

RASki & Outdoor Club

January 2023
More than just a ski club

Editor: Glen Campbell, publicity-2020@raski.ca

www.raski.ca

MESSAGE FROM THE CLUB COUNCIL

It's official - our 2022-2023 Season is now underway, starting with our Fall Hikes and Ski Fit classes, and followed by skiers returning to the trails after the snow dumps in December. Looking forward to seeing you on the trails again soon!

We are happy to offer almost a full complement of activities in a majority of our programs. Unfortunately, we were unable to develop a weeklong trip with the designated package provider, but are eagerly anticipating creating a package for January 2024. You will find all the current details in November's Winter Program Guide and updates will be added to our web page (www.raski.ca).

If you missed our virtual Open House in November, you can find the presentation on our main webpage. We also held our Annual Club meeting and welcomed a few new members to the Club Council. However, we still have a few openings on the Club Council hope to recruit from our membership to fill the vacancies. If you have an interest in helping to plan our programs, please reach out to any Council member for information or to express your interest.

As always, the Club Council welcomes input and suggestions for Club activities from our Members, and works with a strong contingent of volunteers. Please reach out to any Council member with ideas, suggestions, or offers to help. If you enjoy our programming, please tell your friends and help our Club grow!

Be sure to follow our Social Media to receive regular news and updates all season long (see the Stay Informed box on our web page).

On behalf of the Club Council,
Jaime Impey, Vice-Chair, weeklong-2020@raski.ca



DH MID-WEEK TRIP – LAKE PLACID

Sun. Feb 26-Thurs. Mar 2, 2023
DEADLINE: JAN. 17/23

Carpool trip
PRICE (hotel only):

US\$129 per room per night (Villageside room)

US\$159 per room per night (Lakeside room)

Triple occupancy: add \$US10.

Quad occupancy: add US\$20

Price includes breakfast for 2.

The Golden Arrow Lakeside Resort (www.golden-arrow.com) in beautiful Lake Placid, NY will be our home for a 2-4 night getaway

The resort has an indoor pool, hot tub, spa and other amenities. Many shops and restaurants are steps from the resort. Just a 3-hour drive away, members will be responsible for their own transportation.

Members will be responsible for making their room reservations directly with the resort by calling 1-800-582-5540 and telling the reservation agent the group name (RA Ottawa Ski Club).

DOWNHILL

Whiteface Mountain is 15 km from lake Placid and is home to the greatest vertical drop east of the Rockies, with 94 trails stretching 25 miles and encompassing three peaks. Lift tickets can be purchased at <https://whiteface.com/tickets-passes/lift-tickets/>

CROSS-COUNTRY

- World-class 50km trail network at the Olympic facility at

<https://mtvanhoevenberg.com/todo/cross-country-skiing/>

- 20 km Cascade x-country centre

<https://adk.org/cascade-welcome-center/>

- 15 km urban Nordic centre at

<https://whitefaceclubresort.com/amenities/nordic-center/>

For all the details, go to

<https://www.raski.ca/docs/2023LakePlacid.pdf>

If you are attending, let me know.

Bob Cavan, DH Day Chair, downhill-2020@raski.ca

DOWNHILL DAY TRIPS

Mother Nature and Father Christmas have finally got together and delivered some snow – well after our due date for the start of the downhill ski season.

We managed to make it out twice on the week before Christmas and were happy just to feel snow under our skis despite very few runs open.



Dec. 22 – Meet'n'Ski at Camp Fortune

After the holidays, with hills gradually opening to full operation, we are back in full swing with outings every week. Keep an eye on our calendar and Facebook page for updated info on dates and destinations.

I have been asked by a few of our members about bus travel and why we have not scheduled any trips using a charter bus. The last few years have seen major changes and increases in costs associated with bus travel, from driver and fuel costs to non-refundable booking deposits being required well in advance of the departure date. The Executive has decided that per person travel costs using buses and the risk of financial loss if a trip is cancelled at the last minute due to poor weather or lack of sufficient numbers, is not in the interest of the club.

Our ski club is not alone in this regard as other similar clubs in our area have severely cut back on bus trips or are no longer offering bus trips. We hope this situation will change but we are not looking at this travel option for this ski season.



Dec. 22 – Meet'n'Ski at Camp Fortune

FOR OUR COMPLETE SCHEDULE OF DH EVENTS

Go to www.raski.ca and click on "Downhill" on the left-hand side.

We have last-minute **pop-up skis** if conditions look good on a particular ski hill. Watch our website and Facebook page.



