

British Columbia Mountaineering Club



January 2010. Vol. 88, No.1

Avalanche!

Photo: Martin Kafer

EVENING SOCIAL MEETINGS

Evening socials are usually held in the ANZA club, upstairs room (corner of 8th Ave. and Ontario, Vancouver) starting at 7:30pm. Cookies, tea and coffee are provided.

Tuesday, January 12 - Extreme Expeditions to High Arctic Canada: Chris Cooper presents stories of several expeditions to a spectacular environment touching on Ellesmere, Devon, Coburg, Banks and Baffin Islands by ski, foot and kayak.
Avalanche refresher by Brian Jones of CWMS.

Tuesday, February 9 - entertainment to be announced.



Double Peaked Iceberg

Photo: Chris Cooper

British Columbia Mountaineering Club

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HONORARY PRESIDENTS

Esther and Martin Kafer

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:	DAVID SCANLON	604-572-5051
PAST-PRESIDENT:	TODD PONZINI	604-936-9369
VICE-PRESIDENT:	ROBERT WOODHOUSE	604-730-0371
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CONSERVATION:	MONIKA BITTEL	604-983-3097
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SAFETY EQUIPMENT:	KIT GRIFFIN	604-736-8462
SATELLITE PHONE:	PETER GUMPLINGER	604-733-8264
LIBRARY:	JOAN FORD	604-876-4255

CLUB EQUIPMENT FOR HIRE

Avalanche transceivers - First day - \$5 per day for members, \$7 for non-members then \$3 per subsequent day .

Snow shovels - \$3 per day.

Avalanche probes - \$3 per day.

VHF radios - \$8 per day, \$40 per week

Satellite phone - \$60 per week or \$10 per day plus \$300 refundable deposit, all payable in advance, then \$2 per minute use.

If the phone is returned damaged, the renter will be responsible for repair costs. If the phone is lost or damaged beyond repair, the renter will be responsible for reimbursing the club the \$2000 cost of the phone. Trip organizers should request a deposit from trip participants to cover this cost.

First priority for equipment rental is club camps and trips. Equipment is rented from Kit Griffin (604-736-8462) or Peter Gumplinger (604-733-8264), who should be contacted at least 2 days prior to the day the equipment is wanted, except for the satellite phone, which should be arranged at least 2 weeks prior to the day it is wanted.

The **BC MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER** is an official publication of the B.C. Mountaineering Club and is published 10 times per year (every month except July and August). All material within this newsletter is copyright © British Columbia Mountaineering Club.

Submissions - of any written, drawn, or photographic material relevant to the B.C. Mountaineering Club are welcome. If possible, submissions should be sent to the editor by email or on a diskette. Please note that images should be at least 60 pixels/cm (150 pixels/inch) for successful printing. Images with a lesser resolution will probably not be printed. Deadline for submissions is the first Tuesday of the month preceding the publication month.

Send submissions to **Alice Purdey**

(ph. 604-293-2951, email - alicep.fred@gmail.com).

Editorial policy - All submitted written material relevant to the B.C. Mountaineering Club will be published unless the club executive decides otherwise. Submitted material may be edited for clarity or brevity, or for consistency with club policies.

Opinions and comments expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the B.C. Mountaineering Club.

Scheduled trips

Participation on club trips is open to any person with adequate skills and experience, subject to the approval of the trip organizer. All non-member participants must sign a disclosure and waiver form relieving the club and all other participants on the trip from any liability. A trip organizer is not a certified guide. The function of the organizer is to organize the trip, ensure that it gets underway, know the access to the area, and know a route or routes on the climb.

It is expected that each person on a club trip has the necessary skills, experience, fitness, and equipment. The organizer may specify certain equipment mandatory for participation in a trip. Any person who attempts to participate in a club trip without such mandatory equipment, may be requested to withdraw from the trip. Each person on a club trip is responsible for his or her own safety and for checking the equipment used. Please be considerate and call the trip organizer more than 1 day prior to the trip.

If you are given a ride, please remember to pay the driver your portion of the car costs. If you decide not to go on a trip for which you have previously registered, please be courteous and inform the trip organizer.

Trip Schedule Please check the website for final updates.

