

BMNSA President's Message Fall 2014

Winter is around the corner and another exciting year of crosscountry skiing beckons. As I mentioned in my last message, the BMNSA had one of its best years ever last year. Membership was up, the ski season was tremendous, the youth program had almost 40 children, and more and more of you are volunteering and joining the growth of our club and community.

You may notice a small increase in our membership rates due largely to the fact that CCBC insurance rates have increased this past year. However, compared to many other sports, our fees are exceptionally low and only cover a small fraction of the cost of keeping our trails open.

The youth program will commence the first Saturday in January and I look forward to seeing everyone. The club does supply equipment, but has a limited supply. Please send you memberships and youth registration in early so we can have an idea of how many participants will need equipment. Priority will be given to the members who have fulfilled their volunteer hours.

This summer Pat has completed some extensive work on stump removal, bridge replacement, trail and shelter repair, snow cat maintenance and upgrades as well as windfall removal. Our most recent work bee had several members help stock firewood and paint the cat shack's interior. Thank you to all who attended. If scheduled work bees conflict with your busy schedule you are encouraged to contact Pat directly at poreilly@pris.bc.ca.

Last years AGM saw 30 people attend and we now have a board consisting of Ann Mah, Arvo Koppel, Chris Garwah, Dan Strasky, Debbie Wolf, Dillon Stuart, James McKechnie, Jan Patterson, Jim Johnson, Judy Christenson, Pat O'Reilly, Robert Jones, Trevor O'Dwyer, and Wilma Rassmusen. Thank you everyone for letting your names stand. I look forward to our first board meeting Thursday November 13th at 7:30 pm Tiger Stationary.

Mega Lottery raises approximately \$6,000 for our club and Robert Jones is once again spearheading the Mega Lottery ticket sales. Thank you Rob. He is looking for volunteers to sell at the mall. If you have not received this email please contact Rob at robertjonesbc@shaw.ca.

Finally, Pat will be on vacation for the month of November, so provided we receive some heavy snowfall you can all expect to be on your skis in early December. We are always looking for more capable groomers. Anyone interested should contact Pat directly. Until then, get fit with some regular aerobic exercise so there's no injuries on those first few runs!

The prez,
Chris Garwah