



**Minutes of Strathcona Nordic Ski Club AGM meeting held on
November 2, 2019 at Queneesh School, Courtenay**

In Attendance: Board Members and Directors: Berend Henckel, Len Apedaile, John Andres, Lynn Swift, Crystal Gaudry, Jeff Fretts.

Head Coach: Andrea Stapff

Club Coordinator: Angela Nadler

Other club members for a total attendance of 55 people.

Meeting Chairperson: Chris Stapff

Meeting opened at 12:00 pm

Opening Remarks: Berend made key highlights:

- Warm welcome to lifelong and honorary member Len Apedaile.
- Thank you to club sponsors, van and truck sponsors.
- BC Community Gaming Grant application was successful and SNSC will be receiving \$32, 000.
- Continue to offer a range of competitive and recreational ski programs.
- Thank you to Rick Morson for his support of the Rick Morson CIBC Wood Gundy School Cross Country Ski Program.
- Congratulations to current and past SNSC members who have been very successful in sport both within Nordic skiing and crossing over to other sports such as rowing, marathon running, and Dragon boat racing.
- Thank you to all volunteers who contribute to the club's programs and events.

Adoption of the Agenda and Rules of Order

John Shelbourn moved the agenda as accepted. Len Apedaile seconded, all in favour.

Review and Acceptance of the 2018 AGM Minutes

- 2018 AGM minutes, current financial statements, working budget were posted and circulated.
- Brenda Blakely accepted the 2018 AGM minutes as presented. Paul Chatterton seconded, all in favour.



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Business Arising from the Minutes

- None

Cheque Presentation: Rick Morson, CIBC Wood Gundy

- Berend thanked Rick Morson for his ongoing support of the school cross country program
- The funds that Rick provides are distributed to underprivileged students so that they can attend the school ski program with their classmates.
- Estimated contribution to date is \$50,000.
- Over 1000 children have benefitted from Rick's donations over the years.

Cheque presentation from Rick in the amount of \$2625 to the program.

Special resolution regarding name change from Strathcona Nordics Ski Club to Strathcona Nordic Ski Club

SPECIAL RESOLUTION 1: AMEND THE CONSTITUTION

A Special Resolution of the members to amend the name of the Society under the provisions of the Society's Act, authorizing the directors to file a change of name application, and therefore amending the constitution of the Society.

WHEREAS:

1. The Society was incorporated under the British Columbia Society Act on September 26, 1999;
2. It is considered to be in the best interest of the Society to amend the name of the Society from Strathcona Nordics Ski Club.

BE IT RESOLVED AS A SPECIAL RESOLUTION THAT:

1. The directors of the Society are authorized and directed to file a change to the Society's constitution;
2. The new name for the Society will be Strathcona Nordic Ski Club.



Minutes of Strathcona Nordic Ski Club AGM meeting held on November 2, 2019 at Queneesh School, Courtenay

A motion by Lynn Swift was made to accept a Special Resolution of the members to amend the constitution of the Society under the provisions of the *Society's Act*, authorizing the directors to file a change of name application, and therefore amending the Constitution of the Society.

Discussion regarding the historical context and correct grammatical use of "Strathcona Nordics Ski Club". Historical context provided by John Shelbourn, one of the members of Nanaimo Nordic Ski Club. The motion was seconded by Wilf Dreher. One opposed. Motion was moved and carried.

Consideration of the Financial Statements – Crystal Gaudry, Treasurer

- Financial statements including 2018-2019 income statement, balance sheet and budget were posted on the wall, as well as circulated, for review. SNSC's year end is now September 30th. Our total revenue for 2018-2019 was \$276,948. Our total expenses were \$ 294,851. Net deficit was \$17,903 at our fiscal year-end. The deficit was due to a few big purchases/costs this past year including: club truck, waxing tent, starting clock (shared with VIBC), large unanticipated maintenance bill on the club van, expenses for Haig camp that were billed late and should have been included on previous fiscal year budget, roller skis, new race suits.
- Sources of revenue this year include: BC Community Gaming Grant, the Wine and Cheese Gala for the Dave Battison Memorial Athlete Development Fund.

Motions to accept financial statements: Patty Johnson moved to accept, Chris Bowlby-seconded motions, approved, carried.

Directors' Reports

Communications Report – Lynn Swift

- The new website appears to be providing relevant information and answering many questions for website visitors. There has been a noticeable decrease in the number of enquiries that we are receiving from the public.
- Increased club promotional activities – REXSPO event, radio ads.
- Continued club communications on Facebook, Instagram, with the SNSC Newsletter, in addition to local newspapers.
- Lynn will not be seeking re-election on the Board as Director of Communications.



