

The MOUNT WASHINGTON Marmot



NEW OWNERSHIP TO BRING YEAR ROUND INVESTMENT



New Mount Washington Alpine Resort owners, Pacific Group Resorts plans expansion of services for the summer season as well as snowmaking for future winter seasons.



Top photo courtesy Mount Washington Alpine Resort ~ Bottom photos courtesy Pacific Group Resorts Inc.

There is an air of excitement and anticipation at Mount Washington Alpine Resort this winter, after the Resort announced in November that Pacific Group Resorts Inc. from Park City, Utah, has purchased Mount Washington.

“The biggest thing this means is there is some stability as we move forward into the future,” said Don Sharpe, Director of Business Operations at Mount Washington.

“We are looking forward to working with PGRI to take Mount Washington to the next level with improvements like snowmaking, where they have a strong background,” Resort President and General Manager Peter Gibson said.

Mount Washington was put on the market in October 2013. While financial details of the private sale were not disclosed, Sharpe confirmed Pacific Group representatives have made more than half a dozen trips to the Resort in the past two years.

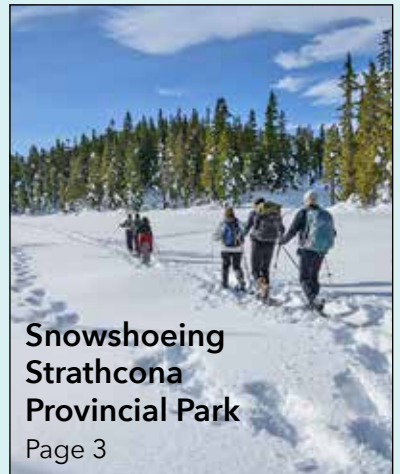
“This was not an easy sale. It’s a complex deal and it took a lot of time to work things out,” he said.

Gibson said all parties owe their thanks to some government staff members “who helped us sort through permits and processes for the transfer.”

New Ownership continued on page 20

250.871.3963 vpo.ca
2885 Cliffe Avenue, Courtenay

Photo courtesy Tim Penny



INSIDE...

In Profile: The Presnails	2
Slow Down and Snowshoe	3
Fire Protection Study	3
Season Pass Assurance	4
Summer 2015 Review	4
New Directions For Tourism Mount Washington	5
In Profile: The Sharpe Family	5
Mount Washington Trail Maps	6-7
News In Brief	8-9
The View From Here	9
Ski Club Updates	10-11
Stay & Play on Mount Washington	12
Accommodation Guide	13-16
Alert Bay Sasquatch?	13
Mount Washington Village Map	16
Stay, Play, Shop & Dine	17-19
Beach Bum Marmot	22-23
Mount Washington Real Estate	24-27

Has an accident taken you away from the sport you love?

Let us get you the best medical care
and compensation you deserve.

Call Steve Allardice for
a free initial consultation.

**ACHESON WHITLEY
SWEENEY FOLEY**
IN ASSOCIATION WITH HOLEKAMP
PERSONAL INJURY LAW FIRM

Tel: 250-338-6747 Toll Free: 1-800-214-4520 www.awslaw.ca 512 Fourth Street, Courtenay, BC

Real Estate Appraisals

- Depreciation Reports
- Property Appraisals
- Insurance Appraisals

**Cunningham
& Rivard
Appraisals**
(C.R. 2008) Ltd.

Call or email for a quote today:
Ph 250-287-9595 Fax 250-287-9594
info@cunninghamrivard.ca
105 - 300 St. Ann's Road, Campbell River, BC



In Profile: Tom & Heather Presnail

Tom and Heather Presnail moved to Bear Lodge at Mount Washington Alpine Resort in October 2014 to take over as caretakers of the 59-unit condo building. No strangers to the Resort, they have owned a unit at Deer Lodge since 2007. Their journey back to Mount Washington has been circuitous.

Both originally from Montreal, they married in 1977, “during the René Levesque years,” says Tom. Since then, his job with KLM Dutch Airlines’ cargo operations has taken them to Toronto, Ottawa, Vancouver, back to Montreal, to Tokyo, Japan in 1995 for seven years, Singapore twice and Victoria twice (in between Singapore stints).

While living in Victoria the first time, they purchased their condo at Deer Lodge as an investment before returning to Singapore for three years. They returned to Canada for good in 2011, settling in Victoria before arriving at Mount Washington.

How did you come to own a condo at Deer Lodge?

Tom... We first came up to the mountain in 2007; that’s when we bought our place at Deer Lodge. We didn’t live here at that time; we bought it as a recreational property. Right after we bought our vacation condo we went back to Singapore (for three years).

Why buy a place at Mount Washington if you weren’t living in the area?

Tom... For all the years we lived in Canada, we were skiers. Our kids had season ski passes at some place, whether it was Grouse Mountain when we were in Vancouver or elsewhere. We liked skiing.

With this being a lovely place and convenient, with us living in Victoria, we wanted to have a place we could come up and visit. I was working from home and it made it easy for me to come up here. It was something we really wanted to do. We love the great outdoors and the mountains are so picturesque.

Heather... And it’s all seasons, too. That was important.

So you own at Deer, but instead of enjoying your recreational property you are caretakers at Bear Lodge. How did that happen?

Tom... We decided it was time to make that life changing shift and moving to the mountain permanently, and we did that in October 2014.

We always thought it would be great to come up here and do the required tasks of our job, it’s not an earth-shattering job for two people to manage, and still be able to enjoy the outdoors.

The beauty is we still have our great recreational property if family wants to come up.

In Bear Lodge, we downsized into a one-bedroom condo from a six-bedroom house.

Heather... We have two grown children (a daughter, who is studying law at the



The Presnails, “off duty” on Mount Washington.

University of Victoria and a married son with three grandchildren living in Surrey.

What sort of duties does your job as caretaker entail?

Tom... Our duties are related to the common areas. Bear Lodge consists of privately owned condos and some of those are rented out. We’re not in the business of cleaning rooms or changing sheets. We make sure the front door stoop is clean, we look after the hot tub. We cut the grass in summer and rake the leaves (in autumn).

We kind of look at it as our big house. We love do to gardening and vacuum the hallways, just like it’s in a house; just larger.

What sort of experience do you bring to the job?

Tom... Just being a homeowner. Having travelled a lot we saw our share of hotels and we know what is good and what is not good for customer service.

Heather... The caretakers at Deer Lodge have been there for 10 years. Us being the new kids on the block, they have really helped us. If we see them doing something, then we do it. It’s been a real learning curve, but it’s been exciting.

The Presnails, continued on page 20.



We’re Here for YOU.

Your Comox Valley Automotive Service Centre

ON OR OFF MOUNT WASHINGTON



Welcome To Our Family!

*“Your Certified
Pre-Owned Dealer”*



Photos courtesy Tim Penny

Study For Fire Protection Underway

The loss of three homes to fire at Mount Washington Alpine Resort last year has kick-started a serious conversation about formal fire protection. And the latest process seems to be the most hopeful yet.

Fire protection has been a contentious issue at Mount Washington over the years, with two previous attempts not passing official acceptance.

Current property owners don't pay property taxes toward any fire protection service; that means no fire department can respond to fight a structure fire unless lives are in danger.

The Comox Valley Regional District is paying for a fire protection study at the resort, which proposes creation of a smaller-scale defensive firefighting service. They were pulled into the process at the behest of mountain stakeholders, said CVRD manager of fire services, James Bast.

Various stakeholders sit on a steering committee and have been providing input on what the fire protection area should entail. "They've produced what I think should be the overall template for the mountain," said Mount Washington Alpine Resort President and General Manager Peter Gibson.

See Fire Protection on Page 11

Pristine Snow Awaits Snowshoers

Just as the slow food movement has encouraged people to slow down and savour their meals, snowshoeing opens up the backcountry in a way that fast-paced skiing or snowboarding can't.

Tim Penney, 74 (shown above), has been snowshoeing in and around Strathcona Provincial Park and Mount Washington Alpine Resort for decades. As an avid photographer, there's nothing he finds more exhilarating than breaking trail into a virgin snow area for some spectacular photos of scenery.

"It's a thrill," he says. "You don't have to walk on a trail or anything. Pristine snow is exciting."

While some dedicated snowshoers venture far enough out they need to camp overnight, Penney prefers to stay closer to home. A trip to Moat Lake, 22K round trip, is about as far out as he likes to go. "A lot of

lakes are nice because they're frozen in the wintertime so instead of going around the trails you can go right across the lakes."

Battleship Lake, Lake Helen McKenzie, Croteau Lake and Hairtrigger Lake are nice hikes and offer spectacular views, he says.

Penney originally got into snowshoeing for exercise. It's more of a lifestyle for him now, and he never goes out without his camera.

As Vice-President of the Comox District Mountaineering Club, he has led numerous snowshoeing trips around the park and Resort. He recommends beginners stick to established trails, but says people looking for more adventurous trips should

consider joining CDMC for the support they will receive from other members.

"Another reason I think more people are enjoy snowshoeing is the demographic of the Comox Valley, it's an older population," said Penney. Many former cross-country and downhill skiers still like to go outside, but are maybe feeling like they should take it easier.

"I know a lot of older people who are getting into snowshoeing and enjoying it," added Penney, a former cross-country skier himself. "Snowshoeing can be really easy on you; you can go out and do a circuit around a lake or more in the backcountry. If you fall, the snow is softer."

Before he started snowshoeing, Penney was involved in hiking and caving. He still hikes when the snow disappears.

See Snowshoeing on Page 21

Skip The Drive, Enjoy The Ride!

MOUNT WASHINGTON

SKI BUS

ADVANCE TICKETS
available at Sports Rent
1950 Government Street
Victoria.

Cash sales only upon bus boarding.

RESERVATIONS

Victoria: 250-382-2544

Nanaimo: 250-754-2545

Toll Free: 1-877-756-2544

Schedule and prices: www.smithtransportation.com

DAILY SKI BUS SERVICE • 7 DAYS A WEEK

DEPARTING FROM
Victoria, Mill Bay, Duncan,
Ladysmith, Nanaimo,
Parksville, Qualicum Beach
and Mount Washington's
Base Parking Lot.



Ski Bus operated by
Smith Transportation Ltd.



Photo courtesy Mount Washington Alpine Resort



100 Day Winter Assurance

and "My MW" Card adds flexibility to Multi-Day ticket purchasing.

For the third winter in a row, Mount Washington Alpine Resort will offer a 100-Day Winter Assurance to its season ticket holders.

The 100-Day Winter Assurance assures season ticket holders that the Resort will be open for a minimum of 100 days of operation. "If we aren't, for every day we aren't open we'll give one per cent credit for every day we're not open," explains Resort Director of Business Operations Don Sharpe. "The assurance is not based on individual usage."

Last year the Resort was open for 50 days so pass holders received a 50 per cent discount for the 2015-16 season.

"What it does is gives people peace of mind that they're investing in a pass and they're going to get something from it."

"The 100-Day Assurance was considered a bold move in the ski industry when Mount Washington introduced it two years ago. Since then other Resorts

have seen its value and are offering similar versions," Sharpe said.

"It gives some credibility to the Program we've put in place," he said.

The Resort also has reciprocal agreements in place with Revelstoke, Silver Star, Apex and Manning. That means Gold Pass season ticket holders receive two free day tickets (non-consecutive) to each of those Resorts. Anyone purchasing passes from those Resorts receive the same deal for Mount Washington.

There are some other changes to tickets for the 2015-16 season. The 6-Pak is gone, and has been replaced by the My MW Card. "You can buy the My MW Card in three, five and seven-day quantities," says Sharpe.

Once the pre-loaded, direct-to-lift Card is used up, cardholders can either reload it for three, five or seven days or receive an ongoing discount of five per cent per day (you have to use up your pre-loaded days first).

By: Karen McGinnon



Summer 2015

Mile High Weddings becoming a Valley Favourite.

More people than ever are saying "I do" at Mount Washington Alpine Resort.

"Raven Lodge has been a busy facility this season, hosting over 30 weddings," event coordinator Christine Reynolds said.

The resort sees that as one of the strongest growth areas including conferences and catering.

From the time a bride or groom books their event to booking accommodation, "there's something for everybody," he said.

"Last year the Resort hosted 35 weddings, mostly on Saturdays with a few Fridays and Sundays, Defert says."

"Raven Lodge sells out quite early, so we've created a wedding site outside the Alpine Lodge."

The alpine location has an arbour and west coast cedar benches, and takes in the stunning views of Mount Washington as well as the vista of Strathcona Provincial Park in the distance.

The Whiskey Jack Room inside the Alpine Lodge has also been revamped to accommodate wedding receptions.

The Resort isn't the only beneficiary of increased wedding business: everyone from photographers to hairstylists, makeup artists and accommodations play a part.

Perhaps it's no coincidence that Mount Washington Alpine Resort was also voted the Best Place to Propose in the Comox Valley Record's Reader's Choice awards in October, 2015.

Summer 2015 continued on Page 16

Ski and Stay in the Comox Valley

One night accommodation in a deluxe studio and
1 adult lift ticket to Mount Washington Alpine Resort

Starting at
only \$124
per person, based on double occupancy

Ask about our special deluxe 1 & 2-bedroom package rates

Some restrictions may apply, subject to change / offer expires April 2016

**OLD
HOUSE
HOTEL & SPA**

Book your ski getaway today!
1 888-703-0202
www.OldHouseVillage.com





Tourism



Update

Tourism Mount Washington, the Resort Association at Mount Washington Alpine Resort, is headed in a new direction with the 2015-16 season.

In October, TMW closed their office in Courtenay and relocated to the Vancouver Island Mountain Centre.

As far as staffing is concerned "We're talking to the Vancouver Island Mountain Sports Society to see if we can work out something where we split a person."

If that plan doesn't seem beneficial to both parties, TMW will hire a part-time marketing person who can liaise with owners and stakeholders, Armour said.

The office was moved from downtown Courtenay to the Mountain Centre "so it's more accessible to people from the mountain," he added.

Tourism Mount Washington's new Board will revisit the Association's aims this year, in light of staffing changes. "We're changing the focus from almost 100 per cent destination marketing and going toward community development."

The name will remain the same, and some destination marketing will still take place, he said. "The Resort Association would be the arm of the group that would work toward developing community ideas, whether they be trails or lighting or festivals going on the mountain."

The Board will also develop an internal marketing plan that will benefit homeowners and people who visit the Resort so there is more to do than just ski.

For more information on Tourism Mount Washington, visit their website at discovermountwashington.com and #mymw on Twitter.

In Profile: The Sharpe Family

The Sharpe family, Don and Chantal and their children, Doug, Cassie and Darcy, has been a mainstay on Mount Washington for the past 15 years. So it seems fitting that 2015 was a pinnacle year for all members of the family.

Don joined Mount Washington Alpine Resort 15 years ago from Calgary. He is now Director of Business Operations at Mount Washington.

Chantal is a flight attendant with WestJet and is on the road, or should we say in the air, three to five days at a time.

Despite their busy schedules they have had the opportunity to see all three of their children thrive in an alpine environment.

"They grew up on the mountain," says Don of the kids. Doug is now 24, Cassie is 23 and Darcy is 19. Don and Chantal have spent almost half of their 28-year marriage living in the Comox Valley.

Although the kids are travelling all over the world now, they still consider Comox and Mount Washington Alpine Resort as their home base.

Doug graduated from Selkirk College's Ski Resort Operations and Management Program. He was a "shop rat" at Mount Washington for 10 years, hanging out at Mountain Tek, snowboarding and mountain biking.



Doug, Cassie and Darcy Sharpe in a quieter moment away from competition.

