoying the vistas.

NDPRD has entered into a lease agreement with the Foundation to provide office space for their visitors center and easements for the trails, including the mountain bike terrain DH trails and an eventual connector trail from Frost Fire to the 24 mile multi-use trail system whereby making Frost Fire a trailhead for NDPRD. NDPRD charges a user fee of \$7 for trail riders and is responsible for oversite of the said trails, and liable for any injuries and upkeep of the trails.

DH trails require use of a lift, with the average sportsman traveling up to eight hours to ride the trails. The DH trails are each approximately a mile in length and a lift is a user expectation – just as a dock is an expectation for a boater to access river recreation or wildlife. We are not aware of any DH trail systems that do not have a lift – it is a requirement. The types of bikes typically used for downhill courses are heavy and no fun at all to pedal up long climbs repeatedly for a day of biking.

Research and business planning suggests 4,800 bikers per year will use the DH trails initially. The Foundation will own and operate the

lift, charging a fee of \$25 to \$30 for mountain biking (less than the ski season). Scholarships will be available for those who can not afford to otherwise participate. The chair lift will have a special hook that the bike sets on and will go up the mountain with the rider. The lift requires two lifties to operate it and one to floater. The lift will operate Memorial Day weekend through October (approximately 23 weeks) for the Mountain Bike Terrain Park.

The lift also serves the ski and snowboarders. The Foundation will expand recreation opportunities to now include skiing and snowboarding to the existing 10 downhill trails that have been shut down or partially operating the last three years. The total ski season runs approximately 14 weeks, with an anticipated 8,000 to12,000 visitors. It requires an additional 8 seasonal employees, and two permanent FTE's. Lift tickets will sell between \$35 to \$40 per day and an annual pass around \$300. Ski rentals are approximately \$25 per day. Scholarships will be available for those who can not afford to otherwise participate.

User fees are required to support operations, maintenance and staff. User fees are also common at campgrounds, state parks, trails, and other recreational facilities.

There is Urgency for funding. The lift supports the year-round access to recreation and wildlife observation. While the Foundation anticipated repair expenses to the lift, it did not anticipate it would be required to fully replace the lift at this time. The lift has not been operational for two winter seasons and now will support not only the winter but year-round activities. Without a functional lift by the end of 2018, this conserved area as well as the new mountain bike terrain course are at risk of being closed until funds can be raised to replace the lift. Comparatively, Detroit Mountain was closed for 10 years.

The SkyTrac quad chair lift is the system the Pembina Gorge Foundation has selected. The average useful life of a lift is 23-30 years. This is a permanent fixture attached to the property. Excerpts of the lift proposal is attached as an exhibit.

Project Goals & Duration:

Conserve Frost Fire property so that all outdoorsmen and people could access the land; to ensure recreation and leisure programs were maintained; historical stories were told and passed down, and to ensure the natural beauty of the property was preserved.

The Frost Fire purchase price was \$1.067 million which was supported with private and public funds and completed on June 19, 2017.

In addition to conserving this natural area, there are numerous other project goals including:

- Construction of North Dakota's first Downhill Mountain Bike Terrain Course. NDPRD has completed Phase I of the DH trails with a total cost of \$220,000. The grand opening of Phase I was held on July 13, 2018.
- Completion of the geotechnical (soil boring) for the footings of the lift with the report expected in July 2018.
- Complete installation of the new quad lift in November 2018, pending complete funding.
- Raise the \$7 million outlined in the Foundation's capital campaign. The Foundation has raised \$2.1 million to date for the purchase, working capital, capital equipment needs and the endowment for scholarships for those who can't afford to otherwise participate.
- Replace downhill skis, snowboards, helmets by October 2018 with payment due in 2019.
- Secure federal funding to complete Phase II of the mountain bike terrain course in January 2019. Trail work anticipated fall 2019 with completion in spring 2020.
- Construct a wildlife observation point/scenic overlook in summer/fall 2019.
- Order mountain bike rental equipment for use in spring 2019.

Meeting Legislative Intent

Directive D: Conserving natural areas and creating other areas for recreation through the establishment and development of parks and other recreation areas.

- The Foundation conserved (synonyms include: preserve, keep safe, protect, save, maintain) this natural area of 172 acres including 40 acres of woodlands through the acquisition of the Frost Fire property and retained it as a public amenity with increased educational, cultural, history, interpretative, and conservation programming as well increased recreation development.
- A Mountain Bike Terrain Course has expanded recreation and will be the first of its kind in North Dakota.

Directive A: Providing access to private and public lands for sportsmen, including projects that create fish and wildlife habitat and provide access for sportsmen.

- The Foundation was formed to support North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department and the implementation of its 2014 Pembina Gorge State Recreation Master Plan. A group of individuals formed a nonprofit to purchase 172.5 acres of land encompassed at Frost Fire to ensure sportsmen and all individuals would have access to this amenity in perpetuity. A private public partnership formed and established a new business model to develop this park which is comparable to the famous Maah Dah Hey Trail in Medora.
- The 2014 Pembina Gorge State Recreation Area Master Plan includes 16 priorities including seven of which can be served or met through partnerships with the Foundation and use of the Frost Fire property at a far lesser cost than implemented independently by the NDPRD. A full listing of these priorities are included in as an exhibit.
- What is a sportsman? By definition, a sportsman is a man who engages in sports, especially
 in some open-air sport. The term sportsman refers to an individual engaged in outdoor
 activities for one's pleasure, often in a natural or semi-natural setting outside of urban areas. A
 sportsman might be skiing, snowboarding, canoeing, hunting, fishing, hiking, road biking, or
 mountain biking. The following stats compare a few types of sportsmen.
 - Hunters: 13.7 million hunters in the United States over age 16; 12.7 million of whom used rifles, shotguns or handguns for hunting (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Feb 4, 2013).
 - Anglers: 60 million anglers with 46 million fishing in any given year (American Sports Fishing Association).
 - Mountain Bikers: 40 million mountain bikers in the U.S. (International Mountain Biking Association).
 - Wildlife Watching: 101.6 million participating in wildlife watching, hunting or fishing, with a decrease in hunting and fishing and a 20% surge in wildlife watching (US Fish and Wildlife 2017, 2011-2016 study).
 - Birdwatching: 65 million (20% of all Americans) birdwatchers contribute \$36 billion to the US economy in 2006 according to a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service study.
- Funding this project helps ensure access to 100+ acres of woods and will provide a wildlife lookout point at one of the highest points in the Pembina Gorge, supporting birders and other wildlife observers.

Management of Project – Provide a description of how you will manage and oversee the project to ensure it is carried out on schedule and in a manner that best ensures its objectives will be met.*

Kristi Mishler Wilfahrt is the Interim Foundation Director and is coordinating all aspects of Frost Fire's high-level management, project and fundraising development. Ms. Wilfahrt has over 25 years of experience in developing community projects including strategic financing, development of projects, execution/implementation/oversite and evaluation. The position reports to and works closely with the Board of Directors.

NDPRD has hired Jared Matzke as the Pembina Gorge State Recreation Area Parks Director. Mr. Matzke is in charge of overseeing trail development, maintenance and operations.

A mountain manager will be hired to operate and care for the lift and all outdoor mountain recreation programs. It is anticipated to have the position filled by August 30, 2018.

Evaluation - Describe your plan to document progress and results. *

How will you tell if the project is successful? Please be specific on the methods you will utilize to measure success. Note that regular reporting, final evaluation and expenditure reports will be required for every grant awarded.

Factors of success include:

- Ensure access for all sportsmen, wildlife watchers, recreation and leisure enthusiasts to Frost Fire Park.
- Establish a sustainable operational business model, where all individuals can participate regardless of ability to pay.
- Establish lift access to the DH mountain bike trails.
- Construct a wildlife viewing area on top of the highest point of Frost Fire, with access via a lift
- Install lift and have it fully operational by November 2018 with trained staff.
- Purchase bike and ski rental equipment and establish rental program for user convenience.
- List the DH mountain bike terrain course as a destination for the International Mountain Bike Association.

Financial Information

ATTACHMENT: Project Budget – Using the standard project budget format that is available on the website at http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-infopage.htm, please include a detailed total project budget that specifically outlines all the funds you are requesting. Note that a minimum of 25% match funding is required.*

The project budget should identify all matching funds, funding sources and indicate whether the matching funds are in the form of cash or in-kind services. Effective July 1, 2015 no State General Fund dollars can be used for a match unless funding was legislatively appropriated for that purpose. As noted on the standard project budget format, certain values have been identified for in-kind services. Please utilize these values in identifying your matching funds. **NOTE: No indirect costs will be funded.**

X I certify that a project budget will be sent to the Commission*

Sustainability - Indicate how the project will be funded or sustained in future years. *

Include information on the sustainability of this project after all the funding from the Outdoor Heritage Fund has been expended and whether the sustainability will be in the form of ongoing management or additional funding from a different source.

The lift should generate adequate revenue to be self-sustaining. The lift requires use of electricity, staffing and other resources that require the Foundation to adopt a user fee policy. The Foundation's additional revenue streams include: Winter Skiing/Tubing, Summer Theatre, Mountain Bike Lift, Folk School Courses, Food/Beverage, Retail, Sponsorships, Events and Contributions (Annual Giving, Major/Planned Gifts, Grants). The Foundation will sell advertising / sponsorships on the chairs that will generate approximately \$50,000 annually that will establish a capital improvement fund to prepare for future needs.

Partial Funding – Indicate how the project will be affected if less funding is available than that requested. *

The Foundation will accept partial funding however, this may delay project implementation and likely result in not meeting the goal of fully operational by November 2018 due to additional fundraising requirements. As a nonprofit, it is difficult for the Foundation to secure traditional bank financing for the purchase of this unique piece of equipment. Non-traditional sources such as USDA, CDBG, and EDA-funded revolving loan funds through both North Central Planning Council, Red River Regional Council, and the Governor's Fund for Community Development have already supported the property acquisition, limited equipment upgrades, and working capital. The Foundation has outstanding donor pledges of approximately \$800,000.

Partnership Recognition - If you are a successful recipient of Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars, how would you recognize the Outdoor Heritage Fund partnership? * Please note it is a requirement that there be signage at the location of the project acknowledging the funding from the Outdoor Heritage Fund if appropriate for your project.

The Outdoor Heritage Fund would be permanently listed on the Foundation's Donor Wall at the appropriate level, currently "Mighty Oak" (\$500,000-\$999,999). In addition, at our wildlife observation point, we would recognize the Outdoor Heritage Fund with a special plaque, along with a special donor contribution that is helping us to provide access to the top of the mountain, bringing a better view to all.