January

2-4	↯ 2,3, 6 Days Ice Climbing-Lilloett !!! Waiting list only!!!	WI2-4	Werner Grzimek	604 737-1091
6	↻ Wednesday night indoor climbing at Cliffhanger Coquitlam	A5	Iveta Janot	778-847-3492
6	↻ Wednesday night indoor climbing at Cliffhanger Vancouver	A5	Waldemar Jonsson	604 780 0296
7	↻ Tele-clinic at Cypress	A2	Isabel Budke	604-224-5737
9-10	↯ Rambles Ice Climbing	A5	Justin Bennett	604-813-4666
9	↻ Snow Anchors, Descending and Belaying Techniques Practice	A2-3	Stanislav Liarsky	604-983-4476
9-10	↻ AST - Level 1 (Avalanche Safety Training)	B/2	BCMC Programs & Camps	778-866-3460
9	↻ Ice Climbing Intro (Full)	C5	Jason Wheeler	604-761-7367
10	↯ Needle Peak	B2	Carol MacMillan	604-879-2947
13	↻ Wednesday night indoor climbing at Cliffhanger Vancouver	A5	Waldemar Jonsson	604 780 0296
13	↻ Wednesday night indoor climbing at Cliffhanger Coquitlam	A5	Iveta Janot	778-847-3492
15-17	↯ 2-3-6 Days Ice Climbing/Intermed./a/Lilloett	WI2-4	Werner Grzimek	604 737-1091
16	↯ Self Arrest practice - Mount Seymour - joint with NSH	B2	Gordon Esplin	604-986-0603
16-17	↻ Organized Avalanche Response practice	A1	Justin Bennett	604-813-4666
16-17	↻ Advanced Avalanche Course (AST-2) - wknd 1	B2	BCMC Programs & Camps	778-881-5642
16	↯ Rohr Mountain	B2	Jeff Han	604-616-4593
17	↻ Ice climbing Intro	C5	Jason Wheeler	
20	↻ Wednesday night indoor climbing at Cliffhanger Vancouver	A5	Douglas Lonsbrough	778 999 0426
20	↻ Wednesday night indoor climbing at Cliffhanger Coquitlam	A5	Iveta Janot	778-847-3492
23-24	↯ Opal Cone (Garibaldi Park)	B2	Justin Bennett	604-813-4666
23	↻ Snow Anchors, Descending and Belaying Techniques Practice	A3-4	Stanislav Liarsky	604-983-4476
23-24	↻ Advanced Ice Climbing (1 spot has opened up, be quick)	C5	Jason Wheeler	
23-24	↻ Advanced Avalanche Course (AST-2) - wknd 2	B2	BCMC Programs & Camps	778-881-5642
23	↯ Thomas Peak	C3/4	Peter Gumplinger	604-733-8264
24	↯ Whistler /Blackcomb Backcountry	B3	Ilze Rupners	604-222-3720
24	↯ The Flatiron	B2/3	Randy Enomoto	604-224-6184
27	↻ Wednesday night indoor climbing at Cliffhanger Vancouver	A5	Douglas Lonsbrough	778 999 0426
27	↻ Wednesday night indoor climbing at Cliffhanger Coquitlam	A5	Iveta Janot	778-847-3492
29-31	↯ 2,3,6 days Ice Climbing/Intermed./b/Lilloett	WI 2-4	Werner Grzimek	604 737-1091
30-31	↯ Annual Needle Peak Winter Ascent	B2	Justin Bennett	604-813-4666
30-31	↻ Intro to Backcountry Skiing - wknd 1	B2	BCMC Programs & Camps	604-874-1114
30	↯ Coleman Pinnacle via Ptarmigan Ridge	C2/3	Henry DeJong	604 574-4805
30	↯ Chuwanten Mtn.	C2	Alastair Ferries	604-329-1637
30	↯ Needle Peak	B2/3	Don Cann	604 324 5773
31	↯ Mt Frosty	B2/3	Murray Lashmar	604-221-4183