While at Selkirk Doug participated in a work experience program with a ski resort in China, helping them manage the rental shop among other tasks. He now lives in Beijing, China, working with Yibu Snow Parks, which will play a part in the 2022 Winter Olympics at Chongli County near Beijing.

"They build mountain bike trails, terrain parks and work on jumps for snowboard and bike industries," says Don. Doug has appeared as a stunt double in a mountain biking film and speaks some Mandarin.

Cassie Sharpe is a fully carded Canadian Freestyle and Halfpipe Skier. "Last year was her breakout year," says Don. "Last year she made the National Development Team, where her coaches took her to the next level. At the end of last year she was winning World Cups."

She came second in the World Championships in Austria in Halfpipe Skiing.

"To have the kind of year she did was outstanding. It was amazing to see her get the recognition she deserved."

(Cassie has already started 2015-16 on a good note, earning a spot on the Canadian Freestyle Ski Team after spending two months training in New Zealand.)

Sharpe Family continued on Page 21

Property Owners Focused on Resort Development

Property owners at Mount Washington Alpine Resort are hoping new resort owners Pacific Group Resorts Inc. will move sooner than later to add amenities to the Vancouver Island ski resort.

And they're hoping to work together to make it happen. "Now that the Resort has sold we need to sit down with them and see where their direction is," said Ken Armour, president of Tourism Mount Washington, the mountain's Resort Association.

Armour joined TMW two years ago because he wanted a better idea of where his membership fees were going. He felt the Resort Association was under-utilized when it came to community development, and discovered he wasn't alone.

"Quite a few of our members said they wanted more than what we were doing," he said.

Owners held a strategy meeting last year but were limited in what decisions they could make.

See Property Owners Page 6

FAMILY DINING THAT'S WELL WORTH THE DRIVE!

Home Made Soups • Sauces and Gravies • Great Burgers
Sandwiches • All Day Breakfast • Kids Play Area • Patio

PLATES APR 00

Open Daily 7am - 3pm
2601 Cliffe Avenue, Courtenay, BC
250-334-8087
www.platescatering.com

Eatery & Catering Co.

Comox Valley REGIONAL DISTRICT

MEETING ROOMS, ARENAS, POOLS and WELLNESS CENTRE

FINALIST OF THE RECORD COMPANIES 2015 reader's choice AWARD OF THE COMOX VALLEY

From wellness and fitness to skating and swimming, we have something for everyone!

CVRD's sports centre 3001 Vanier Drive
CVRD's aquatic centre 377 Lerwick Drive

For schedules visit:
www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/rec
or call 250-334-9622

Follow comoxvalleyrd

When winter takes a **CRACK** at your windshield...

Call to learn if you're covered for

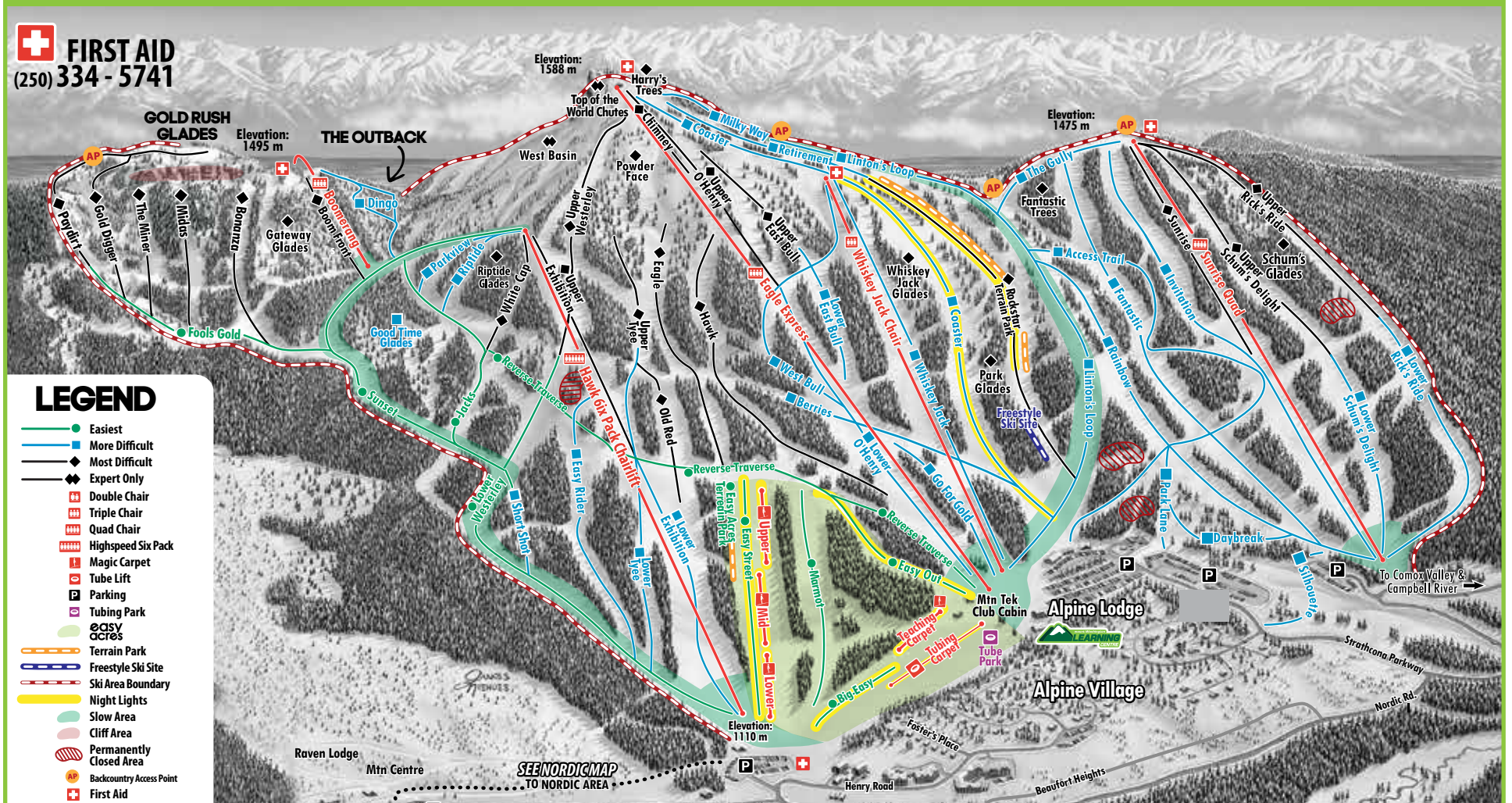
Capital GLASS a free :) rock chip repair

250-338-6914 • Since 1971
auto.residential.commercial

ICBC & All Other Insurance
www.capitalglasscourtenay.com



MOUNT WASHINGTON ALPINE TRAIL GUIDE



Property Owners

continued from page 5

This is because the previous ownership group at Mount Washington didn't want to make significant investments in the Resort while it was up for sale.

What the property owners agreed on, was they want to see more community development and more amenities. They had already started looking at their options and whether they could develop something like a zipline or skating rink without involving the Resort.

They discovered Couverdon, which is the real estate arm of TimberWest, the forestry company that owns a lot of property adjacent to Mount Washington. Couverdon helps TimberWest sell land or form partnerships to develop it.

"Considering we have TimberWest surrounding us, we were going to approach them to see if we could partner over something like a zipline," Armour said.

"I'm hoping with the change in ownership they're going to have more open arms for people coming up here and running

businesses. We're hoping for good things from the sale of the mountain.

The Ski Resort has been up here for a long time and (previous owners) developed a good ski hill, but as far as a resort community, not so much."

Pacific Group Resorts Inc. owns four resorts: Ragged Mountain in New Hampshire, Wisp Resort in Maryland, Wintergreen Resort in Virginia, and now Mount Washington Alpine Resort.

Pacific Group Resorts bought its first resort, Ragged Mountain, in 2007 and has invested more than \$20 million to turn it

into a year-round resort with nearly 1000 residential and second home properties.

Something all three of PGRI's previous resorts share is a variety of activities not related to snowsports: like ziplines and ropes courses, summer tubing, adventure centres featuring a climbing wall, archery or other outdoor activities, disc golf, geocaching, mountain bike parks, even a golf course and retail shops.

Armour hopes the company is looking to invest in similar activities at Mount Washington.

Continued on page 7



MOUNT WASHINGTON NORDIC TRAIL GUIDE

NORDIC LEGEND

- Easiest
- More Difficult
- Most Difficult
- Trail Direction
- Ski Area Boundary
- Biathlon Range
- + First Aid Station
- Permanently Closed Area
- Night Lit

XC TRAILS

- Lookout - 0.5km
- Ponds - 3 km
- Far East - 4.5km
- Jack Rabbit Link - 2km
- Jutland - 3km
- Lake Approach - 1.5km
- Marmot Flats - 2.5km
- Paradise Meadows - 3km
- West Passage - 1km
- ◆ Grind - 2.5km
- ◆ Lake Trail - 9km
- ◆ Legacy View - 1.5km
- ◆ Lower West - 1km
- ◆ Raven's Revenge - 6km
- ◆ Sprint Loop - 2km
- ◆ Upper West - 3km
- ◆ World Cup - 5km

CROSS COUNTRY RESPONSIBILITY CODE

THERE ARE ELEMENTS OF RISK THAT COMMON SENSE AND PERSONAL AWARENESS CAN HELP REDUCE, REGARDLESS OF HOW YOU DECIDE TO USE THE TRAILS. ALWAYS SHOW COURTESY TO OTHERS. PLEASE ADHERE TO THE CODE LISTED BELOW AND SHARE WITH OTHERS THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR A SAFE OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE.

- 1 Always check posted trail conditions.
- 2 Ski in indicated direction and obey all posted signs and warnings. Keep off closed trails.
- 3 Always ski to right when meeting on-coming skiers and when skiing on double track.
- 4 Yield the track to faster skiers and skiers calling track.
- 5 Ski in control. On two-way trails descending skiers have the right-of-way.
- 6 Do not stop where you obstruct a trail or are not visible to others. Move off the track quickly if you fall or during rest stops.
- 7 Do not litter. Take out what you pack in. Respect property.
- 8 Report all accidents.

**Know the code - Be Safety Conscious
It is your Responsibility**

your ISLAND MOUNTAIN!

First Aid
(250) 334-5741

www.mountwashington.ca

“There’s not much to draw tourists up here,” he said: no extra restaurants, no shopping.

“There’s nothing for tourists to do at the end of the day. We’re hoping that’s going to start to change.”

He would like to see the Bike Park re-open, for example. Wisp Resort has a “Mountain Coaster” feature that Armour thinks would be a great idea for Mount Washington. It’s a cross between an alpine slide and a roller coaster; people ride two

to a cart that is controlled by hand brakes and a speed limiter and travels along 3,500 feet of track over a 350-foot vertical drop. In the winter the tracks would be covered by snow.

“It looks like it would be quite a draw for

people around here,” he said.

Tourism Mount Washington would also like to see more correlation between events in the Comox Valley, such as MusicFest, and Mount Washington, even if it means providing transportation to and from the Festival for people who stay at the Resort.

NORDIC Trail Map

mountwashington.ca

SNOW PHONE (250) 338-1515
toll free: 1 (888) 833-1515

Mount Washington Alpine Resort
#1 Strathcona Parkway, Mount Washington, BC V9N 1L0
t: (250) 338-1386 | e: ski@mountwashington.ca
Toll Free: 1 (888) 231-1499
www.mountwashington.ca

THRIFTY FOODS **CHEK** **NEWS** **Saputo**
pepsi **Katana**

SNOWSHOE LEGEND

- Snowshoe Trail
- XC Trail
- Chair Lift
- Biathlon Range
- Permanently Closed Area
- + Parking
- + First Aid Station

TRAILS

- Old Cabin Loop - 2.5km
- Look Out - 500m
- Tree Beard's Trail - 1.5k
- Snow Paws - 1.5km
- Crooked Creek - 2km
- Finger Glades - 4km
- ◆ Great Big View - 3km
- ◆ Rossiter's Rise - 3km

your ISLAND MOUNTAIN!

SNOWSHOE TRAIL GUIDE

www.mountwashington.ca

SNOWSHOE RESPONSIBILITY CODE

THERE ARE ELEMENTS OF RISK THAT COMMON SENSE AND PERSONAL AWARENESS CAN HELP REDUCE, REGARDLESS OF HOW YOU DECIDE TO USE THE TRAILS. ALWAYS SHOW COURTESY TO OTHERS. PLEASE ADHERE TO THE CODE LISTED BELOW AND SHARE WITH OTHERS THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR A SAFE OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE.

- 1 Always check posted trail conditions.
- 2 Please obey all posted signs, stay off closed areas.
- 3 Please DO NOT tread on the grass, tracks or in the middle of the ski run. Snowshoe on the outside of ski trails.
- 4 Thighly trail pass for marked trails.
- 5 Do not remove or move trail markers.
- 6 Check both ways before crossing ski trails.
- 7 Do not litter. Take out what you pack in. Respect property.
- 8 Report all accidents.

**Know the code - Be Safety Conscious
It is your Responsibility**



NEWS in Brief

Encompassing people, places and happenings at Mount Washington.



A NEW FACE FOR THE MOUNTAIN CENTRE

The Vancouver Island Mountain Centre has a new Manager, and she's already a familiar face at Mount Washington Alpine Resort.

Bridget Orsetti and her husband John have owned and operated Beaver Tails outside the main doors of the Resort's Alpine Lodge for 12 years. Orsetti started working at the VIMC on October 13, 2015.

She replaces Andrew Scherck, who has moved to Rossland after spending three years as the VIMC's Manager.

"It really is the perfect job for me," says Orsetti. "I have a huge outdoor guiding and education background so just for that alone, it excited me. I love the mountain. We've been at Beaver Tails for 12 years and our kids are huge skiers. That's our passion."

Orsetti is a graduate of Thompson Rivers University's adventure guide program, is a former whitewater rafting guide and has spent time teaching outdoor education programs at places like Strathcona Park Lodge.

"I'm all about outdoor education, keeping kids healthy, especially kids that might not have the financial means."

Orsetti, John and their two children (11 and 13 years old) are living on-site at the Mountain Centre. John will run Beaver Tails in the winter when he is not busy with his grizzly bear guiding business in the summer, and they will home school their kids.

"It's a busy place," Orsetti said of the Mountain Centre, less than two weeks after taking on the job. "Andrew obviously did a ton of work."

The Mountain Centre is popular with quilting groups, yoga retreats, artists and organizations such as the John Howard Society, which runs courses there. Hinterland Studios, a gaming company based in Cumberland, invited gaming developers from all over North America to a gathering in mid-November.

"We even have two weddings booked already for next summer," Orsetti said.

Aside from hosting events and groups, the Centre is open to residents and visitors alike for use of the gym or Thai massage. "It's a centre for everyone, not just athletes or not just a ski team," says Orsetti. "It's a centre to be used by whoever."

Anytime an outside group uses the Mountain Centre it helps make money to support local athletes through the Vancouver Island Mountain Sports Society, she explained, and that is a great motivator for her. "That's always been our focus, to take care of the youth in this area."

GENERAL STORE MOVES TO THE ALPINE LODGE

The General Store at Mount Washington has been moved from its previous location on the Parkway close to the Alpine Village, into the Alpine Lodge at the Resort.

"The General Store has been integrated into Fresh in the Alpine Lodge," said Don Sharpe, Resort Director of Business Operations.

"So Fresh is still a café, has takeout food and is now also a General Store & Market... all the things you would find at the General Store," he said. "And it's more convenient for skiers leaving the Lodge after a day's skiing and heading back to their condos and other accommodations."

