

Cariboo Ski-Touring Club
Meeting Minutes – 7pm, January 9, 2018

Attendance: Greg Strebel, Jim Crellin, Brian Black, Elaine Watteyne, Ron Watteyne, Shannon Coffey, Brian Kennelly, Jaimie Cappan, Bruce Self, Sunshine Borsato, Charlotte Kurta

Regrets: Mike Alborn, Evi Black, Chris Elden, Chris Hyde, Peter and Marilyn van Leusden, Tania Gruene

Adoption of agenda. Additions made. Motioned by Jim C., 2nd by Greg S. All in favour

Adoption of Dec.12, 2017 minutes. Motioned by Greg S., 2nd by Jim C. All in favour.

Correspondence. None this month. Jaimie C will check mailbox and pay annual fee.

Treasurer's Report

Financial statements will be provided in January.

\$54,000.00 in general account.

\$16,000.00 in BC Gaming account.

\$30,000.00 in Term Deposits (approximately).

NDIT Grant for Snow-making not available yet until contract is signed.

Request that Jaimie C compare the spending budget to 2017, to ensure all programs funding is available.

Tania and Jaimie to outline the program budget for each program, so Directors are aware of their program limits.

New Business

1. Motion to print 10 more copies of the CSTC Club History. Motioned by Brian K., 2nd by Ron W. All in favour. Any corrections or updates can be sent to Evi for the next edition.
2. Brushing budget. Brian K.
Recommended supervised brushing in future years to guide the machine operator.
Hand-brushing by volunteers will continue to be needed.
3. Winter Carnival. Brian B.
Venue has been changed to LeBourdais Park. Date is Feb. 3. Tentative whether CSTC can be involved this year because the location is not suitable for good track-setting for X-C skiing. Brian will make the decision whether CSTC will participate this year, based on snow conditions.
4. Volunteer hours. Brian B.
Reminder that all volunteer hours need to be recorded, for any Club activities other than administration. Send all hours volunteered per month or per project in an email to Jaimie C., with 'volunteer hours' in the subject line.

5. Biathlon rifle purchase. Jim C.

Out-of-country biathlon rifles are difficult to get. Currently there is a rifle available from a former Club biathlete, but a higher cost. Discussion about whether the Club should purchase the rifle. No decision made at this time.

6. Trail lighting. Ron W.

4 lights need to be replaced. Lights are on the trails and one in the parking lot area. Ron will take care of the light replacements.

7. Dog loop extension. Charlotte.

Discussion whether portions of the North Marathon Loop could be skied with dogs (specifically the portion in the open fields that connects with the South Loop at the cattle guard). Many members ski with dogs and the South Loop is a very popular trail. It was noted that the Marathon Loop is also very popular and not currently for dogs, and it might not be appreciated to have dogs on the extended trail. No decision made at this time.

Old Business

1. Policy Review Update – Charlotte. Reimbursement policy. Policy accepted with no changes. Dated copy to be sent to Shannon for posting on the website.
2. Staff training for First Aid.

Discussion to re-visit whether the Lodge Staff need to have First Aid training. To be discussed before any new hiring in September.

Next Meeting Date

2nd Tuesday of the month at 7pm. Locations alternate with Hallis Lake lodge and Community Futures meeting room.

Jan.9 – Hallis Lake

Feb. 13 – Community Futures boardroom

March 13 – Hallis Lake

April 10 – Community Futures boardroom

Important dates

Jan. 7 Open House

Jan. 14, 21, 28 Snowshoe tours. 11am

Jan. 18 John Dunn presentation at Chuck Mobley Theatre.

Jan. 27 LOPPETT – Tania and Don Olson will confirm details.

Feb. 3 Winter Carnival – TENTATIVE.

Feb. 9 7pm Social at Hallis Lake – Trekking in Nepal.

Feb. 17 Elementary School Races

March 11 – Season wind-up.

Meeting adjourned. Time: 8:56pm

Committee Reports – see below.

Snacks schedule

- November – Holly
- December – Chris Hyde
- January – Ron
- February – Charlotte
- March – Chris Elden
- April – Shannon

Five-Year Plan Tracking List – to be reviewed in February.

Committee Reports

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

The Open House was a resounding success. We saw 260 people attend, sent out 168 skis and 5 snowshoes and the instructors were kept busy outside with people learning to ski, and sometimes even learning to get their skis on.

Host Tent:

Thank you to Elaine for organizing the host tent volunteers and supplies. Thank you to Charlotte and Jim for the heater!

