

Island Bushwhacker

Volume 51 | Issue 1 | Spring 2023



Steve Parker snowshoeing on Mount Allan Brooks in Strathcona Park.

Photo by Eva Gnech

ACC VANCOUVER ISLAND SECTION

Social Events

The club hosts monthly slide shows at the Swan Lake nature sanctuary in Victoria and offers these as a streamed in-person events so that members who cannot attend in person can also be involved.

Web Information

Web site: www.accvi.ca

Webmaster: webmaster@accvi.ca

Executive Meeting Minutes

Available on our meeting archives which are [here](#).

National ACC Office

For new memberships and renewals, changes of address or other details, and booking huts, contact the ACC National office directly at:

www.alpineclubofcanada.ca

Email: info@alpineclubofcanada.ca; Tel: (403)-678-3200; Address: P.O. Box 8040, Canmore, AB, T1W 2T8

Annual Membership Dues

Single \$58 Family \$83 Youth (19 and under) \$41

The Island Bushwhacker Newsletter is published the first week of March, June, September, and December. Other weeks, the **High Points Bulletin** summarizes events and key section announcements.

Newsletter Editor: Janelle Curtis

High Points Editor: Allison Caughey

We encourage submissions of items of interest to our membership, including articles and photos in months when the newsletter is published. Please email your submissions to newsletter@accvi.ca by the 25th day of the previous month.

Advertising shall be accepted at the discretion of the editor. All advertising shall be for products or services of direct interest to our membership.

Our Motto

COME BACK ALIVE
COME BACK FRIENDS
RESPECT THE LAND
HAVE FUN
GET TO THE TOP
(IN THAT ORDER!)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us at Swan Lake on 9 March for a slide show by Rick and Phee Hudson: [Explorations in southern Greenland in 1974 and 1975](#). Rick and Phee will take us on a journey back to Greenland at a different time and climate. Doors open at 7:00 pm and the slide show starts at 7:30pm.

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Reminder to Members:

Keep your membership up-to-date, so to as to be covered by the ACC's liability insurance. Keep your contact information current on ACC National's site, www.alpineclubofcanada.ca, as it's from this master list that we download email addresses for mailouts.

Join or visit the ACCVI's [Facebook group](#). You don't have to be a Facebook member to see this page. And visit ACCVI's Discussion Forum at <https://discourse.accvi.ca/>



Upcoming Trips

*Full information for all trips is located online on the ACCVI [Trip Schedule](#).
Keep your eye on the [Trip Schedule](#) often!*

Event Schedule

Our trip and event schedule depends on members volunteering to lead a trip or organize an event. There are no specific requirements, other than confidence to lead a small group on your chosen route. For extra information please check the 'Information for leaders' section of our website (<https://accvi.ca/trip-leaders/>) or email a question to leadership@accvi.ca.

Dates	Trip/Event
9 March	Explorations in southern Greenland in 1974 and 1975” Swan Lake slide show
15 March - 15 April	Trek in the Ganesh Range, Nepal (B/C1)/
19-26 March	Backcountry skiing from Amiskwi Lodge

Thank you for contributing to our community in this important way!
Keep an eye on the [trip schedule](#) for information about upcoming trips!

Mountain Education

The ACCVI Education Program exists to facilitate courses and workshops for members that will: prepare them to participate in ACCVI trips, assist them in pursuing their outdoor goals, and develop the skills required as ACCVI Trip Leaders.

ACCVI offers a wide variety of workshops and courses aimed at giving our members the technical and safety skills to get out there in the mountains safely.

Courses are open to ACC members in good standing only. You are welcome to join the section if you would like to enroll in one or more of ACCVI's courses.

Education and Courses: <http://accvi.ca/programs/education/>.

Is there something you would like to see? Contact education@accvi.ca.

Please see the [trip schedule](#) for information about upcoming education events.

