



Background Photo: Rick Gibson Inset photo courtesy of Mount Washington Alpine Resort

Mount Washington Focuses on Programs, Convenience and Savings this Winter.

"We've been looking at refining some of our programs and how easily we can get people up here," says Resort Public Relations Director Brent Curtin.

One of the most exciting programs, spearheaded by Snow School Director Mike Manara, is the Rookie Year. The Resort hopes the new program will become the new industry standard for

getting kids out on the snow.

Rookie Year is for kids who have never skied or snowboarded before.

The simplicity of Rookie Year speaks for itself: Brand new skiers and boarders receive a season pass - providing unlimited time on snow - unlimited ski or snowboard rentals and unlimited group lessons in Mountain Kids, all sea-



son long, for one price. The Rookie Year passes cost \$199 for kids aged four and five, and \$399 for kids aged six to 12 years.

"We're trying to offer active parents a viable economic option to get their kids out on the snow," Curtin said.

"With this exciting new program, Mount Washington Alpine Resort is determined to turn the younger generation back onto skiing and snowboarding, and help families discover the world of snow."

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Photos courtesy Neil Havers



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SNOWSHOEING

Renaissance on Mount Washington



Snowshoeing began as a method of winter transportation among Canada's Aboriginal Peoples. It wasn't until 1843 when a group of a dozen Montreal businessmen got together to hike through the wilderness on snowshoes as a form of recreation.

More than 150 years later, snowshoeing is enjoying a Renaissance as people have discovered its health benefits and ease in using the equipment.

Nearly 6,000 people strap on the snowshoes and walk the marked trails at Mount Washington Alpine Resort every year. The sport is becoming so popular that Nordic Supervisor Marc Lyster is repeatedly increasing his fleet of rental snowshoes.

Photo courtesy Mount Washington Alpine Resort

"The attraction with snowshoeing is that everyone can do it," Lyster said. "It's just like walking."

Equipment is simple as well: all you need is a good pair of hiking boots and gaiters or winter boots, warm clothing and snowshoes.

Whereas early snowshoes were made of white ash, tied with rawhide latticework and weighing about four pounds each, technology has lightened and streamlined the snow footwear.

Mount Washington offers a Discover Snowshoeing program, and their seven marked trails cover a variety of skill levels and lengths.

The Resort sees a lot of families and teenagers who come up to snowshoe, and

photography enthusiasts like the sport because it gives them a more stable platform for taking photos as well as access into less-travelled scenic areas.

The marked trails take snowshoers in loops around Raven Lodge, all following different coloured poles. The longest trail is approximately seven kilometres, routing through Great Big View to Finger Glades.

The Old Cabin route, about two kilometres, is outfitted with reflectors on the poles so one can go out with a headlamp and do a nighttime hike.

Lyster said Resort staff spends a lot of time setting up the trail system, which in turn attracts more people to the sport. The winter snowshoe trails basically follow the summer hiking trails.

Still, he urges snowshoers to exercise caution and come prepared. None of the marked trails go as far as Lake Helen McKenzie, although there are numerous unmarked trails throughout the park, Lyster said.

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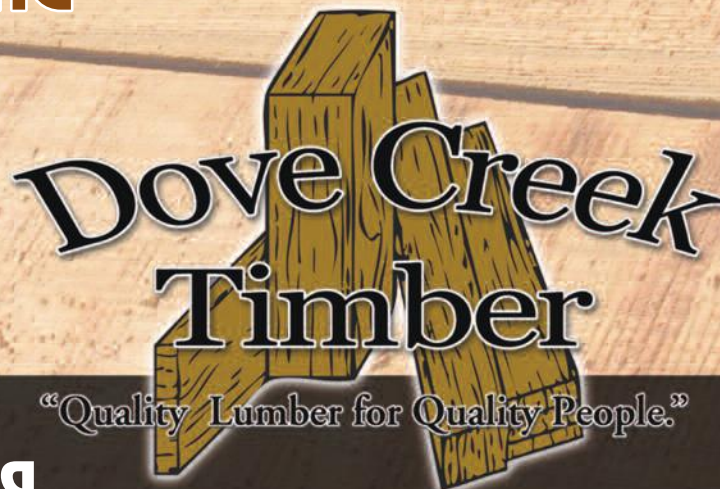
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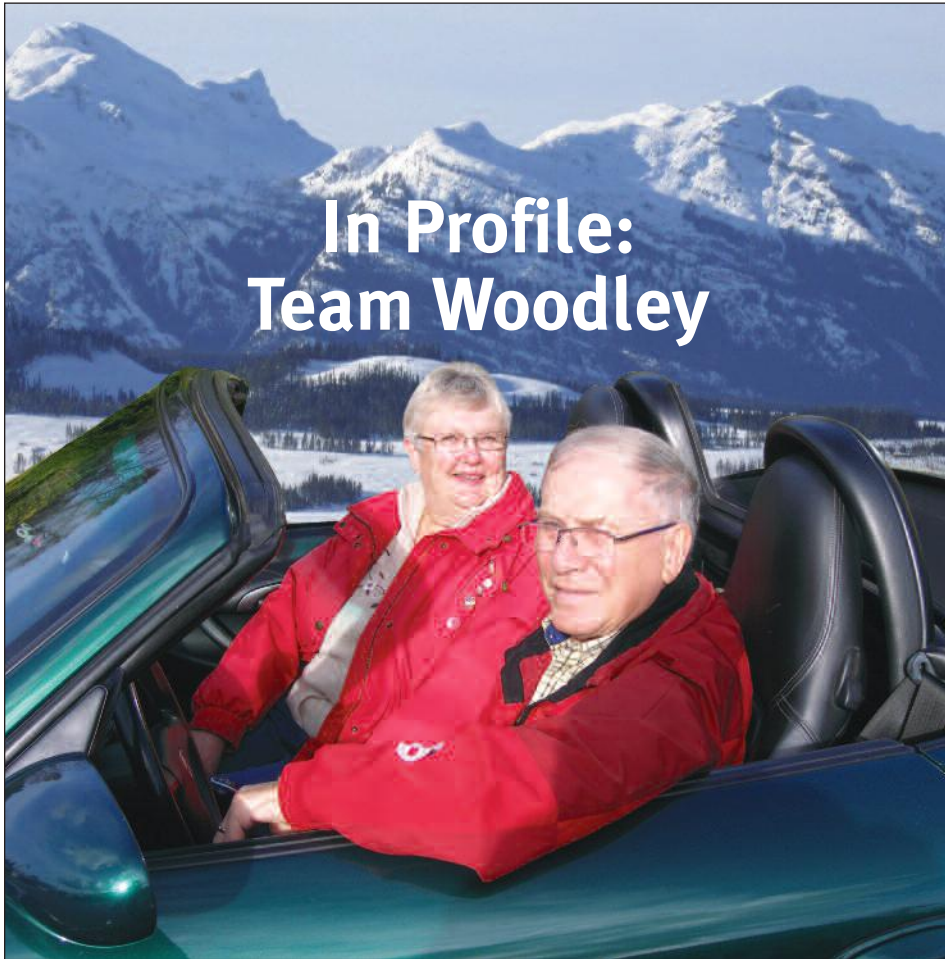


Photo: Neil Havers

“We just love the mountain,” Wendy Woodley says. “We love the ambience in both summer and winter. Even though you’re only 25 minutes from Courtenay, it’s very cozy.”

After nearly 15 years of selling advertising for the Marmot newspaper, Wendy Woodley is retiring.

“It’s been a very hard decision to give up something I loved as much as I have,” she said. “Gary and I discussed it for about a year.” On Nov. 5 she had “a significant number birthday” and decided

the time was right.

Although Wendy will continue to look after the accommodation guide, she has handed over the sales reins to Bayne Mann and Deb Nolan, a husband and wife team with deep roots in business in the Comox Valley.

The Woodleys’ relationship with Mount Washington extends well beyond the pages of The Marmot. They have owned a condo at the Resort for 24 years and Wendy has been a Snow Host for 12 years.

“There’s a unique atmosphere that doesn’t exist anywhere else,” Gary said.

Wendy and Gary Woodley first visited the mountain in 1979, before the Alpine Lodge was finished. Their friends, Donna and Barry Dash and Donna’s brother Keith Feser, were building a chalet in the original village site.

“We went up to the lodge and it wasn’t finished,” Wendy related. “We bumped into two gentlemen that turned out to be Peter Gibson and Alex Linton. Peter was very proud to say they had flush toilets at Mount Washington.”

Peter and Alex gave them a tour of the lodge and Alex talked about his vision for the Resort. “His vision of our alpine village was a Swiss village with twinkling lights,” Wendy said.

The Woodleys were both living and working in Victoria when the Resort first opened. Gary had skied at Forbidden Plateau before but Wendy didn’t know how to ski and wanted to try.

“The first time Wendy skied downhill you could hear her before you saw her,” Gary said.

Wendy was working at the University of Victoria when Warren Miller came and narrated his annual ski film. Wendy won a pair of downhill skis and traded them for cross-country skis.

They used to go up and stay with their friends, Barry and Donna Dash, who built one of the original residences in the village, Chalet 43.

“Chalet 43 was always lots of fun, lots of good food, lots of interesting people and the usual ski tales,” Wendy said.

Wendy ran a bed and breakfast in Chalet 43 from 1986 to 1988; staying from Sunday night to Thursday night and returning to Victoria on the weekends so

their friends could use their chalet.

The Woodleys bought their own condo in 1988 and still own it today: Building 87 on Castle Crag Crescent.

“I had guests from all over the world. I had people from Sweden, Australia, France.”

Hers was the only B&B on the mountain back then. When she opened her own B&B she named it Cat’s Meow, after her love of cats. She would be up at Mount Washington and Gary would be home in Victoria, taking bookings by telephone. He taught their cat Snowball to “talk” to people on the phone. “She would meow,” he said.

Wendy met Rick Gibson, publisher of The Marmot and a Realtor with Royal LePage, in 1989.

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Photo: Susie Quinn

New Marmot Sales Team

The Marmot welcomes two new faces to its staff this winter: Deb Nolan and Bayne Mann are taking over advertising sales from Wendy Woodley, who has retired.

