

BULKLEY VALLEY CROSS COUNTRY SKI CLUB NOVEMBER 20, 2023



There's a lot of exciting info here, so read to the end! As a reward we've saved the best for last!

Peter Tweedie awarded the Chris Dahlie Memorial Cup!

This award is given to a person who promotes skiing by helping to make better facilities, by great personal performance or via leadership in the ski community. Peter certainly fits that description! The nominator noted how much Peter has contributed to the BVCCSC & biathlete community over the last 20+ years. What kind of contributions? Peter has been a:

- Jack Rabbits coach
- certified coach of biathlon coaching (teaching people to be coaches)
- BVCCSC board member & biathlon coach (many years as head coach)
- traveling coach across BC & Canada, supporting biathletes as a coach & official
- professional development organizer to improve the level of biathlon coaching at BVCCSC
- Spearheaded the 2014 BIBC Championships & BIBC Cup at BV Nordic Centre
- race volunteer at countless events, biathlon official at a variety of levels

The above describes his contributions, but equally important, Peter has always been known for his good cheer and for supporting his fellow competitors. Thank you Peter, for all that you have contributed, you have made our club a better place for so many; your legacy lives on in the lives of all the athletes you supported over the years.

New Deadline: deadline for early-bird rates is now November 30th
Visit www.bvnordic.ca/registration/ . Thank you for supporting our club!



***2nd Annual Virtual Facebook Auction ***

ADP's big fundraiser of the year is **Nov 21- Nov 27**! Thank you, ADP families & local businesses that have made auction amazing donations. To contribute an item to be auctioned, contact our auction master: diana.cullen@bvnordic.ca. To get great deals while supporting out athletes, check the auction out: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/222217179970125>

2nd Annual BVCCSC's Athlete Development Program's

VIRTUAL AUCTION



HELP US RAISE FUNDS TO
MAKE NORDIC SKI COACHING,
EQUIPMENT, & EVENTS
AFFORDABLE FOR LOCAL KIDS

BID ON OUR ARRAY OF AMAZING ITEMS
FROM NOV 21, 10AM UNTIL NOV 27TH AT 10PM!

TAKE PART IN TWO WAYS:
A) MAKE A DONATION OF A GOOD OR SERVICE
THAT WE POST ON THE AUCTION PAGE FOR BIDS (BY NOV 19)
OR
B) MAKE BIDS ON ITEMS ONCE THE AUCTION IS LIVE

If you'd rather make a donation, or to find out more:
diana.cullen@bvnordic.ca
250-876-8411

VIRTUAL AUCTION IS HAPPENING AT
[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/222217179970125](https://www.facebook.com/groups/222217179970125)

Registration for BVCCSC Programs:

- Bunnies/Rabbits, spaces available but filling fast, register soon
- Athlete Development Program - spaces available
- Masters Performance - still spaces available in the Program Option 1. Option 2 is full.
- Youth Biathlon - spaces available

<https://bvnordic.ca/skills-development/> for more information on these programs.



Ski Swap Update:

A lot of work goes into the Swap and this year we reaped the usual benefits - all the volunteers showing up in a big way (THANK YOU), the great community feel catching up with friends, the buzz for the upcoming season and the adrenaline rush when that perfect set of skis/boots/poles is found. We also had a record year for sales. Your contribution to the Club is appreciated.



Pumpkin Fest for ADP Athletes at the Lodge- October 28

Costumed ADP skiers gathered at the lodge for our 1st annual Pumpkin Festival. Athletes aged 8-18 enjoyed pumpkin bowling & a costume swap relay. The morning was rounded out with a delicious potluck lunch. It was so much fun; we are anticipating this becoming a tradition!



Volunteer Opportunity, Bunnies Coordinator:

Sue Pearce is looking to mentor a replacement. She has made the Bunnies program a well-oiled machine & she will stay on this season to help her replacement learn the ropes as coordinator.

Main responsibilities include:

- Recruiting coaches and hosting a pre-season coaches meeting.
- organizing skiers into age and ability groups and assigning coaches to each group.
- Laying out the season plan include choosing special events (night ski, fun races, games days, etc)
- Co-ordinating parent volunteers including on-snow parent helpers.