Scoring of Grants

All applications will be scored by the Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board after your tenminute oral presentation. The ranking sheet(s) that will be used by the Board is available on the website at http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-infopage.htm .

Awarding of Grants*

All decisions on requests will be reported to applicants no later than 30 days after Industrial Commission consideration. The Commission can set a limit on duration of an offer on each application or if there isn't a specific date indicated in the application for implementation of the project, then the applicant has until the next Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board regular meeting to sign the contract and get the project underway or the commitment for funding will

be terminated and the applicant may resubmit for funding. Applicants whose proposals have been approved will receive a contract outlining the terms and conditions of the grant. Please note the appropriate sample contract for your organization on the website at http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-infopage.htm that set forth the general provisions that will be included in any contract issued by the North Dakota Industrial Commission. Please indicate if you can meet all the provisions of the sample contract. If there are provisions in that contract that your organization is unable to meet, please indicate below what those provisions would be. *

http://www.nd.gov/ndic/out/applications/r2/gr2-016.pdf

http://www.nd.gov/ndic/out/applications/r2/gr2-014.pdf

http://www.nd.gov/ndic/out/applications/r3/gr3-008.pdf

Responsibility of Recipient

The recipient of any grant from the Industrial Commission must use the funds awarded for the specific purpose described in the grant application and in accordance with the contract. The recipient cannot use any of the funds for the purposes stated under Exemptions on the first page of this application.

If you have any questions about the application or have trouble submitting the application, please contact Karlene Fine at 701-328-3722 or kfine@nd.gov

Revised: December 14, 2017

List of Exhibits

- 1: Board of Directors and Staff
- 2. Project Budget and Cost Estimate
- 3. Letters of Commitment
- 4. NDPRD 2014 Pembina Gorge State Recreation Area Master Plan List of Priorities
- 5. Pembina Gorge Terrain Park Schematic
- 6. Letters of Support

EXHIBIT 1:

PEMBINA GORGE FOUNDATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Pat Hardy, President, Citizens State Bank, Walhalla
- Pat Chaput, President, Choice Financial Group, Walhalla Branch
- Sen. Tom Campbell, state senator and owner Tri Campbell Farms
- Sandy Crary, owner, Crary Real Estate, Grand Forks
- Elsie Magnus, Cavalier County Commission
- Frank White, Associate Professor, University of North Dakota
- Jeff Mostad, owner, Mostad Insurance, Langdon
- Dustin Gorder, farmer, Grafton
- Van Howatt, farmer, Langdon
- Randy Bata, farmer, Langdon

Ex Officio Members of the Board of Directors

- Dawn Keeley, Executive Director, Red River Regional council and Pembina County Job Development Authority
- Justin Robinson, Northeast Regional Manager, ND Parks and Recreation Department

Current Full-Time Management Staff:

- Kristi Mishler Wilfahrt, Interim Director
- Jolene Halldorson-Ullyott, Hospitality Manager

EXHIBIT 2: PROJECT BUDGET AND COST ESTIMATE

Providing Sportsmen Access / Expanding Recreation to include Downhill (DH) Mountain Bike Trails Course & Wildlife Observation Point

Pembina Gorge Foundation - Frost Fire Park

				Δ	Applicant's Match	Applicant's Match (Share	Applicant's Match	Other Project	
Notes #	Project Expense	OF	IF Request		Share (Cash)	(In-Kind)	Share (Indirect)	Sponsor's Share	Totals:
1	Removal of Lift			\$	31,515				\$ 31,515
2	Geotechnical Boring	\$	15,000	\$	5,000				\$ 20,000
3	Engineering, Equipment, Installation and Freight	\$	825,000	\$	419,000				\$ 1,244,000
4	Mt. Bike Racks			\$	3,360				\$ 3,360
5	Electrical Distribution Panels			\$	5,880				\$ 5,880
6	Operator Houses			\$	43,135				\$ 43,135
7	Bonding and Sales Tax			\$	65,000				\$ 65,000
8	Main Disconect, Distribution Panel, Stepdown Transformer			\$	40,000				\$ 40,000
9	Tower Pads (5)			\$	5,200				\$ 5,200
10	Rental Equipment Including Bikes, Helmets, Skis, Storage			\$	200,000				\$ 200,000
11	Wildlife Observation Point	\$	25,000	\$	15,000				\$ 40,000
12	Contingency			\$	50,000				\$ 50,000
	Total Costs	\$	865,000	\$	883,090			\$ -	\$ 1,748,090
	Percent Total Budget		49%		51%			0%	100%

NOT INCLUDED IN REQUEST CONSIDERATION

13	Mountain Bike Trails 3 of 7 (opened July 13, 2018)	\$	-		\$ 230,000	\$ 230,000
14	Construction of Four Additional Mountain Bike Trails	\$	60,000		\$ 240,000	\$ 300,000

Budget Notes:

Contractor hired to mobilization/demobilization, survey site, remove drive towers and foundations, remove chair towers. Wood buildings will be hauled to an 1 approved Disposal Site, all metal will be removed from site, drive towers, footings to be removed, tower footings to be broke down to below grade. Contractor hired to soil test multiple locations by and around tower sites to determine quality of soil. 2 Engineering firm will provide chair lift equipment, installation, freight, electric panels for lift. 3 4 Mt. Bike racks; two bikes per chair. Requires every other chair maximum, or less if desires. 20 chairs 5 Electrical Distribution Panels; includes breaker panels and the step down transformers; panels go inside operator houses 6 Operator Houses - x2, 8ft x 10 ft at drive and 8ftx 5 ft at return 7 Bonding and Sales tax are the responsibility of the buyer. 8 Cavalier Rural Electric Company will contract to provide main disconnect, distrubtion panels, stepdown transformer. 9 Tower pads will be ordered and placed around each of the five towers on the mountain. PGF will raise private funds to purchase rental equipment including bikes, helmets, skis, snowboards, and storage. Geo technical boring will dictate required depth and width of the tower footings for long-term stability of the new chairlift. Contingency of \$50,000 has been 11 budgeted for the footings, roads to and from site, excavation after job completion and other potential cost overruns. A Wildlife Observation Point will be placed on the mountain top so all visitors and sportsman can enjoy the scenic view as well observe wildlife, incuding birds and mammals which are found in abundance at Frost Fire Park. The Outdoor Heritage Fund along with Private Donors and NDPRD will be recognized on the mountain top via a granite bench or comparable means with signage. ND Parks and Recreation received a Recreation Trails Grant and invested \$230,000 to date to establish a mountain bike terrain park. Three of the seven trails 13 are now complete and a grand opening was held July 13th, 2018. ND Parks and Recreation will apply for National Recreation Trails Grant to fund the remaining four trails of the mountain bike terrain course. There is a 20% match that the Foundation will assist in raising funding for. They anticipate completion 2020. 15 OHF Matching Funds Summary: Donor #1: \$400,000 of matching dollars in private donations (\$200,000 due immediately, \$200,000 due January 2019) - SECURED Donor #2: \$100,000 to the General Fund part of a five year pledge - SECURED Donor #3: \$70,000 to the General Fund as part of a five year pledge - SECURED Strata: Donating Cement SECURED Cavalier Rural Electric has approved an USDA loan for \$150,000 at 3% for 10 years - SECURED

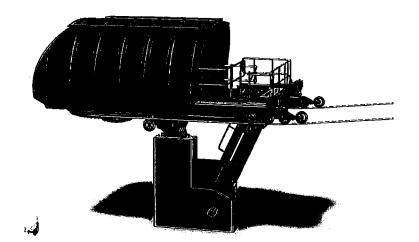
Fire-Up for Frost Fire public campaign launches August/Sept 2018 to raise \$300,000+ from local businesses/families for project. \$1000+



**Note: Partial quote - entire quote available upon request **

2018

Chair Lift Quote



Frost Fire Ski and Snow Board Area

Riblet Replacement Fixed Grip Quad Lift Walhalla, ND Carl Skylling Skytrac Services, Inc. 10/30/2017



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Pricing, Terms, and Warranty

Pricing Detail

Includes: Engineering, Equipment, and Installation	\$ 1,244,000.00			
Freight	Included			
Turnkey Total	\$ 1,244,000.00			
Options:				
1. Initial capacity of 1500 pph, 10 less chairs – Deduct:	(\$ 30,917.00)			
2. Electrical Distribution Panels; includes breaker panels and the step down transformer – Add:	\$ 5,880.00			
3. Operator Houses; 8ft x 10ft at drive, and 8ft x 5 ft at return – Add:	\$ 43,135.00			
 Mt bike racks; two bikes per chair. Requires every other chair maximum, or less if desired – Add: 	\$ 168.00/chair			

Terms of Payments

Down payment due upon contract signing	10%
Balance of down payment due 30 days after contract signing	15%
Upon Completion of Engineering	5%
Upon Installation of Bottom Terminal Foundation	5%
Upon Installation of Top Terminal Foundation	5%
Upon Installation of Tower Foundations	5%
Upon delivery of towers	5%
Upon delivery of chairs	5%
Upon delivery of line equipment	10%
Upon delivery of drive terminal structure	10%
Upon delivery of return terminal structure	5%
Upon delivery of drive platform and enclosure	10%
Upon delivery of grips	5%
Upon completion of load test	5%
TOTAL	100.00%



GOWAN CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Phone: 701-699-5171
Fax: 701-699-3400

P.O. BOX 228 OSLO, MINNESOTA 56744



Frost Fire Ski Resort

Remove Chair Lift Towers Wallhalla ND 3/29/2018

Item					•	
No.	Description	Unit	QTY	Unit Price		Total
1	Mobilization/Demobilization	LS	1			
2	Survey Site	LS	1			
3	Remove Drive Towers and Foundations	LS	1			
4	Remove Chair Towers	LS	1			
				Total Cost	\$	31,515.00

- Bid Clarification's:

 1 Wood Buildings will be hauled to an approved Disposal Site.
 - All Metal Will be Removed Form Site
 - 3 Drive Towers Footings to be Removed
 - Tower Footings to be Broke Down to Below Grade
 - Gowan will Donate \$3,500.00 Towards Project

Steve Mack

EXHIBIT 3: LETTERS OF COMMITMENT

Pembina Gorge Foundation Frost Fire Park

April 2, 2018

Re: Donor Pledges / Sharing Documented Letter of Intents or Proof

Dear Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board and/or Industrial Commission,

Thanks again for considering our request for a grant of up to \$1.307 million to expand recreation opportunities at Frost Fire Park in partnership with North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department. The grant request will provide funds for a 2018 Quad Skytrac Chair lift that supports both the new Mountain Bike Terrain program (currently under construction) and the Ski/Snowboard program.

