

**Cariboo Ski-Touring Club**  
**Meeting Minutes – 7pm, February 13, 2018**  
**Hallis Lake Lodge**

**Attendance:** Tania Gruene, Greg Strebel, Ron Watteyne, Bruce Self, Taylor Mastre, Brian Kennelly, Jim Crellin, Shannon Coffey, Sunshine Borsato

**Regrets.** Charlotte Kurta, Brian Black, Elaine Watteyne, Jamie Cappan, Mike Alborn, Evi Black, Chris Elden, Chris Hyde, Peter and Marilyn van Leusden

**Adoption of agenda.** Motioned by Greg S., 2<sup>nd</sup> Jim C. All in favour.

**Adoption of Jan.09, 2018 minutes.** Motioned by Ron W., 2<sup>nd</sup> Brian K. All in favour.

**Correspondence.** None at this time.

**Treasurer's Report**

- deferred to next meeting

**New Business**

1. Motion to appoint Jim Cappan to executive as the equipment director. Motioned by Greg S., 2<sup>nd</sup> Brian K. All in favour. Mike Alborn has stepped down as equipment director.
2. The well at Hallis Lake is failing and must be fixed. Quesnel Pump is coming to make a well log tomorrow. A driller will come and replace the casing if need or do whatever is necessary. Motion: The CSTC executive authorizes up to \$5000 for well repair. Moved by Jim K., 2<sup>nd</sup> Greg S. All in favour.
3. Sunshine B. and Jim K. will schedule the 'Try-it-Out Day' for Biathlon program.
4. Review of 5-year-plan priorities. Deferred to April meeting.
5. Newsletter. Tania G.

Directors are to submit short articles (a couple of paragraphs) for the newsletter to Tanis, goal is to get newsletter out in the next week.

6. Community Foundations Gala. Tania G.

The CSTC will donate a membership and a set of lessons to Community Foundations for their Gala event. The club is look for 6-8 directors to attend the Gala.

7. Advanced Skate Ski Clinic. Tania G.

There is potential for an advanced skate ski clinic to be held March 10 by Tony Fiala. The CSTC will offer spots in the clinic to club members first at a discounted price, and then to the public.

8. Rescue sled 'packaging' practice night. Tania G.

This will be lead by Sunshine from 5-6 PM to provide practice in packaging and transporting injured persons in the snow. The first aid responders lists need to be updated.

9. Snowmobiles on ski trails. Bruce S.

Some snowmobile tracks have been observed on the ski trails. This seems to happen occasionally after large snow falls, no action is needed at this time.

10. Dogs on the ski trails. Ron W.

Dog trails have been seen all over the trail system. The next club email should have a reminder to keep dogs on the dog trails. Discussion occurred on opening the dog trails up to snowshoers, a fee increase for snowshoers, and a handout for day users.

11. Lodge closing check list. Ron W.

Ron has made a checklist procedure of things to be done when closing the lodge.

### **Old Business**

#### **Next Meeting Date**

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7pm.

March 13 – Community Futures boardroom

April 10 –Hallis Lake lodge

#### **Important dates**

March 10 – advanced skate ski clinic. Tony Fiala.

March 11 – Season wind-up.

Community Futures Gala?

#### **Meeting adjourned. Time: 8:40**

#### **Committee Reports – see below.**

#### **Snacks schedule**

- March – Chris Elden
- April – Charlotte

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **1. Lodge Management / Gaming / Youth Ski School / Rental Shop – Tania Gruene**

#### **YSS**

The elementary program has almost 2000 student days booked in 38 ski school sessions. We have completed 18 and have 20 sessions to go. Ski school sessions go right up to March 7<sup>th</sup> and may go later if we have to do more rescheduling. So far the snow conditions have been better than the previous three years. This year we will also be hosting a teacher training day for

Pro D day training for a group of teachers from Williams Lake. We expect between 10-20 teachers on Feb 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **Rental Shop**

The shop is seeing more business than the previous two years thanks to better temps and snow conditions. We are also having several groups book in ie: Troll staff evening, air cadets, Grace Young activity center and of course Special Olympics ski's every Wednesday. We have had several days that we have not opened up due to low temps or closed early if there is no business Typically we do not open the Rental shop if it is -18 or colder and we have no groups booked or SDP scheduled.

### **Lodge**

Water supply continues to be the big issue this season. This is being handled by Bruce Self and crew now.

### **2. Snowshoeing – Evi Black.**

Three guided tours were scheduled for January. Only the first one took place with five participants. There was no one else for the other two. Weather conditions for those two were not great. But perhaps we only need one guided snowshoe tour per season to get newcomers acquainted with the area. We should look at that again next season.

