

Cariboo Ski-Touring Club

Minutes December 9, 2014

In Attendance: Peter van Leusden , Brian Black, Marilyn van Leusden, Amy Reid, Mike Alborn, Lee Morgan, Greg Strebel, John Redburn, Jim Crellin, Bruce Self, Ron Watteyne

Absent with Regrets: Vicki Esplen, Chris Elden, Paul Mednis, Herb Chlebek, Holly Nelson, Lisa McCarger

Adopt agenda: M: Mike 2nd: Jim

Adoption of Minutes of November 6, 2014: M: Greg 2nd: Amy

Adoption of treasurer report for November 30, 2014 M: Jim 2nd: John

Correspondence:

1. CSTC ANNOUNCEMENT

The CSTC directors have appointed Tania Gruene Club Manager / Program Coordinator. In her new duties Tania will be involved with all aspects of club administration and continue to coordinate and manage the club programs. The directors were unanimous in making the appointment and very pleased with the contribution that Tania has made to the very successful Elementary School program and operation of the Rental Shop. We are very confident that Tania will do a wonderful job in her new responsibilities and will make a significant contribution to our organization

2. CSTC has filled 2 part-time seasonal positions for Ski Rental Shop and Lodge Attendant. We welcome Dianah Bergeson and Konrad Teetzen.

3. Thank-you letters were sent to:

- Brad Gasoff of HMC Services Wells copy to John Andrushko of HMC Services Quesnel. Brad helped construct the Yellowhawk trailhead outhouse.
- John Andrushko HMC Services Quesnel for their continuing support clearing the parking lot.
- Alan Bieganski of the Vanderhoof CO-OP for their generous fuel donation.

4. CSTC will have a **FREE** fun ski camp with hip hop dance class as an indoor activity on Dec30th from 10-3 for children age 10-13. This is sponsored by an 'imagine grant' so registration and rentals are completely free. Space is limited so register early at Rocky Peak downtown or email rentalshop@caribooski.ca or call Tania [250-991-6906](tel:250-991-6906).

5. **Canadian Masters National Cross Country Championships North America's Premier Cross Country Event**

The Nationals will take place in Kamloops at the Stake Lake Nordic Centre, February 8 - 14, 2015, and for the first time, welcome Master skiers from throughout Canada and the United States

Old Business:

1. **Criminal Record Checks**

CRC's can now be done on-line and used by more than 1 organization. Lee has faxed in the form to request CSTC be enrolled in the CRRP service. CSTC will receive a number that volunteers will enter on the on-line form they fill out. This is free for volunteers and \$28 for employees.

Link: <http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/criminal-records-review/forms/index.htm> .

Action Item: Lee, Marilyn and Tania to put together info packages for SDP, Jim Lisa and Tania.

2. Sponsors

Dave McCulloch has organized a 30" X 50" *in appreciation* sign to be printed with all obstacle course sponsors. The sponsors will also be posted on the website

Action Item: Marilyn will send the website link to the sponsors **In progress**

3. Trail Maps

Work is in progress on the trail maps. The team of Greg, Ron, Sunshine and JR continues to labour with building an interim and **new** map. West Road consultants is donating their services to complete.

Action Item: John will send a map of the CSTC trails to Greg. Greg will print copies to leave in the lodge for skiers to take with them.

In progress

4. Web Cam

Herb is working on a project to set up a webcam to show a view of the staging area as well as the temperature on the CSTC website.

Action Item: Herb to work towards completion with Mike's help (mid Dec) **In progress**

5. Volunteers

Vicki is generating a list of club volunteers.

6. List of events to Olive for potential donations

Action Item: The following leaders will provide Olive with a list of items for their event.

Marilyn Ski School

Jim Biathlon

Brian Open house

Vicki Loppet

Sunshine Elementary school races

Peter 75 km challenge

7. List of Fall work parties and dates:

- November 8 shed building party - Mike:

Thanks to Peter van Leusden, Brian Kennelley, and Mike MacLachlan for braving the soggy weather to finish the shed. Thanks to Ronski for wiring the shed. And a special shout out to Jeff Closs for lending us his air nailer.

- There was a very successful trail clearing work party Wed Nov 12 for the clearing of blowdown timber and danger trees. Eight trees were removed from Canis Lupus, Gerry's Choice, Wally's Way, the bush trail and stadium. As well, tops and large branches were removed from the upper level trails. A small project inside the lodge, left over from the summer, was also completed. The happy but slightly chilled participants included Bruce Self, Arnold Kilsby, Brian Kennelly, Paul Mednis, Peter Van Leusden, Al Schutz, Mike Adams and John Redburn.

