

**Cariboo Ski-Touring Club**  
**Meeting Agenda – 7pm, November 14, 2018**  
**Hallis Lake Lodge**

**Attendance:** Chris Hyde, Bruce Self, Peter van Leusden, Jim Crellin, Joe Daigle, Elaine Watteyne, Ron Watteyne, Mike MacLachlin, Kelsey Berlinger, Neil Mackay, Charlotte Kurta

**Regrets:** Brian Kennelly, Brian Black, Sunshine Borsato, Tania Gruene, Taylor Mastre, Greg Strebel

**Adoption of agenda.** Moved Peter vL., 2<sup>nd</sup> Bruce S. Carried.

**Adoption of 2018 AGM minutes.** Moved Joe Daigle., 2<sup>nd</sup> Bruce S. Carried.

**Correspondence:** Kelsey has the key for the CSTC mailbox and will check for correspondence.

**Treasurer's Report.** Kelsey Berlinger. No report yet. Signing authorities being updated at Integris Credit Union.

**New Business**

1. Confirm meeting procedures (quorum = 5), meeting dates (Wednesday nights?), start time and location. Charlotte.

Meeting dates moved to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month 7pm.  
Dec. 18, Jan. 15, Feb. 19, March 19, April 16.

Meeting location will remain at Hallis Lake lodge for Dec., Jan., Feb. Location will move to Community Futures boardroom for March and April.

2. Credit card payment options at Rental Shop. Tania suggested to set up a 'square-reader' card for credit card pay options at the Rental shop. Troll has that set up and has it at Rocky Peak. All the seasons pass transactions for Troll are done through the square reader and then RP doesn't have to pay it to Troll, do bookkeeping etc.

Action item: Agreement in principle to set up a 'square reader'. Kelsey will report back on the infrastructure costs and any monthly service fees or cost details.

3. Winter bike trail use. Chris Hyde.

There is interest from the mountain bikers in Quesnel to use the CSTC ski trails in winter. Otway and Canmore ski trails have winter bike use already, and there is growing interest from the winter bike users. Concerns with the CSTC trails not being built for biking speed, and the potential for ruts ruining the ski tracks.

Insurance needs to be checked to see if the CSTC Insurance Policy is valid for bikes on our winter ski trails. Tania and Chris H will check the insurance policy and discuss options.

4. Shallow well water testing. Jim Crellin. A detailed water analysis on the shallow well is needed, to determine how best to move ahead with the water system. Cost is \$200. Water testing is needed for finding options for tenants to not run out of water. The drilled well water is potable, but there is not enough water. The shallow well has more water, but needs to be tested.

Additional water work will need to be done. Jim Crellin will continue with this.

Motioned to approve the \$200 for the well water test: Bruce S. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Greg S. Approved.

5. Parking lot lighting. Prices to switch the 3 parking lot lights to LED bulbs \$184/bulb. Ron W. will replace the bulbs.

Motioned to approve up to \$500.00 for new bulbs. Bruce S. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe D. Approved.

**Old Business**

1. AGM. 37 people in attendance. Suggestions / improvements? AGM has been held on a week night for quite a few years and the attendance is stagnant (exactly the same turnout as last year). The AGMs have excellent presentations and more people might attend on a weekend. Having the AGM on a weekend night might be a better turnout. Discussion postponed til September 2019.
2. Marketing- Contract with Southills Graphics for marketing. Update? No further information at this time. Previous discussion had suggested ads on social media to promote membership.
3. Christmas Farmers Market. CSTC will attend again. Volunteers needed for Market dates.

Action item: Ask Tania to set up a draw box to win a free ski pass, rental and a free lesson with Ron W. Draw prize tickets should include name, contact phone number and a question such as 'are you interested in cross-country skiing'.

	<b>Saturday Nov.24</b>	<b>Saturday Dec. 1</b>	<b>Saturday Dec. 8</b>
	Tania or Janet to help with setup	Tania or Janet to help with setup	Tania or Janet to help with setup
<b>9am to noon</b>	Barb and Joe Daigle	Taylor M	Brian K
<b>Noon to 3pm</b>	Sunshine (noon-1pm)	Greg S	Greg S / Kelsey B

4. Well water update. Bruce Self. On-going work to get the water licence for the snow-making.

## **Committee Reports – see below.**

Send volunteer hours to Tania Gruene at [tgruene@shaw.ca](mailto:tgruene@shaw.ca) so the hours can be tracked for the club.

## **Important dates**

- Next meeting date: Dec 18, 2018. 7pm. Hallis Lake Lodge.
- Farmers Markets Nov. 24, Dec.1, Dec.8
- Dec 8 - SDP startup (Bunnies, Jackrabbits and TrackAttack)
- Dec. 8 and 9. Avalanche Course in Quesnel
- Dec 15 - Lodge and Rental Shop start 7 days/week
- Skate Ski Clinic for December. Contact Chris Hyde for more info.
- Jan. 18, 19 BC Cup Biathlon Race in Quesnel.