### **3. Club History – Evi Black**

### **4. Backcountry – Taylor Mastre**

Mt Murray - I picked up the helicopter net from Mt Murray cabin, which brought the new 100lbs propane tank to the cabin. Net was delivered back to Doug. The old empty tank is still at Murray and I will find help to extract the tank in March. On my trip to the cabin, I met a pair of carpenters who were happy to volunteer to help repair the Mt Murray foundations. One is willing to donate treated, milled logs to be flown up as soon as possible. I figured I should jump at this donation.

Mt Waverly - I had to abandon my trip to Waverly last weekend. Avalanche conditions were too high for my liking and the Bowron road wasn't plowed. It has since been plowed.

Cariboo Mtn - it has just come to my attention that the wood stove at Cariboo needs repairs/replacing. It has been reported that the stove does not close all the way. Also one of the dampers does not close, which means the fire burns very fast and the cabin does not keep the heat well.

Proposals - keep an eye out for a replacement stove; consult someone more intelligent than me to fix the stove; add to five year plan: insulate Cariboo Mtn cabin (2019). I will make a proposal next year for this to come out of the backcountry scotch whisky budget. If a reasonable stove solution appears, I feel this will be priority

No news on Moncton.

--- I asked Barb Daigle to call and warn bookings of the possibility of avalanche and unplowed roads prior to the weekend.

--- Received a report about the condition of the Mt Murray cabin. Report stated it was disorganized and messy. I will be conducting a purge of unnecessary items from the cabins. Slowly but surely. I hope we all agree that the cabins are congested with too many items from well-meaning donations. However, the mismatched pots, lids.... too many mugs... insane amount of silverware... is getting out of control. It has slowly become disorganized. I also plan to create a system of organization. I will place labels where items are to be stored and what is the purpose of those items. ex: water pot, dish water, cookware, etc etc etc. I feel this will relieve our ongoing issue of improper use of items... as well our improper storage of items. Visual organization will promote proper cabin etiquette. I will submit a list of cabin etiquette rules to the club to distribute at each cabin. I hope the list is informal enough that people will decide to actually read it, while being informative enough for the unaware to become aware of why their participation in cabin maintenance is important. I look forward to feedback

## **5. Coaching – Peter van Leusden/Tania Gruene**

## **6. Elementary Ski Races – Sunshine Borsato**

February 17<sup>th</sup>, registration deadline is Feb 13<sup>th</sup>, packages will be assembled Thursday Feb 15<sup>th</sup>. Registration starts at 8 a.m, approximately 22 volunteers and we are expecting 100 plus racers. Wells and Nazko and WL have already committed with teams so I am expecting a big turnout.

I want to make a significant format change to the races next year. This is the 36<sup>th</sup> annual Elementary School Races and I took over 10 or more years ago making small changes. I am frustrated every year by the lack of school participation or distribution of information. I am suggesting we turn this into an event much like the loppet where people register on zone 4 (discuss expense of this) and while still promoted through the schools, we do not depend on them to organize skiers. When registering to participate, kids will designate their school or club on the registration form.

I also want to call it the Hallis Ski Tournament, officially. I have called it this for years unofficially. I would like to open it up to older skiers still school aged. I have been trying to grow and develop an older group of skiers and I feel like we are starting to build some momentum there and this race will be a fun way for them to participate in more ski events. It will also attract Williams lake and PG skiers. This year we are inviting older skiers but I did not officially include it in the registration information. We will have one group of older skiers and their times will be based on their age categories but they will all race at the same time.

## **7. Equipment – Jim Cappan?**

## **8. Fundraising – Marilyn van Leusden, Brian Black**

Snowmaking Project:

The budget for this project is \$78,050. The NDI applications resulted in a positive response for both applications giving us \$54,635. An application for \$10,000 was submitted in December to the BC Rural Dividend Fund. A response is expected soon. An application to Quesnel Rotary for \$10,000 was submitted in January. A preliminary application was made in January to the Quesnel Community Foundation for \$8000. We have been invited to submit a full application which is due Feb 16.

**9. Loppet Report – Don Olson**

**10. Memberships – Greg Strebels**

Membership Report – 12 February 2018

The club has 323 registered members as of 11 February 2018, compared to 357 members on 13 Feb/17.

Category and Program participation is as follows:

JR Mon & Sat	15
JR Monday	5
JR Sat	12
Bunny	6
Biathlon	9
Back Country	25
Snowshoe	17

Our most recent registration was January 31.

