

Nordic Centre Report for the 2021 AGM

Our greatest accomplishment this past year was running a safe operation in the midst of a pandemic. Thanks to all of our volunteers for helping to make it run smoothly and to all of our members who skied with appreciation for the opportunities that our facilities provided for them to enjoy the outdoors and get exercise.

To bookend the season: We had our earliest opening in years and, at the end of the season, we had extremely positive survey results: 99%, 100% and 97% of members were satisfied or very satisfied with the Nordic Centre trails, facilities and tracksetting, respectively, according to the survey.

Tracksetter Garage: Stephen Howard and Brant Dahlie are managing the project with paid and volunteer workers. The walls and roof are up, on time and on budget so far. The electrical panels were shifted to the new building and work on the interior insulation and plywood is ongoing. The siding will be installed in the spring. Funding is also in place for the Phase 3 which will involve tearing down the old PistenBully bay and building an open-sided “carport” attached to the new garage. Work will start on this phase next spring.

The first 3 phases of this project has been funded by Wetzin’kwa Community Forest (\$15K), Northern Development Initiative Trust (\$68K), Gaming Capital grant (\$57K), Brucejack Mine (\$5K) Seabridge Gold (\$3K), club-members’ fundraiser (\$16K above the money raised for the quad), and club reserves (\$40K, mostly from previous logging profits).

Phase 4, upgrading the foundation of the machine shed’s remaining two bays, will also be left for next summer. An application for funding has been submitted.

Trail Improvements: Installation of culverts was a focus of the work this year. This project was led by Kevin Kriese. The total value was \$46,000: \$25K from Recreation Sites and Trails BC, \$15K from Wetzin’kwa and \$6k from our club. After the installation of about forty culverts, all major wet spots along the Pine Creek trails should be fixed.

The construction of a new swamp bypass was not undertaken to allow more engagement with Cas Yex house.

Mowing is mostly completed. The new mower behind the quad worked effectively. Grass seeding of disturbed areas was done with a new grass seeder attached to the quad. The seeder can also be used for sanding if ice is bad in parking lots.

Signs: In addition to all the COVID signs in the parking lots, we installed a new large map in the Kiosk. Kevin Kriese reinforced our awesome Nordic Centre sign posts so that it won’t fall over.

General Manager: This is a new seasonal position that the board decided was necessary due to the continually increasing workload involved with operating the Nordic Centre and other aspects of the club. We recruited, assessed the applications and interviewed the qualified candidates in late summer and

early fall. The new general manager should be hired and ready to go by the start of the ski season if not before.

COVID: Providing an excellent ski experience in the midst of a pandemic took a lot of time and energy this year. We developed a policy that met the guidance of multiple regulators and put the required measures in place for the lodge and parking. We communicated frequently with our members to remind them of skiing etiquette in times of social distancing.

Acknowledgements:

The BV Cross Country Ski Club is only able to offer the trails and facilities that it does because of the tremendous contribution of volunteers. Please join me in thanking:

- Stephen Howard, Brant Dahlie, Wally Lesawich, John Schibli, Michel Poulin, Eerik Lilles, Ray Hollenberg, Sue Harrison, Irene Howard, Kevin Kriese, and Jack Stratton for their work on the Tracksetter Garage;
- Kelsey Stasiuk and Kevin Kriese, Geoff Recknell, James Cuell, Bryan Swansberg, Dick Harrison Adrian de Groot, Sean Fraser, for help mowing, grooming, rolling and plowing.
- Brant Dahlie is our volunteer Buildings Manager;
- Kerry MacLean is our dog trail coordinator;
- Robbie Dunbar has been managing our connection to 911 for the AED;
- Gen Perkins and Michel Poulin have been great caretakers and they do lots of additional volunteer work for us.