I will be happy to provide proof of support from individual donors pending funding of this project upon obtaining approval from each of the individual donors.

Donor #1 - \$400,000 Committed

Payment 1 \$200,000 April 2018,

Payment 2 \$200,000 December 2018 or January 2019 depending on year end.

Donor #2 - \$100,000 Committed 5-year pledge to the general fund

Payment 1 \$20,000 April 2018 to Chair Lift Project

Payment 2 \$20,000 April 2019 or sooner, to Chair Lift Project (Depends on year-end)

Donor #3 - \$70,000 Committed 5-year pledge to the general fund

Payment 1 \$14,000 April 2018 to the Chair Lift Project

Payment 2 \$14,000 April 2018 to the Chair lift Project (Could be sooner)

We have several lead donors we are working with on this project that have interests in different areas.

We need this chair lift and the destination to develop, to continue our pursuit to build strong small towns! North Dakota's Heritage Fund would be a lead partner in helping to expand recreation in the Pembina Gorge.

With Gratitude, KJM Kristi Wilfahrt, Interim Foundation Director Pembina Gorge Foundation

CAVALIER RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

1111 Ninth Avenue • P.O. Box 749 • Langdon, ND 58249-0749 Phone: 701-256-5511 • Fax: 701-256-5513

April 2, 2018

Karlene Fine Industrial Commission State Capital 14th Floor 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept 405 Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Ms. Fine,

Cavalier Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. of Langdon, ND, is pleased to support the Outdoor Heritage Fund request and Pembina Gorge Foundation dba as Frost Fire, a valued member/owner of our cooperative. They are an esteemed and established winter recreation area serving up to 15,000 enthusiasts each year, many of whom come from a distance to participate in snow activities.

Our Board of Directors has agreed to award a Rural Development Loan to the PGF. The amount of \$150,000 for a term of ten years at 3% will enable Frost Fire to make a down payment on the Quad SkyTrac chairlift. This chairlift will be a great addition to the resort as it will open the area for year-round enjoyment with the addition of the mountain bike park. It will also replace the old chairlift which was deemed inoperable after 40 years of service.

An additional surge of customers to Frost Fire year-round is a great opportunity for our area of northeast North Dakota to increase tourism and propel not only Frost Fire, but neighboring businesses toward Governor Burgum's Main Street Initiative goals.

The chairlift will provide a critical element of PGF and Frost Fire's goal of maintaining a local business and recreation area, promoting area involvement, and securing the entity for years to come by supporting skiing, snowboarding, and mountain biking activities in our own backyard.

With Regards,

Sherrisa Lam

Finance and Administrative Manager

EXHIBIT 4: NDPRD 2014 Pembina Gorge State Recreation Area Master Plan List of Priorities

Table #7. Master Plan Implementation Priorities

	Priority	Master Plan Implementation Actions	Notes
•	1	Establish an organization to support improvement, management and promotion of the SRA.	This organization would be facilitated by NDPRD staff and could develop into a non-profit organization. The organization would also be used to outreach with private landowners.
K.F	2	Design and build a visitor center and associated landscape	Land will need to be acquired to develop this facility.
***	3	Design and build a maintenance and storage facility	Land will need to be purchased to develop this facility. If possible, locate close to the visitor center.
1	4	Design and build campsites or a campground	Land will need to be purchased to develop this facility. Campsites and spurs can be phased-in over time as funding becomes available and demand increases. Provide a group campsite that can also be used as a special event site.
	5	Establish wildlife observation and scenic overlook sites	Partner with Game & Fish to determine the best locations for these.
A	6	Design and build additional multi-use non- motorized trails	Expand the Lady Slipper Trail to the west. Additional land or trail easement leases will need to be acquired to significantly expand trail opportunities.
	7	Develop more multi-use and single-track OHV trails	Additional land or trail easement leases will need to be acquired to significantly expand trail opportunities. Cooperate with private landowners that may be interested in providing OHV facilities on their land.
	8	Develop equestrian trails	Additional land or trail easement leases will need to be acquired to significantly expand trail opportunities. Cooperate with private landowners that may be interested in providing equestrian facilities on their land.
	9	Designate and manage scenic driving routes and improve destinations along the routes, including Rendezvous Region Scenic Backway	Partner with the Town of Walhalla, Fremont Township and other organizations to plan, fund, and promote these routes.
FF	10	Improve River launch and access sites for paddling at Texas crossing, Vang Bridge, Brick Mine, and in Walhalla	Additional land or easements will be needed to provide parking, toilets, and other facilities at these sites. Road improvements will be needed to access these sites.
	11	Design and develop a day use picnic and overlook site at the Pembina Trailhead	The existing multi-use trail may need to be realigned to create a space for this use.
	12	Designate new snowmobile routes and improve existing routes.	Partner with the North East Snowmobile Club Association and other organizations to plan, fund, and promote these routes.
FF	13	Trail grooming for winter non-motorized recreation	Purchase grooming equipment and groom some existing trails for winter non-motorized recreational use. Phase in groomed trails as demand increases.
	14	Develop boat-in/ hike-in campsites along the Pembina River	Develop a few camp sites and analyze their use level and maintenance to understand value versus cost
	15	Designate and manage OHV loop routes on Township roads	Partner with the Town of Walhalla and other organizations to plan, fund and promote these routes.
	16	Develop cabins or yurts as lodging in the area	These could be provided in the SRA campground or could be developed by private landowners. These structures could attract visitors that would not otherwise be interested in camping.

EXHIBIT 5: Pembina Gorge Mountain Bike Terrain Park Schematic

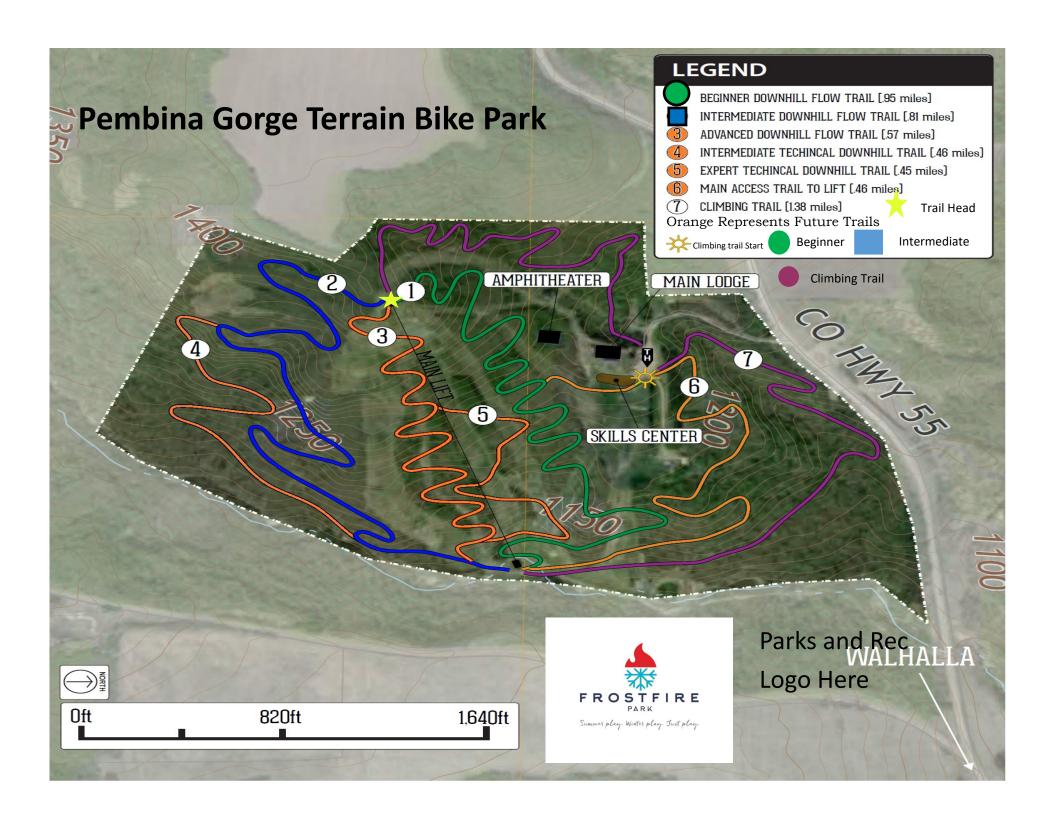


EXHIBIT 6: Letters of Support

- 1. Senator Ray Holmberg
- 2. Representative David Monson
- 3. Representative Charles Damschen
- 4. Senator Janne Myrdal
- 5. ND Parks and Recreation Department
- 6. ND Department of Commerce Tourism Division
- 7. Red River Regional Council
- 8. North Central Planning Council
- 9. Rendezvous Region Tourism Council
- 10. Cavalier County Job Development Authority
- 11. Pembina County Job Development Authority
- 12. Walsh County Job Development Authority
- 13. Grand Forks Region Economic Development Corporation
- 14. City of Grand Forks
- 15. Cavalier Rural Electric Cooperative
- 16. Cavalier Area Chamber of Commerce
- 17. The Chamber Grand Forks and East Grand Forks
- 18. Gorge Arts and Heritage Council
- 19. Choice Financial Group
- 20. City of Grafton
- 21. City of Walhalla
- 22. Center for Innovation Foundation
- 23. High Plains Reader Fargo
- 24. Walhalla Chamber of Commerce
- 25. Gizmonics Bismarck
- 26. Embroidery Plus Grafton
- 27. Extreme North Dakota Racing Grand Forks
- 28. Anita Beauchamp Langdon
- 29. Steve Hart Wales
- 30. Joan Johnson Grand Forks
- 31. Keith Becker Grand Forks
- 32. George and Lonnie Brusseau
- 33. Leah Howatt
- 34. Morna Gorder Grafton
- 35. Heather Szklarski Grafton
- 36. Lyle and Deb Lutman Langdon

March 28, 2018

North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund c/o Karlene Fine. Industrial Commission State Capitol Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Letter of support for new chairlift at Frost Fire.

Frost Fire recreational area in the Pembina Gorge is one of the jewels in North Dakota's outdoor recreational crown. Its location makes it a critical component of North Dakota's efforts for state-wide recreational opportunities.

The Pembina Gorge Foundation is asking the North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund (OHF) to help augment private donations to replace critical infrastructure at Frost Fire, the chairlift.

I believe such investment, by the heritage fund, is part and parcel of its agenda to facilitate outdoor recreation for North Dakotans as delineated under OHF DIRECTIVE D - "Conserving natural areas and creating other areas for recreation through the establishment and development of parks and other recreation areas."

I sincerely hope you will give a positive response to their request.