**Meeting adjourned. Time: 8:34pm.**

## **Snacks schedule**

- November – Ron
- December – Jim C
- January – Brian K
- February – Tania
- March – Chris H
- April - Chris E

## **Committee Reports**

### **1. Lodge Management. Tania Gruene**

### **2. Backcountry. Taylor Mastre.**

- Mt Murray - Tyler Klassen and I went and rebuilt the stairs on the front of the cabin and replaced the propane hose. We snowshoed up the Yellowhawk trail last Sunday. The winter trail is not accessible yet, but there must have been 3 feet of snow along sections of the Yellowhawk.
- Reminder of the avalanche course coming in December.
- I've been asked to track whether the volunteers for the backcountry work parties were members last year or not. Can someone email me and tell me what to do with this information, if anything? Thanks!

### **3. Coaching. Peter van Leusden**

### **4. Equipment. Mike MacLachlin.** Mike MacLachlin will be looking after track setting and equipment this season as Jim Cappan will be away until spring.

5. **Fundraising. Brian Black**
6. **Governance / Policy. Charlotte**
7. **Hallis Lake Ski Tournament. Sunshine Borsato.**
8. **Loppet. Elaine Watteyne.**

I apologize for not being prepared to give a report at the Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 AGM. I stepped in to oversee the event at the last minute, which was a fairly easy task as Don had every detail documented. I haven't spoken to Don to ask him if he is willing to organize Loppet 2019.

I looked through past emails and found these comments and reports from the Loppet Post Mortem that Tania organized. All of these comments could have been condensed into a report for the meeting. Lots of information to ponder for the Loppet organizer.

**Report from Elaine Watteyne:**

First of all, kudos to Don Olsen for doing such an awesome job organizing the Loppet. I think he clocked in over 50 volunteers hours.

The number of volunteers would have been called and organized ahead of time anticipating approx. 80 participants. Part of the enjoyment of volunteering is joining in the luncheon afterwards. It would be difficult at the last moment to call the volunteers back and tell them that they are not needed.

We have 4 timers and recorders so they can spell each other off during the day, so as not to get too cold. I'm not sure what the line of sight would be like from the lodge or the timing hut to try and see the finish times. It would be very distracting for the team entering the results in the timing hut.

We have a person to collect the bibs, and one to record the finish order of bib numbers, and a results runner to the timing hut. If we had 80+ participants, they could not be doing combining these jobs.

The propane heater was an awesome idea, and I'm sure the timers from the past Loppets would have loved to have that.

The announcer had difficulties this year as the new sound system hanging on the wall outside, does not tune out when she was using the mike. So the music stayed on all the time and made hearing the numbers called difficult. The wind blew the racer profiles off the table. So we'll have to address these issues next year.

The luncheon team is responsible for re-filling the drink station in the stadium, collecting lunch tickets, serving soup, and cleaning up. They are usually kept busy with large numbers.

We have discussed the issue with Bliss regarding the amount of food that is served. We only count the kids as 1/2 meals, and still we have so much left over. We've made a note that we would like more curry chicken soup on the menu next year.

I made some notes for Don. A number of jobs have been tweaked in the Loppet binder. A few key issues were missed as to what jobs were done by whom.

**Report from Tania:**

The Loppet 2018 was a great day. Thank you to Don for taking this on and organizing so that we can continue to have a Loppet! While our numbers were down I was in fact happy that we had that many registered. We had to cancel last year and the two years before that it rained the week before, this year we were unsure we would have enough snow 6 days before the Loppet. I think people have little faith in the conditions after the past few years. That said, the review of the snow and track conditions were amazing.

We do this post-mortem on most of our events and big projects so we can finesse what we do, evolve and improve. I see it as an important and positive part of the process. My input:

- The youth portion of the Loppet was well supported, |Sunshine and her SDP crew were focusing on Loppet prep and classic technique beforehand, and that seems to really bring the SDP participants to the Loppet. Very positive. When the kids come, so do some of the parents. I have had a look at the Salmon Arm Loppet results and the Kelowna results. These Loppets have almost more youth than adults. I think we are going the right way here.
- Tracksetting was very good and many participants commented to me that the tracks were better than they expected for the amount of snow.
- Positive reviews of the 8 KM route from several people who did the 8 KM.
- We did have too much food. We did, however, freeze it and use it for the warm weekend concession instead of ordering more the next weekend so it did not go to waste. The soup can be in big crock pots, staying warm, and people can self-serve once they have checked in. This would further cut down on the number of volunteers needed. We have done that for other events.
- Considering we do not have to make the food I would suggest we go to 2 volunteers max in the kitchen, if we only have about 50 or 60 participants. It is completely acceptable to plan for more but let people know by Wednesday if they will be needed or not. Remember that once the rentals have gone out the door by 9am the rental shop person is helping upstairs and downstairs as well.
- I don't know about outside, but if timers can spell each other off couldn't we give the 1.5 hour shifts so that they can go and get on with their day?

