**CADS-NCD ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016**

**CALABOGIE-CAMP FORTUNE-CASCADES-EDELWEISS-PAKENHAM**

**WINTER SPORTS CLINIC – TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

Dear members

Once again I am happy to report a very successful season in 2015-2016.

One highlight of many this season would have to be the enormous amount of hard work put into the advances in CADS Certification. Our Technical Team did an excellent job introducing new modules to upgrade your Level 1 or 2 and stay current. Also, many new enthusiastic instructors came forward and the future looks bright for all to continue to improve their teaching skills.

Website upgrades are fabulous! We seemed to have found a number of webmasters and our site is always current and up to date with the latest information. Please give it a look and feel free to talk to your Program Co-ordinator if you would like to add or delete anything. [www.cads-ncd.ca](http://www.cads-ncd.ca). CADS National has also done a major renovation on their site. Check it out at [www.disabledskiing.ca](http://www.disabledskiing.ca).

CADS 40th Anniversary Festival in Kimberly BC was terrific and attended by more members than ever. It has moved to Sun Peaks this March 2017 and all of you should consider taking a break and heading west. I guarantee you will not be disappointed.

National “Ski Area of the Year” awarded to Mont Pakenham and Joanne Clifford as CADS-NCD Mont Pakenham celebrates their 20th Anniversary.

The Bob Gilmour Inspirational Leader Award was presented for the very first time to our National Technical Committee Chair Mr. Tommy Chevrette.

One of our members, Black Diamond Coach Blake MacMillan was lost to us tragically in the spring of 2016. RIP

Again my thanks to all our Special Event Volunteers and a wonderful Board of Directors who together gives their precious volunteer time to make this all happen once again in 2015-2016. I could go on and on but as always I have added year end reports from all programs and the Technical Committee for your viewing.

Sincerely yours,

Bernie Simpson

CADS-NCD President

**MOUNT PAKENHAM ADAPTIVE SKI PROGRAM**

**YEAR-END REPORT, MAY 12, 2016**

We had another very successful year in 2016 in spite of having to start our training and programs later than planned because of the lack of snow. We always do our pre-season training with the volunteers at Calabogie – and this arrangement has worked well for us each year.

For 2016 we had 56 participants registered and 37 volunteers. We were therefore able to offer 56 lessons each week beginning on Tuesday afternoons for two adult skiers. The majority of the lessons were on Thursday and Friday evenings all day Saturday and Sunday.

Fundraising:

We had an exceptionally successful Ski-a-thon fundraising event this year (on March 6). We collected approximately $7,000.00 at the event itself and an additional $2,000.00 that was donated through Canada Helps (but in response to a Ski-A-Thon pledge). Therefore, we ended the year with a surplus of approximately $10,000.00. (Amounts are approximate because other donations and expenses were recorded later.)

At our last Management Meeting (held through email communications), it was decided that we would purchase 2017 lift tickets from Mount Pakenham for a total of $5,650.00, and some Mountain Man ski equipment for $2500.00. We also plan to set the remaining money aside for the anticipated facility renovation.

Awards:

2016 marked the 20th anniversary of the CADS-NCD-Mount Pakenham program. At our awards event on March 6, 2016 we honoured the founding members of the program with Twenty-year “Founding Member” certificates. Recipients were: Susan Cressy and Joan Robinson. Joanne Clifford also received a 20-year honourary certificate as a founding member. Twenty-year pins will be presented (along with the other long-service awards) during our first meeting in November.

We presented **Al McLarty** our Volunteer of the Year Award for his outstanding contribution – not only as a major instructor, but as our training coordinator and scheduling master. We also acknowledged the contribution of **Dave Hoffman,** our registrar who has contributed many hours of work for the program.

This year, we were honoured to have **Joanne Clifford and the Mount Pakenham Ski Resort** as the recipient of the CADS-National award. We plan to formally present the plague to Joanne (although she already has it) at our meeting in November. We will also ask the local news media to write a story about CADS-NCD-Pakenham and Joanne’s contribution to our program.

