

# BEAVER TALES

The Worthy Newsletter of the Beaver Canoe Club



May 2023

**THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING IS ON MAY 10, AT 8:00 PM,  
VIA ZOOM!!**

## GENERAL MEETING ENTERTAINMENT

Hold on to your seats! We have two (as in a pair or a duo) presentations tonight.

**Presentation 1** will be on a trip doing the Turner Lake chain involving planes, automobiles and of course canoes. The adventures of four humans and a dog. Presented by Daniela Ginta.



**Presentation 2** will be by Dave Apps and is titled “River Flow 101”. Learn everything you wanted to know about river flows. Answers to questions like ‘what are typical flows on our favorite rivers? What does 20 CMS look like? Where can I find today’s flow or flow forecast on my favorite river? Which west coast rivers are flow controlled?’

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The RCABC Paddle Fest at Lake Kawkawa was a smashing success with over 100 people signed up. Lots of old friends and many families and children who are allowed to roam free including specialized children activities, storytelling, games and more.

There were also workshops galore: instructors' recertifications, big canoes, early morning and evening paddles, hiking, and many paddling clinics. Rick Bryans brought his fleet of open white-water canoes plus his C-1s. There were clinics: C-1 clinics, rolling and polling clinics, recertifications, knot tying, northern trip slide show, stretch and strength classes, gear repair workshops, and more. And of course, the RCABC race regatta: tandems class, family class, open boat, and big canoe races.

The RCABC AGM was also held; uneventfully the usual suspects were largely re-elected. Keiran announced it is his last year as President, so hopefully some of you step up as we need to find more willing people. All and all the event was pretty successful unless you're a foodie: camp food is okay with sleeping on summer camp cots or tenting. Anyway, it works, especially because Kari Anne Thor's huge effort with of course, a large, huge number of people assisting who I dare not name as I will leave out too many.

The Beavers' Basic Paddlers course at Deer Lake is in full swing using the traditional Robson formulae rejigged by Dave Broughton's massive effort so that we have over 60 people taking it. The April 26, 2023, dryland workshop talks featured Greg Scutt on "wear and prepare for anything"; Dave Westell on paddling ethics; Bob Podesta on hypothermia; Jim Slade on paddle and canoe review; and Owen Lee on PFD's and more. We had our first paddling day on April 29 and it was an incredibly hot summer day of 27 degrees! The student instructor ratio of about 1 to 5 students made for a great day. May 6 will be the test day and Madeline and Alain will be examining.

The weather is changing and getting warmer. The Seymour is shaping up and beginning May 1, 2023, you will need a parking pass which you can get in person or online at the District of North Vancouver. The lock is on the gate, so you need a key. Paddy Lee has one in a "special place" if you are stuck. The club has two and I have them. Einar has another. So be aware you need a key to get in and a parking pass.

The What's App Seymour Group is paddling. They paddled Saturday and Sunday on the Seymour. Then I heard of another secret "exclusive" group of hot bloods. A secret exclusive What's App "Capilano" group. Apparently, GS and KZ and their "special" friends, mostly female, are paddling the Capilano and the upper Seymour and somehow my invitation got lost in the mail.

On this same note of rejection, my invitation was missed for the Lower Columbia Paddle last month. I conclude that I am being left behind for my own good, this has become a thing. So much so I have not been invited to my own son's "stag party" on the Nahathlatch, but my grandson, who doesn't paddle, is.

The message is I am too old and too stale, and I should just stay in my own lane at Byng Pool. I believe there is a conspiracy that may be benign, but maybe not. Greg remarked recently that I seem to have one uniform: sweatshirt and sweatpants. He concluded I have only one set due to the food stains! In my defense I bought four pairs of identical sweatshirts and sweatpants at Walmart, and now more than half are food stained. Also, Podesta recently said he saw a show on Groucho Marx that indicated I was a dead ringer for Groucho! A backhanded compliment, I guess.

Well screw them! My friend Gordon Stark in Princeton says I can come to Elk Ridge on the May long weekend with VWV so give a Bronx cheer to the rest of you ageists.

President Rankin

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## GET YOUR T-SHIRTS AND SWEATSHIRTS!

You have until May 15<sup>th</sup> to order your T-shirt and Sweatshirt!

These items are a great promotion for the club, and a vehicle giving you personal bragging rights!

You can place your order at the **Beaver Canoe Club website**. Look under **General News**, and then click on “**Beaver Club T-shirts**”.

