

A History of Cross Country Skiing in British Columbia

Landmark events and where to go to learn more!

1887 **The first recorded cross country skiing in BC was at Revelstoke**

Ole Sandberg is credited with introducing skiing to BC when he used 'Norwegian Snowshoes' (skis) for his prospecting activities at Albert Canyon in 1887. He used his home-made skis to climb up to his mine and then make the descent back down to the railroad.

More: <http://www.revelstokenordic.org/news/a-brief-history-of-skiing-in-revelstoke/>
and <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/Revelstoke.pdf>

1891+ *During this early period clubs and events encompassed two ski disciplines – Cross Country and Ski Jumping*

1891 **Revelstoke Ski Club is formed**

- The oldest ski club in BC
- Sustained membership since 1891
- From 1914 until the early 1960s Revelstoke was a leading Western Canadian site for holding cross country ski competitions
- More: <http://revelstokeskiclub.ca/history/>
- In 1990 the cross country membership separated from the parent club and established the Revelstoke Nordic Ski Club

1897 **A ski club is formed in Rossland**

- For a period of time between 1898 and 1912 the club in Rossland hosted annual cross country ski competitions as part of the Rossland Winter Carnival
- Club activity was inconsistent in the decades that followed
- More: <https://www.rosslandmuseum.ca/essays/2018/8/14/yes-there-was-skiing-before-we-built-the-chairlift-ronald-a-shearer>
- There was a Rossland Ski Club was registered with the CASA in the 30's:
http://www.skimuseum.ca/documents/annuals/1935-36_pt55_pg101.pdf
- In 1983 the Black Jack Cross Country Ski Club was established
- The club has produced 2 Olympians – Rhonda Delong (1992) and George Grey (2006, 2010)
- The club was the 2nd in BC to hire a year-round, full-time head coach
- More: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/2005-page12-13.pdf>

1921 The Canadian Amateur Ski Association (CASA) is founded/incorporated

This was the start of nationally organized skiing in Canada
Cross Country Canada emerged from the CASA

The first National Championships is held on Mt Royal in Montreal, Quebec

It was called the Dominion Championships at the time

- This event has been held continuously since 1921, with the exception of 1941-46 (inclusive) when events were not held because of World War II
- Until 1955 the Championship was one individual race of 18 km (give or take a kilometer or two)

- The male-only status of the event came to an end in 1954 when a women's 9 km event was added
- The women's event was not an annual occurrence until 1963

1923-1940

Canadian Ski Annuals and Canadian Ski Year Books: http://www.skimuseum.ca/CSA-CSYB_home.php

These documents include annual reports from some of the BC clubs during this period

1924 The first Olympic Winter Games includes cross country skiing

Chamonix, France

Alpine events for men were not introduced until 1936

Cross Country events for women were not introduced until 1952

1927 The Omineca Ski Club is established in Burns Lake

- Operating since 1927
- The club produced 2 Olympians, Karl Engstad (1932) and Esther Miller (1976, 1980)
- The top BC result at an FIS World Junior Championships prior to 2017 was Chris Werrell's 15th place finish in the 2004 Men's Sprint event
- Pioneer coach Mary Anderson (refer to 1976)
- The club hosted 4 National Championships - 1976, 1977, 1989, 1996
- The club installed the 1st lit trail system in BC (1973)
- The club was the 2nd in BC to purchase a Snow Cat (1989)
- The club has hosted the BC Championships multiple times since 1930 (refer to 1930)
- More: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/Pioneer%20Coach.pdf> and <http://ominecaskiclub.ca/our-club/sample-page/> and http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/1988-page30_0.pdf

1929 All major clubs in BC unite to form Western Branch of CASA

- BC clubs include Revelstoke Ski Club, Omineca Ski Club (Burns Lake), Hollyburn Pacific Ski Club (Vancouver), Grouse Mountain Ski Club (Vancouver), etc. There were reported to be 12 ski clubs in all
- The Western Branch was the forerunner of Cross Country BC, Cross Country Alberta, etc.
- More: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/Pioneer%20Days%20of%20Skiing.pdf>.