Deb and Bayne are both familiar faces in the Comox Valley, and around Mount Washington Alpine Resort.

Bayne moved to the Comox Valley in 1985 and once owned the Arbutus Hotel. He is co-owner of Plates Eatery on Cliffe Avenue, which he and his business partner Steve Swing, opened in 2000. Bayne is no longer actively involved in day-to-day operations at the restaurant.

Bayne is a charter member of the Rotary Club of Strathcona Sunrise and was also a Past-President. He has served

on the Royal Lepage Snow to Surf board since the early 1990s.

Deb and Bayne have owned a condo at Mount Washington Alpine Resort for five years; they both love to ski and have friends who also own on the mountain.

Bayne's earliest memory of Mount Washington is from the spring of 1980 when he and some friends took a camper up to ski. His folks had been hiking around the area for several years before it opened as a resort. Bayne said he remembers his first ski visit clearly because the camper ended up going off the road.

By the time Deb first visited Mount Washington, the Resort already had four chairlifts: Green, Red, Blue and Yellow (Whiskey Jack).

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SUMMER 2012 SIZZLES!

Events, Competitions, Weddings & More...

Mount Washington Alpine Resort is still basking in the glow of a successful summer season. The warm, sunny weather that British Columbians enjoyed meant a faster natural snow melt and more visitors.

"It was a great summer for us," Resort Public Relations Director Brent Curtain said. "We saw an increase in traffic over the last two years."

Better weather meant the Resort was able to concentrate on the products it already offers and streamline current events.

The Resort chose to delay opening its bike park until July 20 to allow snow on top of the trails to melt naturally, after near-record snowfalls last winter. The past two years Resort staff were forced to use machinery to dig out some of the trails in order to open the bike park.

"We found when we opened up too soon it was creating problems with the water flowing through the mountain bike trails," Curtain said. "It was causing way more maintenance."

The trails were left to dry out properly this year and as a result the bike park was in much better shape when it opened, he added.

Mount Washington enjoyed a spike in its Learn to Ride mountain bike programs and families were out in force as people utilized the Green Line trails that opened the previous summer, Curtain said.

The specialty mountain biking events were also a huge draw for the Resort. The Bearclaw Invitational slopestyle event held in early August drew thousands of spectators wanting to watch some of the best mountain bikers in the world hurtle down trails built specifically for this event.

The BC Cup Provincials were held at the end of August, bringing B.C.'s best racers here for cross-country and downhill events. The 2012 BC Cup marked the return of the famous Monster Mile race-course from the top of the Eagle Chairlift. Pro rider Brett Tippey was in town for the weekend to MC the event.

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Mount Washington is going viral.



Photo courtesy Mount Washington Alpine Resort

Social media has played a significant part in promoting the Resort in the past couple of years, and Public Relations Director Brent Curtain hopes some new viral videos will keep that buzz going.

Last year Mount Washington's Facebook page was a busy online community, and now there are nearly 15,000 people who have "liked" their page. They have more than 4,600 followers on Twitter as well. Promotional videos are all over YouTube and Vimeo too, and garner between 4 - 6,000 views.

Curtain uses the Twitter and Facebook pages to spread the word about Mount Washington, but it's not a sell job. "For us, the big thing with social media is you aren't trying to do a sales pitch, you're trying to create stories and content that are engaging for people. Social media is talking to your existing customer base.

"At the end of the day, you don't want to be bombarded by sales messages."

This year Curtain intends to post more videos showcasing what the Resort has to offer. "We're looking for funny instances that happen on the hill.

It's almost like using video as an educational tool for our visitors."

He also has a number of bloggers lined up to post content like photos, video and stories. The numbers supporting use of social media are hard to deny, says Curtain.

On a weekday in November, Curtain took a photo of one of the snow-covered peaks at the Resort and posted it on Facebook. Within hours he had 840 likes, 91 shares and 30 comments. "On one photo with snow," he says.

"Everybody's asking about metrics. Is that going to translate into sales? I don't know, but that's hard data. That's where I think social media really works."

"It's possible to overdo it with social media", says Curtain, "with all the choices out there. We're examining every aspect of social media because there are so many options out there and we want to know what's best for our customers."

Benefits & Partnerships Growing



Photo: Rick Gibson

Internal communication and external marketing have been key drivers for Tourism Mount Washington this summer, says Manager Sarah Nicholson.

"There has been an increased focus on communication to the resort community," at a time when membership has also seen a healthy rise, she said.

The Homeowners' Marbecue, held over Thanksgiving weekend in October, saw record attendance, and a new pancake breakfast on the Sunday drew people to the Vancouver Island Mountain Centre (VIMC) - some for the first time.

Members are learning about the benefits to membership, such as four free drop-in sessions to the VIMC gym and co-op advertising, but there are other facets that Nicholson said many owners don't take advantage of, such as the check-in office at the General Store or the Resort Information Centre, both of which open when Mount Washington opens for the winter season.

"We've got a growing list of benefits for our members and we continue to build partnerships on Vancouver Island through the co-operative marketing campaign," she said.

Tourism Mount Washington participated in the Go Vancouver summer campaign in Alberta, with posters on ferries and is advertising in in-flight magazines for airlines that fly out of Comox.

"We're participating in a major Canada West Ski Areas campaign that tied into Tourism BC (called the Experience BC campaign)," she said.

Nicholson also attended ski shows in Vancouver, Edmonton, Seattle, London and, returning after a few years' hiatus, the Toronto Ski Show. "(We had) great reception and significant interest in Toronto," she said.

The Mount Washington team has been building up awareness of the Resort as a destination, making contact with tour operators to ensure they know what the Resort has to offer travellers.

"It's a key initiative to drive mid-week traffic. It's an added resource, having tour operators working on our behalf to promote the mountain," she said.

Nicholson continues to sit on the Tourism Vancouver Island Board "to make sure we're aware of all the opportunities and that the skiing sector is represented."

This year Tourism Mount Washington has adopted the Canadian Tourism Commission's "EQ" Explorer Quotient system, which focuses on visitor experiences and motivation.

The program provides deeper knowledge of customers to help members better target their marketing initiatives, Nicholson explained.

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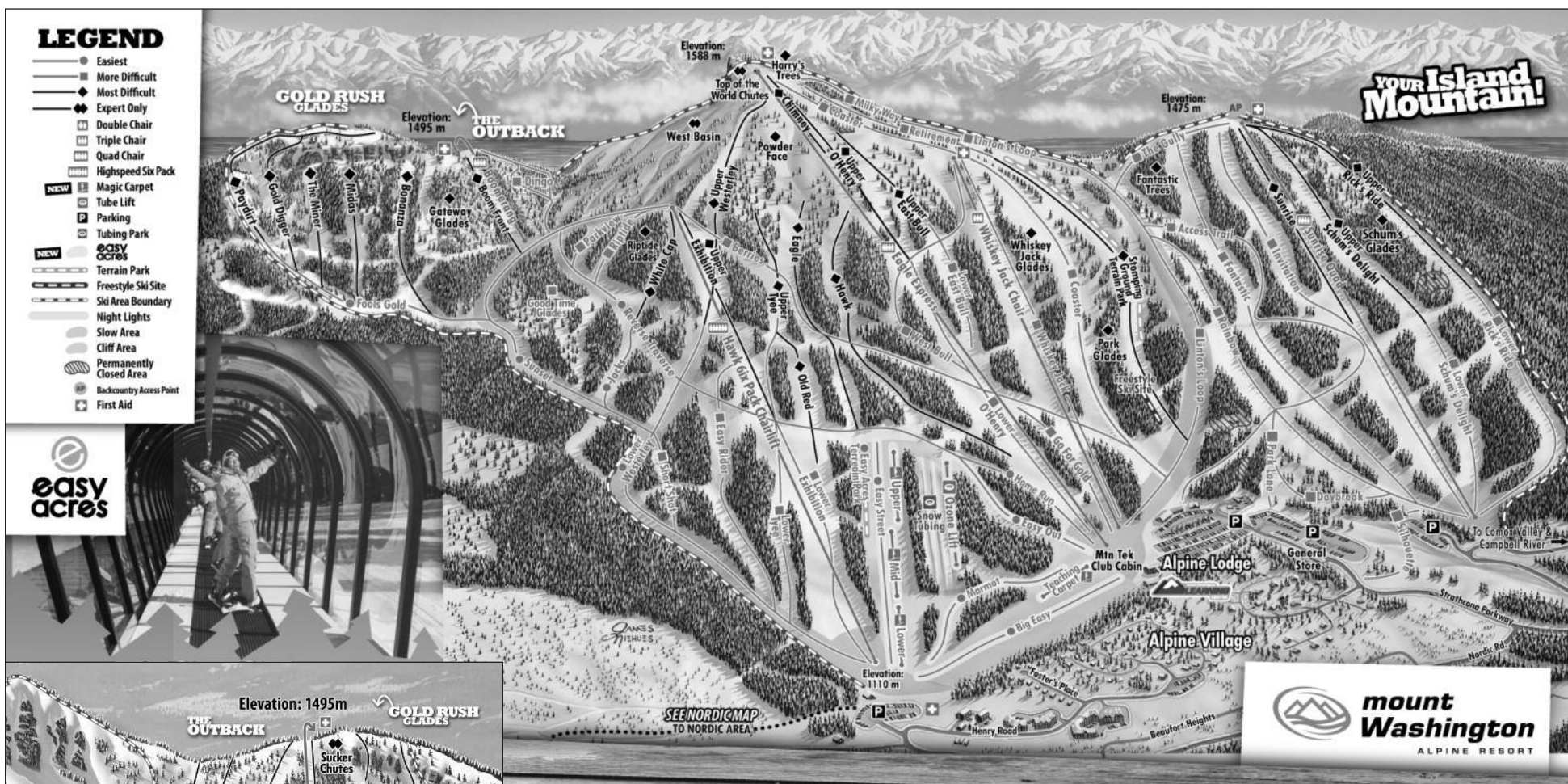
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Magic Carpets Require Sasquatch Proofing!

Last winter, groomers became wary every time they had to move snow away from the new Magic Carpet people movers, because they never knew whether a sasquatch had taken refuge in one of them during the night.

