

SVNSC News

March 2017

Well, here it is, March, and I expected to be announcing that the gates were closed. Instead, looking out my window it seems more like January with more snow accumulating each time I look! I'm not complaining, mind you, just a little befuddled!

So we held the **Women's Fest** last **Sunday** – a great success as usual. Thanks to Cathy Vandenberg and Cheryl Brown for organizing and all the coaches for... well, coaching! And let's not forget the kitchen crew: Maureen with Rob (who thought he'd come to do rentals but ended up washing dishes. Hmmm) And those who cooked and baked, and the groomer: you know who you are!

On **Saturday** the annual **Moose Marathon** went off without a hitch. We'd postponed it (the week before) hoping for a bit more snow to cover our mostly 3 inches of renovated ice and the weather gods finally heard us! A foot and a half of fresh and we were back in business! 70 skiers participated and about 15 volunteers made things run smoothly and chocolate bars and soup were had by all! Who could ask for anything more?

We've had several youngsters **racing in Smithers** last month and they raked in the medals. A Sweep for the juvenile boys!! Yohannes and Gabe Vandenberg, and Aidan Carter! Way to go, boys! Seth and Ben Carter also placed in their age categories. Catch them if you can!! And yes, they were all skiing the longer distances at the Marathon! Wow!

The **groomers** are delighted with the performance of the **Snow Kiti** grooming machine. When the rain came and then froze the snow to a 4-inch boiler plate,

even they had their doubts. But they muscled the renovator onto the front end of the machine and set out to see if we'd spent our money well. What a great job the Snow Kiti does! And her drivers, of course!

The Club has been approved by the **Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency** for \$17 000 to participate in the hearings regarding the Pacific Futures Energy Oil Refinery that is proposed to be built just south and west of the Moose Highway. We are consulting with various experts at UNBC to see what our best approach is. If anyone interested in talking with Terry Brown or me, Liz Thorne, on the subject, please feel free to email me at ejthorne@citywest.ca. 5 other community groups have received funding as well as several first nations so there will be plenty of opinions on the table.

We want to keep the **rental shed** open over spring break – on the weekends of March 11-12 and 18-19 (1-4 p.m. each day). It looks like it'll be the best spring skiing in a few years. As a few of the regulars will be away over the holiday, Cathy is looking for a few more volunteers. It's easy, it's fun and if there's 2 of you, you can spell each other off to go skiing! What a deal! Call Cathy – 250 635 7397! The rental shed could be open other times during spring break, but **by appointment only**. Contact someone from the executive to arrange this.

And with the great ski conditions, the night skiing has been fantastic! For one night only, **Thursday, March 9, from 6:00-8:30 p.m.**, our **rental shed will be open** for business. Come and ski under the lights!

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The **last scheduled adult lessons** will be this Saturday, March 11, at 10:30 a.m. Free to members, \$10 for nonmembers. Group lessons can be arranged at other times (again, contact the executive) and group fees would apply.

Calling all of this year's **EarlyBirds!** Remember those bright lime green free passes that came with your membership tags? Of the over 250 that were sent out, we've only seen about 50 used! So, get them out of your junk drawers and off your fridges, and give them away. Better yet, take someone skiing! We are gathering together all these passes that show up in the pay envelopes from **Thursday to Sunday** this week, and will be doing **a draw for a \$25 TimCard**. (Members who give them away will have to put their names on the back of the cards so we can know who the passes came from.)

That's about all the news this month - things were a bit slow but they're picking up fast! Check the website snowvalleynordics.ca and our FaceBook page for all the latest updates.

And remember,

Think Snow!

Liz Thorne

(past prez. SVNSC)