

# Island Bushwhacker

Volume 50 | Issue 5 | Winter 2022



*Uptrack on the Bunny Hill, Kluane*

*Photo by Martin Hofmann*

## 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](http://www.accvi.ca)

Webmaster: [webmaster@accvi.ca](mailto: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](http://www.alpineclubofcanada.ca)

Email: [info@alpineclubofcanada.ca](mailto: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](mailto: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

*Skiing in the Kluane Icefields - a Christmas celebration and slideshow at Swan Lake with Josh Slatkoff and Keith Battersby.* Come at 7:00 pm for an extended social time and Christmas treats!

*ACCVI's Social Night -- Gear Sale and Swap* <https://accvi.ca/events/social-night-gear-sale-and-swap/>

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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](http://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](mailto:leadership@accvi.ca).

| Dates             | Trip/Event   |
|-------------------|--|
| 16-18 December    | <a href="#">Wilderness First Aid Course</a>                              |
| 18 December       | <a href="#">Solstice hike in the Sooke hills</a>                         |
| 21 December       | <a href="#">Little Mountain Christmas Cheer Hike</a>                     |
| 1 January         | <a href="#">Backcountry ski trip – Mt. Becher/Forbidden Plateau (B3)</a> |
| 3 and 7-8 January | <a href="#">Intro to Backcountry Skiing</a>                              |
| 7-9 January       | <a href="#">Strathcona park ski mountaineering</a>                       |
| 12 January        | <a href="#">“Chasing the Island 6000’ers” Swan Lake slideshow</a>        |
| 14-15 January     | <a href="#">AST 1 for Kids and Youth</a>                                 |
| 14 January        | <a href="#">Social Night – Gear Sale and Swap</a>                        |
| 26 January        | <a href="#">ACCVI Section Annual General Meeting</a>                     |
| 29 January        | <a href="#">Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival World Tour</a>           |
| 3-10 February     | <a href="#">Back-country ski week Sunrise Lodge</a>                      |
| 4-5 February      | <a href="#">AST 1 course with Island Alpine Guides</a>                   |
| 11-12 February    | <a href="#">Backcountry ski trip (C3) – Mt. Albert Edward (2,093 m)</a>  |

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

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](mailto:education@accvi.ca).

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

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# Notes from the Chair

*By David Lemon*

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Winter is approaching and snow is starting to accumulate in the mountains. Hikes and climbs in the alpine will soon turn to ski and snowshoe trips. The [schedule](#) has some [avalanche](#) and [ski-touring](#) courses available to learn or refresh backcountry winter travel skills, so take advantage of them and enjoy the alpine winter safely. There is even [avalanche training for kids and youth!](#)

The [executive](#) is looking for volunteers to form a committee to examine ways to reduce the environmental impact and carbon footprint of the section's activities, so please contact any member of the executive if you are interested.

Slide show evenings restarted in October, with the [film of Nick and Rebecca's hike of the Vancouver Island Trail](#), followed in November with the [annual photo contest](#). A record number of pictures were entered. The quality was very high, but the audience managed to make decisions in all the categories; the winners and runners-up are listed elsewhere in the newsletter. The December event will be on [skiing the Kluane Icefields](#) and refreshments for a Christmas get-together. Arrangements have been made for the next few months, but we still need a coordinator for the slide show evenings to carry on a regular schedule. Please contact any member of the [executive](#) if you are interested.

The [Annual General Meeting](#) is scheduled for January 26th in Victoria (the Mountain Centre at Mt. Washington is still not available) as a combined in-person (at Swan Lake) and virtual event. Elections will be held for [executive positions](#), so please let any member of the current executive know if you are interested in serving next year.

Thanks,

David Lemon

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*Island Peak Kluane. Photo by Josh Slatkoff submitted to the 2022 ACCVI Photo Competition in the Alpine Winter category.*

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## ***Update on Vancouver Island Mountains Now and Then (VIMNaT): ACCVI's repeat photography project for 2022***

***By Mary Sanseverino, 23 November 2022***

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In February of 2022 Rob Macdonald, long time ACCVI member, died after a long illness. As some of you may know, Rob was editor of the *Island Bushwhacker Annual* during some of its early years, and again more recently (2018 – 2020 volumes). In the months before his passing Rob was focused on the fact that the 2022 edition of the *Annual* will be Volume 50. Our *Annual* has been in continuous production since 1973! And, as always, Rob had an idea about how we might celebrate this milestone.

At the 2022 AGM Rob's idea was developed, presented, endorsed, and, over the past 10 months, has been acted upon by a number of ACCVI members. It's actually pretty simple:

### **Vancouver Island Now and Then – the Basics**

- Find an old(er) photo taken in a Vancouver Island mountain setting that “speaks” to you or somehow grabs your attention. *Island Bushwhacker Annuals* are a great place to start: [IBA Archive](#).
- Make a copy of it.
- Get yourself and the copy out to the same(ish) location.
- Set up the modern photo as best you can to match the old/historic photo.
- Take the photo.
- Get home safely and upload the historic and modern photo pair (and a few words about the images to the [Vancouver Island Mountains: Now and Then Event](#) on the ACCVI Discourse page.

