

**Cariboo Ski-Touring Club
Meeting Minutes
7pm, Tuesday April 21, 2020
Connecting remotely by Zoom**

Attendance: Brian Kennelly, Mike MacLachlin, Ron Watteyne, Peter and Marilyn van Leusden, Neil Mackay, Joe Daigle, Jim Crellin, Chris Elden, Tania Gruene, Chris Hyde, Cathy Walsh, Brian Black, Charlotte Kurta.

Regrets: Sunshine Borsato, Greg Strebel, Bruce Self.

Adoption of agenda. Motion to adopt. Joe D. 2nd Brian B. Approved.

Adoption of March Minutes. Moved by Peter vL., 2nd by Chris H., and approved.

Correspondence:

President's Report: Brian Kennelly.

1. Remaining hours. Cassidy will have completed his 880 contracted hours by April 1st.
2. 1. Covid 19 closure compliance - I think all info regarding the decisions was shared.
3. Lodge closure and wrap up - also shared
4. Cassidy's resignation or contract ending - also shared
5. Some retrievals and storage awaiting more melting. I'll coordinate with Cassidy and see these are done. Should be possible now or soon.
6. Discussion with Jayme Hills of RSTBC, re: plans for logging and fir beetle harvesting. Reassurances received that any licencing for these contracts would contain stipulations regarding the FSR and Ski trails accessed or impacted be left in an enhanced condition. Also consideration of sight line buffers on the North Marathon trail.
7. Letter of support was provided to Gold Rush Cycling Club, agreeing to cooperate with their future plans for a connector trail from their Wonderland network to the trails on Dragon Mtn that would be near our trail system.
8. Ministry of FLNRO did not accept the current Backcountry Mgmt Plan. More info required on awareness of the Wildlife Act requirements for mountain cariboo and number of nights of cabin usage. Maps are good. Joe D. will follow up with Brian with an email and the cabin use numbers.

Treasurer's Report. Tania Gruene

1. Financial report. \$15,000.00 remaining combined General and Gaming accounts. In-person banking services closed. Some deposits could not yet be deposited.

Projected outstanding expenses - \$5300.00. Hopeful the \$10,000.00 will be remaining at the end of this season, to carry forward to the start of the next season.

2. BC Gaming grant application requested for \$16,500.00.
3. Fees for Coaching Clinics not yet reimbursed by CCBC.
4. KalTire \$500 Learning to Train course fee donation not yet received.

Motion to approve budget: Tania G., 2nd by Brian B. Approved.

Manager's Report – Cassidy Haber

New Business

1. Staff recruitment. Replacement needed for Manager to recruit coaches for coaching program and promotion of school programs. \$25/hour from December to April.
2. Low mobility trail. CRD concerns if it was useable in the summer. CSTC is responsible for trail maintenance. Trail may need mowing or brushing to be wheelchair accessible. Gravel needed.
3. Virtual CCBC meeting at TRU Kamloops in May. Workshops and AGM. President and designate invited to attend.
4. Equipment fuel purchases. Prices are much cheaper now. Discussion about purchasing diesel for equipment now, rather than wait to fall.

Old Business

Committee Reports

1. Backcountry. Ryan Titley.

Not much to report for year-end from a backcountry perspective. No major issues were identified with the cabins over the winter. A couple of the cabins need some minor supplies ie. snow shovels, ash buckets, ash shovels. I will putter around over the summer and hang onto receipts for any small purchases that need to be made. We'll have to see how this pandemic thing plays out with respect to fall work parties but all cabins should be in pretty good shape. Only other thing I was thinking about was the propane out at Murray. Does anyone know how long the tank out there typically lasts?? The old tank is still at Taylor's place. I will hopefully get it back to the shop in the next week or so.

I have attached an updated cabin location/directions sheet. Hopefully this fits with the clubs expectations.

Also, just wanted to send my thanks for letting me take on this role, if there are no objections I'd like to stay on as back-country director.