- Unisex and fitted ladies cut T-Shirts plus a Unisex Crewneck Sweatshirt
- Available in 2 colors and a wide range of sizes
- Both T shirts and sweatshirts have the same graphics

**Note:** Orders will be collected until **May 15<sup>th</sup>**, and then submitted as one batch order. We anticipate delivery in early to mid June.

**Read the garment information and ordering details carefully then send your order in!**

## TRIP REPORTS

### **Beaver Canoe Club Trip - Lower Chilliwack River.**

On Sunday April 16<sup>th</sup>, the club paddled the lower Chilliwack River. Seven boats were put in at Osborne Road, with one tandem (Jenny, Rebecca), four solo canoes (Leigh, Dave, Scott, Jordi) and two kayaks (Scott, Owen).

It was a cool (<10°C) and overcast day. River levels were quite low; much lower than many had seen/paddled in years. We passed several substantial log jams on the river's flood plain, remnants of last year's catastrophic floods. The river was also unrecognizable in areas due to avulsion, which had rerouted the river channel during the previous floods. At one point near the

end of the trip, we had to portage around a large tree that rested across the entire river from bank to bank. Despite wet conditions having been forecast, we largely escaped poor weather, with only light intermittent showers throughout the day. Fortunately, the rain commenced at the end of the trip near the takeout at Lickman Rd.

Presented by Jordi

### **April 23 Alouette River scheduled trip.**

Not enough people participated to make it an official Beaver trip, so Rebecca (in a kayak), Marita and Peter (canoe) decided to do an unofficial one. We checked out the 224<sup>th</sup> St. put-in but the start looked a little gnarly to us, so we decided 216<sup>th</sup> St would be safer put in. We paddled and drifted down the Alouette River from there to the Trail Pavilion take-out. The weather was cloudy and rainless and gave a thoroughly fine paddle. We met kayakers coming upstream collecting garbage as well as other kayakers coming up from Trail Pavilion. We gave the nesting herons some entertainment as we were the only paddlers going downstream at the time.

### **April 30 Moody Inlet scheduled trip.**

Another scheduled Beaver trip that turned unofficial. What better way to spend the last tax filing day than to be on a calm, windless, rainless, sunless ocean? Dave, Leigh, Rita and Peter paddled in two canoes from the loco Rd & First Ave. put-in to the Jug Island Beach, where we had lunch. We saw many seals and an eagle trying to catch a seagull for lunch – a rare sight. A few kayakers around the Deep Cove area of the ocean and the occasional crabber checking their traps. Otherwise, little traffic. The trip back is always interesting late in the day as you have some waves caused by the power boats returning from their weekend trip up Indian Arm.

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## **WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR A KOOTENAY TRIP ORGANIZER**



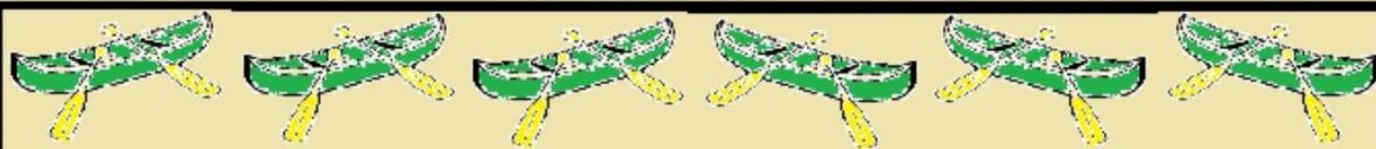
This is a week of Gr 2+ & 3 rivers in the East Kootenays, along the Kootenay Valley corridor. To make this trip happen, we need a trip organizer, and a quorum of paddlers wanting to go. If you can help organize this trip, or want to go, email the trip director at [trips@beavercanoecub.org](mailto:trips@beavercanoecub.org).

Carey Robson suggests watching the video: “White Experience” at [www.CanoeBC.ca](http://www.CanoeBC.ca) If you are thinking of

paddling the Kootenays this summer.



