

CARIBOO SKI TOURING CLUB
45th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (Virtual)
OCTOBER 28th, 2021

MINUTES

Introduction of Executive: President: Brian Kennelly
Vice-President: Chris Hyde
Treasurer: Tania Gruene
Secretary: (Charlotte Kurta)

Director Reports: an overview of the Club's past year.
Written reports attached.

1. President's Report. Brian Kennelly.

I'd like to welcome you to our 2nd virtual annual general meeting. We are probably all disappointed that we have to do this again despite the easy availability of vaccines. Our start-up is a little over a month from now and it looks like we will begin with a protocol very similar to what we had to have in place all last season. Hopefully the situation will improve enough in our community that Northern Health and the Provincial Health Authorities will soon be able to ease the current restrictions. Thank goodness we are involved in an outdoor activity.

As we will hear from our various directors, our last season proved to be successful in many aspects. We may not have been able to gather or socialize inside our renovated lodge with its presentation improvements, but we enjoyed some very good skiing conditions most of the year. More people sought outdoor activities and our membership increased over what it has been the last few years; we held a Covid inspired So Lo Loppet which many participants enjoyed and will probably look forward to repeating each year; the logging was not disruptive and resulted in a new and popular route choice to the "Outback"; our fundraising again proved successful and we will have a new utility snowmobile to help with our grooming and maintenance; the SDP, biathlon, and Junior racers programs all saw growth and progress; and of course our backcountry cabins became even more popular and used by many veteran and new backcountry enthusiasts.

Many thanks are due to all our volunteers, coaches, directors, and executive for being flexible and persistent in carrying on so enthusiastically despite the challenges we faced.

Excitement will build quickly as we gear up to provide a top level venue and organization for our role in the BC Winter Games in February 2024. In two short years we will be the venue for both Biathlon and Cross-Country ski races. We will be ready, but we will be seeking more volunteers to step up to help carry this off. We have not held a sanctioned xc-ski race here since our last

winter games in 2000. Training for volunteer officials is starting right away and will continue to be a focus over the intervening time.

As we look forward to this next new season, I wish you all good health and hope to see you all out on our trails.

2. Treasurer’s Report. Tania Gruene. See financial statements

CSTC Treasurers Report

AGM October 28, 2021

<u>Current Bank Balance:</u>	September	April
General (operating) acct: \$	14,020.92	51, 306.02
Gaming Acct: \$	<u>23,005.80</u>	<u>23007.80</u>
Total Balance of \$	37, 026.72	74,313.82

Current GIC’s held at CIBC. These are externally restricted assets as part of the conditions of our licence of occupation. The internally restricted is for major equipment repair and capital projects.

GIC externally restricted	\$5,000.00
GIC externally restricted	\$1,000.00
GIC internally restricted	\$26,061.40

In the last month we have deposited 26,061.40 into an internally restricted GIC. This fund is intended to accumulate and be used for major equipment repairs or major capital projects.

We have paid for the new track-setting skidoo with delivery of the Skidoo imminent.

We have engaged PMT accounting to complete our annual financial statements. The statements will be available on our webpage when they are complete.

2.a. Manager’s Report

Manager Report AGM October 2021

Last year, Covid year. People were very good at following the flow and respecting our Covid protocols. Usual events like the open house or the ski school were not doable. Although we adapted, and our So-Lo-Ppet was a success for example. We also provided family lessons in an attempt to attract people new to the sport.

Statistique of the Rental Shop season 20-21

	Total of YEAR
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Adult Classic	261
Youth Classic	137
Adult Skate	26
Youth Skate	7
Snow shoes	30
Adult pass	306
Youth pass	48
Family pass	43
4 for 5	21

Lots of traffic in January and February in the rental shop. Twice as much as the other months. Despite not having a proper ski school running, we had 2 groups of students coming from a private school for ski lessons.

The Grooming application Pulse which was tested and approved near the end of the season is a great addition to our club and members which can benefit from live grooming reports. Thank you to our sponsor Rocky Peak for making this possible.

3. Directors' Reports

A. Backcountry Report. Ryan Titley

2021 September Backcountry Report

1) Murray

- Wood stocked for the season.
- Lots of Propane left, one tank is still 2/3 full and the other is completely full.
- Unable to find the exact source of the roof leak but seems like adding a new exterior cap to the roof would be in order. Should be fine through the winter but definitely needs to be done next year.

2) Waverly

- Clogged stove pipe issue was fixed last season. Wood stove shouldn't smoke out the guests this year.
- Have not checked wood supply.