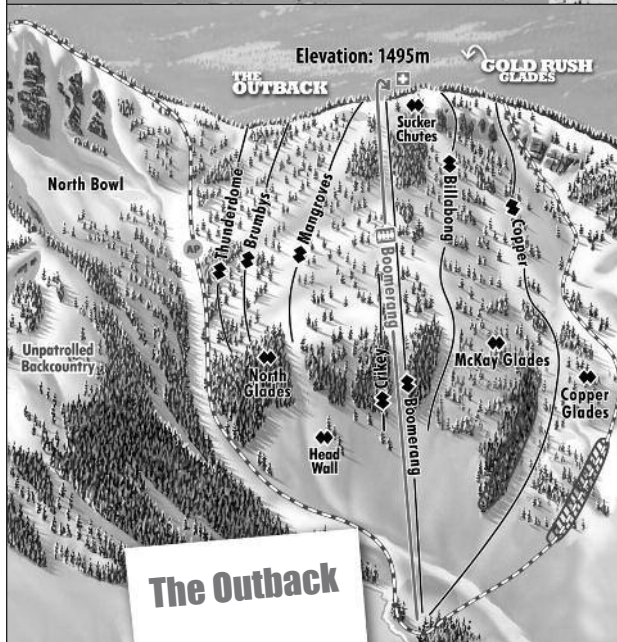
As the snow began to melt in June, several of the extra clear panels stored in the maintenance shed went missing. A cursory search around the Resort and Alpine Village turned up nothing, and Resort officials were puzzled as to what happened to them. That is, until a chance encounter with a visiting biologist from Iceland.

Lagar Fljotsormurinn, who has a special interest in

British Columbia sasquatch activity, spent two weeks at the Resort working on her thesis about sasquatch habitat. Fljotsormurinn was following up on a report that came out in 2011 about yeti nests discovered in trees in Russia. She wanted to compare those nesting habits with the habitat of North American sasquatch.

Fljotsormurinn hired an experienced guide from Tri-Coast Backcountry Expeditions to take her into some of the more remote areas of Strathcona Provincial Park in the hopes she would find evidence of this habitat.

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Magic Carpets A Big Hit with Beginner Skiers

"We would call that a big success," says Resort Director of Maintenance and Operations, George Trousdell, "the people they were designed to serve really liked them."

Last year, Mount Washington Alpine Resort dismantled its Green Chairlift and installed four covered conveyors, called

Magic Carpets, to move skiers from one part of Easy Acres beginner area to the other.

The Magic Carpets move at 80 per cent of the speed that the former Green chairlift did, but the carpets move people more efficiently. Aside from the learning curve Resort staff experienced, everything ran smoothly, Trousdell said.

"The feedback was really positive, and that included staff from other ski areas. We had a lot of people coming to look at them."

One person from another resort was impressed that, in his words, "Mount Washington has the biggest beginner skiing program in North America."

David Lynn, CEO of the Canada West Ski Areas Association, said Mount Washington Alpine Resort and Seymour,

both of which installed covered Magic Carpets last winter, are at the forefront of the industry.

"It's quite exciting how the technology continues to evolve," Lynn said, adding that covered Magic Carpets represent the next generation of products being developed to enhance the skier experience.

"With shape skis and better lift technologies it's so much better to learn to ski now than it was when I learned 30 years ago."

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Encompassing people, places and happenings at Mount Washington.

Snowshoeing was such a popular event last winter that Resort Nordic Manager Marc Lyster had to increase the Resort's fleet of snowshoes available for rental in 2013.

Quick thinking - and fast reflexes - helped Resort Public Relations Director **Brent Curtin** avoid a potentially embarrassing situation last summer. Curtin was driving up to the Resort when a brown furry creature started crossing the road in front of him. It turned out to be a Vancouver Island marmot, which is endangered. Mount Washington plays host to a marmot-breeding centre, and the creatures are released into the wild around the Resort. **Curtin barely missed the marmot.** The marmot and family are doing well...

Wendy McCall is the new sales co-ordinator at Mount Washington Alpine Resort. **Marina Stevenson**, who was the special events co-ordinator, has taken over advertising, sponsor relations and promotions.

Mount Washington chef **James Loiseau** had a chance to show off some of the great food from Fat Teddy's Bar and Grill at Flavour: The North Island's Gourmet Picnic, in September. **Flavour is a culinary festival** organized by the North Island College Foundation with the support of the North Vancouver Island Chefs' Association, and took place at Coastal Black Estate Winery and Meadery. Loiseau profiled Fat Teddy's Pulled Pork Slider with Chili Lime.

The **Vancouver Island Mountain Centre** hosted a pair of successful seniors' events in the summer, starting with a two-day Seniors Retreat. Ten people from the Comox Valley came up to stay at the centre and enjoy low-impact hikes, a Mile High Chair Lift ride to the viewing platform at the top of Mount Washington, communal meals and some social games.

"We all enjoyed it very much. Good company, good food, good job," one retreat participant noted.

"I think a major success of the program over the two days was the timing; having just the right combination of adventure and relaxation," Mountain Centre Manager Andrew Scherck said.

The second event was a grandparent/grandchild retreat held in the middle of the month.

Strathcona Nordic skier **Andrea Lee** continues to train and make waves on the national scene as a member of the National Development Centre Team in Thunder Bay, Ont.

Continued on page 19



Too many times we reflect on the past and what we should have done ten years ago. Perhaps these are your thoughts ten years from now as you reflect back on your new purchase at Mount Washington this year.

December 12, 2022

Dear Rick,

I just wanted to thank you for selling us our property at Mount Washington ten years ago. It only seems like yesterday!!! Memories can not have prices attached to them but the enjoyment we have had with our Mount Washington home are priceless! Please let us share.

We were nervous about buying back then as it was a lot of money. When we left the lawyer's office signing the papers, we looked at each other after and thought, "what have we done?"

The first winter we spent trying out our mountain home. We changed some of the furniture and added pictures. We opened up that wall that you had suggested and put in a couple of new windows. Our intention that first year was to rent it 3 out of 4 weekends and stay in it the 4th. We spent EVERY WEEKEND, all of Christmas and Spring Break. It was fabulous. Summer we spent a lot more time than we ever imagined that we would. There is just so much to do up there!

The following is some of our highlights over the past ten years:

- *The huge snowfalls where our kids were jumping off the peak of the roof into 9 feet of fresh powder!*
- *Being around the Resort as it continued to grow into a regional recreational destination and meeting the incredible athletes that train at the Vancouver Island Mountain Sports Center at Mount Washington. Our eldest son (now 16) trained with some of the world's best Nordic skiers and now is aspiring to be on the Canada Team, with the incredible support of the Strathcona Nordics he will make it.*
- *Spectacular sunsets and waking up to blankets of fresh white snow.*

• *Watching the Mount Washington Village grow and expand. Now ten years later it is not "do we go out for dinner" but "where do we go?" We have come up in the off seasons JUST to go out for dinner!*

• *Being a part of the mountain bike scene and seeing Mount Washington host several international mountain bike races.*

• *The fondues... and the fun with our many Mount Washington friends that we now wonder what we would do without.*

• *Watching the management and staff of Mount Washington continually prove their commitment to customer service and making us always feel like members of their family.*

• *The bottom line is that we are so happy that we made this decision ten years ago. Aside from having ten years of fabulous family memories, our investment has also appreciated way beyond what we thought it would. Thanks for selling us our property!*

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VIMC Manager, Andrew Scherck

Photo: Susie Quirm

Mountain Centre Proves Popular

The Vancouver Island Mountain Centre (VIMC) has wrapped up its first full year of operation at Mount Washington, including a successful summer season.

Fifteen groups used the facility in a variety of ways during the summer, VIMC Manager Andrew Scherck said.

They opened a snack/ coffee bar to the public, and had about 60 visitors per day come into the Centre for a variety of reasons, from a cup of coffee or ice cream treat to general curiosity. The Centre was open from Wednesday through Sunday for the duration of the summer.

During the VIMC's first full year the Centre had 45 overnight groups and 12 day groups use the facility, equating to 1,600 people. "We can do better, and we are," Scherck said.

"We currently have 28 groups booked for this upcoming winter and still space to fill. Considering we had very little marketing and build-up last year, we have high expectations for this upcoming year."

Some of the summer highlights included a large family retreat that stayed for three nights and decorated the dining room in an '80s theme for an old-fashioned dance party; a group of kids and instructors from the Canadian Junior Rangers that visited from Port Hardy and Tahsis; and the three Comox Valley-based programs that the VIMC ran for seniors, grandchildren



Photo: Tim Penny



Snowshoe Leg added to 2012 Relay Race

For the first time in the 31-year history of the Comox Valley Royal LePage Snow to Surf Adventure Relay Event, there will be a snowshoeing leg.

The Royal LePage Snow to Surf is a multi-sport relay race that begins with an alpine skiing leg at Mount Washington Alpine Resort and ends with a canoe ride into Comox Marina. In between there are six other legs: Nordic skiing, snowshoeing, running, mountain biking, kayaking and road racing.

This year's event is scheduled for April 28, 2013. "The snowshoe leg has been discussed for some time and seems a natural fit for an adventure race," event spokesperson Tim Defert said. "Snowshoeing is the fastest growing segment of Nordic winter activities."

and youth.

This winter VIMC will run two of its popular programs again, Team Building on Snowshoes and Introduction to Winter Skills. They also received a grant from ViaSport to pilot a new "Discover Biathlon" program in partnership with the VI Biathlon Club.

"We are super excited about this program as we are combining snowshoeing - instead of skiing - with shooting," Scherck said.

Continued on page 23

Continued on page 23

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MOUNT WASHINGTON SNOW SPORT CLUBS

Mount Washington Alpine Resort is home to six snow sport clubs and one summer sport (mountain biking) club whose members spend their seasons practicing and competing on their “home” hill.

Mount Washington Ski Club

The Mount Washington Ski Club invites kids aged four to 12 to come out and participate this winter in the various programs it offers.

