



Guide Outfitters Association of British Columbia

Suite 103, 19140 - 28th Avenue, Surrey, B.C. V3S 6M3 Phone: 604-541-6332 Fax: 604-541-6339 Email: info@goabc.org

Thank you for requesting information on joining the *Guide Outfitters Association of British Columbia*. The attached membership information package consists of 10 pages.

Please read through all pages, and complete those pages requesting information and signatures. The Bylaws of the Association also require that each new applicant obtain the signature of an existing GOABC member who supports the application.

Once the applicable pages have been completed, please fax them back to 604-541-6339 and send the appropriate membership dues to us by courier or mail. The membership dues will be \$320.00 (GOABC annual dues), plus \$50.00 (Local Association annual dues, where applicable) which comes to \$370.00 plus GST. The membership application cannot be processed until payment of membership dues has been received.

Also, please provide a one or two paragraph bio on yourself, including any experience as a Guide Outfitter, Assistant Guide or Fishing Guide.

Once the application form, dues and bio are received, here are the steps we follow:

- The Membership Committee reviews the application (often within 48 hours) to determine whether an Interim Membership should be granted (an Interim Membership provides the applicant with all the privileges and benefits of a full member, including the option of obtaining liability insurance;
- The applicant is so advised of their decision;
- If Interim Membership is granted, the applicant is able to apply for liability insurance coverage; and
- The Interim Member's application is then forwarded to the next meeting of the Board of Directors for approval of full membership.

Should you have any questions about the process of joining GOABC, or any of the attached information, please call 604-541-6332 or email info@goabc.org



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INFORMATION ON BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE GUIDE OUTFITTERS ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINES

The Guide Outfitters Association of British Columbia (GOABC) has been in existence since 1966. The Association's purpose is to serve the interests of the guide outfitting industry.

The criteria to become a member of GOABC is that you hold a current Guide Outfitters licence/certificate and/or Angling Guide licence and be actively engaged in the business of guide outfitting. You must pay your annual dues and any other fees or charges promptly and notify GOABC if you cease operations for any reason.

DUES AND FEES

Annual dues are \$320.00 (plus GST) per year for Guide Outfitters and are not pro-rated during the year. Local dues of \$50.00 (where applicable) are also payable at the same time.

Each Guide Outfitter member is responsible for collecting the Non-Resident Hunting Preservation Fund (NRHPF) fee from each client and remitting same to GOABC, along with a complete list of clients' names and addresses, by December 31st of the year in which they were collected. The NRHPF fee is currently \$125.00 (CDN funds) per client. NRHPF fees can also be remitted over the course of the year in which they were collected, by the Guide Outfitter.

Each sole-operating Angling Guide member, is assessed a special fee for each year of \$300.00, that like the NRHPF for Guide Outfitters, is an essential part of GOABC's revenue base.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

LIABILITY INSURANCE

The insurance contract is for the full year commencing each March 31st. The insurance covers all aspects of guiding and outfitting liability in BC, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut. River rafting, air travel and loss or damage of equipment is NOT included. Liability coverage for up to \$5,000,000 also includes coverage of personal losses by clients of up to \$5,000.00 (i.e. damaged rifle, clothing, and other gear).



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FIRE INSURANCE

GOABC members are eligible to receive preferred rates for fire insurance for lodges and fishing camps through the Association's insurance broker.

BONDING

All members are automatically covered by a province-wide blanket security bond that is in place between the Association and the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection, and applies to other agencies, such as Land and Water BC (formerly known as BCAL) and BC Parks. This saves individual members from \$500.00 - \$5,000.00 annually.

FULLY STAFFED OFFICE

The Association maintains a two-person, fully-equipped, modern office in Richmond to service the needs of all members and to oversee all aspects of the \$60 million per year industry in British Columbia.

MARKETING

Through the Association's flagship publication, ***Mountain Hunter***, GOABC members receive excellent exposure throughout Canada, the USA and Europe. A Directory, containing each member's name and contact information is published annually and more than 7,000 copies are distributed at key hunting and outdoor shows in the USA. Copies are also sent to dozens of potential clients each year, who contact GOABC's office, looking for information about hunting in British Columbia.

WEBSITE

Every member is entitled to have their name and contact information listed on GOABC's website on the Internet at no cost (www.goabc.org).

