



Beaver Tales

Beaver Canoe Club Newsletter

February 2018

Next Meeting February 14, 2018 – Valentines Day! ❤️

Featured Entertainment: “Paddling in Costa Rica”

The temptation of exciting paddling in a tropical paradise lured a group of intrepid Beavers to Costa Rica in 2004. The remarkable paddling you’ll see and the captivating stories you’ll hear continued to lure Beavers down south for fun filled adventure trips for multiple years. Come share the adventure of paddling through jungles, by vultures, below monkeys and beside enormous butterflies as well as the other remarkable places visited when Carey Robson presents “Costa Rica!”



Location: Burnaby Lake Sports Complex West, 3677 Kensington Ave, Burnaby, BC V5B 4Z6
Time: = 7:45 p.m.

Introducing Your 2018 Executive:

President:	Phil Rankin
Vice President:	Dan Burnett
Treasurer:	John Gardiner
Secretary:	Christine Lambert
Trips Director:	David Westell
Training Director:	Carey Robson
Membership Director:	Bob Podesta
Social Director:	April Watson
Entertainment Director:	Greg Scutt
Newsletter Editor:	Madeline Waring
Web Master:	Ryan George

Members can access Executive contact information thru the “Contacts” section or in the “Membership List” after logging in.

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Message from El Presidente and the New Regime 2018

Greetings and Salutations to My Subjects:

I have been asked to express something on behalf of myself as your President. I thought I would lead in with a **MAKE CANOEING GREAT AGAIN!**

I know. I know. I hear there are voices of dissent against this slogan. There are some elements in the club - dissenters, malcontents and

such. My spies tell me they are mostly marginal groups like kayakers, rafters, rubber duckers, and even fishermen. The unrest seems to have spread here and there and my job is to seek out these dissenters and deal with them decisively. I will return to that subject in another newsletter.

I have a few other points I wish to make to my subjects. As you know, my regime has announced that we will not be renewing our insurance policy in June 2018. There has been much discussion to and fro. But after soliciting and receiving an independent legal opinion from Ellen Bond that our insurance is, bluntly, no good and after that position was ratified at our AGM, our club will not renew the useless insurance in 2018-2019 during my reign. See arm's length opinion on Beaver members site.

Well, you may ask, how can we get by without insurance? Well we did for 20 years and we have been paying, according to the opinion, for nothing, as our club executive and trip leaders have never been mentioned in the contract to begin with, nor are activities such as leading trips or paddling.

What is to be done? Essentially nothing new. According to statistics 80% of adults have third party liability in their homeowners or tenants insurance package - usually for 1 million dollars.

For those of you who don't have homeowners insurance or a tenants package - consider getting one.

What is third party liability insurance? The third party is the person who sues one for one's negligence and third party insurance pays the third party if they are successful in establishing their claim.

When we hear suing many of us will be filled with dread. But people (3rd parties) don't just sue because they are hurt. They have to have a good case. A good case in voluntary clubs is not easy to establish and with proper waivers impossible. That's why when you go skiing and rafting you sign waivers. Companies operating recreational activities like Whistler and Chilliwack are not sued because of waivers. Every year hundreds of people on local ski hills fall, break ankles, legs or worse, yet don't sue. Why not? Because they sign waivers.

I myself broke my ankle skiing with my son. Did I sue the ski hill? No. I had with my lift ticket agreed to a waiver. Anyway, I couldn't think of what they did wrong that caused me to fall. Did I sue my son for taking his elderly diabetic father out after not skiing for 20 years? No I didn't - there was no case to sue him. I had gone with him voluntarily and I had assumed the risk voluntarily. In hindsight an old cacker like me in my condition should never have gone skiing. My ankle will never heal and I will never ski again. Too bad for me but there is no one to blame but me.

This year my priority will be to see that our waiver policy is reviewed. I have also decided to recommend to my executive that we also produce a "guest waiver" for trip leaders.

As a former, mere trip leader, I am aware that from time to time non Beaver members, who have not signed waivers on joining the club, come out to paddle with us. That's fine, but it may be a good practice to have such guests sign a waiver clearly stating that the "guest paddler" voluntarily assumes risks and waive their right to sue the Beavers and the named trip leader.

Once we have reviewed our proposed "guest waiver" it will be available online and will be given out to trip leaders at the May 23, 2018 trip leaders clinic by he who must be obeyed - Carey.

2018 is the year we bring in new members, get former members to return, heal wounds, prop up newbies, and give more paddling opportunities and get more people out. Wishing you all well and expect to see you all paddling. Your President



Executive Report:

The Executive met on the January 17th and makes the following recommendations.