Ray Holmberg Senator, Grand Forks

NORTH DAKOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



STATE CAPITOL 600 EAST BOULEVARD BISMARCK, ND 58505-0360



Representative David Monson District 10 P.O. Box 8 Osnabrock, ND 58269-0008 dmonson@nd.gov

March 26, 2018

Appropriations Education and Environment Division Chairman Past Speaker

Karlene Fine ND Industrial Commission State Capitol 14th Floor 600 E. Boulevard Ave, Dept. 405 Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Karlene Fine and ND Industrial Commission,

It gives me great pleasure to write a letter of support for the Pembina Gorge Foundation to the Outdoor Heritage Fund in support of the application for a new chairlift at Frost Fire in the Pembina Gorge. I'm not sure if you have ever visited this unique area in northeastern ND, but it is one of the best areas in the state for all-around outdoor recreational activities. I live about 20 miles from this truly beautiful recreational gem and have spent thousands of hours with my family there over the last 50 years or more. My family and I have gone sledding, skiing, snowboarding, canoeing, hiking, snowmobiling, dinosaur digging, and picnicking in this natural scenic waterway and forest.

Unfortunately, nothing lasts forever, and so it is with the old chairlift at Frost Fire. I was skiing at Frost Fire when they first opened nearly 50 years ago and remember well the tow ropes before they got a chairlift. I wore out a lot of mitts and coats and was overjoyed when they got an old used chairlift. Last year they were unable to use the chairlift due to safety reasons, and the winter activities were severely limited by that. With over a million people within about a two-hour drive of Frost Fire, it holds the potential to provide a fantastic outdoor recreational spot all year round. Without the chairlift the winter activities are very limited, and the area economy suffers without that activity.

As you may know, in the last couple years there has been a Pembina Gorge Foundation started to help revitalize the area. They are in a partnership with ND Parks and Recreation on several projects, one being a new mountain biking park, the first of its kind in ND. The new chairlift will be able to service this sport in the spring, summer, and fall as well as the skling, snowboarding, and sledding in the winter. This will make the gorge a complete 12-month recreational center once more well into the future.

Please give this chairlift project top consideration for whatever funding you can. It is vitally important to the health of the people and the community of northeastern ND. In this day of computers and inactivity of our citizens, this is an opportunity we cannot afford to pass up. Children who learn to ski, snowboard, and mountain bike can look forward to a lifetime of outdoor recreational fun and wellbeing.

Sincerely,

Rep. David Monson

NORTH DAKOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



STATE CAPITOL 600 EAST BOULEVARD BISMARCK, ND 58505-0360



COMMITTEES:
Human Services
Energy and Natural Resources

Representative Chuck Damschen
District 10
9461 80th Street NE
Hampden, ND 58338-9351
701-868-3281
cdamschen@nd.gov

March 28, 2018

Karlene Fine
Industrial Commission
State Capitol 14th Floor
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 405
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Dear Ms. Fine and Members of the Commission:

Greetings from District 10 in northeastern ND!

I am writing to encourage you to approve funding to help replace the chairlift at Frost Fire Lodge in the Pembina Gorge near Walhalla, ND. As you may know, a foundation was recently established for the purpose of promoting the breathtaking Pembina Gorge and to continue the operation of Frost Fire.

Frost Fire has drawn many visitors to the Pembina Gorge throughout the years with its winter sports and summer theatre productions. While it has been a strong contributor to the economic activity in the area, it was not a highly profitable business for the former owner/operators. We believe with the newly formed foundation, along with some much needed financial support, it will continue to be a leading attraction to introduce folks to the beautiful wonder of the Pembina Gorge. In fact, I have personally felt for some time that it has the potential to be the "Medora of Northeastern ND".

Funding the replacement of the chairlift seems like an ideal use of the Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars. I believe the result would be good for the local economy, good for our state, a good example of positive use of OHF dollars, and good for those who utilize the activities that bring them to the area.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I certainly believe you have a great opportunity in this instance to make an investment that will benefit many in the future, in many ways.

Sincerely,

Rep. Chuck Damschen ND District 10

Senator Janne Myrdal District 10 12985 80th Street NE Edinburg, ND 58227-9635 701-331-0946 jmyrdal@nd.gov

NORTH DAKOTA SENATE

STATE CAPITOL 600 EAST BOULEVARD BISMARCK, ND 58505-0360



COMMITTEES: Judiciary Agriculture

March 23, 2018

Karlene Fine Industrial Commission 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 405 Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Dear Ms. Fine,

I am writing you and the Outdoor Heritage Fund today in support of the Pembina Gorge Foundation's application for funding for the new chairlift at Frost Fire Ski Resort.

I was a founding member of the Foundation and am a strong supporter of the vision it carries for economic development, not only of the Frost Fire Resort, but the development of the hidden jewel of the Pembina Gorge located here in my District in NE North Dakota. It is time for such a pristine tourist and event destination to be developed to bloom to its full economic potential as a prime tourism destination, and I am therefore utterly grateful for the vision of the Pembina Gorge Foundation to take this exciting innovative economic development on, for our state and region. As a member of Governor Burgum's newly appointed Rural Development Council, I believe this is the exact kind of partnership and vision we need to see between the State and rural North Dakota. Frost Fire, which is the key element and truly a doorway into the Gorge, was operated privately for nearly 50 years serving the entire Red River Valley as well as two Canadian Provinces. It is now in a brand-new phase of expanded vision with a public/private business model that has the potential to reach over 1.2 million people living within a two-hour drive of the Pembina Gorge. As our state is looking to diversify our economy, this is a key example of an investment and partnership that will economically pay back long term.

The ski lift specifically will expand the use of Frost Fire to a 12-month activities destination, supporting winter sports as well as the new mountain bike terrain park currently under construction on the slopes at Frost Fire in partnership with ND Parks and Recreation Department. It will be North Dakota's one of a kind bike trail. The new ski lift is a must for both safety and expansion to serve the 12 months of activities.

I sincerely urge you to consider being a financial partner in this endeavor, joining the Pembina Gorge Foundation's long term vision for our area.

Senator Janne Myrdal



Doug Burgum, Governor Melissa Baker, Ph.D., Director

1600 East Century Avenue, Suite 3
Bismarck, ND 58503-0649
Phone 701-328-5357
Fax 701-328-5363
E-mail parkrec@.nd.gov
www.parkrec.nd.gov

March 26, 2018

Dear Karlene Fine,

The North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department (Department) officially opened the Pembina Gorge State Recreation Area in 2012. Since that time, the Pembina Gorge has grown in popularity as people are ever looking at ways to explore this unique landscape. In 2014, a public process was initiated to create a master plan with the intent to guide the management and development of the Pembina Gorge. The plan highlighted the need for an expansion of services that the department could not achieve without establishing partnerships.

The partnership with the Pembina Gorge Foundation was fostered through their efforts to acquire the Frost Fire Ski and Snowboard Area. Through this partnership we were able to meet five of the top six priorities outlined in the master plan. These priorities ranged from providing a visitor center for visitor information, centralized enforcement, maintenance staff for upkeep and more trail development.

Starting in 2016, the Department, in coordination with the Pembina Gorge Foundation, started a planning process to develop a mountain bike terrain park on the Frost Fire property. This effort was a step towards meeting the trail needs outlined in the master plan and extending the season of use of the amenities at Frost Fire. The Department attained a Recreational Trails Program grant to help develop Phase I including a novice and intermediate skill level mountain bike course. When completed the users can utilize the ski lift to access the top of the mountain bike runs and use gravity to ride down. These runs will open summer of this year and the project has received a lot of interest.

At the time of planning and preliminary construction of the mountain bike terrain park, the ski lift was thought to be operational. The ski lift is crucial for the success of the mountain bike terrain park and the winter skiing operations in the Pembina Gorge. The grant request from the Pembina Gorge Foundation meets objectives within the Pembina Gorge State Recreation Area Master Plan to develop more multi-use and multi-season trails with the amenities to support these activities.

Sincerely,

Melissa Baker,

Melisa Laker

Director

Play in our backyard!



March 26, 2018

Karlene Fine Industrial Commission State Capitol 14th Floor 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 405 Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Dear Ms. Fine:

North Dakota Tourism would like to offer its support to the Red River Regional Council and Pembina Gorge Foundation in their application of an Outdoor Heritage Fund Grant to purchase a quad chair lift at Frost Fire Ski Resort. The continued operation and development of this destination is of great importance to us as we promote North Dakota's four seasons.

Tourism in and around the Pembina Gorge has been a great driving force behind the economies of northeastern North Dakota and should continue to be a large part of the growth in the future. Tourism is North Dakota's third-largest industry with direct visitors spending of \$3.1 billion generating \$5 billion in total business sales. In 2015, visitor spending in Cavalier and Pembina Counties totaled \$17 million and generated \$1.85 million in state and local tax revenue. As we work on Governor Burgum's Main Street Initiative, we strive to develop quality of life amenities to attract a 21st Century workforce and the facilities at Frost Fire are a huge differentiator for Northeast North Dakota. The recent acquisition of the resort by the Foundation and their partnership with North Dakota Parks and Recreation will insure its operation well into the future, however this will only happen if it has safe, reliable equipment.

We look forward to working with North Dakota Parks and Recreation and the newly-formed Pembina Gorge Foundation in promoting Frost Fire as it continues to grow as a key tourism attraction in this region of North Dakota.

Sara Otto Coleman

Sara Otte Coleman

Director – Tourism Division

North Dakota Department of Commerce



Chase Building 516 Cooper Avenue, Suite 101 Grafton, ND 58237 T: 701.352.3550 www.redriverrc.com

March 23, 2018

Karlene Fine Industrial Commission State Capitol 14th Floor 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 405 Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

RE:

OUTDOOR HERITAGE FUND GRANT APPLICATION

Dear Ms. Fine:

On behalf of the Red River Regional Council (RRRC), I write in support of the Outdoor Heritage Fund grant application we are submitting in partnership with the Pembina Gorge Foundation (PGF). The grant funds will be used to replace the existing triple chair lift at Frost Fire Ski and Snowboard Area. The existing lift was purchased used back in the 1970s and is now over 60 years old. It is in a state of total disrepair and the PGF plans to replace it with a quad chair lift that includes attachments to allow dual use of the lift for skiing and mountain bike terrain park guests.

For more than 40 years, the RRRC has supported the creation of a ski/snowboard resort in the Pembina Gorge. In late 2013, the RRRC and Pembina County JDA began to explore transition options as the owners of Frost Fire were elderly and in need of a succession plan. Simultaneously, the RRRC was actively engaged in the Pembina Gorge State Recreation Area (PGSRA) Master Plan development.