1930-1960

During this period clubs and events are mostly multi-discipline. At some point in the 30's the Cross Country and Ski Jumping disciplines are joined by Downhill and Slalom

1930 The BC Championships was held annually prior to 1930, but there is no known record of exactly when and where this event was first introduced

1930 BC Championships caught on film

Hosted by the Omineca Ski Club, Burns Lake, February 11-14th, 1930

- Skiers attended from as far away as Vancouver, Revelstoke, Princeton, Camrose, AB and the USA. Some travelled by boat and rail via Prince Rupert
- These are the first known cross country ski races in BC to be captured on film
- More: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/1991-page40-41.pdf> and http://www.skimuseum.ca/documents/annuals/1931-1_pt51_pg91-92.pdf

1931 National Championships, Revelstoke

Hosted by the Revelstoke Ski Club

- First ever national cross country ski championships to be held in BC
- Disciplines: Cross Country and Ski Jumping
- More: http://www.cccski.com/getmedia/e5ee5ed5-3963-47ab-9d6e-d180395b67bb/1931Canadian-Championships_2.pdf.aspx

1932 Karl Engstad finishes 16th in the 50 km event at Olympic Winter Games – Lake Placid

- Best Canadian Men's result until Pierre Harvey's 14th in 1988
- Best BC result until George Greys 8th in 2010
- More about the skis Karl used: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/1993-page12%20-%20olaf.pdf>
- Karl's 50km stood as the best Canadian placing in a 50 km World Cup, World Championships or Olympics until Pierre Harvey placed 10th at Oberstdorf, West Germany in 1986.
- More: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/olympic-winter-games-bc>

1936 Tom Mobraaten from the Vancouver Ski Club competes in Olympic Winter Games

Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany

More: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/olympic-winter-games-bc>

1938 The Silver Star Ski Club is established in Vernon

In 1970 the North Okanagan Cross Country Ski Club was established specifically for cross country skiing. In 2000 the club's name was changed to Sovereign Lake Nordic Club

- The largest cross country ski club in Canada
- 1st club in BC to reach 1000 members (1991)
- 1st club in BC (and Canada) to reach 2000 members (March 2019)
- The club hosted an FIS World Cup in 1991 and again in 2005. These were the 1st two World Cups ever held in BC
- The 1st Masters World Cup to be held in BC
- The National Championships in 1995 (and will again in 2020)
- The club won BC Championship Club Trophy in 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009
- The club produced the top BC result at an FIS World Junior Championships prior to 2004 – Lars Taylor's 17th place finish in the 1989 Men's 30 km skating event
- More: <https://www.sovereignlake.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/SLNC-History-1st-ED-SEC.pdf>

1940-1946

There were no formal cross country ski events in BC due to World War II

1952 **National Championships**, Vancouver
Hosted by the Grouse Mountain Ski Club
Multi-discipline events

1958 **The Hickory Wing Ski Club is established**, Prince George

In 1957 the cross country membership separated from the parent club and established the the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club

- The club has produced 3 Olympians, Rolf Pettersen (1968, 1976), Ed Day (1976) and Hans Skinstead (1976)
- The top World Cup result prior to 2009 – Doug Gudwar’s 7th place finish in the 1978 World Cup at Vysoke Tatry, Czechoslovakia
- Pioneer coach Bjorger Pettersen – TEST Program, NST Head Coach, etc. (refer to 1967)
- Dave Wood – NST Head Coach, National Junior Team Coach, etc. (refer to 1997)
- Niilo Itkonen, head coach of the Canadian cross country ski team at the 1964 Olympic Winter Games at Innsbruck, Austria
- Eric de Nys, Head Coach of the National Senior Women's Team
- The club was the 1st in Canada to host an FIS (international) cross country ski competition
- The club has hosted 6 National Championships – 1966, 1969, 1971, 1973, 1991, 2005 and co-hosted another 1981
- The club was the 1st in BC to host Canada Winter Games events
- The club was the 1st in BC to host a World Para Nordic Ski Championships
- The club was the 1st in BC to install a snowmaking system
- The club was the 2nd BC club to reach 1000 members (in 1996)
- More info:

<http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/The%20Club%20That%20Could.pdf>

National Championships, Kimberley
Hosted by the Kimberley Ski Club
Multi-discipline events

1961 **National Championships**, Revelstoke
Hosted by the Revelstoke Ski Club
Multi-discipline events

1964 **National Championships**, Revelstoke
Hosted by the Revelstoke Ski Club
Multi-discipline events

1965 *As snow sports became more specialized, clubs and events began to emerge that were focussed solely on cross country skiing*

1966 **National Championships (Senior)**, Prince George
Held at Tabor Mountain
1st National Championships hosted by Hickory Wing Ski Club
Cross Country skiing events only

