

**Cariboo Ski-Touring Club
Draft Minutes May 6, 2014**

In Attendance: Peter van Leusden , Brian Black, Marilyn van Leusden, Amy Reid, Ron Watteyne, Bruce Self, Mike Alborn, Lee Morgan, Greg Strebels, Kathy Jaffary, Chris Elden John Redburn, Vicki Esplen

Absent with Regrets: Herb Chlebek, Tony Jaffary, Jim Crellin, Sunshine Borsato, Holly Nelson, Paul Mednis

Adopt agenda: M: Vicki 2nd: Ron

Adoption of Minutes of March 11, 2014: M: Amy 2nd: Chris

Adoption of treasurer report for April 30, 2014 M: Marilyn 2nd: Chris

Correspondence:

1. CSTC received a letter of congratulations from Mayor Mary Sjostrom on behalf of the City of Quesnel for tremendous dedication and success. This letter, e-mailed to Brian, followed the CSTC presentation to the North Cariboo Joint Planning Committee March 28.
2. Blackwater Paddlers presented the Waterwalker Film Festival at the Helen Dixon Center Wednesday April 16.
3. CSTC received a thank you letter from Roy Josephy on behalf of the Quesnel Community Foundation for silent auction donations for its gala dinner fundraiser held May 5. CSTC donated 2 season memberships, 2 sets of 3 lessons for 2 people (including rental equipment), and a ride in the piston bully snow groomer.
4. CSTC received an invitation from Stuart Aldred, local McDonalds owner operator, to participate in McHappy day May 7, 2104. Funds raised are to be donated to the Quesnel Child Development Center. Greg to follow up with an email notification to all members.
5. Ivor McMann forwarded cabin quest donation to Amy.

Old Business:

1. Trail naming, practice hill

A vote was taken at the club Meltdown and the new hill is now “ Hasenpfeffer Hill”

- 2. CSTC Ski Swap:** Ron spoke with George Ryan about a combined ski swap for 2014. The topic is still under discussion.

Action Item: Ron to continue discussions

In progress

3. Criminal Record Checks

Lee compiled a list of volunteers who have been given the CRC forms to fill out and submit with a column to record the completed returned requests.

CSTC has received criminal record checks for Jim Crellin and James Kurta.

Action Item: Lee to review list with Peter and forward to Sunshine, Marilyn and Chris.

4. Sponsors

Action Item: Marilyn will make a list of sponsors for obstacle course. Thank-you letters sent to sponsors will include a website link. **In progress**

5. 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 is awaiting West Road for completion of a venue map(s) for use by skiers. **In progress**

6. 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 **In progress**

7. Volunteers

CSTC would like to generate a list of club volunteers.

Action Item: For September Vicki will put together a brochure with a simple form for people to fill out ticking off areas in which they are interested in volunteering. Brochures will be located in the lodge and rental shop and possibly at Rocky Peak where memberships can be purchased. Vicki will also mention volunteering in the next newsletter. The membership form will be revised to include a volunteer section. A new executive position of volunteer coordinator may be created. **In progress**

8. Review of projected revenue and expenditures for the remainder of the year

Remaining expenses and revenues for the year were discussed.

Marilyn has sent Amy the Loppet registration from zone 4.

Amy has reviewed revenue & expenses and reallocated items as required. **Complete**

9. Trail improvements

A suggestion was made to improve the grade on the north end of Canius Lupis for 200-300 meters to remove the side slope. CSTC will consider hiring a machine and operator to widen trails by clearing the willows back. Widening of the path to the lodge was also brought up.

Action Item: Brian and Ron will discuss options with other executive members.

10. Draft Policy regarding Birthday Parties

1 successful youth birthday party was held on a Wednesday night for a group of ~16. Further discussion is required to decide on a policy going forward.

Action Item: Marilyn will draft a policy to review in September.

New Business:

1. Review of contract changes with the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations.

This contract is for the next 10 years from April 1, 2014 to 2024.

The ministry now has insurance to cover volunteer members year round for work done at Hallis.

The project leader needs to record birthdates of any non-members volunteers.

Chainsaw operators will need to prove competency.

The ministry will now take responsibility for plowing the parking lot.

