

On Track March 2025

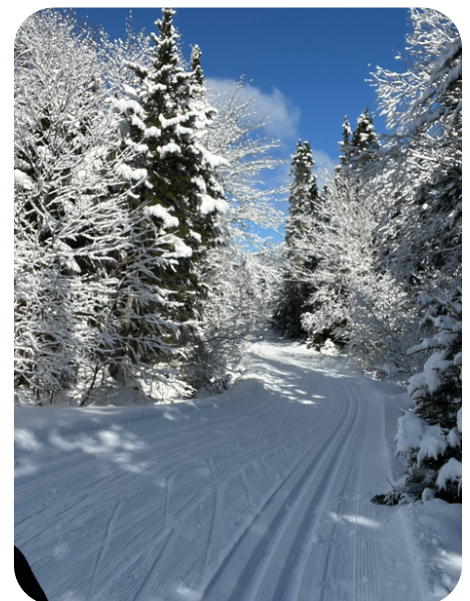


Greetings snow lovers,

Legend has it that Indigenous peoples of the North have dozens of words to describe snow. Call that *white stuff* what you will, Pasadena Ski and Nature Park has certainly experienced a myriad of flakes and snow conditions since the first big storm of the year in late January.

From “squally” days which saw skiers and snowshoers disappear into the white abyss after setting out on the trail, to snow globe days when thick, fat flakes layered the landscape in deep and delicious snow, known as muruaneq in the north.

On the social side of things our holiday agenda was not quite as active as in previous years. Numbers for the late fall brunches were lower than usual and bookings for private parties were reduced to just one. Brunches in late January and early March more than made up for the disappointing turnout at the previous two.



In December a merry little band of PSNP elves designed and built a float to enter in the annual Pasadena Christmas Parade. Their creation of a woodland scene featuring whimsical animals of the forest huddled around a campfire took second place and a \$50.00 prize. Not bad for the club's first entry in a number of years. Thanks Victoria White for spearheading this project and to your enthusiastic team. We look forward to what you'll come up with next year!



**Christmas Parade Float
2024
What a team!
Congratulations!**



**Driving the 'wild' gang to the
Christmas parade**

Despite the delayed start to the ski and snowshoe season, volunteers took advantage of the mild, dry weather to do trail maintenance and bridge construction in the park. The Boreal Trail and Wally's Trail have new beautiful, safe brook crossings. All four were constructed to withstand high spring run-off. Streams were cleared of debris. We continue to trim and define both these trails.

Bridges over rising waters



January not only brought us some of the 50 Inuit/Inuktitut/Sami types of snow, it also fulfilled a Christmas wish list for staff: Ralph Carter came on as the new trail groomer and Meagan Pynn was hired to fill the newly-created position of Program, Membership and Volunteer Coordinator. Both employees are residents of Pasadena and are readily embracing the challenges of their new jobs. If you haven't already done so, drop into the chalet to say hello to Meagan and give a wave and thumbs up to Ralph when you see him out on the trails.

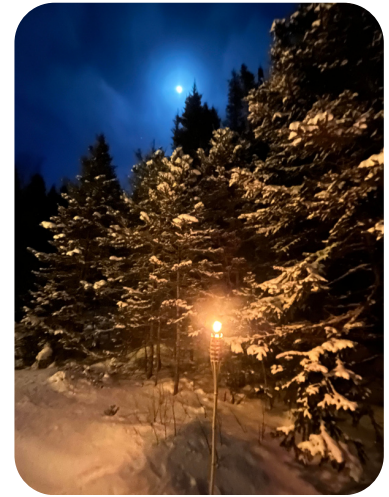


Winter Carnival

We kicked off Winter Carnival with a half price weekend and a Chocolate Sam at the firepit. It was a perfect evening with a clear sky, moon and stars. 50 people skied or snowshoed up for a hot beverage around the roaring fire.

Bern, Wilf and Charles were fantastic hosts.

Thank you gentlemen!



Winner of the 10 PSNP Day Passes in the Winter Carnival grand prizes draw was Luke Morrissey



Mac's Roast Beef Dinner was a sold out event

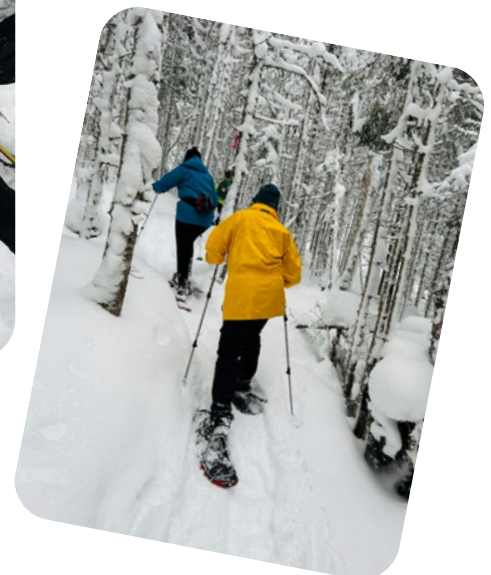


Eileen Ryan, winner of the Crib Tournament



On the last day of carnival an enthusiastic group from **Toronto's High Park Ski Club** arrived at Pasadena Ski and Nature Park, kicking off the start of their week-long adventure to Western NL. Despite being weather delayed in getting to the island and lost ski gear, they arrived all smiles and eager to explore our trails...on PSNP's rental equipment!

The day included a snowshoe tour of the Boreal trail, led by Bruce Denny, Hilda Hicks and Annette Denny and a moose stew lunch in the "dining room" of the chalet's loft. Trail and weather conditions for the day were perfect for skiers and 'shoers. The High Park group's bus was departing as a ravenous roast beef crowd of approximately seventy-five were just beginning to arrive for the sold-out dinner. Meanwhile, Jana's ski school group and coaches were still coming in from their afternoon of training. What a day! Toques off to our fantastic volunteers and staff for their marathon efforts in making it all possible.



A little update from our **Youth Ski** program this season

We began our **Learn to Ski - Youth** program on Sunday January 26. The program aims to introduce children to moving on skis safely while discovering our beautiful trails. As they move through the program, we help them to build confidence and endurance to venture further into the park, and also to socialize with other youth outdoors. We meet on Sundays from 2-4pm and/ or Tuesday evenings from 6:30-7:30pm. This year we have 24 youth ranging from 4.5 to 16.5 years of age as well as 2 licensed coaches, 5 coaches in training and a few parent helpers.

This March our club will be offering coach training to anyone interested in working with children at PSNP in the coming seasons... whether it is with the Learn to Ski program, with the Grade 4 ski/ snowshoe program or with any other potential programs involving kids here at PSNP in the future. If you would like be part of that training, please send us your contact info (email, call or visit the chalet). We'd love to hear from you.

Jana



The popular guided snowshoe wanderings are underway thanks to Mike Bennett and Lorne Taylor. Join the group on Wednesday afternoon for an informative and entertaining get together.



In February PSNP held a dinner and social to honour our two newest inductees into the CCNL Hall of Fame; Kay (of the well-known Kay's Hill) and Henry Hounsell were recently recognized for their 47 years of service to PSNP and contribution to cross country skiing in Western NL. The Hounsells are founding members of the club and both have held various positions on the executive over the years. They join Judy May, Heber Gill and the late Wally Skinner in being inducted into the CCNL Hall of fame. Congratulations Kay and Henry!



Judy, Kay, Henry



Come out and enjoy March on the trails.

Pack a lunch

Bring a little bird seed for the curious Blue Jays or Whiskey Jacks.

Leave early enough to enjoy the day. The fire will be burning and the kettle hot when you get back.