3) Cariboo

- Insulation project update: Insulation, vapour barrier and plywood has been added to the two ends of the A-frame (doorway wall and window wall), as well as the sidewalls of the loft area. Hopefully keeps it a little warmer in there this winter.
- Insulation project ate up the backcountry budget for the, cost of materials came to nearly \$600 on the dot.
- Wood supply should be good for the season especially with insulation improvements.
- Added chicken-wire to the underside to stop the porcupines from eating their way in. Holes in the floor have been patched.
- Lots of propane in the tank out there.

3) Moncton

- Has not been checked.

B. Coaching. Peter Van Leusden

Coaching Report for AGM, October 28, 2021

We had no coaching courses scheduled this past season. The school ski program had to be cancelled due to COVID protocols, the SDP went ahead, and were well attended.

Graeme Moore was here for one weekend, working with our racing team athletes, and also with some of our SDP coaches.

CSTC has requested to CCBC to host a CC (Community Coaching Course) January 7-9, 2022. Confirmation has been obtained.

Preliminary discussion has started with our SDP, race team, ski school, and biathlon coaches and athletes; to budget out the cost of using Graeme Moore for weekend coaching clinics this ski season. The coaching budget for this coming season is attached. Hopefully funds may be available from our club, VIA Sport and CCBC.

I have submitted a budget to Tania, which includes the costs for 12 participants to do their online ICC modules, as well as their CC course.

In addition the budget includes the costing of hosting a Biathlon Silver Coaching course, as well as the costing of 2 weekend sessions at Hallis Lake with Graeme Moore.

This budget has also been sent and received by Wannes at CCBC.

Since Quesnel is hosting the BCWG in 2024, work is in progress to offer the X-C ski officiating Level 1&2 courses at Hallis Lake.

C. Equipment. Mike MacLachlin.

Good year for the equipment. Nitro had an electronic glitch that was taken care of, otherwise no running issues. The usage of the equipment was: PB 98hrs, Bearcat 1100km, Nitro 90km.

D. Fundraising / Grant Applications. Brian Black

PROJECTS:

Lodge Improvement Project

Final reporting to the funders Quesnel Community Foundation and Northern Trust was completed by the end of December. The cost of the project is close to the budget amount of \$19,419 with the only contribution from the CSTC being volunteer labour.

COVID Response Plan:

This application was submitted to Quesnel Community Foundation who administrated the program. We received \$2500 from this source.

Snowmobile Fundraising:

Fundraising was completed in the spring with \$5060 from club donations and matching funds from CCBC, \$6000 from NORDIQ / Alta Gas and \$11,840 from the Quesnel Community Foundation for a total of \$22,900. The snowmobile was ordered and delivery is imminent. A final report on this project is due very soon.

Gaming grant:

Our application for a Community Gaming Grant yielded positive results with 100% of our request, \$19,900 granted. This is a significant increase from the \$16,500 which had been received in the previous several years.

Total cash grants in the 2020-21 year = \$ 64,719

E. Governance and Policies. (Charlotte Kurta)

F. Hallis Ski Tournament. Sunshine Borsato.

G. Loppet/Fun Race: Sunshine Borsato

Hallis Ski Tournament

Unfortunately, the Hallis Ski Tournament was canceled last year due to COVID. This event may or may not proceed this year depending on current provincial mandates as it requires a large number of

volunteers but is a wonderful event showcasing youth skiers in a fun racing atmosphere where they compete in three different types of ski events – a classic ski race, a team relay race, and a downhill adventure course.

Anyone interested in helping with the race which is traditionally held in late February, is encouraged to contact Sunshine as we utilize about 30 volunteers to make this race event a success.

So-Lo-Ppet 2021 –

I hesitate to put my name forward as the loppet coordinator – but I did coordinate the So-Lo-Ppet in 2021. This was our answer to developing our traditional loppet race within our COVID landscape. The race was well received and I believe we are planning to reproduce it for this COVID race season as an alternative to a traditional loppet format.

Racers were self-timed and responsible for recording their own results as they followed the race course that was set for the entire weekend. The independent nature of the race attracted 95 adult entrants and 35 SDP entrants.

Some advantages to this race format – COVID friendly and we used only three volunteers to run the race. More people were trying longer distances in this race than in traditional loppets, and some people entered this event who generally were not confident to enter a traditional loppet.

I may want to add some results people in the future so that times and names and distances are completed well as there were a number of entries last year that were difficult to interpret.

H. Membership. Greg Strebel.

Membership Report

Last year saw a membership total of 441 individuals, a significant increment over the prior three years which had averaged 324 members. The back country segment, included in the total, increased from the prior running average of 25 to 36.