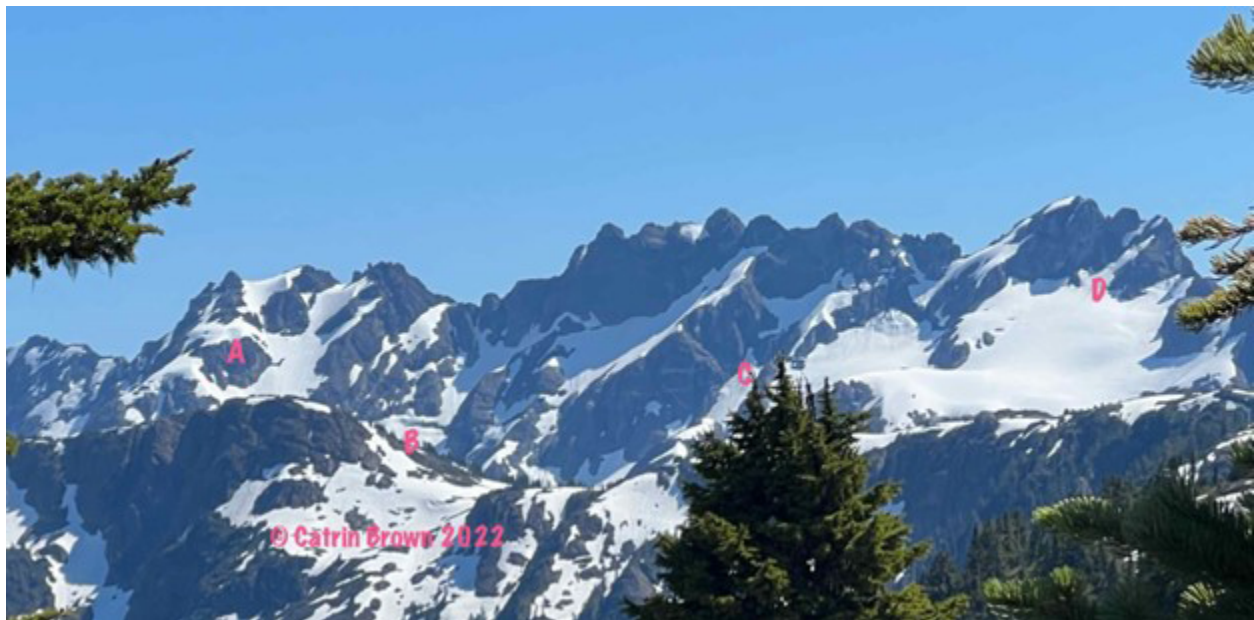
**There is still time to participate – VIMNaT (Vancouver Island Mountains Now and Then) is going until Jan 31, 2023** (got to get some early pow-pics into the mix). And, we've made it even easier to contribute:

1. As you look over your photos from 2022 you might find a view that jogs a memory – maybe you are reminded of one of your own old(er) photos looking out over the same view. Or, maybe looking at your photos reminds you of something you saw in an older *Island Bushwhacker Annual*. It doesn't have to be a perfect repeat – the Now and Then photos are simply a way of walking (or hiking) us into the story these images represent.
2. Short of time and/or don't want to fuss with the uploading – no worries – simply email me the photos ([msanseve@gmail.com](mailto:msanseve@gmail.com)) with a few words on dates and places and I'll take care of it.

After the project is finished Catrin Brown and I will curate the photos and stories into an interactive web-site for everyone to enjoy. We will also produce a Vancouver Island Mountains Now and Then celebratory article for the 2022 *Island Bushwhacker Annual*. Moreover, we encourage any of you with Now and Then photos to consider using them in your own IBA article. Truly – the more the merrier – we're sure Rob would approve!

**And now, how about a “peak” into a few more VIMNaT photos from this summer?**

**The Septimus-Rosseau massif from Flower Ridge:**  
**Mid July, 2022 (Catrin Brown) and Mid July 1986 (Sandy Briggs)**



*Toward the middle of Flower Ridge looking southward to the Septimus-Rosseau massif. Mt Septimus on the right, Mt Rosseau in the centre, The Mithorns to the left. Photo: Catrin Brown, July 23, 2022.*



*Toward the southern end of Flower Ridge looking southward to the Septimus-Rosseau massif. Mt Septimus on the right, Mt Rosseau in the centre, The Mithorns to the left. Photo: Sandy Briggs, July, 1986.*

Sandy writes: "I have visited the south end of Flower Ridge at least a couple of times: In 1982 when Don Berryman and I climbed Mt Rosseau from the north, and in 1986 when Don, Wendy Richardson and I reached Flower Ridge as a finish to our mostly-clouded-in traverse from Paradise Meadows. From those trips I have

photos of the north side of the Rosseau-Septimus massif, and both trips were early-mid July. Recently Catrin Brown and others visited Flower Ridge and took some photos of the same, though perhaps not from the very south end of Flower Ridge. Still, Catrin's and my photos can usefully be compared. (Thanks Catrin for sending me your photos.) At location A in Catrin's 2022 photo there is much less snow over the bluffs below the Misthorns. There's a whole extra crevasse/moat at B. Location C has less ice/snow. And the snow cover above D looks like a snow finger in 2022 and a bit more like a bit of glacier in 1986. Also the D area looks like a crevassed glacier in 1986 and seems smooth this summer. Unfortunately, the glacier face E isn't visible from Catrin's viewpoint, so if you have a recent photo that includes that, it would be interesting to see."

### **Views of the Cliff Glacier between the Red Pillar and Argus Mountain: 1977, 1986, 2004, 2015, 2022**

Obviously a photogenic piece of ice – although, as these photos show, less and less to photograph as the years go by. Brian Menounos, a professor of Earth sciences at University of Northern BC who has extensively studied glaciers on BC's coast, [estimates all of Vancouver Island's glaciers will be gone by mid-century](#).