The **Nancy Greene** (newly named U10 and U12) program teaches young skiers the **FUNDamentals** of downhill skiing, including basic skills alongside the technical aspects of the sport. The U10 and U12 programs run from December to April and are designed for skiers who can ski independently. Skiers are evaluated at

the beginning of the season.

“The Mt. Washington Ski Club offers CSIA and/or CSCF certified coaches, small group sizes, progress reports, year end awards, team and individual pictures, family use of the club cabin with full kitchen facilities, social gatherings and, most importantly, hot chocolate,” says

Head Coach John Trimmer.

“While these programs promote skiing without the pressures of intense competition, skiers do have opportunities to show off their racing skills in fun, club-based events.”

Continued on page 17

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Photo courtesy Mount Washington Alpine Resort

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2012-13 ACCOMMODATIONS & EVENTS

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SPECIAL EVENTS

- Dec 26 **Pepsi Torchlight Parade & Fireworks**
- Dec 26 **Fat Teddy's Annual Boxing Day Party**
- Dec 28/29 **'The Steadies' live in Fat Teddy's**
- Dec 31 **Family New Years Eve Dinner & Show**
Featuring Bobs & Lolo in the Whiskey Jack Conference Room
- Dec 31 **New Years Eve Party in Fat Teddy's**
Featuring 'The Steadies'
- Jan 5 **Family Winter Festival of Hope**
Benefit for the Canadian Cancer Society
- Jan 7-11 **Kokanee Winter Fest**
1/2 Price Lift Tickets available online!

- Jan 14-18 **Rossignol National Learn to Ski & Board Week** Discover Skiing and Snowboarding lessons at a discounted price.
- Jan 18-19 **Rail Jam Competition**
- Jan 25 **Aussie Day**
Half price lift tickets for all Australian citizens.
- Jan 27 **Ski For MS**
- Feb 2 **Klondike Ski & Boarder Cross Comp.**
- Feb 10 **Herb Bradley Pepsi Challenge**
Fundraiser for Vancouver Island Society for Adaptive Snowsports
- Feb 11 **BC Family Day**
BC residents will receive 50% off lift passes!
- Feb 18 **Presidents Day**

- 50% off lift passes for our American friends!
- Feb 23 **Scott Big Air Competition**
Freestyle skiers and snowboards hit a massive jump and show off their skills in this judged big air competition.
- Feb 25-Mar 3 **Women's Week**
"Women Only" specials and program taught and designed especially for women.
- Mar 2 **Afterdark Invitational**
Our best homegrown Island talent face off against some of the best riders from the Lower Mainland and Whistler.
- Mar 16 **Dakine Slopestyle Competition**
Skiers and boarders will be judged on a

- number of different hits, rails and boxes down the Slopestyle course.
 - Apr 13 **Rossignol VI Loppet**
 - Apr 13 **Thrifty Food's Dummy Downhill**
Get creative and build a dummy skier or boarder to launch off the jump.
 - Apr 14 **Crush Slush Cup**
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 - Apr 28 **Royal LePage Comox Valley Snow To Surf Adventure Relay Race**
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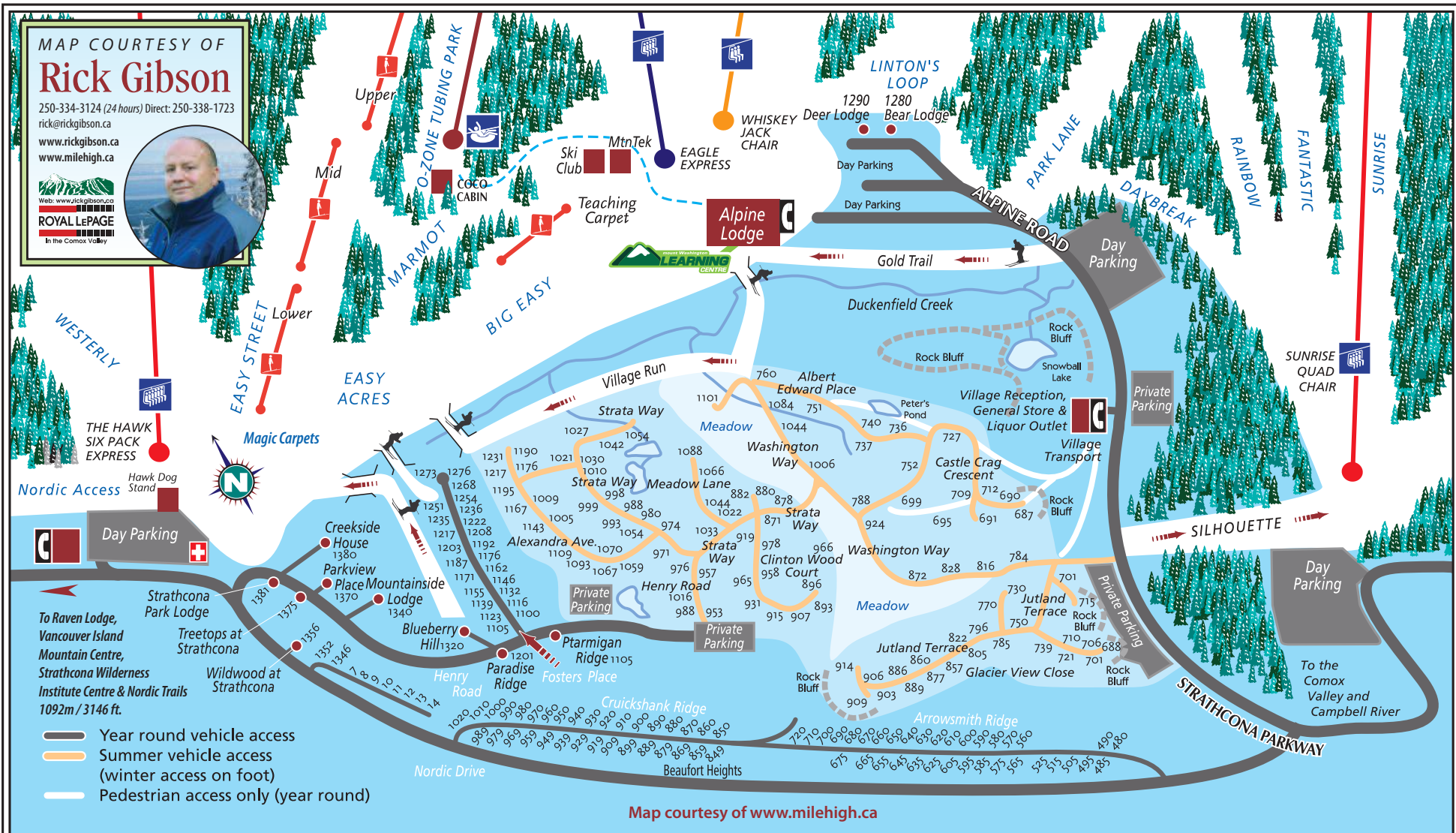
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SNOW SPORT CLUBS

Continued from page 12

The **All Mountain Skills Program** (AMS) is great for skiers aged 11-16 looking to continue developing their skiing skills in a fun, non-competitive team environment. This group skis on groomed runs, in skier cross, in gates, on bumps and steeps and will become better skiers and gain a greater knowledge of the mountain and ski safety.

The Club also offers programs for older athletes who wish to follow a more competitive stream and those who just want increased training and the fun and challenge of gates and skier cross. The U14/U16 and FIS (aged 12 to 18) train and race slalom, giant slalom, skier cross and Super G but they also live for steeps and deeps, and love to blow off some steam in the Terrain Park.

These groups have been working on fitness the last few months, the younger athletes through multi-sport involvement and the older athletes through a mixture of sport and ski specific training. "Our last day on snow was Aug. 29th at Mount Hood in Oregon and many of this group will be traveling to Apex in the middle of November to sharpen their skills prior to the start of our race season in December," Trimmer said.

Strathcona Nordics

The Strathcona Nordics racing program - comprising Devos, Junior Racers and Masters Racers - is enjoying some explosive growth this year.

The program has basically doubled; there are 60 participants in the combined racing program under the leadership of head coach Dave Battison.

"As a result, we will be taking one of the largest teams in B.C. (20 skiers) to the 2013 Haywood Ski Nationals at Whistler Olympic Park at the end of March," club president Len Apedaile said.

Battison said it's an exciting time for the club - a period of tremendous growth and development. The high numbers that will head to the nationals will put the Strathcona Nordics among the top five teams in Canada, he added.

"We have a very young team this year. For the majority of them, it will be their first national event. It will be interesting to see where the team is a few years from now," he added.

Cross-country skiing on Mount Washington and the Strathcona Nordic Ski Club programs have been some of the best-kept secrets in the Comox Valley for years says Barbara Kelly, the club's communications director and ski club parent.

"As a parent of teen racers who have come through the Rabbit and Devo programs, it's great to see the growth. It looks like people are finally catching on to what an amazing sport and recreational activity



Strathcona Nordics competing in the Coastal Cup. Photo: Brent Reid

Nordic skiing is - and how lucky we are to be able to ski and train here at Mount Washington."

The Nordics will host the final event of the invitational Teck Coast Cup series March 9-10 and have booked the Vancouver Island Mountain Centre for the event.

Because the ski nationals are taking place at the end of March, the Vancouver Island Loppet has been moved to April 13, wrapping up the Canadian race

calendar.

As part of the Strathcona Nordics' Olympic/ Paralympic legacy, 10 officials from the club will travel this winter to participate in provincial and national championships, Noram, FIS World Cup, Paralympic World Cup and Paralympic World championship events in Sochi, Russia, Solleftea, Sweden, Trentino, Italy, Canmore, Alta. and Whistler, B.C.

In 2010, the Nordics sent 36 officials to the Olympics/ Paralympics; 10 of them

Photo: Brent Reid



are still active at high-level events, Apedaile said. Several more still help out at local races.

Vancouver Island Biathlon

While the snowy trails have been a distant dream for many, the folks at Vancouver Island Biathlon Club (VIBC) have been busy planning another exciting season says spokesperson Christoph Dettling.

"Over the summer, we held our inaugural mountain bike biathlon race and hopefully it will become a regular staple for many summers to come."

