



The BEAST



Dave Hunt,
BEAST President

President's Message – Dave Hunt



It certainly doesn't seem that long ago since we were working on our last newsletter, yet so much has happened. During last years AGM, I was nominated as president of the BEAST and at first I was extremely hesitant to accept. I certainly don't have any regrets now. For the first time since 1998,

in our community and across the Province continues to be a sustainable sport. I need to thank all of our volunteers, even the many individuals and families that contribute as few as a couple hours a year. It is these people that make the club what it is, so make sure you thank them the next time you see them out on the trails. As most people are aware, it isn't only volunteers that make snowmobiling what it is today. Landowners across the province are a key component of our trail system. Without the gracious use of their land, we wouldn't have very many trails in our area. Please be respectful of our landowners and stay on the trail and if you happen to come across a landowner, please be sure to thank them and then, thank them again!

Jim decided he no longer wished to perform the duties as President, so here I am! Jim has contributed so much to organized snowmobiling in our area and I certainly have big shoes to fill!

As things begin to settle down, this year our plan is to focus on operations and revenue. An unfortunate reality of our sport is our numbers are dwindling due to many factors. As a result, funding levels have decreased significantly resulting in two consecutive years of the club operating at a net loss. While this has forced the club to dip into its reserves, we simply cannot continue to operate at a net loss and this year will play a pivotal role in determining the future of our club. How can we change? This won't be easy but I'm confident if we work together we can be stronger moving forward. First, buy your permit now. Purchasing your permit now generates critical income to cover the initial fall start up costs for the club. Secondly, the club executive will be reviewing all aspects of our finances including researching alternative methods and products to generate additional income and reduce expenses.

In my first year as president, I had three simple, yet fundamental goals that I felt should be prioritized: Communication, Club Volunteers and Club Executive. We as a club immediately set out to find new and innovative ways to communicate with our members. We considered social media and started a Facebook page, we capitalized on the YouTube mania and started a small segment last year titled BEAST TV. In addition we started email communications to keep our membership up to date which helped increase member awareness of trail conditions, events and current issues. For our innovative efforts, we were recognized at the Provincial level with the Ted Day Communications Award. This year we plan to continue developing these initiatives so if you haven't yet subscribed to your favorite method, please check out our website at www.TheBEAST.ca for complete details.

This year's early predictions indicate that this year will be cooler than normal with above normal snowfall. I for one am counting on them being right for once, are you?

Being a volunteer myself, I know how hard everyone works to ensure snowmobiling

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For the most up to date information, please visit us at

Ted Day Communications Award!

In early September, members of the BEAST snowmobile club attended the OFSC Annual General Meeting held in Collingwood Ontario and were humbled to be recognized for outstanding achievement in connecting with club members and the local community through a broad and creative mix of communication vehicles. For the second time in 5 years, the BEAST received the Ted Day Communications award! Special thanks to the many volunteers that work tirelessly to ensure our club communications are the best in the Province.



BEAST TV

Have you heard about, or even better yet seen BEAST TV? What is BEAST TV you ask? BEAST TV is short informational video's hosted on Youtube about our snowmobile club operations, including but not limited, to current trail conditions, operations, volunteer spotlight, news and local events. During the inaugural season, we set the focus on youth and family with an ambitious goal of making it a weekly segment of 8 to 10 minutes in length. Through sheer determination and between 50 and 75 total volunteer hours each week, the club managed to provide an almost

weekly show and reached 10 episodes in a short 12 week period. Despite the professional and clean look, the show was entirely produced by club volunteers at zero cost to the members! The show was an immediate success boasting an average of 200 views per episode and over 2,000 video views in total. If you haven't already seen the show, we highly recommend you watch season one in its entirety which can be found at www.TheBEAST.ca under the video category. Stay tuned to our website as we prepare for all new episodes this season!

BEAST Golf Tournament

Despite the weather and lower than expected turnout, this year's golf tournament was another success. For the third consecutive year, volunteers worked tirelessly to put together a huge production and it seems that their efforts paid off. This year we managed to raise \$3,251 and even came away with enough door prizes to help support our landowner dinner and some volunteer recognition. This tournament has become the primary source of fundraising for the club and we wish to thank all our



sponsors, the volunteers and those that were able to brave the rain. Without any of these people, we would not have succeeded. Plans have already started for next year's tournament and we certainly hope to see you all there!

Munster Trail Access

The 1KM access trail into Munster was closed last year as the club could not locate the new owner of the land parallel to Munster Road running to the ball fields. The registered owner is a numbered company with no contact

information in the Land Registry Office. If you have any contact information to share, please pass it along to the club, as we are unable to sign and groom this section until permission is granted from the new landowners.



Please note that the OFSC designation of the Trans Canada Trail ends at Westridge Drive. The City of Ottawa does not allow snowmobiles on the Trans Canada Trail East of Westridge Drive. Traveling East of Westridge Drive on snowmobile puts the entire Trans Canada Trail user agreement negotiated with the City of Ottawa at risk.