Ski IN SCHOOL:

This year, Bob Robertson coordinated our Ski In Schools program. His report follows:

Skiing in Schools-2015-16

The number of schools: 15

The number of students/lessons: 25

Additional 3-4 other schools that cancelled and one we could not staff for two lessons because too short a request. (See staffing below)

The issues: 1) Staffing for lessons: a) no regular sit-ski instructors although a number of different people did volunteer their time and we were able to accommodate all but 1 request for a sit-skier who wanted to come with school twice but asked on one week notice. b) also didn’t really have enough instructors for ambulatory-relying on 2-3 regular volunteers heavily; ideally should have 2 instructors for new students who we don’t know but can’t always staff for that so rely on information provided by school and hope they only need 1 instructor.-in this case we insist on a school member to provide support on the hill.

2. Information forms not completed properly or thoroughly; will return any form not completed thoroughly next year

-Feedback about our service was very positive-4 emails thanking us and the hill; one letter from a parent from an extremely highly stressed ASD student thanking us and telling us that student had a good experience because we made special accommodations for him.

**Allan Braun - Mount Pakenham**

***MT CASCADES SUMMARY 2016 SEASON***

We were quite successful this year. We were able to recruit a number of new volunteers which resulted in being able to accept 4 new skiers. We are at least 4 that crossover on multiple programs – very proud of this dedication.

One of our skiers crossed over to become assistant volunteer this year.

Our program was well attended, despite the temperature fluctuations. The only day that had no skier attendance was the extreme cold day, however, 7 people from my team did show up and we managed to ski until about noon with only 1 minor nose frostbite incident.

As always, our Hockey Day in Canada (February 6th) was well received with all in hockey jerseys all over the hill and a group photo.

Fundraising efforts have been very successful again this year with us meeting all our obligations as well as being able to refund a portion of the jacket cost to both volunteers who purchased them.

Our end of year Achievement Celebration was well attended – and, exceptionally, due to the nice weather we offered to continue skiing for the rest of the day for those that were interested. A number of our participants took us up on it and we had a most excellent time.

Training was ongoing with much participation. Vicki Meirins provided sessions on Saturday mornings and coffee / hot chocolate & muffins for those who came. Again very well attended – we reviewed both skier improvement as well as teaching aids for our own skiers.

We had 3 people attend CSIA Level 1.. All were successfully completed! All the CADS Level 1 upgrades (for those wishing to do so) were completed by the end of season. There are a number that are anticipating obtaining level II certification (or at least start the process) next season.

We were fortunate to be able to offer snowboarding instruction as one of our new volunteers is CASI certified. This was extremely successful with our little snowboarder going from never been on one to boarding down our most challenging hill by the end of the year! We are pretty thrilled about that.

Ideas are already being tossed around for next season with most participants looking forward to returning and requesting confirmation that their spot is assured!

Excellent year this year, we are celebrating a milestone for Vicki Meirins with our program – 10 years this year.

Vicki and I attended Festival this year. We learned a great deal and are planning brainstorming this summer in order to re-vamp our program and provide more focus on student progression this year as well as teaching skills for our volunteers in the morning sessions as well as individual ski improvement.

We will also be going over the registration process in order to make is more streamlined and efficient so that “Day 1” is just a ski day and not quite so chaotic.

8 weeks just doesn’t seem like enough time for everything we want to do!

**Theresa Arsenault – Mont Cascade**

**Edelweiss End of Year Report 2016**

**Program Numbers**

We were at 52 participants and 82 volunteers for the two days of our program. Saturday continues to be slightly larger and Sunday is the relaxing, easier to manage day. We had 12 new volunteers and most of them were excellent additions.

**Website Improvements**

Colin Moden continues to make small changes to the new website in an attempt to reduce the number of repetitive menus and increasing the size of the content to banner ratio. There is still a lot of work to make it more attractive and Colin will keep improving the site. He is making small changes to the Edelweiss site as well as the CAD NCD Site. The majority of the changes are to improve the area that can be used for content.

**Jacket Ordering**

I can take this on again this season if that is OK with the board. Given the long time to get the jackets and have them crested we should send out a notification as soon as possible.