"Fresh will also have beer and wine sales," Sharpe added. "The old building will still house reception services for the Alpine Village, but it's not a public facility anymore," he said. It will instead be used for Resort administration.



Cassie Sharpe competing in the US Freestyle Competition.



Mike Manara accepts the 2015 Lars Fossberg Award from Steve Paccagnan, left, and Hildur Sinclair during a CWSAA presentation in Whistler earlier this year.

MIKE MANARA HONOURED BY INDUSTRY PEERS

The Canada West Ski Areas Assn. (CWSAA) last spring honoured Mount Washington Alpine Resort Snow School Director Mike Manara with the Lars Fossberg award.

He is the 12th annual recipient of the award, created after Fossberg passed away in 2001 and is presented annually to a manager or supervisor who shows a high degree of initiative, creativity and improvisation when dealing with the unexpected.

"The CWSAA would like to congratulate Tom and Mike on being the recipients of these prestigious awards," CWSAA president and CEO David Lynn said.

Tom Prentice, a partner with Multi-Line Claims Services, won the Jim Marshall Award.

After Manara graduated from Bishop's University in Sherbrooke, Que., with a double major in business and economics, he worked as an Assistant Head Coach at Jay Peak in Vermont. He eventually moved to Jasper, Alta., where he worked as Director of Skier Services at Marmot Basin before coming to Mount Washington.

At Mount Washington, with more than 250 staff working for him, his responsibilities have grown to include the adult and child snow and board schools, rental shop and daycare.

Outside of his duties at the Resort, Manara helped found the United Riders of Cumberland (UROC), a non-profit organization that promotes and supports the mountain bike community in the Comox Valley. He also worked with the Vancouver Island chapter of the MS Society to put on a fundraiser at Mount Washington after a longtime friend was diagnosed with MS.

This is not the first honour for Manara. In 2013 he was named one of the Top 40 Under 40 in the Comox Valley for his community and professional work.

CASSIE SHARPE JOINS FREESTYLE SKI TEAM

Cassie Sharpe of Comox has been named to the Canadian Freestyle Ski Team for 2015-16 as a member of the Women's Halfpipe Team.

"I'm really looking forward to having a ton of fun doing what I love!" Sharpe, 23, said in a Canadian Freestyle Ski Assn. news release. "That's always my main goal; to enjoy myself fully but I'm also really excited to compete some new tricks and a fresh new run that no girl has ever done before."

"I would really love to make finals at every contest I am in, as well as continue to push myself every day out of my comfort zone," she said. She's also looking for her first X Games invitation in 2016.

One of four women on the halfpipe team, Sharpe will be looking to take the next step in her career after winning Silver at the World Championship last year.



The Freestyle season will include two domestic FIS Freestyle Ski World Cups for mogul athletes on January 23 in Saint Côme, QC and Jan. 30 in Calgary, AB, as well as X Games Aspen (Jan. 26-31) and the return of the X Games Europe held on Feb. 24-28 in Oslo, Norway.

GOOD THINGS BREWING IN THE COMOX VALLEY

Gladstone Brewing Co. is doing a brisk business at the corner of Fourth Street and Cliffe Avenue in Downtown Courtenay, between winning national awards for its beer, collaborating with other businesses on new product and winterizing its patio.

Gladstone's Porter won a bronze medal at the 2015 Canadian Brewing Awards on June 6 in Niagara, Ontario. The dark beer is one of seven on tap at Gladstone, which sells by the glass and by the growler.

Gladstone produces about 20,000 litres of beer monthly according to its website, enough to fill more than 10,000 growlers per month.

Gladstone, owned by Daniel Sharratt and managed by Alexandra Stephanson, has teamed with Wayward Distillation House and are working on a "top secret" limited-edition brew involving 640 pounds of honey and some ingenuity from head brewer John Adair.

Across town, **Forbidden Brewing** held its grand opening Oct. 25 at its location inside the Best Western The Westerly Hotel and Convention Centre in Courtenay. The celebration came a day after Forbidden Brewing took home second place in the UK Pale Ale category at the 2015 BC Beer Awards.

"Winning an award in a competition with top BC breweries, on our equipment and with our experience, is a great achievement," owner Michael Vincent said.

"We are very proud to be included with many of the best beers in B.C."

ON THE RECORD...

Mount Washington earned some 2015 Readers Choice awards from the Comox Valley Record, as voted on by members of the public: Best Mountain to Climb; Best Place to be a Tourist; Best View Lookout; and Best Place to Propose. More than 1,200 ballots were cast in the inaugural awards, which were published in an October 2015 issue of the Record.

SKI PATROL FILM FESTIVAL

The Mount Washington Ski Patrol Association screened its first-ever film festival in November, the 2015 Chute Shorts, as a unique fundraising event.

The Association is raising funds this year



to replace and upgrade urgent care equipment and supplies.

The volunteer patrol has both Nordic and Alpine sections with 142 active duty patrollers as well as auxiliary members. For more information, check them out online at www.mwskipatrol.com.

WILDERNESS INSTITUTE NO LONGER A TEENAGER

The Strathcona Wilderness Institute celebrated its platinum anniversary in 2015, marking 20 years of providing interpretive programs and information services in Strathcona Provincial Park. The institute is responsible for the small interpretive centre at the trailhead to the park, beside Raven Lodge. More info is available online at www.strathconapark.org.

AWARD-WINNING HORNE LAKE CAVES

Horne Lake Caves Provincial Park and Outdoor Centre has won one of Destination BC's inaugural Remarkable Experiences Award for 2015.

The award, presented at the Vancouver Convention Centre in October, recognizes a business that has developed and delivered a consistently exceptional visitor experience that exceeded expectations and triggers visitors to share through social media and word of mouth.

This is the second major tourism award for Horne Lake Caves in 2015. In September they received the 2015 Innovator of the Year from Tourism Vancouver Island for the new slides, ramps and ladders recently installed in the Horne Lake Main Cave.

The aluminum walkways were initially envisioned as a conservation measure to protect the cave's crystal formations from foot traffic but in the final layout, it became clear they could be installed in such a way to add a wild thrill at the same



time as preserving the cave environment.

The new hardware is part of an ongoing restoration initiative for Main Cave, which has involved hundreds of volunteer hours.

"The cave is looking better than I've ever seen it," says Richard Varela, Park Director at Horne Lake Caves and a Comox Valley resident.

"There is already a new layer of sparkling crystals growing over the top of the pre-

The Horne Lake Caves team: Thom Howson, from left, Charlene Forrest, Richard Varela and Myles Fullmer.

vious mud and grime. It's inspiring to see we're on the right track."

Horne Lake Caves, open year round, is located an hour south of Mount Washington Alpine Resort, off of Highway 19, and offers a wide range of underground tours and self-guided experiences.

The View From Here

"Today is the first day of the rest of your life."

"A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step."

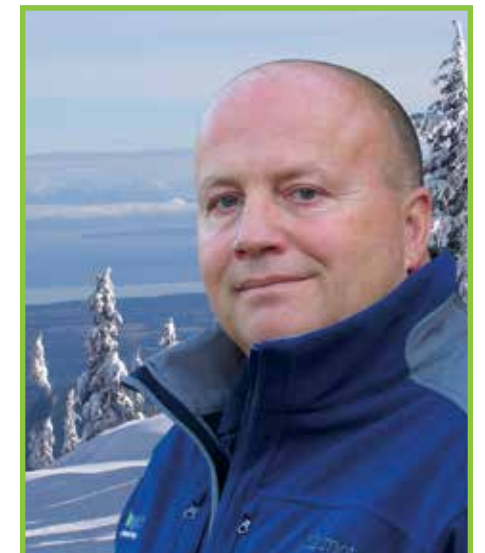
Well... Pacific Group Resorts Inc has taken a very significant first step by purchasing Mount Washington Alpine Resort.

It is going to be exciting to see what the next few steps will bring. It is going to be an incredible journey as they turn their dream into a reality over the next several years

I have personally owned property in the Resort since 1980 and been selling real estate since 1989. I have seen previous owners take their dreams and turn them into reality. This new journey is set to catapult Mount Washington into a true 12 month a year Resort Community. One just has to look at what they have accomplished in their other Resorts to clearly see what they have in mind for Mount Washington.

Over my years of being on the mountain I have seen many families raise their children on the slopes. Now I am seeing those children come back to the Resort with their children to give them the experiences that they had growing up. It is very exciting to see!

Mount Washington is more than just an Alpine Resort. It is a community made



Rick Gibson is a mountain resident and has been selling Real Estate on Mount Washington as a Royal LePage Realtor since 1989.

up of families that have been involved for over 35 years. Many of those owners are still here today.

We are all excited to welcome the Pacific Group to our mountain homes. I am convinced that they will make a great addition to our mountain family.

They have taken an important first step. If you are a property owner on the mountain, do you remember your first step? Has it been a great journey?

If you are not a property owner on the mountain, perhaps it is time to take that first step?



MOUNT WASHINGTON

SNOW SPORT CLUBS

Home Grown Heros Start Here!

Including our own Cassie Sharpe!



MOUNT WASHINGTON SKI CLUB

The Mount Washington Ski Club had a great summer, "the first summer I can remember when we were totally off snow," Head Coach John Trimmer said.

"The snowpack at their two usual haunts, Blackcomb and Mt. Hood, Oregon, was low and the Club worried training quality would be affected, so they took the summer off snow. The competitive level athletes instead held a summer camp in the sand on Hornby Island.

The Mount Washington Ski Club is a full-service Club for kids aged four to 20 years and offers programs that suit the abilities and needs of every child. These range from the FUNDamentals of Nancy Greene to the All Mountain rippers, to race programs. "Most people see the Mt Washington Ski Club as a competitive race club, but only the top 20 per cent is really race oriented," Trimmer said. "The rest of the Club is about skill acquisition, proper technique and fun."

The Mount Washington Ski Club turns 35 in 2016, and there are some special events planned, especially around the Feb. 14 Valentine's Day weekend. Details have yet to be revealed.

The Club will also host the Tech Series Coast Zone Finals Spring Dual Slalom April 9-10.

For more info and a lineup of programs the Club offers, go online to www.mtwashingtonskiclub.com.

Throwback to 1988!

The Mount Washington Ski Club's competitive team from 1988 that won the J3 (U14) Coast zone championships. "I do see several of the group went on to pretty awesome careers, several doctors, entrepreneurs, health professionals, appraisers, builders and electricians etc. and one ski coach," head coach John Trimmer said. The club is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year, so people can expect some fun and nostalgia to mark the occasion.

Photo: John Trimmer

MOUNT WASHINGTON FREESTYLE CLUB

Skiing can be more than just going up the chairlift and down the runs. Those wanting to add a little excitement to their skill set in a safe atmosphere, either recreationally or competitively, can check out single and dual moguls, aeriels, skier cross, half pipes and big air.

The non-profit club offers certified training in all freestyle skiing disciplines: moguls, rails, big air, terrain park and "steep and deep" powder skiing. It all starts with Jumps and Bumps, a 10-step program for entry-level freestyle beginners, and ends with participants becoming "all mountain" skiers.

The coaching staff features former members and those who have been on the BC and Canadian National Ski Teams in the past.

For more info on the Freestyle Club, go online to www.mwfc.ca.

VANCOUVER ISLAND RIDERS

The Vancouver Island Riders will kick off their 2016 season with two days of training January 9-10, 2016 at Mount Washington Alpine Resort.

This non-profit organization has offered freestyle snowboard training since it was formed in 2007. Some of the best Snowboarding Coaches in the Province are in charge of the Program, and they take a two-pronged approach to teaching their students both physical and mental skills.

The Program is designed for riders aged 10 and up who have some experience on a snowboard but who want to take their freestyle skills up a notch. The Club is a great springboard for athletes looking to improve their skills. Canadian National Team Member Darcy Sharpe is a graduate of the VI Riders.

For more information visit www.viriders.ca.

"Life is all about sharing your passion with anyone who cares to share with you." Cassie Sharpe



STRATHCONA NORDICS

The Strathcona Nordics Cross-Country Ski Club had a shortened season last year, but still managed to pull off the Teck BC Midget Championships in mid-February before Mount Washington Alpine Resort closed.



"They are optimistic that this year will be a better snow year," Club spokesperson Barbara Kelly said. The first home training weekend was held in late November on a frozen Battleship Lake. Two weeks prior to that, some Club members attended a fall snow camp at Sovereign Lake Nordic Centre and Silver Star Resort near Vernon. According to SN Head Coach, Andrea Stapff, the camp was a big success.

Strathcona Nordics who attended the camp included Tallon Noble (BC Ski Team), Connor McGrady, Ross Lamon (BC Dev Squad) and Matthew Salmon, Emmy Stapff, Amelia Wells, Aiden Noble, Stephen Lamon, Gabe Gledhill and Zander Swift (all BC Talent Squad). The Nordics will host their own camp at the end of December, with special guest, BC Team head coach Chris Manhard.

The Nordics also hosted the inaugural Dave Battison Pediatric Sports Medicine Symposium at the Resort as well as Vancouver Island Mountain Centre in honour of their late coach. The symposium, which took place in June, was created as a resource for medical professionals such as doctors, physical therapists and other health care providers who work with youth athletes.

For more info on Nordic ski training at Mount Washington, go online to strathconanordics.com.

VANCOUVER ISLAND SOCIETY FOR ADAPTIVE SNOWSPORTS

Snow sports are accessible to everyone, that's the underlying philosophy with the Vancouver Island Society for Adaptive Snowsports, which offers lessons in Alpine, Nordic/Cross Country skiing and Snowboarding to people with physical or developmental challenges at Mount Washington Alpine Resort.

VISAS will hold its Winter Snowsports Festival at Mount Washington from Jan. 3-7, 2016. Traditionally held the second week in January, the Festival is offered to people with learning challenges looking to expand their horizons and learn about one of the three core snowsports.

They also host the Herb Bradley Challenge in February, their main fundraiser; and Canadian Forces Veterans National Ski Week from Jan. 31-Feb. 5, 2016 (injured members of the Canadian Forces are given the opportunity to either return to or try out winter sports). For more info on Adaptive Snowsports opportunities visit www.visasweb.ca.



Fire Protection

continued from page 3

That template would include signing a service agreement with a nearby fire department, building a small building on the mountain to securely store vehicles and firefighting equipment; and potential creation of a small crew of on-mountain volunteers who could set up firefighting equipment in advance of firefighters' arrival.

"The initial goal is strictly to prevent fire from spreading to other units," Gibson said.

There is already a wildfire suppression program in place for summer months, and the Resort has some firefighting equipment already cached in various locations. There are also 45 fire hydrants around the Resort and adjacent subdivisions.

Any fire equipment or facility created under a new fire protection service would be located on a piece of property near the former General Store Mount Washington Alpine Resort donated a few years ago for that specific reason.

No cost estimates have been done yet, Bast said; they are still undergoing a public consultation process.

"The process has been going very well in that the steering group has been providing

Caillie Nagle tags Lucinda Gullison in the transition zone next to the biathlon hut in the Saturday relay during the Teck Midget Championships in February 2015. The event drew 125 racers and 350 in total who toughed out some challenging conditions during one of the last weekends of the season for the club.

Photo: Strathcona Nordics

VI BIATHLON CLUB

The VI Biathlon Club is teaming up with Strathcona Nordics to offer some joint programming this year, club president Pat Douglas said.

Biathlon is a combination of cross-country skiing and small bore rifle marksmanship. In order to give biathletes a chance to excel at both disciplines, they will participate in Strathcona Nordics skiing programs while learning marksmanship from the biathlon coaches.