In late 2016/early 2017, the RRRC served as a co-founder with the Community Foundation of Grand Forks, EGF, and Region, of the Pembina Gorge Foundation to become the new owner of Frost Fire and continue to cultivate an ongoing recreation, cultural and tourism amenity. The RRRC actively supports the implementation of the PGSRA Master Plan through ongoing engagement with the department, additional state departments, legislators, and congressional delegation and staff.

The Red River Regional Council's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategic Plan 2015 to 2019 includes tourism and recreation development as a key strategy to assist with ceasing a 70-year trend of population decline in northeastern North Dakota.

The RRRC supports this grant request and kindly appreciates your consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Executive Director

Melley



417 5th St. NE PO Box 651

Devils Lake, ND 58301-0651

PH: 701-662-8131

Fax: 701-662-8132

www.northcentralplanningcouncil.com

March 28, 2018

Karlene Fine Industrial Commission State Capital 14th Floor 600 East Boulevard Ave., Dept 405 Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Dear Ms. Fine:

North Central Planning Council supports the efforts of the Pembina Gorge Foundation to develop the Frost Fire Ski Resort area and specifically an application to the Outdoor Heritage Fund for a new chairlift.

The chairlift is instrumental to the operation of Frost Fire Ski Resort. Winter customers have historically accounted for 80% of the clientele and the chairlift is needed for sustainability and to establish the area as an outdoor recreation destination. The chairlift will provide for year around recreational opportunities including winter skling and snowboarding and summer activities such as the mountain biking and scenic viewing. The other activities offered by Frost Fire, for example the summer theater, make this a year around recreation opportunity for the 1.2 million people living within a two-hour radius of the Pembina Gorge.

North Central Planning is happy to support this request and appreciates your consideration of this project.

Sincerely,

Sandra Shively Executive Director



March 23, 2018

Karlene Fine Industrial Commission State Capitol 14th Floor 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 405 Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

RE:

OUTDOOR HERITAGE FUND GRANT APPLICATION - FROST FIRE CHAIR LIFT

Dear Ms. Fine:

The Rendezvous Region Tourism Council (RRTC) strongly supports the Outdoor Heritage Fund grant application submitted by the Red River Regional Council (RRRC) in partnership with the Pembina Gorge Foundation. The RRRC is seeking funds to replace the vintage triple chair lift at Frost Fire Ski and Snowboard Area. The existing chairlift was deemed unsafe and inoperable for the 2017-2018 winter season and was recommended to be replaced.

Over the past year, a group of approximately 15 regional leaders have been meeting monthly to resurrect the Rendezvous Region Tourism Council. Initially a partnership between the cities of Langdon, Walhalla, Cavalier and Pembina, the geography has expanded to include three counties: Cavalier, Pembina and Walsh, with a mission to build a cohesive tourism brand through education, marketing and amenity enhancement. A marketing campaign and new website are being developed to increase awareness of the many recreational and cultural amenities in the Rendezvous Region. Frost Fire Ski and Snowboard Area has been and continues to be a key recreation destination for the Rendezvous Region.

The new chairlift at Frost Fire is critical to the Foundation meeting its goal of maintaining the vital recreational destination and making this business sustainable for the near and long term. It will expand recreation opportunities to nearly 12 months of the year as it will support the new mountain bike terrain park currently under construction by ND Parks and Recreation Department. Studies show a mountain bike terrain park will draw bikers from up to an eight-hour radius and we already have more than 1.2 people located within a 2-hour drive of Frost Fire.

The Rendezvous Region Tourism Council greatly appreciates your consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Dennis Sevigny

President

516 Cooper Avenue, Suite 101, Grafton, ND 58237

Ph: 701-922-0464 – www.rendezvousregion.com

Cavalier County Job Development Authority

901 3rd Street Suite 5 ∞ Langdon, ND 58249 ∞ Phone: 701-256-3475 ∞ Fax: 701-256-3536

March 26, 2018

Karlene Fine Industrial Commission State Capitol 14th Floor 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 405 Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Dear Ms. Fine

I am writing this letter to voice my support for the Frost Fire ski lift project. Frost Fire is one of the largest tourism draws in our county, it has historically drawn up to 20,000 visitors annually, which is an enormous impact to a county that has a population of less than 4,000. The new chair lift is vital in ensuring that our county continues to be a tourism destination for the region.

The exciting new plans for Frost Fire include a Mountain Bike terrain park which will allow the chair lift to be used all four seasons rather than only winter. I feel the shift from single season use to all season use will greatly increase the potential for additional visitors.

Tourism is an important part of our county. In 2001 a Strategic Plan was written for Cavalier County. That plan included a goal of creating and completing 4 new tourism projects in the county. That goal has been greatly exceeded, last year we passed 100 tourism projects completed since 2001! The investment in tourism in our county since 2001 totals \$966,717.

That is a large number for a county of our size. While we are extremely proud of what has been accomplished in our county, most of our projects have been small and to move forward and grow assistance is needed from the Outdoor Heritage Fund to complete a project of this magnitude. I strongly encourage the funding of this unique project that will grow not only winter tourism but tourism in all seasons.

Thank you,

Shannon Duerr
Executive Director

Shannon Duer



March 23, 2018

Karlene Fine Industrial Commission State Capitol 14th Floor 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 405 Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

RE: OUTDOOR HERITAGE FUND GRANT APPLICATION – FROST FIRE CHAIR LIFT

Dear Ms. Fine:

I write in support of the Outdoor Heritage Fund grant application submitted by the Red River Regional Council (RRRC). The RRRC, in partnership with the Pembina Gorge Foundation is seeking grant funds to replace the existing triple chair lift at Frost Fire Ski and Snowboard Area. The vintage 1950s lift sustained damages beyond repair due to excessive rains in summer 2016 and has outlived its useful life.

Frost Fire is a key recreation and tourism facility in northeastern ND and has historically drawn up to 20,000 visitors per year, but the potential is untapped as there are more than 1.2 million people within a 2-hour (120-mile radius) drive from Frost Fire. The Pembina County Job Development Authority (JDA) is helping lead tourism development in this region. This includes resurrecting the Rendezvous Region Tourism Council. This group has expanded to include a partnership of Cavalier, Pembina and Walsh Counties with priorities on education, marketing and amenity development. Over the past few months, the group started a Facebook page, developed a new logo, was featured on the front/back covers and center spread story in the August 17, 2017 issue of the High Plains Reader and has a full-page ad in the 2018 ND Travel Guide. The group sees Frost Fire as the anchor of our tourism development efforts.

The JDA's Economic Development Strategic Plan 2014 to 2019 includes an extensive section on tourism and recreation amenity development. This remains a high priority of the JDA into the foreseeable future.

The Pembina County JDA strongly supports the RRRC's Outdoor Heritage Fund grant request and appreciates your kind consideration of this application.

Sincerely.

Maggie Suda Developer WALSH COUNTY
Job-Development
Authority
Dig in

Dig in to Opportunity!

600 Cooper Avenue Grafton, ND 58237 T: 701-352-2171 C: 701-360-2069

E-Mail: <u>jkcampbe@nd.gov</u> www.digwalshcounty.com

March 28, 2018

Karlene Fine Industrial Commission State Capitol 14th Floor 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 405 Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

RE:

PEMBINA GORGE FOUNDATION

OUTDOOR HERITAGE FUND GRANT APPLICATION

Dear Ms. Fine:

I write in support of the Outdoor Heritage Fund (OHF) grant application submitted by the Pembina Gorge Foundation (PGF). The Pembina Gorge Foundation, in partnership with the Red River Regional Council, is seeking funding for the purchase and installation of a new quad lift at Frost Fire Ski and Snowboard Area. The current lift has been in place since the 1970s and has become damaged beyond repair. In order to maximize the tourism potential of the Frost Fire ski area as well as the new mountain bike terrain park that is scheduled to be operational in the summer of 2018, this equipment needs to be replaced. The chairlift is instrumental to making the Pembina Gorge a key recreation destination as it would expand recreational opportunities to nearly 12 months of the year. This OHF grant is a vital piece of the funding for this purchase.

The Walsh County Job Development Authority (WCJDA) has been identified as a key partner in the success of tourism and recreation development efforts in the region. The WCJDA recognizes that continued high-quality amenity development is critical to drawing more people to the area and the development at Frost Fire is an example of building vibrant communities with differentiated amenities as outlined by Governor Burgum's Main Street Initiative. Tourism and recreation has great potential in this corner of the state with access to 1.2 million people within a two-hour drive of Frost Fire.

The Walsh County Job Development Authority supports the Pembina Gorge Foundation's request for funding through the Outdoor Heritage Fund, and appreciates your consideration of this application.

Sincerely, Juliu Camplell

Julie Campbell

Director



March 26, 2018

Karlene Fine Industrial Commission State Capitol 14th Floor 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 405 Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Dear Ms. Fine,

I write on behalf of the Pembina Gorge Foundation's proposal to the Outdoor Heritage Fund for support of the Frost Fire ski and recreational area.

The Pembina Gorge Foundation is committed to improving the outdoor and recreational offerings of the gorge through operation of the Frost Fire ski and recreation resort. Located just 80 miles away north of Grand Forks, we recognize this project as an asset to our region. International and regional tourism greatly contributes to the region's economy, welcoming many Canadian travels to our hotels, shopping centers, and outdoor amenities.

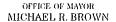
Amenities such as the Frost Fire ski and recreation area provide for more than just travelers to our region, they improve the quality of life of its residents. Our residents expect vibrant and adventurous places to work and play and amenities such as Frost Fire contribute to workforce retention and attraction. This is especially important as our current unemployment rates continue to put pressure on our ability grow; making workforce a top priority.

This project is important to the Pembina Gorge area and beyond and should be strongly considered for support by the Outdoor Heritage Fund.

Thank you.

Keith Lund

President & CEO





City of Grand Forks

255 North Fourth Street • P.O. Box 5200 • Grand Forks, ND 58206-5200

(701) 746-2607 mbrown@grandforksgov.com

March 2018

Karlene Fine Industrial Commission State Capitol 14th Floor 600 East Boulevard Ave., Dept. 405 Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Re: Letter of Support for Pembina Gorge Foundation for the Outdoor Heritage Fund

Dear Ms. Fine,

It is my pleasure to convey my full support for the Pembina Gorge Foundation's application for funding through the Outdoor Heritage fund to assist with a new chairlift at Frost Fire.

As you know, Frost Fire is a key player in North Dakota's tourism strategy, drawing up to 20,000 visitors per year and accessible to more than 1.2 million people within just a two hour drive. This includes Grand Forks area residents and our community has been a proud supporter of Frost Fire and the recent improvements. This is mainly due to Frost Fire's role in ensuring guests and tourists alike are afforded outdoor recreation options that serve to strengthen the health and vitality of all our citizens.