Participants from ages 12 to 40 enjoyed this warm and sunny incarnation of biathlon - many for the first time, he said.

For the upcoming season, VIBC has also moved beyond its Try Biathlon sessions, and will be offering eight-week biathlon programs for juniors and masters, starting Jan. 12.

No experience is necessary, but the more comfortable you are on skis, the more you'll enjoy this course. Instructors will be Biathlon Canada certified and, as always, fun will come second only to safety.

"While you might be wondering if this Olympic sport is safe, keep in mind that more injuries are sustained in ping pong, than in all Olympic shooting sports combined," Dettling said.

Vancouver Island Riders

Since its inception in 2007, VI Riders snowboard club has focused on providing freestyle skill development in a fun, confidence-building environment and teaching safe snowboard practices.

Its members meet every Saturday morning at Mount Washington and shred all day, working on jumps, spins and grabs in the terrain park

Due to popular demand, the club this year has introduced a competitive stream. This program is geared toward competition development and will require more intense on and off-snow training, club president and head coach Linden Ruecker said.

Athletes in the competitive stream will meet every Saturday and Sunday morning to train at Mount Washington. They will also be traveling off-island and competing in BC Snowboard Association sanctioned events.

While competition is mandatory for these athletes, it remains optional for those who join the skill development program, Ruecker said.

"Mount Washington puts on several competitions throughout the winter and we encourage all of our members to participate. They're always a lot of fun."

Continued n page 18



Photo courtesy VI Riders

SNOW SPORT CLUBS

Continued from page 10

This year the VI Riders have provided a complementary dry land training program to its on-snow programs. Dry land training is an essential part of progression and continued training while not on snow, Ruecker said.

The program is a trampoline-focused training that will develop athletes' balance skills as well as safe aerial maneuvers. They will train Thursday nights at the Comox gymnastics club.

MW Rider jump progression. Left: Training over an airbag for safety while developing their skills.

Photos courtesy VI Riders

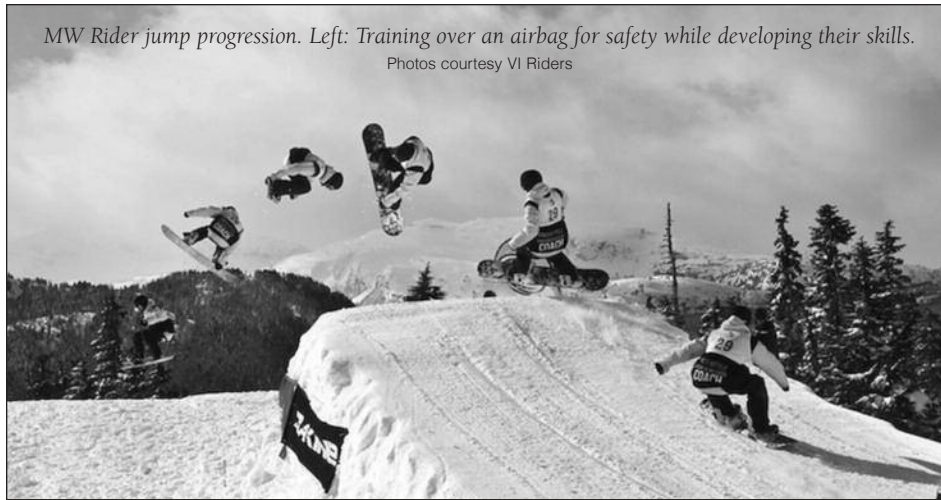


Photo courtesy VI Riders

MOUNT WASHINGTON FREESTYLE CLUB

Half pipes. Big air. Steep and deep. If this kind of language excites your kids, you need to check out the Mount Washington Freestyle Club.

Skiers participating in any of the programs the club offers will gain a well-rounded skill set. The club offers instruction and competition on everything from single and dual moguls to ski cross, aerials, half pipe and alpine skiing.

The club has a dedicated mogul course and a big air site for members to use. Classes or age groupings are kept small, with a maximum of 10 skiers.

One of the things that make this club run smoothly is its parent volunteer commitment. The club operates with the philosophy that parent involvement only makes the club stronger.

Our Jumps & Bumps Coaches work with entry level athletes honing their skills through the FUNDamentals of Freestyle skiing. We have a team of exceptional coaches with many that have come up through our Club programs. All

coaches are certified through CFSA and registered with the National Coach Program.

Many of the Club Development Coaches come from a competition background and work on more specific skill development with skiers of an age and ability ready for this level of coaching.

The Mount Washington Freestyle Club is looking for lead/ head coaches for its 2012-13 season.

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Or check out our website at
www.mtwashingtonskiclub.com

The Marmot

MILE HIGH NEWS ON MOUNT WASHINGTON

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

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Skiers and boarders on the Magic Carpet seem wary of this sasquatch inspecting the exterior panels.



Continued from page 10

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SASQUATCH PROOFING
Continued from page 6

“The karst formations on Vancouver Island provide a rich network of caves that would be ideal for sasquatch to take refuge along their migratory paths,” she said.

“I wanted to see whether there was historical evidence that sasquatch used the caves as they traversed the Island.” She wasn’t prepared for what she found, though.

“We were hiking along the Resort’s boundary along the ridge above the North Bowl, when I saw something glinting in the sun,” Fljotsormurinn said in some e-mail correspondence with the Marmot newspaper. “I thought it was a pop can or wrapper from a freeze-dried meal some hiker had left.”

When she and her guide got closer, however, they discovered what had caused the glint in the midday sun: the missing Magic Carpet panels. The panels were jammed against the entrance to a cave that the guide had never noticed before.

“We were so excited,” Fljotsormurinn said. “Not only did we find evidence that sasquatch existed in this area, but we were stunned to see they have assimilated in an area so close to civilization.”

The terrain is steep in that area, on the edge of the Outback, and the snow is deep from December until July, when the unrelenting sun finally penetrates the icy underlay. The panels were likely used to give additional shelter from the rivulets of water cascading down the rock face above the cave, she said.

“Either that, or they just think the Magic Carpets are really cool living spaces and they wanted one for themselves.”

The VI Riders Freestyle Snowboard Club is more mobile these days, thanks to a donation from Joe Cunningham Ford in Parksville. The car dealership has donated a 15-passenger van to the club so they can travel off-island to BC Snowboard Association-sanctioned events.

In 2014, slopestyle snowboarding will be part of the Winter Olympics. Boarders aspiring to the Olympics need to earn FIS points to be invited to nationals. The van gives the club’s competitive members more accessibility to such events, club president and head coach Linden Ruecker said. “Without the support and generous donations of local businesses...it will be very difficult for Vancouver Island athletes to achieve their dreams of reaching the podium,” he said.

A big Mount Washington Ski Club shout out goes to **Mathieu Leduc**, who was recently named to the National Skier Cross Team’s prospect group. Leduc competed in a World Cup Skier Cross in late November in Alberta and then was to head back Europe for some races just prior to Christmas. Leduc is just one of the many Mount Washington Ski Club athletes to take on the world, the most famous of which is Allison Forsyth who placed third in the Giant Slalom at the 2003 World Championships and seventh at the Salt Lake Winter Olympics.

Bear Lodge will now provide free Internet to all of its guests.

Ski resort operators are loathe to predict or expect certain weather patterns during the winter. “It’s fundamentally unpredictable,” says **David Lynn, President and CEO of the Canada West Ski Areas Association.**

But even Lynn can’t resist saying operators are optimistic about the 2012-13 season. He hopes operators in Alberta and British Columbia will be able to build on the momentum felt last season.

“We’re cautiously optimistic,” he said. “Because Western Canada overall out-performed the rest of North America so dramatically last year it gives us an opportunity to market that in terms of destination skiers.”

Lynn and other operators may be heartened to hear the winter predictions from AccuWeather.com. Although parts of the province will likely be chillier and drier than normal, there will be opportunities for cold arctic air to blanket the province.

“For Vancouver, I think the winter overall looks drier than normal with near-normal temperatures,” AccuWeather.com Expert Senior Meteorologist Brett Anderson said.

“But with this type of pattern, a drier pattern, the nights are going to be chillier than normal. Also, this opens the door to some quick shots of arctic air,” Anderson added.

“In terms of storms, storms will be weaker but colder, so that could favour snow a little bit more than we usually see.”

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Photo courtesy Mount Washington Alpine Resort

SMILE HIGH SERVICE

Continued from page 1

Curtain anticipates a new holiday will also draw families to the Resort.

New this year is the B.C. Family Day statutory holiday on Feb. 11, 2013.

To celebrate this new holiday, Mount Washington will have 50% off sales on the Monday.

Mount Washington Drafts a Military Discount for 2012/13

To encourage mid-week traffic, the Resort is offering military members a 20% off deal on day tickets from Monday through Friday. Members need only show their Department of National Defence card to qualify for the discount. A new Seniors Day is also planned.

Equipment Rental System Streamlined

On the convenience side, the Resort has streamlined its process for booking rental equipment. A new online booking system is available for people to pre-book their rentals. Then when they get up to the Resort they can take the express lineup.

SNOWSHOEING RENAISSANCE

Continued from page 2

It's easy to start following someone else's snowshoe prints and, if you don't lift your head and look at your surroundings once in awhile, you'll find yourself lost.

"People should stick to the trails or known areas. Knowing the area or taking a map (Mount Washington has a trail map showing its marked trails) is always a

"Overseas Visitors" Encouraged to Cross The Pond

Curtain and Tourism Mount Washington Manager Sarah Nicholson are working with WestJet and BC Ferries to get the word out about Mount Washington.

They also attended ski shows in Calgary, Edmonton and Toronto, offering some aggressive packages to draw people to Vancouver Island.

"We're trying to attract more people from 'overseas', per se," Curtain said of turning their focus to the other side of Georgia Strait.

'Staycations' were becoming the norm for the past two years, but travel trends have seen more people venturing further afield.

Campbell River Shuttle Service

Skiers from Campbell River will have a new way to get to Mount Washington Alpine Resort this winter. The Resort has contracted Destiny River Adventures to provide a ski bus shuttle from Campbell River to the base parking lot at Mount Washington. "This year we're dipping our toes in on a trial basis," say George Trousdell, Resort Director of Maintenance and Operations.