1. The Beaver Canoe Club Executive recommends adoption of the proposed 2018 Trips Calendar (as printed on page 5).
2. After four months of extensive consultation and input from the forty Beaver Members that have also been Lakewater, Moving Water or Master Instructors the Beaver Canoe Club Executive recommends to the membership adoption of the following policy:

Whereas In the spring of 2017 the Recreational Canoeing Association of British Columbia, (RCABC), published revised Standards of Lakewater Instructor Certification and proficiencies in its "Instruction Manual — 7th edition," and

Whereas these standards diminish the proficiencies associated with the designation of Lakewater Instructor.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Beaver Canoe Club:

1. Continue its policy of only utilizing currently certified RCABC Lakewater Instructors for Lakewater paddling instruction within the Club, and
2. Only recognize a RCABC Lakewater 2 Instructor certification if the holder can provide reasonable proof that they have successfully completed a solo, unassisted canoe-over-canoe rescue, and
3. Only recognize those Lakewater Instructors that that have passed an exam that met the RCABC Standards of Instruction as published from 1980 through 2015. See appendix A on page 6.

Advocating for Local Pools and Paddling Sessions!

Our illustrious President Phil has been busy advocating to keep Lord Byng and Templeton pools afloat and to continue to schedule pool paddling sessions for kayakers and canoers. The potential shift to destination pools threatens the existence of smaller pools which have hosted rolling sessions for paddlers. Phil has been writing letters, appearing before the Park Board, and working with the Byng pool committee so that these local pools are maintained. On January 29th the park board met to vote on what is known as the VanSplash Aquatics Strategy. Apparently, it is being reconsidered. Keep up the great work Phil!

Editors Note:

As the new Editor of your newsletter, I have already had positive experiences! One being, perusing the members only section on our web site. I had thought the section had disappeared as it doesn't appear until after logging in and I usually can't be bothered logging in as it means I need to remember another password. But, after resetting my password, several times, I examined the various sections and had a much-needed reminder that this is where the club directory is, the members list and the "important club documents"; boring things like policies, that are good to remind ourselves of now and then. There are also instructions for adding news, trip reports, events, pictures, ads etc. If you haven't checked out this section recently, I suggest logging on and looking at it and contributing to our web site this year. If resetting your password, you will see some strange conglomeration of figures in the password box. Be sure to change it to something you remember before clicking "log-in". As you can tell, I am not very web site savvy and thought I'd share my experience with you in case there are others like me!

Beaver Canoe Club 2018 Training Opportunities!

☺ **Basic Paddlers April 25, 28 & May 5** Learn the basic canoeing strokes and maneuvers from Certified Lake Water Instructors. Feeling rusty, come out and ask to take it again as a refresher! For more information



<http://beavercanoecub.org/training-2/basic-paddlers-2/>

☺ **Trip Leaders Clinic May 23rd**. Have you not been able to go on a club trip because there wasn't a trip leader? Let's make all the trips happen! Take this clinic and then volunteer to lead a trip you are comfortable with. For more information:

<http://beavercanoecub.org/training-2/trip-leaders-clinic-2/>

☺ **Introduction to Moving Water May 30 & June 2nd**. Want to try paddling on a river, but not sure what to do? Come gain some skills and comfort by participating in this clinic that is guided by experienced river paddlers. For more information:

<http://beavercanoecub.org/training-2/intro-to-moving-water-2/>

Private Training Opportunities:

Lake Water 1 to 4 and Lake Water Instructors' Course Starts April 6th. Learn more strokes than you know exist and how to make your canoe go exactly where you want it to go. Beaver members registering by March 6th receive a 20% discount. Taught by Carey Robson, Master Instructor. Details at www.learn2canoe.ca

2018 Reel Paddling Film Festival

The Reel Paddling Film Festival showcases the very best paddling films! Come experience an evening of paddling films that will inspire you to explore rivers, lakes and oceans, push extremes, embrace the paddling lifestyle and appreciate wild places.

Date: March 9th, 2018

Place: University of the Fraser Valley (B101)

33844 King Road, Abbotsford (It's just off Hwy #1, near WCK)

Tickets: \$12 in advance from Western Canoeing and Kayaking;
\$15 at the door

Hosted by: Western Canoeing and Kayaking

Proceeds to Benefit: Chilliwack Vedder River Cleanup Society

IMPORTANT DATES

February 2018

14th Beaver CC Meeting
21st Executive Meeting

March 2018

9th Reel Paddling Film Festival
14th Beaver CC Meeting
18th 1st Beaver 2018 Trip
21st Executive Meeting
22nd 1st Weekday Paddle

April 2018

5th Weekday Paddle
11th Beaver CC Meeting
18th Executive Meeting
19th Weekday Paddle
20th-22nd RCABC Paddle Conference
22nd Paddle Expo
25th Basic Paddlers
28th Basic Paddlers

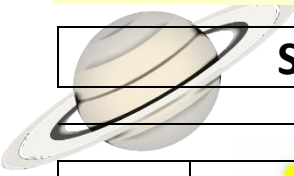
May 2018

3rd Weekday Paddle
5th Basic Paddlers
9th Beaver CC Meeting
16th Executive Meeting
23rd Trip Leaders Clinic
30th Intro Moving Water