*Below Black Cat Mountain on the trail to the Comox Glacier looking westward to the Red Pillar and the Cliffe Glacier. Photo by Dave Suttill, October, 1977 (Thanksgiving Weekend).*



*From the same location looking westward to the Red Pillar and the Cliffe Glacier. Photo: Dave Suttill, September 10, 2022.*

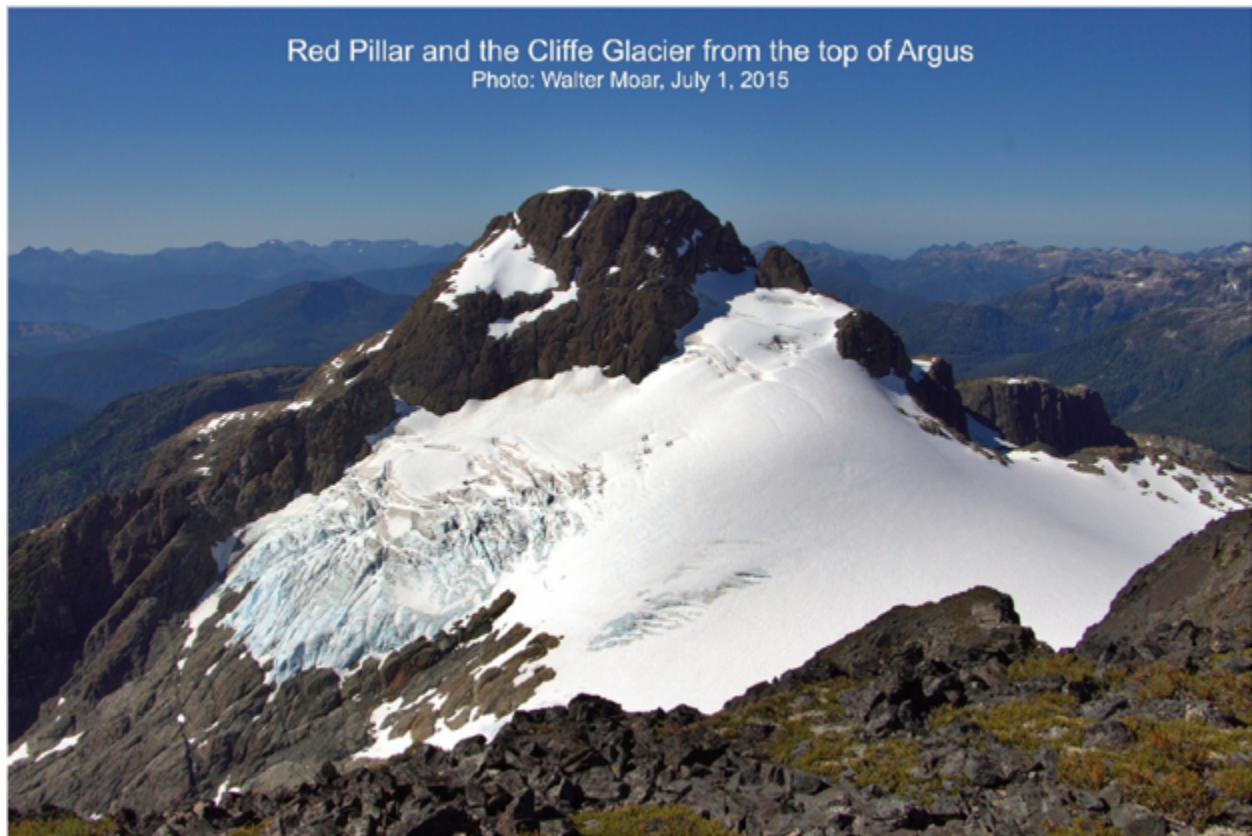
The Red Pillar & Cliffe Glacier from below the Comox Glacier  
Photo: Rob Macdonald, 1986



*Below the Comox Glacier on the SE ridge looking westward to the Cliffe Glacier. Photo: Rob Macdonald  
October 12, 1986.*



*Similar location to Rob Macdonald's 1986 shot – on the trail below the Comox Glacier looking westward to  
the Cliffe Glacier. Photo: Mary Sanseverino, Sept 10, 2022.*



*On top of Argus Mountain looking southward over the Cliffe Glacier and the Red Pillar. Photo by Walter Moar, July 1, 2015.*



*The inset photo is an earlier view of the Cliffe from the same vantage point – the top of Argus Mountain.*

*Inset photo: Sandy Briggs, summer of 2004.*

As you can see, the images from Argus were not repeated this year. But, when Sandy and Walter saw the Rob 1986-May 2022 images they joined in with their photos. You can too! Just like Kyle Bourquin has done here.



*Another view of Cliffe Glacier between The Red Pillar (left) and Argus Mountain (right). Photo: Kyle Bourquin, August 22, 2021. Kyle reports that while this won't work as an overlay with Sandy or Walter's shots "you don't need one [an overlay] to spot the difference! No seracs and very thin."*



*On the left, camping location – Thanksgiving weekend, October, 1977. On the right ACCVI trip to the Co-mox Glacier, September 11, 2022. Both photos by Dave Suttill. Notice how little the trees have grown in the intervening 45 years.*



*At the Frog Ponds on the Comox Glacier trail. Thanksgiving weekend, October, 1977 on the left. On the right packing up from the ACCVI trip to the Comox Glacier, September 11, 2022. Both photos by Dave Suttill. Trees and rocks are little changed, but recession of the Comox Glacier on the high horizon is evident.*

### **The Moving Glacier above Milla Lake: 1931 and 2022**

At the start of this project Lindsay Elms put me on to a 1931 image from the top of the Comox Glacier looking down at the Moving Glacier above Milla Lake with Mt Harmston in the background. It was taken by Comox Valley resident William “Bill” Bell from his days with the Strathcona Park survey. Read more about him on the [ACCVI Biographies of Vancouver Island Mountaineers website](#).

