Tet-a-Tet

The Newsletter of the Tetrahedron Outdoor Club

Fall 2023

Upcoming Events and Notices

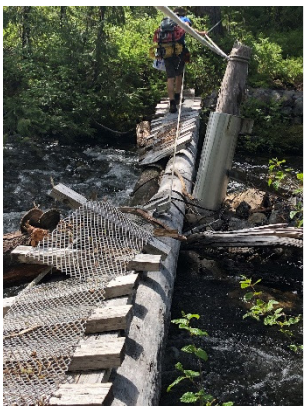
- Potluck dinner meeting, Davis Bay Community Hall, Nov 3, 5:30pm
  Social and slideshow of summer trips by club members.
- Whistler early season trip, Dec 4 – 7
- Annual General Meeting and Christmas potluck, Eric Cardinal Hall, Dec 12, 5:30pm
- Potluck dinner meeting, Jan 19, 5:30pm, location TBD
- Tetrahedron day trip, Jan 26
- McNair overnight trip, Feb 10
- Knuckleheads trip, TBD
- BMFF, Mar 1, Elphinstone Secondary, 7:00pm
- Manning Park trip, Mar 10 – 13
- Potluck dinner meeting, Apr 26, 5:30pm, location TBD

Membership fees are due by Dec 31! Fees for 2024 are $30 (our first increase in more than 10 years due to rising costs). You can pay by e-transfer to tetoutdoor@gmail.com (please pay $29.99 so we can distinguish from cabin payments) or by cheque to PO Box 545, Gibsons, BC V0N 1V0.

Chapman Bridge Fundraiser

Donate now for a new bridge across Chapman Creek!

Anyone who has hiked or skied to McNair cabin in recent years will know that the old Chapman Creek bridge is almost unusable.



The log beams are broken, the decking is coming off, and the bridge lies at a 45° angle. After completing the Steele Creek bridge replacement in 2022, our focus has now turned to the Chapman bridge.

We have received a generous grant from the Sunshine Coast Community Forest which will cover roughly half the cost, but we need to raise the rest! So we are launching a fundraising campaign to try and raise $10,000 by the end of March. We're hoping that our members and all those other users of the

cabins, parks, and trails in Tetrahedron Park can help contribute to achieving our goal.

Donations of $25 or more can be made through the Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC and are eligible for a tax receipt. Donate through their website HERE. Make sure to select TOC Chapman Bridge Fundraising Campaign as the Fund when making your donation.

Alternatively, donations (without tax receipt) can be made by cheque (mail to Box 545, Gibsons, BC, V0N 1V0) or by e-transfer (send to tetoutdoor@gmail.com). Please note on your cheque or e-transfer that the money is for Chapman Creek bridge.

Banff Mountain Film Festival

This year's Banff Mountain Film Festival is happening on Friday, March 1st, 2024. The festival is one of the largest and most prestigious mountain festivals in the world, and celebrates amazing achievements in outdoor storytelling and film-making worldwide! Traveling to remote vistas, analyzing topical environmental issues, and bringing audiences up-close and personal with adrenaline-packed action sports, the 2024 World Tour is an exhilarating and provocative exploration of the mountain world. Join the Tetrahedron Outdoor Club when Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival World Tour brings the spirit of outdoor adventure to Elphinstone Secondary on March 1st. Doors open 5:45pm for films at 7pm. Tickets sell out - arrive early - no entry after 7pm. Tickets $25 cash at Alpha Adventures, Beyond Consignment, Elphi Cycles Sechelt + Gibsons, High Beam Dreams, Tapworks and Trail Bay Source for Sports. We look forward to seeing you there!

Thanks to Hayley for coordinating the 2023 festival and Ellen and Margaret for coordinating the 2024 festival. We are always looking out for more volunteers to help with the festival, so if you'd like to help please contact toc.bmff@gmail.com

A big thank you to our local sponsors!

New Roof at Steele Cabin

Hopefully everyone saw the article in the Coast Reporter last week, but in case you didn't here's a summary of our big summer project at Steele cabin.

From Aug 12-19 dozens of volunteers replaced the roof, stairs, and outhouse, and chinked and painted the cabin, with over 1000 hours of total volunteer time. Thanks to all those who donated materials, with a special thanks to Tantalus Roofing who donated and installed the new metal roof, and to Straight Timber who helped build the outhouse and stairs. The new palatial outhouse is a composting conveyer toilet which separates liquids and solid waste. We encourage everybody to try it out!

Thanks to cabin stewards Bryce Rudland and Alex Aegeter for coordinating the project.

Trips

We had two summer trips this year, although after some delays they didn't happen until September. Eight of us made the trip to Whistler to enjoy a day's hiking on Blackcomb Mountain. We took the gondola up to the Rendezvous base and then hiked the length of the Blackcomb trail system, to the end of the Overlord trail. Good weather gave us beautiful views of the surrounding peaks in Garibaldi Park.