**Banquet**

Our Banquet was held at the Jim Durrell Centre on Walkley Road and was quite successful. The venue was the correct size and with a bit of decoration turned out to be quite nice. About 125 attended the event which was a bit lower than normal but it did conflict with a large adaptive hockey event in town. The event was catered and a DJ was hired. It was pretty much a cost neutral event.

**Raffle Prize Winners**

First Prize Colette Richer - Second Prize Tyler Cochrane - Third Prize Bob and Linda Andrecyk - Fourth Prize Olenka Reshitnyk - Fifth Prize Ted Masters - Sixth Prize Neil Card -Seventh Prize Sylvie Larose

**Award Winners**

Outstanding Student Kris Kristjansson

Sit Skier of the Year Jason Allinotte

Rookie of the Year Alexa Stacey

Gord Temple Memorial Shield Margaret Robinson and Stephane McLean

Supervisors Choice Lynn and John Kachuik

Volunteer of the Year Shannon Desaulnier

Junior Volunteer Teo Lemay

**End of Season Video**

Natalie Boulanger with the help of some very skilled photo and video helpers put together a great video that was looped at the banquet. Every participant and volunteer was shown in the video at least once each. The link to the video is below.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-kSOpIGBUtA

**End of Year CADS Training**

Edelweiss hosted the final weekend of CADS training in early March with tethering on the Sat and Cognitive on Sun. It was a bit of level 1 and 2 training and was adapted to the needs of the people on the course. The training room that was used was too small for the large number of people that took the training and there was an issue with lift passes that has been corrected for next year. The TC can expand on this training in their end of year report. The planning for next season starts on Tues 17 May.

**Tuesday Evening Training**

This was again a success and the majority of the training was aimed at sit ski training both getting instructors more comfortable in a sit ski and tether training. This continues to be essential training to ensure our instructors are ready to do the official CADS training.

**Equipment Purchased This Season**

Replacement/repair parts only. New tethers, sandbag cover bags, and angulators for sitskis.

**Finances**

We are in the black this season mainly because we didn’t have any big pieces of equipment to purchase. With the slumping Canadian dollar it didn’t make sense to order any large items this season. We are in need of a sit ski like a bi-unique and the Dynamique may be a good investment in the coming season.

**JEFF BOUCHER - EDELWEISS**

**SKI HAWKS OTTAWA - June 8, 2016**

I truly enjoy writing my President’s message each year because it is an opportunity for me to look back at the year and our ski season, and reflect on all of the highlights. This year was one of several highlights.

The registration process has always been time consuming and last year when one of our members, Alexa Johnson, stepped up and suggested that we get with the times and go web-based for our registration process, the Board jumped at the idea and decided to give it a try. We did research other options with the help of Marius Parent and Bob Einarsson but landed on trying the Events.com methodology. Alexa designed the form and helped us make changes and learn the process, and overall, we agreed that it was worth the growing pains. Alexa is now talking to her company about making their technology more usable for the visually impaired so we are keeping our fingers crossed that we will see improvements.

Our guide training session was also changed this year. We went from a two hour evening format in early January to a half day format in December. Two sessions were offered: one for new guides, and one for returning guides. The feedback received for this day of training was highly positive and the Board has decided to go with the recommendation to lengthen the format and make it an all-day session. For safety reasons, all guides must undergo a training session with one of our trainers.

In addition to the longer training format, CADS also introduced the new CADS Manual this year and all guides have received either a hard copy or an electronic copy. I must thank the Community Foundation of Ottawa for providing us with the funds to be able to make the purchases and our own Bruce Meredith for being the key writer of the chapter on the visually impaired.

Ski Hawks had a very welcomed influx of new guides this year. This made Mary’s job much easier, and Murielle was all smiles as we had several new drivers to get our skiers to the slopes. Next year may be a challenge as one of our skiers has moved to Kanata and one of our Kanata guides and drivers, Stephane, is off to Australia with his wife, for 3 years. We will miss him dearly but he promises that he will come back again.

I was very impressed with the number of guides who took the time this year to get certified as ski instructors with the Canadian Ski Instructor Alliance, and we had several guides gain CADS certification. The leaders of each CADS program in the Division have already met to plan the training for next year and what is good for us is that I was able to negotiate training that wouldn’t conflict with our main program dates. This will allow our guides to participate in the training that they need to become more certified.