2. Key dates for next season

ICC	October 4-5, 2014
L2T	September 12-14, 2014
Open House	January 11, 2015
Loppet	January 24, 2015
Winter Carnival	February 7, 2015
Family Day(?)	February 9, 2015
Elementary races	February -21, 2015
CC	January 17-18, 2015
CANSI	to be decided in September
Canada Winter Games	February 13-March 1, 2015 in Prince George

3. Update of the 5 year plan

See 5 year plan

4. Budget 2014-15 overview

\$300.00 has been added to the repair and maintenance 2015 budget under Tracksetting.

Motion: Mike moves that the CIBC term deposits maturing May 6, 2015 (\$8813.00) and May 10, 2015 (\$8813.00) be internally restricted for debt repayment, ski and grooming equipment replacement and major repairs.

Seconded by Greg

Motion carried

Motion: Mike moves that about \$10,000 (exact amount to be decided by Amy and Brian this month) be paid down on the piston bully loan.

Seconded by Greg

Motion carried

Committee Reports:

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

2. Nordics / biathlon – Jim Crellin

Regular practices were held at the Hallis range in March finishing off with a wind-up party on April 6. The range was mostly taken down on April 13 and finished off on April 26. Snow conditions were still great into early April.

The third BC Cup race and BC Championships were held in Smithers on March 1-2 and was reported on in the February report. It was quite cold again, close to -20 and shooting was difficult but most of our athletes performed well.

The regional race in Vanderhoof and a fun race in Prince George rounded out a busy season.

We have received a \$1500 grant from Biathlon BC for equipment upgrades on the condition that the club match those funds. We have purchased a new Biathlon 7-3 Cadet rifle, the only one left in Canada. There is a well justified concern that the sanctions planned against Russia over the situation in the Ukraine will halt the importing of any Russian rifles for 2014-15, We plan to purchase a used 7-4 to complete this grant and that will equip us with sufficient rental biathlon rifles to have one available for all of the athletes beyond the Juvenile age group.

We have responded positively to a call for expressions of interest in hosting a BC Cup in 2015. The formal request for bids to hold the BC cup races will come out later in the spring.

3. Membership – Greg

520 Members

4. Equipment – Mike

Mike has a work party planned for May. Bruce is constructing a dolly for the ginzu groomer.

5. Backcountry – Bruce

Still lots of snow.

Items discussed:

Murray chimney repair, completion of Yellowhawk trail, Yellowhawk outhouse.

If there are any planned trips to the Murray cabin please contact Bruce before you go as he needs a measurement of the stove.

6. Signs & Trails , Lit track – John

Signage

A 2014 -2015 signage plan will be available for Sept 2014 . The current issue remains replacing the big map and marking junctions in relation to the new map

Trails

The brushing has been laid out. Desi Cheverie has a copy for furtherance to the Fire Protection, no news.

An access route to the fields for snowshoers was scouted out but not marked or cleared pending Executive discussion.

A short flat route utilizing the Katimavik Loop and Limited Mobility trail was also scouted out but not marked.

A work party for planting posts is in the works either this week or next.

Limited Mobility trail.

A kiosk needs to be constructed and erected ...discussion with other volunteers is ongoing.

Painting of benches and kiosk is also in the works. GPS and subsequent mapping is in initial stages. Outhouse needs finishing touches. I hope to have the project all complete by mid June or earlier.

New Map

John has contacted West Road Resources and the map is in their capable hands

7. Social – Holly

8. 10 Mile Lake Committee – Peter/Paul

Report from Ten Mile

There was some discussion about turning these trails over to the Parkland Recreation Commission. The snowmobile and tracksetting equipment belong to the PRC but CSTC provides insurance coverage through CCBC. Also, CSTC has a contract with the Ministry of Parks for winter use and grooming. Peter will proceed to have the Parks contract terminated and the entire responsibility turned over to the PRC.

9. 75 K Ski Challenge – Sunshine.

Many skiers completed the 75km ski challenge again this season and several completed the distance in a single day. Prizes were given out at the club meltdown held April 4 at Hallis. A small group gathered for a pot luck social.

10. Guided Ski Tours– Sunshine.

11. Lodge rentals – Sunshine

12. Lodge – Tony & Kathy Jaffary

- Purchased stock for the lodge, re-stocked the cupboards and washrooms.
- Emptied garbage the last time we were there, however we have not been out since the season has ended.