February

6	↯ Mount Crickmer	B2	Reinhard Fabische	604-462-9638
6-7	↻ Intro to Backcountry Skiing - wknd 2	B2	BCMC Programs & Camps	604-874-1114
6	↻ Mount Harvey - North Face Ramp. Club members only.	B4	Serguei Okountsev	
6-7	↯ July Mountain	B3	David Hughes	604-980-6484
6-7	↯ Zupjok and beyond	C3	Justin Bennett	604-813-4666
6	↯ Ice Climbing Whistler	WI 3/4	Margaret Hanson & Tony Knight	604-873-2276
12-28	↻ Joshua Tree and Red Rocks	A5	Anders Ourom	604-228-1798
13-14	↻ Snow Shelter Clinic	B2	Brian J. Wood	604-222-1541
13	↯ Mt Mulligan	B2	Sabine Decamp	778-846-7735
13	↻ Crevasse Rescue Practice	A2	Stanislav Liarsky	604-983-4476
14	↯ Snow Camp Mountain	C 2/3	Gerry Kollmuss	604-946-8055

Member News

The Club welcomes the following new members: Ned Georgy, Anita Georgy, Andrew Boulton, Evan Blasko, Will Cleveland, Yvan Mivelas, Carole Mivelaz, Alexei Marko, Lydia Mynott, Justin Finn, Stephanie LeClair, Bev McLeod (Linseisen), Nikki Simpson, Duncan Spencer, Pete Finch, Juliane Frindte, Brad Herman, Anders Mjos, Dean Perez, Derek Raine.

New Club Ice Tools

Recently, the BCMC obtained two sets of ice tools (Black Diamond Vipers) that will be available for use on club courses. In addition, course participants can borrow ice tools on two additional club trips following the course in the same season. This should give participants more time to try out ice climbing before investing in their own equipment. Ice tools will be available on a first-come first-served basis, but priority will be given to courses. Please contact Radmila Jaksic at radmilaj@gmail.com if you want to borrow them. We hope course participants will enjoy this new club benefit.

Silent Auction

Albert Souza has donated a food dehydrator for auction at the Jan. social. All proceeds will go to the Literary and Reserve Fund. Bids will start at \$5.00 and rise in \$1.00 increments.

Volunteer at the VIMFF

Volunteers are needed to man the BCMC lobby display booth at the Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival (VIMFF) from Fri. Jan. 22 to Fri. Jan. 29. This requires giving out brochures, answering questions and generally promoting the club. Volunteers get free admission to the show for the evening.

Contact Dave or Donna Scanlon: 604.572.5051; david.hiker@gmail.com

Mountaineering in Peru - opportunity for members

Club member Francis St. Pierre will be heading to the Cordillera Blanca in Peru from mid-June to mid-July, 2010; he is looking for a few people interested in climbing moderate routes there. Email him at francis_stpierre@telus.net or phone 604-224-0502 for more information.

Recent glacier decline in B.C. and Alberta Summarized by Michael Feller



A recently published study (T. Bolch et al. 2010. Landsat-based inventory of glaciers in western Canada, 1985-2005. Remote sensing of Environment, vol. 114, p. 127-137) analyzed satellite images to assess glacial extent in B.C. and Alberta south of latitude 60° N. During the 20 year period, glaciers in B.C. and Alberta lost 11% and 25%, respectively, of their surface area. The overall shrinkage rate was 0.6% per year. The least glacierized mountain ranges with smaller glaciers lost the largest fraction of ice cover, with the highest relative ice loss in B.C. (24%) occurring in the northern central interior mountains (north of Prince George). Glaciers in the northern Coastal Mountains declined least (8%). Glacier shrinkage in the Coast Mountains was generally less than in the mountains further from the coast.

The study also found that the recent B.C. government TRIM maps significantly overestimated glacial extent, due to seasonal

snow, in 3 regions - Vancouver Island (37% overestimate), central Coast Mountains (14% overestimate), and Columbia Mountains (5%). Overall, TRIM maps overestimated glacial extent in B.C. by 2%. Interestingly, the number of glaciers increased in B.C. from 13,403 in 1985, to 16,428 in 2005. The increase in Alberta was from 926 to 1,167. These increases were due to disintegration of larger glaciers into smaller ones.



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Climbing History at Squamish - Anders Ourom

With help from others, I have built a blog/forum thread on SuperTopo that discusses climbing history at Squamish from its early days. The SuperTopo website forum is somewhat US-oriented, but far from exclusively. A lot of people participate in and view the forum, including many well known climbers, both posters and lurkers. People mostly have pen names - mine is Mighty Hiker. Many of the people on SuperTopo have met each other and done and do things together, both in the past and more recently. So it's quite 'real'. Others have added their own photos and stories to the thread. Two are Tami Knight ("Tami") and David Harris ("Ghost"), but a variety of others have contributed.