The chairlift will support downhill skiing, snowboarding, mountain biking and scenic viewing. The original chairlift was installed in the 1970's and was not even operable during this last 2017-2018 ski season.

A new chairlift will help not only the skiers and snowboarders who have traditionally represented about 80% of Frost Fire's clientele, but will also provide an incentive to create year-round users by increasing accessibility of the Frost Fire Mountain Bike Park. In fact, the support of the Outdoor Heritage fund will leverage the investments made and work already being done to ensure the Mountain Bike Park, the first-of-its-kind in North Dakota, truly becomes the destination amenity it is designed to be.

I thank you for your consideration of Frost Fire's application to the Outdoor Heritage Fund and am available for any further comment or support at mbrown@grandforksgov.com.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Brown, Mayor
Grand Forks, ND

CAVALIER RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

1111 Ninth Avenue • P.O. Box 749 • Langdon, ND 58249-0749 Phone: 701-256-5511 • Fax: 701-256-5513

March 26, 2018

Karlene Fine Industrial Commission State Capitol 14th Floor 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 405 Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Ms. Fine,

Cavalier Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. of Langdon, ND is pleased to support the Outdoor Heritage Fund request and Pembina Gorge Foundation dba Frost Fire, a valued member/owner of our cooperative. They are an esteemed and established winter recreation area serving up to 15,000 enthusiasts each year, many of whom come from a distance to participate in snow activities.

Our Board of Directors has agreed to award a Rural Development Loan to the PGF for a portion of the Quad SkyTrac Chairlift. This chairlift will be a great addition to the resort as it will open the area for year-round enjoyment with the addition of a mountain bike park. It will also be replacing the old chairlift which was deemed inoperable after 40 years of service.

An additional surge of customers to Frost Fire year-round is a great opportunity for our area of northeast North Dakota to increase tourism and propel not own Frost Fire, but neighboring businesses toward Governor Burgum's Main Street Initiative goals.

The chairlift will provide a critical element of PGF and Frost Fire's goal of maintaining a local recreation area and securing the entity for years to come by supporting skiing, snowboarding, and mountain biking activities in our own backyard.

With regards,

Sherrisa Lam

Finance and Administrative Manager



202 North 3rd Street Grand Forks, ND 58203

P.O. BOX 315 East Grand Forks, MN 56721

> p: 701-772-7271 f: 701-772-9238

www.gochamber.org

March 26, 2018

Karlene Fine Industrial Commission State Capitol 14th Floor 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 405 Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Dear Industrial Commission Members,

The Chamber of Commerce of Grand Forks / East Grand Forks urges your support for this important regional project and year round asset. Canadians are a key part of the regional economy and a project like this will help bring the Canadians to North Dakota much like Medora brings people to the Western part of our state.

Raising over \$1.5 million in private funding to purchase/save Frost Fire in 2018 was the first step and shows the local and regional commitment to this asset. Funding the chairlift is necessary to support downhill skiing, snowboarding and mountain biking available at Frost Fire and is the next step. The chairlift is a critical component in the success of just about every business unit in the overall project.

Please give favorable consideration to using some of the Outdoor Heritage Fund for important project for our region.

Sincerely,

Barry Wilfahrt
President & CEO

The Chamber

Grand Forks / East Grand Forks

Karlene Fine Industrial Commission State Capitol 14th Floor 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 405 Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Outdoor Heritage Fund,

I am writing to express my support for the purchase and installation of a new quad lift at Frost Fire. The existing triple chair lift is unusable at this point in time, and is in dire need of replacement. This chairlift is instrumental to making the Pembina Gorge a recreation destination. It will have an expected useful life, with proper maintenance, of approximately 30 years; and will support downhill skiing, snowboarding, mountain biking, and scenic viewing.

Frost Fire is located 35 miles from Cavalier, where the Cavalier Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism office is at. Frost Fire has been an outstanding leader in our area for tourism. With 1.2 million people within a two hour drive of Frost Fire, the potential to bring in even more visitors in the future is great. Tourism and recreation development plays a key role in the economic success of our community and the entire region. Without a doubt, there is a trickle-down effect for the rural communities surrounding Frost Fire, and Cavalier is no exception.

Something we pride in having in our rural communities is excellent quality of life. There are key ingredients that are always in this mix. Quality health care, adequate housing, public transportation, excellent school districts, to name a few. But something that always stands out to me are safe places to live and play. Having high quality amenities available in our area not only bring people here to play and enjoy their free time, but will also draw them in to stay and put roots down as well.

I fully believe the quad lift installation at Frost Fire will enhance our potential for a higher quality of life, along with expanded economic potential in the region. Frost Fire is an excellent example of efforts in building healthy, vibrant communities with amenities and offerings as outlined by Governor Burgum's Main Street Initiative. I strongly encourage you to consider the funding of this Land Water Conservation Grant request.

Sincerely,

Rachel Morrison
Executive Director

Cavaller Area Chamber of Commerce

Kuhumpuison

Cavalier, ND 58220

701,265.8188

cacc@polarcomm.com



March 23, 2018

Karlene Fine
Industrial Commission
State Capitol 14Th Floor
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 405
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

RE: Support Letter for Pembina Gorge Foundation; Frost Fire, New Chair Lift

We are writing in support of the Pembina Gorge Foundation request to the Outdoor Heritage Fund for a new chair lift at Frost Fire. We fully support the efforts of Pembina Gorge Foundation and hope that money can be made available to modernize and maintain what has long been a cultural landmark and facility for the people of Walhalla and the surrounding communities.

Walhalla is a small community lacking a variety of activities for our residents and visitors. Our desire is for Frost Fire to be a venue for all ages. Whether it's a Saturday afternoon of skiing, a mid-week mountain biking adventure or simply a scenic stroll, we want Frost Fire to be on the list of "things to do" in our community and the surrounding areas. Having a new chair lift will reinstate the exceptional value Frost Fire brings to our area and the new recreational activities add another dimension to what Walhalla area has to offer, making it an even greater place to stay and play!

This is the type of project that you can look at in years to come and feel a sense of pride that you played a part. Projects such as this are extremely rewarding because they have a large impact on the quality of life in our community. The users and patrons of the facility have a tangible and emotional interest in its future, and that personal investment makes the successful outcome even more satisfying.

Sincerely,

Gorge Arts & Heritage Council



Karlene Fine
Industrial Commission
State Capitol 14th Floor
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 405
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

RE: Pembina Gorge Foundation- Chair lift project

Dear Ms. Fine,

I would like to thank you for this opportunity to speak to the importance of the work that the Pembina Gorge Foundation is doing for the future wellbeing of our community and surrounding area. I am speaking from the standpoint of a lifelong resident of Walhalla, Choice Financial President, and Member of the Board of Directors for the Foundation.

Replacing the currently old and disabled chairlift with a new chairlift is a crucial part of the continued operations of Frostfire Park and Recreation area. The new chairlift will enable Frostfire to become a year around recreation destination with skiing and biking as well as other activities. Frostfire has had an operational business model for nearly 50 years and the Foundations expanded public and private partnership business model will greatly enhance the recreational opportunities, and accessibility within the Pembina Gorge.

This project is an ideal example of building healthy, vibrant communities as outlined in Governor Burgum's Main Street Initiative. The chairlift will enable Frostfire to maintain a viable business model with lifespan of 30 years or more. This is replacing a chairlift that was built in the 1950's and been in operation at Frostfire for the past 40 years.

As recently as the spring of 2016, there have historically been 12,000 to 15,000 visitors to Frostfire annually. With 1.2 million people living within a 200 mile radius of the Pembina Gorge, there is great opportunity to once again attract upwards to 30,000 visitors annually. With an expanded marketing effort, strong leadership and management, and public partnerships, the area has potential to become a key recreation destination in the state of North Dakota.

As President of Choice Financial and member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors for the Gorge Foundation, I am asking for the support of the Outdoor Heritage Fund. Choice financial as well as several other organizations and private sector individuals have shown support for this project both financially and time investment. Your support at this time will ensure the forward progress of the chairlift installation and enhance the success of the business model going forward.

This is a rare opportunity to be involved in a project that will have such great and long lasting impact for North Dakota residents for generations to come. Please join us in bringing this to reality. Thank you once again for the opportunity to be heard in support of Pembina Gorge Foundation Chairlift Project.

Best Regards,

Pat Chaput/President, Choice Financial, Walhalla ND

Pat Chapul

407 12th Street • PO Box 468 • Walhalla, ND 58282 • P 701.549.3761 • F 701.549.3622

choicefinancial group.com



www.graftongov.com

PO Box 578 | 5 East 4th Street | Grafton, ND 58237

Phone: 701.352.1561 | Fax: 701.352.2730 | TDD: 701.352.1411

March 26, 2018

Karlene Fine Industrial Commission State Capitol 14th Floor 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 405 Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

RE: Application to Outdoor Heritage Fund for new chairlift

Dear Ms. Fine:

On behalf of the City of Grafton, I want to express our enthusiastic support of the new chairlift at Frost Fire. We know many of our citizens are dedicated customers of Frost Fire, in fact the Grafton Alumni Association has paid for Grafton students to enjoy the outdoor winter activities, such as skiing and snowboarding, to promote and encourage healthy winter activity.

People need and want to get away to enjoy nature and there are more than 1.2 million people living within a short 2-hour drive from the Pembina Gorge and Frost Fire. Frost Fire has always been a wonderful skiing, snowboarding, summer theatre, and scenic drive location for the locals. With greater recreational opportunities provided with the new chairlift, greater management and marketing, Frost Fire will be an even more popular destination for North Dakota residents, as well as Minnesota and Canadian residents.

Please give this project your careful consideration, because one of North Dakota's most prized resources is its beautiful wide-open spaces.

Sincerely.

Chris West Mayor

CITY OF WALHALLA

PO BOX 318 WALHALLA, NORTH DAKOTA Phone: 701 549-3176 Fax: 701 549-2410

March 26, 2018

Dawn Keeley, Executive Director Red River Regional Council 51.6 Cooper Avenue, Ste 101 Grafton, ND 58237

RE: Pembina Gorge Foundation

I'm writing to express support for the new chairlift at Frost Fire proposed by the Red River Regional Council and in partnership the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department, to the Outdoor Heritage Fund, which would support an expansion of recreational amenities available in the Pembina Gorge. The purchase of chairlifts at Frost Fire is essential for making recreation available to tourists with interest in beauty and recreation in the Pembina Gorge.