Notes from the Chair

By David Lemon

We are embarking on a new year for our section, in which we look forward to another year of rewarding alpine experiences.

The year is off to a good start with a sold-out [Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival](#) at the Farquhar Auditorium. Monthly slide shows are continuing at Swan Lake. Make sure to check out Phee and Rick Hudson's slide show presentation on 9 March of their [Explorations in southern Greenland in 1974 and 1975](#).

Two of our section members, Josh Slatkoff and Dave Fishwick were selected to attend the [ACC Winter 2023 Leadership Program presented by The North Face](#).

While the winter season still has time to run, summer activities and camps are appearing on the [ACCVI Trip and Events Schedule](#); there will be a [fly-in summer camp in the Coast Range](#) and a week at the [Wheeler Hut in the Selkirks](#). I look forward to seeing the schedule fill with more shorter trips as well throughout the year.

At the AGM at the end of January the executive was elected with a mix of new and returning members, but there are still a few vacancies available for anyone looking for an opportunity to participate: **High Points Coordinator**, **coordinator for Swan Lake slide shows**, as well as joining one of the **committees such as Hut or Summer Camp**.

2023 Executive:

Chair - David Lemon

Secretary - David Suttill

Treasurer - Garth Stewart

Past Chair - Catrin Brown

National rep - Christine Fordham

Hišimýawił - Martin Hofmann

Communication/Schedule - Karun Thanjavur

Communication/Membership - Josh Slatkoff

Access and Environment - Barbara Baker

Island Bushwhacker Annual editor - Janelle Curtis

Island Bushwhacker Newsletter editor - Janelle Curtis

High Points Coordinator - **vacant, contact Allison Caughey at education@accvi.ca to learn more**

2023 Executive (continued):

Education - Allison Caughey

Equipment - Mike Hubbard

Kids and Youth Program - Derek Sou (**only until August 2023**)

Summer Camp - Liz Williams

Library and Archives - Tom Hall

Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival (BCMFF) - Laura Darling

Website - Evan Devault and Jane Maduke

Leadership Points - **vacant**

Member at Large – Deniz Naydin

2023 Volunteer Coordinators:

Memorial Fund - Geoff Bennett

First Nations liaison - Geoff Bennett

Historian - Lindsay Elms

Trail Rider - **vacant**

Swan Lake Slide Shows coordinator - **vacant**

Swan Lake Slide Shows MC – Gordon Kyle

Swan Lake Slide Shows Technology - Neil Ernst

Swan Lake Slide Shows Hospitality – Sue Castle

Discussion forum/Discourse - Neil Ernst

Equipment rentals (climbing) - Erich Schellhammer

Equipment rentals (north Island) - Lindsay Elms, Val Wootton

Comox Lake Key Custodian - Val Wootton

Ash Valley Key Custodian - Barb Baker

Summer Camp Committee - Laura Darling, Jeff Beddoes

Hišim'awiwł (*Finance officer*) - Colleen Kasting

Hišim'awiwł (*Reservations*) - Roanne English

Hišim'awiwł (*Committee members*) - EJ Hurst, Keith Battersby, Joanna Verano, Davis Griggs

Environment Committee: Please contact David Lemon at chair@accvi.ca if you are interested in helping to look at ways to minimize the club's environmental impact.



A discussion point on protecting Old Growth forests

By Catrin Brown

ACCVI has supported the work of the *Ancient Forest Alliance* with modest donations for several years ([see the organizations ACCVI supports](#)). They have contacted us with the following message:

“We want to offer another opportunity for ACCVI to get involved with the ancient forest campaign. As you may know, our organization works to build a broad-based movement of support for the protection of old-growth forests among businesses, unions, faith groups, outdoor recreation groups, chambers of commerce, and tourism groups. By engaging a large cross-section of society, we aim to exert the maximum amount of pressure on the BC government to enact bold legislative changes to protect ancient forests. We are therefore inviting ACCVI to consider joining [over 100 organizations](#) in signing a resolution for old-growth forests and sustainable second-growth forestry. The resolution (below) calls for the BC government to enact science-based, old-growth protection legislation; create policies that ensure a sustainable, value-added, second-growth forest industry; and support the sustainable economic development and diversification of First Nations communities in lieu of old-growth logging.”



