

Cariboo Ski-Touring Club
Meeting Minutes
7:02pm, Tuesday Jan. 19, 2021
Connecting remotely (by Google)

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

Regrets: Chris Elden, Audrey Maillette, Ryan Titley, Bruce Self, Sunshine Borsato, Shannon Coffey.

Adoption of agenda. Motion to adopt. Greg Strebel . 2nd Jim Crellin . Approved.

Adoption of December Minutes. Chris Hyde, moved. Ron W., 2nd Approved.

Correspondence:

1. FSR winter tenure 5 year extension approved. Tenure is for annual CSTC use of the road from Dec.11 to Apr.1 of each year. CSTC manages the road closure and the gates during that time.
2. Canis Lupus trail re-route approved by MFNLRO and Hallis Lake Pasture Association.
3. Request from City of Quesnel to support hosting 2024 BC Winter Games:

Dear Brian Kennelly,

The City of Quesnel and the Cariboo Regional District was very proud to successfully host the BC Winter Games in 2000.

Recently, the Province of BC and the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture, and the BC Games Society invited our community to bid as a host for the 2024 BC Winter Games. We accepted the challenge. We know we have the venues, volunteers and spirit to host the best ever BC Winter Games.

As part of the bidding process we require letters of support from local sporting clubs and are hoping that Cariboo Ski Touring Club will support this bid.

Hallis Lake is the perfect venue to host cross country skiing and the biathlon. I have attached a venue form that the City of Quesnel must include in the bid. I also have attached sample letters of support for you convenience.

I would be very happy to answer any questions you may have and can be reached via this email or at 250-991-1194. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Charlene Lawrence Business Outreach Coordinator/ City of Quesnel

President's Report: Brian Kennelly.

(addressed under New Business)

Treasurer's Report. Tania Gruene

Current Bank Balance:

General (operating) acct:	\$44,713.00
Gaming Acct: \$	\$16,487.00
Total Balance:	\$61, 200.00

Projected revenue and expenses to Jan 31, 2021:

Begin Balance	\$61,201.00
Membership	\$400.00
Rental Shop	\$3000.00
Lodge Upgrade grants	\$16,819.00
Covid Grants CF	\$2500.00
Kal Tire/SDP	<u>\$1250.00</u>
	\$85,170.00
Payroll	-4500.00
Utilities	-800.00
Lodge Supplies	-200.00
Equipment repair	-200.00
SDP	-1800.00
Advertising	<u>-300.00</u>

Projected January end balance \$ 77, 370.00.

BC Gaming Grant may not be completely used this season because of program restrictions.
Permission from BC Gaming to extend the spending to next season.
Directors requested Tania to send out a list of BC Gaming grant eligible expenses.

Manager's Report – Audrey Maillette

Manager Report - January 2021

I have some numbers for you guys.

Since opening until January 17, in 6 weeks we have at the rental shop sold/rented:

- 108 Adult Classic rentals
- 64 Youth Classic rentals
- 10 Adult Skate rentals
- 6 Youth Skate rentals
- 3 Classic Season rentals
- 2 Skate Season rentals
- 5 Hoodies
- 4 fleece hat
- 2 buffs
- 2 ball cap
- 16 4 for 5 promotion
- 14 membership
- 3 family lessons

The money box has been emptied twice by Chris Hyde for a total amount of 513.17 (an american bill is responsible for that weird number)

INVENTORY

I am currently working on doing an inventory of our equipment. I noticed that we have 9 brand new combi boots size 38 that still have tags on. They never go out at the same time. On the other hand, we could use more pairs of other sizes, as we only have one pair of each size (except size 36 and 37 we have 2 pairs) and I have to give smaller or bigger size to our renters, especially during SDP. For example, we only have 1 pair of 39 and I currently have 2 youths needing that size. I would like to sell the extra boots and purchase more boots in the size needed. I will be contacting Rocky Peak and Stride and glide. The inventory will be done this week and posted on the drive.

PROMOTION

Starting on January 20th after 5pm, Night skiing will be 5\$ for a pass and 5\$ for rentals in hopes of pumping the traffic. Last week we had 6 rentals on Wednesday, but it would be nice to attract more skiers on Wednesday evenings.