Jobs to do before next season

- Snow dams to be replaced, there will have to be three sets of them evenly spaced up the roof slope and running across the entire length of the roof to evenly spread the load of snow over the surface.
- Inside stairs will need to be repainted
- Self-closing hinges to be installed on the bathroom doors (we have purchased these)
- Exhaust fan over the stove in the kitchen needs to be purchased and installed

13. Email communications – Greg

14. Newsletter- Vicki

Next newsletter will be in September.

15. Fundraising - Marilyn

Ski School Report was sent to Cross Country BC.

The CCBC grant for this year's program, \$2500 is expected shortly.

16. Publicity/ Adult Lessons- Ron

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

a. Ski School Report

- o The Cariboo Ski Touring Club hosted its third year of the Ski S'Kool program this season. We had elementary classes from 8 schools attend with a total of 359 students in a total of 9 school groups. We have had very positive feedback and are looking forward to seeing our program grow. Our original plan was to have 330 students this year.
- o This year, our Youth Ski School Program had 9 school groups, each with 3 sessions of instruction, resulting in a total of 1046 students, as a result of 27 ski school sessions and 2 ski camps.
- o CSTC hosted an ICC course (November 1-2, 2013) and a CC course (January 3-5, 2014). Eleven CSTC members took the ICC course and 13 members took the CC course this season. CSTC's members with their ICC and CC coached all of the sessions.
- o The schools that participated were:
 - Voyageur elementary
 - Carson Elementary
 - Bouchie Lake Elementary
 - Ecole Baker
 - Nazko Elementary
 - NCCS
 - Riverview
 - Kersley

- CSTC's volunteers visited the participating schools before instruction sessions to size students for equipment and to provide each student with "Ski Cross Country" magazine. Students on the last day of their instruction sessions received a bookmark that provided contact information about the Cariboo Ski-Touring Club.

b. Rental Shop

An analysis of rentals thru Rental Shop was completed...Monday thru Sunday, December 2013 to March 2014.

Summary:

- Continue with 10-4 hours on weekends as it seems to be working well.
- Rental shop could open at 12pm on weekdays. This would eliminate double staffing during ski school days.
- Rental shop could be open from 12-6pm weekdays (Wednesday-Friday) to allow for after school/work skiing. Rental shop could be open Monday & Tuesday afternoon on Ski school days.
- Wednesday evening has been successful, should consider one other evening tied to SDP night sessions (Thursday evening seems the most logical choice- vs Monday as it one of our slowest days).
- In December: Open Weekends only in December until Christmas Holidays. Begin rental season during Christmas Holidays
- In January: Target groups to come Wednesday & Thursday mornings (or for twice a week groups Wed & Fri). Target community groups to come out (and book second/third sessions to come later in Jan or in Feb).
- In February: Focus on Family Day- as a ski club member celebration (i.e. potluck brunch, games, lessons& tours as a reward for being a club member). Extend rental shop hours in late Feb/ early March as the days get lighter to encourage after work/school skiing
- In March: Organize a special event 'Spring Fling' to show people the beautiful spring skiing conditions. Depending on the snow conditions, reduce hours to 'weekends only' or 'afternoons & weekends' (appointments were a new concept this year- not much success with rentals)
- Building up in December by starting 'weekends only' and opening to full hours during Christmas Holidays, tapering off in March by reducing hours back to 'weekends only' or afternoons & weekends after Spring Break.
- Spring Break could potentially see similar rentals to Christmas Holidays if we pushed marketing & people weren't fed up with Winter.

c. Financials:

- o Income Rental Shop/ Ski School

Total Income to date		\$27,146.00
Ski Rental	\$ 8,281.00	
JackRabbit Rental	\$ 1,410.00	
Ski School Program	\$ 15, 623.00	
Total Expenses to Date		\$23,863.35

PST	549.75
Receiver General	3,790.58
Salary	12,735.49
Coach Stipends	3,380.00

18. Coaching- Peter

Plans for 2014-2015

- We have requested through CCBC an ICC (Introduction to Community Coaching) cross country course, course has been approved.
- We have requested through CCBC a L2T (learning to train) – dryland xc course, has been approved
- Plan to host a Cansi Level 1 instructors course
- We have requested an Officials Level 1 XC course through CCBC, course has been approved

Meeting adjourned at: 9:29pm

Next Meeting: September 16, 2014 at 7 pm at QCEDC office

Goodies Schedule: Lee September rest of season to be decided at the September meeting