**11. Nordics/Biathlon – Chris Elden/Jim Crellin**

The range is in good shape for snow now, but more packing is needed down at the targets and the shooting platform needs some flattening by a groomer with a fine hand on the PB blade. Shooting and skiing practices were held regularly in January and early February.

Many athletes attended the BC Cup #1 at Prince George on January 26-28 2018, which was a pretty cold event. Results were:

	<u>Sprint</u>	<u>Pursuit</u>
Landon Aaslie - Midget:	Gold	Gold
Laura Balkwill – Juvenile:	6 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
Graham Balkwill – Jr Boy	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>
Reese Hamelin – Jr Boy	11 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>
Chris Elden – Masters Men	Gold	Gold
Claire Elden – Sr Girl	DNS	DNS
Odin Mills – Sr Boy	9 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
Graeme Hamelin – Sr Boy	11 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>

A slightly smaller group competed at BC Cup #2 in Whistler on Feb 9-11, 2018 under perfect conditions. Fast snow, sunny skies and moderate temperatures. Results were

	<u>Sprint</u>	<u>Individual</u>
Landon Aaslie – Midgets	Gold	Silver
Laura Balkwill – Juvenile	Silver	Gold
Graham Balkwill – Jr Boy	9 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>
Claire Elden – Sr Girl	11 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>
Odin Mills – Sr Boy	10 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>
Chris Elden – Master Men	Silver	Silver
Anni Kurta – Rec2	Gold	---

BC Cup #3 is in Burns Lake on Feb. 16-18.

The new shooting mats arrived on schedule in mid-January and were immediately put into service. We were not sorry to see the last of the old carpets pieces. The new toboggans have seen regular use and are easier to handle and move around than the big yellow toboggan. They also seem to cause less trail damage.

All rifle rental fees have been collected and submitted to the treasurer.

Desi presented the proposed upgrade plans for the shooting range to the MOFLNR for comment, so far we have heard nothing.

## **12. Publicity/Adult Lessons – Ron Watteyne**

WINTER CARNIVAL REPORT 2018 – Brian Black

We loaded the twin track and all of the equipment required on Friday night. Arriving Sat am we found marginal snow and a –25 wind chill with no forecast for let up. At that point and considering they had lots of inside activities laid on, I opted to cancel our participation. It would have been a very tough day for our 9 volunteers for very little exposure and benefit to the club.

Lebourdais park doesn't work as well for us with more exposure of the snow to damage from the weather and poorer terrain. On a reasonable day it could have been worthwhile but not with the extreme cold of Feb 3.

## **13. Signs & Trails – Brian Kennelly**

New road sign installed. Comments?

## **14. Ski the Gold Rush Trail – Ron Watteyne**

## **15. Skill Development Program: Jackrabbit/Track Attack– Sunshine Borsato**

44 kids and 14 coaches (we have been lean this year). 13 sessions into the season without cancellations, four sessions remaining plus a Meltdown party march 3 – will inform tania for rental shop as we extended the season by one Saturday. We have a really strong group from bunnies, JR levels one through four and TA levels one and two with some very committed skiers and families and significant skiers coming out of the program with (unusually) nearly equal boys and girls – it has been an interesting year to see some committed training and development. There is an additional TA group skiing but they are all in biathlon and not registered as SDP. We are developing the Jackalope and Yeti Programs as well – adventure ski programs.

Next season I will not be coordinator but I intend to help to advance these two adventure programs as well as the cross country racing program as both are focused on kids skiing beyond the typical SDP years and as teenagers in both competitive and non-competitive skiing – hoping someone can step up to lead the racing group.

## **16. Social –Elaine Watteyne**

On Friday, Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Ron Watteyne organized another interesting presentation for the Friday night social; Trekking the Manaslu Circuit, Nepal. We had 30 people attend. I was surprised more people didn't ski prior to the event, as the skiing conditions were so lovely. We set out a donation box again, and people had the option of bringing an appie, dessert or a cash donation to the event. We made \$61.50 in donations, and had a nice assortment of appies and dessert. Someone even brought tiny boxes of Smarties, which was fun. We'll have to watch the dates more closely, as I didn't even notice that this Friday was the beginning of the Family Day Long Weekend.

The Wind-Up Social is on Sunday March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018. I'm hoping skiers will be interested in having some fun relays in the afternoon, then maybe some burgers or quesadillas on the bar-b-que. We had hoped to have the Rosie's Perogies, but she will now be out of town

## **17. Website – Shannon C.**