"While the two clubs will remain separate, both clubs feel that by joining forces, we will be able to better serve the needs and aspirations of the Nordic community," a VI Biathlon spokesperson said. Both clubs have a long history of collaboration.

Biathletes will be required to hold membership in both clubs, no matter if they are in the competitive or recreational stream.

Anyone wishing more information can e-mail vibiathlonclub@gmail.com.



FIRST NATIONS SNOWBOARD TEAM

The 2015-16 First Nations Snowboard team is ready for a winter of learning and camaraderie at Mount Washington Alpine Resort.

The program has been in operation at Mount Washington for several years as part of a national effort between Canada Snowboard and First Nations Snowboard Team to deliver the Aboriginal Snowboard Program. In the Comox Valley, the program is run as part of the Wachiay Friendship Centre in Courtenay.

The team offers a 10-weekend program, a six-weekend all-girls program, Cedar Program (three intro sessions at Easy Acres) and earned passes. Athletes are required to own or rent gear.

For more information on this program, go online to www.fnriders.com, First Nations Snowboard Team - Vancouver Island on Facebook or e-mail vancouverisland.fnst@gmail.com.

local perspective, insight and so on in the development of the proposal," he said.

"We try hard that whatever we're doing really reflects on the wishes of the people it affects."

Any referendum would only cover people who own property at Mount Washington (and only one vote per property).

"If you're taxed, then you're asked," Bast said as a way to remember who is eligible. Mail-in ballots would be possible for out-of-town landowners. "This includes owners of a registered estate in fee simple or the holder of a registered lease of a minimum 99-year term," Bast said.

The referendum would have to pass "electoral assent", which in this case would be 50% plus one vote.

(In the past, a petition did not receive elector-

al assent, but the conditions were a lot more stringent, Bast said. Since many properties have changed to fee simple, the referendum option is now available.)

If everything goes according to plan, it will still be too late for consideration in the CVRD's 2016 budget, Bast said. The Regional District could hold a referendum in early 2016 and, provided the plan is accepted, a budget could be worked up for 2017. That is the earliest construction would take place; it likely won't happen any sooner.

For more information about the Mount Washington Fire Protection service, go online to www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/mtwashingtonfireproject or e-mail Bast at mtwashingtonfireproject@comoxvalleyrd.ca. Bast can be reached by telephone at 250-334-6044.



STAY PLAY & DINE

ON MOUNT WASHINGTON

Mount Washington Alpine Resort is Vancouver island's Winter Playground and for good reason. Start the day with fresh tracks. As the sun dips behind the peaks enjoy après ski in the village pub and restaurants. In the evening enjoy live entertainment or snuggle into your chalet, the choice is all yours! See the Marmot Accommodations Guide or go to www.mtwashingtonaccommodations.com

for details. From slopeside to ski-in / ski-out, there is a wide variety of options for your ski getaway.



VANCOUVER ISLAND MOUNTAIN CENTRE is conveniently located across from Raven Lodge on Mount Washington. The Vancouver Island Mountain Centre is large enough for a meeting or retreat of up to 50 people. VIMC provides dorm style group accommodation, meeting rooms, public fitness facility and Outdoor Adventure Programs.

Tel. 250-331-9355

manager@vimountaincentre.com

www.vimountaincentre.com



CHALET 40 - THE BIG CHILL!

Come bring your family to The Big Chill to enjoy our ski in/ski out chalet located in Mount Washington Alpine Village. This three story chalet has all the amenities of home and accommodates a maximum of three families (14 guests). Please visit www.mtwashingtonaccommodation.com or e-mail chalet40@shaw.ca for further information.



MOUNT WASHINGTON FREE-STYLE CLUB We provide a high quality, affordable ski program that builds character and self-esteem; recognizes different ski abilities and interests as part of the skill development process; encourages individuals to achieve their highest potential; recognizes the importance of a fun environment in all we do and reinforces the importance of learning as a team member.

TF: 1-888-231-1499

www.mtwashingtonskiclub.com



MOUNT WASHINGTON SKI CLUB

Skiing is a life-long sport that is practiced by people of every age, shape, size, ethnicity and level of ability, but skiing skills are not the only benefits of this ski program. In addition, the children will learn:

- Ski Safety • Cooperation • Independence
- Listening skills • Self-confidence
- Goal-setting • Group/Peer Learning
- Task-focused activities

Katie Leikmoser (250) 339-9698

www.mtwashingtonskiclub.com



VANCOUVER ISLAND SOCIETY FOR ADAPTIVE SNOW SPORTS

(VISAS) is a non-profit organisation providing snowsports lessons for people with physical, cognitive or developmental disabilities. Students have options to Nordic ski, Alpine ski, Sit ski or Snowboard. Lessons are accommodating, affordable and adapted for students' needs. All are welcome.

TF: 250-203-2131 (Tom)

www.visasweb.ca





**MOUNT WASHINGTON
ACCOMMODATIONS
GUIDE ❄️ 2015/16**



www.mtwashingtonaccommodations.com

PRIVATE RENTAL ACCOMMODATIONS ON MOUNT WASHINGTON

Alert Bay Home to Sasquatch?

Is there a sasquatch living in the thick coastal wilderness of Alert Bay on Cormorant Island? Comox biologist John Bindernagel thinks so.

Word got out about some unexplained howlings in the remote community 170 kilometres northeast of Courtenay after teenager Mackenzie Mountain told CTV News he recorded the sounds on his cellphone.

Another resident, Rod Alfred, told the reporter he had heard the noise three times this year "but it's been coming here for years."

News of vocalizations from Cormorant Island may be new, but stories of sasquatch sightings and eople who have heard something in the Grassy Point area are not.

John Bindernagel has been travelling to Alert Bay for the last 10 years studying the oral history of sasquatch sightings in the region.

The latest one he heard about on Facebook, and was asked to come up and

investigate. "This is almost in our backyard," he said.

Two people made cellphone voice recordings at different times of the noises, and Bindernagel has been able to compare them to recordings of various birds from Cornell University's online library to try and identify the sounds.

"This has given us something to work with," he said. He is getting help from amateur investigators in Washington State, who have software programs that compare tones and frequencies in recordings to those of humans and bears. Bindernagel is hoping to get some recordings of dogs in Alert Bay for comparison as well.

He is openly critical of the scientific community, which hasn't leapt to help him identify the sounds, or even rule others out. "My scientific colleagues have expressed zero interest in this as a form of scientific evolution.



John Bindernagel's campsite in Alert Bay. He has travelled to Alert Bay several times over the years, more so since September, when news came out that people had heard howls.

"Let's not negate these alternatives, let's test them as possibilities," he said.

Bindernagel presented his findings on the Cormorant Island howls at a conference in Ocean Shores, Washington State, in late November where he hoped to learn more about how to review his recordings as well as sharing his latest evidence.

In October he was called to the Morrell Sanctuary in south Nanaimo to cast a footprint that was thought to be from a

sasquatch. "It had all the characteristics," he said: five toes, a prominent heel and about 14 inches long.

But even cryptozoologists can be skeptical. "There should have been more," he said. "Someone put up a 'possible sasquatch track' sign on the trailhead. If someone brings something to my attention, it's my professional responsibility to come and check it out."

Unforgettable memories included.

<p><i>Stay & Sled</i></p> <p>Includes King Jacuzzi Suite, breakfast vouchers and 2hr Mount Washington Tube Park pass for a family of 4.</p> <p>\$245 per night</p>	<p><i>Stay & Ski</i></p> <p>Includes deluxe Fairway room, two breakfast vouchers and two Mount Washington Alpine Resort lift passes.</p> <p>\$135 per person double occ.</p>
---	---

Crown Isle
RESORT & GOLF COMMUNITY

www.CrownIsle.com
Toll Free: 888-338-8439 | 250-703-5000

Where the trees reach almost as high as we fly

Discover your inner explorer on Vancouver Island.

We offer friendly, personalized service and daily non-stop flights with Air Canada, Central Mountain Air, Pacific Coastal Airlines and WestJet.

www.comoxairport.com

COMOX VALLEY AIRPORT YAG

Where Journeys Begin.

"I always knew you could be an amazing partner.... now I know!"

Finest quality lingerie, pleasure toys & lubes for your Alpine Getaway at Mount Washington.

15% OFF!
ON ONE ITEM IN THE STORE with this ad!

The Romance Shop

Open 7 days a week... late!

589 Cliffe Avenue, Courtenay • 250-338-0669 • www.theromanceshop.org

MOUNT WASHINGTON PRIVATE RENTAL ACCOMMODATIONS



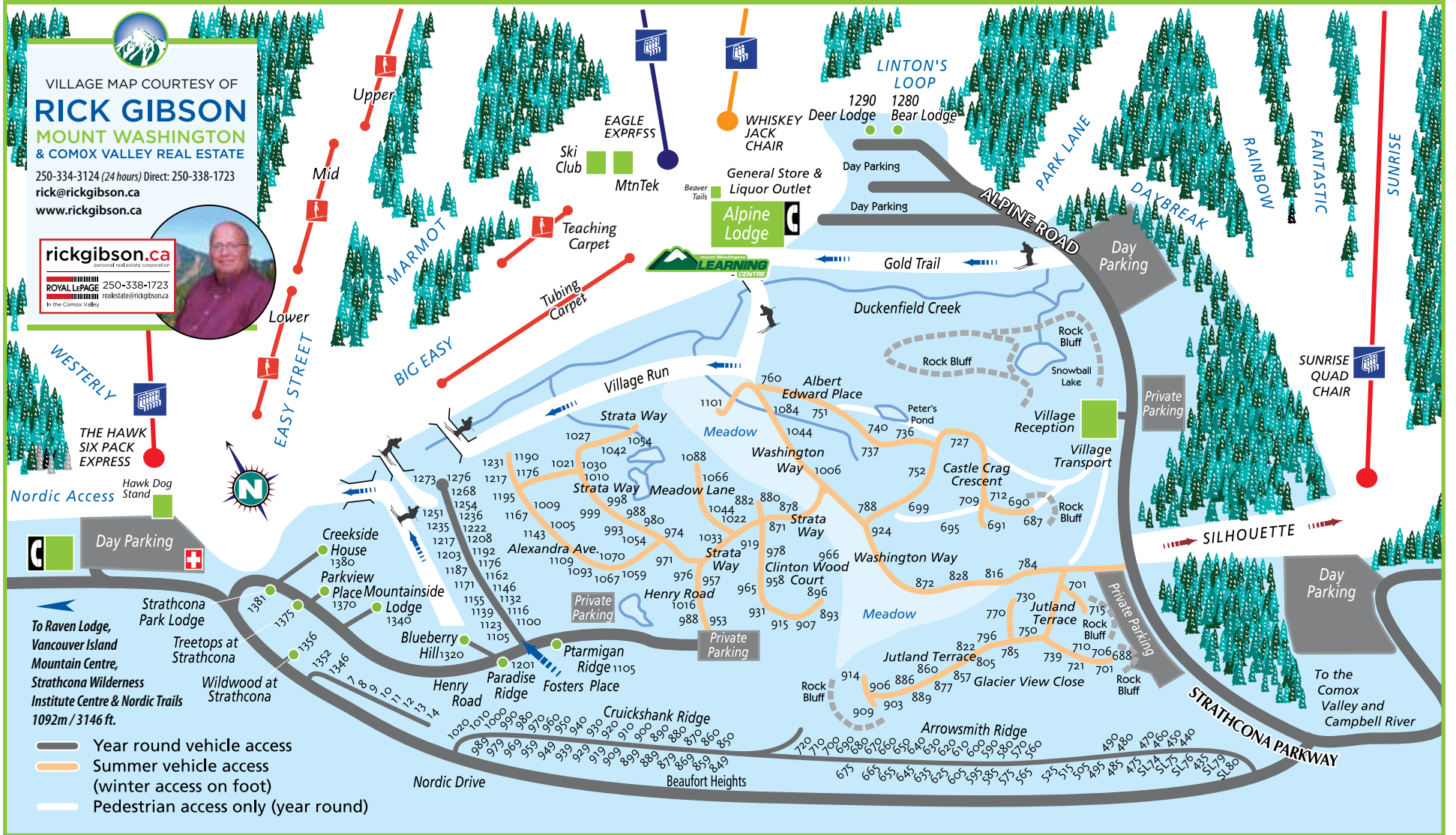
For Up-To-Date Rental Options: www.mtwashingtonaccommodation.com

Scan for detailed property listings, property photos, amenities and more!