The new chairlifts will encourage tourists to spend more time in and around Walhalla — which we'd love to see. While we have many sightseers, often, tourists are limited to driving through the Gorge rather than fully enjoying our natural wonder. This proposed project will assist in developing more recreational options as well as family friendly activities, longer stays, and drive more tourism dollars within the region.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Christopher Jackson

Mayor

North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund c/o Karlene Fine, Industrial Commission State Capitol 14th Floor Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

RE: Support Letter for Funding New Chair Lift at Frost Fire

This letter supports the Pembina Gorge Foundation's request to the Outdoor Heritage Fund to fund a new chair lift at Frost Fire. The chairlift is vital to provide year-around access to outdoor enthusiasts, sportsmen, and recreational visitors. Frost Fire is undergoing an entrepreneurial renewal to expand and enhance their outdoor offerings, and your funding will be highly leveraged and most useful.

The new Frost Fire chairlift will support downhill skiing, snowboarding, mountain biking, and scenic viewing in one of our state's most scenic and valuable outdoor attractions - the Pembina Gorge. The Pembina Gorge west encompasses one of the largest uninterrupted woodland areas in North Dakota of approximately 12,500 acres and offers the longest segment of unaltered river valley in the state. It is one of the deepest and steepest river valleys in the state with the largest forest where three biodiversity types come together - boreal forest, eastern deciduous forest and central grassland. Your help in providing better outdoor access to this valuable natural resource would be appreciated.

There is significant potential for recreational, sports, and park usage through Frost Fire and the Pembina Gorge. There is no other place in North Dakota where there are more than 1.2 million people living within a two-hour radius. The Pembina Gorge should – and could - have significantly more usage by outdoor enthusiasts, recreational visitors and sportsmen than either Teddy Roosevelt Park or Medora. This is true for no other reason than ready access to over one million people who live nearby who are interested in outdoor offerings such as hiking, camping, mountain biking, birding, horseback riding, canoeing, skiing (cross-country and downhill), snowmobiling and more. Plus Frost Fire embraces the arts & humanities with their summer theatre and other offerings.

This would be a wise investment by the Outdoor Heritage Fund with a high return on that investment - to the state and to our citizens and visitors - including new income for our state. Over \$2 million of private investment has been committed to revitalize the Frost Fire property and make it a key recreation and outdoor destination with the new chairlift. The Outdoor Heritage Fund will have extraordinary private-sector leverage, providing proof that key leaders see the significant benefit of this project.

The purpose of the Outdoor Heritage Fund is to create areas for outdoor recreation through the establishment and development of parks and other recreation areas as well as provide access to private and public lands for sportsmen and others. This project fits the criteria very well. The new chairlift is key to making the Pembina Gorge a recreational and outdoor destination. The new chairlift will have an expected useful life - with proper maintenance - of 30 years or more. The last one was built in the 1950s, installed in the 1970s and lasted over 40 years at Frost Fire i.e. in use for 65 years. That is a useful, beneficial, long-term investment for your fund.

Your fa∛orable consideration would be greatly appreciated.

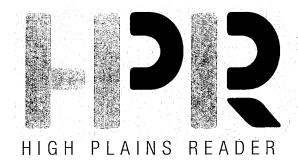
Bruce Gjovig **CEO Emeritus**

Center for Innovation Foundation

PUE

Bruce@Gjovig.net

701-739-3132



124 North 8th Street Fargo, ND 58102

To:

Kristi Wilfahrt, Interim Executive Director, Pembina Gorge Foundation

Re:

ND Outdoor Heritage Fund request for Rendezvous Region

From: John Strand, High Plains Reader, Fargo

Date: July 13, 2018

I am writing in support of the Frost Fire request for funding for a ski chairlift in the Rendezvous Region in northeaster North Dakota.

That's my home area. While I live in Fargo currently, my passions for northeaster ND continue, especially as rural economies and communities struggle more each ensuing year.

Our governor advocates for a revitalization of our communities and especially our main streets. I cannot think of many things more attuned to that goal than Rendezvous Region destination.

I'm aware of the deadlock vote that resulted in The Outdoor Heritage Fund request that at first blush seemed to pass, and then died procedurally.

We need to get this resurrected and properly back on the table, and then we need to see it supported. Those of us who happen to live in more populated metropolitan centers in ND need to keep attuned to what's truly happening in our rural parts. Our strengths as cities are directly tied to the strengths of our rural communities.

This chairlift proposal has my complete support. I ask our public servants to reconsider this funding request and to give it their due diligence to simply see how to make it work, period.

Last year the High Plains Reader did a cover story on the recreation and outdoor opportunities in that region. It was eye opening to the many people who are entirely unfamiliar with what's to do and whats offered there as a destination.

Future vision depends on honoring and continuing past vision. We cannot afford to let that region deteriorate any further but instead need to - and get to - invest wisely for future generations. This project helps aims ND that direction.

Please share this letter with those charged with this decision. I've also taken the liberty to share my concerns expressed in this letter with the Governor's Office and the Attorney General, as well.

Sincerely,

John Strand, co-owner High Plains Reader

cc: Gov. Doug Burgum, JoDee Hanson, Wayne Stenehjem

Walhalla Area Chamber of Commerce 1105 Central Avenue Walhalla, ND 58282 701-549-3939

July 12th, 2018

To whom it may concern:

We right this letter in support of Frost Fire and the hopes that they can obtain funding for the purchase of the new chair lift through the Outdoor Heritage Fund. Walhalla is nestled within the beauty of the Pembina Gorge area, and we as a community want to see our area thrive. We have such a great opportunity to do so with the added amenities that Frost Fire and the ND Parks and Rec will provide. The Chair lift is a vital part of the Frost Fire ski business, and now also to the new Mountain Bike Terrain park, which opens Friday, July 13th, 2018. I hope you can realize how detrimental this is to the business itself and how it will affect its future earnings as well. Frost Fire has always had a good following for years and brought people from all areas around, and with that brings business to our local economy as well. The Pembina Gorge is like no other place in the state, and we feel fortunate to call this home, we can only hope that by the help of this grant Frost Fire can get the funds needed to purchase the lift and continue to grow in business for years to come.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Walhalla Area Chamber of Commerce Wanda Overby Carlock, President



7/15/18

To Whom it May Concern,

We are writing to convey our enthusiastic and unwavering support for the Pembina Gorge Foundation's chairlift funding request. We reside in Bismarck, though Ganya is from Walhalla and we visit frequently. The momentum that is building in the area, combined with the new mountain bike terrain park makes (in our opinion) the chairlift an absolute necessity.

We are avid mountain bikers and lived in Colorado for 16 years. We have seen firsthand what mountain biking can do for an economy, especially in conjunction with a ski area. Given our keen interest in the area, we drove to Frost Fire for Friday's grand opening of the mountain bike park. We were immediately impressed with the high quality of the runs and the number of people that showed up throughout the weekend to ride them. This morning we ran into a large group that had driven from Winnipeg to ride the new trails, as well as some others from Bismarck. They were all having a great time and conveyed that they will be back many times, particularly when the new chairlift is operating. The chairlift is not only absolutely necessary for the ski area but will also make the mountain bike terrain park a destination for downhill cyclists across the region. In conjunction with the multi-use Pembina Gorge trail system, the chairlift-equipped terrain park creates a cycling critical mass that I believe can continue to grow substantially in terms of visitors per year.

The Pembina Gorge is an incredible and unique resource for North Dakota and the chairlift, terrain park, ski area, summer theater, multi-use trails, and golf course are all perfect vehicles to allow people from around the region to experience what it has to offer. Given the current momentum, the time is right for this chairlift!

We would be happy to discuss what we saw in Colorado, as well as what we've seen in places like Moab, UT, in terms of mountain biking's role in creating a destination.

Thank you and best regards,

The Janua of Indison

Evan & Ganya Anderson

(701)202-7203 - evan@gizmonics.biz (701)202-7204 - ganya@gizmonics.biz Re: Grant Request for Development of Frost Fire Recreational Area

To Whom It May Concern:

Although northeastern North Dakota is primarily known for its agricultural success, it is also an area of diverse recreational beauty and activity. Frost Fire has served the region well in the past and, I would suggest, deserves your consideration for additional funding to upgrade a chairlift and construct a mountain bike terrain park.

In addition to serving a stable and growing population base of the northeastern corner of the state, Frost Fire is strategically located to attract Canadian traffic as it continues to enhance the recreational and tourism offerings throughout ND. To those not familiar with northeastern North Dakota, the Pembina Gorge area is a natural setting which contributes to and sustains the environment.

Through summer activity camps for children and outdoor winter activities for all ages, Frost Fire is an asset that encompasses the natural four-season beauty of North Dakota.

From an economic standpoint, Frost Fire and the Pembina Gorge provide year-round employment. The construction of a mountain bike terrain path demonstrates Frost Fire's progressive insight into current and future forms of recreation and tourism. In addition, tourist traffic and trade in the Pembina Gorge area results in widespread economic growth throughout the region and state of North Dakota.

I encourage you to reconsider the application for \$1.3 million in grant funds for improvements to Frost Fire in the Pembina Gorge area of northeastern North Dakota.

Sincerely,

Denise Sevigny, Owner

Embroidery Plus



Extreme North Dakota Racing 3707 Simonview Court Grand Forks, ND 58203

To Whom it May Concern,

We're writing to express our enthusiastic support for the Pembina Gorge Foundation, which has submitted a funding request to support installing a new chairlift that will be used year-round for snow sports and the new downhill mountain biking terrain park. It is our understanding that this expense was not anticipated before or during the sale of Frost Fire to the Foundation, and our opinion that financial support from the North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund Committee is an excellent use of state funds.

Our organization, Extreme North Dakota Racing, has been hosting endurance events in the Pembina Gorge since 2011, including three 24-hour adventure races and four editions of an Ironman-distance off-road triathlon, the Wilderman. As far as we are aware, this is the only non-pavement race of its length in North America. Racers are drawn from across the country to test themselves in the unique terrain of the Pembina Gorge. Expanding the opportunities available in the neighborhood can only give people more reason to test their limits--and bring friends and family along with them.

The fifth edition of the Wilderman race weekend coincides with the grand opening of the downhill terrain park at Frost Fire. Although we won't be utilizing the trails themselves for our event (this year), an estimated 100 racers, support, local volunteers, and spectators will be in attendance. The race will finish at the Frost Fire lodge. To be able to tell these folks that a chairlift has been funded by the state to support the continued operation of the park would go far to raise excitement about return visits.

If good stewardship of the outdoor recreational opportunities of North Dakota is the goal, there is no more economical way to add value to the area than by assisting the Pembina Gorge Foundation in a way that will allow them to rebuild a sustainable, year-round business. Your full support is very much appreciated.