June 2018

2nd Intro Moving Water
13th Beaver CC Meeting
20th Executive Meeting
23rd River Week Begins

Beaver Canoe Club 2018 Trip Plan



Saturday

Mar 24	Burrard Inlet North Arm
Mar 31	Easter Weekend
Apr 7	Seymour River
Apr 14	Squamish River
Apr 21	Lower Chilliwack River
Apr 28	Basic Paddlers (Training)
May 5	Basic Paddlers (Training)
May 12	Upper Seymour River
May 19	May Long Weekend Rivers Campout
Jun 2	Intro to Moving Water (Training)
Jun 16	Mamquam Weekend
Jun 23	Rivers Week
Jun 30	Rivers Week
Jul 7	Merritt Encore Campout
Jul 21	Beaver Picnic
Aug 4	Wenatchee Weekend
Aug 11	Newcastle Island Family Trip
Aug 18	Dease Island / Ladner
Aug 25	Adams River Weekend
Sep 1	Labour Day Weekend Campout
Sep 8	Chilliwack River
Sep 15	Lighthouse Point
Oct 6	Thanksgiving Campout

Sunday

Mar 18	Widgeon Creek	
Mar 25	Chilliwack River	
Apr 1	Easter Weekend	
Apr 8	Buntzen Lake	
Apr 15	Cheakamus River	
Apr 22	Cultus Lake	
Apr 29	Alouette Slough	
May 6	South Nooksack River	
May 13	Fraser North Arm	
May 20	May Long Weekend Rivers Campout	
May 27	River of Golden Dreams	
Jun 3	Fraser R Stave to Kanaka	
Jun 10	Salmon R	
Jun 17	Mamquam Weekend	Belcarra Pk
Jun 24	Rivers Week	
Jun 31	Rivers Week	
Jul 8	Merritt Encore Campout	Nicomeckl River
Jul 15	Lower Coquitlam	
Jul 22	Cheakamus River	
July 29	Serpentine Delta	
Aug 5	Wenatchee Weekend	
Aug 12	Newcastle Island Family Trip	
Aug 19	Lower Chilliwack River	
Aug 26	Adams River Weekend	
Sep 2	Labour Day Weekend Campout	
Sep 9		
Sep 16	Cheakamus River	
Sep 23	Harrison River	
Sep 30	BC Rivers Day Cleanup	
Oct 7	Thanksgiving Campout	
Oct 14	Fraser River Yale to Hope	
Oct 21	Widgeon Creek	



Weekday Paddles

Mar 22nd
 April 5th & 19th
 May 3rd
 &
 every second
 Thursday
 thereafter...

This trip list was written in January 2018 for planning purposes and may change in the ensuing months according to, water levels, weather conditions, member participation, volunteer availability or new opportunities. For up to date information about coming trips, please consult **Trip Page** in the most recent edition of **Beaver Tales**.

If you have a suggestion for a trip, we would like to know and will do our best to support you in organizing it.

Appendix A: Reference Information regarding Executive Recommendation 2 (page 3)

RCABC Standards of Instruction as published from 1980 through 2015

THE RCABC INSTRUCTOR EXAM

PADDLING SKILLS:

Solo Paddling

Candidates must be able to paddle the RCA solo course in a smooth and efficient manner on both left and right sides. Paddlers cannot switch paddling sides to complete manoeuvres, but offside strokes are permitted. A maximum of 4 minutes is allowed for each side, but competent instructor candidates should be able to complete the course in 3 minutes in calm conditions.

Tandem Paddling

Candidates must complete the RCA tandem course in both bow and stern positions. This is accomplished by paddling the course once, switching ends and then paddling the course again. During the tandem course the stern paddler gives commands and the bow paddler must follow them. The stern paddler must call out the name of each stroke required, not give descriptions of the manoeuvre to be performed. The bow paddler must only perform strokes called by the stern paddler and not correct mistakes unless directed to do so. During the tandem course the candidate is only evaluated in the stern position. The evaluation is based on:

- giving commands (clear and appropriate)
- stroke mechanics (choice of stroke and efficiency of application).

Rescue

Candidates not recommended by an RCA Course Conductor must demonstrate a solo, unassisted canoe-over-canoe rescue, to be completed within 90 seconds of first contacting the canoe.

TEACHING

Each candidate is required to teach 3 items from the topics in the RCA Instruction Manual. Two items will be strokes or manoeuvres and the third will be a theory or dry land topic. Most examiners give candidates one basic and one advanced stroke to teach. Candidates are expected to:

- Briefly describe the stroke and its purpose or when it would be used.
- Give an effective demonstration.
- Have students attempt the stroke.
- Give general corrections or point out "keys to efficiency".
- Have students perform the item.
- Give individual correction as required.

THEORY EXAM

Brief written answers to questions in the following areas:

History 10

Equipment 10

Strokes and Paddling 25

Rescue and Safety 25

Terminology 18

Leadership 4

Environmental Ethics 8

TOTAL 100%