



Presidents Report by John Bowes

December 17, 2015... I just went for a lovely run. Trails were dry, sun was shining, temperatures were quite pleasant. I had discussions with several folks about going out for walks, runs and trail rides. What a glorious time this would be, if it was September. Unfortunately, as I ran through the forest, I could not help feel disappointment for the lack of snow on the trails. It has been a tough start to the season for sure. Let us all do what we can to make that snow come.

Having said that, there are signs of hope. We did have a tease of snow at the end of November. This snow showed us that all the hard work that went into the purple this season paid off. The trails were rolled and ready to go with a single dump. This is fantastic. As temperatures dip and snow creeps into the forecast, the trails should be quite skiable. Our trail crew is as anxious as we all are to get out there, so they will be working hard to get the network up and running as soon as possible. For this, we thank them all.

We are excited for the season to start up. Membership is building, programs are filling up, schools are booking trips to the club and we are even pleased to introduce group lessons. Ski Better: improve style, skill and technique is a new program for adults starting up this January. This will be a great opportunity to develop and improve upon skills in both classic and skate techniques with certified instructors. We look forward to seeing folks out for this program in the future. Final preparations are also being made for the coming Bunny Rabbit and Jack Rabbit programs. These kids are the future of our club and we have some great instructors ready to roll for this season. Thanks to Alyssa Stoppa for all her pre season work to get everything ready for the kids.

Even without snow, we have already started up at the club hosting the annual ski swap and Open House. Both events were well attended and we thank all those for coming out to be a part of these club activities. A special thanks goes out to all the volunteers who made these events successful.

As we all prepare for Christmas, it is tough to think about skiing. We do look forward to seeing everyone back out at the club soon. We have a fantastic community at North Bay Nordic and it is always a pleasure to see everyone out on the trails. Try to stay positive, enjoy those other activities we all do until the snow falls. But be ready, because when it does finally come, it will be a race out to the club to see who can put first tracks out on the fresh snow.

North Bay Nordic Ski Club Newsletter

World Snow Day

North Bay Nordic will be participating in the FIS World Snow Day on **January 16, 2016** with fun events geared towards the whole family.

Kids and parents are invited to check out our new jack rabbit playground course in the main stadium, participate in the scavenger hunt or join in our first annual Chocolate Loppet. All jack rabbits, bunny rabbits and their friends and families are invited to test their skills on our race course. Distances will vary for age groups, and everyone goes home with a chocolaty prize. There will be food, hot chocolate, cookies and more.

We hope to make this a great day for all, so strap on your skis and join us at the Nordic Club to help celebrate FIS World Snow Day.



The name you know and trust: **David Weiskopf**
Proud member and director of the North Bay Nordic Ski Club



Century 21
BLUE SKY REGION REALTY INC.
Brokerage®
199 Main St. E, North Bay, ON P1B 1A9

David Weiskopf
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Bus 705-474-4500 ~ Fax 705-474-6265
dweiskopf@c21northbay.com
/theweiskopfteam

*Independently Owned and Operated. ®/™ Trademarks owned by Century 21 Real Estate LLC used under license or authorized sub-license. © 2014 Century 21 Canada Limited Partnership.



North Bay Nordic Ski Club Newsletter

Trails Report by Kelly O'Grady

Well it is now Dec 16th and we are anxiously waiting for snow. We did get out and roll the purple, yellow and gold trails on November 22-24 and had many eager skiers out to try out the improved purple trail.

In the past few weeks volunteers have finished up their kilometers and have removed fallen trees from the trails. We have spread wood chips in the low spots on the inner trails and tuned up the equipment and are ready for another exciting season.

Kevin Denston and Steve Shore have stepped back from grooming for this season and I would like to thank them both for their expert grooming and mentoring the last few seasons.

I would like to welcome Andrew Rees and Bruce McIvor back to the grooming team joining Peter Bullock, Gary Jodouin and myself.

Canadian Snow Record!

Nova Scotia holds the record for the most snow angels ever made simultaneously in multiple locations.



In 2011, **22,022** Nova Scotia residents in 130 separate locations all plopped down in the snow to make snow angels.

Membership Report - Mike Ward

We may still be waiting for snow, but winter is well on its way. We had a great turnout of registrants at both the Ski Exchange and the Open House on Sunday. Be sure to register for your 2015-2016 club membership if you haven't already done so through our website at northbaynordic.ca, or through our membership partner at zone4.ca.

Please don't forget to mail any money owed for membership to North Bay Nordic Ski Club. Membership buttons cannot be delivered until payment is received.

