



# THE INSIDE TRACK

A newsletter for members of Porcupine Ski Runners

Fall Issue

October 2010

## Looking Forward to a New Ski Season!

We will start this ski season in our new chalet as the Nordic Centre Project draws to final completion. This project was a colossal undertaking for our club and beyond the financial investment in the future, it's been extremely demanding on a few volunteers. It's now time to rejuvenate our membership around our common passion for cross country skiing and snowshoeing. We can all do this by encouraging friends and families to try cross country skiing and snowshoeing and volunteering a little time to support club activities.

New members. New volunteers. New ideas. New energy. Improved activities and utilization of the facilities! We look forward to hearing from you! - *Greg Deyne, President*

## Newsletter

### *Gerry McNair*

This edition of *The Inside Track* is being edited by Vicki Butterworth. On behalf of the PSR board of directors, I welcome Vicki as one more of our valued volunteers. She responded to a request in the Spring Issue of our newsletter for a volunteer to take over the editing job and has actually helped us out prior to working on this newsletter. In August, she designed a new brochure for the club. We needed this brochure to be available for the Welcome to Timmins evening in early September and she put together a very attractive colour flyer with an English and a French version. Involved as a board member of the Timmins Porcupine Figure Skating Club for seven years, it didn't take long

for Vicki to realize that PSR volunteers don't work only during the winter season.

Club directors provide the content for the newsletter as they did for the brochure, but putting it all together, checking for errors and adding graphics are the things our editor does. Thanks Vicki!

## Official Opening

### *Noëlla McNair*

The official opening of the Xstrata Copper chalet will take place on *Sunday, November 21st*. We will celebrate this event with the community. To further ensure the success of the day, the date chosen coincides with the ski and equipment swap/sale. The doors of the chalet will be open from 9AM to

4PM. There will be free refreshments available all day long.

The official portion of the day will occur at 1PM with brief remarks by representatives of the three levels of government and other major donors. Of course the media will also be invited to cover the event. Write this date on your calendar and plan to be there with your family, friends and neighbours. There will be an open invitation to the public closer to the actual event.

We welcome the community in helping us celebrate the completion of this project conceived more than 5 years ago. Congratulations to the team who made it come true and thank you to the community that supported us.

Ouverture officielle

Noëlla McNair

L'ouverture officielle du chalet Xstrata Copper aura lieu le 21 novembre. Nous voulons célébrer cet événement avec toute la communauté. Pour assurer un grand succès, la date choisie coïncide avec l'échange de ski et d'équipement usagés. Les portes du chalet seront ouvertes de 9:00 à 16:00. Il y aura une variété de rafraîchissements tout au cours de la journée.

A 13:00 aura lieu le programme officiel avec de courts discours des représentants des trois niveaux gouvernementaux et autres donateurs principaux. Tout ceci se déroulera en présence de la média.

Alors inscrivez cette date à votre calendrier. Venez en famille et invitez des amis et des voisins à vous accompagner. Il faut célébrer en grand nombre la réalisation de ce projet conçu il y a plus de 5 ans.

Félicitations à l'équipe qui y a oeuvré et merci à la communauté qui nous a appuyé.

Membership

Gerry McNair

We have enclosed an *Application for Membership* form. Please complete the application

carefully and enter all the requested information. If the basic data from last season's record is pasted on the form, please update any incorrect, changed or new information. Note that there is a *Waiver* on the back of the application this year. For insurance purposes it is important that you complete this form and *sign it*.

Membership fees have increased this year. No doubt you are aware that the change from GST to HST has placed an 8% increase on our fees, but we have included an additional increase to help cover rising costs. The fee you pay includes the HST and \$12 per member as liability insurance fee combined with a registration fee for the senior ski associations to which we belong. The very reasonable liability insurance rates are possible only through our association with Northern Ontario Ski Division, Cross Country Ontario and Cross Country Canada.

Lockers are available for rent and we have more lockers now than we had in the old chalet. The rental fee has not changed from last year and there is a one-time initiation fee of \$200 in order to secure a locker to rent. If you have already paid that initiation fee, then you need pay only the rental fee. If you donated at least \$200 to the Nordic

Centre Project in past years, your initiation fee is considered paid. There are a number of members who have made such a donation but do not rent a locker. These members may wish to consider asking for a locker to rent - very convenient.