INDUSTRY INFORMATION

All members receive, on a regular basis, by email, fax, and/or postal mail, a newsletter called "*Members' Update*" to keep abreast of developing issues and new initiatives. Most newsletters also contain names and contact information for potential clients and potential employees.

ISSUES MANAGEMENT

The Association monitors and addresses issues that are affecting, or have the potential to affect, members of the Association. Whether it's dealing with politicians in Ottawa or Victoria, government officials in Victoria and the Regions, or resource sector industries, the Association uses its strength to resolve issues on behalf of its members.



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NATIVE LAND CLAIMS AND TREATIES

Government negotiators hear first-hand the positions and concerns of GOABC through representatives appointed by the Board of Directors on behalf of the membership.

PROVINCIAL COMMITTEES

GOABC members are represented on the Provincial Allocations Committee, Provincial Hunting Regulation Advisory Committee and also a working committee involving just GOABC and BC Parks to resolve various parks issues around the province.

GOVERNMENT LIAISON

The Association, through its General Manager, maintains a strong presence in Victoria where government policy is decided. Dealing with politicians from all sides, and with government officials in key Ministries like WLAP; Sustainable Resource Management; Finance and Corporate Relations; Forests and Competition, Science and Enterprise, enables the Association to move quickly in contacting the right people to solve a member's problem.

LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

Through the GOABC office, members have access to information on all legislation and regulations from both the provincial and federal governments. Everything from the Wildlife Act to federal gun laws to the Species at Risk (SARA) is only a phone call away.

LEGAL INFORMATION AND LITIGATION

On behalf of its members, the Association tracks legal decisions and consults legal counsel on various issues related to the guide outfitting industry. If necessary, the Association will also initiate court action to resolve issues affecting the industry.

NRHPF FUND

The *Non-Resident Hunter Preservation Fund* has helped ensure that the financial resources are in place to enable the Association to look after the interests of its members and clients both now and in the future. Whether it's anti-hunting pressures, land use conflicts, land claims or more restrictive hunting regulations, GOABC has the financial resources at its disposal to address those issues on behalf of members.

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

GOABC has a strong organizational structure comprised of a fifteen member provincial Board of Directors and seven local associations covering all regions in the province. GOABC also has a strong working relationship with the Association of MacKenzie Mountain Outfitters (AMMO) and the Yukon Outfitters Association (YOA). Not only do members have an opportunity to be directly involved in the affairs of their local, through their Presidents, their views are taken directly to the provincial board and on to government.



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ETHICS AND STANDARDS

The Association has adopted some of the highest professional ethics and standards in North America to help ensure hunting and fishing experiences in British Columbia with GOABC members are positive and professional. That reputation directly benefits members by helping to attract clients to British Columbia (see the attached copy of the “*Code of Ethics and Standards*”).

ANNUAL CONVENTION

The highlight of each year is the Annual Convention held each spring. The three- day event that includes an Auction Fundraiser is both informative and fun. It provides a wonderful opportunity for GOABC staff and members, their clients and related government and private business representatives to come together and discuss guide outfitting concerns and interests.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

GUIDE OUTFITTERS ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Suite 103, 19140 – 28th Avenue
Surrey, BC V3S 6M3

Phone: (604) 541-6332

Fax: (604) 541-6339

E-mail : [*info@goabc.org*](mailto:info@goabc.org)



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REQUIREMENT OF THE BYLAWS OF THE GUIDE OUTFITTERS ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Persons wishing to become Active members of the Association must:

- i) Obtain the signature of one (1) Active member in good standing;
- ii) Join their Local Association, where one exists;
- iii) Provide a copy of the Guide Outfitters certificate, Guide Outfitters licence or Angling Guide licence. Angling Guides must also submit their current operating plan. Where an applicant for membership is not yet in possession of a Guide Outfitters licence or Angling Guide licence, but is in the process of obtaining it from the Ministry, proof of clean intent to obtain such licence shall suffice, until a license is granted. In such cases, if a license is not granted, his application for membership shall become null and void;
- iv) Receive final approval from the Board of Directors. Such approval may be granted on an interim basis by a Committee of the Board that has been given that responsibility. Interim approval shall carry with it all the rights and privileges of Active Membership unless the Committee directs otherwise. All Interim Memberships shall be considered for final approval at the first Board of Directors' meeting following receipt of the application.

