

Please note: These minutes are *provisional and subject to the approval* of the 2011 AGM.

SENIORS ALPINE SKI CLUB
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**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT 10:35 A.M.
ON THURSDAY, MAY 27, 2010, IN THE THORNCLIFFE ROOM
AT THORNCLIFFE-GREENVIEW COMMUNITY CENTRE**

CHAIRMAN AND SECRETARY: Club President, Tom Swaddle, acted as Chairman of the meeting and Richard Koslowski, Secretary, recorded the Minutes.

1. NOTICE OF QUORUM

Sixty-three members were in attendance. Notice of the meeting having been given in issues of the *Ski Chatter* and the *Bulletin* and a quorum being present, the Chairman declared the meeting to be duly constituted to conduct Club business.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted unanimously as presented.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 2009 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

No errors or omissions pertaining the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on May 27th, 2009, were noted by the members in attendance.

Motion: Moved by Donna Fallon and seconded by Judy Creed that the Minutes of the 2009 Annual General Meeting be adopted as presented. CARRIED nem. con.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 2009 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

There were no submissions pertaining to these Minutes.

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Tom Swaddle

The President welcomed all members to the meeting, and expressed his sincere thanks to all those who served the Club as volunteers as well as to all members of the Board, past and present.

Canada Olympic Park: Efforts continue to establish Canada Olympic Park as an in-town base for members in the Calgary area. Registration days for 2010 are tentatively set for October 16th and November 20th (Saturdays) with a "Let's Get Acquainted Day" tentatively set for Tuesday, December 7th. Negotiations continue for special Club season passes and discounts on COP merchandise and services including ski instruction. Conversely, COP has requested SASC help in promoting its events.

Lake Louise Ski Area: In addition to our informal Ski Days at COP on Tuesdays, Nakiska on Wednesdays and Mt. Norquay on Thursdays, Lake Louise Ski Area has proposed a Seniors' Day on Mondays with reserved space in the Lodge of the Ten Peaks (Great Bear Room). Specially priced season lift tickets and ski instruction, and bus transportation from Calgary to the hill, are also proposed. A three day SASC tour, probably based at the Lake Louise Inn, is suggested for the week of December 13th-17th (i.e., after the World Cup events).

Ski with the Kids: Unseasonably cold weather in December forced postponement of our “Let’s Get Acquainted Day” and two “Ski with the Kids” days. The Ski with the Kids program also suffered from changes in COP instructional methods and from strict application of Calgary Board of Education policies, with the result that the Board voted on April 19th, 2010, “to place the program on hold until the situation with Calgary Board of Education and Canada Olympic Park be resolved to make it a more meaningful experience for our volunteers”.

Sports Accident Insurance/Tour Cancellation Refund: Weather also contributed in to a rash of injuries to Club members, despite which no claims were made on our Sports Accident Insurance Policy in 2009-2010. AGM attendees were asked for their opinions as to whether this program, which costs \$900-950 annually, should be continued. These injuries also affected attendance on some tours, prompting the Board to vote on April 19th to discontinue the tour cancellation refund scheme.

Fly ‘n’ Ski: The continuation of this very popular program depends on a member volunteering as organizer. The tour to Chile (not part of our regular tour program) will go ahead in August, 2010.

Ski Race Training: The three day Ski Racing Training program provided by Derald and Adolf Brunnhofer was highly successful and will be continued in 2010-2011 if there is sufficient interest.

Ski Chatter: Electronic delivery of *Ski Chatter* has saved the Club much money, and provides subscribers with the newsletter in full colour more than seven days earlier than by Canada Post. Those few members with internet access who have not yet gone over to electronic delivery are strongly encouraged to do so by contacting Jim Kinnaird.

Alberta Personal Information Privacy Act: The Club is required under this Act to establish a Privacy Policy and appoint an officer to oversee compliance with the Act. The Board has placed this responsibility on the President. Compliance with this Act will be discussed as Agenda Item 10.1.