Carmanah Walbran Provincial Park. (Photo by Catrin Brown)

Resolution on Old-Growth Forest Protection and Sustainable Forestry (Recreation Groups)

Whereas:

Old-growth forests provide many environmental services to BC. They filter water for fish-bearing waterways, stabilize river-banks, and produce woody debris, which provides habitat for juvenile and adult salmon. This in turn supports wild salmon populations which are vital to BC's recreational and commercial fisheries and are a key food source of iconic species such as orcas and bears. They also store vast amounts of atmospheric carbon; provide non-timber forest products like wild mushrooms, medicinal herbs, and berries; provide clean drinking water for communities; help prevent landslides on steep slopes; and sustain unique and endangered wildlife such as the marbled murrelet, northern spotted owl, and mountain caribou.

Old-growth forests provide and support unparalleled opportunities for outdoor recreation. They are an important part of BC's appeal as an outdoor recreation destination and are pillars of BC's multi-billion dollar outdoor recreation and nature-based tourism industry. Some of the recreation opportunities old-growth forests support include recreational fishing; hiking and camping in areas such as the Carmanah and Walbran Valleys, Meares Island, and Pacific Rim National Park; kayaking and paddling in Clayoquot Sound and the Broken Group Islands; hiking and rafting in the Elaho Valley and the Capilano River; and other recreational opportunities such as wildlife viewing, bird-watching, forest bathing, photography, caving, geocaching, and more.

Studies have shown that keeping old-growth forests standing provides greater net economic benefits than cutting them down when factoring in their value in supporting tourism, recreation, carbon offsets, water conservation and filtration, recreational and commercial fisheries, and non-timber forest products (e.g. wild mushrooms). Local communities across British Columbia stand to benefit from long-term, sustainable revenues and jobs by keeping old-growth forests standing.

Old-growth forests are central to many First Nations cultures, which rely on ancient cedars for building traditional canoes, long houses, totem poles, masks and other items, and on plants, wildlife, and wild salmon for food and medicines. While the protection of old-growth forests in First Nations' territories would support their cultures and help lay the foundation for sustainable economies, many of these communities lack the financial capacity and support needed to diversify their economies so that old-growth forests can be protected rather than logged.

Old-growth forests are scarce in much of BC today. For example, on BC's southern coast, over 79% of original, productive, old-growth has been logged, including well over 90% of the highest productivity, valley-bottom forests where the largest trees grow. Old-growth forests now make up a minority fraction of the productive, forested land base, meaning second-growth forests now dominate most of the productive forest lands in BC.

In 2020, the BC government committed to fully implement the recommendations of the Old Growth Strategic Review Panel. These recommendations include working with First Nations to immediately halt logging in all at-risk old-growth forests and enact a paradigm shift in the way BC's forests are managed, putting ecosystem integrity ahead of timber values.

We therefore recommend the Provincial Government:

- 1. Support First Nations communities to immediately defer logging in identified at-risk old-growth forests by providing compensation for lost logging revenues.*
- 2. Expedite the creation of a science-based, legislated plan to permanently protect endangered old-growth forests in BC to sustain the economy and the ecology of the province.*
- 3. Support policies that facilitate a sustainable, value-added, second-growth forest industry in BC, as second-growth forests now constitute the majority of its productive forest lands.*
- 4. Support the sustainable economic development and diversification of First Nations communities through conservation financing mechanisms that assist new Indigenous enterprises to develop. This will allow these communities to grow and diversify economically in sectors such as cultural and eco-tourism, clean energy, sustainable seafood, and value-added, second-growth forestry while permanently protecting old-growth forests in their territories.*



Carmanah Walbran Provincial Park. (Photo by Catrin Brown)

The executive has discussed this and will be deciding whether to sign the resolution on behalf of ACCVI at an upcoming meeting. We are also hoping to host a slide show with ***Ancient Forest Alliance*** in the near future when we can learn more about their work.