I mention this because our volunteers are generous and our most valuable resource; we do want to use them wisely. Every one of our people who volunteers is a person who can't register in the Loppet. I know not all of them would, but I think we should make sure we operate with volunteers like a business does with its valuable resources and keep it lean.

Our club does this stuff well so this is feedback to finesse a good event and keep it evolving and healthy.

**Comments from Ron Watteyne:**

Regarding making the Loppet a freestyle event:

We would have to address the issue of track setting for the start line. Skate skiers would be skating over the classic tracks. The trail up from the stadium is not wide enough for 2 skate skiers to pass each other and still maintain a classic track.

I think a big issue in the decline of the numbers this year is that we couldn't get the north marathon groomed and skiers didn't have time to ski this ahead of the Loppet. Lack of snow and not enough time on skis.

Maybe having the Loppet in Feb: More time to ski. Not conflict with the Gold Rush Trail *Sled Dog Mail Run*

**Comments from Evi Black:**

I was wondering about how other Loppets in B.C. were doing so I looked at results sheets for a number of them - mostly 2017 since many have not yet happened this year. Some examples:

Sovereign Lakes Loppet - 65 juniors and 146 adults participated. It is freestyle.

Overlander - 77 children and 145 adults It is freestyle.

Reino-Keski Salmi - 195 juniors 224 adults, It is classic.

It seems to me that although there has been a decline in numbers from the glory days of the Cariboo Marathon, there is still quite an interest out there. We somehow have to make our event something special that will attract people. Salmon Arm is not a big city but it is attracting a lot of people to its race. I don't know if changing the style will help since RK Salmi is classic. Most of the others are freestyle though. But we need something extra rather than just tweaking times and volunteer numbers if it is to grow rather than fade away.

**Comments from Sunshine:**

It was a fantastic event - smooth and well organized and everyone had fun it seemed - and yes, the tracks were great.

I agree with the Cariboo Marathon analogy and did notice that some jobs for volunteers could have been organized so one volunteer did a couple different jobs as well as there seemed to be a lot of kitchen people standing around.

I think opening up more rec categories was a good idea like the 8k and partners category. About half the participants are kids so we want to keep that in mind as it does draw parents into participating and there were a couple new ones this year. I don't think publicity alone will have a huge effect but attracting more people by making it worth their while. I do wonder about maintaining a Loppet or consider running a freestyle event as one way to attract more people or having a freestyle category or something else attractive that doesn't take more volunteers. It would be an additional course perhaps but may be able to be managed easily.

I think more distances and categories is a good way to attract more people. It allows more for families as well - hard for parents to do the 32k and totally miss their kids skiing.

Also, there was way too much food left over so not sure if we could cut back that way a bit.

Oh, and with the kids, I think we need to have more medal categories like girls and boys for each age group so more kids win medals instead of putting them together in the same category. As it turned out they did receive medals that way - by accident - but it wasn't set up that way.

Great event and happy to participate as a volunteer as I enjoyed watching my kids finish.

**Comments from Brian Black:**

We staged a successful Loppet on January 27<sup>th</sup>, with ideal conditions for the skiers and volunteers. I think it would be good for all of us to make comment on initiatives that were positive and should be repeated as well as items for improvement. This will be a great help for Don in organizing next year's event. From my view as chief of course the event went well. The main weakness was the number of participants in an event that took a lot of energy from organizers and volunteers. Please add your comments to the following:

**POSITIVES:**

- The tracks were very good. This was aided by the fact that the PB was kept off of the north marathon until the event. In the case of marginal snow conditions we should always do this.
- The course was well marked using the new v-boards.
- The new 8 km course was a big improvement for those skiers

**IMPROVEMENTS:**

- Low participation by CSTC members. We need to get more people involved and more PR. In the 32km event there were only 10 people, 5 of these from Quesnel. The race is clearly unsustainable with these numbers.
- Volunteers outnumbered the participants in the longer courses 16/32 km. Many of our CSTC members participated in the Cariboo Marathon and observed its decline. One of their faults was that they did not adapt to changing circumstances. They had the same number of volunteers to run a race for 100 as they had when there were 1500 participants. We could have cut down on the number of people asked to help particularly after the 5 km kids were done.
- Re course marking a sign could be added at the main junction to direct all Loppet skiers out to pancake. The turn was v-boarded off but some skiers were confused. A course official needs to be there at all times.