Property Name	Weekend Price		Holiday Price		Summer Price		Max people	# of Bedrooms	Bathrooms	Dishwasher	Jetted tub	Sauna	Hot tub	TV	VCR	Cablevision	DVD	stereo	CD player	Fireplace	Wood supplied	Cleaning	Linen	pets	Contact	Phone	Email or Web	
	Weekdays	Weekend	Holiday	Summer	Weekdays	Weekend																						
ALPINE VILLAGE WINTER - QUIET, VEHICLE FREE VILLAGE WITH FOUR PERIMETER PARKING LOTS SUMMER - DRIVE TO, WITH INDIVIDUAL PARKING																												
690 Castle Crag Crescent B - (88B)	275	350	450	150	12	3	3	Y	N	Y	N	3	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	L	Y	N	Talaya	250-898-9238	talayac@gmail.com
893 Clinton Wood Court "Chalet 26"	225	300	350	150	11	3	2	Y	N	N	N	2	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	W	N	Y	F	Y	N	Elisa Djurickovic	250-381-1649	elisdad12@shaw.ca
915 Clinton Wood Court "Chalet 28"	250	350	400	100	12	4	4	Y	N	N	N	2	Y	N	N	Y	N	P	N	N	N	F	Y	N	N	Brian Seal or Lorna Wallace	780-370-8301	28clintonwood@gmail.com
965 Clinton Wood Court	180	230	250	150	10	5	5	Y	N	Y	N	1	N	N	Y	Y	Y	W	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Kazimiera Stypka	250-477-2270	stypka@shaw.ca
1016 Henry Road "Mogul Manor #47"	90	170	170	60	21	4	4	N	N	N	N	3	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Dave Boychuk	250-881-4224	boychukd@gmail.com
750 Jutland Terrace "Chalet 9"	300	350	400	200	12	3	3	Y	N	Y	N	2	N	Y	Y	Y	N	W	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Helen Austin	250-702-0095	www.chalet9.com
889 Jutland Terrace "The 18th Hole"	325	375	425	275	12	5	3	N	N	Y	N	3	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	W	Y	Y	O	Y	Y	O	Y	Linda Marinus	250-338-2544	18thhole.ca
1044 Meadow Lane "The Big Chill"	275+	325+	395+	Call	14	3	3	Y	N	Y	N	3	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	W	Y	Y	O	Y	O	Y	N	Debra Stockdill	250-592-7278	chalet40@shaw.ca
871 Strata Way "Doug's Chalet"	215	300	375	175	8	2	4	N	Y	Y	N	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	W	Y	Y	L	Y	N	Y	Deanne Lee	250-592-5001	www.members.shaw.ca/dougschalet/	
980 Strata Way "Chalet 71"	200	300	400	175	12	4	5	N	N	Y	N	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Andy & Linda Blaine	250-889-3810	chalet71@shaw.ca	
988 Strata Way "Red Roof Chalet 70 Up"	250	350	400	200	15	5	3	Y	N	N	N	1	N	N	Y	Y	Y	W	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	Carol Turnham	250-592-2842	www.redroofchalet.com	
988 Strata Way "Red Roof Chalet 70 Down"	200	250	300	150	10	3	1	Y	N	N	N	1	N	N	Y	Y	Y	PT	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	Carol Turnham	250-592-2842	www.redroofchalet.com	
974 Strata Way "Chalet 72"	165	260	350	150	8	3	3	Y	N	Y	N	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Glenda Kirk	250-658-1260	Chalet72@telus.net	
1030 Strata Way "Inglennook Stacklog Chalet"	Call	Call	300	N/A	12	5	5	Y	N	N	N	3	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	F	Y	Y	Y	N	Natasha Dow	6043626006	natashadow8@gmail.com	
BEAUFORT HEIGHTS DRIVE TO WITH INDIVIDUAL PARKING																												
605 Arrowsmith Ridge "Pelayahu Escape"	475	575	625	400	12	5	7	Y	Y	N	N	2	Y	N	Y	N	Y	E	N	N	F	Y	Y	Y	Natasha Dow	6043626006	whiskeyjackcc@gmail.com	
620 Arrowsmith Ridge "K2 Chalet"	225	275	325	150	12	4	5	Y	N	N	N	3	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	L	Y	Y	Y	Stephan Krieger	250-477-3878	www.k2chalet.ca	
680 Arrowsmith Ridge "Big Red Chalet"	498	600	700	375	16	5	3	Y	N	N	N	3	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	P	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Lori Chesley	250-228-0223	www.bigredchalet.com	
899 Cruikshank Ridge "Mt. Washington Chalet"	250	350	550	175	26	7	6	Y	N	N	N	4	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	E	N	N	F	Y	N	Y	Julia & Arnie Hengstler	250-748-5083	www.mtwashingtonchalet.com	
909 Cruikshank Ridge	250	500	550	150	10	3	5	Y	N	Y	N	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	E	N	N	O	Y	N	Y	Peter & Kari Zimmerman	250-951-8221	peterz.ca	
FOSTERS PLACE DRIVE TO WITH INDIVIDUAL PARKING																												
1187 Fosters Place "Chateau Cona - Upper"	375	495	Call	175	12	3	3	Y	Y	Y	N	3	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	E	N	N	F	Y	N	Y	Brian and Karla	250-871-8807	www.chateaucona.com	
1187 Fosters Place "Chateau Cona"	450	650	750	300	19	5	5	Y	Y	Y	N	4	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	E	N	N	F	Y	N	Y	Brian and Karla	250-871-8807	www.chateaucona.com	
1203 Fosters Place "Mt. Washington Guest House"	475	700	900	350	28	7	7	Y	Y	Y	N	2	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	P	N	N	F	Y	N	Y	John & Susan Twose	250-335-0350	www.mtwashingtontonguesthouse.com	
HENRY ROAD DRIVE TO WITH INDIVIDUAL PARKING																												
1375-E "Strathcona Vacation Rental Home"	180	275	350	200	9	3	5	Y	N	N	N	2	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	P	N	N	F	Y	N	Y	John & Susan Twose	250-335-0350	www.strathconabandb.com	
ALPINE VILLAGE WINTER - QUIET, VEHICLE FREE VILLAGE WITH FOUR PERIMETER PARKING LOTS SUMMER - DRIVE TO, WITH INDIVIDUAL PARKING																												
737 - 1 Albert Edward Place "92-1"	100	150	175	80	6	3	3	N	N	N	N	2	N	Y	Y	N	Y	P	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Cathy Bouthillier	250-812-9123	koi@telus.net	
737 - 3 Albert Edward Place "92-3"	95	150	175	65	6	3	2	Y	N	Y	N	2	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	O	N	Y	N	Y	Tim Van Alstine	250-704-6566	rtwushy737@gmail.com	
737 - 5 Albert Edward Place "92.5"	90	150	180	65	7	3	2	Y	N	Y	N	4	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	O	Y	Y	N	O	Y	Ron Van Wachem	250-739-0960	rturkey@gmail.com
691 - 5 Castle Crag Crescent	110	140	180	75	8	2	1	Y	N	N	N	2	Y	N	Y	Y	W	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Colin Green	250-477-3907	colin.green1@shaw.ca	
691 - 12 Castle Crag Crescent	120	160	180	75	7	2	1	Y	N	Y	N	2	N	Y	Y	Y	W	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Gabriele & Brian Grady	250-592-4271	www.mtwashingtoncondo.ca	
695 - 307 Castle Crag Crescent	100	150	180	75	6	2	3	Y	N	Y	N	3	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Justin	250-207-0341	justin.white@pntmail.com	
784 - 8 Washington Way "Snowbird"	100	170	220	75	8	3	3	Y	N	Y	N	3	Y	Y	Y	Y	E	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	Josie Laslo	250-285-3682	jo.laslo@sd72.bc.ca	
1044 - 3 Washington Way	125	175	200	75	8	3	2	Y	N	Y	N	3	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	O	Y	N	N	O	Y	Joan Scheunhage	250-723-4881	bigshinyhouse@hotmail.com	
1084 - 9 Washington Way "Westview Inn"	100	150	190	75	5	3	2	Y	N	Y	N	2	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Fred and Bernice	250-655-8827	millsfb@gmail.com
BEAR LODGE 1280 ALPINE ROAD DRIVE TO SLOPESIDE LOCATION WITH UNDER BUILDING PARKING, AND HOT TUB																												
Family Suite - Bear Lodge	Call	Call	Call	Call	6	1	1	N	N	N	N	1	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Slopeside Accommodations	877-845-4499	slopeside@mountwashington.ca
101 - Bear Lodge	150	195	275	100	4	1	1	Y	N	N	N	3	Y	Y	Y	Y	P	N	N	F	Y	N	Y	N	Doug Yelland	250-744-9214	www.bearlodgecondos.com	
307 - Bear Lodge	150	220	325	150	8	2	3	Y	N	N	N	3	N	Y	Y	Y	P	N	N	O	Y	N	Y	N	MD Accommodations	N/A	mdaccommodations@shaw.ca	
309 - Bear Lodge	150	220	320	100	6	2	3	Y	N	Y	N	3	N	Y	Y	Y	P	N	N	F	Y	N	Y	N	Cheryl Adebarr	250-339-3150	cheryladebar@gmail.com	
401 - Bear Lodge	170	240	340	135	6	2	3	Y	N	N	N	3	N	Y	Y	N	P	N	N	F	Y	N	Y	N	Ken Heinrich	250-792-3424	bearlodge401@gmail.com	
409 - Bear Lodge	160	250	325	Call	6	2	3	Y	N	N	N	4	Y	Y	Y	Y	P	N	N	F	Y	N	Y	N	Keith & Cathy Larsen	250-338-0972	bearescape@shaw.ca	
412 - Bear Lodge	265	350	450	150	9	3	3	Y	N	N	N	4	N	Y	Y	Y	P	N	N	F	Y	N	Y	N	Richard Cronk	250-204-0560	412bearlodge@gmail.com	
BLUEBERRY HILL 1320 HENRY ROAD DRIVE TO WITH UNDER BUILDING PARKING, AND SAUNA																												
106 - Blueberry Hill	120	170	210	85	7	2	3	Y	Y	Y	N	4	Y	Y	Y	Y	P	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	Michele	250-755-9489	jmsparks@shaw.ca	
117 - Blueberry Hill	145	195	220	95	7	3	3	Y	Y	N	N	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	P	N	N	O	Y	N	Y	N	Sharon Hadden	250-702-1317	s.hadden@shaw.ca	
216 - Blueberry Hill	125	175	210	100	8	2	3	Y	N	Y	N	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	P	N	N	O	Y	N	Y	N	Gabriele & Brian Grady	250-592-4271	www.mtwashingtoncondo.ca	
217 - Blueberry Hill	160	210	240	100	8	3	3	Y	Y	Y	N	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	P	N	N	F	Y	N	Y	N	Elaine Smith	250 516 8862	www.mtwashingtoncondo.net	
308 - Blueberry Hill	150	200	250	90	7	3	3	Y	N	N	N	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	P	N	N	O	N	N	Y	N	Carolyn Douglas	250-754-6026	douglaskids@shaw.ca	
CREEKSIDE HOUSE 1380 HENRY ROAD DRIVE TO SLOPESIDE LOCATION WITH UNDER BUILDING PARKING																												
202 - Creekside House	175	250	310	125	9	3	3	Y	N	N	N	3	Y	Y	Y	Y	P	N	N	O	Y	N	Y	N	Lois Stevenson	250-339-0914	loisstevenson@shaw.ca	
204 - Creekside House	150	205	275	100	8	2	3	Y	N	N	N	3	Y	Y	Y	Y	P	N	N	O	O	N	Y	N	Chantal Rousseau	250-923-5360	www.creekside204.ca	
205 - Creekside House	160	210	290	100	7	3	3	Y	N	N	N	3	N	Y	Y	Y	P	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Jana Watt	250-287-2956	250 287 2956	
302 - Creekside House	175	250	275	100	8	3	3	Y	N	N	N	3	Y	Y	Y	Y	P	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	Mary Anne Kinloch	778 356 2999	makinloch@gmail.com	
MOUNTAINSIDE LODGE 1340 HENRY ROAD DRIVE TO WITH UNDER BUILDING PARKING, HOT TUB AND SAUNA																												
101 - Mountainside Lodge</																												



MOUNT WASHINGTON VILLAGE MAP



Summer 2015

continued from page 4.

The Resort was hopping even when staff wasn't hosting weddings. "Summer was good. The weather was phenomenal," Sharpe said. "Scenic chair rides were strong. We heard lots of accents from people from all around the world."

Both the **Tapped Beer Festival** and **Alpine Wine Fest**, both popular events, sold out again, drawing people to the alpine setting to taste some of the best

craft breweries and wineries Vancouver Island and BC have to offer.

"The **Alpine Wine Festival** is an idyllic way to experience Mount Washington in the summer," Reynolds said.

The Wine Festival at Raven Lodge featured a tasting seminar with Jeff Lucas of Cascadia Liquor. The evening featured music as well as a summer-inspired gourmet barbecue.

Proceeds went to the Vancouver Island Mountain Sport Society, which sponsors athletes from the various clubs that call

Mount Washington home.

Hiking was a popular pastime for visitors last summer, either at the Resort or through Strathcona Provincial Park. And the Resort hosted the **Atmosphere Mind Over Mountain Adventure Race (MOMAR)** at the end of September, which saw 500 athletes take on the endurance race.

"It was good to wind up the year with MOMAR. Their windup banquet is probably the biggest event we've catered, 600 people," Sharpe said.

The MOMAR wrapup underlines the Resort's single biggest part of their summer business: group gatherings and conferences. "We have more conference space than anywhere on the central Island outside of Nanaimo."

MOMAR booked catering for 575, the Resort's largest group. Three buffet tables were spread out over two floors of the main lodge.

"There's nowhere else that can handle that amount of people," he added.

QUALITY LIFESTYLE & LEISURE FASHIONS,
 TECHNICAL OUTDOOR WEAR FOR MEN AND WOMEN
 KAYAKS, STAND UP PADDLE BOARDS & ALPINE SKI GEAR
 SKI & BOARD MAINTENANCE SERVICES
 SNOWSHOE SALES & RENTALS

SKI & SURF SHOP
 Fashions • Paddle Sports • Skiing
 Courtenay, BC

OPEN YEAR ROUND MON-SAT 9:30-5:30
 f SKIANDSURF.CA 250-338-8844 333 Fifth Street Courtenay Est. 1989

You're Invited, Linger Awhile!
 Fresh baked Artisan bread, buns, sweets and more.
GRAB & Go Coffee, Bistro and Baked Goods
 Daily Lunch Specials
GOOD TO GO MEALS
 Fresh frozen hearty toppings for those on the go!

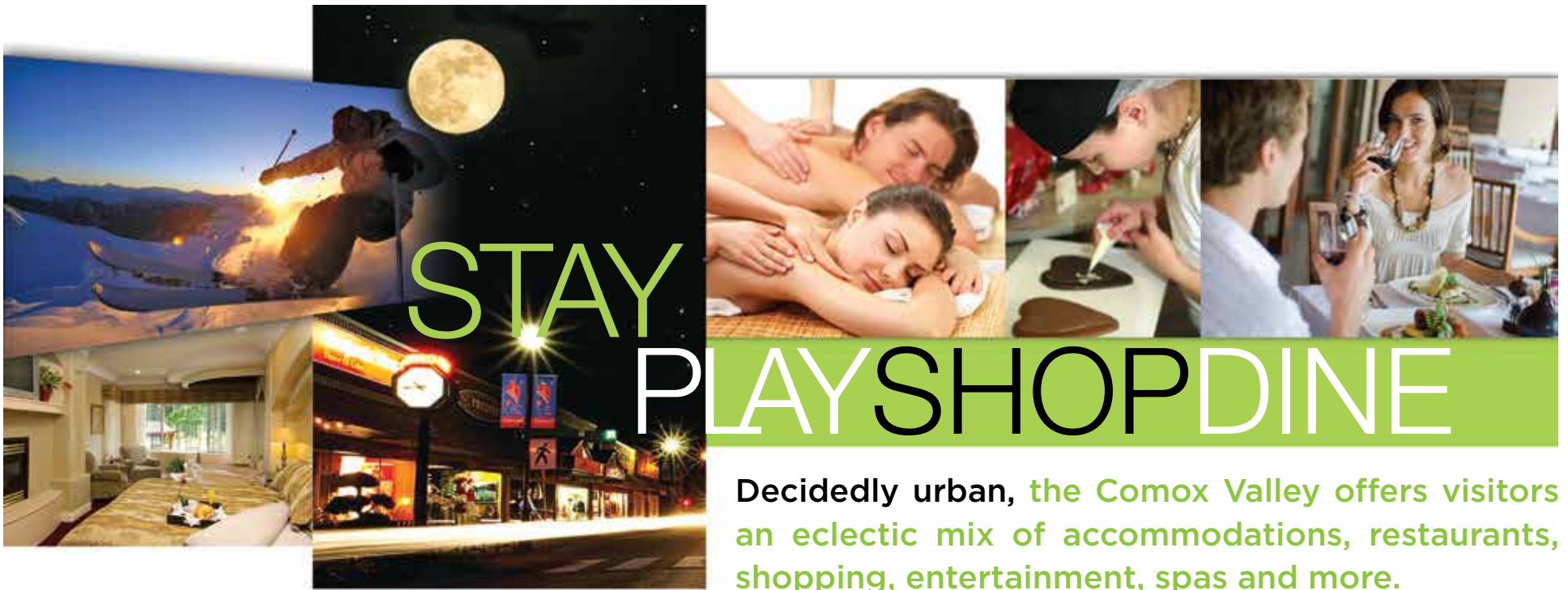
Grains
 250-338-0955
 Serving the Comox Valley for over 35 years. 445-10th Street, Courtenay, BC
ON-LINE COUPONS & SPECIALS: www.grainsbakery.ca

BRANDING & WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT
 SOCIAL MEDIA & REPUTATION MARKETING

DO YOU HAVE THE RIGHT FORMULA?

HAVERS DESIGN
 BRANDING WEB PRINT

250-334-2844 info@haversdesign.com
 391 11th Street, Courtenay, BC V9N 1S4



Decidedly urban, the Comox Valley offers visitors an eclectic mix of accommodations, restaurants, shopping, entertainment, spas and more.



Inviting Downtown Courtenay

Après Ski or on a day off, there is much to see and do in the Comox Valley. Widely known as an agricultural and culinary hot spot the region boasts more than 445 farms, shellfish growers, wineries, breweries and distilleries. Savour the bounty of these producers at many of the finer restaurants in Courtenay, Comox and Cumberland. Live music is part of the region's DNA and rivals major cities for the variety of live entertainment offered weekly. Add a day to your next ski trip to discover what makes the Comox Valley an ideal year-round getaway destination.

The Anco INN

Close to restaurants, shopping and hiking or biking on Mount Washington.