8. Risk Management Update, Dogs on Ski Trails

Clubs that allow dogs on their premises are advised to inform dog owners that they are responsible for their dog's behaviour.

The owner of a dog is responsible for maintaining control over his/her pet and to be in abidance of any bylaws etc. that govern having a pet in public. If a skier is interfered with by a dog and suffers bodily injury, and they sue the dog owner and the club for damages, the club will be fully protected under the CCC/CCBC liability insurance policy. However the owner of the dog has no protection and is personally responsible for his/her dog's actions just as they would be in other similar settings.

John has updated the sign at the stadium.

9. Lodge Rental Guidelines

Tania has taken the Food Safe course.

Action Item: Marilyn will request Tania confirm that Konrad and Dinanah have the Food Safe Course and that a price list for concession items be prepared.

10. Lodge Catering

Ron has created a poster advertising the Bliss “Warm Concession” that will be available on Saturdays & Sundays in the Hallis lodge. Greg has forwarded the poster to the membership.

Action Item: Herb to update the website with the Bliss warm concession poster.

Marilyn will request that Bliss prepare a price list of concession items.

11. Lodge Insurance

Brian has followed through on Peter’s motion to increase lodge coverage with Johnson Meyer from \$245,000 to \$295,000.

New Business:

1. Tracking Executive volunteer hours

Action Item: Lee will circulate a chart at monthly meetings for tracking executive volunteer hours.

2. Gaming Account Summary Report:

Marilyn and Amy gave an account of where the club stands with the gaming account and reviewed the Gaming Account Summary Report which was prepared by them. Marilyn will submit the Summary Report to the Gaming Branch this week.

Motion: Mike moved to accept the Gaming Account Summary Report.

Seconded by: John

motion carried

3. Remaining work parties required:

December 12 lodge decorationg

December 13 BC Cup volunteer training day has been postponed pending improved snow conditions

4. Gratuities:

On behalf of CSTC Peter will purchase a \$75 Granville’s gift certificate for John and Brenda at Rocky Peak in appreciation for all their help with membership registration, gift certificate sales and promotion. Peter will also purchase 2 cookie platters for HMC staff (day and night shifts) this fall and again in the spring for their dedication to snow clearing of the Hallis parking lot.

5. Budget \$ for work to the lighted trail

\$1000 will be allocated to clearing trees and replacing poles in 2016

6. Budget \$ for work to the north end of Canius Lupus

\$2000 will be allocated for work needed on the Canis Lupis trail.

7. SDP Director Sunshine will be stepping down from this position for 1 year.

Motion: Brian Moved that Lisa McCarger be appointed skill development director.

Seconded by: Peter

motion carried

8. Logo and letterhead

A new CSTC logo has been adopted and a letterhead formatted. Electronic letterhead will be used where possible.

9. Conflict of Interest

Action Item: Lee to convert the CCBC conflict of interest guidelines into a CSTC document.

10. Update Brochure

Action Items: Ron to update the CSTC brochure to include rental shop, lodge opening and concession information.

Amy to look into grants for this work.

Committee Reports:

1. Skill Development Program: Jackrabbit/Track Attack – Lisa.

As of Dec 8, we have 40 athletes registered in the SDP program.

We are having great difficulty finding people who are willing to commit to coaching this year. We have a large pool of people who are willing to help, but don't want to be a head coach. We will be making a serious push this year with parents to get them involved in helping the groups and asking them to commit to coaching in the future. We will be organizing parent lessons to help them improve their ski skills. We will be asking them to commit to a coaching course near the end of this winter season, ICC, if possible, with an eye to having them commit to a CCC coaching course fall/winter 2015 and be ready to coach for the 2015-2016 ski season.

We are making the switch this year from our long time classification system of Green, Yellow, Orange etc. Jackrabbits to the Level system as outlined in the CCC coaching manuals. There are four skill levels as part of the Jackrabbit program, plus a pre-Level 1. This means that we will be organizing by skill level first, and by age secondary.