Discussion of Sports Accident Insurance: Several members acknowledged the use of this insurance in the past and its value. Concern was expressed regarding return transportation of injured members from ski areas and other associated expenses. Rick Madsen suggested that a total review process with input from the membership at large be conducted to address this issue.

6. TREASURER’S REPORT – STU KINSEY

The Treasurer pointed out that the financial transactions conducted by the Club during a season range in excess of \$200,000. This includes prepayment of costs for accommodation, transportation, and ski area lift access. As such, the Club has a large cash flow but must guard against accumulating profit as this could endanger its tax exempt status.

Overall, tours realized a surplus of approximately \$2000 with a write down of \$1000 due to the cessation of operations of Ski n’ Sun.

The most significant transaction was the transfer of \$10,354 to the reformed Northern Branch as a separate Club.

Current operations are in a loss position due to the funding of the Ski with the Kids program with its future continuation being currently reviewed by the Board.

Copies of the Club’s Financial Report with Financial Review Committee certification are available for members.

Motion: Moved by Peter Morgan and seconded by Derek Reid that the Treasurer’s Report for the Fiscal Year ended March 31, 2010, be accepted as presented. CARRIED nem. con.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Advertising – Lois Henderson: Again, this past year advertising has been difficult to obtain. Over 30 potential advertisers were contacted with four responding with advertisements. Special thanks to John Eliuk for supporting the *Ski Chatter* each and every issue. Other advertisers included Ski Cellar, Cahilty Lodge, Nakiska, and Fairmont Hot Springs.

Membership – Jim Kinnaird: Membership at this time is 445 total including 10 life members. This total is down 30 from last year. Following are itemized membership details.

	2009-10	2008-09
Area Code 403		
Members	424	439
Life Members	7	7
New	63	88
Renewed	355	344
Not Renewed	77	80
Renewal Rate	82.2%	81.1%
Other Area Codes		
Members	21	36
Life Members	3	3
New	6	12
Renewed	12	21
Not Renewed	21	348
Renewal Rate	36.4%	5.7%
Totals		
Members	445	475
Life Members	10	10
New	69	100
Renewed	367	365
Not Renewed	98	428
Renewal Rate	78.9%	46%

In summary, memberships for the Club are down year over year by 6%. The most significant impact on membership was a decline in the number of new members recruited this year. Thirty percent fewer new members joined this year over last year. Club Bulletins are e-mailed to a list of 343 members and two prospective members maintained by the membership director.

A thank you to all those who brought in new members this year with particular thanks to Donna Michael, Publicity Director, for arranging promotional events and having articles of Club interest included in local publications and circulars.

Members are encouraged to contact either the Membership Director or Publicity Director with suggestions for recruiting members or promotions for the Club.

The President advised of the availability of a Club business card that can be used by members for recruiting purposes.

and **Newsletter/Website – Donna Fallon:** Being aware of what is happening in our Club taking part in its various activities is what brings members together. It is the Newsletter

and Website Editor's role to help maintain that connection in our Club by gathering the entries from members so that the layout person, Blaine Marler, can maintain the Website and do the layout for the *Ski Chatter*.

Ski Chatter was published its usual eight times this past year with the next issue for July/August due out in early July. More than three quarters of members subscribe online which greatly reduces the Club's printing and mailing costs.

Complete Club information and access to past *Ski Chatters* are available on the Website.

Deepest gratitude is extended to all who provided the support needed during the past two years with special thanks to Lynn and Art Torrens who continue to do the Canada Post mail-outs.

Members were reminded that skiing-related stories and photographs are always welcome.

In answer to a question from the floor, the President affirmed that, henceforth, anyone for whom we have an e-mail address will receive *Ski Chatter* by e-mail unless they individually ask to receive it by Canada Post.

Helen Yau extended special thanks to Donna for her dedicated service as Newsletter/Website Director.