- 67 Rooms - A/C Units & Free Wi-Fi
- Coin Laundry
- Kitchenettes and Handicapped
- Conference Room
- Rooms Available • Cable TV/Movie
- In-room Coffee/Tea, Fridge
- Channel • DVD Players Available
- Seasonal Outdoor Pool

Toll Free: 1-877-393-2200 or 250-334-2451
1885 Cliffe Avenue, Courtenay
ancocourtenay@shaw.ca • www.ancomotelbc.com

ANCO MOTEL ~ 67 rooms, cable TV, DVD rentals, coin laundry and in-room coffee/tea, Conference room. Non-smoking and smoking units, kitchenettes and high speed Internet access rooms available. Close to restaurants, shopping, golf, fishing, hiking and only 30 minutes to Mount Washington.

TF: 1-877-393-2200
www.ancomotelbc.com
or email: ancocourtenay@shaw.ca

atlas café

250 6th St. Downtown Courtenay
250 338 9838 • atlascafe.ca

ATLAS CAFE is a global experience with a world of choices in the heart of downtown Courtenay. ATLAS serves fresh and innovative cuisine for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Diners will appreciate the warm and inviting vibe, and it is a great place to meet the locals. We feature fresh desserts, espressos, fresh juices, kids menu and nightly specials. Take out menu available.

250-338-9838 www.atlascafe.ca

Your Après Ski Destination in Downtown Courtenay.

Daily Specials: www.billydspub.com
268 5th Street, Courtenay 250-334-8811

BILLY D'S PUB & BISTRO, located on 5th Street, in vibrant Downtown Courtenay, offers you a traditional pub feel in the heart of the Comox Valley. Great food prepared fresh daily, friendly service and live music every Friday night makes Billy D's Pub a favourite Apres Ski location. Visit our website www.billydspub.com or like us on Facebook for daily specials and event notices.

FRESH WEST COAST INSPIRED MENU

14th and Cliffe Ave
Courtenay, BC
Short walking distance from local hotels.
250-334-8564
www.bisquerestaurant.ca

BISQUE RESTAURANT For those who have already found it, the charm of BISQUE comes as no surprise. The fast paced lunch changes to a relaxing evening out. Just steps away from the Best Western and Old House Hotel & Spa, our fresh west coast menu includes local seafood, lamb, house made fresh pasta, AAA steaks and a nightly fresh sheet. Fully licensed.

Tel. 250-334-8564
www.bisquerestaurant.ca

368 Fifth Street, Downtown Courtenay

CAKEBREAD ARTISAN BAKERY Hand crafted Breads, Cakes and Tempting Treats for your next mountain excursion are just a call away. Order 48 hours in advance and we will have it ready for you to pick up on your way through town! We also stock premier Olive Oil, Balsamic Vinegar, Tapenade and Jam. Come in to enjoy our cafe with a full coffee bar and ready-to-eat selections. 250.338.8211 or TF 1.866.468.2462 www.cakebread.ca



COMOX AIRFORCE MUSEUM An amazing collection of West Coast military aviation artifacts and memorabilia, Gift Shop and Aviation Reference Library plus a Heritage Air Park with numerous aircraft. Visitors praise our collection which covers a period from WW1 to current times. We are located adjacent to the entrance of CFB Comox, open 10am to 4pm, Tuesday to Sunday. See website for summer hours. www.comoxairforcemuseum.ca



STAYPLAYSHOPDINE

Continued from page 17.



COMOX VALLEY FARMERS MARKET

is your year round source for local food! Everything from meat and veggies to poultry, fish and seafood and everything you need in between. During the Ski Season shop from 9-12 every Saturday in the historic Native Sons Hall in Downtown Courtenay. Open Wednesdays (Downtown Courtenay) and Saturdays (Comox Valley Exhibition Grounds) during the summer months. 250-218-0321 www.cvmf.ca



THE CONA HOSTEL offers clean, affordable accommodations for those looking to experience the Comox Valley. Our ideal riverside downtown Courtenay location offers restaurants, pubs and groceries and shopping all within walking distance. Services include free wireless internet, large kitchen, coin laundry, foosball, TV/DVD, gear storage and the friendliest staff in town.

www.theconahostel.com



Located in the Heart of Downtown Courtenay, **EDIBLE ISLAND WHOLE FOODS MARKET** provides nutrition conscious shoppers a complete and extensive selection of organic whole foods, produce, local breads, baked goods and meats, all the groceries, household cleaning options, plus quality supplements and fabulous body care alternatives. We also carry a large selection of specialty diet options.

"Simply put... we bring you the best."
www.edibleisland.ca



40 KNOTS In the heart of the Comox Valley, 40 Knots crafts wines distinctly shaped by this windswept vineyard. Stewarding environmentally ethical farming practices and traditional wine making methods, this Island winery produces lively yet balanced wines bursting with aromas and lingering flavours. 40 knots offers a cellar tasting lounge, vineyard terrace, wine shop, winery tours, and an event venue.

250-941-8810 www.40knotswinery.com



GRAHAM'S JEWELLERS provides nutrition-conscious shoppers is a family operated business, serving the Comox Valley for 40 years. At Graham's they offer fine jewelry, watches and giftware, such as Simon G, Pandora, Swiss Army, Tissot, Lampe Berger. All jewelry repairs are done locally by a qualified skiing goldsmith. Downtown Courtenay 250-334-4523



GRAINS BAKERY & BISTRO Headed up the Mountain? Come on in to Grains bakery for the freshest artisan breads, buns and sweets. Try our own Gluten Free varieties. Got a hunger on? Our newest item is our in-house "Good to Go" toppings to create your own sumptuous meals after a great day. Its our answer to "Whats for Dinner?" You're Invited, Linger awhile.

250-338-0955
www.grainsbakery.ca



HITEC SCREEN PRINTING

Let us introduce you to the wonders of Vancouver Island and Canadian Natural Resources with our line of Wildlife Art Prints and Souvenir garments, caps, mugs, flags, bags, pewter artwork and water bottles. Stock designs can be customized for your group, event or store with in-house screen printing, digital printing and embroidery services.

479 4th Street, Downtown Courtenay
250-334-3656 www.hitecprint.com



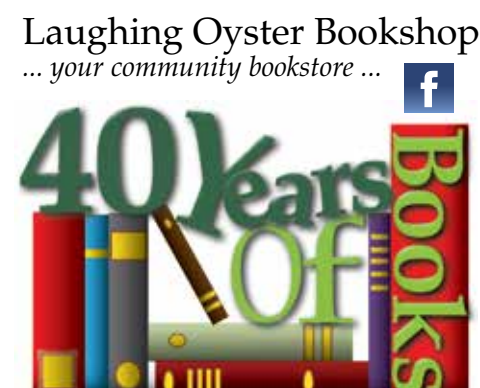
HORNE LAKE CAVES Winner of Destination BC's "Remarkable Experience" Award. Park open daily, year-round. Guided tours and self-exploring options. Check out the 3 hour Wet & Wild Spelunking Adventure; climb an underground waterfall, see ancient fossils and crystals while you scramble through the marbled caverns. Prefer adventures above ground? Check out Canada's only Cave Theatre and hike the new Fossil Trail.

Tel. 250-248-7829 www.hornelake.com



HOT CHOCOLATES Our chocolates are hand-crafted from the highest quality Belgian chocolate combined with fresh ingredients such as roasted nuts, intense fruit and liqueurs. Discover our wide selection of quality artisan chocolates, including handmade truffles, barks, bars, and a wide variety of other confections. Enjoy our signature housemade gelato, sorbetto, fudge or a beverage in our cafe.

250.338.8211 or TF 1.866.468.2462
www.hotchocolates.ca



LAUGHING OYSTER BOOKSHOP is an independent community bookstore located in the heart of Downtown Courtenay. Our staff will help find new books that inspire, inform, entertain or transport you to new worlds. We know the classic favourites and new releases, award winners and reviewers' choices. If your choice is not among the 10,000 titles on our shelves, we will gladly special order.

Tel. 250-334-2511
www.laughingoysterbooks.com



INTHECOMOXVALLEY



Experience Vancouver Island's premiere food destination featuring Chef Ronald St. Pierre and his culinary artisans.

LOCALS RESTAURANT

Chef Ronald St. Pierre CCC and his culinary brigade showcase local food with a dining experience that marries the bounty of the Island with culinary artistry, offered in a casually elegant riverside 1938 heritage home. Locals is consistently rated #1 on Trip Advisor. Lunch and dinner served daily (11am-9pm), weekend brunch (10am-2pm). Reservations recommended: 250-338-6493

Menus: localscomoxvalley.com



MAD CHEF CAFE INSANE FOOD WITH ATTITUDE!!! If you're crazy about great food, the Mad Chef Cafe will make you absolutely insane! Relax, be yourself and enjoy great food with great friends! Voted Comox Valley's #1 best burgers! Also serving pizza featuring the MAD CHEF's thin and deadly homemade pizza crust, seafood, hot soups and cold salads. We have moved to 444 Fifth Street in Downtown Courtenay. Eat in or take away. BOOM!! BOOM!!

250-871-7622 madchefcafe.ca



The Old House Hotel & Spa

is a 79 room West Coast inspired boutique hotel & full service spa. Spacious accommodations with petite or full gourmet kitchens, fireplaces, and soaker tubs. Enjoy pampering treatments at Oh Spa, an outdoor heated pool and hot tub. Centrally located to shopping and dining. 1730 Riverside Lane, Courtenay, BC.

1-888-703-0202
www.oldhousevillage.com



RAINFORREST OUTDOOR LIVING

Rainforest Outdoor Living has factory trained service technicians with years of experience; trust us to fix your hot tub. With great service and Canadian-made products, we are the best place to buy a hot tub! We also carry Spa-Guard & BioGuard water care products, as well as, wood, gas, and pellet stoves from Osburn and Enviro.

250-871-7887
www.rainforestoutdoor.ca



Visit **THE ROMANCE SHOP**, Cliffe Avenue, near 5th St. This upscale Adult Boutique is where lovers and romantics of all ages shop! Our goal is to serve as a resource to promote healthy attitudes about sex and provide quality products and information. Finest quality massage oils, personal lubricants, sexy lingerie and much more. Open late 7 days a week! Book your Romance Home Party today! Stores in Victoria, Duncan & Courtenay.

www.theromanceshop.org



THRIFTY FOODS Smiles every day, excellent service and prices on all your grocery needs, with in-store bakery, meat and seafood service counter, deli, floral department, plus Mount Washington's "Snow Season" 6IXPAKS. Redeem your AirMiles points for cash at the till or earn Dream Miles for travel. Downtown Courtenay and Crown Isle locations to serve you! www.thriftyfoods.com



WHITE WAVE MEDICAL AESTHETICS

is located in downtown Comox, providing a wide variety of physician led cosmetic and anti-aging services in an elegant waterfront clinic. Vancouver Island stockist of world renowned Environ® Skincare. Physician services include Environ® Cool Peels, Vitamin Infusion Facials, Medical Needling, Botox Cosmetic® and Juvederm® fillers.

250-941-3345
whitewavemedical.com



The White Whale Restaurant and Oyster Bar is a warm and friendly gathering place where everyone is welcome to enjoy our freshly prepared, locally sourced food. Our casual atmosphere sets the stage for a great dining experience. We have 13 rotating local craft beer taps and just added a new Sushi Bar. Buck-a-Shuck Oysters & Happy Hour daily from 4pm makes us the perfect après ski destination! Flash your ski pass for our Daily Apres special!

250-338-1468 whitewhalecourtenay.ca



Enjoy authentic Greek cuisine at **YIAMAS GREEK TAVERNA** in downtown Courtenay at 275 8th Street. Open for lunch or dinner (7 days a week) Yiamas has all the traditional favourites including lamb souvlaki, fire-grilled rack of ribs, spanakopita, moussaka, keftedes, humous and baklava!

250-871-8552
www.yiamastaverna.ca



RICK GIBSON "I know the Comox Valley Real Estate market as well as I know Mount Washington's." If you are considering buying or selling a home in the Comox Valley I have the experience you need to help you with your Real Estate needs. "I am never to busy to help you."

Rick Gibson Personal Real Estate Corporation
Royal LePage in the Comox Valley
Direct: 250-338-1723
rick@rickgibson.ca
www.rickgibson.ca



Make It Snow! Make It Snow! Make It Snow!



Pacific Group Resorts installed snow making equipment in the Beginner area to better understand snowmaking techniques for Mount Washington's west coast climate. Future plans include adding similar equipment across the resort.

Photo courtesy Pacific Group Resorts Inc.

New Ownership

continued from page 1.

"Over the past 25 years, George Stuart and his ownership group have invested a tremendous amount of money and energy into Mount Washington," said Gibson. "We are indebted to them for what they have helped us build here.

"Now it's their time to retire from the ski business, and we're pretty pleased with the group they've chosen to sell to."

The previous ownership group will retain two development parcels, which were not disclosed. Stuart and other stakeholders have invested \$60 million in the Resort since 1989.

Investments include upgrading the main lodge to adding the Bradley Centre, Raven Lodge, construction of the Sunrise Quad chairlift, replacement of all the original chairlifts and expansion of terrain into the Outback.

They saw accommodations expand from the original Alpine Village in 1979 to numerous condo units, private chalets and homes built in new subdivisions.

A state-of-the-art sewage treatment centre was constructed several years ago to handle present and future growth at the Resort.

"We've been working with George Stuart and Darryl Eddy for a couple of years now on the transition of the resort to new ownership," said Pacific Group Resort's President of Resort Investments, Mark Fischer.

"It finally worked out that this was the right time, and we are very excited to have the opportunity to add Mount Washington to our portfolio.

"We are very happy to be working with Peter (Gibson) and his management group. They are industry pros and we're proud to have them join our team."

Snowmaking

is going to be a large part of the new ownership's focus, says Don Sharpe, Mount Washington Alpine Resort's Director of Business Operations.

Snowmaking has been at the forefront of skiers' and Resort Managers' attention for the past two seasons, which have been adversely affected by weather. Pacific Group Resorts Inc. recognizes this and is considered a snowmaking industry leader in the United States.

"There's an extensive, multi-year plan for snowmaking," said Mount Washington Resort President and General Manager Peter Gibson.

The initial phase will see several test snowguns installed, most likely in the beginners' area (a location had not been announced by the time The Marmot went to press).

"Snowmaking does two things," says Sharpe. "It gives certainty you can open on time. The second thing is you can fill in spots where you need to top up and give you product on a more consistent basis."

Mount Washington has tested all sorts of methods to collect snow over the years, from snow fences to adding sections in the trees for storing it.

"This will allow us to put snow in the proper places; it gives us some certainty as we move into the future."

Manufactured snow is made from water mixed with compressed air, hence the "snow gun" moniker.

Pacific Group's Wintergreen Resort, located in central Virginia, boasts a state-of-the-art computerized snowmaking system that can cover 100 per cent of its terrain, using 400 snow guns and 45 weather stations.

One snowmaker can control all the snowguns in a computerized system using

DID YOU KNOW: Wintergreen Resort, one of four resorts Pacific Group Resorts Inc. owns, has a snowmaking system that could cover a football field with more than 50 feet of snow in 24 hours.

one computer terminal.

Pacific Group's other two Resorts, Ragged Mountain (in New Hampshire) and Wisp (in Maryland), boast systems that cover 85 per cent and 90 per cent of their skiable terrain, respectively.

•••

The sale announcement generated excitement at the Resort and in the Comox Valley.

"This announcement of the sale of Mount Washington to Pacific Group Resorts of Park City, Utah is great news for skiers, boarders and the multitude of businesses on the island that feel the financial impact of the mountain's daily operations," Discover Comox Valley posted on their website.