Yes! Agreement for Ryan to stay on as Director 😊.

2. Biathlon – Chris Elden/Jim Crellin

- The targets were moved off the range on April 18th in compliance with physical distancing requirements.
- All of the other equipment was put away in the hut except for a couple of timbers that were too frozen in.
- No current training plans due to COVID orders.
- Application to host a BC Cup will be submitted prior to April 30th.
- Regular practices ended in early March after our windup practice and luncheon on March 6
- Range was dismantled and put away on April 16-18, 2020.
- We are in the preliminary stages of applying for a BC Cup event in 2020/21
- No further progress on the range improvements.
- Biathlon BC AGM scheduled for late May.

3. Coaching. Peter van Leusden.

XC Officiating Level One Course for Nov. 21, 2020 at Hallis Lake booked.

Discussions continue with interested parties, if CSTC should host a Northern BC Tech Series Race, either in 2020 or 2021.

Williams Lake and Prince George may have other coaching courses. Encourage Quesnel members to also support Wms Lk or PG courses.

4. Equipment. Mike MacLachlin. No problems, maintenance will happen once we are allowed to gather.

5. Fundraising. Brian Black.

Lodge Improvement Project:

This project will include items specifically to improve the venue for staging film nights, and live entertainment. Included are the following:

- 85 chairs, upholstered and stackable to improve the comfort of our customers.
- 40 acoustic panels mounted on the ceiling to remedy the difficult acoustics of the lodge.
- A new large size screen which will be suspended from the lodge ceiling.
- A new projector capable of showing on a large screen with the lodge at maximum seating capacity.
- Security cameras to assist in safeguarding our assets at the venue.
- The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$20,000.

Submissions for financial assistance have been made to:

- Quesnel Community Foundation; granted \$9500
- Quesnel Rotary: Declined, all of their fundraising events cancelled
- Integris Credit Union: Declined due to the current economic climate
- Mountain Equipment Co-op: Declined, their spring grant program is cancelled

Snowmobile Fundraising:

An initiative was launched in conjunction with CCBC to raise funds for a new snowmobile. This takes advantage of an opportunity to draw in matching funds that are currently available. A total of \$4000 was raised in donations with \$800 in matching funds for a total of \$4800.

The target for snowmobile funding was \$20,000.00.

6. Governance / Policy. Charlotte

- Submission to CRA for charity status close to completion.
- 5-Year Plan document review. Charlotte will compile the 5year plan document and send out to Executive.

CSTC Policies Review Checklist – updated March 2020

Policy Checklist	Date Approved
1. Lodge Rental Policy	2020 March
2. Lodge Decorating Policy	2020 March
3. Emergency Policy and Procedures – in review	2020 February
4. Reimbursement Policy	2019 November
5. School Use Policy (not including school program groups)	2019 March
6. Policy for Transporting Athletes	2019 March
7. Work Alone Policy	2019 February
8. Criminal Record Checks Policy and Procedures	2019 January
9. CANSI Instructor Course Reimbursement Policy	2019 January
10. Conflict of Interest	2017 December
11. Investments Policy	2017 November
12. Backcountry Cabin Use	2017 October
13. Lodge Use for Birthday Parties Policy	2017 April
14. Fees for Users with Disabilities	2017 February
15. Financial Policy for the Rental Shop & Youth Ski School Programs	2017 January
Executive Meeting Quorum Nov. 2011	2017 Incorporated into Constitution Bylaws

7. Hallis Lake Ski Tournament. Sunshine Borsato. February 22, 2020.

8. Loppett. Cancelled in 2020.

9. Memberships. Greg Strebel.

10. Publicity/Adult Lessons – Ron Watteyne

11. School Ski Program. Cathy Walsh.

I'm afraid I can't make any kind of evaluation of anything related to the youth ski school because I have no idea what was budgeted/spent in this or previous years. BUT we're all aware of the current lack of coaches for the program, AND nobody knows what schools will look like next year. I'm pretty sure that schools, PACs and families will not have any "extra" money to support their kids learning to ski. I think this is a real shame, given the value and quality of the ski school, but that's just the way it is. Maybe the club should consider giving the program a rest next year and work really hard to encourage more people to become certified coaches. I realize this will have implications for the budget and for the gaming application.