At the end of the season the Resort will evaluate whether to expand the service or not. Cost to ride the shuttle will be \$10 round trip, (Resort staff ride for free).

The bus leaves Spirit Square in Campbell River at 7 a., with stops at Willow Point Plaza at 7:20 am, Discovery Foods in Oyster River at 7:35 am and the Hammond/ Macauley Road intersection at 7:40 am. It arrives at base parking at 8 a.m, where passengers can transfer to a Mount Washington bus connecting to the Resort. The return shuttle departs base parking at 4:30 p.m.

good idea, and bring a compass," he added.

The Resort hosts moonlight snowshoe tours and fondue dinners on Friday and Saturday evenings. Extremely popular, the "snowshoe fondue" requires pre-booking. The tour takes participants on an hour-long trek through the trees of Strathcona Provincial Park, followed by a three-course fondue dinner.

The annual Yeti Race is slated for January 26. Racers in this stop on the Canadian Snowshoe Series run or hike a 10-kilometre route.

Snowshoeing has also been added to the Royal LePage Snow to Surf Adventure Relay Race, taking place April 28, 2013 at Mount Washington.



Photo: Neil Havers

THE WOODLEYS

Continued from page 3

By then she had started an accommodation company and Rick had started selling real estate at Mount Washington. Rick talked to Wendy about how they could help each other out and a friendship blossomed.

By 1998 Rick had fully drawn her into The Marmot as the sales representative. Wendy has succeeded at her job because she knows the market very well.

The Woodleys moved up to the Comox Valley in 1999 following Gary's retirement from BC Forest Products and the second year Peter Gibson suggested Wendy join the Resort's snow host team. She has been greeting skiers and snowboarders on the mountain ever since.

While the Woodleys live in a home they built in Courtenay, they still have their condo. There are still a lot of original owners from when they first started coming up the mountain.

"What's happening is their children are taking over," Wendy said. "I know of quite a few chalets that have gone from their original owners to their children and I think that's pretty cool."

As for retirement? The Woodleys are taking a trip to the Riviera Maya, and they also bought a Porsche.

The 2002 Rainforest Green Metallic

Photo: Susie Quinn



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Porsche Boxster convertible is in near mint condition; they discovered it while taking a Sunday drive in Comox, and the price was right. "We couldn't resist," Wendy said. "It has been up the mountain once - on a beautiful, sunny day."

DID YOU KNOW...

- Wendy sold her first ad in the Marmot to Pam Crowe of Gibson, Kelly & Ives, now Ives Burger, Barristers & Solicitors. They continue to advertise, and Wendy says Pam is usually the first "yes" at the start of the sales campaign. "Thanks, Pam!"

- Other advertisers in her first issue, Summer 1998, included Alpine Mountain Maintenance, Mount Washington Accommodations (now part of Washington Way Chalets) and Valhalla Pure Outfitters. Bayne Mann, who is taking over for Wendy along with his wife, Deb Nolan, was advertising for the Arbutus Hotel.

- Summer 1998 was the inaugural issue of the Private Rental Accommodation Guides in the centre section of the Marmot. Wendy will continue to look after the accommodation guide and accompanying website, www.mtwashingtonaccommodation.com.



Shane and Corey Harle - Podium of Life Sports Academy

New Home for Podium of Life

After two years of operating in the Marmot Den at Mount Washington Alpine Resort, the Podium of Life Snow Sports Academy has found a permanent home.

Podium of Life is now in the former Nordic lodge, where a restaurant used to be located.

"It's pretty exciting because now we've got our own area where we will have our own identity, and the kids will have more of a sense of belonging," said Shane Harle, who owns and operates Podium of Life with his wife Corey. Their two sons, Kole and Teal, are students at the academy.

"It gives us our own space. It will also allow us to put up a sign that tells people we're here," Shane said. "It feels different because you have your own space; you can leave things on the wall, you can start construction projects that last a couple of weeks and you don't have to clean up every day."

The academy had been operating in

space donated by Mount Washington, inside the Alpine Lodge. As the room was used for multi purposes, the school portion of Podium of Life had to be portable.

"When you have your own space you can prepare differently," Shane said. Moving in to the former Nordic Lodge will also allow Podium of Life to take more students, he added.

Last year, Podium of Life hosted 10 full-time and 16 part-time students between December and April. Students attend class in the morning, following the B.C. online curriculum using eBlend, a distributed learning program through School District 72 (Campbell River).

A number of experiential activities ranging from avalanche awareness to wilderness survival skills and snow cave building were introduced, and guest presenters offered their own life perspective to students.

This year, 11 full-time and three part-time students were already signed up a

month before the program began.

The academy has also changed its name slightly to reflect expansion of its program into other snow sports besides skiing, Shane said. This winter the academy will accept its first snowboarders, and will work with some of Mount Washington Resort's snowboarding staff to provide instruction.

The academy is gaining a reputation across Canada for its program; they received inquiries last year from other parts of Canada as well as Australia and Japan.

Shane spoke with a representative from the Canada Snow Sports Association at a skiing conference last year and was told, "people are recognizing you are a quality program," he said.

The Harles' goal is to expand Podium of Life so they can hire more people and transition to an administrative role. Both she and Shane also have full-time jobs in addition to running the academy.

SUMMER SIZZLES

Continued from page 4

Other special events such as the second annual Suds and Scotch festival and the Alpine Wine and Food Festival, held at Raven Lodge, were sold out. "They seem to be extremely popular still," Curtain said.

Raven Lodge was booked solid for weddings again last summer. "We are still one of the hot spots for weddings in this part of the world," Curtain said.

Many couples are choosing to get married with the majestic Mount Albert Edward and the Beaufort Range as their backdrop, and the Raven Lodge as their reception spot.

NEW MARMOT SALES TEAM

Continued from page 4

"Skiing was kind of a new thing for me," she says. Skiing didn't exist when Deb was growing up in North Yorkshire, England. It wasn't until after her parents emigrated to Sayward on the north end of Vancouver Island that she visited the Resort.

Deb has lived in the Comox Valley since 1978, with a three-year stint in Victoria. She spent 16 years as a flight attendant. She owns her own business, Slipcovers Etc., and works out of her home now.

While raising their son, also named Bayne, Deb got involved with his school parent advisory councils. She is a founding member and Past President of the Rotary Club of Cumberland and has served on the Royal Lepage Snow to Surf Board, among many other volunteering roles.

Deb ran Comox Valley Community Elderhostel for a number of years. She and Bayne both kept up their bus driver licences so they could drive groups on field trips.

Their son has grown up skiing at Mount Washington, and last year spent the winter as a ski instructor.

While sales and marketing have always been facets of their businesses, Bayne admits that taking on the sales job for The Marmot is an exciting challenge. He and Deb have been working with Wendy to ensure a smooth transition.

"It's a little out of our comfort zone for both of us," he says with a smile.

To reach Deb or Bayne, e-mail them at sales@themarmot.ca or phone 250-792-3107 or 250-702-4633.

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Mount Washington Is Key To Recovery Efforts!

It's working... Home to Canada's rare and endangered Vancouver Island marmot, Mount Washington is central to the recovery efforts to save them. Thanks to an active captive breeding and reintroduction program, a wild population of fewer than 30 individuals (2003) is now estimated at 350-400 marmots in the wild.

The problem is, the vast majority of the recovering population is geographically confined to one small region northeast of the Nanaimo Lakes on Vancouver Island. This leaves them vulnerable to random localized events having an exaggerated effect on the species. This is why the Marmot Recovery Foundation is working so hard to increase the marmot's distribution to include more of their historic range.

"Developing a reasonable distribution of inter-dependent colonies in the other regions safeguards the species by spreading the risk," said the Foundation's Executive Director Viki Jackson. "If a colony becomes threatened (or worse) colonies scattered nearby will repopulate it. The same theory applies to distinct metapopulations, which historically provided a safety net for the species that allowed them to survive for thousands of years." Poor first-year survival of the captive-born marmots, being released to rebuild the developing colonies, has increased the challenge of recovering these regions. But Mount Washington itself is providing answers.

Supplemental feeding, known to increase pup production in most species by improving the spring condition of the females, was begun at the Mount Washington colony in



The Foundation is making sure that marmots, like this one at Greig's Ridge in Strathcona Park, have the opportunity to breed and contribute to the redevelopment and long-term security of the species.



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- Your special year-end report about individual marmots

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



This mom and pup at the rebuilt colony at Green Mountain in the southern region show that previously extinct colonies will make a comeback if the marmots are given a chance.

2011 initially to discourage the marmots from putting themselves at risk, by leaving the colony in search of food, when the prolonged spring snow conditions limited their food supply.

"It worked! The marmots stayed put and a boon of pups was born, encouraging us to attempt supplemental feeding at more sites," said Viki.

The boon of pups are not only a boost to their natural colonies, they provide an opportunity to include a few wild-born marmots, with higher overwinter survival, in with the release groups. The wild marmots should have an advantage establishing themselves at the developing colonies where the captive-born marmots are

struggling to gain a foothold.

Mount Washington is also serving as a "preconditioning" colony to see if first-year survival of the captive-born marmots can be improved by releasing them here first, where they can be easily fed and monitored, for their first hibernation in the wild before they're trans-located to the developing sites the following year.

So far results are very positive. Overwinter survival of the first test group at Mount Washington was 70% compared to first-year overwinter survival of captive-born marmots at some of the sites in the central and northern regions that has been as low as 10% - 30%.

Continued on page 23

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Some wild yearlings from the Mt Washington colony will be trans-located to the developing sites struggling to gain a foothold.

MARMOT RECOVERY EFFORTS

Continued from page 22

The Mount Washington tests have provided new techniques to help the marmots overcome the “first-year hurdle” in the developing regions. Including wild-born yearlings and “pre-conditioned” captive-born marmots in the release groups may provide the advantage the marmots need to become reestablished at these important historic colony sites, safeguarding the long-term viability the species.

To learn more about the Vancouver Island marmot visit the Foundation’s website at www.marmots.org

Photos by Jared Hobbs, courtesy of the Marmot Recovery Foundation.