Another highlight of the year was the participation from our program members at the CADS Festival in Kimberley, B.C. I have to say that I have finally decided that it is time I went and it is primarily due to the enthusiasm of our members who come back with such high praise of the event. I encourage everyone to think about attending at some point in the future. The new venue for next year has not been officially announced, but I hear that it may be Sun Peaks.

The final highlight that I want to mention, that is always the highlight of every year, is the team that supports me. My Board of Directors is very strong and very devoted to the Club and its members. Thank you, thank you, thank you to Murielle Arseneau, James Dicks, Bob Einarsson, Adèle Farough, Mary Johannsen, and Bruce Meredith for all of the work that you have put into the Club and for never saying no to a task. I am truly blessed with this Board! I must also say thank you to David Farough who continues to accept the role as our representative on the Division Board. He has fulfilled many roles with this Club including President and he also never says no.

I hope that everyone has a great summer. Enjoy and stay in shape for the 2017 ski season.

**SKI HAWKS OTTAWA – CAROLYN MITROW**

**CALABOGIE PEAKS - End of Year Report 2016**

**Program Numbers**

We were at 36 participants and 60 volunteers for our Sunday our program. We had excellent attendance throughout the season and were very pleased with the progress all of the participants made. Our instructors increased in numbers and our focus next year will be to engage our new level 2 instructors to develop our other instructors.

**Awards Banquet**

Our Banquet was held at the Calabogie Community Centre and was great event. We enjoyed our meal, the race awards and year end video. We created certificates this year to adjust our costs and they were well received. Our most improved junior skier was Emma Campagna who we utilized the snow wing for and saw an incredible difference. Our most improved Senior Skier was Chris Hall. Chris started the program in a sit-ski and this year skied with outriggers on his own which were such advancement for him. We also added most improved Snowboarder this year and this award went to Cole Wilson who was our first participant to transition from skiing to snowboarding.

We also awarded Al McLarty and Malcolm McKinley with the Calabogie Director Award for their outstanding efforts to develop and implement the new training.

**Raffle Winners!**

The four lucky winners from the CADS Banquet were:

M. Leroux, Ottawa - 55" Smart TV with Sound Bar and Wireless Woofer

M. Baker, Ottawa - Apple iPad Air

T. Dore, Ottawa - Head Natural Instinct Skis and Bindings

M. D'Astous, Kanata - Calabogie Peaks Resort Adult Ultimate Seasons Ski Pass 2016/2017

**Ski Improvement on Tuesday Evening @ Pakenham**

This year we had as many as 18 individuals out for this program. At our close out meeting we discussed next year adding a sit-ski improvement/tethering to assist those wanting to get more time in and also to prepare our up and coming level 2’s. Great instructors and we are appreciative to Pakenham for hosting these evenings.

**Equipment Purchased for next Year**

We received our sit-ski after our season closed out so Phil was able to get a few days out on the hill with it and we have a number of anxious instructors hoping to utilize for next year.

We are keeping our costs down as no major replacement needs are required. We are looking at tune-ups, ski bags for the sit skis, platoons, straps and Velcro.

Calabogie experiences a flood and an issue with the sump pump not functioning so some boots were water logged but we do not anticipate major issues once completely dried out and treated. We may lose a filing cabinet due to rusting and water damage so will build additional shelving to hold plastic storage bins.

**Festival**

We had four individuals attend CADS festival this year and the experience was outstanding. They are coming back to the program with a wealth of information to assist us. It was an excellent time and they gained valuable knowledge and hands on time with students/equipment.

**Pre-Course**

Calabogie is making an application to host the Pre-Course in December 2016 and we are excited to be part of this process.

**Finances**

At the end of the year we came in approximately $6,400.00 below budget and we would like to keep those monies in our reserve as we anticipate a reduction of funding from Techcom in upcoming years.

To offset the reduced funding we are also phasing in increases for the program and this year will be charging $125.00 for half day patrons and $175.00 for full day patrons. Next year we will increase this amount again to cover the costs of the program.