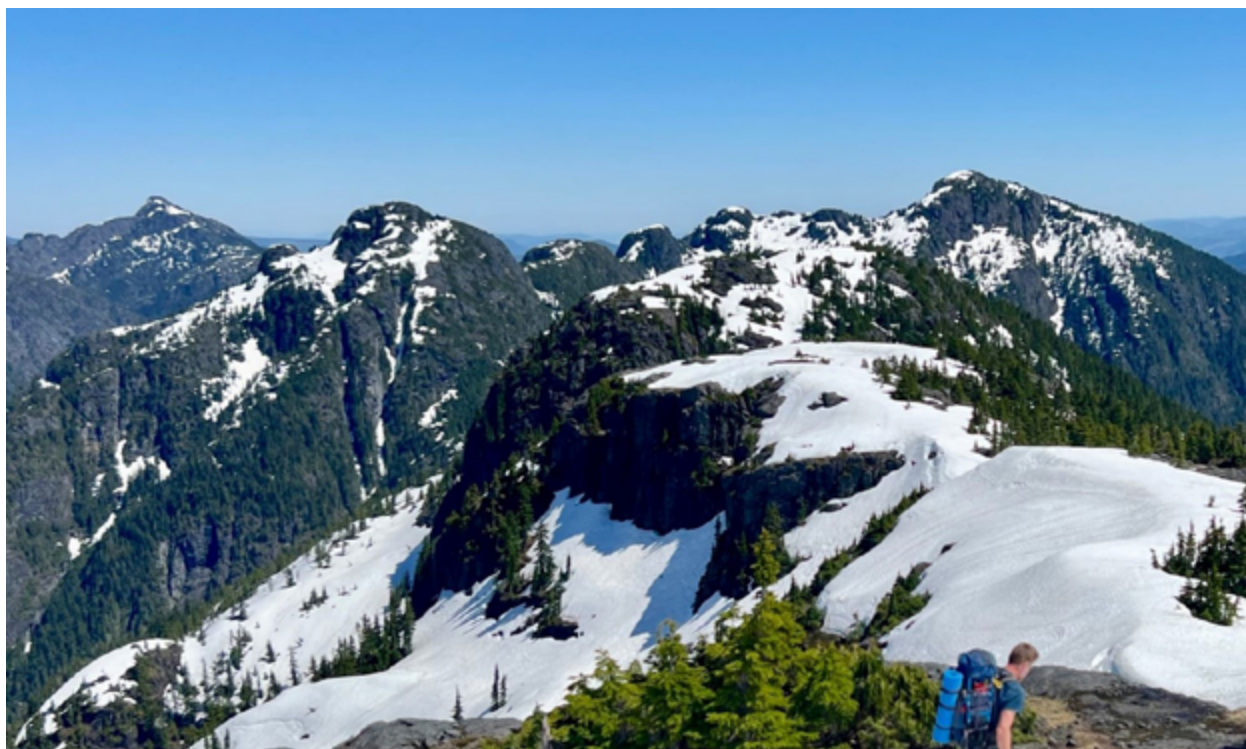


*Below the north summit of the Comox Glacier looking westward over Milla Lake and Mt Harmston. We are not certain exactly when the 1931 image was taken, but it would have been sometime in the June – September period as that was about the usual field season length for a phototopographic survey crew. B&W inset photo: Bill Bell, 1931. Colour repeat: Mary Sanseverino, Sept 10, 2022.*

**Mt Service: 1988 (Rob Macdonald) and 2022 (Catrin Brown)**



*On Mt Service looking E-SE to Mt Landale on the right, El Capitan Mountain left of centre, and Mt Whympier on the left. Photo: Rob Macdonald, May 21, 1988.*



*On Mt Service repeating Rob Macdonald's 1988 image (Knut von Salzen in the foreground). Photo: Catrin Brown, June 26, 2022.*

Catrin writes "Fun fact: I hadn't seen Rob's picture when I took mine - but by chance realized we'd been standing in almost the same spot looking down the SE ridge to El Capitan and Landale.

A difference not obvious in the photos is difference in access. 'Back then' you could drive up Cottonwood and

even East Cottonwood to get close to the mountain. Now with locked gates the trip starts from Cowichan Lake, approx 8 km hike/ride to the start of the climb.”

Check out the trip report (more photos!) at ACCVI Discourses: [Mt Service on the second attempt](#).

**There is still time to participate – VIMNaT is going until Jan 31, 2023!**

**Contact me (Mary – [msanseve@gmail.com](mailto:msanseve@gmail.com)) or Catrin Brown ([catrinbluesky@gmail.com](mailto:catrinbluesky@gmail.com)) if you have any questions/comments/ideas/photos to contribute/etc.**

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 FUTURELIGHT  

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***Congratulations to Josh Slatkoff and David Fishwick on their successful applications to the [ACC 2022 Winter Leadership Program Presented by The North Face](#)! They will both be attending this camp at Fairy Meadows next month, with 13 other ACC Leaders from across Canada. We look forward to some awesome ski trips under their leadership soon.***

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## *Access and Environment*

*By Barb Baker*

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### **MOSAIC ACCESS PERMIT:**

The new Ash Valley addition to the original Comox Lake access permit has generated NO use this year. As stated in the Spring issue of the *Island Bushwhacker Newsletter*, this agreement gives expanded lands to explore and more importantly access to the south border of Strathcona Park at Oshinow Lake leading to Red Pillar, Harmston or Margaret Lake route to Della Falls traverse. It is continuous with the Comox Lake Valley so leaders might organize trips to come in one end of these two valleys systems and exit the another. At the Comox Main 7 km gate, Cumberland the permit gives road access to many destinations between Comox Lake and the east border of Strathcona Park. The permit was used several times this past summer including during fire closure.



*Oshinow Lake*

Zoom in on [alltrails.com](https://alltrails.com) to see all the roads are obvious leading from Comox Lake into the Ash Valley, west to Oshinow Lake, south to Great Central Lake and out through Port Alberni.

INFO: Click on Information for Leaders (<https://accvi.ca/trip-leaders/>) and go to Access to Comox Lake Main and Ash Valley on ACCVI web page (<https://accvi.ca/access-agreement-for-comox-lake-main/>). Once a trip is posted, an information package is delivered with the contacts, regulations, maps, waivers, etc. Access is 24/7. All leaders must carry documentation, keys and radios. There are club radios available at both Cumberland and Port Alberni stored with the hard copies of the permit, etc required.

