

# President's Report

April 24, 2020



---

This year we were very fortunate to experience ideal snow and trail conditions. Humid weather, which results in poor trail conditions, did not hamper our club activities and we were able to experience a complete and successful ski season!

This year, Brian Dunphy was inducted into the Cross Country Newfoundland and Labrador *Hall of Fame* in the Athlete Category. Brian is truly worthy of this accomplishment and everyone from Whaleback Nordic is very proud of him. We would also like to acknowledge and show appreciation for Brian's assistance in many other different areas of the Club including waxing, equipment repair and maintenance, and training. Thanks Brian!

This year we celebrated another great season of the Jack Rabbit Program! It was great to see the Jack Rabbits becoming more involved in our club sponsored events. We are also proud of the achievements of our youth skiers in provincial and national events. A special shout out to Michael Budden for his accomplishments at the Canada Winter Games! Way to go Michael!

Other successes this year included the development of a club brochure and beginners ski program, participation in the Santa Clause parade, the Valentine's Dinner, introduction of Fat Tire Bikes, the Candlelight SnowShoe, and the updated website.

I was so happy to see an increased participation in our club hosted events: Candlelight Snowshoe, Snowy Owl Classic, Provincial Masters and Whaleback Memorial Loppet. Hosting the 50th Anniversary of the *Outfitters NL Marathon* was a rewarding experience for our club. Doug Fowlow and his many committees are to be congratulated.

Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic the Lourdes Cadets and the French School in Cape St. George had to cancel their ski and snowshoe days at Whaleback.

Project NIHILO SAPPER, which involves the Canadian Military offering the necessary labor to replace/refurbish our chalet and bridge work on BeaverTail Flat, was also put on hold due to Covid-19. Discussions in February this year were encouraging so we hope that after the Pandemic is over we can continue working on this project.

After 15+ years, our BR 250 Groomer has experienced serious concerns with its tracks and will require replacement parts. This will be a large but necessary expense for the club.

I gratefully thank executive members and our membership as a whole for their time and effort towards making this year a success! To Mark Roberts, who is stepping down from serving on the executive, we thank you for your time and service as an executive member.

Finally, I would like to thank our many volunteers who responded to every beck and call, our supportive sponsors, Linda and Melinda who kept the chalet afloat during the evenings and weekends, and Kenny who has consistently kept our trails in an impeccable condition!

Stay Safe,  
Greg Noonan, President