The lottery resulted in raising $4,553.00 for us and this is a good outcome as we had difficulty with our sales in the Lodge. We did utilized emails and postings on Facebook and this was successful.

We are recruiting a new raffle sales coordinator and have already extended an offer to Louise McLarty so will begin that process earlier this year.

I would like to set up a bank account for Calabogie so we can deposit monies easier and also would like to register for a Square so that we can make payment for registration and SWAG purchases easier. Loved using it when at Festival and it was very user friendly.

**CALABOGIE PEAKS – DEB BLIMKIE**

**WINTER SPORTS CLINIC**

1. The CADS-NCD Calabogie Peaks Winter Sports Clinic in Support of Injured Soldiers and Veterans ran from 7 – 12 Feb 16.
2. Despite concerns that, at WSC number 6, we would have the smallest group of participant in four years, due to funding issues, True Patriot Love (TPL) came through and provided $25,000 in support of the clinic. This allowed the WSC to run with the largest number of participants (and spouses to date: 22 and 12 respectively).
3. Given the tight timelines we ended up working with, TPL funds came through approximately 2 weeks prior to the start of the WSC, a number of weaknesses were identified in our communications plan:
	1. The WSC will look to create a “We have received your application” notification, format TBD. This will facilitate early awareness of the process, and identify that until funding is sourced one should not expect to automatically attend;
	2. More info in the welcome package to better align new personnel attending, specifically those with anxiety issues; and
	3. Acceptance letters that can be sent out once funding/resources to allow a person to attend, vice waiting to see how many we can afford. This number varied significantly in the days leading up to the clinic
4. Apart from funding, the only other large area of concern this year was weather. At 4 days out, we were uncertain if the hill would have enough snow to allow us to run the clinic. Luckily the cold weather arrived, and Calabogie Peaks did an outstanding job of blowing snow throughout the week to ensure fantastic conditions were avail for the participants.
5. The clinic ran fairly well overall with only two significant incidences that took place:
	1. Participant applied after the cut-off date, but showed up to the clinic regardless, and claimed he had received a welcome letter. Participant was housed for the night, so that the clinic staff could confirm the non-existence of letter, and was asked to leave the next day. Participant accepted that based on space and funds he could not remain and left; and
	2. Participant has a relapse with alcohol addiction. Canadian Armed Forces Chaplain General talked to the individual and his spouse, they remained the rest of the week.
6. As usual, end of clinic admin tends to be a little slower than need be, based on most personnel having to play catch up at work after a week away. Intent next year is to get some of the end work completed during the week, to facilitate the closure of the clinic.
7. Given the number of new personnel in the committee this year, and the further transition that will occur as we prep for the 2017 Clinic (first meeting to occur in June), things appear to be steading out from a sequencing view of the WSC. Intent this year is to lean more heavily on the fundraising committee, so that should we find ourselves lacking a major sponsor, we are better situated to deal with it.

**WINTER SPORTS CLINIC – NEIL GEORGE**

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE 2016**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our program coordinators in delivering the importance of additional training and certification. This year we saw a definite increase in the number of volunteers and instructors signing up for certification courses. This year the numbers were as follows:

Level 1 sit ski module January 12th, 13th, 19th 15 skiers

Level 1 ASD/CI module Calabogie 12 skiers

Level 2 sit ski module Edelweiss March 5th 20 skiers

Level 2 ASD/CI module Edelweiss March 6th 15 skiers

Both Calabogie and Edelweiss offered continuous training as the year progressed. The on-hill discussions are very important to get the members active within their programs. I can certainly see this evident with the number of volunteers who had registered.

Going forward, next week we will be holding a meeting Tuesday May 17th, 2016 with the program coordinators to discuss the scheduling for all courses next year.

Now that the new manual and all its modules have been introduced to the different programs this will be the new standard going forward for the certification process.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Tim Fitzgerald and Malcolm McKinlay in delivering the courses to our new instructors. With all the new material and the time recommended in delivering these courses having more than one course instructor will allow us to deliver these courses to our program members in a timely fashion.

I would like to thank all of you in making this year’s courses a tremendous success and looking forward to a stronger next year.

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE – MIKE ROCHETTE**