The membership tally for the current season so far is 237, a comparatively good number for this point ahead of the snow season. The tally includes 14 out-of-towners: 6 from Prince George, 5 from Williams Lake, 2 from Wells and 1 from 100 Mile House. The bulk of these are in the Back-country category, however 4 are registered in All Options.

A summary of the numbers from prior years, starting with the first season that all registrants were logged through the Zone4 registration platform, is shown in the table below.

Season	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 to date
Male	175	168	160	153	155	208	107
Female	228	203	166	172	166	233	130

Total	403	371	326	325	321	441	237
Back-country	22	26	27	24	25	36	11

I. Nordics/Biathlon. Chris Elden/Jim Crellin

We had 11 competing athletes including two adults.

All provincial and national competitions were cancelled due to COVID.

Three athletes qualified for provincial squads: Laura Balkwill for the Development Squad, and Jessabelle Trelleberg and Landon Aaslie for the Talent Squad.

We will set up the range as soon as the cattle are off the pasture (After Oct. 28).

Three BC Cups are planned this year. We are scheduled to host the last one on February 5-7, 2022. Initial planning has started.

Four club members will take the online Introductory Biathlon Officiating Course October 2021.

National Championships are scheduled in Prince George in mid-late March, subject to COVID.

We thank the club and all of the many volunteers for their dedicated support of our endeavors and look forward to a good year of skiing.

J. Publicity / Adult Lessons. Ron Watteyne

Adult lessons

We had a very successful season for adult lessons with a total of 75 skier lessons mostly taught in the evenings under the lights. I was very fortunate to have Savannah Robinson assisting me. It allowed us to work one on one with a skier if that skier was having difficulties. She was very keen on teaching but unfortunately was not able to get her certification through CANSI as there were no courses offered last season due to Covid. Savannah will be returning this winter to teach so hopefully she can get her CANSI certification this winter.

Still looking for other interested person(s) to get their CANSI certification to teach ski lessons. Typically, all the lessons have been in the evenings during the week, but I have had some requests to teach on the weekends and would like to get a few more people certified to teach. The club will pay for the cost of the course if the individual agrees and teaches a minimum of two seasons.

Publicity

I will soon be in contact with Dale Taylor at The Rush radio station to set up some bi-monthly interviews.

Will be running some ads on the radio when we are ready to open and speaking to the Observer to get articles in the newspaper for early November and another when the season has started.

I will get the Free Ski Passes for the 2021 / 2022 season printed up soon to be given out to the executive and directors. I do not have a count on how many of these were redeemed but Audrey should have this info.

Lighted Trail / Electrical

With the construction of the new snowmobile shed it was required to move one of the light poles about 10 feet. This was accomplished with the help of Jim Crellin and Neil McKay. Thanks to Randy Stephen for the use of his scissor lift to remove and replace the light and wire.

Once the construction of the new shed was complete, I wired the shed for lights and plug ins.

There were two lights on the lighted trail that were not working last season. Two new lights were purchased, and a man lift was donated from Active Rental to complete the work. The lights were repaired (the photocell was faulty) and now all the lights on the system are operating. Thanks to Brian Black for helping on the repairs of the lights.

In exchange for the donation from Active Rental, the club donated 2 free ski lessons, ski rentals and ski passes for their family or employees.

We now have 2 spare lights. The thought is to place one on the lodge side of the stadium near the map kiosk and tie the power into the first pole near the timing hut. This area is where skiers put on their skis and in the evening the lighting is very poor here. This will not likely get done until next spring / summer.

It was brought to my attention that the smoke alarms in the lodge were out of date. I have purchased new alarms and will install them soon. The burnt out lights in the basement have been replaced with new LED's. The emergency exit light in the basement has been replaced with a new unit. Thanks to Richard Sturt for his help.

Looking for a younger certified electrician to help with the maintenance. I'm not getting any younger and would like to have a succession plan in place for when I'm not able to continue in this position. This job is not too time consuming. I would typically spend 1 to 2 half days a year on maintenance and another couple of half days on new installations.

K. Skill Development Program. Chris Hyde.

SDP Report,

We had a great season that was well attended with 47 participants. Parents and coaches fell into the groove with the covid protocols that were put in place to ensure a healthy and safe ski season. We utilized "Build the North" which is an initiative put on by CCBC to help support clubs in the North. We had Graeme Moore come down to do coach development and to work with our skiers. Throughout the year we utilized his knowledge to help with our programming and for this season he is working with Sunshine to develop the race team.

We were able to recruit some potential new coaches who will be taking the community coaching course this January. Looking towards this year we want to do more social events with the sdg program providing the current covid environment allows us to do so.