Dec. 20: Pop-Up Ski at Camp Fortune

Before you head out, check for last-minute updates on our Facebook page and on our website home page on the right-hand side under "Upcoming Events."

If you're new to the club and don't know anybody, look for people wearing a pink ribbon on their helmet.



RA skiers with a pink ribbon on their helmets

Bob Cavan, Downhill Chair, downhill-2020@at.raski.ca

CROSS-COUNTRY

XC DAY TRIPS

The season started off as scheduled on December 17. Not able to resist the lure of 25 cm of fresh snow, Jane Maxwell led a fearless group of 8 on a ski in Gatineau Park from P8 to P9. Five of the group retired to Cafe Biscotti in Old Chelsea for refreshments. The official Gatineau park ski season started the next day.



Dec. 17 – XC ski from P8 to P9

Thanks again to our volunteer trip leaders. Keep an eye on the club website and Facebook page for details about the cross-country ski day trips. Let's hope for a good season.



Dec. 17 – On trail P8 to P9

FOR OUR COMPLETE SCHEDULE OF XC OUTINGS

Go to www.raski.ca and click on "X-Country" on the left-hand side

FAR HILLS MID-WEEK TRIP

Wed. to Fri., Feb. 8-10, 2023

This trip is fully booked! The 34 participants are looking forward to the trip!



Far Hills Inn



2008 Far Hills – View of Lake Lavalee



2008 – RA skiers at Far Hills

Jane Hilliard & Louise Cameron, XC Co-Chairs,
xc-2020@raski.ca

SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATES

You can find or receive news and updates about Club activities through a number of methods:

- **SKI-MAIL**

Find out about last-minute additions or changes, club news, and upcoming events, by subscribing to Ski-Mail, our e-mail newsletter.

Send an email to: RASkiClub+subscribe@groups.io using the email address you wish email to be sent to.

NOTE: If you haven't been receiving Ski-Mails since December, you need to re-subscribe, as we had to change our e-mail provider.

- **WEBSITE**

www.raski.ca

- **FACEBOOK**



Visit us on Facebook to learn about upcoming events, read members' comments, and much more! Go to **RA Ski and Snowboard Club of Ottawa** and ask to join.

PHOTOS & TRIP REPORTS

Photos and trip reports from most of our outings are on the RA Ski web site, www.raski.ca.

TRIP REPORTS

Downhill and cross-country trip reports for the last month are put on our web site www.raski.ca. Click on "Trip reports" on the left-hand sidebar on our home page.

PHOTOS

For photos, on the left sidebar click on "Photos", then on the appropriate album ("Cross-country", "Downhill", "Snowshoeing", or "Biking Hiking and Skating".) To see the photo larger, double-click on it.

To see the photos as a slideshow

1. Double-click on the little square icon on the top right under the number of photos. Wait a few seconds and the slideshow will start.

Downloading photos

1. Double-click on the photo.
2. On the bottom right, click on the down arrow with the bar underneath it.
3. Click on the size you want (i.e., "Original".)
4. Click on "Save File", then click on "OK."

Your file will be downloaded to your directory "Downloads."

DISCOUNTS

Our club has the power of group purchasing to obtain discounts at many local ski hills, sports stores, and other venues. Check out the current offerings at <https://www.raski.ca/index.php?target=discounts> and make any suggestions for other discounts to your executive.

The more places we get. the more we save.

Bob Cavan, Downhill Day Chair, downhill-2020@raski.ca

USEFUL LINKS

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RA Ski & Outdoor Club of Ottawa

USEFUL LINKS – CROSS-COUNTRY

GATINEAU PARK

Gatineau Park XC phone line

819-827-2020

Gatineau Park XC ski conditions – NCC website

<http://ncc-ccn.gc.ca/places/ski-conditions>

Gatineau Park Trail Map Showing Recommended Trails

This map shows in green which trails are recommended.

<https://ncc-ccn.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=9fb8f1b699fb4653b14ec9f06e3f7ed7>

Gatineau Park XC Trail Map

(Note : There are two pages. This is a large file and will take awhile to download.)

https://ncc-website-2.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/Final_GP_Winter_Trails_Map_LR.pdf

Ottawa Gatineau Cross-country Ski Conditions

This gives skier's first-hand reports how the trail conditions are for Gatineau Park, Nakkertok, Mooney's Bay, Kanata, Greenbelt and Kichi Sibi (Formerly Sir John A. MacDonald).

http://skitrails.xcottawa.ca/skitrails_gatineau_park.php

Daily photos of outdoor activities in Gatineau Park

<http://musicianonskis.ca/blog/>

XC TRAILS IN OTTAWA

<https://ottawatourism.ca/en/ottawa-insider/cross-country-skiing-and-around-ottawa>