Membership buttons will be available at the clubhouse once the club is open. They will be in an envelope printed with the last name of the family or registrant.



An advertisement for 'Lefebvres Source for Adventure' set against a background of a snowy forest. The ad features several brand logos: Lefebvres, Salomon, Fischer, Craft, and Swix. The text reads: 'THE BEST SELECTION, SERVICE AND PRICES. EVERYTHING FROM TOURING TO RACE.' At the bottom, it provides contact information: 'check us out at gear4adventure.com', a Facebook icon with the handle 'LefebvresSourceForAdventure', and the address '180 Shirreff Ave. 705 474 5920 gearforadventure@gmail.com'.

SKI BETTER: IMPROVING STYLE, SKILL, AND TECHNIQUE

Four week adults-only ski instruction clinic



Instruction in either Classic or Skate Style

Cross country skiing is a tremendous activity. It gets people outside, moving, and keeping active during the winter. Learning to ski efficiently and effectively will enhance one's experience on the snow for a lifetime of ski fulfillment.

This clinic is designed for those from Beginner to Intermediate level, and will be offered for those looking develop in either skate or classic style. Experienced instructors John

Bowes and Mike Ward will be there to guide participants every step along the way.

Dates: Tuesdays, January 12, 19, 26,
February 2

Time: 7:00pm-8:30pm

Where: North Bay Nordic Ski Club

Cost: \$100 Members, \$126 Non-Members

Contact: Mike Ward

email: naturemike@gmail.com

phone: (705) 358-1541

North Bay Nordic Ski Club Newsletter

Snowshoe Report by Tom Cook

The snow shoe trails at North Bay Nordic offer a great alternative way to enjoy the winter. Snow shoes are available to rent for all ages and for a nominal fee of \$25 one can use the trails all winter at no additional cost.

The trails have been brushed and flagged this fall. All stream crossings have been inspected and will be safe and sound for snowshoe traffic.

A very good map and description of the trails is available at the club house.

A Nordic ski membership entitles you to use the snowshoe trails.



Fun Snow Facts

- * All snowflakes have 6 sides.
- * Chionophobia is a fear of snow.
- * People buy more cakes, cookies and candies than any other food when a blizzard is in the forecast.
- * The average snowflake falls at a speed of 5 kilometers per hour.



School Liaison Report by Ian Fettes

As December 2015 draws to a close, I can report that many schools have signed up for school group skiing in the coming winter months.

A few times are still available.

For those teachers who still wish to participate, available times can be found by checking the northbaynordic.ca web site under the school groups-events calendar. The school programs brochure is helpful in explaining the necessary steps concerning booking times and renting equipment etc.

I can be contacted at ianwf@hotmail.com

Building and Property Report by Andy Davies

There is not a great deal to report. The garage was insulated in November. Thanks to the contractor Gil Larabie for fitting the job into his busy schedule. The base of one of the garage doors was replaced so that the bottom is now sealed. These two improvements should reduce the heating costs and, we hope, reduce the indoor mouse population.

Tom Cook is replacing the broken window in the Jackrabbit chalet.

The only new issue is that there is some leaking from the garage roof on the north side so the roofing will need to be repaired there and the shingles on the Jackrabbit chalet also need replacing.

Now all we need is for autumn to end and winter to start!

North Bay Nordic Ski Club Newsletter

Treasurers Report by Gary Jodouin

Financially our club has operated successfully in prior years and the plan is to continue as we move forward. A number of reserve funds have been created and funded annually in anticipation of equipment replacement and future building development; these funds are reported in the annual financial statements. The reserve funds CANNOT be used to fund ongoing operations; rather, they are to be used for specific purposes (i.e. purchase of a major piece of equipment [groomer] or construction of a new building). Therefore, the Reserve Funds are not a solution for the pending cash flow issues discussed in the following paragraphs.

As a result of the age of our buildings and equipment, we have experienced a number of unanticipated expenses that have negatively impacted our cash flows. Further, a 10% reduction in membership in fiscal 2014/15 also had a negative impact on our cash flows.

The following is a summary of non-budgeted revenue reductions or unanticipated expenses related to breakdowns that have occurred in the current and prior three fiscal years. In all likelihood this will continue on a go forward basis as our assets continue to age.

2015/16 Groomer breakdown (\$6,231), wood for bridge repair (\$1,519),
Side by Side breakdown (\$600)
2014/15 Decline in membership by 80 members (\$5,600), trail washout (\$9,528),
Ginzu repairs (\$750)
2013/14 Groomer breakdown (\$8,116), waterline repair (\$4,000)
2012/13 Retaining wall repair (\$1,428)

To help compensate for these added costs/reduced revenues, we have deferred various budgeted projects (mainly trail work and building upgrades). The Trail Maintenance Reserve will be collapsed this year to fund the budgeted trails expenses; this was approved at the AGM.