We also have a small Track Attack group this year, which will hopefully build into a team which will travel to BC Cup races. These Track Attack athletes will be training with the biathlon team on Tuesday nights, with the assistance of Kevin Sturt as a Tuesday night coach. Some of the Track Attack athletes were participating in the biathlon dryland training program this fall. We will be able to build more of a Quesnel Ski Team spirit by combining them with biathlon on Tuesday nights, plus giving them more buddies to ski with and hopefully be inspired by.

Nicole Strand and Lisa McCarger, with much assistance from Tania and Sunshine, are the Jackrabbit organizers this year.

2. Nordics / biathlon – Jim Crellin

Regular practices were being held at the Kurta's range until the winter range was put in operation on November 15 as planned. Shooting practices are now on Saturday mornings at 10 AM as well as

dryland training during the week. We have 8 junior athletes and 3 masters training as of September and have rifles available for more junior athletes. Approximately 85 volunteer hours were dedicated to range clearing and setup

Preparation to host BC Cup #1 on January 2-4 continues to occupy a lot of time. Paper Target racks have been moved to the LHS of the metal targets to conform with IBU rules. A lot of time is being spent on learning Biathlon in a Box, the required timing program. The Biathlon BC timing equipment will arrive today with the folks travelling back from the training camp in Canmore. We are planning a training session for all officials this coming Saturday to familiarize everyone with their duties prior to the competition date.

The Saturday evening social for this event will be held at the Legion as it is more convenient than requiring everyone to come back out to Hallis after dinner.

The \$500.00 sanctioning fee will be sent to Biathlon BC next week. So far we have 10 entries but that is typical for these events, the entries typically all come in during the last 2-3 days of registration.

At least 80 volunteer hours were dedicated to BC Cup #1 in November.

It would be a great help if we could have some donation items to distribute as door prizes and/or competition prizes at the Saturday evening social.

3. Membership – Greg 386 members to Dec 1 / 405 to meeting date

The following is the link to the CSTC membership page where you can choose to download a PDF of the registration form or you can go to the site of the on-line host Zone4:

<http://www.caribooski.ca/membership-info.html>

4. Equipment – Mike

- Brian K got lots of initial packing done with the help of most of the rest of the team.
- The PB wouldn't start due to a battery problem, which meant both it and the Ginzu were unavailable until 3 or 4 December. The batteries on the PB have been replaced, (Brian B and Jim) and it's now in service.
- The Ginzu had a sticky actuator which is limiting its use. Brian B has a replacement part coming from the manufacturer.
- Muskwa has some failed track components; Brian has parts on order.
- Normally we find these problems during use and fix them in the off season; I may put together a more detailed inspection checklist for our summer work parties; especially for the aging twin tracks.

5. Backcountry – Bruce

The YellowHawk bypass is finished and usable. The "Tournament of Terror" hill at the bottom has been relocated to a much more skiable location. Flagging is pink/ black stripe or black dot. If you use it or hear of others who use it please send me feedback. John Redburn has a "bypass" sign for the top end but I don't think it is up.

The YellowHawk outhouse is in place. The door is very warped and will need to be replaced next summer but it is usable. Please help keep the door shoveled.

Wes Gregg reports good skiing this past weekend at Cariboo Mt. but also some porcupine damage to the outhouse. The 1300 rd. is plowed past the "M" road junction, so it is only a 4 km. ski to this cabin. Be aware of industrial traffic on the 1300 rd.

The Murray cabin still waits on the transport and installation of the new stronger stove elbow. Jim Gorsline has the elbow and installation kit and instructions.

No reports about the other cabins although I know there have been several parties to Murray.

If you hang ribbon/flagging to direct activities at Hallis, please remove it after your project is finished. There is fair bit of new orange and blue ribbon on Canis Lupus and it definitely detracts from the quality of the experience. No doubt there is ribbon on other trails.

For the safety of new members who wish to use the cabins, Bruce has drafted a Cabin Use Policy and gear checklist that the executive will review.

6. Signs & Trails , Lit track – John

New Sign & Map: Map & sign are closer to completion but we do not yet have a date.

Signage

Repairs were completed on two trail signs and one large sign at the stadium with the other large sign slated for repairs this week. A sign is in the works for the Ski Rental Shop.

Primary field work was undertaken for the BF Snowshoe ext. Other snowshoe trails are slated for later this month.

Trails & Lit Track

A work party cleared Canis Lupus and Gerry Choice of blowdown and danger trees. The power line was repaired by Altech as well as some overhanging branches removed. Willows etc. encroaching on the line have been removed at a variety of locations as well as pruning on conifers on the Katimavik Loop and one Fir tree Hill. The bush lights were installed this past week end on the WWT.