Porcupine Ski Runners is a *cross country ski and snowshoe club*. Of course, that means that we have snowshoe trails. If you have a membership to ski, then you may use the snowshoe trails without additional cost. Or you may join as a *snowshoe only* member at a lesser cost by submitting the same application form and indicating this choice. Please remember to pass on this information to any person you think might be interested in snowshoeing. We can continue our low membership rates if we continue to have a large membership. Encourage people you know who are not members to join PSR. There is strength in numbers, both financially and in volunteers.

We are continuing with the opportunity to buy a "flat rate" trail fee with Iroquois Falls Cross Country Ski Club. This is an excellent opportunity to enjoy the trails at a different club with very

little cost. The fee is \$20 for individuals and \$35 for families. With this one-time payment, you may ski at Iroquois Falls without additional cost. If you are interested, simply check the appropriate box and include the payment with your PSR membership fee. There is no need for a separate cheque.



Trails & Equipment

**Gerry Perreault**

As many of you may already know, we suffered some severe damage on the 5km loop that was located on the Olympic trail due to the fire last spring. After we walked the burned out section, it looked like it could have been salvaged and used. Unfortunately the owner decided to clear cut the area. Basically it is now lost until reforestation takes over.

Adding to our problem of relocating the trail is the present study and plan by Goldcorp to place a haul road in the same area. This will delay trail relocation for the short term. Goldcorp and a group from PSR are working together on this issue.

No new trail improvement or upgrade of equipment took place since last season. Of course we will have to become familiar with the hydraulic track setter as it was tested only 3 times last season. The brush cutting and removing of downfall started the first weekend in September and is now completed, thanks to our leader and organizer Ray Denis along with all of the others: leader - Gerry Perreault; brush hog operator - Rick Demers; cutters - Rene Lacasse, David Golinowski, Cheryl Allard, Ryan Allard, Rick Allard, Theodore Manseau, Frank Boulanger, Luc Murray, George Dasovich, Robert White, Robert Coderre, Jeff Morrish, Greg Deyne, Dale Columbus, John Labine, Dave Foster, Bruce McIvor with his wife and David Kapias.

Don Sutton will be checking the trail lights soon. I have not yet checked with our team of trail groomers to see who is available for this coming season. Hopefully we will have a season that is mild but longer than last year.

Jackrabbits

**Kelleigh Manseau**

A few new and exciting changes are occurring this year with the LTAD/JR program. The Jackrabbit and Track Attack programs are expanding to include dry

land training. As a result, our season will begin *Sunday November 28th at 1:30PM*. The Bunny program (5 years old and younger) will start in the New Year on *Sunday January 9th at 1:30PM*. All programs will end mid-March.

Other initiatives that will be undertaken are Sign Up Your Child and Sign Up Yourself and Lug a Mug, as well as online registration through Zone 4 on the PSR website or [www.zone4.ca](http://www.zone4.ca). This will be the only way for parents to register their children in the Jackrabbit/Bunny program. This form of membership and program renewal is designed to make registration easier and more convenient for parents as well as club co-ordinators.

*Registration for both programs will end Sunday, December 12th.*

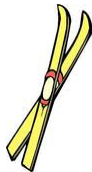
A short meeting for all parents, to explain these changes and outline the new season, will be held at the chalet on *Wednesday, November 24th at 7:00PM*. Should that date not be convenient, a second meeting is scheduled for *Thursday, November 25th at 7:00PM*. Last year's participants will receive a reminder email. We urge all parents to attend.

Ski Swap

*Kelleigh Manseau*

Used equipment (no 3 pin) and gently used winter wear can be dropped off at the chalet on *Saturday November 20th from 9AM until 2PM.*

A small percentage of the proceeds from sales will be retained to support our race team. Ski waxing will also be available with proceeds going toward the PSR Race Team. New and used equipment, as well



as waxes, memberships and clothing will be sold on *Sunday November 21st.* Doors will open at 9:00AM. Please check the events calendar on our website at [www.porcupineskirunners.com](http://www.porcupineskirunners.com) for more details. We are pleased to now offer Interac and Visa as additional payment options.

Snowshoe Rentals

*Kelleigh Manseau*

Through a grant from the Communities in Action Fund - Ministry of Health,

Porcupine Ski Runners, in partnership with the Porcupine Health Unit, Kidsport and the YMCA, has obtained 100 pairs of snowshoes for rental purposes. D&L Docks was the successful bid on this project and has also made a generous donation of ten extra pairs of snowshoes. This is a great opportunity for schools and groups to stay active throughout the winter. We offer almost 10 km of packed trails that have been cut through a scenic Boreal forest.

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