We would be delighted to hear from any of you with your thoughts on this or any questions you have. Please contact chair@accvi.ca.

Thank you!

Memorial Fund

Are you planning a dream expedition or alpine project? If you're under 30, you could be eligible for a \$1,000 grant from the ACCVI Memorial Fund. Check out the details and the application form on <https://accvi.ca/programs/memorial-fund-youth-grants/>. Email Geoff Bennett at funds@accvi.ca if you have any questions.

The deadline has been extended to 30 April, 2023.

See <https://accvi.ca/events/accvi-memorial-grant-available-apply-now/>

Are you looking for inspiration to plan your next adventure? Get inspired with 70 thought-provoking and action-packed, mountain films about climbing, snowsports, adventure, mountain culture, the environment and more!



The Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival (VIMFF) connects our global outdoor community with international filmmakers, creators and speakers, to inspire, entertain and bring mountain adventure into viewers' homes.

The **VIMFF** has kindly offered ACCVI members the opportunity to join the VIMFF 2023 program at a 15% discount. You can use code **ACC15** for a 15% discount for all their online or in-person shows (no restrictions). For more information about the festival and in-person and online shows, check out vimff.org. **When you are ready to buy, simply insert ACC15 into the coupon code box and hit apply at vimff.org.**

WATCH ONLINE:

From the comfort of your home, find fuel for your next adventure with 68 thought-provoking and action-packed, mountain films with the VIMFF 2023 program. Gather your friends and family to watch from anywhere in the world between February 24 - March 26.

DATES: FEB 24 – MAR 26

- 68 mountain films
- 4 weeks unlimited access to films
- Available worldwide

WATCH IN-PERSON:

Join for afternoon or evening shows and enjoy a curated selection of mountain films with the VIMFF community. Be sure to check out which shows feature a special guest speaker! Plus, secure your spot for our expert-led workshops with topics around filmmaking, photography and outdoor education skills.

DATES: FEB 24 - MAR 5

- 29 events, including 9 workshops
- 70 mountain films
- 18 world-renowned speakers
- 6 venues in and around Vancouver

VENUES:

- **VANCOUVER** BREWHALL, Rio Theatre, Roundhouse Community Arts & Recreation Centre
- **WEST VANCOUVER** Kay Meek Arts Centre
- **NORTH VANCOUVER** Centennial Theatre and Delbrook Community Recreation Centre

Thanks to VIMFF for this opportunity!

2023 Alpine Club of Canada / North Face Winter Leadership Course

By Dave Fishwick

In January 2023 Josh Slatkoff and I were fortunate to be among 14 people selected to participate in the *Alpine Club of Canada / North Face Winter Leadership Course*.

The Alpine club puts on this course every two years, and it is based out of the Fairy Meadows Hut in the Selkirk Range. The course brings together both experienced and prospective Alpine club leaders from across Canada for technical training and softer leadership skills, led by ACMG Guides. While I can't go into all the details of this weeklong course in a short article, I can give a short description of how the trip went and some highlights of things we learned.

Josh and I applied to the ACC in November to take the course. The selection process involved submitting written applications describing our experience and background in winter alpinism as well as submitting references to our skills and experience, and we'd like to thank Catrin Brown, David Lemon, and George Butcher for backing our applications. Josh and I were super excited to hear that both of us had been selected, along with members of other sections from BC, Yukon, Alberta, Ontario, and Quebec.