Projects No change

7. Social – Holly

8. 75 K Ski Challenge – Peter.

CSTC will work on a certificate to present members who complete the challenge.

9. Guided Ski Tours– Greg, Amy, Shannon and the Daigles will coordinate Wednesday nights.

10. Email communications – Greg

This message is only going out to the new and returning members who have already signed up. A little organization of the email list is appropriate. Right now you are on my email list "Hallis 2015". I know there are quite a few individuals who are not interested in hearing about Hallis trails, their focus is on back country and the ski cabins. Some of the Hallis users want to be apprised of trail grooming conditions only, and don't want to be bothered with unrelated information such as Yoga at the lodge or QLA or other items. Upon notice from you, I will move your email list from the general Hallis 2015 list to "2015 Backcountry" or "Hallis Ski Only".

11. Loppet – Vicki

12. Newsletter – Vicki

13. Volunteers - Vicki

14. Fundraising – Marilyn-Brian

MEC not successful

Via Sport Final report submitted November 16

McDonalds generously purchased 12 red vests for officials at club events.

There will be a photo op with McDonalds when the vests arrive.

15. Publicity/ Adult Lessons- Ron

Publicity:

Poster for the Jackrabbit sign up

Poster for the Lodge and ski shop hours

Poster for the ski trails open

Poster for the free ski camp & hip hop dance

Poster for Bliss catering on the weekends

Made up free ski passes to be given to all executive members (5 each for distribution)

Have 2014 / 2015 gift certificates ready to go. Ron to take price list to Rocky Peak

Spoke to Dale Taylor at the Goat radio just before the trails were opened. Will speak to him again after the next snowfall

Set up ads for the Observer 2 for Dec. 2 for Jan 2 for Feb.

Will do another video segment with John McKenzie from Shaw cable. He wants to mount go pro cameras either on skis or on a skier.

Adult Ski Lessons

Classic lessons starting Jan. 5, 7 & 9 Skate lessons Jan 12, 14 & 16 7:00 pm

Rates

Private 1.5 hour \$40.00 member \$45.00 non-member

Semi-private (2people 1.5 hour) \$25.00 / person member \$30.00 non-member

Group (max. 5 people 1.5 hour) \$20.00 / person member \$25.00 non-member

Get 7 skiers and you and your lessons will be free

16. Youth Ski School and Hallis Lake Rental Shop- Marilyn

a) Ski School Report

1. Youth Ski School is fully booked with 10 groups and 449 kids expected. Schools registered are: Ecole Baker (2/3, 4/5), Bouchie (3/4,6/7), Bouchie (K, K/1), Riverview (4/5, 5/6), NCCS (Primary), St Anne's (K-3), Carson (1/2,2/3, K/1, K) and Voyageur K, 2/3, K/1, 2/3). All schools have chosen dates and are on the YSS schedule.
2. Teaching and play equipment has been arriving for Youth Ski School and Skill Development Program. Some very fun stuff!
3. A coaches meeting for Youth Ski School will occur this Saturday, December 13th at 1 pm at the Lodge. Coaches have been responding positively to instructing again this year and have been requested to complete Criminal Record Checks using the online process.
4. A snow session will be held in early January to ski the playground and trails so everybody is familiar with the terrain and new equipment.
5. First session starts January 8th.

b) Rental Shop

1. The Rental Shop and Lodge will open December 20, 2014 and will be open 7 days a week for the season. Staff will be there on December 13 and 15th for SDP.
2. CSTC has hired Konrad Teetzen and Dianah Bergesen to work with Janet Allen in the Rental Shop and Lodge. Tania has created a schedule to cover opening hours and arranged training sessions with Konrad & Dianah.
3. Reminder that during the Christmas holidays, the Rental Shop will be open every day, except for Christmas Day and New Years Day.
4. Advertising is out for a fun ski camp, with hip hop dance class as an indoor activity, on Dec30th from 10-3 for children age 10-13. This is sponsored by an "Imagine grant" so registration and rentals are completely free. Space is limited so register early at Rocky Peak downtown or email rentalshop@caribooski.ca or call Tania 250-991-6906. GoldPan City Dance

is providing an instructor for the hip hop dance session for the inside portion . The cost of the instructor is \$75.00. The Camp is free for kids through an 'Imagine' grant that will cover the cost of the camp and kids rentals.