**Minutes of Strathcona Nordic Ski Club AGM meeting held on
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Recreational and School Program – Lynn Swift

- School Program fees were increased by \$10 to \$60/student/3 visits in order to cover the increased costs of trail passes from Mt. Washington.
- Currently 822 students registered for the 2020 program. The program is mostly full, though there are a few spots where a single class could be added to session.
- There has been a noticeable increase in the requests from teachers for subsidies for students.
- Masters Recreation Programs – coordinated by Liza Grant and Chris Bowlby. Thank you to Liza and Chris for taking the coordinating positions!
- SNAP – Strathcona Nordic Adventure Program – will be coordinated by Dan Lemay again this season. Thank you to Dan!
- New program to be introduced this season – FIT! Fun Improvement Team! Youth Recreational Ski program. 2 hours/week. Sunday mornings 10 am – Noon.

Fund Development – Heather Clarke

- Government of British Columbia Gaming Grant application was successful for the fiscal year 2018-19. \$27,500 received with the following breakdown:
Ski Program (all of our SDP and other recreational programs as well as all of our race programs): \$25,000
School Program: \$2,500
- We applied in May 2019 for the Community Gaming grant upcoming year and have just heard that we received \$32,500 for the 2019-20 fiscal year
Ski Program: \$25,000
School Program: \$7,000
- Club truck and van sponsorship: As our lease was coming due, rather than renew the lease we purchased a truck from Westview Ford with the help of a loan from an SNSC member and a break in price from Westview Ford. Tires were donated by sponsor Associated Tires. The logos for these two sponsors are on the truck for their support. For the coming year we will look to expand the number of sponsors with a similar sponsorship model to that which we used for the purchase of the van (see below). If you know of a company who would be interested please let a member of the SNSC board know.
- Van: We are half-way through our five-year annual sponsorship underwriting the cost of the club van (purchased in March 2017): Thanks again to these sponsors for their annual contribution of:
 - Gold (\$5,000): Dr. Andreas Conradi



**Minutes of Strathcona Nordic Ski Club AGM meeting held on
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- Silver (\$2,500): Dr. Teri Norfolk
- Bronze (\$1,000): Shoreline Orthodontics, Current Environmental, Strathcona Park Lodge, Associated Tires
- Rick Morson CIBC Wood Gundy School Ski Program: This program has been renamed the Rick Morson CIBC Wood Gundy Ski School (from the CIBC Wood Gundy Ski School) in recognition of Rick Morson's role in the founding this program, contributing to its funding support and leveraging his contribution with CIBC Wood Gundy's Miracle Day matching funds annually for 20 years. We are pleased to acknowledge Rick's historical support in this way. As was mentioned at last year's AGM, together with CIBC WG Rick has brought in \$50,000 to this program with approximately \$2,500 coming in each year which goes to subsidies to allow low-income students to participate when they otherwise would not be able to pay the fee.
- This past year we worked on a sponsorship model (particular to individual communities) to further extend this program to include 2 schools with a more extensive low-income demographic (1 in Courtenay and 1 in Campbell River) which never send a class to participate in the program as most students would require support to attend. In discussion with Rick Morson and reviewing school policies we have determined that soliciting sponsorship is not the direction we will take but instead will seek donations. We have applied to various funding bodies to help with this but have so far not been successful. We will be sending a letter to potential donors to support this program. As we are now able to provide such with Nordiq Canada's charitable status we will go this route in the coming year. As per Canada Revenue Guidelines donors are unable to receive other than minimal recognition if they receive a tax receipt.
- Dave Battison Wine and Cheese Fundraiser: The Board wishes to congratulate Berend Henckel and team (Laura Mann, Emma Gledhill and Odette LeMay with staff support by Angela Nadler). Approximately \$15,000 was raised at this event. Sponsors for the event were handled by the Committee.
- Junior and Devo Fundraising Initiatives: Thrifty's Smile Card and Butcher Block Fundraisers continued to help support the race programs. Alexandra Apedaile is organizing a Butcher Block fundraiser this fall. Orders must be submitted by November 24, 2019.



Minutes of Strathcona Nordic Ski Club AGM meeting held on November 2, 2019 at Queneesh School, Courtenay

- CCBC Club Fundraiser – V Boards SNSC once again participated in CCBC’s annual club fundraising initiative. Thanks to all the individual club donors who contributed and bought 1 or more V-boards. We had sufficient funds (\$5,618) to purchase half the order. We are committed to raising the rest of the funds this year to purchase the second half of the order (which we need to have enough V-boards and contractually as the price we paid per unit was dependent on the full order).
- Race Sponsors – Thank you to the sponsors of the Coast Cups and Loppet races.
- Club-wide Sponsors - We continue to appreciate the significant support given to us by our long-time partners and sponsors:
 - Mount Washington Alpine Resort (MWAR),
 - CCBC - including provincial sponsors Kal Tire (SDP Program) and Teck (Coast Cups)
 - New sponsor Blue Croft Farms (website development and maintenance)
- Thank you from Heather: I appreciate the funders, donors and sponsors as well as board members, the membership and staff Andrea Stapff and Angela Nadler for your support on this portfolio.

