



Varsity Outdoor Club

University of British Columbia

Box 98, Student Union Building
6138 Student Union Mall
Vancouver, B.C. V6T 2B9

Monday, April 20, 2009

Dear VOC Alumni,

This is the second VOC Grad Newsletter that we've sent in recent memory. After receiving a few replies back praising last year's edition, we thought we would continue on with this previously long-cherished tradition. Our current president, Christian Veenstra, has graciously offered to write this year's recap:

“This year the VOC has seen the continuation of heavy participation in beginner trips. Full trips ran almost every weekend - with popular trips, such as the [first ski trip of the year](#) or the [intro to ice climbing](#), filling up within [hours of signup opening](#). [Winter Longhike](#) saw almost 60 VOCers, many on their first winter overnight trip, sleeping in snow caves in Garibaldi Park (with only a few declaring their cave structurally unstable when the roof sagged during the night). Over reading break VOCers road tripping to [Red Rocks](#) ended up spending the night at the local biker-bar when the highway was closed, while others crossed the [Garibaldi Neve](#) in a driving storm. Some things never change.

On the access front, after [years of negotiations](#), it appears (thanks to the hard work of many) that the sea-to-sky corridor will finally have recreational zoning. After some final government mediated negotiations last year the VOC received a letter just last week informing us that the results will be incorporated into the new land resource management plan. This includes pedestrian access only around our Brew Hut, and non-motorized with air access around the Harrison (Overseer) and Waddington (Phelix) Huts.

Maintenance continues as well, with the completion of the [Phelix Creek Trail](#) giving easy, year-round, access to the Waddington Hut (although we still need a high-snow year to remove some of the flagging). Major renovation work is planned for this hut over the summer.”

Our trip agenda can be viewed on our wiki page: http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Trip_agenda

Banquet:

We would like to mention that the '08-'09 VOC Banquet will be held on April 2nd at the Saint James Community Center (3214 10th West) in Kitsilano from 6:00 pm – 11:00 pm. All alumni are welcomed to attend. Cost is free if arriving before 6:30 pm and \$2 afterwards. For additional information, please visit our dedicated wiki page at: http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Banquet_2009. Any changes between now and April 2nd will be posted there; please read it if you're planning to attend. The VOCJ51 and some VOCJ50 will be available for purchase.

VOC Journal:

The VOC Journal is again available for purchase. In addition to the latest edition (51st), previous editions from '00 until last year's special 50th anniversary edition are still for sale. The prices are as follows:

Pre-50th editions (~'00 – '06): \$15 + shipping

50th edition ('07-'08): \$25 + shipping

51st edition ('08-'09): \$20 + shipping

For shipping cost, please forward us an email indicating your preferred shipping address. We can then calculate and forward you the total cost. Supplies are limited and will contact you if an edition is sold out. All purchases can be by cheque or cash to:

Varsity Outdoor Club
Box 98, Student Union Building
6138 Student Union Mall
Vancouver, B.C. V6T 2B9

Don't forget to mention your mailing address! An involuntary donation is nice but I doubt that is what you want.

Other News:

The AMS is currently undergoing a consultation process to replace the “bunker-style” SUB by a new building to satisfy the current demand of the student population. The [first official draft of the SUB Renewal Project: Schematic Design Program](#) has been recently completed and the resulting new VOC clubroom would have the following dimensions:

- Clubroom – 425 sq. ft.
- Resource area – 25 sq. ft.
- Workbench area – 30 sq. ft.
- Gear Storage – 180 sq. ft.

in addition to a new 1000 sq. ft. climbing wall. This is a significant improvement over the current clubroom (320 sq.ft. including resource and workbench areas) and gear room (85 sq. ft.) we have in the basement of the SUB. Hopefully, we'll have a view of the mountains this time...

Gear:

Two years ago, faced with deteriorating VOC rental gear, a [five-year replacement gear plan](#) was hashed out to fully replace and/or expand our current inventory with newer gear. With the recent string of successful purchases at the MEC Gear Swaps and through other means, the plan is proceeding faster than anyone would have anticipated. So far, all seems to indicate that the plan will be completed ahead of schedule and underbudget.

This is the conclusion of another successful year in the VOC. We wish you all the best of times during your outdoor pursuits. Play safe out there!

Christian Champagne
V.U.P (Very Useful Person)
'08-'09