1967 Bjorger Pettersen is hired by Canadian Government to coach TEST program in NWT

Bjorger was from the Hickory Wing Ski Club, Prince George

- 1st ever full time National Ski Team Head Coach
- Technical Delegate for 2 Olympics, 6 World Cups and 3 World Junior Championships
- 1st Canadian to be TD for the Cross Country events at an Olympics
- Competition Chair: 1988 Olympic Winter Games, Calgary
- More:

<http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/The%20Club%20That%20Could.pdf>

and <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sad-news-canadian-ski-legend-bjorger-pettersen-passes-away>

BC Centennial Races

Hosted at Tabor Mountain by the Hickory Wing Ski Club, Prince George

This was Canada's 1st FIS (international) cross country ski competition

Skiers from Sweden, Norway, Finland, Canada and the USA participated

1968 Pioneer Coach Mary Anderson

Mary was from the Omineca Ski Club, Burns Lake

1st female coach in Canada to have an athlete compete in two Olympics and a World Championships

More: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/Pioneer%20Coach.pdf>

1969 National Championships (Junior), Prince George

Held at Tabor Mountain

The 2nd National Championships hosted by the Hickory Wing Ski Club

The 1st National Junior Championships to be held in BC

1971 National Championships (Senior), Prince George

Held at Tabor Mountain

The 3rd National Championships hosted by the Hickory Wing Ski Club

1973 The Omineca Ski Club becomes the first club in BC to install a lit trail system

Located at Decker Lake

National Championships (Senior), Prince George

Held at Tabor Mountain

The 4th National Championships hosted by the Hickory Wing Ski Club

1975 An AGM Report tells us what was happening in BC circa 1975

More: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/1990-page43.pdf>

1976 Esther Miller is 1st female athlete from BC to attend Olympics - Innsbruck, Austria

Esther was from the Omineca Ski Club, Burns Lake

- Esther's 32nd placing remains the best ever result for a female athlete from BC
- She qualified for the Olympics again in 1980
- More: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/olympic-winter-games-bc>

National Championships (Senior), Burns Lake
The 1st National Championships hosted by the Omineca Ski Club

1977 National Championships (Junior), Burns Lake
The 2nd National Championships hosted by the Omineca Ski Club

The South Cariboo Cross Country Ski Society is established – 100 Mile House

In 1982 the club changed its name to the 100 Mile Nordic Ski Society

- The club hosted Cariboo Marathon, BC's largest loppet (up to 1500+ participants)
- The club hosted 2 National Championships – 1988, 1996
- The club was the 1st in BC to purchase a Snow Cat
- This was the 2nd club in BC to install a lit trail system
- The club won the BC Championship Club Trophy in 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987

Cariboo Marathon launched

Hosted by the South Cariboo Cross Country Ski Society

- This event became the largest ever cross country ski marathon in BC, cresting at more than 1500 participants
- 1977-2014

1978 Doug Gudwar scores best ever BC result at FIS World Cup - Vysoke Tatry, Czechoslovakia
Doug was from the Hickory Wing Ski Club in Prince George
Placed 7th
Best BC result prior to George Grey's 3rd place finish at Whistler in 2009

The BC Division of the Canadian Ski Association is established

The Western Division of the CSA is replaced by Divisions that reflect Provincial/Territorial boundaries. In the lead up to 1978 the Western Division encompassed the BC, Yukon and NWT

1979 The BC Winter Games is launched

The host community is Kamloops

The cross country races were held at the Bush Lake trails and hosted by the Sons of Norway Club

More: <https://www.bcgames.org/Games/Future-and-Past-Games> and
<http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/bc-winter-games>

1980 The BC Championship Club Trophy is introduced

More: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/bc-championship-club-trophy>

Cross Country Canada introduced a new program called the Shell Jackrabbit Ski League

This new program was rolled out in BC in the winter of 1981-82

1981 National Championships (Senior), McBride

Held at Bell Mountain

- Co-hosted by Yellowhead Ski Club (McBride) and Hickory Wing Ski Club (Prince George)
- This was the 5th National Championships hosted by the Hickory Wing Ski Club

The BC Loppet Series is introduced

- Initially comprised of five events, and later of 12 events
- hosted in communities throughout BC and the Yukon
- Program duration: January 1982 to March, 1999
- More: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/swix-csa-bc-loppet-series-trophy-0>