I have enjoyed filling in for Vicky this year, getting to know some of you a little better, and learning more about how the club operates. I am in awe of the time and energy so many put into making Hallis Lake such a vibrant asset in our community.

This requires more discussion but I do feel that a complete halt to the program would be unwise. We do have some schools who have made it a regular part of their winter programs and support it with pac funds as well. I think we still have some serious coach volunteers and we can build that up over the next years especially if we keep the upcoming season small and positive.

A complete stop to the program may mean we never restart the program and that would be a huge loss.

Coach recruitment is of course the key and will take a lot of effort and networking within our community.

Cheers Tania

I also think a cancellation for a year would also not be helpful, providing we can get the required number of coaches and sufficient school sign-ups. I have spoken with Tania and if Cathy, Tania, Marilyn?, myself, and perhaps the new manager/coordinator (if not too late) can make an organized and aggressive approach to recruiting both of those early in September and onwards, we can organize with the results. It may not be what it has been in the past, but can still be an effective use of our resources. The key will be an early and effective recruitment effort.

I think there was a good effort put in by Cassidy, but it was too little and too late by the time Cathy was able to come on board. The school system is a huge unknown, but if there are many new hires, it may free up recent retirees which has been the largest component of our coaches. There may be others more idle than in the past who can both use the activity and honorarium that coaching provides. Worth a shot, I think.

Brian K

I hear Cathy's concerns re schools and their ability and capacity to attend ski school. The future is still unpredictable.... however, I think we should keep the ski school program going and book school groups that can attend.

I believe it is much harder to restart the program and even if operates with fewer groups, it will be a success.

Cheers, Marilyn

12. Ski trails and signs. Neil Mackay.

- main FSR gate dug out and closed + signage removed April 2/20.
- poop bag station and gates to NW side of system from FSR closed April 15/20.
- all other gates will be monitored and closed as melt/snow depth allows.
- attachment 1 is proposal to change the location of info signage at main kiosk/map area to driveway side of kiosk, with map moved to ski/groomed side of kiosk. Just a thought.
- email sent to Eagle Valley Holdings (brushing contractor) for tentative discussion on brushing of edge of trails, awaiting response. I am attempting to get a rough idea on cost to bring to the board to further discussions.
- request for quotes of trail maintenance equipment from Make Traxx (Stihl), NIS (Husquavarna) and Active Rentall (Echo). Make Traxx received- attachment 2.
- attachment 3 "Thank you sponsor" letter draft for your review. I would like to send this letter to our current sign sponsors as a reminder for renewal. I do not think the timing is great to do at this time so will await a more appropriate time.

Discussion recommended the kiosk map be shown on both sides, rather than moving the existing map. Sponsor letter looks good, but will wait for better economic times before approaching businesses for support.

13. Snowshoe trails and signs. Joe Daigle.

Considering brushing around the lake for a new trail, and brushing for a biathlon range access trail from the biathlon range to Pancake Flats.

14. Skill Development Program. Chris Hyde.

15. Social Coordinator. No director yet.

16. Snowmaking. Bruce Self.

17. Website. Shannon Coffey.

Important dates

Executive meeting dates: Sept.15 7pm Hallis Lake Lodge

Postponed. Book Reading night Chris Czaikowski.

May 23/24 2020 Biathlon BC AGM (tentative)

Meeting adjourned. Time: *(missed this.... it was my first Zoom meeting)* meeting adjourned.

Snacks schedule

- November – Brian K.
- December – Peter vL
- January – Tania G.
- February – Joe Daigle
- March – Ron W.
- April – Chris Elden