The SDP group really enjoyed the Sololoppet and hope it becomes a regular event. We appreciate all the volunteers that come out to make this program possible and thank you to the board for your continued support of the SDP program.

Chris & Laurie

L. Snowshoeing. (Joe Daigle)

M. Trails & Signage. Neil Mackay.

CSTC Trail maintenance

- Mowing arranged with and completed by Scott Zacharias Oct 2021. Scott reported improved trail conditions from last season and did not have any access issues throughout the system.
- Offset brushing in the stadium area completed by Curtis Gassoff Oct 2021. Curtis reported reasonable results with his equipment. Arrangements were made with Curtis to move further throughout the system but he was called away to work unexpectedly and could not continue as planned. Curtis has no time left prior to freeze up to complete more brushing. Suggestion to employ Curtis Gassoff and his equipment next off-season to continue with the brushing throughout the system.
- Ongoing trail maintenance throughout the 2020/2021 season in response to reports from trail grooming crew and trail users.
- Trail maintenance contact list managed to respond to trail maintenance issues and support the grooming crew after weather events. Support for the grooming crew in the upcoming season to continue and to adhere to Covid safety protocols. Currently there are 9 club members on the trail maintenance call list. Please reach out to the club if you are interested in volunteering with this group. Thank you to the trail maintenance crew; in no particular order of Chris Elden, Chris Kovach, Chris Hyde, Roger Knorr, Brian Kennelly, Sydney Mackay, Victor Stobbe, Bevin & Mike Thompson and Derek & Isaac Woollends. Thank you for all your efforts. Ski trail maintenance volunteer hours were in excess of 150 hours for the 2020/2021 season.
- Pole saw purchased to deal with "leaners" as well as tree canopy over ski trails.
- Coniferous tree assessment completed at the end of last season for possible shade tree removal at a later date.
- Low mobility trail maintenance ongoing throughout summer. Accessible trail to outhouse still requires repair/renewal.

CSTC signage

- All sponsorship signs renewed. Thank you to Rocky Peak, Bliss, Troll Ski Resort, Eriksson Earthworks, Quesnel Toyota, ABC Communications, West Central Pipe, CJ Directory for their continued support.
- Ongoing sign maintenance in response to reports from trail users.

N. Website. Shannon Coffey.

The website <https://caribooski.ca> is a valuable source of information about the Cariboo Ski Touring Club. Some of its main features are the link to Zone 4 online registration, events calendar, club information on trails, lessons, rates, etc., and a backcountry booking calendar. A new feature this year will be realtime grooming reports using a system developed by Nordic Pulse. The club's Facebook feed is also viewable on the website which allows for more frequent updates of information regarding conditions and events by the club manager. The website will always be a work in progress as it a dynamic document. Please continue to forward information, suggestions, and photos to shannon.coffey@icloud.com

O. XC Racers: Sunshine Borsato

With some additional funding this year and the ongoing support of the Build the North initiative, we have some race planning input from PG Coach Graeme Moore to assist us with this year's race team training plan.

Our first race is in December in Prince George and this is a qualifier for the BC Winter Games.

Our team of 12 last year has grown with a couple more skiers coming on board and we are looking forward to an excellent year of races for our motivated youth team!

Motion to accept Committee Reports: Moved - Ron Watteyne/Seconded - Peter vanLeusden **Carried**

4. Election of Executive Officers:

1. President - Brian Kennelly
2. Vice President - Chris Hyde
3. Treasurer - Tania Black
4. Secretary - Amanda Woollends

Signing Officers for CSTC Regular Account

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Treasurer
4. Membership Director

Signing Officers for CSCT Gaming Account

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Treasurer

Motion to accept the list of Signing Officers for the CSTC for the year 2021/2022.

Moved - Elaine Watteyne/Seconded - Chris Elden **Carried**

Proposed List of CSTC Directors 2021-2022

Director &	Role
Chris Hyde	SDP Director
Bruce Self	Snowmaking Director
Greg Strebel	Membership / Registrar Director
Mike McLaughlin	Equipment & Grooming Director
Sunshine Borsato	Ski Tournament Director
Brian Black	Grant Writer
Jim Crellin	Nordics/Biathlon Director
Chris Elden	Nordics/Biathlon Director
Shannon Coffey	Website Director
Ryan Titley	Backcountry Director
Peter van Leusden	Coaching Coordinator Director
Ron Watteyne	Adult Lessons & Publicity
Neil Mackay	Ski Trails and Signs Director
_____	Snowshoe Trails Director

Motion to accept the list of Directors for the next year: Moved - Peter van Leusden/
Seconded - Chris Hyde **Carried**

End of Annual General Meeting