The thread is quite long now - over 450 posts - and has many photos. It's more story than history oriented, but there is definitely a historical aspect. I thought it would be fun to get some stories and history out, see what interest there was, and get some feedback. See:

http://www.supertopo.com/climbing/thread.html?topic_id=668163

Changes at Grant Narrows, Gateway to Pitt Lake

Metro Vancouver has been running the Grant Narrows Regional Park for the past 12 years but is now gearing up to remove all buildings in order to hand unencumbered land over to the provincial government by Dec. 31st when lease arrangements expire. This means that Ayla Canoes, a business that has been a fixture at Grant Narrows for the past 20 years, has to move out. Plans for the park are currently under discussion. Many hikers rented from Ayla in order to access the Widgeon Lake trail on the west side of Pitt Lake.



Arctic Images on View

Chris Cooper's first gallery of images of Canada's high arctic icebergs is now open until the end of March. It's at the Lunch Doctor restaurant, 12139 Harris Rd., Pitt Meadows, where you can enjoy fine soup and sandwiches without freezing your fingers. Framed and unframed images are available in 16x24 and larger with starting prices for prints at \$175.00. Proceeds will be directed to the ongoing fundraising initiative of the UK canoe project. For further information, contact Chris at home: 604.465.9320 or cell: 604.785.9325.

Book Review

Deep Powder and Steep Rock: The Life of Mountain Guide Hans Gmoser by Chic Scott, 2009.

Reviewed by Ron Dart

There is no doubt that Hans Gmoser (1932-2006) was one of the foremost pioneers of the 2nd generation of mountaineers in Canada. The age of the Swiss Guides and Conrad Kain was waning in the 1950s, and the season of Gmoser and friends had begun to wax with much creativity and energy.

Deep Powder and Steep Rock tells the tale well of Gmoser's early years in Austria, his move to Canada in the 1950s, his challenging climbs at Yamnuska and Logan-Denali, his being there at the formative years of the Association of Canadian Mountain Guides heli-skiing and his latter years as an elder statesman of Canadian mountaineering. The book is not a simple hagiographical rags to riches story, though. Scott had the integrity in the biography to make it clear that there were also troubling aspects to Gmoser's drive. Tragedies and deaths marked the rise and expansion of the heli-skiing industry. Scott did not flinch, to his credit, in mentioning Gmoser's right of centre political leanings and the troubles in his marriage as work came to trump marital responsibilities. The sheer momentum of the biography does carry the reader through a life that, midst many a challenge, rose to the occasion and accomplished much. Gmoser was offered the Order of Canada in 1987 for his innovations in the Canadian mountaineering community.

Deep Powder and Steep Rock is divided into six sections: 1) Just Another Day, 2) Hard Years in Austria, 3) A Mountain Guide in Canada, 4) The Great Communicator, 5) Heli-Skiing Takes Off, and 6) Elder Statesman.

The photographs in the tome are well worth the visual journey— Gmoser's life and the mountains he so loved are depicted well in the aptly chosen photos for the biography. The DVD that comes with the hard cover is a fine tribute to Gmoser's artistic sense and the way he could dramatically sell mountain tourism to a new and emerging affluent generation.

It is quite appropriate that Scott wrote the biography of Gmoser (he knew him well and is one of the best Canadian mountaineer historians). The book is a keeper and must read for those interested in the mountaineering tribe in Canada as the clan emerged from its infancy to its more mature years.

AGM REPORTS - 2009

President - Todd Ponzini

As I wrote last year, I believe that our biggest challenge is to remain relevant to the local outdoors community. There was a time when the easiest way to go on a trip to the mountains with a friendly group of people was to join a club and take advantage of its trip schedule. But we face "competition" from the internet, where people have the ability to chat and to organize their own trips, which makes the club, in its traditional format, somewhat less relevant. Despite this competition, our membership numbers have remained fairly steady over the past few years, due in large part to the efforts of the executive members and other volunteers.