1984 The BC Cup Series is introduced

All races except the club relays were interval start

National Championships (Junior), Kamloops

Hosted by the Overlander Ski Club

The Bulkley Valley Cross Country Ski Club is established - Smithers

This area had seen cross country ski activity since the 1920's, and in 1984 four local clubs amalgamated to form the Bulkley Valley Cross Country Ski Club

- In the lead up to this development the primary club in the area was the Silver King Nordic Ski Club
- Top ranked club at the 1993, 1994 and 1995 National Junior Championships – the first and only BC club to rank #1 in Canada at the National Championships since such records were kept
- The club produced Jodi Barber who was the 1st ever Para Nordic athlete from BC to bring home an IPC World Championship medal
- Leading coach Gary Murdoch - http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/Gary%20Murdoch_0.pdf
- Graham Maclean, Coordinator of Technical Services for the National Ski Team
- The club hosted the National Junior Championships - 1999
- The club won the BC Championship Club Trophy in 1991, 1992, 1995, 1996, 1998, 1999, 2006, 2010
- More: <http://www.bvnordic.ca/about-our-club/club-history/>

1985 The BC Cup Series introduces two kinds of competitions - 'Free Technique (skating)' and 'Classic Technique (traditional)' for skiers 14 years and older

The FIS formally introduces these two kinds of competition to the World Cup circuit

In the BC Cup Series, U14 skiers are still required to use classic technique only

More: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/1985-86-page29.pdf>

1987 'Ski Cross Country' is published using its current format

This is CCBC's annual magazine publication. Its predecessor was the 'BC Cross Country Ski Handbook' which was published annually beginning in 1980

The 100 Mile Nordics become the first club in BC to purchase a large groomer

100 Mile House. PistenBully

The 100 Mile Nordics becomes the second club in BC to install a lit trail system

100 Mile House. 4.5km of lit trails

1988 Cross Country BC established its own office

Prior to May 6th, 1988 Cross Country BC was the name of the cross country discipline of the BC Division of the Canadian Ski Association. After May 7th, 1988 Cross Country BC became the BC Division of Cross Country Canada
CCBC membership #s as of May 7th, 1988 = 4718

National Championships (Junior), 100 Mile House

The 1st National Championships hosted by the 100 Mile Nordic Ski Society

The Omineca Ski Club is the second club in BC to purchase a large groomer

Burns Lake. PistenBully

1927-1988 - A report by Mary Anderson

More: http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/1988-page30_0.pdf

1989 Both Cross Country Canada and Cross Country BC are incorporated

Lars Taylor scores best BC result to date at FIS World Junior Championships

Hamar, Norway

17th place finish in 30km skating event

Lars was from the North Okanagan Cross Country Ski Club, Vernon

National Championships (Senior), Burns Lake

The 3rd National Championships hosted by Omineca Ski Club

Free Technique (skating) competitions for U14 skiers are introduced to the BC Cup Series

Some members object strongly

Prior to this all competitions for U14 skiers were classic technique only

The 1988 Olympics (Calgary) were the 1st to offer both Classic and Free Technique competitions

1991 FIS World Cup, Vernon

Hosted at Silver Star Resort by the Sovereign Lake Nordic Club

- The 1st World Cup to be hosted in BC
- 1st ever use of Pursuit format on the World Cup circuit
- Competition Chair: Georgia Manhard, 100 Mile Nordic Ski Society
- Georgia was the 1st women to be Competition Chair of a World Cup in the history of the sport, worldwide
- Chief of Timing, Birte Ostby (100 Mile Nordic Ski Society) was the 1st woman in the history of the sport, worldwide, to hold this role

National Championships (Senior), Vancouver

Hosted at Hollyburn Ridge, Cypress Mountain, by Nordic Racers

National Championships (Junior), Prince George

Held at Otway Nordic Centre

The 6th National Championships hosted by Caledonia Nordic Ski Club

Cross Country BC membership #s pass the 10,000 mark – **10,791**

The 1st BC club to reach 1000 members is the North Okanagan Cross Country Ski Club (Vernon) with **1,771**

1995 National Championships (Senior), Vernon
Held at Sovereign Lake Nordic Centre
The 1st National Championships hosted by the North Okanagan Cross Country Ski Club

Cross Country BC launched a new program called the CCBC Ski League

This program replaced the earlier Jackrabbit Ski League Program

1996 National Championships (Junior), 100 Mile House
The 2nd National Championships hosted by the 100 Mile Nordic Ski Society