Later in the month a smaller group of six made it to the Knuckleheads area near Powell River. We had originally planned to go to the Emma Lake hut, but it was closed for maintenance. After considering cancelling due to adverse weather predictions, we decided to try the Vic Cole cabin instead. We hiked in on a rainy Saturday but were rewarded the next day with sunshine and clear skies. This allowed us to hike to the top of the Little Knuckle, with views all the way back to the lower Sunshine Coast. The Vic Cole cabin is only a couple of years old and it held up well in the gale conditions that night. While hiking we scoped out the potential ski runs and we plan to make a winter trip back there this coming ski season.

We have a number of upcoming trips planned for this winter. More information will be coming as we get closer to these dates.

- Whistler early season. Dec 4-7. We have booked two units at Whistler for early season skiing. This will primarily be of interest to those with Whistler season passes or Edge cards that include free early season skiing. FULL – Waitlist only
- Tetrahedron day trip, Jan 26. Michel Frenette will be leading a day trip into Tetrahedron Park. Hopefully with better weather than last year! Details to be worked out. This trip is appropriate for all ages and abilities.
- McNair cabin trip, Feb 10. Cabin stewards Danny and Melissa will lead an overnight trip to our furthest cabin. This is roughly a 4-5 hour ski/snowshoe in.
- Knuckleheads ski trip, dates TBD. As mentioned above, we would like to arrange a ski trip to Vic Cole cabin sometime this winter. This would be for 2 or 3 nights and will likely be mid-week as there is no reservation system for the cabin. If you are interested, contact Danny Fleishhacker at flydannyfly@gmail.com for more information.
- Manning Park, Mar 10-13. The club has also been to Manning Park several times before. This small ski resort east of Hope has opportunities for downhill, cross-country, or backcountry skiing. We have booked two cabins which sleep 6-8 people each. Downhill or XC lift tickets are included with the rooms. Cost is expected to be $240—$350 for the three nights, depending on numbers and type of lift ticket (not including travel/meal costs). More info HERE.

If anyone has any other ideas for trips they'd like to organize, please let us know.

Dakota Ridge Nordics

The Dakota Ridge Nordics are warming up and getting ready to slide into the next season. There is palpable momentum with a large group of new volunteers! A group of parents has recently come together to share the role of administering the youth ski program. Mary Saugstad will taking on the role the Administration Coordinator, with Melissa Woehler's support as Skier Registrar, Bronwen Payerle's support as Coach Coordinator, and Sheena Careless' support as Fun Day Coordinator. This year there has also been an avalanche of interest from returning parents to either begin or upgrade their NCCP coach training. Watch our Facebook page at the end of October if you know of any kids wanting to register as new skiers with the Dakota Ridge Nordics!

Gear Swap

Some good quality XC gear was donated to the club recently and is available for free (any donations to the club always appreciated). Contact Michael Wilson at mwilson@enerficiency.ca or 778-828-2597. We have:

- Fischer 205 cm classic wax skis with NNN bindings
- Fischer 167 cm classic no-wax skis with Saloman SNS bindings
- Fischer Men's boots, size 45, NNN binding
- 162 cm carbon skate ski poles

- Diamond back tire chains. Fit 265/70/R16 tires or similar. Good condition, easy to put on.

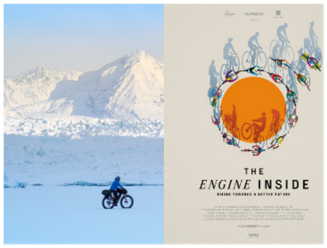
Ba(t)chelor Confusion?

There's been some confusion over the correct spelling of Batchelor Lake and cabin, which have conflicting spellings on some signs. To clarify things, our resident linguist Ryan Matthews contacted the Sechelt Archives and received this response:

Batchelor is the correct spelling, and it was named for someone from Sechelt who fought and died in WW2. The lake is named for: Batchelor, Private James George #M/105970 † Son of George and Alice Batchelor of Sechelt. He enlisted in early 1943 and died Aug. 26, 1944, aged 20 in Italy in the battle of Ortono. He was a private in the Seaforth Highlanders and is buried in Montecchio War Cemetery in Italy. Thanks for your interest.

Miscellaneous

A couple of other items that might be of interest to members:



There are still a few tickets left to TraC's screening of The Engine Inside on November 15th at the Gibsons Heritage Playhouse, sponsored by Shoreline Law. The film follows six individuals from diverse backgrounds who embrace cycling as a way to overcome daunting personal and systemic challenges, showcasing how bicycles have the potential to transform lives and contribute to a better world. Described by critics as a *"warm embrace from the greater cycling community"* and hitting *"all the right marks"* for a documentary. If you like cycling, you won't want to miss this film. More information

Mountain bike donations sought for the Sunshine Coast Alternative School's NDVR program in Sechelt. This program is attended by at-risk students in grades five to seven. In the summer of 2023, the Alternative School in Sechelt was broken into and seven bikes were stolen, They are appealing for donations of recent model, good quality mountain bikes to replace those that were stolen. They are looking for bikes with: 27.5" wheels, hard tail or full suspension, disc brakes. If you have suitable bike that you are willing to donate, please contact them.