

# Tet-a-Tet



The Newsletter of the Tetrahedron Outdoor Club

Spring 2023

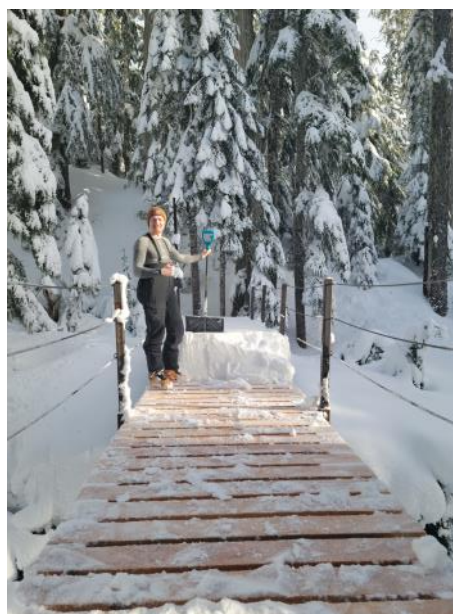
## New Trail Signs Installed

In 2022 the club received a grant from BC Parks to purchase and install new trail signage. This winter, eight club volunteers along with two park rangers installed new signs for both summer hiking and winter ski routes, as well as tagging many routes where the trail tags were faded or missing. Over 300 tags were put up along the Mayne Lake, Tannis Lake, and Gilbert Lake trails as well as from Victor's Landing to Batchelor cabin. Our work was highlighted by BC Parks on their website to promote this year's grants (which we will likely apply to again). Thanks to everyone who helped out!



## New Steel bridge gets lots of use over the winter

The new bridge installed by the club last fall was well used this winter. Users have been making good use of the provided snow shovels to keep the bridge deck clear. Thanks for doing that!



## Upcoming Events

- TBA—Emma Lake hiking trip
- TBA - Whistler/Blackcomb hiking trip
- Dec 4 - 7 - Whistler ski trip
- Feb 9, 2024 - BMFF

## Contact Information

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Please send articles, news items, photos, gear for sale, or anything else you feel is appropriate for future issues to:

[tetoutdoor@gmail.com](mailto:tetoutdoor@gmail.com) or  
[mwilson@enerficiency.ca](mailto:mwilson@enerficiency.ca)

## Winter Trips

This was our first year back doing club trips after a two year break due to the pandemic. Following our September hiking trip to Kees and Claire hut on the Spearhead traverse, we were back at Whistler in December for some early season skiing in December. A number of club members purchased Whistler 5 day Edge Cards, which include free early season skiing. To take advantage of this we booked a townhouse in the Whistler benchlands Dec 6-9. Although Whistler only had some of the runs open at that time of year, there was still plenty of good skiing to be had, especially on the last day when it snowed 10-20 cm. And at that time of year there are no lift lines! Add in some excellent food and drink, an outdoor hot tub, and even some world cup soccer games and it made for a very enjoyable week which we'll be repeating this coming December.



In February we were back to the Kees and Claire hut for a winter trip. After a few last minute cancellations, 10 of us ended up going to the new ACC hut on the Spearhead traverse. We were lucky that the  $-30^{\circ}\text{C}$  temperatures of the previous week had settled down to a more manageable  $-10$  to  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Still chilly but that made for some great snow and ski conditions. Weather could definitely be considered "variable" and we were unable to ski above the hut due to visibility concerns. (At one point we were forced back into the cabin only 15 minutes after we left because sunny skies had

turned to whiteout) But there was plenty of fabulous skiing on Cowboy ridge, where we skied the entire time. All in all, a fabulous three days of skiing.

We also ran two shorter trips into Tetrahedron Park this winter. Michel Frenette led a day trip to Edwards cabin in January, attended by a small group of skiers and snowshoers. Unfortunately the weather did not cooperate, with very wet conditions. But better conditions were had for an overnight trip into McNair cabin led by cabin stewards Danny Fleischhacker and Melissa Rayfield.



