



# The Inside Track

A Newsletter for Members of Porcupine Ski Runners

Fall Issue

October, 2005

Welcome to our new President

**Denis Brûlé**

November 27, 2005

Also welcome to our one new director

**Nan Tunnickliffe**

Mark the date on your calendar and plan to drop in at the Chalet.

- ◆ OPEN HOUSE
- ◆ SKI SALE (New and Used)
- ◆ SKI WAXING SERVICE
- ◆ JACKRABBIT REGISTRATION
- ◆ MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AND NEW MEMBERS

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## ENCLOSURES

Along with this issue of *The Inside Track* we have included:

1. Membership Application form
2. Return envelope
3. 1000 Pins and Participators' certificates for those who didn't pick them up last May

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## MEMBERSHIP

Consider this your invitation to renew your membership in Porcupine Ski Runners. It won't be long before the snow flies and most of the pre-season work that goes into getting trails, equipment and facilities ready is completed.

Please complete the form carefully and enter all the requested information including your signature at the bottom of the form. If the basic data, from last season's record, is pasted on the form, please update any incorrect, changed or new information.

Payment for children to register in the Jackrabbit program must now be made with the membership application.

The Jackrabbit program is available to members only so we are asking that both fees be paid at the same time. Ruth Roy, our Jackrabbit leader, may require some additional information to complete the registration and that will be arranged later or at the Open House on November 27. Jackrabbits will be

assigned to groups prior to the start of Jackrabbit sessions.

## Locker Renewal

**Please renew locker rentals along with your membership application by:**

**November 30, 2005**

**If you do not plan to renew your rental, please let me know because we have a waiting list. Call Gerry: 264-9093  
email: gmcnair@ntl.sympatico.ca**

As of last season, we have added the designation *Cross Country Ski & Snowshoe Club* to our name. Of course, that means that we now have snowshoe trails. If you have a membership to ski, then you can use the snowshoe trails without additional cost. We are also accepting members who will be using only the snowshoe trails and anyone can apply for this option by submitting the same application form and indicating this choice. Please remember to pass on this information to any person who you think might be interested in snowshoeing

We continue to ask for donations. Planning to replace the chalet with a new building that will have many more lockers and much larger and improved space is ongoing. There is a progress report on the project included in this

edition of the newsletter. Please consider supporting this project.

**JACKRABBIT PROGRAM**

The Jackrabbit program is a national program run under the guidance of Cross Country Canada. Its aim is to teach children to ski in a fun and controlled environment. The children are encouraged to better themselves and are rewarded for their progress with achievement badges.

The program is open to all members of the club between the ages six and twelve. Registration will be held at the chalet on Sunday, November 27 between 10:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. The registration fee has been increased to \$30.00 per child. Note that this fee must be paid along with the membership fee.

this year is no different. Please consider helping out and give us a call.

Ruth Roy (268-8762)

**SKI SWAP**

The PSR Race Team will be holding a ski swap on Sunday, November 27, between 10:00 A.M. and 4 P.M., in the garage. This is a popular event and the Race Team has agreed to organize it again this year. However, they emphasize that having equipment to sell depends on members bringing in used equipment that they no longer use or want to keep. There is used equipment for sale but there will also be new equipment available for sale at reduced prices.

This year they will not accept the old "3-pin" skis nor boots. There is simply no one wanting equipment that old.

They will help price the items and supervise sales. For their effort they will keep 20% of all sales made.

Here's how to be a part of this event:

**If you wish to buy ski equipment at a bargain:**

Come to Porcupine Ski Runners Chalet **Sunday, Nov. 27** between the hours of **10 A.M. and 4 P.M.**

**If you have ski equipment to sell:**

1. Bring the equipment to the chalet **Saturday, Nov. 26** between **11 A.M. and 3 P.M.**

Sessions will be on Sundays and start in January. We are planning to have the sessions continue after the school spring break. We did this the last two years and it seemed to be a success and appreciated. Each year we look to recruit new leaders and assistants and

2005 - 06	Executive	
Name	Position	Phone
Denis Brûlé	President/Facilities	268-5952
Lorne Luhta	Vice-President/Coach	235-8048
Roy Baumgart	Secretary/Facilities/Membership	267-2759
John Hardy	Treasurer	268-4448
<b>Directors</b>		
Rick Cecconi	Webmaster	267-6169
Greg Deyne	NOD Representative/Coach	235-3564
Stan Kaczmarek	Fund Raising/Events	267-3187
Victoria Kullas	Facilities	267-6988
Larry Labelle	Snowshoe Trails	268-8271
Germain Lauzier	Trails/Facilities	267-3830
Diane Luhta	Schools/Events/Newsletter	235-8048
Yvan Massicotte	Trails/Facilities/Coach	268-9102
Gerry McNair	Membership/Newsletter	264-9093
Noëlla McNair	Publicity	264-9093
Gerry Perreault	Equipment/Facilities	264-6939
Ruth Roy	Membership	268-8762
Don Sutton	Events/Trail Light Maintenance	235-2864
Nan Tunnicliffe	Fund Raising (Chalet)	235-8435

- 2. The equipment will be assigned a value and placed on display for sale.
- 3. If your items are sold, 80% of the price will be returned to you and the racing team will keep the remaining 20%.
- 4. If you are unable to bring your used equipment to the chalet at the specified times, contact Mary-Anne Martin (264-7488) or Don Sutton (235-2864) to arrange an alternate time or pickup.

