

Williams Lake Sportsmen's Association  
Box 4097  
Williams Lake, BC V2G 2V2

Pamela Berg  
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SCI Solutions Alliance  
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Dear Pamela,

The Williams Lake Sportsmen's Association is delighted to hear of the possible availability of an Argo amphibious off road vehicle to be used to enable persons with spinal cord injuries and other disabilities to access wilderness areas and to enjoy outdoor pursuits.

If we were to receive the vehicle, we are fully prepared to provide such opportunities to many people with spinal cord injuries and others who are otherwise unable to enjoy the wilderness and attendant activities such as hunting, fishing, photography, bird watching and just plain enjoying the outdoors. Many people in our community live in Williams Lake for those opportunities, but some cannot take part in such activities because of some physical disability.

We would be happy to take ownership and responsibility for such a vehicle and are fully prepared to house it safely and securely and insuring the vehicle and the users. We recognize that there are vehicle-related costs, including fuel, maintenance, storage and general upkeep.

We have some possible partners who would wish to have a chance to use this vehicle, and we are prepared to take the lead in organizing opportunities, providing storage and insurance and ensuring that users are properly trained. Our board would be honoured to be able to provide this service to people who would benefit greatly.

Attached is our proposal, a 2007 financial statement, the minutes of our Annual General Meeting and a copy of our Board Handbook.

Yours truly,

Barry Jenkins, President  
Williams Lake Sportsmen's Association

## OUTDOOR OUTREACH

### DRAFT PROPOSAL to the Rick Hansen Foundation

Re: Argo amphibious vehicle program

#### OUTDOOR OUTREACH PROGRAM

From Williams Lake Sportsmen's Association  
Box 4097  
Williams Lake, BC V2G 2V2

March 12, 2008

About the WLSA: The Williams Lake Sportsmen's Association is a not-for-profit society that is designed to promote an interest in outdoor recreation and wildlife conservation and to promote and to develop an interest in hunting, fishing and archery.

We have a large property which includes a \$650,000 clubhouse, completely accessible to persons with disabilities, with rifle, handgun and shotgun ranges, and our affiliates are the Cariboo Archers, who share the clubhouse and have their own property and practice areas. We are also developing a relationship with Sea Cadets, who have used our property and ranges for several years for survival camping and biathlon training.

The club basically started in 1935, when the town was very young. Over the years it has had many names and a wide assortment of members from all walks of life. With more than 500 WLSA members, we are seeking more ways to involve the club in the whole community. It became the Rod and Gun Club in 1960, and in 1985, after building the new clubhouse, changed its name to the Williams Lake Sportsmen's Association to encompass the archers and other possible outdoor-oriented groups.

The ranges are also used by RCMP, Conservation Officers, Sheriff's Officers and even Cadet groups and biathletes for necessary target practice. Registered trap shoots, sporting clays competitions, black powder rendezvous, competitive rifle shoots and handgun shoots and huge archery competitions have all filled the grounds over the years.

A Junior Olympians Archery Program is sponsored by the club, as is the Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Education hunter training and the Canadian Firearms Safety Course.

Conservation projects have included the cleanup of Jackson's Hole lake north of Williams Lake, aeration projects at Till Lake, transplanting of California bighorn sheep to Nevada and other places, transplanting Canada geese from southern BC to Chilko Ranch and studies of bighorn sheep behaviour and cougar behaviour.

Program Focus: A recent focus has been on recruiting youth, as shown by the JOP and cadet corps, and the donation of the Argo would allow us to develop another program with a different, wider focus and service to persons with Spinal Cord Injuries and other physical disabilities within the community.

We are fully prepared to provide opportunities to many persons with Spinal Cord Injuries and other disabilities who are otherwise unable to enjoy the wilderness and attendant activities such as hunting, fishing, photography, bird watching and just plain enjoying the outdoors. Many people in our community live in Williams Lake for those opportunities, but some cannot take part in such activities because of some physical disability.

Program Clients: The club would use publicity resulting from the donation, in addition to promotion of the program on our website, to help attract Spinal Cord Injured clients and other persons with disabilities who would benefit from the experience. Furthermore, if we could take delivery of the Argo before the end of June, we are sure we could find a place in the Williams Lake Stampede Parade, with potential clients on board, to make the program visible to hundreds of people.

We have also approached numerous groups who might have members interested in an “outdoor outreach” program, and they have responded with enthusiasm. Groups confirming support include the BC Paraplegic Association in Prince George, the Child Development Centre, Boys and Girls Club, the Canadian Mental Health Association and the Old Age Pensioners Association.

Other groups we are approaching include Baker Manor, which houses some persons with Spinal Cord Injuries, the Royal Canadian Legion, Shriners’ Club, Alzheimer’s Support Group, Gavin Lake Forest Education Society, Senior Citizens Activity Centre, the 139 Children’s Society, Cubs, Brownies, Scouts and Guides. We will seek referrals from the Williams Lake Seniors Village and, which houses some persons with spinal cord injuries. We will speak with school counselors for input and/or referrals of youngsters.

Program Structure: With a fixed venue such as Biff’s Ponds, we could offer a bi-weekly tour on a first come, first serve signup, perhaps alternating among the interested agencies. Raven Lake and Dugan Lake are good, accessible locations for ice fishing, and participants could fish from the Argo itself.

We would also be able to accommodate proposals from client groups and could be either group trips or an individual; for example, we could use the machine to allow a person or persons with Spinal Cord injuries or other physical disabilities to take part in a group hike.

Outreach to individuals would be the third approach the club would make, involving referrals from friends, family and agencies.

Fee Structure: We would seek donations from agencies or groups wishing to use the service, and charge a small fee for individuals, with the understanding that we would be fundraising so that the service would be available at no charge to those with limited means.

Transfers: We would seek training in helping disabled persons make transfers into and out of the Argo as well as vehicles traveling to more remote locations. Also, the agencies we have talked to so far would provide trained caregivers to go with their clients. This would need to be arranged on an individual basis. We are not entirely

familiar with the amphibious vehicle and its accessibility, so we may have to adapt ramps and/or slides to assist. We understand these vehicles have been used for this type of transport before, so we will need to talk to others who have had this experience. We have talked with Joe Basnette in Prince George and he has agreed to be a resource person. We also have a paramedic who is interested in helping with this program.

Communications and Emergency Procedures: We are equipped with walkie talkies, cell phones and a radio-phone for communications as required. We will equip the Argo with a good First Aid kit and ensure that someone with at least Basic First Aid will be available on all outings.

#### Storage

The vehicle can be stored safely and securely in the basement of our clubhouse, which has ground level access.

#### Insurance

Our insurance agent has given us a quote of \$300 for insurance, including \$2 million liability, as a rider to our existing property and liability insurance.

#### Opportunities

Our club has numerous members with vast experience in outdoor activities in the area who have volunteered to assist in providing opportunities for persons with spinal cord injuries or other disabilities to once more enjoy the Cariboo outdoors.