As this was a leadership course, learning began before we actually left on the trip. We started with doing pre-trip reading and homework, and attended evening zoom calls. On the calls we went over planning and expectations, exchanged contact information, as well as attended a two-hour Diversity Equity and Inclusivity (DEI) training course put on by Aurora Borin, the Director of Bow Valley DEI.

Shortly before the course, Josh and I flew to Calgary, bummed a ride to Golden with a fellow trip participant, and had dinner with a bunch of the trip participants. The trip officially started by meeting with our guides Doug Latimer and Teresa Yau at 6:00 am at Tim Hortons in Golden prior to driving out to the Heli-pad. Everyone was pretty pumped to go to Fairy Meadows and begin our learning adventure.

Unfortunately, we never actually got to Fairy Meadows. It turned out that there was a miscommunication somewhere along the line, the dates were mixed up, and we were all there a week early. Participants, guides, cook, camp manger, food and all our gear. Now what?

After the initial shock and disappointment subsided, cool heads prevailed and the guides, the ACC head office, and the group of us put our heads together to come up with a Plan B. The new plan would base us out of Lake Louise and take us to: Rogers Pass, Yoho, Bow Hut, and Can-



Roped Travel on Glaciated Terrain. (Photo by Dave Fishwick)

more to complete our curriculum. Despite a lot of extra driving time, it turned out this was actually a pretty good plan, as a good portion of our learning agenda was assessing snowpack and mitigating avalanche risk, so we would get to see how geography impacts snow structure and stability.

Once we settled into the new plan, we did lectures and field sessions and were generally engaged in learning from 6 am to 9 pm every day. This included building skills in topics such as:

- Snow pack assessment and stability
- Managing risk in avalanche terrain
- Glacier travel and crevasse rescue
- Snow anchors and rope skills
- White-out navigation
- Winter first aid
- Companion rescue
- Weather and snowpack resources
- Emergency communication

We also spent time discussing softer leadership skills such as:

- Human Factor and Group Mindset
- Trip organization and management
- Group communication and management
- AM/PM meetings
- Leadership vs. Guiding



*Clouds moving in just in time for whiteout navigation training.
(Photo by Dave Fishwick)*

To support some of our learnings, the ACC has a number of useful leadership related forms and templates on-line at <https://www.alpineclubofcanada.ca/WEB/ACCMember/Community/Forms.aspx>

The course had a lot of less tangible benefits as well. We built relationships with other ACC leaders from across the country, thereby building a network to exchange ideas.

I'd like to thank the ACCVI, ACC and The North Face for supporting us to go on this adventure. Despite the initial bumps in the road, Josh and I found we got a lot out of the course, and we have already put some of it to use during our ACCVI ski week at Sunrise Lodge.

For those who are interested, I put together a fun video from the course: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Okwk53jST_4

Access and Environment

By Barb Baker

MOSAIC GATE UPDATE:

Mosaic is transitioning to the use of gates that unlock automatically at designated times and locations.

The gate may be closed but unlocked when you arrive and may need a pull to open.

Please watch for signs like the one shown below and follow the directions to open the gate.

As before, check at <https://www.mosaicforests.com/access> to find out if the gate you want will be unlocked and when. Also take note of their security phone number, which might be useful.



AVALANCHE CANADA

Beautiful graphic here <https://www.avalanche.ca/en/map> of avalanche conditions in BC and the Rockies.

At the bottom left is the link *Create a MIN report* for anyone to complete and help monitor snow conditions locally. Locations are given in coordinates and don't appear to be interactive with the map.

Here is an example of a Vancouver Island report made on 24 February 2023: <https://www.avalanche.ca/map?panel=mountain-information-network-submissions/4fa2361c-b4a4-11ed-bb39-ba4f62c3cb8d>.

Stay safe.

Recommendations: Books and films about nature, wildlife or mountaineering.

Compiled by Janelle Curtis

Members have a list of recommended films, books, and presentations. Here is what they suggested...

The Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival (VIMFF) connects our global outdoor community with international filmmakers, creators and speakers, to inspire, entertain and bring mountain adventure into viewers' homes. The **VIMFF** has kindly offered ACCVI members the opportunity to join the VIMFF 2023 program at a 15% discount. **When you are ready to buy, simply insert ACC15 into the coupon code box and hit apply at vimff.org.**

Barb Baker suggested watching <https://www.youtube.com/@Holmlands>

A quote from that website: "*Holmlands are proud to present "Seeking Asgard: Ski Life Stories from Iceland", a documentary film and photography project that explores Icelandic ski culture from a human interest perspective; getting to know the personal stories of some of the countries most pioneering outdoor industry figures - all of whom have helped to push the boundaries of skiing in Iceland to new levels, through adventure, exploration and hard work.*"

David Fishwick and Josh Slatkoff gave an ACCVI slide show on 23 February about [The 2023 ACC Winter Leadership program highlights](#). Set in the pixie dust of the Adamant Range at Fairy Meadows, the North Face Leadership program provides advanced training for Section leaders in snowed terrain. Dave Fishwick and Josh Slatkoff reviewed updates to soft and hard skills learned through their week in the Selkirks. They also shared this video of their program's highlights: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Okwk53jST_4



Solving for Z | A Calculus of Risk

A quote for a film about avalanche risk: *How much can we gain from the mountains? How much can we lose? Between our own perceptions and the reality of the hazards, how much space exists? And in that gap, how do we decide what we are willing to risk? Solving for Z explores IFMGA guide and father Zahan Billimoria's relationship to the intoxicating highs and crushing blows of a life in the high-consequence environment of big mountain skiing.* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QHVSeqzI1vU>

University of Alberta's Mountains 101

A quote from their website: *Mountains 101 is a 12-lesson Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) teaching a comprehensive overview of Mountain Studies. Mountains 101 will cover an interdisciplinary field of study focusing on the physical, biological, and human dimensions of mountain places in Alberta, Canada, and around the world. We'll be delivering your lessons from valley bottoms to mountaintops, from museums and labs, to alpine huts and other spectacular alpine sites, and we'll do so with the help of a whole host of experts. To sign up for the free online course, go to <https://www.ualberta.ca/admissions-programs/online-courses/mountains-101/index.html>*

Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival - a great success!!

By Laura Darling

What a fantastic evening we had on January 29th at the Farquhar Auditorium! Thank you so much to everyone who attended the [BCMFF World Tour screening in Victoria](#).



The auditorium was full, the films were engaging, a selection of local non-profit groups were showcased in the lobby, and the excitement was palpable during the door prize draws! One lucky person who bought their ticket during our early-bird promotion won a 2-night stay for up to six people at Hišimýawił! Our local business partners provided really fabulous door prizes - a big Thank You to [Fjällräven Victoria](#), [Island Alpine Guides](#), [Robinson's Outdoor Store](#) and [Valhalla Pure Victoria](#)!

At final tally we raised over \$15,000 to support ACCVI programs and initiatives for our members, including leadership incentives, education and training opportunities, social events, equipment for access behind closed gates, and club mountaineering gear. What a great event!!

And next year?

Sunday, January 28, 2024 - save the date!!

New member benefit announced at AGM!!

Great news for members who shop for outdoor clothing and gear in Victoria! Thanks to [Fjällräven Victoria](#), ACCVI members have a 20% discount in their store - all you need is your membership card showing active status. (Membership cards with expiry date can be printed by members from their online profile.)



Thank you [Fjällräven](#) for your support of ACCVI members!

Summer Camp 2023!!



