

Cariboo Ski-Touring Club
Meeting MINUTES
7:00pm, Tuesday November 17, 2020
Connecting remotely (by Google)

Attendance: Brian Kennelly, Brian Black, Tania Gruene, Audrey Maillot, Jim Crellin, Neil MacKay, Ron Watteyne, Mike MacLachlin, Bruce Self, Chris Elden, Chris Hyde, Peter van Leuden, Greg Strebel, Charlotte Kurta.

Regrets: Ryan Titley, Sunshine Borsato

Adoption of agenda. Motion to adopt. Ron W. 2nd Bruce S. Moved, 2nd and approved.

Adoption of October Minutes. Moved by Mike M., 2nd by Chris H., and approved.

Correspondence: *in the reports.*

President's Report: Brian Kennelly.

(no separate report. Covered in the New Business agenda items.)

Treasurer's Report. Tania Gruene

1. Financial report.

Current Bank Balance:

General (operating) acct:	\$34,849.81
Gaming Acct:	\$ 16 491.97
Total Balance of	\$ 51,341.78

Projected revenue and expenses to Dec 31, 2020:

Begin Balance	51,341.78
Membership	2,500
Lodge Upgrade grants	16,819
Payroll	-6500
Utilities	-500
Lodge Supplies	-400
Advertising	<u>-200</u>

Total Projected end balance \$63,060.78

Chimney repairs and hot water tank are outstanding lodge repairs.

Manager's Report – Audrey M.

My report will be brief as I have been in charge since October 27, 2020.

Lodge

With the help of a grant, a projector and acoustic panels were purchased. The projector is installed and panels will be installed before the opening.

The water test has been done and the water is potable.

Thanks to our volunteers, the woodshed is fully stocked for the season.

Ski School

I have been in touch with Diane Sanderson and our package to send out to school is in review. She will get back to me.

Ski at school: The idea of bringing skiing to schools has been brought up. With this formula we could accommodate 1 or 2 schools. My concerns are the feasibility: logistics of setting tracks, bringing equipment, skiing in a field, and finding coaches. So far, Dragon Lake elementary was interested.

Coaches

So far we have 8 coaches on board: myself, Lisa McCargar, Amanda Woollends, Lance Loggin, Tania Gruene, Brian Kennelly and Brian Black.

We also have a new recruit Janelle Janischewski.

Covid-19

Thanks to Sunshine, we have a plan and strong policies in place regarding Covid-19. The lodge will have to be organized accordingly: respect of the flow, signages, proper cleaning supplies.

Do we want to run a concession? If so, more procedures will need to be added to our existing plan.

I will be in charge of collecting and filing the health assessments done by each program for future reference.

Challenges

Being a new manager during Covid times will bring up, I am foreseeing, lots of cleaning and policing. However, the biggest challenge I think will be the Ski School program, if it will run or not, the number of persons willing to volunteer as a coach and setting a functional new family lessons program.

Discussion and motions:

1. Motion made for the CSTC to promote a family ski-lesson program for this ski season, as a potential replacement for the ski-school lesson program. Family bubbles are safer for skiers and coaches, during covid times.

Motioned by Tania G., 2nd by Greg Strebel. All in favour.

2. Motion made for the CSTC to **not** offer a food concession in the lodge this season, to not encourage people to spend longer time in the lodge during covid times.

Motioned by Chris Hyde. 2nd by Greg Strebel. All in favour.

New Business

1. Sunshine: Covid protocol review. CSTC Website has covid procedures document (p.14).

Directors please check the website and provide feedback to covid-procedures-committee if there are any questions.

Changes will be made as adjustments are needed (i.e. covid-screening protocol).

Brian K. will confirm with Shannon for the website covid procedures to be updated when any changes are made.

2. Chris/Jim: Biathlon BC Cup declination. *See biathlon report.*

3. Canis Lupus reroute. Discussions with the Forestry-Range program. No grading needed for the straighter route across the field and away from the fence line, only brushing. Recommend organizing a work-bee for rock-picking and brushing, if this can be done before there is too much snow.

4. Reciprocal day pass discount with Caledonia.

Motion made for the CSTC to participate with the Prince George Caledonia Ski Club, for the members to get 25% discount off each other's day pass ticket prices.