**MOSAIC GATE ACCESS:** For general public access to Mosaic's private lands, go to <https://www.mosaicforests.com/access> and scroll down to Mosaic gate map, which is updated each Friday. There is a brief explanation of these gates, their locations and some of the factors influencing the same on ACCVI's [Discussion Forum](#).

Gates all over the Island and particularly to the most inviting regional parks - Arrowsmith Ski Park on Mt. Cokely and Mt. Arrowsmith Massif Park - have been CLOSED for most of this summer to recreation but now open on weekends 6am to 6pm. ***Hours & status may change without notice.***

Nanaimo Lake Main leads to the old Green Mountain ski area. ***!6km has been open reportedly and this week has disappeared from Mosaic's website map!?***

Please feel free to contact me at [access@accvi.ca](mailto:access@accvi.ca). with any questions or concerns regarding access anywhere on the Island.

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## *Is it an “official” or “unofficial” mountain name?*

By Lindsay Elms

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As we all know the digital world of the internet is vast and there is a lot of inaccurate or misleading information floating around. The world of mountains and mountaineering is also vast and there are also a lot of websites out there. Some are well researched, others less. This means some of them contain erroneous information. The mountains on our island are not immune to such information. One well-established “go to” site that many BC climbers have been using since 1995 is [bivouac.com](http://bivouac.com), a website that calls itself the Canadian Mountain Encyclopedia. Its purpose is to “inspire and enable” people to get into the mountains. There is a lot of great information found on this website with trip reports, access information (roads and trails) and hundreds of photos. The coordinator and database programmer has compiled a huge amount of information from many volunteers. Anyone can access the site, but to read the trip reports, look at the photos or download the gpx files there is an annual stipend to be paid. This is not unreasonable considering the work to keep this site updated. However, and this is my personal thoughts and not the ACCVI’s, calling itself the Canadian Mountain Encyclopedia makes it sound “official”. But this is just someone’s personal website and is not regulated by an official body. There is nowhere on the site that says it is endorsed by a legal body or any Alpine Club. My concern regarding some of the information is that nowhere do I know which mountain name is official (acknowledged by the Canadian Geographic Names) or which is unofficial. Local or unofficial names have been used by climbers to give mountains recognition since they first started going to the mountains and sometimes mountains have several local names. [Bivouac.com](http://Bivouac.com) has charted and catalogued many peaks without official name. It says: “Many of these peaks had ‘standing names’ in the previous authoritative guidebooks ... and these were adopted by Canadian Mountain Encyclopedia. Previously uncharted peaks were assigned letter codes, geographic names and provisional names.” The site has assigned geographic names? They have the right to do that, but I think there needs to be a lot more communication with other recognized authorities in the regions. Local knowledge is the best source for information and sometimes that requires time and energy. Another of my concerns is that nowhere does the site acknowledge First Nation names or what mountains are within their hereditary territory, or that they have been consulted. Below is one such mountain on [bivouac’s site](http://bivouac’s site) that I have begun seeing referenced more often in articles and is central to Komok’s First Nation lore. It is the high point of the Comox Glacier or Queneesh.



*Comox Glacier from Comox Harbour. Photo by Lindsay Elms*

The Comox Glacier is a unique geographical feature as I am not aware of any other feature in Canada where the mountain is known as a glacier:

***Mount Arthur Evans, British Columbia #29090 (FD46)***

***Height:*** 1963 m -> 6440 feet

***Location:*** 49.54944, -125.36806 49:32.58, -125:22:05 10U 328715 5491232 (17 km E of Westmin Mine). (25 km W of Cumberland). (3 km NE of The Red Pillar).

***NTS Mapsheet:*** 092.F.11

Located at the western edge of the Comox Glacier. This is the center one of 5 little peaks along the western edge, all of the same height according to BC Basemap. These peaks could all be easily climbed from the Comox Glacier on the east, but have a tremendous cliff on the west.

***Name Notes:*** Named for Arthur "Slim" Evans, in accordance with the labor folk heroes theme of the area. (Ginger Goodwin, etc.). Arthur Evans was a radical leader in the industrial union movement in Canada and the United States. In 1935, he led the "On To Ottawa" trek in which thousands of unemployed rode the tops of the boxcars, picking up additional members in every city. It was 2000 strong by the time it reached Regina. The federal government had decided that the Trek must be forcibly stopped in Regina because if it reached Winnipeg it would gain additional members and could turn into a revolution. Evans was sent on to Ottawa as a delegate to meet Prime Minister Bennett. This resulted in a shouting match, and Evans was returned to Regina. On July 1, 1935, a meeting was called in Market Square, which was charged by RCMP riot squads, and resulted in the "Regina Riot."

The information regarding Arthur Evans is accurate and historically interesting *"IF"* this peak was official. The site has many other names I do not recognize such as Baleen Peak and Minke Peak near Zeballos, but I know we have local names for these mountains which have been adopted by our climbing community for many years. I am not saying we should not visit and acknowledge the incredible service [bivouac's website](#) offers, but IMHO there is work it could do to improve its information and be more relevant today. As a member of the Alpine Club of Canada our section has undertaken a project of contacting various First Nation's on the island and getting their input on mountains and their names. It's a project that is ongoing and continually being updated. We are also seeing more features being acknowledged by their First Nation traditional name such as Pkols (Mt. Douglas), an important part of reconciliation.