VI MOUNTAIN CENTRE

Continued from page 11

“The reason for the change from skiing to snowshoeing is all about inclusiveness. It is much more complicated, and often more intimidating, to learn to ski for people new to the activity than to learn to snowshoe.”

Scherck and other VIMC members spent their downtime between summer and winter seasons finishing five additional rooms on the first floor of the Mountain Centre. Three of the rooms comprise the manager’s suite, which Scherck will move into.

“Last winter I rented a chalet in the village so I walked, skied or snowshoed to the Centre every morning around 8 a.m., then stayed onsite until around 10 p.m.,” he said.

“Having an onsite presence at the Centre was always the intention to help support guests with late-night questions or issues often related to our winter wonderland, such as power outages; but also just to be here if anything popped up.”

One of the remaining rooms will be a multipurpose room slated for different uses. A yoga instructor will run her winter schedule out of the room, and it has been booked for various meetings already. The VIMC will bring in a ping-pong table and other “games room” type of amenities to give locals and visitors something else to do once the Resort lifts close for the night.

The final room is the same size as the massage therapies room off of the lobby but doesn’t have a clear designation. It could serve as a meeting room for athletes and coaches, video critiques or office space.

Scherck and the VIMC board will focus on its Mountain Fitness Centre this winter. “Our Mountain Fitness Centre saw just

over 500 user visits this past year which, considering we did not open the Fitness Centre until the end of January, was OK,” Scherck said. They saw a balance between locals, Resort staff and visiting groups use the facility.

“We definitely are gearing towards increasing these numbers significantly this upcoming year.”

The VIMC has arranged specials for Mount Washington staff and Tourism Mount Washington members. Local mountain sports athletes and their coaches receive free access.

The Fitness Centre is also open to the general public; something that wasn’t well known last season. “Last year was a challenge because not all of the facility was complete, with many portions being completed the day before we opened our doors or in the middle of the ski season,” Scherck said.

“We encourage anyone and everyone to ski or snowshoe on down and come on in for a visit or tour.”

For an online tour, visit the website at www.vimountaincentre.com.

ROYAL LEPAGE SNOW TO SURF

Continued from page 11

Traditionally there were two running segments. Snowshoeing will replace the first running leg and will take place on logging roads from near one of the turnouts on the Strathcona Parkway to the start of the second running leg.

This will detour the race portion that caused congestion on the parkway during the race in previous years. “It should be lots of fun,” Defert said. If the snow levels fluctuate, the snowshoeing can change back to a running leg in any given year.

“We make a change every five or six years,” Snow to Surf chairperson Rick Gibson said. “It makes sense. We always like to keep the race exciting and there are many snowshoers out there.”

Two hundred teams of nine helped Royal lepage Snow to Surf celebrate its 30th anniversary in 2012. The event draws thousands of spectators to Comox Marina, where the race wraps up with the canoeists running up the boat ramp to ring the bell. For more information, check out the Royal LePage Snow to Surf website at www.snowtosurf.com.

Royal LePage Snow To Surf Race Race transition from cross country skiing to running.



Photo: Tim Penny

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Photo: Neil Havers

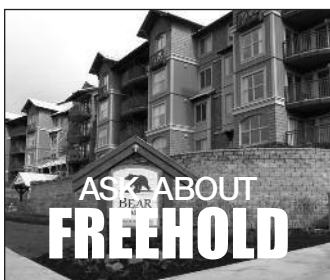
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BEAR LODGE at Mount Washington

Features Include:

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

- 102 2 Bdrm 882 Sq Ft Viewside **\$189,900**
- 105 2 Bdrm 893 Sq Ft Slopeside **\$240,900**
- 201 2 Bdrm 884 Sq Ft Viewside **\$189,900**
- 202 2 Bdrm 879 Sq Ft Viewside **\$234,900**
- 208 1 Bdrm 629 Sq Ft Slopeside **\$169,900**
- 210 2 Bdrm 891 Sq Ft Slopeside **\$244,900**
- 212 3 Bdrm 1013 Sq Ft Corner **\$344,900**
- 301 2 Bdrm 880 Sq Ft Viewside **\$162,500**
- 310 2 Bdrm 882 Sq Ft Slopeside **\$244,900**
- 411 3 Bdrm 1013 Sq Ft Corner Top Floor **\$399,900**



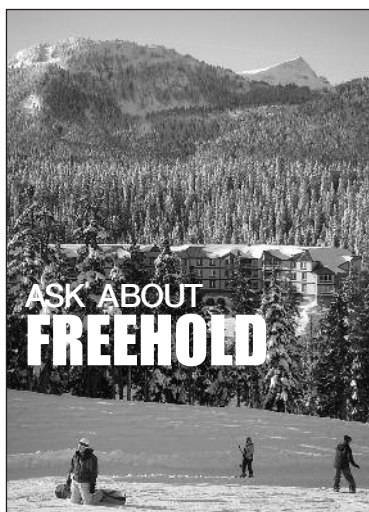
Ptarmigan Ridge

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.

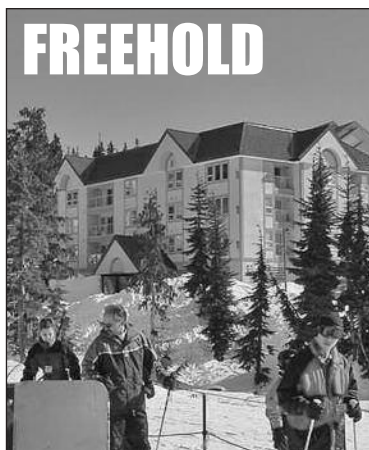
ONE BEDROOM APARTMENTS

- 104 Facing Strathcona Park **\$107,500**
- 106 Facing Strathcona Park **\$99,900**
- 210 Facing Strathcona Park **\$129,900**
- 212 Facing Strathcona Park **\$129,900**
- 309 Top floor, facing ski runs **\$129,900**



Features Include:

- Elevator Access
 - Spectacular Views of Strathcona Park and the Ski Runs
 - Above & Underground Parking
 - Propane Fireplaces
 - Furnished units ready to go
 - Ski Storage Room off the Lobby with separate lockers for renters
- 108 3 Bedroom, facing ski runs **\$174,900**
 - 216 2 Bedrooms facing Strathcona Park **\$178,300**
 - 303 Top Floor (921 sq. ft.) 2 Bedroom, facing Strathcona Park **\$189,900**



Creekside House

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

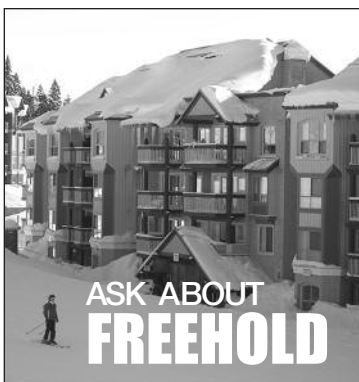
- 301 Top Floor, 3 bedroom sunny slopeside **\$374,900**

PARADISE RIDGE

Features Include:

- Outdoor Swimming Pool, Sauna & Hot Tub
- Underground Parking
- Propane Fireplaces
- Ski Storage Room off Lobby
- Convenient Location to Amenities
- Mountain / Strathcona Park Views

- 111 Freehold - 3 Bedroom facing Strathcona Park **\$249,900**
- 113 Freehold - 2 Bedroom facing Strathcona Park **\$164,900**
- 407 Freehold - 2 Bedroom facing ski runs and Strathcona Park **\$219,900**
- 506 3 Bedroom Penthouse facing Strathcona Park and ski runs **\$199,900**



DEER LODGE AT MT. WASHINGTON

Features Include:

- Slopeside Location
 - Fully Furnished
 - Front Desk Service
 - Underground Parking
 - Hot Tub
 - Caretaker
- 110 2 Bedroom, larger than most **\$234,900**
 - 201 2 Bedroom facing Strath. Park **\$159,900**
 - 207 2 Bedroom facing ski runs **\$179,900**
 - 313 2 Bedroom Lock-off facing Strathcona Park **\$219,900**



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 **\$384,900**
- Four Bedroom Freehold **\$399,500**

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Two Bedroom Freehold Condo

This top floor alpine village home has been updated with a gourmet kitchen including pine cabinetry, slate backsplash, hardwood floor, bar, jenn-air grill, new appliances, new carpet, wood-trimmed windows and river rock fireplace. Quiet with two decks you have sweeping views in almost all directions. Loads of storage, 2 bathrooms, sauna and much much more. **\$199,900**



Mountainside at Mount Wahington

Top Floor two bedroom lockoff suite with views West into Strathcona Park for sunset views. Easy access to Hawk Chairlift in winter and Strathcona Park. Under building parking, shared hot tub and storage. Top floor corner for peace and quiet. Use the whole property as a two bedroom or it locks off as a one bedroom suite and a studio suite. **\$199,900**



Skier Friendly Floor Plan!

3 level townhouse all decked out and ready to sell. 3 Bedrooms, 2 baths and a sauna. Easy access to parking and skiing. Very private location. Thoughtful skiler friendly floor plan. **\$174,900**

FREEHOLD**Sunset Views of Strathcona Park!**

A very unique property in the Alpine Village. Only 14 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.

\$599,900

FREEHOLD**Perched on a Ridge!**

3 bedroom executive townhome with stunning spectacular views of Strathcona Park. The Master suite encompasses the entire top floor and the Living room is vaulted almost up the roof of the entire building. Common area includes, hot tub on it's own private deck and sauna. What more to say than "WOW!"