National Championships (Senior), Burns Lake

The 4th National Championships hosted by Omineca Ski Club

The 2nd BC club to reach 1000 members is the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club (Prince George) with **1,050**

1997 Dave Wood is named National Ski Team Head Coach

Dave is from the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club, Prince George

- Led the National Ski Team to unprecedented success which included 3 Olympic medals, a World Championship medal and Beckie Scott's World Cup title

- More:

<http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/DaveWoodProfile.pdf>

- More:

<http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/Dave%20Wood%20Profile.pdf>

1999 National Championships (Junior), Smithers
Hosted by the Bulkley Valley Cross Country Ski Club

2001 Sprints are 1st introduced to the BC Cup Series

- The 1st BC Cup sprint race in BC was held at Otway Nordic Centre and hosted by the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club of Prince George
- Prior to this races in the BC Cup Series used an interval start format, with the exception of the club relays
- The Sprint format was first used at the Olympic Winter Games in 2002
- More: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/1999-page11.pdf>

2004 Chris Werrell earns best BC result to date at FIS World Junior Championships

Stryn, Norway

9th in Qualification Round; 15th in Sprint Final; skating event

Chris was from the Omineca Ski Club, Burns Lake

LTAD – Long Term Athlete Development Model

With a 2010 Olympic legacy in mind, Sport Canada introduces a model that is at the forefront of theory and practice

Our sport aligns all aspects of its athlete development programs with this model

More: <http://www.ccski.com/getmedia/13d28c29-2b22-45c8-9caf-0a855583fe08/LTAD-guide-CCC.pdf.aspx>

CCC Skill Development Program (SDP) is launched

- Cross Country Canada and Cross Country BC begin to phase in the new SDP (Bunnyrabbit, Jackrabbit, Track Attack programs)
- This replaces the CCBC Ski League Program
- The new program is LTAD-aligned

2005 FIS World Cup, Vernon

Hosted at Sovereign Lake Nordic Centre by the Sovereign Lake Nordic Club

The 2nd World Cup to be hosted in BC

Competition Chair: Rob Bernhardt, Sovereign Lake Nordic Club

National Championships, Prince George

Hosted at Otway Nordic Centre

The 7th National Championships hosted by the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club

George Grey scores best BC result ever at FIS World Championships

Oberstdorf, Germany

6th place finish in Team Sprint (with Devon Kershaw)

George also finished 9th in the Team Sprint at the 2009 World Championships

More: <https://www.fis-ski.com/DB/general/athlete-biography.html?sectorcode=CC&competitorid=21652&type=result>

Strathcona Nordic Ski Club is 1st BC club to hire a full-time, year round head coach

Dave Battison was the club head coach from 2005-2014

2006 Black Jack Cross Country Ski Club is the 2nd BC club to hire a full-time, year round head coach

Chris Manhard was the club head coach from 2006-2010, following which he became a National Development Centre Head Coach (Callaghan Valley Training Centre) and BC Provincial Head Coach

2007 Whistler Olympic Park opens in the fall

Located in the Callaghan Valley near Whistler

Venue for the Cross Country, Biathlon, Ski Jumping, Nordic Combined and Para Nordic events at the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games

This venue had the most medals up for grabs at the Games

2008 National Championships, Whistler

Hosted at Callaghan Valley by VANOC

2009 FIS World Cup, Whistler

Hosted at Callaghan Valley by VANOC

This is the 3rd World Cup to be held in BC

Competition Chair: Rob Bernhardt, Squamish Nordic Ski Club

George Grey 1st BC athlete to medal in FIS World Cup competition

Whistler, BC. Placed 3rd with Alex Harvey in Team Sprint

More: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/2009-page5%20-%20George%20%26%20Jodi.pdf>

Jodi Barber 1st BC athlete to medal at IPC World Championships

(now called the World Para Nordic Ski Championships)

Vuokatti, Finland

- 15 km event
- 1st World Championship medal ever for a Para Nordic athlete from BC
- Jodi was from the Bulkley Valley Cross Country Ski Club, Smithers
- During her career she also won six IPC World Cup medals
- More: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/2009-page5%20-%20George%20%26%20Jodi.pdf>