*Queeneesh on the Komok First Nation long house. Photo by Lindsay Elms*

It is not easy to tell from [bivouac's site](#), or any other non-government website including Google Earth, if some of these names are official. An easy way for anyone to find out is to go to the BC Geographical Names website: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/celebrating-british-columbia/historic-places/geographical-names>

and then click on the “Launch App: BC Geographical Names” where you can then do a search for the name you are looking for. It also has a link to “Nearby names” within 5 or 10 kilometres. The site also has a “Link to Naming Policy & Procedures” if someone wanted to begin the procedure of making an unofficial or local name an official name. However, it wasn’t that many years ago that when you clicked on the mountain name on their website it took you to the mountain’s location on Google Earth. The problem for the Geographic Names board was that other unofficial names also showed up on the screen. These names weren’t sanctioned by the board so they designed their own map where only their official names appear. Where and how Google Earth receives their information that they upload is another discussion. Even the Backroads Map Book, which most of us have in our vehicles, has names that have me wondering where they get their information from. Once in print it is difficult to change the public’s recognition of these features. This can also lead to problems for Search and Rescue teams. Callers don’t always know whether the name of the mountain they are wanting to be rescued from is unofficial or official. SAR teams use only official maps and don’t always have people assisting them with intimate knowledge of the area. As members of an Alpine Club that is recognized around the world as a leading authority when it comes to mountains, it is up to us to do due diligence when acknowledging mountain features. I have submitted names to the BC Geographical Names for official recognition based on historical information, but also given local names to other mountains. I have though stated they are “unofficial” which leaves the door open for debate. As someone who seeks remote and obscure mountains, I have considered using only the spot height of the peak when referring to a mountain. This way there is no ambiguity.

For more information on Native Land there is an easy to use app that can be used on a desktop or on your phone. A map shows where you are and the traditional territories of the America's while the website goes into more detail, including explanations of how it produced the maps and what the app means by "traditional territories."

<https://native-land.ca/>

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## ***ACCVI's Social Night -- Gear Sale and Swap***

By Deniz Aydin [accdenizcac@gmail.com](mailto:accdenizcac@gmail.com)

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Come get rid of your used/unwanted gear! This night is for the long forgotten items in your gear closet. Find them a new home, breathe new life into someone else's wayward items, and have a pint!

Types of gear suggested for the swap: easily portable by one person, and either hard or easily cleanable materials only. No "soft" safety gear. That means, no climbing ropes or slings, and no giant SUPs. Good items for this night might be: unused crampons, cams that need rewiring, mountaineering boots that are too small, that car camping sleeping bag you never use, etc.

Objective: Sell, Buy, and Exchange Gear  
When: 6pm Saturday 14 January 2023  
Where: The Beagle, 301 Cook St, Victoria  
Contact: Deniz Aydin at [accdenizcac@gmail.com](mailto:accdenizcac@gmail.com)



***Find out more at: <https://accvi.ca/events/social-night-gear-sale-and-swap/>***

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## **ACCVI's 2022 Photo Competition**

By Gordon Kyle

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*November: one of my favourite monthly slide shows since we get to see what our Island outdoor community has been up to this past year. From summery to icy, from humorous to sublime, our friends covered it all, both on the Island and at points far beyond.*

*In addition to lots of dramatic photos, I found once again that I also enjoy peoples' shots of the normal beautiful scenery we see on our trips. Perhaps this reminds us just how lucky we are just to get out there.*

*Assignment for us all: Have fun taking lots of outdoor photos to select from next November!*

*Each of us can submit up to three photos. Prize for the favourite picture in each category.*

*Speaking of which, many thanks to Brian Parsons for assembling the submitted photos. Thanks also to Neil Han for writing a tabulating program to summarize Zoom votes and manual votes from the in-person audience. It's good to be able to include our up-Island friends in real time.*

*Now that we're suitably inspired, enjoy viewing all the submitted photos.*

*Happy Trails All,  
- Gordon Kyle  
Host at the slide show.*



**Winner - Summer Mountain Activity**

*Coming up Rambler Junior ridge by Barry Hansen*



**Honorable mention - Summer Mountain Activity**

*Descending from the summit of Mt. Victoria  
by Chris Neate*



**Honorable mention - Winter Mountain Activity**

*Winter's peace by Rachel Treloar*



**Winner - Winter Mountain Activity**

*Bunny Hill Uptrack by Martin Hofmann*



**Winner - Humour**

*Mountain sheep by David Fishwick*



**Honorable mention - Humour**

*This is not the wood nymph I was expecting by Mary Sanseverino*



**Honorable mention - Vancouver Island Mountains. 5040 at dawn by Josh Slatkoff**



**Honorable mention - Mountain Scenery**

*Mount Logan Sunset by Martin Hofmann*

**Winner - Mountain Scenery**

*Reese Ridge Views*

*By John B Relyea-Voss*



**Winner - Nature**

*Columbian Ground Squirrel Compressed By Jim Everard*



**Honorable mention - Nature**

*Rockies Spring by Christine Fordham*



**Honorable mention - Youth**  
*Night summer camp by Bianca Parcher*



**Winner - Youth**  
*Siblings summer camp By Bianca Parcher*



**Vancouver Island Mountains**  
*Mt. Cain at Sunrise By Liz Cox*



*Christine Fordham , ACCVI National Representative to the main Alpine Club of Canada, meets with Gil Parker, Past President of the ACCVI ~1970, before the Annual Mountain Ball, a joint meeting of ACC and ACMG (Association of Mountain Guides)*

*Gil was awarded a lifetime honorary membership of the ACC in 2017 and he was a driving force behind the [Vancouver Island Trail](#).*

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

***Compiled by Janelle Curtis***

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

**Geoff Bennett** recommended watching <https://vimeo.com/ondemand/peaksandvalleys>. Here is a summary of the film:

*Peaks and Valleys is a feature-length documentary following Nick Noble and Rebecca Beitner as they navigate the highs and lows of Type 1 Diabetes and the Vancouver Island Trail (VIT), in the traditional territory of the Coast Salish, Nuu-Chah-Nulth, and Kwakwaka'wakw people. The VIT is a new trail, and Nick and Becca are among the first hikers to attempt to hike the route in one six-week trip (in 2021), with the support of the Alpine Club of Canada - Vancouver Island in the form of their Memorial Fund Youth Grant. The story of Nick's experience with diabetes throughout his life is interwoven with the challenges of managing it in a backcountry environment, bringing information and insight about a chronic health condition that is reasonably common yet misunderstood by many people.*

**Peggy Taylor** also says: "Nick screened the film at the Oct. 13th slideshow and answered questions here in Victoria, about he and his girlfriend's backpack trip on the Vancouver Island Trail. It was an amazing film not only for the hiking and scenery, but also an education regarding management of Type 1 Diabetes (while backpacking), with great references to the native nations on the island and some incredible sketches and artwork as well. It is a unique, well constructed film with a great vibe and lots of fun to watch. As Nick mentions there is a \$5 fee to view it, but well worth the price!! Since ACCVI gave them a memorial grant for this trip, it would be awesome for others in the club to see the fruit of their collective donation."