PHOTOSHOOT

I have a professional photographer who ski booked for a Saturday when (hopefully) we have some more fluffy snow. She is starting her business so she gave us a great deal: 100\$ for 70 pictures. I thought it would be fun and also useful to have some newer pictures for the website. Skiers would also have the opportunity to have personal pictures taken of them on snow for 10\$/picture. This event is totally snow depending and will occur on a Saturday to be able to capture Biathlon and SDP in action.

NEWSPAPERS

We can always use donations of newspapers for the fires. If you have any at home, please drop it off at the lodge.

CORRESPONDANCE

Yesterday we received an email by Charlene Lawrence, Business Outreach Coordinator of the City of Quesnel, asking support from our club for the BC Games in 2024.

New Business

1. 2024 BC Winter Games. Letter of Support from the CSTC. Motion made for the CSTC to support the City of Quesnel by participating in hosting the 2024 BC Winter Games. Motioned by Brian Kennelly, 2nd by Jim C. All in favour. Approved.

Brian will send letter to the City of Quesnel.

Old Business

1. CCBC Build The North training program. Chris H. and Sunshine B had a Zoom call with Coach Graham. Coach will be coming to Quesnel Sat., Jan.23 for coaching instruction.

We have taken advantage of the Build the North Opportunity offered by CCBC. We have set up a coaching clinic on Jan 24th to help new and existing coaches refine their skate ski skills. Graeme Moore from PG will be coming down to facilitate this session. Then in the afternoon members of the race team will be joining the coaches to do some joint skill-building.

In addition, Graeme will be working with Sunshine and Chris H. to develop a training plan for our race team.

Committee Reports

1. Backcountry. Ryan Titley.

Just a couple notes from the backcountry...

-Waverly is having stove pipe issues. Groups are getting smoked out when trying fire up the woodstove. I am hoping to make it out there in the next couple weeks to see if I can sort it out.

-Lots of interest in our cabins and surrounding ski touring locations. Audrey, was wondering if there was a document that I could give her to share with people... Thoughts on what information should be included?? So far I have been telling people that specific locations and directions will be provided to members upon booking of cabins. I've also been directing people to Avalanche Canada's website (www.avalanche.ca), under the "Trip Planner" heading there are maps indicating the avalanche terrain rating scale for various locations. All of our cabin locations are covered in these maps and the access trails are roughly highlighted.

-I have not explored other groups interest in a Beacon Park and potential locations but will likely explore this idea more with Troll and local Snowmobile clubs.

-Praying for more snow.

2. Biathlon – Chris Elden/Jim Crellin

BC Cups 1 and 2, of which we are slated to host #1 this past weekend, were officially announced as cancelled in mid-December. We had a team trial at this weekend's practice for a fun competition in place of the real thing. It was way easier to organise. Thanks to SDP for accommodating our course through the stadium and Fir Tree Hill.

We also did a joint relay race with the XC team. Great to see the big crowd of them.

BC Cup 3, scheduled for Whistler around early March is still on the schedule as a possible go, depending on what happens with COVID.

We have 11 athletes training this year from age 8 on up which is a good healthy number for us. Thanks to the Club's assistance and the grants obtained over the years almost all of the athletes are on biathlon rifles.

Thanks again to the groomers for keeping our trails in shape.

3. Coaching. Peter van Leusden. Nothing to report for club-hosted coaching at this time. Good news from Chris H. and Sunshine for involvement with Build The North program.

4. Equipment. Mike MacLachlin.

5. Fundraising. Brian Black.

CRA application for non-profit status is still under review. Taking longer than usual during covid times.

Snowmobile requested/ordered for 2022. All 2021 snowmobiles are sold out. Currently none available.

Lodge Improvement Project:

The implementation of this project is complete. Final reporting to the funders Quesnel Community Foundation and Northern Trust has been done. Cheques from both funders are expected soon. The cost of the project is close to the budget amount of \$19,419 with the only contribution from the CSTC being volunteer labour.

Snowmobile Fundraising:

An initiative was launched in conjunction with CCBC approximately a year ago to raise funds for a new snowmobile. This took advantage of an opportunity to draw in matching funds that were available. A total of \$4260 was raised in donations from CSTC members, with \$800 in matching funds for a total of \$5060.

We have received a positive response granting **\$6000** to the CSTC from NORDIQ Canada / Alta Gas re the club support grant for the Snowmobile Purchase. The cheque was received in December.

Application to the QCF has been made for the remainder of the funding (\$10,872) to complete the \$22,372 project.