Past President – Gerry Oliver: The Club's Sport Accident Insurance Policy is with a company called Industrial Alliance Pacific. The cost of this insurance for this year was \$923 or \$2.07 per member. It has remained the same for the last five years. There were no claims made against this policy in the past year.

Liability Insurance for Directors and Volunteers this year was contracted with The Sovereign General Insurance Company at a slightly lower cost of \$650 or \$1.46 per member. This includes coverage for members acting as Tour Hosts.

Annual returns were submitted to the Corporate Registry of Alberta Societies as required.

No changes were made to the Club's By-Laws during the past year. Major changes were effected within the past two years.

The Handbook for the Board of Directors was maintained and distributed as required.

Pot-luck Suppers – Shirley Roddick: Club members once again enthusiastically embraced monthly Potluck dinners. The dinners were well supported with those attending enjoying the camaraderie, the wine, and the excellent variety of food that was presented.

very The season began with the annual outdoor Barbecue or Fish Fest at Ridgeback Hall, the home of Suzanne Gill with able assistance from Judy Creed. This was followed by a pleasant evening with youthful valet service at Ann Gammell's residence during October. Donna Cornea hosted in November with the Christmas party once again at the home of Maurice and Dorothy Tyler. A smaller gathering was held at the home of Gail Ennis during January with overflow taken up by Marion Rogers and Norman Dymond. Faye and John Ackerman were once again the amiable hosts in February followed by John Eliuk hosting a dinner in the spacious social room at his Sandstone Condominium in March which was something quite different and enjoyable.

A big thank you to all who generously opened their homes for these events with the wish that hosting was as enjoyable as being a guest.

The Club welcomes volunteers interested in hosting a dinner for the coming season. Guests provide the food and drinks. Number of guests to attend is set by the host. This is an ideal setting for new and old members to meet and get to know each other.

Dinners will start in October with the final one being held during March, 2011.

Publicity – Donna Michael (Report presented by Jim Kinnaird): Word of mouth which is one of the best vehicles for advertising the Club has resulted in many new members joining our ranks. As well, the white badges that members wear whilst on the hill are another means of free and effective publicity for the Club.

Notices about the Club were submitted on a regular basis to local and outlying newspapers as a means to encourage awareness of the Club and to increase membership. Brochures were distributed to the majority of ski shops in Calgary, to many community facilities and were on display at the Calgary Ski Sale and Kerby Centre Open House. Business cards for Club promotional purposes were printed with members being encouraged to carry and distribute them during their everyday activities.

Ski Hills – Derek Reid: The aim of the Club is to get the best deals possible for discount cards and day lift passes. Many thanks are extended to Hans Zechner and Tom Swaddle for their contribution as contacts with Nakiska and Canada Olympic Park respectively.

Area ski hills did not generate the anticipated visitor base this season due to lack of snow and the uncertain economic times resulting in fewer deals.

Wednesdays at Nakiska once again proved to be popular with the resort offering new packages to promote more visitors. It once again demonstrated the best après ski event attendance. As suggested by several members, arrangements for a larger reserved area for this purpose will be requested for next season.

Lake Louise is promoting seniors sessions for Mondays with possibly the best discount card value available.

Neither Sunshine Village nor Norquay improved on previous year discounts.

Canada Olympic Park is seeking volunteers for next season.

Ski With The Kids – Diane Trimming: A report of the current status of this program was included in the April/May 2010 *Ski Chatter*. At this time, the Club's objectives are not being met. As the Club contributes approximately \$2000 annually and provides volunteers for this program, the consensus is that all parties should be fully satisfied with its operation. Shortfalls are evident in Canada Olympic Park's station advancement instructional model now used (fewer instructors) which slows the progress of student participants to ride the chair lift. Calgary Board of Education policies have also caused this program to be less effective. An improvement in the relationship between these organizations is necessary in order to enhance this program. The status quo is not what the Club wants nor deserves.

The recent addition of Police checks of volunteers has also become an encumbrance in arrangements for this program.