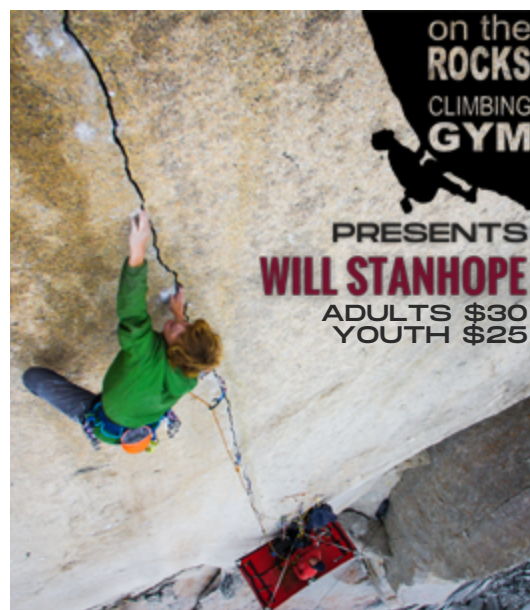
**Many members** recommended Will Stanhope's talk/slide show at On The Rocks Climbing Gym in Campbell River on December 17th at 6:30pm at the Rivercity Players Theatre. Will is a world famous climber. Tickets will only be available in advance at [On The Rocks Climbing Gym](#) or by calling 250-287-7625.

**Barb Baker** recommended learning about Abbot Pass Hut here: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/historic-abbot-hut-substantially-removed-1.6519463>

**Christine Fordham** recommended reading the [2022 State of The Mountains Report](#) This edition includes essays on sustainability in Banff, Canadian Mountain Assessment, Gitxsan and Secwepemc resilience to climate change, Banff's bison reintroduction project, the Abbot Pass Refuge Cabin National Historic Site and more!

...and watch some seminars about winter safety.

Can't find YouTube  
**Free seminars**  
ACG Lead Winter Guide Doug Latimer will be presenting a series of free live seminars on winter safety. Subscribe to the ACG's YouTube channel to be included.  
• Nov 29 Avalanche safety  
• Dec 6 Winter trip planning  
• Dec 13 The new standards for crevasse rescue



**Dec 17 @ 6:30 pm Rivercity Players Theater  
Campbell River**

Tickets available only in advance at On The Rocks Climbing Gym or call 250-287-7625

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## Portrait View: Membership Coordinator

By Josh Slatkoff

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*Editor's note: The Portrait View column in our ACCVI Island Bushwhacker 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*

Soon after transplanting to Vancouver Island, I was looking to explore local mountains. It was around that time I went on my first ACCVI trip with Sandy Briggs to Mount Myra on a dark, damp January weekend. While the beauty and arduousness of travel in our mountain home was expected (types 1 and 2 fun often go together), it was even more rewarding to meet a group of welcoming, competent, and tireless mountaineers. My companions made me instantly feel like part of a community and, little did I know, they were preparing me to take on the role of welcoming new members two decades later. I took over the Membership Coordinator role from Kathy Kutzer in 2020 who kindly oriented me to the position.

In this role, I welcome new and potential ACCVI members and also coordinate the Student Outdoor Club Partnership agreement which provides complimentary Section membership to current University of Victoria students. The Membership Coordinator role is part of the Executive and we meet every six weeks where we collectively discuss our Section's initiatives. It is very satisfying to be part of a passionate, multi-talented group that gets things done! At times, I take on other projects in the Club, for instance, volunteering on the Search committee to recruit new members to the Executive or collecting mailing addresses for the Annual Bushwhacker. I also monitor our Section's email inbox, directing members' questions to our various coordinators. Trip leaders contact me to verify participants' membership status. Please note that all aspects of membership renewal are through the main ACC website ([www.alpineclubofcanada.ca](http://www.alpineclubofcanada.ca)). Our Section's membership has remained steady and strong over the last several years, despite Covid (See Figure 1). On average, for every 1,000 residents of Vancouver Island, at least one of them is an ACC member!



Figure 1

For the most part, our Section's members are concentrated in southern Vancouver Island, but our appeal is broad and we have members living in Nevada, Shimotsuke, and Skiff Lake (see Figure 2).