In response to the challenge from internet based trips, we are continuing to develop and enhance a curriculum of instructional programs for club members, everything from the traditional climbing and skiing programs to one day "skill refresher" roster of instructional programs. I believe that it is through these programs that we will continue to attract new members.

The trip schedule is the backbone of the Club, and you may have noticed that we've continued to send out periodic e-mails to remind everyone of trips that are coming up in the next two weeks. Feedback has been positive and members have appreciated the up-to-date information that these updates provide. In addition, we have made the on-line trip schedule "self-service", where active members can post their own trips and modify them as necessary.

We also entered the online era with respect to membership renewals, as since September 2009 members have the ability to renew their memberships online, and can avoid mailing in a paper form and a cheque.

In conclusion, we need to continue to change with the times, and we'll continue to pursue our strategy to grow the Club while still maintaining our traditional activities.

Vice President - Dave Scanlon

In the BCMC constitution the duties of officers under Vice President read: "The Vice-President will perform all the duties pertaining to the office of President in the case of the President's absence." That pretty much sums up what I did as Vice-president last year. When Todd was away I presided over executive meetings and socials for him in his absence.

Socials - Bob Woodhouse

Two of the most important things about BCMC socials are the presentations or "slide shows" and of course the food. Thanks to Donna for procuring and setting out the tasty treats. Also "thank you" to Dave Scanlon for always being there for the setting up and moving innumerable chairs.

I'd also like to thank this year's presenters for some varied and very interesting presentations:

Dec.08: **Francis St. Pierre & Monica Bittel** - Mountaineering in Peru

Jan.09: **Chris Cooper** - Paddling around the British Isles

Feb.09: **VOC'ers Madeleine Martin-Prenay, Line Lund Christiansen, Christian Veenstra, Stephen Mullen** - Kayaking to and ski touring in the Whitemantle Range

Mar.09: **Dave Scanlon** - McBride Traverse

Apr.09: **Matt Gunn & Grahame Quon** - Ski-mountaineering in South America

May.09: **Sylvia Bacovic** - Climbing Mt. Olympus in WA

Jun.09: **Justin Brown** - Coquiltam/Pitt divide

Sep.09: **T. Ponzini, D. Hughes, G. Kollmuss** - BC Bush, Grand Teton, Porterhouse Peak

Oct.09: **Mike Nash** - Biography of George Evenoff

Nov.09: **Gerry Kollmuss** - Salal Creek

BCMC Recreation & Conservation (November 2008 to October 2009) - Monika Bittel

The BCMC is well represented in the Southwest Region Recreation & Conservation Committee ("Rec & Con Committee") of the Federation of Mountain Clubs of B.C. ("FMC") and the FMC Rec & Con listserv. The FMC is recognized by government and various interest groups as an advocate for non-motorized backcountry and wilderness access and recreation, specifically mountaineering, climbing, hiking, backcountry skiing, snowboarding and snow-shoeing.

The following are highlights of the primary areas of interest or concern over the past year:

1. Garibaldi at Squamish (GAS): This proposed all-season resort (25 ski lifts, 2 golf courses and 5,739 housing units) at Brohm Ridge, adjacent to Garibaldi Provincial Park, is still progressing through the Environmental Assessment process. There has been little if any activity over the past year. The FMC Rec & Con Committee continues to monitor this project. Our primary concern with GAS is its impact on Garibaldi Provincial Park, potential expansion of the resort into the Park, and displacement of the Black Tusk Snowmobile Club, located on Brohm Ridge for the past 10-20 years.

2. Mt. Waddington Range: Mt. Waddington and BCMC's Plummer Hut fall within Zone 2 (see Map of Zone 2 on back page) of the heli-ski tenure granted to Knight Inlet Heli-sports Ltd. ("KIHS") in June 2007. At the time the tenure was issued, the Ministry of Tourism and Arts ("MOTA") granted a moratorium on heli-skiing in Zone 2 in response to many letters and e-mails opposing heli-skiing in the Mt. Waddington area. During the moratorium, KIHS was required to organize and participate in discussions with key stakeholder user groups regarding the nature and scope of recreational activities in Zone 2. If the parties failed to reach an agreement, MOTA would decide the future use of the Mt. Waddington area. At the end of August 2009, the FMC and KIHS signed a Joint Use Agreement regarding permitted recreational activities in the Waddington Range.

