



Edelweiss Program Start of Season Newsletter

Welcome to the 2007 season of the Edelweiss program of the Canadian Association of Disabled Skiing (CADS). Although, I am sorry to see Michelle leaving the role of program coordinator, I am proud to be serving CADS in that capacity. On behalf of all skiers, volunteers and supervisors, I would like to thank Michelle for her hard work and dedication over the last couple years and wish her the best of luck with her new family.

This season is off to an excellent start with 104 registered skiers and a high turnout for the equipment fittings. We're welcoming back 92 skiers and are happy to be receiving 12 new skiers. Also, the rate of returning volunteers this year is fantastic! There are over 110 returning volunteers this year. However, we are always in need of new volunteers so please spread the word about the program to your friends and colleagues. If you are one of the 40 new volunteers, welcome aboard!

On November 25th, at the Edelweiss Open House, I presented a plaque to Edelweiss thanking them for 27 fantastic years of service and contribution to the disabled community of the National Capital Region. They are thrilled with the success of the Edelweiss CADS program and will be issuing a press release in support of the program. What this means for us, is MSSI (the owners of Edelweiss) are committing to the program for the foreseeable future and are devoting time, energy and resources to ensure our continued success.

Other exciting news includes the continuation of our multi-year inventory clean-up and replacement initiative. As we have continued to upgrade our existing stock, even more of our skiers will be enjoying the use of new equipment including sitskis, parabolic skis, and outriggers.

We are building towards a remarkable season and are looking forward to reuniting with all of the returning members and getting to know new skiers and volunteers!

On an other note, we will be exploring opportunities on how best to address the cancellation of weekend 1 of the 2007 season. I know there were many disappointed skiers, but lets look forward to the remaining 7 weeks and keep our fingers crossed that it will remain a white winter!

Chris "Cowboy" Holden
Program Coordinator
(613) 799-7020
EdelweissProgram@cads-ncd.ca

Updated Website

The CADS-NCD website has recently been revised! More and more of the program schedules and news will be delivered via the website. So please visit often:

www.cads-ncd.ca

Volunteer Pre-Season Training

Pre-season training was held this year at the following times:

Saturday, December 9;
Sunday, December 10; and
Saturday, December 16.
8:30 am to 4 pm at Edelweiss Valley

The training is important as it provides the first opportunity to walk through changes to the program, review safety requirements, and most of all, improve our skiing and teaching techniques. Also, any sitski tetherers are required to return for a second day of training and evaluation.

Our target is to have **all** volunteers attend at least one training session. This year we had 60% attendance, with about 10% attending more than once session.

For those that didn't attend a training day this year, please keep in mind the importance for when you return next year!

Helmet Policy

A reminder to all skiers that helmets are mandatory. Please bring them to each ski day as we don't have many spares to lend out!

All supervisors will be wearing helmets this year in order to set a good example. While this means Cowboy can not perform his annual 'shorts and hat' routine, we believe that a Safety First policy is of paramount importance.

Volunteers are also encouraged to wear helmets.

Program Fees

	As of Nov. 26th
Adult:	\$195
Junior (16 and younger):	\$165
½ day (junior only):	\$110
2 day trial:	\$40
Club Pass:	\$130

- 2 day trials will only be accepted if volunteers are available based on the documented skier to volunteer ratio
- Club Passes are only available until January 7, 2007

SkiAbility Ottawa

Skiability Ottawa had a great third season, with over ___ water skiers and ___ volunteers!

Congratulations to Andrea Andrecyk and Chantal Fowler for making the National Adaptive Water Ski team. They both traveled to Florida to compete in the Pam American Games and will be attending the World Adaptive Water Ski Championships in Australia in May 2007!

Many thanks to all participants and volunteers from CADS who came out to learn how to water ski and for making this season so much fun on the water!

SkiAbility Ottawa has been awarded the 2006 Celebration of People's Sports Award....

Volunteer Appreciation & Incentives

Since volunteer ski partners are the core of the CADS program, we are offering incentives to encourage volunteers to return, to recruit new volunteers and to make extra efforts. The incentives are as follows:

Incentive # 1 – Seasons Passes

Any volunteer signing up for both Saturday and Sunday – committing to 12 of the 16 days - and attending at least one pre-season training day will receive an Edelweiss seasons pass.

Incentive # 2 – Volunteer Appreciation Draws

Volunteers are issued tickets for assisting with key program objectives. Tickets are awarded for the following:

- Recruiting new Edelweiss volunteers.
- Registering as a volunteer prior to the close of registration (or after the close of registration for new volunteers only)
- Attending pre-season training
- Attending special events

Prizes will be drawn the first weekend of the program. For more info, please visit the website.

Incentive # 3 – Volunteer Appreciation Night – Friday, February 16, 2007

The volunteer appreciation night is back again this year! Join us for an evening of skiing and fun, compliments of the Edelweiss CADS program, in celebration of all your hard work and dedication to the program.

And last but not least, the ongoing support throughout the season, including the Tuesday night ski improvement sessions for volunteers.

Training



Canadian National Adaptive Waterski Team



Left to Right: Benoit Lessard, Pat Messner (Head Coach), Chris Bourne, **Chantal Fowler**, **Andrea Andrecyk**, and Chris Holden (Development Coach)