**DON'T FORGET THE PICNIC – NOTE: REVISED DATE AND TIME**



**9.00am onwards, Saturday 15th July 2023**

## **BEAVERS WATERFRONT PADDLE & BRUNCH**

Make New  
Friends  
Meet Old Friends

**Come, even if you don't have a canoe!!!!**

paddle paddle paddle

**POTLUCK**  
share food

**The only picnic shelter in  
CATES PARK, NORTH VANCOUVER**

Head North/West on HWY 1. Take the far right lane on 2nd Narrows Bridge.  
Take exit 23B toward Dollarton Hwy. Merge onto Main St. Continue straight  
On to Dollarton Hwy. After 5.0 km, Turn right onto Cates Park Rd...  
Picnic shelter is at bottom of hill - Parking gets crazy get there early

Fun &  
Games



Gentle Paddle  
in the Inlet



## REPEAT REMINDER: VOYAGEUR BRIGADES ADVENTURE

There are plans for two voyageur brigades this summer. Here is some intel gleaned from BCC member Katie S:

Fort Assiniboine Bicentennial Brigade - Athabasca River July 6 to 14, 2023: from Whitecourt AB to Athabasca AB. The trip will be 6 days on the river plus a layover day at Fort Assiniboine to take in the community's bicentennial events. This is a trip of some 340 kms. Given the 200th anniversary of Fort Assiniboine, a river that was once a very important fur trade route, and utilized by the likes of David Thompson, George Simpson, and Paul Kane, all paddlers interested in fur trade history should consider participating in this brigade next summer!

This route is moving water, Alberta eastern slope river. Very fun. One of the organizers tells me the vibe along the river is very positive, so it should be FUN!

The estimated cost is \$2000 per crew. We would want at least 6 paddlers, and up to 14, PLUS a driver for each vehicle taken up there. Some days will have the opportunity for crew change.

Trent Severn Waterway July 28 to Aug 7, 2023: from Georgian Bay through the 24 locks, lakes, and canals to the site of the new Canadian Canoe Museum on



Peterborough's waterfront to celebrate opening it's a newly built site. Acknowledging the First Nations traditional territories it passes through, the Brigade has invited Chippewas of Rama and Georgina Island, and the First Nations of Beau Soleil, Curve Lake, Hiawatha, and Alder Ville to participate.

If either of these trips appeal to you, contact Katie at [ksather@shaw.ca](mailto:ksather@shaw.ca).

## PLANNED MAY TRIPS!

### Trips May 2023

<b>Thu May 4</b>	<b>Alouette Full Moon Evening Paddle: Gr 1 &amp; Lake Water</b>	This trip begins after work, in a shallow, gravelly river, and slows down by nightfall to finish up on a deep, wide slough. Maybe we'll see a bear or a beaver or be stalked by a seal. Hear the coyotes laugh and the herons cackle. And of course, the moon will make an appearance at the takeout. <b>Contact:</b> <a href="mailto:trips@beavercanooclub.org">trips@beavercanooclub.org</a>
<b>Sat May 6</b>	<b>Basic Paddlers Second on Water Training Day</b>	Third and final session of a three-part basic tandem paddling course, preceded by the first two sessions. Free to all members. <b>Contact:</b> Dave B <a href="mailto:training@beavercanooclub.org">training@beavercanooclub.org</a>
<b>Sun May 7</b>	<b>Lower Coquitlam River: Gr 1 &amp; Lake Water</b>	Graduated from Basic Paddlers? Here's a chance to use your paddling skills to make the journey through Port Coquitlam and Colony Farm to the Fraser River. for <b>Contact</b> , email <a href="mailto:trips@beavercanooclub.org">trips@beavercanooclub.org</a>
<b>Wed May 10</b>	<b>BCC General Meeting by Zoom</b>	Our monthly meeting and Entertainment held regularly on the second Wednesday each month. A zoom link will be sent to all current members.
<b>Sun May 14</b>	<b>Upper Seymour River: Gr 3</b>	Water levels willing, this will be wild ride through several serious rapids. Solid river skills and full outfitting required! <b>Contact Phil B:</b> <a href="mailto:ptbates@telus.net">ptbates@telus.net</a>
<b>Sun May 21</b>	<b>Sumas River: Gr 1- &amp; Lake Water</b>	A family paddle winding through the pastoral Sumas Prairie, just east of Abbotsford. for <b>Contact</b> , check <a href="#">Calendar on BCC Website</a> closer to the time, or email: <a href="mailto:trips@beavercanooclub.org">trips@beavercanooclub.org</a>
<b>Sun May 28</b>	<b>Mamquam River: Gr 2</b>	A fast and fun whitewater experience near Squamish. Some river experience and full outfitting required. <b>Contact:</b> Dave A <a href="mailto:notallengineersarenerds@gmail.com">notallengineersarenerds@gmail.com</a>
<b>Sun Jun 4</b>	<b>Pitt River: Gr 1 &amp; Lake Water</b>	This river flows both north and south between Pitt Lake and the Fraser River in Port Coquitlam, at the foot of the mountains, past blueberry and cranberry farms. Rebecca will choose a section to float along for this family adventure. <b>Contact:</b> Rebecca H <a href="mailto:Rebecca.helps@gmail.com">Rebecca.helps@gmail.com</a>
<b>Wed Jun 7</b>	<b>Intro to Moving Water – Evening Dryland Session – in Person</b>	Free to all members who have passed Basic Paddlers. Increase your knowledge and understanding of moving water and learn the skills you need to use a current to your advantage and navigate a canoe safely in it. <b>This evening, dryland theory session will be followed by an all-day on-water session on Saturday May 10th.</b> <b>Contact:</b> Dave B <a href="mailto:training@beavercanooclub.org">training@beavercanooclub.org</a>