One major asset not recorded on the balance sheet of the Club is our strong Volunteer base. Countless hours have been spent annually by volunteers performing a variety of functions such as general summer and winter trail maintenance, tree removal, bridge repairs, minor building and equipment repairs, piling of firewood, just to name a few. All this at NO COST to the Club.

As we move forward, the Board will be monitoring cash flows on a monthly basis. Our budget process for the 2016/17 fiscal year may have to include consideration of the need for a special levy and/or a general fee increase to fund some major projects that will be required in the near future.



North Bay Nordic Ski Club Newsletter

Chris O'Connor needs our help

Our Special Olympian, Chris O'Conner, will not be able to get out to North Bay Nordic this winter unless we help. Chris's mother, who has been driving him out is not able to provide a ride due to ill health. Chris has been a member of the club for more than 25 years and has competed in local, provincial, national and international events. He is a very friendly guy who needs our help.



- * He will store his skis at the club all season.
- * He can get to the corner of Trout Lake Rd and Giroux for a pick up and drop off. Chris lives in West Ferris and will take a bus to the rendezvous point.
- * He hopes to be able to ski on one or two of Wednesday, Thursday, Friday or Saturday which are the days his mom used to drive him to the club.

We are looking for people to volunteer to drive Chris out and back to the club. If you are interested in helping even for just one trip or two or once a week or whatever you can do, please get in touch with Tom Cook at tomcook@bell.net or phone 705- 476-0648. Tom will be coordinating volunteers with Chris.



We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.northbaynordic.ca



We are more than just bikes. Drop by to see our complete selection of cross country ski equipment and Nordic clothing.

593 John Street
North Bay, Ontario

705-472-5662
www.cycleworksbikes.ca

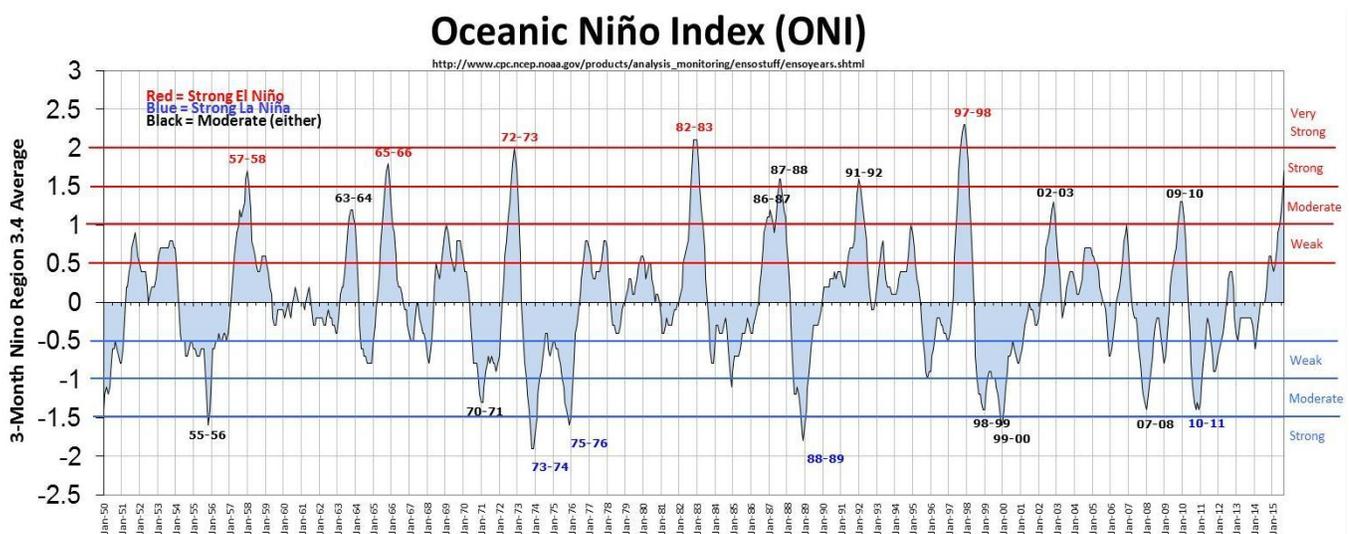
North Bay Nordic Ski Club Newsletter

Climate Watch by Peter Bullock

So what does equatorial surface water temperatures in the mid Pacific Ocean have to do with the North Bay Nordic Ski Club? Turns out the Pacific is linked to weather patterns that directly affect us – through something called teleconnection.