## **9. Memberships. Greg Strebel**

The current membership discount period ends midnight November 14th, at which time the fee rises from \$25 to the regular \$30 for all members over 5 years of age as of Dec 31/18. If you have friends or relations who have not yet signed up, please forward so they can register by using the link on this page: <https://caribooski.ca/rates-and-registration/>

At this time we have just over 200 members registered.

## 219 Individuals (219 different people)

More...

Gender:	118	F	
	101	M	
	<b>219</b>		
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Basic Individual Membership:	8	Under age 5 as of 31 Dec.	
	204	Skier Membership	\$4315.00
	7	Snowshoer Membership	\$70.00
	<b>219</b>		<b>\$4385.00</b>
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Individual Activity Options:	5	Club Supporter, not using trails or cabins	
	70	Family (Selected on previous page)	
	5	Adult - Back Country	\$250.00
	5	Junior or Student - Backcountry	\$125.00
	118	Adult All Options	\$9440.00
	9	Junior All Options	\$270.00
	0	College Student All Options	\$0.00
	6	Adult Snowshoe	\$120.00
	0	Under 18 Snowshoe	\$0.00
	<b>218</b>		<b>\$10205.00</b>
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Skill Development Program (SDP):	4	Bunny Rabbit - Saturday	\$100.00
	9	Saturday Jackrabbit	\$360.00
	1	Monday Jackrabbit	\$40.00
	10	Sat & Mon Jackrabbit	\$550.00
	2	Track Attack - Monday	\$80.00
	0	Yeti Trackers - Saturday	\$0.00
	4	Yeti/Track Attack - Mon & Sat	\$220.00
	<b>30</b>		<b>\$1350.00</b>
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Race Team, Tues Nites:	2		\$20.00
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Biathlon Program:	11		\$605.00

### 10. Nordics/Biathlon – Chris Elden/Jim Crellin

Biathlon report, November 14, 2018

- The range was set up on November 4. Several of the treed areas around the biathlon stadium were brushed to provide better view for officials, spectators and coaches.
- Desi (Recreation Officer MFLNRORD) updated us on our request to install permanent structures and have year round use of the biathlon range. The Ministry range department is adamantly opposed to any changes or improvements.
- New Ministry of Environment rules are coming regarding lead containment on rifle ranges. We will need a system to capture the lead at the targets.

- Ryan Elden competed at Canadian National and Junior National team trials in Canmore Nov 6-9. He had three strong races and earned a spot on the Junior team to compete in Europe in December. Trials for World Juniors and the late winter Junior tour will be in Quebec in early January. His goal is to qualify for both.

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

Promotional flyers for CSTC have been handed out. 5 free day-passes handed out for each director to promote new users. Contact Ron if you were not at the meeting and would like the free passes.

#### **12. School Program. Vicky Esplen**

#### **13. Ski trails and signs. Neil Mackay**

3 new signs to remind snowmobilers to cross the ski trails only at designated crossing areas. The signs will require permanent posts. Bruce and Neil will discuss the locations and the process for putting up the signs. Reminder that any new posts in the open fields are a concern for the ranchers. Try to use existing posts where possible.

#### **14. Snowshoe trails and signs. Joe Daigle**

Work bee for snowshoe trail maintenance on Saturday Nov. 17.

#### **15. Skill Development Program. Chris Hyde**

28 skiers registered for either Bunnies, Jackrabbits or TrackAttack. Start date is Dec. 8.

#### **16. Social –Elaine Watteyne**

My report for the April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 meeting outlined many suggestions for the upcoming season.

I've had no luck in finding someone to take over as social director. Honestly, I've run out of ideas to entice members to come out to an event. I feel the work involved in organizing an event then having only 20 to 30 members attend is a bit discouraging. The club needs some new, younger energy to take over.

Remember the Barkerville Trek, a 22 circuitous route to Bald Mtn and back, the drive home thinking up fun suggestion for prizes, then dancing until after midnight!

The moonlight skis and dancing at the old Rod & Gun Club.

Lots of youthful energy back in the day!

The club needs these youngsters to take over and organize events that would attract and entertain.

The Wed night skis and snowshoe could also be expanded into more of a social evening.

**17. Snowmaking. Bruce Self.**

SeaCan container is on-site for storage of equipment. Ongoing work with getting the Water Licence. In the process of purchasing some of the equipment.

**18. Website. Shannon Coffey.**

List of directors will be updated on the website for the 2018-2019 directors. Reminder to state the main contact email for the CSTC will continue to be the general email for the club. The directors emails will need to be altered somehow to prevent automatic spam emails (no hyperlinks? A space in the email address?)

Reminder to send website information and calendar dates to Shannon so she can keep the website updated.