## Upcoming Activities

Our major cabin project this summer will be the replacement of the roof at the Steele cabin. Its getting old and some leaks have been showing up. Cabin stewards Bryce and Alex are planning to have a new metal roof flown in and installed sometime in August, along with some other repairs to the stairs and outhouse.



We are also planning to have the main trail brushed from the upper parking lot to Edwards Lake. It has been several years since it was last done and is beginning to get overgrown. This work will be contracted out and hopefully completed in the next few weeks prior to summer. More trail signage will also be installed.

For next year we are hoping to replace the Chapman bridge (what's left of it) with a new bridge, similar to what was done at Steele creek last year. Right now we are in the planning stages and looking for grant funding, as this will be a major expense.

## Trips

We are planning a number of summer day hikes and overnight trips. Dates are still to be worked out, with more information to come. If you are interested in a particular trip, or have an idea for another summer trip, please let us know at [tetoutdoor@gmail.com](mailto:tetoutdoor@gmail.com)

### Emma Lake

Danny Fleishhacker is planning a trip to the Emma Lake cabin, located in the Knuckleheads Recreation Area near Powell River. This will be a multi-day trip.



### Tetrahedron Park

We hope to do at least one and possibly more day trips into the Tetrahedron, appropriate for anyone not familiar with the park who wants to get out and explore it.

### Whistler/Blackcomb

Michael Wilson is planning a day hike to the Whistler/Blackcomb area in late July or August, starting from the top of the lifts. This will be of particular interest to those with Whistler passes which include a summer lift ticket. Otherwise it will be necessary to purchase a summer lift ticket.

### Nootka Island

Although not a club trip, Grant Pearse is organizing a 10 day kayak trip in the Nootka Island area on the west coast of Vancouver Island, starting Sep 2. He is looking for a couple of more people to join himself and three others. This is an adventurous trip for experienced paddlers. Contact him at 604-724-7938 for more information.



## Dakota Ridge Nordics

Another great ski season was experienced by the Dakota Ridge Nordics with 104 skiers and 35 key volunteers. 74 Sunshine Coast families were represented each Sunday! After dedicating 8 seasons to the Dakota Ridge Nordics, two integral volunteers, Stefanie Reznick and Johan Stroman, announced that this would be their final season volunteering in their respective roles as Administration Coordinator and Financial Officer. Stefanie will continue on volunteering as a coach and Johan will continue to be available for regular parent volunteer duties. After four seasons of acting as Equipment Coordinator, Kari Teichrob also regrettably finished volunteering with the group. Together, they leave the Dakota Ridge Nordics in great shape for their next evolution, with full coffers, a variety of well trained coaches, excellent variety and quality in the ski equipment library, and complete transition plans in place.



We are welcoming our new Financial Officer Ken Kiewitz. He has two children skiing in the program, each in Levels 1 and 4 Jackrabbits. Our new Equipment Coordinators Holly Higgins and Vanessa Marie also have Jackrabbits of their own and are eager to wrangle our growing library of youth skate skis and bunny rabbit skis that families get to borrow at no cost. We are still seeking a new Administration Coordinator and hope that the role will be filled by a small group of dedicated parents to share the job of smoothly coordinating the learn to ski program.

This year the pre-existing Loppet Committee put out a 'do or die' call for new volunteers, which was answered by Chael MacArthur and Simon Reznick, who are the new acting Race Directors. Along with the usual strong support from groomers, TOC members, and DRN parents, the SC Loppet offered 12Km, 2.5Km, 1Km and 100m races, with Alpha Ad-



ventures running a 5Km Snowshoe Challenge. As in past years, the event was co-planned and combined with the DRN Fun Day. Skiers' enthusiasm wasn't drowned out by this year's terrible weather. Conditions deteriorated quickly, with rain beginning at 8am and continuing through until the last race was launched, earning the event the nickname of the "Sunshine Coast Sloppet". New dates are being considered for next year.