5. Season Rentals Rates for SDP participants are:

-Bunnyrabbits, Level 1 and 2 using only classics will pay the regular 55.00 rate.
(10 sessions x5.5)

-Level 3 would pay 63.00. This number includes 7 sessions at \$5.5 for classic plus 3 sessions at \$8 for skate (38.5 + 24.= 62.50)

-Level 4 would pay 10 sessions at the ½ price season skate rental rate of \$8=\$ 80.00
These seasonal prices cover all the JR sessions, elementary school races and Loppet.

6. Tania has copied CSTC Policies and has put them in a binder for quick reference for staff.

7. The office renovations and some of the equipment room expansion will be done the week of **Dec8-12. Kelly Prevost, Wes Duckworth and Bob Jefferson will be helping with reno's. We** have all of our new skis and snowshoes and this week we will hopefully have the room to store them properly.

8. The lodge will have a warm self-serve concession available on weekends and a simple self-serve concession during the week. I purchased a crockpot so that we can have warm soup available on the occasional weekend that Bliss is not booked. We have a Keurig for the concession. This is a free use through the 'Canadian Springs' as long as we order the Keurig k packs through them. It is less than 1.00 per cup (16.99 for a 22 pk) which makes it a little bit cheaper than the Starbucks Via that we were offering. This will be returned to 'Canadian Springs' at the end of the season.

17. Lodge Management – Tania

Greg cleaned out the area at the bottom of the stairs to make the entrance to the rental shop more inviting. We need a sign installed that welcomes people to the rental shop and makes it an 'entrance'. I have spoken to John R about this. He plans to put a temporary sign up and plan for a more permanent solution next year.

The ladies bathroom doors need a latch that does not get stuck so easily. We often have to crawl under and unlock them after kids have been unable to open them.

Some bulbs need replacing inside and out. **Tania is doing this.

The office has been painted with help from Janet and Lee. Lee has plans to repaint another downstairs wall.

Some of the projects that were on the list at the AGM still need to be done:

-Re-paint the stairs to the basement

-Trim the men's washroom door and install self-closing hinges.

-Install a range hood in the kitchen.

We have a potential rental on the evening of December 20th. I will confirm this week. One inquiry but they decided not to rent after looking into insurance and licences.

Question re: pro-rating lodge rental time. My intention was to pro-rate for an evening rental. I told the party they could not have the lodge until after 5 because of other commitments so would have gone with an 80.00 minimum. Discussion needed. My thought was to base the 200.00 on 18 hours and pro-rated accordingly with an \$80.00 minimum. If this is not something we want to do then I can easily keep it at a flat rate of 200.00.

Action Item : Brian will clarify with Tania that CSTC's Executive discussed the rental rates and decided that a flat rate of \$200.00 should be charged regardless of the number of hours.

18. Coaching- Peter

1. X-C Officiating Course

- Held at Hallis November 22, 2014
- 5 club members attended the course (all members who are already active volunteers)
- 2 less involved members dropped out with the last 2 days before the course due to other last minute commitments
- Anecdotal remarks indicate the course was worthwhile.
- Cost to club \$640.00

2. Cansi Level 1

- Originally to be held Dec. 13 – 14, but changed to Dec. 20 – 21, to piggy back on with the PG Course, since we were not getting the numbers required.
- Bruce Bennett prefers NOT to do a Level 1 recertification at the same time as the complete level 1 course.
- We had one member applying to the executive to have the course covered if the course had been in Quesnel on the 13-14th
- Another younger member was going to apply but would be leaving town at the end of Jan. And may be back next year. I recommended he take the course and pay his own way. I've attached his reply.
Provided I would have to pay the course, transportation and ski rental to work as a volunteer, it won't be financially viable for me. Thanks for your answer anyway.
- As of writing 1 member has indicated an interest to take the course Dec. 20-21.

3. CC Community Coaching

- Booked at Hallis for Jan 17-18, 2015
- Cost to Club will be \$800.00
- On the coaching spreadsheet we have 7 members who have their ICC, but not their CC.
- May have to cancel this course, due to potential low numbers.

Recommendation:

- In future the club will evaluate the cost effectiveness of running these courses with low numbers.

Meeting adjourned at: 9:08 pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday January 13 2015 at 7 pm at QCEDC office at City Hall

Goodies Schedule:

January	Peter
February	Vicki
March	John
April	<i>open</i>
May	Ron