*Night summer camp. (Photo by Bianca Parcher)
Honorable mention in the Youth Category of ACCVI's 2022
Photo Competition.*

For the heli fly-in camp, please go to the SUMMER CAMPS page (under 'Info for Members' on the ACCVI website) and click on "[Bendor Mountain](#)." Be sure to read the updated [Summer Camp General Information Guide 2023](#) and review the attached hyperlinks at the bottom of the page. Your understanding and agreeing to our policies is a requirement of registration and helps you to know what to expect at summer camp. Also, keep an eye out for a Tiny Letter email about the opening date for camp registration! It will be soon, but we want to give you a chance to digest the [Summer Camp General Information Guide 2023](#) before we open registration.



[Bendor Mountain](#) looks like a wonderful site for a summer camp!!

The ACCVI Summer Camp Committee

Hut Camp 2023



ACC's Wheeler Hut. (Photographer Unknown)

Our hut camp this year will be at the [Arthur O Wheeler Hut in Rogers Pass, from August 13-20](#). Rogers Pass in Glacier National Park is one of the most spectacular and accessible regions in the Selkirks. Both hikers and climbers will find a wealth of exhilarating hiking, scrambling, and climbing opportunities here, while experiencing the comfort and convenience of staying in an ACC hut. For more information, please go to the [SUMMER CAMPS 2023 page](#) (in the drop-down menu under 'Info for Members' on our website) and click on "[Wheeler Hut](#)" and read the [ACCVI 2023 Wheeler Hut Camp – Information Guide](#). Also look for an upcoming announcement of opening of registration in a Tiny Letter email.

The Wheeler Hut Camp Organizers



Mounts Eagle, Uto and Sir Donald in Rogers Pass. (Photographer Unknown)

Historical Photos - The Haihte Range: Then and Now

By Sandy Briggs

Perhaps this can serve as a ‘taster’ for the longer piece about *Vancouver Island Mountains Now and Then* that is to appear in the upcoming *Island Bushwhacker Annual*. I have been to the Haihte Range of northern Vancouver Island at least a dozen times, but that is far from a record. My friend Wildman has been there close to thirty times. That should serve as a recommendation about the fun and adventure and climbing that are to be had there. (See *Lovin’ the Haihte* in the *2017 Island Bushwhacker Annual*, Volume 45, pages 21-24.) But it has changed dramatically in a few decades, as the following photos and maps illustrate.

The photo below was taken by me in August of 1993. It shows the glacier and lake below Haihte Spire. Haihte Spire is out of the photo on the right. Ya’Ai Peak is out of the photo on the left. This area is now in Woss Lake Provincial Park.



The Vancouver Island Mountains Now and Then (VIMNaT) project coordinators and the *Island Bushwhacker Annual* editor thank Rodney Newcombe for the use of his August 2022 photo below. Ya’Ai Pk is the tall dark rock triangle just right of centre, and the summit of Rugged Mountain is peeking up from behind to its left. Viking Dome is the rounded hill in the left foreground. This lake has entirely formed in a human lifetime and has grown significantly by the loss of this glacier in less than three decades. The entire glacier shown above has melted away!



I have a copy of the Canadian 1:50,000 topo map based on 1938 air photos (and revised a bit in 1957). I have made some annotations on it to assist the reader. Note that some of these names are not official. Not only is the lake in the above photos not shown, neither is the glacier that preceded it represented. (It is worth noting that the melting of the glacier below Rugged Mountain itself has created another large lake that was previously just ice, or under ice. It is easy to find air photos of this. Type "*Woss Lake Provincial Park*" into your browser.)



While the above map (1938) shows no lake at all below “2nd Glacier”, the map below does show a small lake (Elevation 1147 m). It’s from the BC 1:20,000 TRIM series from 1987 air photos. We note that the glacier is also correctly marked.



As you have seen above in Rodney’s photo, most of the so-called “2nd Glacier” (except the upper level near Ya’Ai Peak) has melted away while we twiddle our thumbs on global warming. Disappearance of multi-season snow-packs and glaciers can make access and climbing more difficult in some cases, and it will be interesting to see photos and hear reports from mountaineers who visit the Haihte Range and other affected areas in the coming years.