Coordinator's main task is to have a big picture of Bunnies & communicating out to coaches, rabbits, & families. It's fun & rewarding. Info: sue.pearce@bvnordic.ca | 250-877-2473



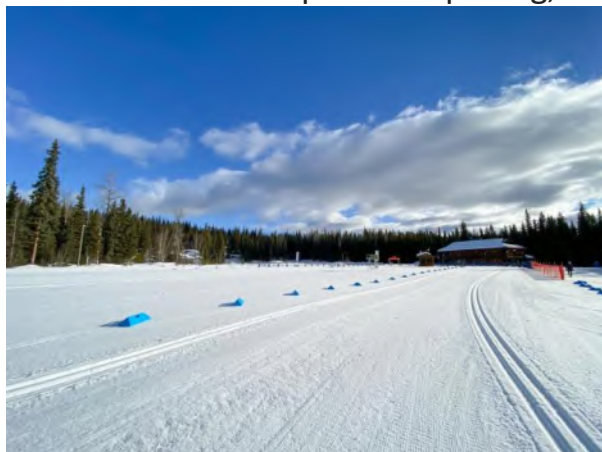
WHEN WILL WE OPEN? WHAT'S HAPPENING UP THERE? Jan says:

-Current snow depth is 5-10 cm, not enough to pack as we would like. We started rolling our early season trails on Nov 15, but realized that there wasn't enough depth to continue. We wait for another 5-10 cm before continuing.

-Do your snow dance & wish for snow. Our hope is to have early season trails open Nov 23-26.

-Our summer crews were busy mowing trails, improving drainage and smoothing out rough sections, all this helps us be able to start packing the snow with a less snowpack.

-A friendly reminder that even though there may be snow the trails, it does not mean that we're open for business. If you decide to use the trails prior to opening, use at your own risk.



TRAIL PLANS UPDATE:

If you follow our newsletters and have read our trail plan (https://bvnordic.ca/images/content/BVCCSC_Trail_Plan_Dec_2022.pdf), then you know that we were hoping to build a few new trails. We received authorization for a new Adventure Trail and we are hopeful that we may soon get authorization for a swamp bypass on the Pine Creek loop and a Valley View Connector. We also wanted to build a new dog trail – Swamp Dog – a loop inside the existing Pooch Paradise Trail. Volunteers scoped out a route, assessed the area for potential impacts to the habitat from our activity and submitted an application for the new trail to Recreation Sites and Trails BC (RSTBC).

In April, our application was refused. The reasons given involved safety concerns (e.g., dogs on Pooch Paradise leaving their owners to visit dogs on Swamp Dog and vice versa, dogs chasing moose and dogs caught in unsupported snow holes) as well as ecosystem concerns (e.g., blue listed species, moose habitat, unpredictability around water). RSTBC also considered the perception associated with using a sensitive ecosystem and pointed out that, as a fee-based facility, we have a higher duty of care.

In addition, RSTBC noted that the BV Nordic Centre provides almost 11 km of dog trails which is higher than most Nordic facilities in BC.

What's next? Expansion of the dog trails is still considered a high priority for the club. However, it needs a champion: someone to take on the organising of volunteers to plan a route and find funding for the work.



BIG NEWS FOR BVCCSC!

The Bulkley Valley Cross Country Ski Club is thrilled to announce that we are the successful recipient of funding for our Bulkley Valley Nordic Centre Rejuvenation Project. The BC Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport is providing \$765,452 from their BC Destination Development Fund. This represents the **largest single financial contribution in the club's history!**

The Rejuvenation Project will replace aging infrastructure to allow the BV Nordic Centre to continue to attract winter tourists and visitors to Smithers. Improvements in trails and facilities will strengthen our offering and lead to an increase in the area's winter tourism and visitation. The local ski community will benefit as well. When asked what this funding means for the local area, Stikine MLA Nathan Cullen noted that, "it means reliable cross-country skiing for kids to seniors throughout the entire season for years and years to come."

The funds will allow the club to:

Purchase a new groomer: A new snow groomer equipped with Nordic ski trail attachments will replace an aging groomer that is no longer reliable.

Facilitate Improved trails: Improvements will include the replacement of Pine Creek and Wetzin'kwa crossings, as well as subgrade reconstruction and drainage improvements to the trail system. Improved drainage will allow for more skiable trails in low snow conditions.

Other improvements: Accessible outhouse at the lower parking lot and new signage.

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia under the Destination Development Fund.



2nd from left, MLA Nathan Cullen at a recent dryland session

Newsletter respectfully submitted by your new Communications person, Sarah Newton
sarah.newton@bvnordic.ca

I strive to live a life with right intention to honour Indigenous Truth & Reconciliation, all human rights, the flora, and fauna of this planet, living uninvited on the territory of the Wet'suwet'en Nation.