They predicted service will only improve at Mount Washington Alpine Resort, citing Pacific Group's record with its other three resorts.

Tom and Heather Presnail, caretakers at Bear Lodge who have also owned a condo at Deer Lodge for eight years, are looking forward to seeing what Pacific Group has planned for Mount Washington.

"We're looking forward to the new ownership being able to build more infrastructure on the mountain, and put more in for summertime," Tom Presnail said.

Visitors won't notice an appreciable difference at Mount Washington this winter season, Sharpe said, as Pacific Group will spend the season getting to know the people who are running Mount Washington.

The management team will remain in place at the Resort and aside from some test snow guns, "the operation will stay status quo. It's going to be a bit of a transition period.

"It's going to take some time for everyone to get used to being together and figuring out what they want to do together. They're very much behind the scenes; they manage three other Resorts and they trust their Management Teams to run the businesses."

Pacific Group will spend the winter taking a closer look at operations and developing a plan for the future, he said.

As far as expansion, Mount Washington already has a good mix of terrain and options for skiers and snowboarders of all skill levels. "I don't see it being a big thing right now. Services I see as being big," Sharpe said.

Although adding a commercial core to Mount Washington has been discussed for more than two decades, it isn't part of the conversation with Pacific Group at the moment.

Pacific Group's other three Resorts have

full summer programs and Sharpe expects developing a stronger summer season will be no different for Mount Washington.

"Summertime will be a big part of our growth as we move into the future," Sharpe said.

"Most resorts have recognized that summertime is something that is a big part of business."



The Presnails

continued from page 2

(Heather also worked part time with Slopeside Accommodations in 2014-15, but will concentrate solely on Bear Lodge this year.)

What is your favourite outdoor winter activity?

Tom... Skiing or snowshoeing. I'm desperate to get back into Nordic cross-country. Heather was always into doing that...four or five years ago we went cross-country skiing and I loved it.

Heather... We are only fair-weather skiers.

How about summertime?

Tom... More like hiking. There's Strathcona Provincial Park here, so there's lots to do. We like to go to Lake Helen McKenzie.

Heather... We've also been exploring the mountain itself. We're looking at a million-dollar view. We love it. We walk through the Alpine Village sometimes and see people packing their cars up and think it's great that we don't have to.

Now that Mount Washington Alpine Resort has been sold, what are you looking forward to under new ownership?

Heather... Development on the mountain.

Tom... We're looking forward to the new ownership being able to build more infrastructure on the mountain, and put more in for summertime. The skiing will always be here, despite the winter we had last year. We're so delighted the mountain has been sold to someone willing to invest, particularly in summer.



Don McRae, MLA
Comox Valley

Constituency Office:
 437 5th Street, Courtenay, BC V9N 1J7
 Tel: 250-703-2422
 Fax: 250-703-2425
 Email: don.mcrae.mla@leg.bc.ca
 www.donmmcraemla.bc.ca




Brian Scott
GALLERY

Open Daily 1pm - 5pm
 and by appointment.

Tel: (250) 337-1941

8269 North Island Highway, Black Creek, B.C.
 Across the street from the Black Creek Store
 www.brianscottfineart.com



On or off the cross country trails snowshoeing in Strathcona Provincial Park is growing in popularity.

Photo: Tim Penny

The Sharpe Family

continued from page 5

Darcy was a member of the Canadian Snowboard Team for Slopestyle and Big Air.

He won the Big Air World Cup last year in Quebec, a discipline that has now been added to the Winter Olympics.

Darcy also came second in the World Championships in Slopestyle in Big Air.

He also spent time this summer training in New Zealand before flying to Australia in August to compete in an event called Mile High, which he won.

“He’s basically going to be in and out of Asia four times this winter: Beijing, Japan and Seoul, and into Europe a couple of times,” says Don.

Darcy was also featured in three Mark McMorris movies filmed last year and debuted in the fall: In Motion, Shredbots and Peace Park.

Chantal trekking on Spain’s Camino de Santiago Pilgrimage Route.



“Both kids (Cassie and Darcy) are hoping to get X Games invitations this winter. Who knows what’s going to happen in 2018, but it would be amazing if both kids made it to the Olympics in South Korea.”

Last year Chantal walked the Camino de Santiago in Spain by herself, completing her route in 28 days, walking 30 - 45 kilometres per day. “It’s a pilgrimage. She really enjoyed it,” says Don.

To prepare for her trip she walked hundreds of kilometres around the Comox Valley. “She loves to walk; that’s her time and she gets in her zone.”

Don spent part of his summer as second in command of Team BC at the Western Canada Summer Games in Fort McMurray, Alberta, in August. “They were some very, very long days,” he said.

“It was very rewarding. The team we put together took care of the people and athletes. It was a great experience, one I will look back on with fondness.”

Being in charge of a summer event dovetailed nicely with his winter-focused job, and it’s something he would like to again someday.

As one can see, the Sharpes are a busy family. “At one point last winter our family was in four different countries: Austria, Beijing, Denver, Colorado, Los Angeles, Calif. and Toronto, Ont.,” Don said. However, that doesn’t prevent them from being a tightknit clan.

“Every chance we get where the kids will let us go to their competitions we go,” he said. They watched Cassie compete at a World Cup in Calgary where she podiumed. Don drove Darcy to Wyoming while the teen was filming Peace Park and spent four days on set. “We love to watch them live.”

When Chantal was in Spain hiking the Camino, Don was able to join her for the final leg of her walk.

And Doug and Darcy were connected through their passion for snowsports when Darcy was invited to a competition in China in early December. He was to compete using a jump that Doug built.



Snowshoeing *continued from page 3*

“Snowshoeing is an accessible sport”, he says. “Equipment has improved over the years and is more widely available. This is a good thing, because proper equipment is essential to a good trip,” Penney added.

“It’s important to go out well prepared and take clothing in layers that you can take off and put back on again. I always take a GPS with us, and spare batteries, because you never know when the weather is going to change. It’s good to have a trail that is recording or that shows you the way back. If you’re heading into the backcountry, a spot locator beacon can literally be a lifesaver.”

Snowshoe construction has changed immensely since the days of tying sinew around a branch to walk on top of snow. Many rentals are tubular snowshoes and they will get you from point A to point B. Better snowshoes have a grip edge all around the perimeter. Hiking poles with snow tips are ideal to help you keep your balance.

Depending on where you go looking for terrain, you can snowshoe well into spring. “I hike year-round but we often do snowshoeing from November to May. We’re out on snowshoes for seven months of the year as opposed to five months’ hiking,” says Penney.

“I spend more time doing snowshoeing trips than hiking.”

And sometimes you just can’t beat the weather. “Dozens of times you go out and drive up the ski hill and break through the clouds into brilliant sunshine. It’s a fabulous way of getting brilliant, sunny days in the winter. You get all your vitamin D.”

Mount Washington Alpine Resort boasts 16 kilometres of snowshoeing trails in alpine meadows and old growth forests, all starting from Raven Lodge. Beginners can book guided tours and rent snowshoes, while experienced snowshoers can explore on their own. The popular Snowshoe Fondue pairs a twilight snowshoeing event with a three-course fondue at Raven Lodge.

For more information about snowshoeing at Mount Washington, visit their website at www.mountwashington.ca and follow the links for winter activities.

For more information on the Comox District Mountaineering Club, visit their website at www.comoxhiking.com or e-mail cdmc_info@comoxhiking.com.

NEWS, ACCOMMODATIONS & REAL ESTATE • WINTER-SPRING 2015/16

The MOUNT WASHINGTON Marmot



Published for your convenience by Rick Gibson of Royal LePage in the Comox Valley.

If you are looking for more information, wish to advertise, or want to submit information in future issues please refer to these contacts:

INFORMATION:
 rick@themarmot.ca

EDITORIAL: Susan Quinn

AD SALES:
 info@haversdesign.com

DESIGN/PRODUCTION:
 www.HaversDesign.com



Brad Anholt couldn't believe his eyes! Was that really a Vancouver Island marmot sitting on the beach? As a biologist, and Director of the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre on the west coast of Vancouver Island, Brad should know a V. I. marmot when he sees one - but what was it doing there?



Alan! Alan! Alan... is that Alan!

Beach bumming Vancouver Island Marmot stumps the Professors.

He knew the marmot wasn't where it should be, it being an alpine species and all, and also how rare and endangered they are, and that had Brad worried.

"I'm pretty sure we've got a Vancouver Island marmot here", he reported to the Marmot Recovery Foundation. "There aren't any free running dogs here, but there are plenty in town," he warned.

When the Executive Director of the Foundation, Viki Jackson, responded she was skeptical. "On a beach you say? That doesn't sound like one of our marmots. Perhaps it's a stowaway yellow-bellied marmot from the Interior that was hidden in someone's boat. It's happened before," she said.

"A hitch-hiking yellow-bellied marmot is only slightly less believable than a Vancouver Island marmot on a beach vacation," laughed Brad as he emailed Viki a photo that confirmed beyond a doubt that it was one of our marmots.

"How in the heck did it end up there?" Viki puzzled. "I'll notify the marmot crew right away. Can you please send GPS coordinates if you have them?"

As chance would have it, Brad had two visiting professors, John Reynolds (SFU) and Jason Fisher (U of Vic), and their students visiting the marine centre that day. Professor Reynolds had just mentioned V. I. marmots in his Terrestrial

and Freshwater Conservation course a few days earlier. Little did he know he was about to come face to face with one, on a beach no less! What were the odds of that?

When the Marmot Field Coordinator, Cheyney Jackson, arrived on the scene, **Alan (as he'd been named by the students) already had his own Twitter feed**, and the Twitter-sphere was exploding with news of his discovery!

"Left my alpine meadow for a summer by the sea."

"I'll just keep my head down and no way I'm going near that trap."

"Oops! So long, Bamfield! Off to find love...!"

"Hi fans! They put me up at a luxury hotel at Mount Washington last night. Best marmot scientists EVER!"

"Dude, Bamfield was a blast, but with a wild population of 300, I've gotta do my bit with the ladies."

ADOPT A MARMOT!

When you join the **Adopt-a-Marmot Club**, you help protect the endangered Vancouver Island marmot every day of the year. Pre-arranged monthly gifts are a convenient way to help save this beautiful and special creature from extinction. Your gift supports the field research and captive-breeding that's so critical to marmot survival. For instance, your contribution will help fund ear-tagging of wild marmots, which is the only way in which we can identify and track individual marmots and the success of recovery efforts in future years.

When you Adopt-a-Marmot you'll receive:

- Your personalized Marmot Adoption Certificate
- Your full-color poster of a Vancouver Island Marmot
- Your official recovery project newsletter (The Marmoteer)
- Your special year-end report about individual marmots

For more info go to www.marmots.org/adopt.htm



HELP SAVE THE VANCOUVER ISLAND MARMOT!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Prov _____

Country _____ Postal Code _____

email: _____

I'd like to help our Marmots with a tax-creditable donation. Please accept my gift of:

\$25 \$50 \$100 other

Sign me up! I want to join the Adoption Club:

\$120 for one year, OR per month: \$10 \$15 \$20 \$25

I authorize the Marmot Recovery Foundation to deduct the above amount from my chequing account monthly. (I have enclosed a blank cheque marked VOID for processing purposes.)

Signature _____

YOUR GUARANTEE: You can change or cancel your pledge at any time.

METHOD OF PAYMENT

Cheque payable to: Marmot Recovery Foundation

Visa Mastercard

Card # _____ Expiry Date _____

Signature _____

Marmot Recovery Foundation www.marmots.org

Box 2332, Station A, Nanaimo, B.C., Canada V9R 6X6 Fax: 250-753-8070

Registered Charity #889980629 RR0001





After concerted efforts, Alan was safely captured and taken to the Tony Barrett Mount Washington Marmot Recovery Centre. It turns out that Alan is a two year-old wild-born male that took a wrong turn after dispersing from his mountain colony approximately 60km away from the beach. It can be challenging for dispersing marmots to get their bearings if the population density at surrounding colonies is relatively low, because they are unlikely to hear, or see, other marmots to help them find new colony sites.

Alan was in good shape, definitely skinny, but nothing a good supply of alpine lupines wouldn't fix. After a clean bill of health, he was released at a colony to gain some weight and find a potential female to interest him in staying put.

The marmot crew kept an eye on Alan, and they later confirmed that, while Alan did go into hibernation on the mountain that he was released on, he had continued with his explorations throughout the active season, before he eventually settled into a hibernaculum about 1km from where he was released.

Alan's release site was selected because there was a known solitary tagged female there named LeAnn. But an older male had shown up from a nearby colony and beaten Alan to the punch, and was later found hibernating with the sweet LeAnn. This explains why Alan didn't stick around!

There are no telemetered marmots hibernating with Alan, but we believe that if he was unable to find an available female on that mountain, he most likely would have left. Because he stayed, we suspect that he may have found an untelemetered female that we didn't know about.

We'll have to wait until next spring to find out. At the very least, Alan has put his wanderlust behind him for the time being, and settled down in appropriate habitat for his long winter's nap.

To see the video that inspired the students to choose the name Alan, go to YouTube and search: "Funny Talking Animals - Walk on the Wild Side Preview - BBC One".

If you would like to help to recover our endangered Canadian marmot visit www.marmots.org and join the Adopt-a-Marmot Club.

Left to right, Shelby Gill, Kira Mclachlin, Dr. John Reynolds, Jonathan Van Elslander and Evan Perdue wish Alan good luck, as he makes his way back to his alpine home.

Photo:
Cheyney
Jackson



The Vancouver Island Marmot

(*Marmota vancouverensis*) is one of the largest members of the squirrel family (about the size of a large house cat). Other members of the Sciuridae family include chipmunks, squirrels and woodchucks.

Vancouver Island marmots are easy to recognize by their rich chocolate brown fur with contrasting white patches on their nose, chin, forehead and chest.

HABITAT Vancouver Island marmots live neither in the forest nor on the rocky mountaintops. They live in small patches of south and west-facing sub-alpine and alpine meadows (usually above 1000 meters), where occasional winter avalanches and snow creep prevent trees from taking root. These meadows are the first to become clear of snow and produce the early grasses and sedges the marmots rely upon when they emerge from hibernation.

There they find the forage they need, deep soil for digging (hibernation burrows need to be deep enough to reach below the frost line) and large boulders to provide convenient look-out spots to watch for predators. Boulders also help marmots regulate their internal body temperature; you will often see them stretched out on them in the early mornings and evenings, and are a predictable and necessary feature of marmot habitat.

Underground burrows provide shelter from the elements and protection from predators. Typically 30-45 cms across, burrows range in size and purpose. Small, simple burrows may be used for a quick escape from a predator and larger more complex burrows are used for hibernation and birthing and may have numerous passages and exits. One excavated hibernation burrow measured five meters in length with the sleeping chamber located one meter underground.



Photo: Jared Hobbs



rickgibson.ca
personal real estate corporation

ROYAL LEPAGE 250-338-1723
realestate@rickgibson.ca
In the Comox Valley



MOUNT WASHINGTON

MileHigh Properties FOR SALE

INFORMATION CURRENT AS OF DECEMBER 1, 2015



Naturally Lit Corner Home!

A few minutes walk from the Alpine Lodge you will find this hidden treasure. On two levels plus storage in a basement this 3 bedroom townhome is well worth a look. This corner unit offers plenty of natural light plus the exposure from the two outside decks facing Southwest, letting in ample sunshine and sunsets. **\$114,900**



Top of the World!

Two bedroom corner suite in the heart of Mount Washington Alpine Village. Views into Strathcona Park and beyond. Located on the south corner so bright and sunny. Great balcony area and low monthly fees. Easy access to slopes and parking. **\$129,900**



Top Floor Corner Suite!

