

## Upper Seymour River access changes

Recent procedural changes have taken place at the Rice Lake Security Gate and the access road up into the Lower Seymour Conservation Reserve (LSCR). Members of paddling clubs, such as the Beavers, have for many years enjoyed this remarkable run that seems remote but is essentially within city limits. The access until recently was very simple: show up at the gate house with your group, sign in with the security guard your names, assign a leader, license plate numbers, put-in, take-out and expected exit time. Not as easy anymore but still well worth the extra work!

This has all changed due to the gate being unguarded after 9am daily. Instead, paddle leaders require contacting the LSCR supervisor a day ahead to let them know your plan to paddle, arrive on the day of the trip well before 9am, be given a temporary magnetic key card and pad-lock key, and on the way out after the trip, drop the card and key into a locked box on the gatehouse porch.

Here is the contact for the supervisor and deputy supervisor, respectively:  
Joe Gellard (604) 506-3109 and Luke Gjerdalen (604) 218-6141

Enjoy!

Marc Guimond

## Seymour Paddling – When the water levels are up

We now have a great new tool for organizing impromptu paddles and last-minute communications on planned or impromptu trips. Want to get on an impromptu trip with a group? Join the Seymour River chat group and use the WhatsApp app to help Seymour River paddlers!

The purpose of the group is to organize impromptu paddles and last-minute communication (e.g., change of meeting location/time) on planned or impromptu trips.

This chat group is not directly affiliated with any canoe or paddling clubs, so it is acceptable to invite any friend to become a chat group member provided you know them fairly-well, they are competent, safety conscious and appropriately equipped for whitewater paddling.

You join by having the WhatsApp app. You may need to download it.

The group Administrators are Paddy Lee ([phldesigns@shaw.ca](mailto:phldesigns@shaw.ca)) and Marc Guimond ([chez.guimond@gmail.com](mailto:chez.guimond@gmail.com)).

WhatsApp makes it easier for organizers to initiate impromptu trips. It also circumvents problems that occur with email when people keep adding more names to email threads (a few people get left out of some messaging). With WhatsApp every member sees every message. What could be better?

The chat group Administrators' only roles are to accept or remove people from the chat group and to help people to become members. They do not monitor message content nor accept responsibility for misuse of the chat group.

You can install WhatsApp on multiple devices. Members have it on their cell phones, and some also have it installed on their Windows PCs (Windows requires WhatsApp to be installed on the phones first).

Kayaks and canoes are welcome.

You can get more information from [What's up with WhatsApps? – A Seymour Trips Message Group! – the Beaver Canoe Club.](#)