Other Current Initiatives:

- **COVID Response Plan**, submitted to Quesnel Community Foundation. We will receive **\$2500** from this source. A cheque is expected soon.
- **VIASPORT**, Leapforward grant; submitted. This request was denied.
- **NORDIQ**, Team Club Culture grant, Application submitted by Sunshine. Total \$2250.00
A positive response to this request was not received.

6. Governance / Policy. Charlotte

- CSTC Financial Policy for Rental Shop & Youth Ski School Programs to be reviewed.
Tania will send update of current procedures to Charlotte and policy will be reviewed at next meeting.

CSTC Policies Review Checklist – updated December 2020.

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

Chris H and Chris E and I have come up with a number of race ideas befitting covid but providing some fun and focus for our young athletes as well as club members.

The covid requirements are that we are not hosting an event or attracting a lot of people at one time and so I think the following ideas are covid respectful:

For the club as a whole, we could have a weekend with timing clock set up and a clipboard and groom a specific trail for a sort of loppet. Multiple loops of a shorter trail allows people to have a store of snacks or supplements at the stadium. People come any time on the weekend and ski the course, indicate classic or skate technique and write down their time on the clipboard page. We will not have a medal ceremony but we could announce the winners based on an honour system and possibly have draw prizes for anyone who officially enters. I recommend a toonie jar and a toonie to enter. It could be fun and encourage recreational skiers to "race" as well.

I think we should try a race night series too - similar to what Brian K did at the end of the season a couple years ago where on certain nights the timing clock is set up and maybe music is playing and a specific trail is groomed for the race. Wednesday nights are logical, Friday nights would be more fun though.

We could also have a big piece of paper posted outside and have the same trail as a race course all year (i.e. Gerry's choice as it is always groomed) and everyone records their weekly time trying to beat themselves as the season progresses or compete against others even though one is racing alone but as an ongoing season long race - the race would extend for the entire month of February for example - people can improve - maybe an average best time at the end.

I believe if we want to initiate any of these ideas, we need to do it now to start at the first of Feb or Jan 30th to maximize our remaining season. We will need to advertise the races to attract people.

We will continue in our race team/program and SDP and biathlon program to encourage additional racing ideas for our participants/athletes.

Discussion and agreement that here are good ideas for the season.

8. Loppett. Not scheduled for 2021.

9. Memberships. Greg Strebel.

As of this afternoon the CSTC has 414 members, 215 F & 199 M, including:

- 32 registered Snowshoers
- 28 registered Back Country, of which 10 are from Prince George, 8 from Quesnel, 3 from Wells, 3 from Williams Lake/150 Mile, 1 from 108 Mile, 1 from Smithers, 1 from Salmon Arm and 1 from Westminster, Colorado
- 10 people registered as Club Supporter/Day Pass User, and
- 10 children under the age of 5 as of 31 Dec last.

We are up approximately 90 members over last year.

10. Publicity/Adult Lessons – Ron Watteyne

The lessons have been well attended for the first 2 sessions with six people for classic and 6 people for skate, and the second classic there are 3 people. 39 lessons so far. Assistance from Savannah Robinson.

Not much to report on the publicity end.

11. Ski Trails and signs. Neil Mackay.

Thanks to Chris Kovach and Eric Woollens for their help.

Mini-excavator needed to place a culvert on Gerry's Choice trail, and also on Birch Bench.

Discussion about ditching or installing culverts in areas with open water. Ministry approval will be required. None of this work has been completed yet.

12. Snowshoe trails and signs. Joe Daigle.

I hiked the Bigfoot & Wally's way. Bigfoot is good to hike not enough snow for snowshoeing but good hiking. Wally's way you only need snowshoes for part through the swamp and in the pasture.

13. Skill Development Program. Chris Hyde.

Currently, we have 48 participants registered in SDP. We are fortunate to have ample coaches and volunteers for this season which has made the season go smoother. We ran a condensed coaching course a few Saturdays ago for some of the older kids who were interested in coaching. These youth now assist different groups on Saturdays. It seems to be working well for everyone.

Race team has 2 new members. Good turnout at practices.

14. Snowmaking. Bruce Self. No report. Ready when temps cooperate.

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

Meeting adjourned. Time: 7:59pm. Meeting adjourned.

Snacks schedule

Snacks at home during covid on-line meetings ☺