Top floor corner suite located in the heart of the village. Easy access to the lifts. Fee includes all exterior maintenance and taxes. Freehold suite. Corner suite which means quiet and views. A Great Deal! **\$129,900**

Rick Gibson

Serving the Mount Washington Real Estate market since 1989.

250-334-3124 (24 hrs)

Direct: 250-338-1723

rick@rickgibson.ca

www.rickgibson.ca

LOTS FOR SALE!
Building Sites Available.



640 Arrowsmith Ridge	\$94,999
690 Arrowsmith Ridge	\$62,500
700 Arrowsmith Ridge	\$94,500
849 Cruikshank Ridge.....	\$89,000
869 Cruikshank Ridge.....	\$58,500
879 Cruikshank Ridge.....	\$99,900
919 Cruikshank Ridge.....	\$117,900
930 Cruikshank Ridge.....	\$49,900



Looking for a Mount Washington Building Site?
Ask About Freehold Ownership!

Foundation & Plans Included!

One of the few remaining chalet lots in the Alpine Village. Price includes plan for an impressive chalet and the completed foundation. Spectacular location with easy access to parking and ski in and out access. **\$199,900**

Prime Location Duplex Lot!

The only duplex lot available on Mount Washington in the Alpine Village! Prime location and still owned by its original owners this jewel is waiting for you. Many opportunities as you could build both, sell one and keep the other side. **\$325,000**

IvesBurger
BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

Your legal experts offering extensive experience with Mount Washington property transfers for over 30 years.

- Real Estate & Property Development
- Corporate Law
- Commercial Law
- Civil Litigation
- Wills & Estates
- Divorce & Family Law
- ICBC & Personal Injury

Paul R. Ives • Mark Burger • Hans H. Urdahl • Katherine Timmouth

250-334-2416
www.ivesburgerlaw.com
info@ivesburgerlaw.com • Fax: 250-334-3198

505-5th Street, Courtenay, BC (Corner of 5th & Fitzgerald)

"I know the Comox Valley Real Estate market as well as I know Mount Washington's."

If you are considering buying or selling a home in the Comox Valley I have the experience you need to help you with your Real Estate needs.

"I am never to busy to help you."

rickgibson.ca
personal real estate corporation

ROYAL LEPAGE 250-338-1723
realestate@rickgibson.ca
In the Comox Valley

Selling Real Estate from
Sea Level to Ski Level since 1989.

BUYING a Condo or Chalet on MOUNT WASHINGTON?

Providing Peace of Mind for Resort Owners for over 20 Years.

ISLAND BUILDING INSPECTIONS

- Unbiased Analysis
- Client participation encouraged
- Immediate Reports
- Strata Building Reviews
- Maintenance and Repair Recommendations
- Prompt Service and Flexible Hours
- WETT Certified

BCL#1779

1-800-667-0150 or 250-339-5399

www.islandbuildinginspections.com



BEAR LODGE

at Mount Washington

Features Include:

- Slopeside Location
- Fully Furnished, 6 appliances
- Rainscreen Technology
- Live-in Caretaker
- Underbuilding Parking
- Common Hot Tub
- 1, 2 & 3 Bedroom, some w/Lock-offs

110	2 Bdrm 965 Sq Ft Corner	\$224,900
212	3 Bdrm 1013 Sq Ft Corner FREEHOLD	\$319,900
304	2 Bdrm 900 Sq Ft Lockoff FREEHOLD	\$324,900
305	3 Bdrm 1013 Sq Ft Corner Slopeside FREEHOLD	\$234,900
403	3 Bdrm 1013 Sq. Ft. Corner Top Floor FREEHOLD	\$299,900
411	3 Bdrm 1013 Sq. Ft. Corner Top Floor FREEHOLD	\$274,900



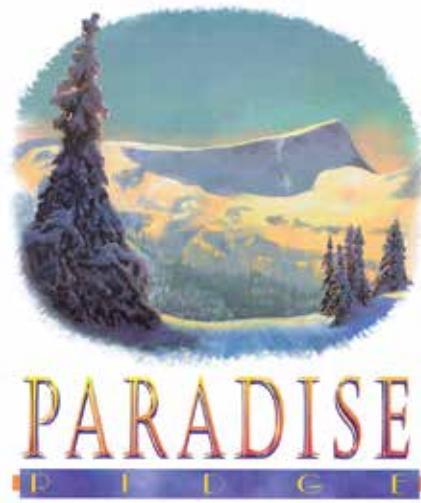
DEER LODGE

AT M T. WASHINGTON

Features Include:

- Slopeside Location • Hot Tub
- Fully Furnished • Caretaker
- Front Desk Service

103	3 Bedroom, deluxe suite FREEHOLD	\$289,900
312	3 Bedroom, facing Strathcona Park	\$249,900
403	3 Bedroom Penthouse Corner FREEHOLD	\$424,900



Features Include:

- Swimming Pool
- Sauna and Hot Tub
- Underground Parking
- Convenient Location to Amenities
- Mountain / Strathcona Park Views

109	4 Bedroom 1299 Sq Ft Corner Park View FREEHOLD	\$292,500
111	3 Bedroom facing Strathcona Park FREEHOLD	\$249,900
403	3 Bedroom Facing ski runs and Strathcona Park	\$164,900



Ptarmigan Ridge



Features Include:

- Furnished Apartments
- Drive To Access
- Propane Fireplaces
- Self-contained Kitchens
- Ski Storage Lockers off Lobby
- Breathtaking Mountain Views
- Convenient Location to Ski Lifts and Strathcona Provincial Park

ONE BEDROOM APARTMENTS

209	One bdrm, facing ski runs	\$94,900
301	Top floor Corner Unit Facing ski runs	\$113,500
305	Top floor, facing ski runs	\$104,900
309	Top floor, facing ski runs	\$99,900
312	Corner unit FREEHOLD Facing Strathcona Park	\$149,900



Features Include:

- Elevator Access
- Above and Underground Parking
- Propane Fireplaces • Furnished units
- Spectacular Views of Strath. Park and runs
- Ski Storage Room off the Lobby with separate lockers for renters

110	3 Bedroom facing Strathcona Park	\$189,900
111	3 Bedroom slopeside view FREEHOLD	\$220,000
202	3 Bedroom facing ski runs and park FREEHOLD WOW View!	\$239,900
216	2 Bedroom facing Strathcona Park FREEHOLD	\$179,900
308	3 Bedroom, facing ski runs FREEHOLD	\$239,900



Two Bedroom Freehold Condo

This two bedroom mountain home is centrally located in Mount Washington's Alpine Village. With two decks you get to view much of the area around the village. Converted to Freehold, this suite has loads of storage, 2 bathrooms, sauna and much much more. With a 5 minute stroll to the Alpine Lodge and virtually ski in and out, this is a location second to none. **\$127,500**



Top Floor Mountain Views!

The suite has a comfortable layout with 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom and two extra built in bunks. There is a sunken living room with wood burning fireplace, a dining area, good sized kitchen, a laundry room and a large entrance. There is a deck off this top floor corner unit overlooking the mountains in Strathcona Park and sunrise and sunsets. Monthly fees include taxes, cable, internet, insurance, water and sewer. Great value and ambience in this family sized condo! **\$124,900**



Skier Friendly Floor Plan!

3 level townhome all decked out and ready to sell. Located 200 feet from parking with easy ski out access to the slopes. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths & sauna. Very private location with the forest as your backdrop. Thoughtful skier, thought-out floor plan. Property comes complete with most furnishings. **\$149,900**



Corner Unit Close To Day Lodge!

Townhouse style condo located very close to the Day Lodge. Corner unit, sunny, nicely furnished and clean. Balcony runs along 2 upstairs bedrooms and provides mountain views. Ski in and out from the door! Sunset views and easy access. **\$174,900**



INFORMATION CURRENT AS OF DECEMBER 1, 2015

rickgibson.ca
personal real estate corporation
ROYAL LePAGE 250-338-1723
realestate@rickgibson.ca
In the Comox Valley



MOUNT WASHINGTON PROPERTIES FOR SALE

CHALETS • CONDOMINIUMS • TOWNHOUSES • BUILDING LOTS



Mountainside at Mount Washington

Drive in ski out one bedroom condo. Located almost slope side with easy access to ski lifts in winter and Strathcona Park in summer, Mountainside Lodge offers under building parking, hot tub and sauna. This is a great suite at an even greater price! **\$134,900**



Excellent Location!

Cozy chalet close to parking and ski lifts. Ski in and out from this energy efficient chalet and then curl up by the woodstove and enjoy the ambience. Large loft area and basement storage. **\$299,900**



Sunset & Mountain Views

Spacious, well kept townhome within a few minutes stroll of the alpine lodge. Three bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and sauna. The inside is well cared for with a huge space in the lower floor for sleeping or ????. Outside patio to take in the sunsets and mountain views. Ski in and out access to the slopes. Fantastic location and great value **\$184,900**



Welcome to our Cabin!

The perfect smaller mountain home that is not set up to sleep 30! Very open bright design that is easy access to skiing in winter and the park in summer. Southern exposure off either of the two sun drenched decks. Vaulted ceilings and well thought out floor plan. A bathroom on each level, sauna in basement, loads of storage - just the perfect family retreat. And it is Freehold! **\$324,900**



Pride of Ownership!

Freehold 3 bedroom townhome with views of the ski runs and also into Strathcona Park. Bright corner suite with lots of natural light. Lots of storage. 2 Bathrooms and sauna. Easy access to parking and ski out to lifts. Basement area could be further developed. **Freehold \$199,900**



Chairlift Friendly

Located at the loading station of the Hawk chairlift is this luxury 3 bedroom townhome with a double garage. The finishing is exquisite with a view of the ski runs. Loads of storage and plenty of space. Parkview Place offers a great location with easy access to the Alpine and Nordic skiing. Close to Strathcona Park.

Three Bedroom **\$349,900**
Four Bedroom **\$429,900**

For over 25 years Rick Gibson has sold close to 90% of all real estate on Mount Washington. That's because he knows the market better than anyone else.

rickgibson.ca
personal real estate corporation

ROYAL LePAGE 250-338-1723
realestate@rickgibson.ca
In the Comox Valley



A Rare Opportunity!

Rarely do suites in Creekside House hit the open market. Immaculately maintained 3 bedroom suite available. Quality plus building built by the same builder of Raven Lodge. Creekside is located immediately adjacent to the loading area of the Hawk Chairlift, so is about as ski in and out friendly as you can get. Easy access to Nordic and Strathcona Park.

301 Top Floor, 3 bedroom **\$339,900**
Sunny slopeside **FREEHOLD**
306 Top Floor, 3 bedroom **\$289,900**
Strathcona Park view



Two for the price of one!

Located in the Alpine Village a few minutes stroll from parking and easy access to the slopes. The upper suite offers 3 bedrooms and sleeps 11 while the lower suite sleeps 7. Or open the adjoining door and share the whole space for your friends and family! This is a semi detached chalet and the location is very quiet. Keep one suite for yourself and rent the other out? Basement area also available for storage. **\$349,900**

INFORMATION CURRENT AS OF DECEMBER 1, 2015

rickgibson.ca
personal real estate corporation
ROYAL LePAGE 250-338-1723
realestate@rickgibson.ca
In the Comox Valley



RickGibson.ca Rick Gibson, Royal LePage in the Comox Valley Ph: 250-334-3124 (24 hrs) Direct: 250-338-1723



www.rickgibson.ca

For all of your Real Estate needs on Mount Washington and in the Comox Valley.



The Ultimate Ski Chalet!

Your own log cabin perched high on a ridge with incredible views of Strathcona Park. The mountain home is separated into a lower 2 bedroom suite and the main upper 3 bedroom suite. The living area has a cathedral ceiling and an open wood burning fireplace. Many special features such as stained glass, hand carved mantel and very cozy touches. This has been a very popular repeat rental business. **\$399,000**



Perched on a Knoll!

This Alpine Village chalet is perfectly set up for a large family or those wanting a great rental property. Easy access to parking, ski in and out. Three distinct living areas; a lower 2 bedroom sunny owner's suite, main floor 5 bedroom suite with huge entertainment friendly kitchen and living area and an upper bachelor suite. Meticulously maintained with new hardiplank siding on the exterior. Loads of storage, well thought out design. Wood fireplace in the upper main suite and electric fireplace in the owners suite. **\$674,900**



Three Decks!

Looking for something different? Your front door opens onto Strathcona Park while your back door opens onto Hawk chairlift. 3 bedrooms plus lofts with above average finishing including maple flooring, tile in bathrooms, fir doors, wood blinds and more. Sauna and roughed-in for hot tub. Loads of storage and 3 decks! Skylights, vaulted ceilings in main area and 10 ft ceilings down. Wow! **\$424,900**



Mountain Log Home

Located at the foot of Fosters Place slopeside you will discover this mountain log home. Situated on the lot to take in western sunset views into Strathcona Park from the three decks, two with hot tubs. The main suite has 4 bedrooms and entertainment styled kitchen and living areas. Down below is a spacious one bedroom suite. **\$788,888**



Perched for Sunset Views!

A GORGEOUS family home in the Alpine Village. FREEHOLD and 18 years old, this spectacular property is perched to take in the sunset views of Strathcona Park, yet virtually ski in and out and close to parking. 14 foot ceilings, open plans, 2 separate owner suites plus self-contained suite in the basement. Sauna, loads of storage and more. Beautiful west coast scenery with income opportunity. Meticulously maintained by its original owners. **\$499,900**



2700 Sq. Ft. of Luxury!

Never before has a home of this style and quality been available on the market. Over 2,700 square feet with 6 bedrooms and 4 bathrooms. No expense has been spared from the silestone quartz kitchen, hardwood floors, solid cedar beams, log styled exterior to the open hearth style gas fireplace. All rooms are open and spacious. Fosters Place is Mount Washington's only drive-in, ski-out location. **\$799,900**



Nestled in the Trees!

"Doug's Chalet" mountain home is lovingly maintained by the original family that built it. The home is surrounded by trees yet you can ski in and out to the lifts. Main area includes a towering floor to ceiling brick fireplace and vaulted ceilings. A cozy kitchen complements the living area. Sleeps 6 comfortably. A sauna and jetted tubs round out the upper suite. Spacious downstairs self-contained two bedroom suite. There is an area where a hot tub could be installed. **\$549,900**



On Arrowsmith Ridge!

Thought out design with 6 bedrooms. Two of the bedrooms have their own ensuites while the others are designed as family suites. Each family suite has two bedrooms and a shared bathroom. Open living area with grand gourmet kitchen and huge cathedral ceilings. Main floor offers a large deck with BBQ. Sauna, loads of storage, two garages, heated drive way, huge laundry area and more. If you have been looking for the ideal property for a larger family, or for joint family ownership, this is the one! **\$1,050,000**

INFORMATION CURRENT AS OF DECEMBER 1, 2015



Coastline

Broadcasting

Mt Washington's Cable TV and Internet Provider



**More channels,
more choice.**



**Faster speeds,
better browsing.**



**Phone service
coming soon.**

For Orders, Support, or more information visit www.coastlinebroadcasting.com or phone 1-844-226-5463

THERE'S NO BETTER TIME THAN NOW...

RICK GIBSON
MOUNT WASHINGTON
& COMOX VALLEY REAL ESTATE

For more than 25 years Rick Gibson has sold close to 90% of all Real Estate on Mount Washington. That's because he knows the market better than anyone else.



rickgibson.ca
personal real estate corporation

ROYAL LEPAGE 250-338-1723
realestate@rickgibson.ca
In the Comox Valley