Suite C **\$399,900**

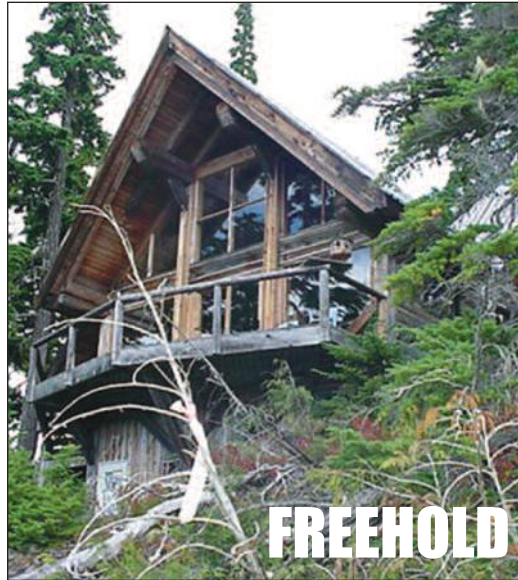
FREEHOLD**Once in a Lifetime!**

Once in a while a unique property becomes available. This legal duplex on Mount Washington has it all. What you get is two legal titles and the two units share a common area. Within the common area is a third suite! Each side has 2 bedrooms and spacious plans. The common area which includes a large family room, sauna, kitchen, bathroom & bedroom. Ideal for 2 or more families with spectacular views. Buy the package and then sell one of the off, or keep the other. WOW - this one has many options!

PLEASE CALL

Three Decks! >

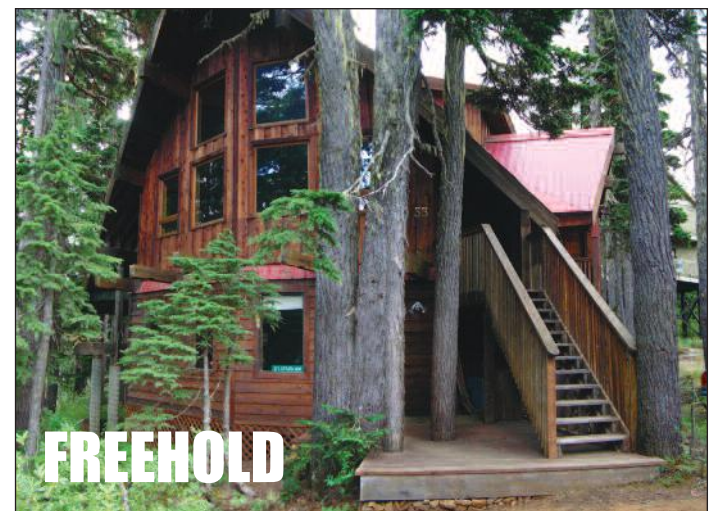
Looking for something different? Your front door opens onto Strathcona Park while your back door opens onto Hawk chair-lift. 3 bedrooms plus lofts with above average finishing including maple flooring, tile in bathrooms, fir doors, wood blinds and more. Sauna and rough-in for hot tub. Loads of storage and 3 decks!! Skylights, vaulted ceilings in main area & 10 ft ceilings down. Wow!! This is a must see **\$449,900**

**FREEHOLD****Nestled in the Trees! >**

Nestled in the trees in the heart of the Alpine Village is "Doug's Chalet". This 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. The main area includes a towering floor to ceiling brick fireplace and vaulted ceilings. A very cozy kitchen complements the living area. The home sleeps 6 comfortably. A sauna and jetted tubs round out the upper suite. Downstairs is a spacious self contained two bedroom suite. The home is well cared for and has an area where a hot tub could be installed. **\$549,900**

FREEHOLD**FREEHOLD****< The Epotome of a Ski Chalet!**

Your own log cabin perched high on a ridge with the most incredible views of Strathcona Park you can find. 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 many special features such as stained glass, hand carved mantel and very cozy touches. This has been a very popular rental with strong repeat business. If you are looking for a true mountain hideaway, yet with easy access to Mount Washington, look no further. **\$489,900**

**FREEHOLD****< Big Red Chalet**

Big Red Chalet, located within Mount Washington Alpine Resort, is a brand new chalet available for sale. This family ready property has the capacity to sleep 12 to 16 people and have two complete suites available either together or separate. The drive-in location, heated driveway with double car garage and parking for six vehicles is convenient and rare to find. With beautiful mountain views and all the comforts of home, Big Red is the ideal destination. There are five bedrooms in total (2 in upper suite and 3 in main suite) and two bathrooms. Large deck on the main suite and smaller in the upper. Built for snow, this chalet is perched on the upper side of the road with encompassing views into the park. The driveway is heated, so ice will not build up. A lot of thought went into the design and this is the ideal property for someone wanting either a larger mountain home or a smaller one with a rental suite.

\$599,900

MileHigh.ca





A Sought After Property...

in a sought after location! Lovingly maintained by its owners "Chalet 43" offers a 4 bedroom main suite on the upper two floors and a self contained two bedroom suite on the lower floor. The main suite is open in design with many recent upgrades from the ground up including flooring, doors and plumbing. Very well thought out design, offering fantastic accommodation and a floor plan "that works!" Two bathrooms, one with a gorgeous jetted tub. The lower 2 bedroom suite is spacious and cozy with a large living/kitchen area. A shared sauna and ample storage rounds out the package. Chalet 43 is located close to parking yet EASY access to the slopes. Tucked into the sidehills, it is close to everything yet sitting on the large deck you are hidden in the woods. **\$635,900**



Large Family Chalet

Are you looking for that large family chalet on Mount Washington? You will get the sun all day from the gorgeous mountain home. Well built, 3 floors with 5 bedrooms and other sleeping areas. There is a cozy woodstove and fireplace for warming up. After a long day on the slopes enjoy the hot tub and sauna. The games room comes with shuffleboard, foosball and a projection TV. There is about 1000 sq. ft. of basement that could be further developed. Year round recreational area. New windows and metal siding. Converted to freehold. **\$649,900**



Perched on a Knoll...

to take in sunset views of Strathcona Park. This chalet in Mount Washington's Alpine Village is perfectly set up for the large family or the family wanting a great rental property with one of the nicest owner's suite available. Easy access to parking and virtually ski in and out to the ski lifts. The mountain home has three distinct living areas, a lower two bedroom owner's suite that is sunny and bright, and main floor 5 bedroom main suite with huge entertainment friendly kitchen and living area and an upper bachelor suite. The whole property is meticulously maintained with new hardiplank siding on the exterior. Loads of storage inside and very well thought out design. Wood fireplace in the upper main suite and electric fireplace in the owners suite. **PLEASE CALL**



One of Mount Washington's Finest!

Located at the end of Fosters Place, this truly ski in and ski out Freehold chalet is situated to take in the morning and afternoon sun yet less than 100 feet away from the slopes. The mountain home was custom built with insulated concrete walls with R50 insulation. Inside are two propane fireplaces, HRV system, Low E windows throughout, 4 bathrooms, central vacuum, 2 hot water tanks, private concrete patios (both wired for hot tubs). The home has been split into two areas, the main part with 4 bedrooms and the owners suite with 2 bedrooms. Plus, the over height basement (11 foot ceilings) is ideal for getting out of the winter weather or workshop or ? In the main area, take advantage of the spectacular views of the Beaufort Mountain Range and the vistas of Strathcona Park from the expansive outdoor patio, or put a hot tub on the upstairs deck located privately off the master bedroom. **\$849,900**



2700 Square Feet of Luxury!

Never before has a home of this style and quality been available on the Mount Washington 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. If you have been looking for the "something special", this is the one. **\$799,900**



The Best of the Best!

Log home for sale on Fosters Place. Over 3,000 sqft of luxury in this 3 level home at bottom of cul-de-sac. A snowballs throw from ski runs. Lower floor could easily be converted to additional accommodation. Large deck, gourmet kitchen, cathedral ceiling in living room, etc. If you have seen the rest & want the best - this is it! Views from the large deck over Strathcona Park. This is one of only a few properties on Mount Washington that are drive in and ski out and unobstructed views. **\$799,900**



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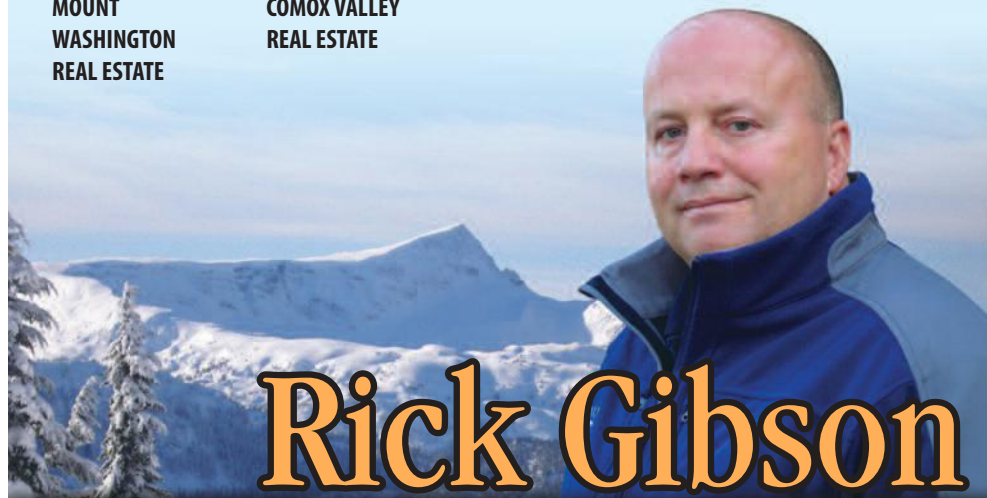
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MOUNT WASHINGTON ACCOMMODATIONS

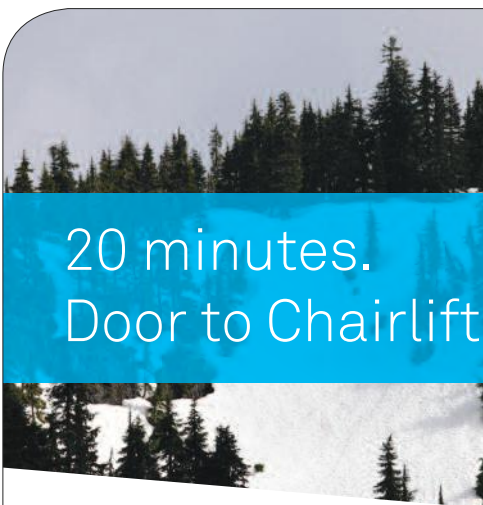


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* For complete details, please contact a Couverdon sales representative. The Developer reserves the right to make modifications and changes to the information contained herein. Photos and maps are representational and are not accurate. Prices are subject to change. E. & O.E.

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