“ Welcome Hosts: Sally Johnston, Christine Kraayvanger, Elaine Watteyne

We had 260 visitors: 66 members / 194 visitors (2012-231 visitors / 2014-232 visitors / 2015-305 visitors). Great conditions for the day; minus 1 and snowing. A bit sticky for waxing.

Having the tent set-up on Saturday night was a great idea.

The heater was an awesome idea! Wish we had had it for last year when it was so cold!

We gave out day passes this year. Good idea to get skiers thinking about wearing their ski passes.

Last year we were cleaning up around people still eating in the lodge, so it was nice to see the tables left up until closing this time.”

Breakfast

The pancake breakfast was scaled and seemed to work very well. We kept it to one area and had room for seating everyone who wanted to sit during the day. We had more people offer to volunteer than we could actually use- What a wonderful crew. We had several of our regular volunteers and the Dragon Lake Paddlers offered to crew the kitchen- six in total came from 9-12:30. I have sent them a warm thank you. They were very good to work with, had fun and have said they will be back to help again next year. We cooked the hashbrowns and sausages the night before and had a couple of volunteers to help set up and cook Saturday night. This went smoothly and alleviated some of the chaos in the kitchen Sunday morning.

We made 603.65 on the Pancake Breakfast. We spent \$540.75 on food. We spent \$93.00 on the food warmers. Total: \$633.75 spent. The breakfast cost us \$30.10. I think it worked very well. We had eggs, sausages, pancakes, hashbrowns, strawberries, whipped cream, orange juice and hot chocolate.

Debrief notes: This cost was a bit higher than it would have been if we had pancake batter donated. The Bread Peddlers are out of the country so unable to donate this year. Next year we will use an electric frying pan to cook the eggs more efficiently. We ran out of water at 230 pm. We will need to be more cautious when washing dishes

Rental Shop

Janet ran the rental shop this year and did an excellent job of it. The rental shop crew got 168 skis out the door and back in. We had one late person return at 4:50 pm. We borrowed 5 pairs of adult skis and 8 boots from Rocky Peak to try to meet the demand. We had less snowshoe renters this year. Only 5 snowshoes went out compare to 14 last year.

Debrief notes: Next year we need to be clear with renters that they have 1.5 hrs. We did not give them a time limit this year so some were surprised when they were called and asked to come back with the skis so other people could go out.

Other:

Greg had no membership sign ups. Next year we will make a big sign but maybe we also combine it with another job so he does not have to be there for no reason?

Synopsis:

This is one of our best events to bring non-skiers and non-members to Hallis. Well worth the effort and we should see this reflected in lodge traffic over the next few weeks. The focus is that we introduce people to the venue, to skiing and gain recognition in our community. Marketing was well done, the big sign is helpful, lots of people heard the radio and lots of hits on social media.

I will forward the final volunteer hours to Jamie when I have them calculated.

2. Snowshoeing – Evi Black.

3 guided snowshoe trips have been organized for January. On the 14th, Brian Kennelly will lead the Lake Trail Tour, on the 21st Charlotte Kurta will lead the Big Foot Trail Tour and on the 28th there will be a tour on Wally's Way. All tours leave at 11 from the Lodge.

Ron Watteyne had some posters made for advertising these tours and they have been put up. Greg Strebel has also included the poster in his emails to the membership.

Hope there's lots of snow and a lot of people come!

3. Club History – Evi Black

4. Backcountry – Taylor Mastre

Moncton cabin - The 1600 rd will not be plowed this year, so anyone accessing this cabin will need to park at 3108 on the 3100 road. The 3100 road is plowed past Ghost Lake.

Cariboo cabin - Introduction to Backcountry Skiing held on December 30th. 7 participants and myself braved the -30 conditions at the M road trailhead. I had several cancellations before the event and likely many more who did not bother to register due to the weather. Fun, frosty times had by all.

Avalanche risk is high in the backcountry right now. Be safe.

5. Coaching – Peter van Leusden/Tania Gruene

6. Elementary Ski Races – Sunshine Borsato

Feb. 17 is Race Day!

7. Equipment – Mike Alborn.

Grooming has been going well when conditions permit. The snow was wonderful on the morning on the Pancake breakfast, but became wet and sticky in the afternoon. There is still not enough base to use the Pisten Bully, but the Ginzu has been performing well.

We had an issue with a key missing for one of the snowmobiles, but that has been rectified. Brian K has ordered a couple spare ignition switches, and I'm going to get some spare keys made.

Brian B has sharpened up the chainsaws for us and is in the process of sharpening the brush saws. They have been seeing a lot of use dealing with trees that have leaned over from the recent snow.