The focus must be the future and continuation of this program, if possible. In this regard the Club has taken the position to place the program on hold until the situation with CBE and COP has been resolved to make it a more meaningful experience for Club volunteers.

Motion: Moved by Rick Madsen and seconded by Nancy Geisler that a sum not to exceed \$2,200 be set aside on a conditional basis for the Ski with the Kids Program, the use of these funds to be subject to approval by the Board of Directors of the Club. CARRIED nem. con.

Social – Donna Cornea (Report Presented by Fran Koenders): The Christmas Dinner/Dance was a huge success with 222 attendees. Big band music was provided by the Sentimental Journey Band. A bar profit of \$585 which far exceeded expectations was realized. A Barber Shop Singing Group provided traditional seasonal fare.

“Let's Get Acquainted Day”, set for December 8th, had to be rescheduled to January 5th due to extremely cold weather. A fun filled day was had by all.

Eighty-six gals and guys attended the Spring Stomp, a Western theme event, that was much enjoyed by all. Good fortune in the form of an ATCO sports discount allowed for a bottle each of red and white wine per table. Decorations provided by Pauline Schmidt were much appreciated.

A much deserved thank you is extended to Fran Koenders, Dorothy Tyler, Carla Wearmouth, Maureen West, Brenda Miller, Judy Dunsmore and Pauline Schmidt for their assistance in organizing and providing their services for social events during the past two years.

Tours – Peter Morgan: Ski 'n' Sun went out business during 2009 owing the Club approximately \$1,100, resulting in arrangements being completed directly with hotels, transportation companies and ski hills. This has provided the Club with a revenue surplus this year thus avoiding a financial loss due to medical cancellations.

There was one less bus tour this year compared to last. This was to avoid financial losses for the year as experienced in 2009. Hotels were requested to permit a certain number of cancellations up to 72 hours prior to arrival to save costs. All hotels with the exception of Sunshine and Silver Star agreed to this arrangement.

Sunshine Village: As happened in previous years, shortly prior to our arrival, Sunshine

Village offered rates on the internet lower than the prices quoted to the Club. In March, there were only four reservations for the April tour. Sunshine was advised the cancellation of the tour would be necessary if they were unwilling to offer comparable rates. Agreement to this request resulted in a reasonable turnout for this tour due to the efforts of the tour host, Marianne Steffens. As the prices at Sunshine are very high, Sunshine is not a recommended destination for next season.

Sun Peaks: Very popular as always, however, insufficient numbers to warrant a second bus which can create its own problems with numbers at the resort. The recommendation is to consider having two tours to Sun Peaks next year, one in January and the other in March.

Silver Star: A popular destination which is becoming very expensive. Silver Star and Big White have the worst cancellation requirements which require firm commitments 60 days in advance of arrival versus the 30 days of other locations. Consideration would not be given to accepting a small number of cancellations closer to the date of arrival. Their unwillingness to relax this condition should result in removing this area as a destination.

Kimberley: This year the dates for this tour conflicted with the Vancouver Olympics which probably impacted numbers. The minimum number of participants (42) reserved for this tour with a small financial loss occurring.

Marmot Basin: This tour is very popular and probably the best value of all tours despite the levy for Park fees. As a result of the Club's letter to the Minister for National Parks, Jim Prentice, and a write-in campaign by members to their MPs, this fee will no longer apply to members who hold valid Park passes. This, unfortunately, will entail additional responsibility for the tour host.

Cancellation Fund: This year, the Club added a \$10 fee to the cost for each person participating in a tour to cover the cost of medical cancellations. This generated \$2,290. Medical cancellations totalled \$8,160. The Club was able to recover all but \$1,861 of this amount because of the cancellation policies negotiated coupled with the ability to recover the cost of lift tickets which were purchased directly. There is a concern surrounding the exposure the Club has to cancellations, and the Board has agreed that in future the Club will only refund the amounts that can be recovered from suppliers. The \$10 levy on each person will be dropped and participants will have to arrange any cancellation coverage directly with an insurer.