The Joint Use Agreement divides Zone 2 into two sub-zones, A and B (see Map of Zone 2). Sub-zone B, which includes Mt. Waddington and the Plummer Hut, is designated as a year round non-motorized recreation area with restricted aerial access by helicopter or fixed wing to drop off or pick up people who are conducting multi-day, non-motorized recreational trips. With respect to Sub-zone A, from May 1st to June 30th, it also is designated a non-motorized recreation area with restricted aerial access. From February 1st to April 30th, KIHS may conduct heli-skiing and heli-snowboarding in Sub-zone A. Other motorized recreational activities (except snowmobile tours or off-road ATVing) by KIHS, may be considered and are to be negotiated in Sub-zone A.

To minimize interference between heli-skiers and ski touring or climbing parties throughout their tenure licence area, KIHS has agreed to an avoidance protocol. The key components of the avoidance protocol are: (1) an avoidance buffer of a minimum 5 km physical separation and the interposition of a ridge crest; (2) a communication protocol with known clubs and service providers to determine who and where ski touring and climbing parties will be; and, (3) avoidance of parties that have not communicated in advance with KIHS but which are encountered by KIHS in their tenure licence area.

The Joint Use Agreement is open for review by the parties. The FMC recognizes that heli-assisted activities, such as heli-hiking and heli-picnicing, may be appropriate in some designated areas in Zone 2. Ultimately, the FMC would like to see a forum of all stakeholders to develop management plan and best-practices for this valuable world class mountaineering and ski touring area.

3. Backcountry access from ski resorts: Early last winter season, when the avalanche hazard was high, an incident on Grouse Mountain involving a couple of backcountry skiers and a snowboarder, who accessed the backcountry from the ski resort, created an uproar in the media. Most media reporting on this matter did not distinguish between unprepared out-of-bound skiers and prepared backcountry skiers, who access the backcountry from ski resorts. The FMC wrote to BC's Minister for Public Safety and the Solicitor General, emphasizing this distinction. To date there have not been any further developments or repercussions. The incident certainly highlighted the need for the FMC and local clubs to educate and inform government and the public about backcountry winter recreation. A group of BCMC members and local club members took the time and effort to inform the public via the media about backcountry skiing. This was well done and helped counter the negative knee-jerk reaction by the media, public and government.

4. Callaghan Backcountry Access: In 2007, pursuant to a section 58 designation under the Forest and Range Practices Act, Callaghan Valley is closed to winter motorized recreation from November 1 to May 15 each year. The designation was made to protect recreation resources and non-motorized recreation experiences, specifically self-propelled sporting activities such as cross-country skiing, ski touring, mountaineering and snowshoeing. Unfortunately, the parking and access needs of the backcountry skiers, mountaineers and snowshoers were not well considered. The FMC and local clubs explored various options and avenues to resolve the restricted parking and access issues in the Callaghan Valley, including a meeting with the Premier in October 2008 and the Assistant Deputy Minister of Tourism and Director of Recreation sites in May 2009. At the start of the 2008-2009 winter, new requirements and protocols for backcountry skiers using the Whistler Nordic Center were announced. For the most part, these protocols worked well and backcountry skiers and snowshoers made good use of this new access to Hanging Lake, Rainbow, Beverley Creek and Madeley Lake.



Over the course of the past year, Scott Nelson and volunteers have done quite a bit of trail work in the Callaghan. Their efforts were focused particularly on the Beverley Creek route, which will be open to the public this winter, unlike the Hanging Lake route, which will be largely inaccessible due to the Olympics. Scott was also successful in getting grant money from MEC and the National Trail Coalition of Canada, which he will use primarily for signage in the area.

5. 21 Mile Creek watershed: This area is designated a non-motorized recreation area in the Sea-to-Sky LRMP. Despite the designation, this area has become over run by snowmobiles, which gain access to the area via the commercial tenure of Canadian Snowmobile Adventures in Callaghan Valley. The FMC and local clubs have expended a fair amount of effort of the past year to get government to enforce the non-motorized designation of the 21 Mile Creek watershed. The Snowmobile Infraction Database (accessed via "Campaigns" on www.bivouac.com) has been used effectively to demonstrate to government officials the safety issues created by snowmobiles for the non-motorized, including riderless snowmobiles, and the need for enforcement of non-motorized areas. Unfortunately, while it is fair to say that government officials "get it", government resources and time are totally consumed by the Olympics. It is unlikely that much positive progress will be made for this winter season.