8. Fundraising – Marilyn van Leusden, Brian Black

Snowmaking Project:

The budget for this project is \$78,050. The NDIIT applications resulted in a positive response for both applications giving us \$54,635. The application for a Gaming Capital Grant for \$20,415 was denied.

An application for \$10,000 was submitted in December to the BC Rural Dividend Fund. A response is expected in a few months. Also, last week an application was made to Quesnel Community Foundation for \$8000. An application to Quesnel Rotary is pending.

9. Loppet Report – Don Olson

10. Memberships – Greg Strebel

At this time last year we had 358 members.

Summary to date	8 Jan
CSTC Members	289
JR M&S	14
JR Monday	2
JR Sat	7
Bunny	5
Biathlon	9
Back Country	19
Snowshoe	15

11. Nordics/Biathlon – Chris Elden/Jim Crellin

Zone 8 BCWG trials were held January 4th. We had one athlete attend. I don't know the outcome yet.

One former athlete, Ryan Elden, attended NorAm2/World Youth/Junior Trials in Whistler. Ryan is in the running to make the Canadian World Youth team (won't know results until Jan7).

Three athletes attended the Whistler regional competitions held with the NorAm.

First BC Cup in PG unfortunately same weekend as our loppet.

New Biathlon mats have been shipped from Nova Scotia, should be here next week.

Ryan Elden had two excellent races at the Norams in Callaghan, first and second placing, and 4th overall in combined Youth/Junior men category

This qualifies him to represent Canada at the World Junior Biathlon Competition in Estonia and probably also for the IBU junior Tour group 2 in Europe.

Great performance!

12. Publicity/Adult Lessons – Ron Watteyne

Publicity report

- Advertising for the open house
- CSTC email out
- CSTC website
- The Goat radio 3 days x 3 ads \$9.25 per ad
- Interview with Dale Taylor on the Goat radio
- Article in Cariboo Observer
- Sign board at west end of Quesnel River Bridge
- CSTC Facebook ad (boost for a week \$25.00)
- CBC Radio Daybreak north
- CBC North by northwest Facebook

Advertising for John Dunn presentation

- CSTC website
- CSTC email
- Interview with Dale Taylor on the Goat radio
- CSTC Facebook ad
- CBC Radio Daybreak North
- CBC North by Northwest Facebook
- Various community groups email out

Adult Lessons

Lessons started on Monday Jan 8 with 2 students. There was some interest generated at the Open House and have had a couple of more bookings.

13. Signs & Trails – Brian Kennelly

All trails are being used with classic tracks set on all Southside trails and North side trails to the 7.5. Beyond that they have been rolled and packed.

A work party of 6 volunteers worked on clearing overhanging willows and saplings from Gerry's, South loop, and North trails to 7.5.

Clarke Williamson and Ron Watteyne spent time opening the Bigfoot Snowshoe Trail and I've flagged and opened Wally's Way and the Lakeshore Trail.

14. Ski the Gold Rush Trail – Ron Watteyne

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

32 kids Sunday and growing daily.

Bring a friend day Mon Jan 8 and sat Jan 13. Monday brought an extra dozen kids to try with a few intending to sign up

4 sessions down, another dozen to go. 12 coaches only with the smaller group.

Almost even boys and girls. Heavy to 7 -8 year olds

16. Social –Elaine Watteyne

The Dec. 15th Social was very well attended by 62 people. Heather and Chris gave a very interesting presentation on their cycle tour across Canada. We received \$106 in donations, and lots of appetizers and desserts. We gave Heather and Chris a bottle of wine with thanks, and hopefully they had their fill of goodies. Don Olsen was the happy recipient of the draw prize, a copy of the CSTC History Booklet.

On Jan. 18th, the club will be hosting a presentation by John Dunn at Correlieu school. Tickets will be \$10.00 (students \$5.00) in advance at Rocky Peak/Hallis Rental Shop, or \$15.00 at the door. Ron will be working on posters and advertising in the New Year.

The next social will be on Friday, Feb. 9th, 7 PM at Hallis Lake: Trekking the Manaslu Circuit, Nepal, by Corinne Cook. Admission by donation, appetizer or dessert.

The season wind-up will be on Sunday, March 11th.

17. Website – Shannon C.

The website is up and getting about an average of 125 views per day since December 25.

WebCam is up and working as of January 9, 2018.

I am trying to keep it updated with information sent to me about the ongoing events the club is holding. Herb and Bob are working on getting the webcam video displayed and should have it running this week.

Please continue to send me information and feedback for the website. So far my priority has been information on events and I will get to better photos, layout, formatting as I have time. Bob is still supporting the site as well although I am trying to do things myself and then go to him for help so I become more familiar with the website and Wordpress.