XC Maps and Grooming Conditions in Ontario (including trails in Ottawa)

<https://nordic-pulse.com/ski-areas/CA/ON>

Maps of Cross-Country Trails in Ottawa Area (Jan. 2020)

These maps are taken from [NCC Urban Ottawa XC Trail Maps](#)

1. Ski Heritage East (<https://www.skiheritageeast.ca/wpshe/>)

17 km of trails along the Ottawa River, running from near Blair Road in the neighbourhood of Rothwell Heights, east to Trim Road in Orleans. [Map](#)

2. Rideau Winter Trail (www.rideauwintertrail.ca)

9 km trail running along the east side of the Rideau River from Donald St. (Awaaw foot bridge across the Rideau River) to Hurdman O-train station. [Map](#)

3. Kichi Sibi Winter Trail (Formerly Sir John A, MacDonald) (www.wintertrail.ca)

The 16-km SJAM trail runs along the Sir John A. Macdonald Parkway, from the Canadian War Museum to Westboro Beach. [Map](#)

4. Britannia Winter Trail (<https://britanniawintertrail.com/>)

8 km trail, following the bike path towards downtown from about Belltown Dome, around the pier in Britannia Park, and east to the Sir John A MacDonald Parkway. [Map](#)

5. Ottawa West Winter Trail

<https://www.facebook.com/OttawaWestWinterTrail/>

8-km trail combining a portion of the Trans Canada Trail with the Watts Creek Pathway and several offshoot trails, from Corkstown Road at Moodie Drive to Carling Avenue. [Map](#)

6. Wesley Clover Parks Trail

<https://wesleycloverparks.com/trails/>

The Kanata Nordic XC ski club manages trails winding through Wesley Clover Parks, an equestrian park about 20 minutes west of downtown. Trails are limited to members only on weekends, but anyone can buy a day pass on weekdays. [Map](#)

XC TRAILS WORLDWIDE

List of XC ski areas worldwide

<http://www.skiresort.info/best-ski-resorts/sorted/cross-country/>

List of XC ski areas in Quebec

www.cross-countryski.com/quebec.html

List of XC ski areas in Canada

www.canadatrails.ca/xc_ski/index.html

List of XC ski areas in Canada and the US

www.cross-countryski.com/resorts.html

<https://xcski.org/find-a-ski-area/>

List of XC ski areas worldwide

<http://www.skiresort.info/best-ski-resorts/sorted/cross-country>

USEFUL LINKS - DOWNHILL

Local DH ski conditions

www.skiottawa.com

Quebec DH ski conditions

<https://maneige.ski/conditions-de-neige>

World-wide ski conditions

www.skicentral.com/skireports.html

www.onthesnow.com/ski-resort.html

SKI HILLS

	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Website</u>
Bromont	1-866-276-6668	skibromont.com
Calabogie	1-800-669-4861	calabogie.com
Camp Fortune	819-827-1717	campfortune.com
Cascades	819-827-0301	montcascades.ca
Edelweiss	819-459-2328	skiedelweiss.com
Jay Peak	1-802-988-2611	jaypeakresort.com
Killington	1-802-422-6200	killington.com
Le Massif	1-877-536-2774	lemassif.com
Mont Blanc	1-800-567-6715	skimontblanc.com
Mont-Ste-Anne	1-888-827-4579	mont-sainte-anne.com
Mont Ste-Marie	819-467-5200	montstemarie.com
Morin Heights	1-800-363-2426	sommets.com/en/ski-mountains/sommet-morin-heights/
Orford	819-843-6548	orford.com
Owlshead	1-800-363-3342	owlshead.com
Pakenham	613-624-5290	mountpakenham.com
St-Sauveur	450-227-4671	sommets.com/en/ski-mountains/sommet-saint-sauveur/
Sugarbush	1-800-53-SUGAR	sugarbush.com
Sutton	1-866-538-2545	montsutton.com
Tremblant	1-888-215-4419	tremblant.ca
Vorlage	819-459-2301	skivorlage.com

Whistler 1-800-766-0449 whistlerblackcomb.com

Whiteface 518-946-2223 whiteface.com

NOTE: Many ski hills have web cameras where you can see the current weather, crowds, and ski conditions all in real time.



Feb. 2022 – Weeklong trip to Fernie BC



Boxing Day 2022 – XC Ski from P20 to Renaud cabin



Jan. 2020 - - Snowshoeing at Lauriault trail

The RA Ski Club is a member of the RA Centre – 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa K1H 7X7 - 733-5100 – www.racentre.com