Motioned by Greg S., 2nd by Peter vL. All in favour.

5. Ron: Lodge upgrades and security.

Lodge upgrades are going well. Security system is installed. Jim C. and Dougal H. helped install the new screen. Project and speakers are connected. Additional 5 Gigahertz (5 Ghz) router will be purchased (approx. \$35) for the wireless projector.

6. Early start to the season?

Active logging on the FSR until Dec. 10. Safety reminder to stay off the FSR until logging has finished.

7. Chimney repair. Ron.

Leak in the roof on the north side of the chimney. Needs repair. Bruce and Ron will review the repairs and estimate a budget.

Old Business

1. Hot water tank at Lodge. Jim C. Repairs will be done when a new tank is purchased.
2. Updates on FSR and log harvest roads. Water pooling and running down the road in certain places. Expect completion by Dec. 10.

Committee Reports

1. Backcountry. Ryan Titley.

- Nothing new to add. Still haven't made it out to Moncton for the deck repairs.
- Waverly and Moncton still need Covid signage posted.
- Foam sleeping mats have been removed from Cariboo and Murray.
- I mentioned the idea of developing an Avalanche Beacon Search park out at Hallis at the AGM.

Pro's:

- Promote safe backcountry travel
- Provide training location for future Avalanche Safety Courses (rental income)
- Potentially increase and diversify CSTC membership (Beacon Park available to members only and their guests)
- Allows practice of multiple signal searches involving all participants.

Con's:

- Expensive \$6000 (+taxes and shipping) for the system from BCA (The park comes with the following items:
 - 1 master control unit
 - 8 wireless beacon boxes
 - 8 wood covers to protect the boxes from probe strikes (system runs on D batteries)
- Requires dedicated space.
- Some permanent structure for housing control box.

I think a Beacon Park could be a great addition to Hallis Lake. I feel that it would be well supported and used by the local community. For funding we could look at the Quesnel Community Foundation. Just a thought☺

The local BCA rep indicated that once an order is placed the system takes 4+ weeks to arrive as it comes from the states. Likely not something we could do this year but something that would be worth looking into for the future.



Discussion: any backcountry safety practice is a good idea! It is unclear where a permanent home would be for the beacon park and the equipment. Maybe discuss this with the snowmobile user groups and Troll Resort? Possibly Troll Resort would have a better/more suitable permanent location and Troll is on the way to the backcountry area.

Also a Level 1 avalanche training course hasn't been coordinated in our area for a few years.

2. Biathlon – Chris Elden/Jim Crellin

Biathlon range setup on the 14th. All looks good for the season, especially the amount of snow. We will start regular Saturday shooting practices at 10 on Nov. 21st.

After discussions with the team and Brian K., we sent the following notice to Biathlon BC that we were withdrawing from hosting a BC Cup this year due to the COVID situation.

I regret to inform the Biathlon BC Board that after discussions with our biathlon team and the Cariboo Ski Touring Club president we are withdrawing from hosting BC Cup #1 in Quesnel January 15-17, 2021 due to the current and worsening situation with the COVID19 pandemic in BC. Following are the main reasons for our decision:

- 1. The continuing rise in the number of active COVID infections in BC.*
- 2. The timing of the event two weeks after the Christmas/New Year holiday which will almost certainly result in a further spike in COVID infections as per the previous holiday weekend infection rates.*
- 3. General discomfort with the idea of bringing a group of people from all regions of the province to our venue and city during the ongoing pandemic.*
- 4. The difficulties in developing and managing adequate protective measures for Athletes, Coaches, Officials and Volunteers at a biathlon competition. This is exacerbated by the uncertainty of weather conditions during the event.*
- 5. The risk to continued CSTC operations if there was an increase in COVID exposures or infections that was linked to or perceived to be linked to our hosting this event.*

In summary, we are being asked to our health officials to move to reduce the risk of contact and infection. Hosting of the BC Cup at this time is seen to be contrary to this.

There may be an opportunity to host a very low key regional event if the COVID trends move in the other direction in the New Year, otherwise we will look at having some fun club events, ideally in conjunction with the ski race team.