Joel Larson
Matt Burton-Kelly
Alison Kelly
Directors, Extreme North Dakota Racing

July 11, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to encourage financial support in the form of grant money to the Frostfire Recreation Area. Frostfire has always been a huge asset to our corner of the State with skiing and snowboarding in the winter and in the summer musicals. My children grew up going to Frostfire to ski and snowboard in the winter, my family has attended the summer musicals at least one time each year. The potential for something great is located in the hills of the Northeast corner of the state if they could be awarded some grant money to assist with the chairlift project.

With the restructuring through the new ownership, in a short amount of time, they have already made huge improvements to the facility. Our small communities are energetic and excited for what the future holds for Frostfire.

The Pembina Gorge Foundation is working hard to promote this corner of the state. There is such potential in this little hidden treasure to truly benefit the small communities surrounding Frostfire and the State of North Dakota.

If they are given financial support to continue to repair and improve an already great asset, I truly believe that it will benefit not only the northeast corner of the State but the State of North Dakota in general.

As a resident of the Northeast Corner of North Dakota, I ask that you support the grant application of the Frostfire as a benefit to the Northeast Corner and the State and give financial assistance for the chairlift project..

Sincerely,

Anida Beauchamp 9556 County Road 45

Langdon North Dakota 58249

Steve Hart

9264 97th ST NE

WALES ND 58281

July 11, 2018

To the members of the North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board:

I'm writing to request that you vote to fund the chair lift project at Frostfire Mountain ski resort near Walhalla, ND. Frostfire Mountain is one of only 3 ski resorts in North Dakota and is currently crippled by not having the use of their main chairlift because of it's poor mechanical condition. The owners of Frostfire in cooperation with North Dakota Parks and Recreation have recently opened North Dakota's only downhill mountain bike terrain park. This attraction also sorely needs a functioning chair lift in order to succeed.

The Pembina Gorge is one of the very few recreational tourist attractions in eastern North Dakota. It's extraordinary beauty and stunning geography is unique in our state. The Pembina Gorge foundation (owners of Frostfire Mountain) and the North Dakota State Parks and Recreation department are working hard to promote recreational use of the area by tourists and local residents. The Frostfire chair lift project is one of the key projects needing funding. Please vote in favor of funding this important project.

Sincerely,

Steve Hart

Honorable Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board:

I am writing this letter for the "love of North Dakota". I was born, raised and educated in North Dakota. I have been and always will be an advocate for this state through my commitment to raise my family here, work here and spread the good news of what North Dakota offers. Our children were raised, educated and continue to live and raise their children here – a commitment to this beautiful state and all it offers, which includes four seasons of recreational opportunity.

The outdoor recreational areas of North Dakota are outstanding, given the population and breath of this state. In the past year, we have twice enjoyed the beauty of Medora and all it offers, Lake Metigoshe State Park and the International Peace Gardens as well as the musical at Frost Fire. There were many out of state license plates, so economic development is a reality! Look to the example of Medora and <u>one man's</u> efforts! **Now we are all on board!**

Let's use this example and <u>develop Frost Fire in the manner that it needs to be</u> <u>developed</u>. It meets most of the Directives of the Outdoor Heritage Fund and certainly Directive D- whereby you are committed to conserving natural areas and creating other areas for recreation through the establishment and development of parks and other recreational areas. Let's give our Canadian friends a greater reason to visit our great State and provide ease of access to families living and working in northeastern North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota.

Let's practice "love for North Dakota" – like the Magic Penny words written by Malvina Reynolds in about 1949 and it still applies today.

"Love is something if you give it away, give it away, give it away. Love is something if you give it away, you end up having more.

It is just like a magic penny, hold it tight and you won't have any. Lend it, spend it, and you'll have so many, they'll roll all over the floor.

So, love North Dakota, invest in Frost Fire and the investment will be there for posterity!

With gratitude and appreciation for your time and attention,

Joan L. Johnson,

Grand Forks, North Dakota.

From: Keith Becker < KBecker@gfhope.org > Date: July 10, 2018 at 3:02:43 PM CDT

To: "kristi.wilfahrt@outlook.com" < kristi.wilfahrt@outlook.com>

Subject: frostfire

Dear Advisory Committee,

Please fund the chairlift project at Frostfire Mountain. This project not only fulfills the fund's purpose but would bring such tangible health & environmental benefits to over 350,000 North Dakotans who live within 3 hours of Eastern North Dakota's most beautiful setting. The chairlift can be used in all seasons and would further advance North Dakota's image to out of staters. Thank you again in advance for supporting this state treasure!

Sincerely, Keith Becker – Grand Forks

From: Lonnie < lis@utma.com>

Date: July 13, 2018 at 10:38:45 AM CDT To: < kristi.wilfahrt@outlook.com > Subject: Support for Frost Fire Area

To the Outdoor Heritage Fund Committee:

This is in response for support of funds for the Frost Fire Area. Since it's beginning, Dick and Judith Johnson believed and grew their business into a legacy. This in turn provided many employees (my husband, included) and years of enjoyment for not only our family but many others in the surrounding area, including our great neighbors from Canada, and visitors from other states! Please consider these factors in making your decision. Thank you.

George and Lonnie Brusseau

On Jul 11, 2018, at 8:38 AM, Leah Howatt < leah.howatt@gmail.com wrote:

To whom it may concern,

I am disheartened by hearing that the recent vote to fund the Frost Fire Ski & Snowboard Area was not approved. I grew up in Langdon, ND and Frost Fire was an integral part of my childhood. Many of my family's dollars went to fun filled days of physical activity in such a special location. When the chairlift was rendered unusable and forced Frost Fire to close its doors, I knew the local tourism really suffered. Thankfully we have strong community members that see the value of this wonderful site and have made moves to make it not only profitable, but a complete attraction for winter AND summer activities.

The Ski and Snowboard opportunities in ND are limited at best. A quick google searched showed only three options with Frost Fire being part of that total. That means that many of our own local dollars will end up heading to Colorado and Montana to scratch that itch. Funding Frost Fire seems like a nobrainier opportunity to keep local dollars local as well as bring in patrons from Minnesota and Canada as well as college students from our outstanding universities that would see Frost Fire as a far more affordable and accessible option.

Also, the recent disclosure that Frost Fire has added bike trails really sparked my interest and realization that the area has a great opportunity to bring new and completely untapped tourism to the area. I was recently talking to friends in Chicago, where I currently reside, and they had just traveled all the way to Brazil to watch their brother compete in a bike race. I mentioned Frost Fire's newest addition and they immediately forwarded the information to their brother. This new and exciting circuit in the bike world has people going far and wide to train. They expressed their excitement for a 'Midwestern' training opportunity as they tend to have to go much further to really be challenged. Aside from the very competitive, I know our local population would also travel to use the facility. The world is making moves to be healthier and this is exactly what could bring people from Canada and Minnesota for day trips or quick weekends away. I have lived away from ND for years, but each time I return I feel the population is changing and really yearning for a healthier lifestyle and fun ways to do so.

Another great opportunity for Frost Fire has always been it's musicals. People travel from far and wide to not only view but also preform in the musicals and plays that are done each year. This then turns into family outings, which much like ski trips and bike trips, brings families to our local restaurants, campsites, and hotels.

Truly, the opportunities for this site are endless. The area is full of young families that are really excited to make this work and I hope you take this opportunity to bring life back into Frost Fire.

Please feel free to reach out if you have further questions,

Leah Howatt leah.howatt@gmail.com 701-256-0287 From: Morna Gorder < mornagorder@hotmail.com >

Date: July 11, 2018 at 9:40:05 AM CDT

To: "kristi.wilfahrt@outlook.com" < kristi.wilfahrt@outlook.com >, Morna Gorder

<mornagorder@hotmail.com>
Subject: Chairlifts for Ski Resort

To Whom it may concern,

We need to keep Frost Fire up and running, we need funding for our chair lifts, this is an asset to North Dakota. Frost Fire Ski Resort is a drawing card for tourism and recognition of North Dakota. Who would ever believe North Dakota could have a ski hill, and we have a great one. Let's keep our beautiful ski hill and our recreational opportunities. This is a North Dakota tourist site, lets keep it, "preserve and enhance the experience of the Pembina Gorge".

Roger Gorder Morna Gorder 15132 67 Street NE Grafton, ND 58237 mornagorder@hotmail.com 701.520.3243

From: Heather Szklarski < heatherszklarski@gmail.com >

Date: July 13, 2018 at 9:15:38 AM CDT

To: kristi.wilfahrt@outlook.com

To the members of the Outdoor Heritage Fund committee,

I was born and raised in the NE corner of North Dakota. My husband and I moved away in our 20s and lived and worked in the mountains of western Montana for almost a decade. Then, we came back! Because of our time spend at Frost Fire as children we had an interest in winter recreation that turned to love during out time in Montana. Between the two of us, we moved back to ND with two downhill mountain bikes, at least three snowboards, a pair of alpine skis and two pairs of telemark skis. We now have two children that we would love to teach these skills.

Without a safe ski lift at Frost Fire, we have to drive hours, generally into Minnesota, to find recreational opportunities for downhill skiing and mountain biking. How unique to have these opportunities offered in our part of the state. It would be a shame not to be able to share these amenities with a new generation.

My understanding is that tourism and recreation are North Dakota's number two economy next to Agriculture, it seems like a no-brainer to fund the amazing recreational and tourism opportunities in our region. I also understand that Frost Fire's Downhill Mountain Bike Trails are one of only two of their kind in our state. How amazing and worthwhile to make the trials lift accessible, adding additional income opportunity for Frost Fire.

I strongly support the mission of the Pembina Gorge Foundation and Frost Fire Park, preserving the beautiful area in our region and making it easier for people of all ages and abilities to enjoy it.

Sincerely, Heather Szklarski Grafton, North Dakota From: lcdruggift@utma.com

To: <kristie.wilfahrt@outlook.com> Subject: grand funding for Frostfire Date: Fri, 13 Jul 2018 08:52:29 -0500

To the members of the Outdoor Heritage Fund:

We are writing on behalf for you to reconsider your vote on the Frost Fire grant. We own and operate two businesses in the surrounding area, so we know firsthand how many times people state they wished the chairlift could be up and running. One of our businesses is Moose Creek Lodge. We get numerous people from Canada and they are very disappointed when they hear that the current chairlift is not operational and therefore at times do not come. These people when they come bring a lot of tourism dollars to the state as well as visit the surrounding businesses the area has to offer. So I would appreciate the board to reconsider their decision and help fund a new chairlift. Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,
Lyle and Deb Lutman
Moose Creek Lodge
Langdon Community Drug
Langdon, North Dakota