Membership – Jeff Fretts

- Registration for the upcoming season has gone well so far.
- New SNSC Volunteer Policy was introduced and implemented on Zone 4 registration. No concerns voiced at this point.
- Over 200 members registered to date. Last season registration was over 420 members.

Director of Fun – John Andres – deferred report to include with the New Business: Membership Survey

Head Coach – Andrea Stapff

- Thank you to all club members for your support as without you the programs and the club are not possible!
- Nordiq Canada has rebranded itself. There is a big focus on getting more Canadians participating in the sport of cross-country skiing. “Getting Canadians on skis, and getting Canadians on Podiums”. The sport of cross-country skiing is bucking the system with increasing enrolment in cross country skiing programs while other sports are seeing diminishing participation.
- CCBC has opportunities for club fundraising. Currently there is the CCBC Club Membership contest (highest percentage of members registered by midnight December 1 as compared to its’ previous winter’s total).



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- All - club events were offered this past year, open to all SNSC members. There were two hikes during the summer. In addition, an orienteering session was planned for this fall, but it had to be postponed due to unfavourable/unsafe weather. This event will be rescheduled for spring 2020.

Club Coordinator Report – Angela Nadler

- New position within the club. Started February 2019.
- Primary role is to support the Board of Directors, Head Coach and club Programs.
- Thank you to all of the wonderful SNSC volunteers for helping to support the club and our programs.

Election of Officers and Directors

Nominated for election or re-election:

- President – no nominations, position will remain open
- Vice – President – no nominations, position will remain open
- Treasurer – Crystal Gaudry
- Secretary – Wendy Johnstone
- Director of Communications – Micheala Jelan
- Director of Membership – Jeff Fretts
- Director of Coach Development – Marilyn Atkinson
- Director of Sponsorship and Fundraising – no nominations, position will remain open
- Director of Recreational Skier Development Program and School Program – no nominations, position will remain open but Lynn Swift is happy to assist
- Members at Large – Brenda Blakely, John Andres, Heather Clarke

New nominations accepted. All Officers and Directors acclaimed. New board welcomed.

New Business:

- **Membership Survey 2019** – Thank you to everyone who participated in the membership survey last spring. We received 91 completed surveys. Many positive comments and feedback about what we should continue to do. Also, some suggestions for improvement. There were a few themes observed in the responses:
 1. Volunteering – Berend spoke to the many benefits of volunteering and how it can improve your health and your life including feeling fulfilled. Volunteer efforts are what allow SNSC to provide programs and events. Lots of varied opportunities within the club to volunteer.



**Minutes of Strathcona Nordic Ski Club AGM meeting held on
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2. Further developing the ski community/social events – John spoke about the various ways that we can incorporate more social and/or non-race events within the club. Always open to ideas on how to improve. Toonie races have been popular in the past. Facebook page “Ski MOVEment” will provide a forum for people to arrange social skis. Len and John are in the beginning stages of organizing the SNSC 20th Anniversary event at the end of the ski season.
3. Relationship with Mt. Washington – Presented by John. The survey results indicated some concerns re: grooming and the signage within Raven re: gear left near/on table. We want to continue to develop a positive, constructive and respectful relationship with Mt. Washington. We share the space in Raven Lodge so we need to be respectful of MWAR’s business needs. If there are concerns re: grooming or other please bring your concerns to and SNSC board member.
4. SDP – Angela presented this theme. A few issues were raised. There was feedback re: confusion about needing to purchase skate equipment and also the amount of focus on skate skiing at each level. Jen Winters, SDP Coordinator from last season did send out a pre-season letter which contained these details however, this will be highlighted this upcoming season. In addition, Andrea has put together a revised equipment list for the Devos, Bunnyrabbits and Jackrabbits programs. Other SDP concerns related to group size and the range of abilities/skills within each SDP level. Our SDP is dependent upon volunteers. The more volunteer coaches, assistant coaches and parent helpers the smaller the group sizes can be and the more supported all children within a group can be.

- **Date of 2020 AGM – Saturday, November 7, 2020**

Meeting adjourned 1:05 pm

Minutes submitted by Angela Nadler, Club Coordinator