Years with colder than normal surface waters in the equatorial Pacific are called La Niña and years with warmer than normal surface water temperature in the same region are called El Niño. These events influence the jet stream which in turn affects seasonal weather patterns across North America. Predicting how the jet stream will react to La Niña or El Niño conditions in any given year is still more of an art than a science. Based on the past two winters, which seemed to put us at the mercy of the Polar Vortex, one has to wonder what nature has in store for us this winter.

There is no longer any doubt that the winter of 2015/16 will be influenced by an El Niño – signifying that equatorial water temperatures in the mid Pacific are trending above normal. The last El Niño we experienced was in the winter of 2009/10. The current El Niño is particularly strong (water temperatures are trending well above normal). The last “super” El Niño we experienced was in 1997/98. The following graph shows how the equatorial Pacific water temperatures have trended since 1950.



Source: <http://qgweather.com/enso/oni.htm>

See where Pacific water temperatures are measured: <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/monitoring-content/teleconnections/nino-regions.gif>

An El Niño year starts out as an oceanic reaction to a warm summer period. In an El Niño year, above normal surface water temperatures in the Pacific persist through the fall and winter but usually promptly abates in the spring of the following year. Above normal water temperatures affect how the jet stream sets up and influences North America. In 2014, which was the warmest year on record around the globe, conditions for an El Niño set up over the summer period but it petered out as fall progressed. However it did establish warmer ocean water conditions for 2015. With 2015 usurping 2014 as the warmest year on record around the globe,

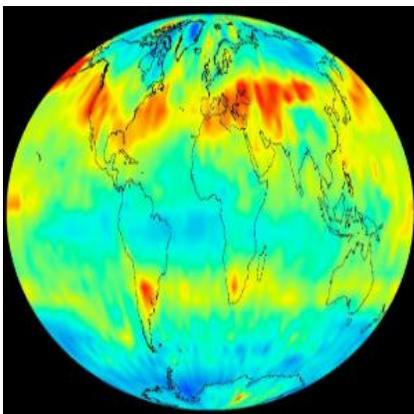
North Bay Nordic Ski Club Newsletter

undoubtedly an indication that green house gases in the atmosphere is affecting climate, we are seeing the development of what may turn out to be the strongest El Niño yet recorded which is undoubtedly going to affect our 2015/16 winter.

If past El Niño years are any indication they suggest we are in for a mild winter with normal to below normal precipitation. I originally expected the records to show that El Niño years produce higher amounts of precipitation because less ice on the Great Lakes usually means more lake effect snow on lee shores. But climatic records from the North Bay Airport suggest otherwise. The Great Lake may have less ice cover but the lake effect is being experienced somewhere else?

In 1982 we experienced well above normal precipitation in December but it mainly fell as rain. As winter progressed precipitation trended below normal into 1983. In the winter of 1998, influenced by the last super El Niño, we experienced a mild winter with relatively normal precipitation but a high proportion of it fell as rain. In the last El Niño experienced in 2010 it was mild but March 2010 received almost no precipitation at all. Most El Niño years seem to experience a lengthy drought in mid to late winter. When precipitation finally does occur; it can be a fairly heavy event. While a mild winter with less precipitation may sound good if you don't like shovelling, it likely means later snow (that stays), more chances of rain and mini melts through the winter period and an earlier melt. Not what you want to hear if you're running a cross country ski club.

The trend of a warming climate has long term implications for the NBNSC. Some are good and some are not so good. On the ugly side as mentioned above, a good base of snow to carry us through the winter will become less certain as global warming advances. This will impact areas to the south of us even more severely. So the good news is that we may become (temporarily at least) the go-to place in Ontario to experience cross country skiing on natural snow. As the Sochi Winter Olympics in Russia demonstrated in 2014 – artificial snow can be made just about anywhere – but it's very expensive.



Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

North Bay Nordic Ski Club Newsletter

Board of Directors

John Bowes
President

Andy Davies
Building and Property

Gary Jodouin
Treasurer

Mike Ward
Membership

Kelly O'Grady
Trails

Julie Bass
Newsletter/Secretary

Tom Cook
Snowshoe Trails

Ian Fettes
School Liaison

Kevin Stoppa

Contact board of directors at:
info@northbaynordic.ca

Important Dates

Sunday, January 10
First day of Jackrabbit lessons



Saturday, January 16
World Snow Day
Nordic's 40th Anniversary

Sunday, February 14
Valentine's Day

Sunday, March 6
Last day of Jackrabbit lessons
Easter Egg Hunt