PART I: APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Applicant's Name: _____

Company Name: _____

Address: _____ E-mail: _____

City/Town: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone & Fax Number: () _____ () _____

Website: _____

Species and Trips offered to clients: _____



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PART II: GUIDING TERRITORY INFORMATION

Location of Guide Territory (Region): _____

Management Unit Number(s): _____

Guide Certificate Number: _____ (Attach copy)

Guide Licence Number: _____ (Attach copy)

If applicable:

Angling Guide Number: _____ (Attach copy)

Location of Angling Guide Area (Region):

Management Unit Number(s):

Angling Guide Licence Number (please attach a copy of your license and approved operating plan)

PART III: _____ Name of Applicant

Name of Local Guides' Association:

Name of President:

I, the undersigned, agree to the following: Please check each box:

- that I do hereby make application for membership in the Local Guide Association referred to above (a requirement of the Bylaws);
- that I do hereby make application for membership in the Guide Outfitters Association of British Columbia;
- that the information I have provided herein is true to the best of my knowledge;
- that the integrity of present use and facilities of other GOABC members, including cabins, camps, etc., will be respected;
- that my clients will be guided consistent with the definition of "Guide" as contained in the *Wildlife Act*;
- that I have read and understand the Code of Ethics and Standards adopted by the



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membership of GOABC and agree to adhere to it and that I shall abide by the GOABC Constitution and Bylaws and other rules of the Association and such other Associations with which GOABC may be affiliated;

and, further,

- that I am actively engaged as a Guide Outfitter; and/or;
- that I am actively engaged as an Angling Guide; or
- that I am in the process of obtaining a: Guide Outfitters Licence; and/or Angling Guide Licence from the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection

Liability Insurance:

1. Have you ever applied for and received liability insurance from another insurance provider previously? Yes ____ No ____

If your answer is "yes" to this question, have you had any claims in the past 10 years?

Yes _____ No _____

If your answer is "yes" to this question, please explain the circumstances on a separate sheet of paper.

2. Have you ever been refused liability insurance previously? Yes ____ No ____

If your answer is "yes" to this question, please explain the circumstances on a separate sheet of paper.

Signature of Applicant: _____

Date Signed: _____



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PART IV:

Name of Applicant

OTHER SIGNATURES REQUIRED

The person whose signature appears below is an ACTIVE MEMBER in good standing with the Association and, his/her signature herein indicates support of this application.

Name of Member

Signature of Member

Date

Signature of Local President (where applicable): _____

Date signed: _____

PLEASE NOTE: Upon completion of this application, please send it along with the appropriate fees to:

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For office use:

- Applicant has joined Local Association (if applicable)
- All Licences are attached
- All dues are enclosed
- Cheque # _____ Bank: _____
- Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date: _____
- Form is completed
- Insurance fee enclosed
- Insurance Transfer Form completed and attached
- More information required
- Receipt # _____

Interim Approval Date: _____

Final Approval Date: _____



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Revised: June 2004

Name of Applicant

GUIDE OUTFITTERS ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA CODE OF ETHICS AND STANDARDS

1. An Active Guide Outfitter must hold a guide outfitters license or be actively engaged in the guiding industry and who, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, should be granted an Active Membership.
2. A member is required to provide and maintain stock, equipment, food supplies and related facilities, which are commensurate with those as advertised to the public.
3. A member contravenes the Code of Ethics and Standards who gives false or misleading information to prospective clients and, in particular, terrain or equipment available. A member also contravenes the Code who gives false or misleading information relating to guiding and outfitting fees and expenses.
4. A member shall not trespass upon the rights of other members.
5. A member must be familiar with the Wildlife Act and other related statutes and the regulations enacted thereunder, and at all times, shall be in a position to advise both employees and clients of their rights and responsibilities while under his jurisdiction.
6. A member shall be willing and capable of making restitution in cash or in kind for breach of contract between themselves and the client where the client is not at fault.
7. A member shall not cause, encourage or condone any violation of the Wildlife Act and/or related statutes and of the regulations passed thereunder and shall maintain a high standard of public safety.
8. A member, while engaged in guiding, shall not kill game other than as required in the interest of human safety or to relieve the plight of wounded game.
9. A member shall have particular regard to the provision of clean, sanitary accommodation and to promote the highest standards possible in the preparation of food.
10. A member shall practice sound wildlife conservation and promote and encourage its practice by others.
11. A member shall maintain a degree of proficiency, responsibility, professional standards and conduct satisfactory to the membership and standards of the Association.

Applicant's Signature

Date