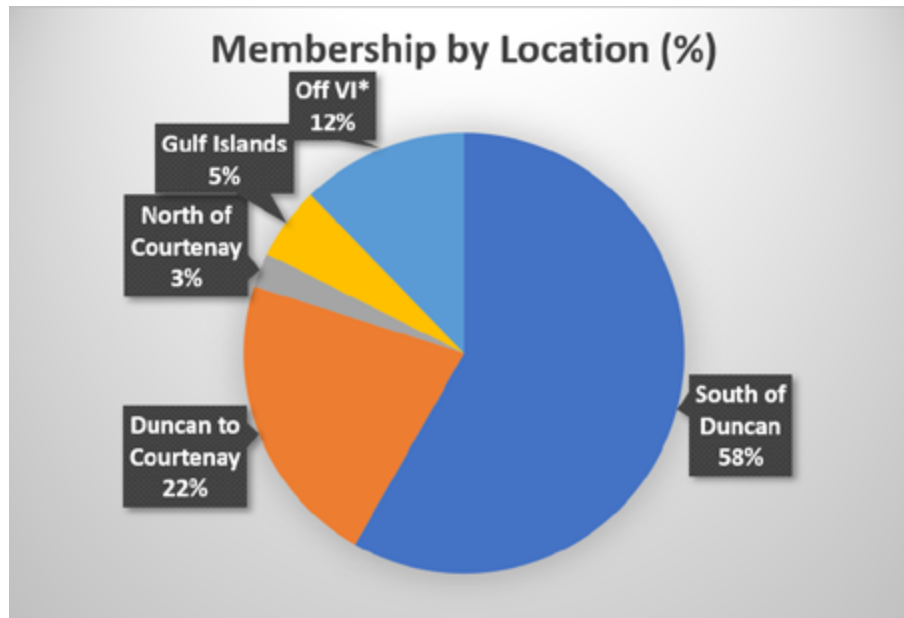


Figure 2

I'll take this opportunity to remind folks of a few of the benefits of being an ACCVI member:

- Access to our full schedule of events including multi-day trips, summer and winter camps, courses and workshops, as well as trips for specific groups (youth, women, Trail Rider, LGBTQ2+). Using the [Discussion forum](#), you can set up email alerts to receive a notice as soon as a new trip is posted.
- Membership-specific emails with our seasonal *Island Bushwhacker Newsletter* and weekly *High Points* updates. Each spring, you can also order a hard-copy full-colour edition of our *Island Bushwhacker Annual* for a subsidized price.
- Invitations to social events such as the summer barbecue, Christmas parties, and monthly slide shows. You can also take part in our annual photo contest.
- Bookings at our hut, Hišimýawił, at a reduced price.
- Qualification (after climbing requisite peaks) to receive the “Rick Eppler Island Qualifiers” plaque and/or the “Charles Turner Vancouver Island 6000’ers” plaque.
- Chance to support organizations that are aligned with our conservation mission in the Island alpine.
- Gate keys for 24/7 access to Comox Lake Main and Ash Valley on Club trips.
- Liability insurance coverage for ACCVI trips.
- Access to The North Face Pro program for discounts on gear ([www.thenorthfacepro.com](http://www.thenorthfacepro.com)).
- Access to Club gear rental at great prices.

There are still some volunteer roles available for our Section (see the weekly *High Points* email) and I would highly recommend stepping into one. Serving as the Membership Coordinator for the ACCVI Executive continues to be for me a highly rewarding way of connecting with our local mountaineering community, new and seasoned.

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## *Leadership award points as of mid-November*

*By KT Shum*

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With 70 outdoor trips and 20 other activities including trainings, slide shows, and social events posted on the calendar by mid-November (see <https://accvi.ca/events/>), this year sees the section resuming the active schedule members have enjoyed before Covid. The many tireless trip leaders who contributed to this busy schedule deserves much gratitude and appreciation (see <https://accvi.ca/trip-leaders/leader-recognition-program/>)!

Even though a few of the 70 posted trips have been cancelled due to weather or other issues, waivers for 49 trips have been received by mid-November (see <https://accvi.ca/trip-leaders/waivers-and-liability/>). The interim tally based on these waivers yields a tightly packed race. Waivers received since then will likely change the order of the top spots. Will new trips be posted in December and lead to surprise winners? Stay tuned!

| <b>Trip Leader</b> | <b>Points</b>        |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Catrin Brown       | <a href="#">21</a>   |
| Peggy Taylor       | <a href="#">16</a>   |
| Walter Moar        | <a href="#">15</a>   |
| Derek Sou          | <a href="#">13.5</a> |
| Roger Taylor       | <a href="#">13</a>   |
| Martin Hofmann     | <a href="#">12.5</a> |
| Casey Matsuda      | <a href="#">9</a>    |
| John Relyea-Voss   | <a href="#">9</a>    |
| Knut von Salzen    | <a href="#">8.5</a>  |
| Rachel Treloar     | <a href="#">7</a>    |
| Iain Sou           | <a href="#">6.5</a>  |
| Mary Sanseverino   | <a href="#">6.5</a>  |
| Deniz Aydin        | <a href="#">3</a>    |
| Sonia Langer       | <a href="#">3</a>    |
| Josh Slatkoff      | <a href="#">2.5</a>  |
| Mike Hubbard       | <a href="#">2.5</a>  |
| Gary Croome        | <a href="#">2</a>    |
| Keith Battersby    | <a href="#">2</a>    |
| Stephanie Leblanc  | <a href="#">2</a>    |
| Shawn Hedges       | <a href="#">2</a>    |
| Laura Darling      | <a href="#">1.5</a>  |
| Andrew Cripps      | <a href="#">1</a>    |
| Andrew Pape-Salmon | <a href="#">1</a>    |
| Kyle Bourquin      | <a href="#">1</a>    |
| Caroline Tansley   | <a href="#">1</a>    |
| Liam Lawson        | <a href="#">1</a>    |
| Susan Osso         | <a href="#">1</a>    |
| Barry Hansen       | <a href="#">0.5</a>  |

## **ACCVI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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### **Executive Member at Large**

Graham Smith

### **Membership**

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***From the Front Cover:  
Uptrack on the Bunny Hill, Kluane***

***Photo by Martin Hofmann***

**Thank you to this month's contributors:**

*Deniz Aydin, Barb Baker, Geoff Bennett, Kyle Bourquin, Sandy Briggs, Catrin Brown, Liz Cox, Janelle Curtis, Lindsay Elms, Jim Everard, David Fishwick, Christine Fordham, Barry Hansen, Martin Hofmann, Gordon Kyle, David Lemon, Chris Neate, Bianca Parcher, Gil Parker, Mary Sanseverino, John Relyea-Voss, Josh Slatkoff, David Sutill, Peggy Taylor, Rachel Treloar, and KT Shum.*

**Well done everyone!**