In terms of solutions, the FMC and local clubs are pushing for a section 58 closure of the 21 Mile Creek area. A section 58 closure will allow legal enforcement. We are also seeking to restrict parking for snowmobiles in the Callaghan Valley, so that snowmobiles cannot access Mt. Sproatt, Rainbow Lake and surrounding areas via Canadian Snowmobiles' tenure.

The 21 Mile Creek watershed should be largely, if not completely, clear of snowmobiles this winter because of Olympic restrictions. We hope to use this to demonstrate to government that parking restrictions can be effectively used to enforce a non-motorized designated area. If anyone is in the 21 Mile Creek area this winter and finds it clear of snowmobiles, take lots of photographs and post them on Bivouac (Snowmobile Infraction Database site) or forward the photos to Monika Bittel or Robin Tivy.

6. Smoke Bluffs Park: The FMC continues to work with the Squamish Access Society to ensure climbers' access to, and climbing activities in, the Smoke Bluffs is protected in perpetuity. Squamish Council will no longer consider a conservation covenant on the FMC lands and District lands which comprise the climbing

crag. This is disappointing, given the amount of time and effort expended on the covenant after Council agreed in principle to the concept. Efforts are now focused on having the Smoke Bluffs formally designated a park through municipal park designation by-laws. Whether the FMC lands will be transferred to the District of Squamish will depend on how secure the climbing community feels with the park designation by-law. Other options are also being considered. While the FMC lands do not include the climbing crags, the FMC lands do provide access. The FMC lands are also valuable to the District of Squamish because they are appropriate for general use purposes, such as hiking trails, picnic tables,



potential campsites and viewing area. Negotiations are ongoing.

Thank you to all members who attend the FMC Rec & Con meetings, participate on the FMC list

serve, provide input, draft letters and submissions and provide comments. Anyone interested in participating in the FMC Rec & Con Committee or anyone with any recreation and conservation concerns should contact Monika Bittel (E-mail: monikabittel@telus.net; Tel: 604-983-3097).

Camps and Programs - Alena Dzuikova

In the past couple of years, educational programs and activities within the club really took off and now, in addition to traditional BCMC programs such as Mountaineering, Climbing and Backcountry Skiing, we have ventured into new areas such as Ice Climbing and offering one-day clinics and refreshers.

During the 2008/2009 fiscal year the club also partnered up with Canada West Mountain School and their guides and organized Avalanche Safety Training courses. We continue with this established relationship with CWMS into 2009/2010 season to bring to the membership more courses led by professional guides.



While most of our courses are geared towards novices and represent an introduction to a sport or outdoor activity, my goal as the Camps Chair and the vision for the future is to maintain the existing array of programs but also re-focus on introducing more educational opportunities for the existing and experienced members so that the club develops a reputation of a club that offers opportunities to learn and grow and practice safe but exciting outdoor pursuits.

SUMMARY of 2008/2009 CLUB PROGRAMS:

Fall/Winter:

- AST-1 (in partnership with CWMS)
- AST-2 (in partnership with CWMS)
- Introduction to Backcountry Skiing (Todd Ponzini, Ramsay Dyer)
- Introduction to Ice Climbing (Marcus Dell)

One-day Refreshers:

- Transceiver Practice
- Organized Avalanche Response Practice
- Avalanche Terrain Evaluation
- Crevasse Rescue

Spring/Summer Programs:

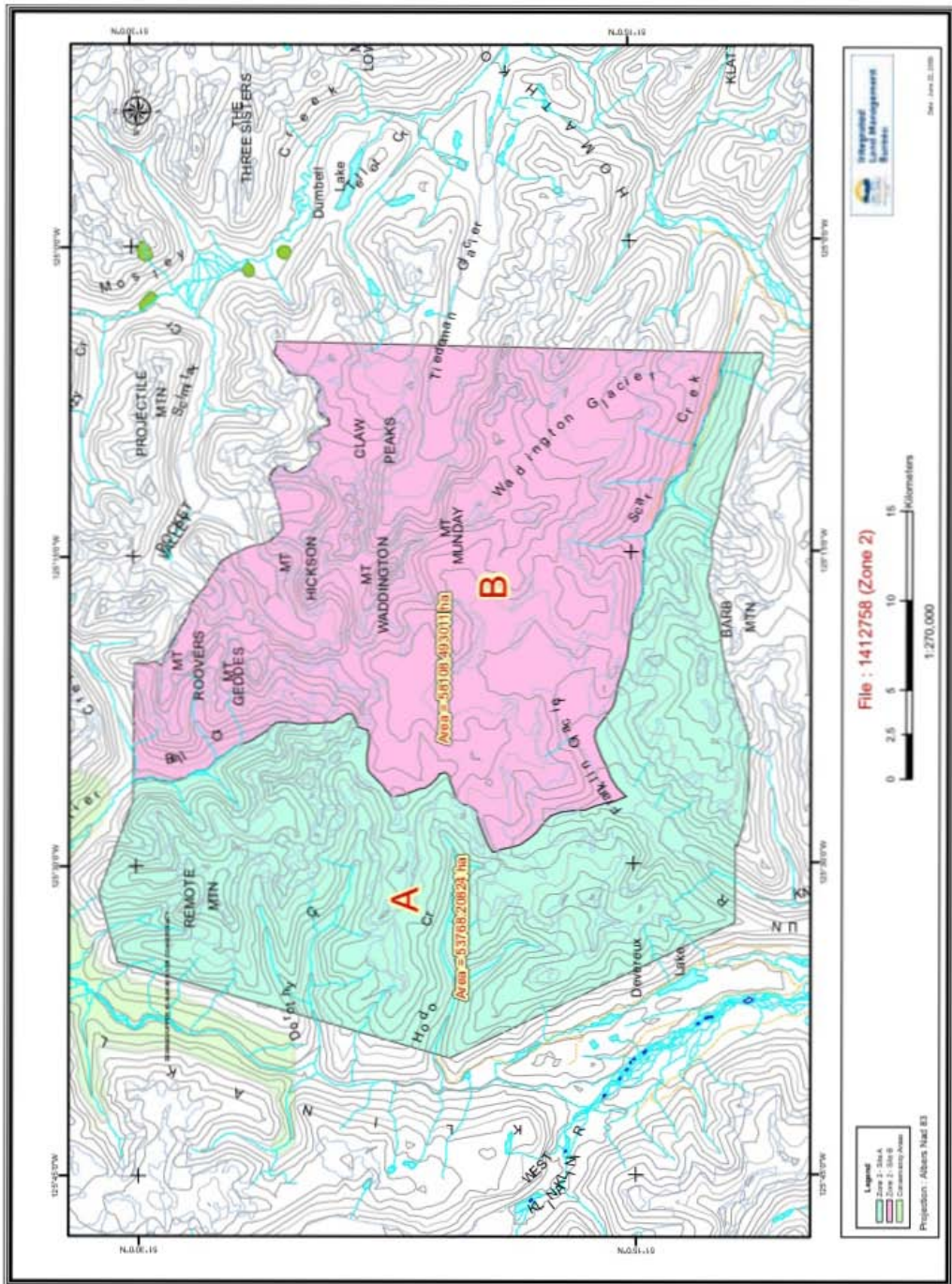
- Introduction to Top-roping (1 day) (Kit Griffin, Paul Miller & others)
- Essential Rock (1 day) (Kit Griffin, Paul Miller & others)
- Lead Climbing (Kit Griffin, Paul Miller, Anders Ouram & others)
- Mountaineering (Marcus Dell, David Hughes, Larry Kost, Emanuele Porra, Gerry Kollmus, Bruce Cassels)

One-day Refreshers:

- Mountaineering Skills Practice

Attendance Statistics:

Program	Number of Participants
AST-1	16
AST-2	6
Into to Ice Climbing	6
Intro to Backcountry Skiing	12
Basic Rock (1 day)	9
Essential Rock (2 days)	10
Lead Climbing	4
Mountaineering	12
Programs TOTAL	75
One-day refreshers	70+



Mt. Waddington Range Zone 2 Map for Joint Use Agreement