The Biathlon Canada Youth-Junior World Cup Trials are in PG at start of February if they can figure out how to run it with the COVID restrictions.

3. Coaching. Peter van Leusden.

Newly recruited coaches will require criminal record check.

Manager Audrey M. will attend coaching clinics in PG.

4. Equipment. Mike MacLachlin.

New schedule will be needed for track-setting, depending on lesson times for family group lessons.

Audrey M. will need snowmobile demo and instructions.

Instructions for the ATV reverse gear were sent in an instructional video to all operators.

5. Fundraising. Brian Black.

Lodge Improvement Project:

The implementation of this project is underway and will be completed soon. The cost of the project is estimated to be 19,419 and is expected to be on budget. Submissions for financial assistance have been approved:

- Quesnel Community Foundation; granted \$9500
- Northern Development Initiative Trust; granted \$7319
- The CSTC portion of the project is expected to consist of volunteer labour valued at \$2600.

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 \$4260 was raised in donations with \$800 in matching funds for a total of \$5060. Fundraising for this initiative continues:

NORDIQ CANADA, club support grant for the Snowmobile Purchase was submitted. Total \$8000.

Other Current Initiatives:

- **COVID Response Plan**, submitted to Quesnel Community Foundation. Total \$6261
- **VIASPORT**, Leapforward grant; submitted. Total \$2920
- **NORDIQ**, Team Club Culture grant, Application submitted by Sunshine. Total \$2250

6. Governance / Policy. Charlotte

- Conflict of Interest Policy to be reviewed in December.

CSTC Policies Review Checklist – updated October 2020

Policy Checklist	Date Approved
1. Investment Policy	2020 September
2. Lodge Rental Policy	2020 March
3. Lodge Decorating Policy	2020 March
4. Emergency Policy and Procedures – in review	2020 February
5. Reimbursement Policy	2019 November
6. School Use Policy (not including school program groups)	2019 March
7. Policy for Transporting Athletes	2019 March
8. Work Alone Policy	2019 February
9. Criminal Record Checks Policy and Procedures	2019 January
10. CANSI Instructor Course Reimbursement Policy	2019 January
11. Conflict of Interest	2017 December
12. Backcountry Cabin Use	2017 October
13. Fees for Users with Disabilities	2017 February
14. 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.

I am still open to ski tournament, just different. Goes well with Chris H.'s idea of many mini local races. Suggest we make a subcommittee to develop a race plan for the season.

8. Loppett. Not scheduled yet for 2021.

9. Memberships. Greg Strebel. 278 members currently registered.

10. Publicity/Adult Lessons – Ron Watteyne. Will discuss adult lessons schedule with Audrey.

11. Ski trails and signs. Neil Mackay.

Fencelines are brushed in the biathlon area. At least 20 volunteers attended the trail workbee! Thankyou!

Sign sponsors – positive response to the letter offering extensions to the sponsorship time during covid times. Some sponsors are willing to renew their donations (thankyou Quesnel Toyota, Erikson Earth Works, Rocky Peak.

All health assessments submit to the office in the Lodge.

Mike M. will provide snowmobile info to Neil.

Roger Knorr is approved for a key to the equipment shed. The Lodge Manager will have a list of equipment shed key-holders and keep it in the office.

12. Snowshoe trails and signs. Joe Daigle.

13. Skill Development Program. Chris Hyde.

SDP program has been meeting for fitness training.

Facebook Buy and Sell page will be active for equipment sale until Dec. 31, 2020.

14. Snowmaking. Bruce Self. Bruce will coordinate demonstration and instructions for snow-making.

15. Website. Shannon Coffey.

Please email shannon.coffey@icloud.com with information updates to be posted on the website. Also, any suggestions for changes and/or improvements to the website.

Important dates

Executive meeting dates: 3rd Tuesday of the month. 7pm.

On-line link will be sent out by Brian K in time for each meeting.

- Nov. 17., Dec. 15, Jan.19, Feb.16, Mar.16, April 20
- Dec. 10 logging completed and season can start!

Meeting adjourned. Time: 8:47pm. Meeting adjourned.

Snacks schedule

Snacks at home during covid on-line meetings 😊