2010 Olympic Winter Games & Paralympic Winter Games, Whistler

Hosted at Callaghan Valley by VANOC

- 353 of 460 (77%) of the volunteer officials are from BC
- The Competition Chair is from BC: Rob Bernhardt (Squamish Nordic Ski Club)
- All 5 department Chiefs are from BC
- The Sport Manager is from BC: Len Apedaile (Strathcona Nordic Ski Club)
- More: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/2010-page8%20OWG.pdf>

George Grey finishes 8th in the 30 km Pursuit event at Olympic Winter Games – Whistler

Best BC result since Karl Engstad's 16th place finish in 1932 – 78 years before

More info: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/olympic-winter-games-bc>

Cross Country BC membership #s pass the 15,000 mark – **15,146**

2011 Masters World Cup, Vernon

Hosted by the Sovereign Lake Nordic Club

Competition Chair: Sharon Clark, Sovereign Lake Nordic Club

- This was the 1st time this event has been held in BC
- There were 1134 registered athletes from 22 nations
- Athletes participated from all provinces and territories of Canada except Manitoba and Nunavut
- 380 volunteers contributed
- More: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/2011-page6-7%20Masters%20WC.pdf>

2013 National Championships, Whistler

Hosted at Callaghan Valley by the Callaghan Valley Cross Country Ski Club

2014 Len Apedaile is 1st Canadian to TD Nordic Skiing events at a Paralympic Winter Games

Len is from the Strathcona Nordic Ski Club, Courtenay

- Len was also Technical Delegate for Nordic Skiing events at 2014 PWG in Sochi, Russia
- He was Technical Delegate for the 2013 FISU Universiade in Trentino, Italy
- He was Race Director for the 2018 Paralympic Winter Games in PyeongChang, Korea
- He was Sport Manager for 2010 Cross Country (Olympic) and Nordic Skiing (Paralympic) events
- More: <http://www.crosscountrybc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/Candidate%20Profile%20-%20Len%20Apedaile%20v2.pdf>

2015 Caledonia Nordic Ski Club hosts cross country events at Canada Winter Games

Otway Nordic Centre, Prince George

This was the first time the Canada Winter Games was hosted by the province of BC

BC ranked top division in cross country skiing at 2015 Canada Winter Games

This is the 1st time BC is ranked the #1 province or territory in cross country skiing at the Games

2017 Gareth Williams scores best BC result to date at FIS World Junior Championships

Soldier Hollow, Park City, USA. 11th place in 20 km Skiathlon event

Gareth is from the Telemark Nordic Club, Kelowna

2018 Natalie Wilkie wins gold and bronze medals at Paralympic Winter Games

PyeongChang, Korea

- 7.5 km and sprint classic events
- Natalie is from the Larch Hills Nordic Society, Salmon Arm
- **Emily Young** (Hollyburn Cross Country Ski Club, North Vancouver) earns bronze in 7.5 km classic event
- These are the first ever Paralympic medals for BC athletes

Caledonia Nordic Ski Club is 1st BC club to install snowmaking system

The Caledonia Nordic Ski Club (Prince George) installs snowmaking at Otway Nordic Centre

This system supports 7.6 distinct kilometers of trail plus the Cross Country and Biathlon stadiums

2019 Remi Drolet earns best BC result ever at the FIS World Junior Championships

Lahti, Finland

- 7th placing in 30 km classic event
- Remi is from the Black Jack Cross Country Ski Club, Rossland
- Only two Canadian male athletes in the history of our sport have had better results

The World Para Nordic Ski Championships is held in Canada for the first time ever

Hosted at Otway Nordic Centre by the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club of Prince George

Competition Chair: Jim Burbee, Caledonia Nordic Ski Club

Natalie Wilkie medals at World Para Nordic Ski Championships

Prince George, BC

- 15 km classic event
- Natalie is from the Larch Hills Nordic Society, Salmon Arm
- She is the 2nd Para Nordic athlete from BC to win a World Championship medal

The Larch Hills Nordic Society wins BC Championship Club Trophy for the 10th time since 1980

Salmon Am, BC

- This is the most times any club has ever won this title
- The club won the trophy in 1981, 1997, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019
- The club produced Paralympic gold medalist Natalie Wilkie

The 1st BC club to top 2000 members is the Sovereign Lake Nordic Club (Vernon) with **2,017**

Cariboo Ski Touring Club is 2nd BC club to install snowmaking system

The Cariboo Ski Touring Club (Quesnel) installs snowmaking for the stadium area at their Hallis Lake facility

Sept 14th, 2019