<b>Sat Jun 10</b>	<b>Intro to Moving Water – On Water Session: Gr 1 &amp; 2-</b>	Free to all members who have passed Basic Paddlers. Increase your knowledge and understanding of moving water and learn the skills you need to use a current to your advantage and navigate a canoe safely in it. <b>This all-day, on-water practice session follows a required evening dryland theory session, on Wed Jun 7.</b> <b>Contact:</b> Dave B <a href="mailto:training@beavercanoecub.org">training@beavercanoecub.org</a>
<b>Sun Jun 11</b>	<b>Cheakamus or Lower Chilliwack: Gr 2 &amp; 3</b>	This Sunday trip piggybacks on Saturday's <i>Intro to Moving Water</i> and gives the moving water mentors (and maybe some recent graduates too) a chance to stay over and paddle a second river. Location to be determined, at or close to where our training director holds the Saturday clinic. River Skills and full outfitting required. <b>Contact:</b> <a href="mailto:trips@beavercanoecub.org">trips@beavercanoecub.org</a>

## MISCELLANEOUS



### WANTED

The club is looking for an experienced bookkeeper willing to review the bookkeeping and prepare our year-end financial statements. Contact the treasurer, Marc Guimond at [chez.guimond@gmail.com](mailto:chez.guimond@gmail.com) for more information.

### NO JULY NEWSLETTER.

To give the club members a break, there will be no July Newsletter. You can look forward to seeing the Beaver Tales resume in August.

### SEYMOUR PADDLING – WHEN THE WATER LEVELS ARE UP

We now have a great new tool for organizing impromptu paddles and last-minute communications on planned or impromptu trips. Want to get in on an impromptu trip with a group? Join the Seymour River chat group and use the WhatsApp app to help Seymour River paddlers!

The purpose of the group is to organize impromptu paddles and last-minute communication (e.g., change of meeting location/time) on planned or impromptu trips.

This chat group is not directly affiliated with any particular canoe or paddling clubs, so it is acceptable to invite any friend to become a chat group member provided you know them fairly well, they are competent, safety conscious and appropriately equipped for whitewater paddling.

You join by having the WhatsApp app. You may need to download it.

The group Administrators are Paddy Lee ([phldesigns@shaw.ca](mailto:phldesigns@shaw.ca)) and Dave Apps ([notallengineersarenerds@gmail.com](mailto:notallengineersarenerds@gmail.com)).



WhatsApp makes it easier for organizers to initiate impromptu trips. It also circumvents problems that occur with email when people keep adding more names to email threads (a few people ultimately get left out of some messaging). With WhatsApp every member sees every message. What could be better?

The chat group Administrators' only roles are to accept or remove people from the chat group and to help people to become members. They do not monitor message content nor accept responsibility for misuse of the chat group.

You can install WhatsApp on multiple devices. Members' have it on their cell phones, and some also have it installed on their Windows PCs (Windows requires WhatsApp to be installed on the phones first).

Kayaks and canoes are welcome.

You can get more information from [What's up with WhatsApps? – A Seymour Trips Message Group! – the Beaver Canoe Club.](#)

## DID YOU KNOW?

### *General Policy*

*...that nonmembers may participate in a club trip if invited by a member approved by the trip leader, and must sign the club waiver.*

And a long-standing courtesy item

When anticipating going on a trip, please contact the trip organizer early, a minimum of two days, if possible, for a day trip. A weekend campout would require one week. Don't leave it to the night before.

## IN CASE YOU FORGOT

## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!



Being dumped is not cool. The membership onlookers may snivel at your departure.