Subsidies for Group Dinners on Tours: Several members inquired about some tours having larger subsidies than others for group dinners. The subsidy is dependent upon the number of participants on the tour. Tour pricing is based on calculating the break-even point for 42 participants. If this number is exceeded, the unit cost on the bus is reduced resulting in more complimentary rooms and lift tickets. These are the funds that are used to subsidize group dinners.

Tour Hosts: A vote of thanks was extended to those who volunteered as tour hosts, specifically Barb Stevenson, Shirley Tacjnar, Celia Chan and Helen Kwan, Louise Nielsen, Peter Gillingham, Rick Madsen and Marianne Steffens. Special mention was also made of spouses and partners of this group for their support and assistance provided. Interested members to host tours for next season may submit their names to the Tour Director.

Volunteers/Carpooling – Suzanne Gill: A special thank you to all volunteers who assisted at Club functions: potlucks, both registration sessions, the Annual General Meeting, carpooling, telephoning new members, barbecue, golf day, and the telephone network for those members without e-mail. Their contributions of time and energy have made organizing Club events much easier. The Google group for carpooling has seen an increase in use this year.

8. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS – GERRY OLIVER**

According to Club By-Laws, the Board of Directors of the Club should consist of the immediate Past President and 12 Directors. During the past year, the Club has had a President and only 11 Directors as the position formerly held by the Northern Branch has remained vacant.

President Tom Swaddle has completed three years in this office and will replace Gerry Oliver as Past President.

Other Directors completing terms of office this year are Lois Henderson, Donna Fallon, Peter Morgan and Donna Cornea—a well deserved thank you to all.

Returning Directors for the upcoming year are Suzanne Gill, Jim Kinnaird, Stu Kinsey, Richard Koslowski, Donna Michael and Derek Reid.

Five members have agreed to have their names stand for election to the Board of Directors, namely Budge Burrows, Rick Madsen, Marianne Flanagan, Sirpa Torrence and Bill Whittaker.

Nominations were solicited from the floor. As no further nominations were forthcoming, nominations for office was declared closed.

MOTION: Moved by Gerry Oliver and seconded by Bill Tajcnar to have Budge Burrows, Rick Madsen, Marianne Flanagan, Sirpa Torrence and Bill Whittaker to hold office on the Board of Directors for a two year term or until they retire or their successors are duly elected or appointed. CARRIED nem. con.

The Board will consist of a Past President and 11 Directors with one vacancy.

9. VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARD 2010 – PETER GILLINGHAM: Diane Trimming has been an enthusiastic and tireless leader for the Ski with the Kids program for the past 11 years. To honour this service, Peter Gillingham (last year's award recipient) presented her with this year's award on behalf of the Club. Diane will be donating the \$200 that is included with this award to the Women's Shelter.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Privacy Policy – Tom Swaddle: The Board has adopted the following policy as required by the Alberta Personal Information Privacy Act:

1. Members' personal information is collected under conditions of strict confidentiality and shall not be released except to Board members for administrative use, to those authorized by the Board to run programs such as tours, dinner/dances and carpooling, and to fellow participants on a particular tour.
2. Members who receive the personal information of others, for example through participation in tours, must treat this information as confidential.

When joining the Club, members will be required to sign a statement agreeing to abide by the Club Privacy Policy.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Jack De Lorme reminded members of the +55 Winter Games for next year. The Zone Ski Off will be at Nakiska during January with the Provincial Ski Off being held in Edmonton during February.

12. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business the following motion was introduced: **MOTION: Moved by Ken Watson and seconded by Ken Stevenson that the meeting be adjourned. CARRIED nem. con.**

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m. with members being invited to attend the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon so graciously arranged by Suzanne Gill and volunteers.

Richard Koslowski
Secretary

Tom Swaddle
President

May 30, 2010