Portrait View: High Points Coordinator

By Allison Caughey

Editor's note: The Portrait View column in our ACCVI Island Bushwacker Newsletter focuses on the many and varied contributions of folks on the list of ACCVI Executive Members and Coordinators who contribute to our mountaineering community's activities

All photos are from Allison's personal archives.

An East coaster through and through, my first experience with ACC came less than a month after first setting foot on Vancouver Island. Researching local adventures, I stumbled across the newly built Hišimýawił hut and immediately reserved its first available vacancy.



*My first trip to Hišimýawił. If this picture looks familiar, it's because I used it as the **High Points Weekly** header.*



My first Vancouver Island 6000'er - Mount Albert Edward.



My first Island Qualifier - Victoria Peak.



My first ski tour trip - Mount Jutland.

It only took spending that one night on 5040 Peak for me to want to be part of the organization creating these amazing opportunities for its members, so I joined the [ACCVI's executive](#) as soon as I was established in BC.

I took on the role of **High Points Coordinator** in January 2022, excited to become more familiar with ACCVI's services and activities, as well as meet the incredible people behind the scenes. I was motivated and encouraged to personalize this monthly publication, which was getting lost among the numerous messages being sent out to members. So, thanks to a collaboration with everyone on the executive, we were quickly able to consolidate our emails to present you with the new and improved **High Points Weekly**, showcasing our up-and-coming news, trips, and events in an organized manner. I hope you looked forward to reading them as much as we did... maybe even enough to continue the publications over the next year! You see, I have recently vacated the role as **High Points Coordinator** to become ACCVI's new **Education Coordinator**. If you have any unbelievable ideas about courses that we could be offering our members, I want to hear them! In fact, I hope to soon reveal a calendar of events where our members across VI can actively learn more about how to confidently plan safe adventures and enjoy their time in nature more abundantly. For that to happen, I need someone to help me spread my message!

If you're interested in joining ACCVI as **High Points Coordinator**, feel free to contact me directly (education@accvi.ca) with any questions you may have. I challenge you to make it even better!

See you in the mountains!

Allison

ACCVI Education Coordinator (2023-present)
ACCVI High Points Coordinator (2022-2023)



My profile pic for KAMOU, the upcycling retired sports gear business I'm on the verge of launching. More on this soon!

ACCVI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair

David Lemon
chair@accvi.ca

Past Chair

Catrin Brown
pastchair@accvi.ca

Island Bushwhacker Newsletter

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Secretary

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Treasurer

Garth Stewart
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National Representative

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Access and Environment

Barb Baker
access@accvi.ca

Summer Camp

Liz Williams
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Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival (BCMFF)

Coordinator
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Equipment

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Hišimýawił

Martin Hofmann
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More about Hišimýawił [here](#)

Education

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Island Bushwhacker Annual

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Kids and Youth Program

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Schedule

Karun Thanjuvar
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If you're a trip leader who wants to put a trip on the [schedule](#), email Karun at schedule@accvi.ca

Website

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Evan Devault
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Membership

Josh Slatkoff
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If you're a trip leader who wants to check if the people coming on your trips are members, email Josh at membership@accvi.ca

Leadership Points

vacant
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Executive Member at Large

Deniz Naydin

ACCVI Coordinators

Equipment Rentals

Climbing - if you live on the south island:

Erich Schellhammer

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If you live on the north island:

Valerie Wootton

Lindsay Elms

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Evening Events and Slideshows

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Gordon Kyle (MC)

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Ash Valley Gate Key Custodian

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Hišimýawił

Colleen Kasting (Finance Officer)

Roanne English (Reservations)

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Keith Battersby (Committee Member)

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Summer Camp Committee

Laura Darling

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From the Front Cover:

Steve Parker snowshoeing on Mount Allan Brooks in Strathcona Park.

Photo by Eva Gnech

Thank you to this month's contributors:

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Well done everyone!

