



Varsity Outdoor Club

University of British Columbia
VANCOUVER 8, B.C.



January 25, 1965

Dear Grads,

Greetings from all of this year's active VOC'ers! It is the year of the "big snow" again in Vancouver - the result being lots of winter activities in the offing.

VOC had a very active fall with an excellent hiking and climbing program. Both the long and the short long hike were highly successful. The weather was sunny for the first time in years for the long hike, and for the short long we returned to having a tenting expedition, which was organized by the newly formed Conservation Committee. The hike was held at Alice Lake in Garibaldi Park. We had over 100 people participating. We are sure we made a record when the whole group was on its way to climb Whistler Mountain (London) by 5:30 a.m.! There were climbs and hikes every weekend during the fall, and amazingly enough it was sunny every weekend too. A weekend of note was the day VOC invaded the Squamish Chief. Climbers went up various routes on the front side and hikers went up the back. Everybody met for a dinner party and singsong in the Kakademon Kloset, a large cave at the base of the Grand Wall of Squamish Chief. All told, eighty people crawled in. On the same day Dick Culbert led a second ascent of Trestle Tower in Cheakamus Canyon.

Part of the reason the Whistler area was chosen for the short long hike is because, as we told you last year, VOC is interested in acquiring land and building a cabin there. Charlie Daughney has been working since last spring on obtaining a piece of land suitable for our needs. We realize that many Grads may be concerned about our wishing to change the cabin location. However we feel that for VOC requirements the Whistler Mtn. area would be more suitable. In this year's journal are several reports on Whistler Mtn., one on the evaluation of the area for the club and one on what the area means to any skier. Also, just recently there has been confirmation that the proposed lift is definitely going in. Another aspect is the disposal of the cabin on Mt. Seymour. This does not prove to be as difficult as may have been thought, as in the past years we have had offers to buy it. Any opinions or advice from Grad members would be welcomed. For more information

concerning the project please contact Charlie Daughney, 1851 Adelaide Road, Vancouver 8.

This year's membership breaks all records - we are now 315! Official VOC Christmas trips had at least 200 participants, at Kimberley, Big White - Kelowna, Mt. Tod - Kamloops, Braylorn, Rossland, Sweizer Basin, Moraine Lake, Mt. Seymour, and a spelunctering trip led by Dick Culbert.

We also have a new club room on campus - what a difference - it is about five times as large as the old one, and one can actually breath in the lunch hour crush.

A Conservation Committee has been formed in the club. The objects of the committee are: to gather information and make it available to club members; to offer constructive criticism to the government regarding B. C. Parks; to plan and co-ordinate trips to potential and threatened park areas. The committee had a busy fall this year with extensive work and meetings to compile, what we as a club, feel is an excellent brief to the Parks Branch in Victoria. The committee has also begun a library. Any articles or books pertaining to Conservation which you would like to donate to this library would be appreciated.

With the help of the recommendations from last year's Journal policy Committee an excellent Journal has been produced this year. We mentioned the articles contained in it on Garibaldi. As well, it covers many exciting events of ascents made in the Coast Range, including Mt. Monarch, the previously unclimbed Serra Vof of the Waddington Range, and numerous other ascents of 9 and 10,000 foot peaks in the coast area. It may please you to know that the Journal has the first published article, complete with pictures, and written by Don Lyon, on the Canadian Himalayan Expedition which took place last year. If you wish to buy a Journal, please fill out the enclosed form and send it with \$1.00 to us, and we will be happy to mail you a journal.

We would like to invite you all to enter this year's Annual VOC Photographic competition. The entry date closes February 19. Please write to us for further information. The awards for the competition will be given at the Reunion Banquet on Saturday, March 13, which we are holding this year at the Glen Eagles Golf Club in West Vancouver, at 6 p.m. We would like to extend a most cordial invitation to you, and hope that many will be able to come. We are hoping to have a member of the Himalayan Expedition as guest speaker. The winning pictures from the Photographic Competition will be displayed as well as our scrap books from 1927 to 1965. For more information, please write or telephone Ann Nodwell 2304 Nelson Ave. West Vancouver. Tickets may also be bought at the door.

Also remember Open House on Mt. Seymour, which is on February 21. We

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would be delighted to see you!

Thank you for all your help in tracing Grad Members last year. The response was terrific. If you have moved recently, please let us know. We would also like to hear about your activities.

We wish you all the best in outdorming for 1965!

Yours sincerely,

Dave Higgins

President

Robin Kennedy

Archivist