We suggest that you check out your ski equipment and decide if it's time to part with some of it or go look for some that is better than what you have. Perhaps you can do both.

**SKI WAXING**

To prepare your skis for the season, the racing team will once again be offering to wax your skis for a \$20 fee. This includes:

- 1. base preparation, which is necessary to remove the nicks from last year's season and get your skis in optimal condition to apply the waxes for this year. The team members will bring their special tools.
- 2. scraping and applying glide or grip wax. The team will provide the waxes.

Your skis will be ready for the coming season. Everyone knows the value of good waxing, and the racers have great experience and success in this area. PSR is known

for its expertise in waxing, and have won many a race due to this special skill (well trained by Lorne Luhta and Yvan Massicotte).

You, too, can benefit from this. If you want to call ahead, please contact Mary-Anne Martin (264-7488) or Don Sutton (235-2864), and we will arrange to get your skis ready. These events, along with help from the Board of Directors, assist the Team with travel and race entry costs. Keep tuned to hear Team results throughout the season. They have been very successful in the past and are working hard to continue this great trend.

Hope to see you at the Ski Swap.

**SUMMER WORK**

The summer and fall months that precede each ski season is a time of preparation for the first snowfall. Some tasks are repeats for every season such as equipment maintenance, facilities repairs and updating signs. Others are larger tasks involving noticeable changes. The following list of trail improvements that have been completed was provided by Diane Luhta:

- 1. Groups of volunteers cut the new growth on all trails in what seemed like record time. They worked on weekends and also during the week.

2. The BR400 machines with trailers were used to spread

additional wood chips (sort of sawdust) on the lighted portions of the trails.

3. Lorne Luhta planned and coordinated cutting a new section on the Yellow Trail near the point where the Loppet Trail leads off to South Porcupine. The result is that this portion of the trail no longer goes through the swamp and bypasses the water and bulrushes.

4. We improved the safety of crossing the snowmobile trail at one point on the Olympic Trail. *(I might add that we are attempting to get the cooperation of the Snowmobile Club to improve the safety of other crossing points. Ed.)*

5. To improve drainage we have ditched and added more culverts at various points along the trail system.

6. Lorne Luhta was again instrumental in cutting yet another new section on the Olympic Trail

**Recycling**

**Sylvia Labelle is heading up a campaign to promote recycling at Porcupine Ski Runners.**

**Please cooperate by placing all recyclable material in the appropriate boxes that are provided in the chalet.**

**Sylvia says that we can actually make a few bucks by returning pop cans for money.**

to avoid a low swampy section along the gasline. On all the trails except the South Porcupine section of the Loppet Trail, it should now be possible to walk, hike, cycle,

and run during the summer. We should also be able to ski, without getting your feet wet, right up until the snow disappears.

on our present membership through incurring a large debt or through a huge increase of the membership fees. As a result, the

fundraising committee has submitted a number of funding requests to various foundations such as the national foundations of Canada's six largest banking institutions, the Schumacher Foundation, Frog's Breath and others.

As a result, donors will receive a tax-deductible receipt for their donations from the City. We very much appreciate the City's participation and support. If we are successful in our external fundraising bids, we will then develop a local fundraising strategy. We will welcome all your ideas for this campaign.

We would like to be moving the project along at a greater pace but there are numerous regulations and details that we cannot ignore. We'll keep you posted.

**That Old Chalet**

**The Racing Team is selling cards depicting our present chalet.**

**The cards are copies of an original watercolour painting done by**  
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**Grandfather of Martha Sutton - a racing team member (Martha - not Grandpa). The original was donated to the Club.**

**The cards are priced at 6 for \$20 They are available from any member of the Racing Team (or their family members) or Call Susan at 235-2864**

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The Venture Centre (a subsidiary of Fed-Nor) has contributed \$5,000 to help defray costs of feasibility studies. Human Resources Canada

**SKI LESSONS**

Diane Luhta, Rhys Lucas and Karin Trimble are undertaking an ambitious 10 week series of ski lessons that will be available to club members.

- Participants must be members of Porcupine Ski Runners
- First session is Sunday, Nov.5
- Participants must register by Nov. 5
- Registration is done at **Northern Sports**
- Cost is \$50
- Lessons will take place on 3 Sundays in November (first 2 will be dryland instruction) and 7 Wednesday evenings, ending January 28

If you are interested, you should act immediately - start date is near.

will support the project through manpower assistance once construction is given the go-ahead. The Schumacher Foundation is contributing \$50,000US and we have already received half that amount with the second half pledged for September 2006. We are extremely appreciative of this donation from the Schumacher Foundation and the confidence they are demonstrating for our project. We are still awaiting a response to our other funding requests.

The City of Timmins has agreed to partner with us for the fundraising component of the project. This does not mean that the City is contributing money to the project but they are accepting

**NEW CHALET PROJECT**

By: Noëlla McNair

The planning for a new chalet is still in the feasibility study phase. Key matters yet to be decided before proceeding include the siting of the building and the outcome of various fundraising proposals.

By the end of October we expect to have selected an engineering firm to evaluate three potential sites. In studying these sites, the firm will consider ground preparation, cost of building, parking, availability of utilities and accessibility among other factors.

With respect to fundraising, the directors were very clear in not wanting to place a financial burden