Help us help you!

Trail Work Days

November 24th

and

December 1st

To register call

Julie-Anne at

613-256-2973

Permit Prices

- Full Season on or before December 1st \$210.00
- Full Season After December 1st \$260.00
- 3 Day Permit \$100.00
- 7 Day Permit \$140.00
- Classic Permit \$130.00



Buy your permit online before December 1, 2012 at

www.ofsc.on.ca and save the \$5 shipping and handling costs.

Please note an \$11 administration fee will be charged to the club for each online permit purchased. For those riders that want to ensure that their maximum permit contribution goes onto the snow we recommend visiting one of our many permit vendors and using cash. This method provides no transaction costs to the club.

PERMIT VENDORS

Almonte Grocery and Gas Bar
 Almonte Licence Office
 Black's Corners Motorsports
 Carleton Auto Parts (Almonte and Carleton Place)
 Carleton Place Marine
 Clayton General Store
 Danby's Bar and Grill
 George's Service Centre
 Hank's Tire Supply (Smiths Falls)
 Jim Lackey 613-253-5486
 Levi Home Hardware
 Perth Power Sports and Marine
 Richmond Motorsports
 Richmond Home Hardware
 Smiths Falls Licence Office
 Stittsville Trailer Sales
 Stuart Spoor 613-257-1561
 Valley Small Engines (Carleton Place)

BEAST Trail Patrol

The Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC) Trail Patrol Program commenced in 1983 at the inception of the user-pay system. Trail Patrol members volunteer their time and use of their personal equipment to be snowmobile ambassadors. These volunteers are clearly identifiable by their Trail patrol vest and each member also carries with them their Trail Patrol ID issued by the OFSC. These two items make up the Trail Patrol 'uniform', however many members also wear an optional Trail Patrol jacket and hat.

The BEAST Trail Patrol is comprised of a dozen members who patrol during the week, weekends and evenings. Patrols generally consist of two Trail Patrol members but often include 4-8 members. During the 2011/12 season, BEAST Trail Patrol Members logged over 180 hours. We have members stationed all over the BEAST Trail system including: Stittsville, Richmond, Almonte, Barrhaven, Carleton Place and Munster Hamlet.

The primary function of Trail Patrol is public awareness and safety. Trail Patrol Member's duties are centered around activity on OFSC Prescribed Trails and may be summarized into four broad categories:

New Trail Agreement aims at Opening Trails Earlier

During this past season the BEAST snowmobile club donated \$4000 and District One added an additional \$1000 for a total contribution of \$5000 to the Township of Beckwith to assist in funding the development and construction of a shared use pathway between the opened portions of Beckwith Concession 10. Users of the E104 this past winter may have noticed the ongoing construction activity. The E104 used to cross a swamp and required significant cold weather to open the trail which led to delays in the grooming of other land based trails on the opposite side of the swamp from the groomer shed.

The BEAST is pleased to announce an

Landowner

Agent. As the agent for the landowner, a Trail Patrol has the authority to lay a notice of Trespass to Property charge under the



Trespass to Property Act.

Safety Promotion. Members promote safe riding by reminding snowmobilers of safe riding practices.

Risk Management. Trail Patrol Members actively identify and report unsafe or unusual conditions, remove branches, and report safety issues to the club.

On Trail Support. Trail Patrol Members provide on trail support in the form of maps, safety equipment, directions, help and updated information on trail conditions.

Members of the BEAST Trail Patrol will be out again this season checking for permits and helping snowmobilers. Our goal is to ensure the trails are safe and everyone is compliant / aware of the various laws.

agreement with the Township of Beckwith has been finalized to allow the shared use of the trail for this winter and in the future eliminating the water hazard and with a little luck from mother nature this trail will open early as a Early Season Priority Trail.



LEARN THE RIGHT WAY

Do you have a child between the ages of 12 and 16 who is interested in riding the trails with you this season? Sign them up for an OFSC Snowmobile Safety Course.

In Ontario, all snow vehicle operators must have a valid licence in order to ride the trails. For individuals between the ages of 12-16, a snow vehicle operator's licence is required. Adults over the age of 16, with no drivers licence, can also receive a snow vehicle licence. To obtain a snow vehicle licence, participants must successfully pass the Driver Training course offered through local clubs. The OFSC Driver Training Course is designed to emphasize the safe operation of motorized snow vehicles. The **course fee is \$40**, and course content is approved by the Ministry of Transportation Ontario (MTO). Lunch will be available at an additional fee.

In the 6-hour training program, participants will:

- Learn safe riding techniques and tips
- Learn how to prevent problems and

avoid environment hazards

- Motorized Snow Vehicle Laws
- See practical video and live demonstrations
- Gain confidence and a safety-focused attitude

The Driver Training course will be held on November 3rd, 2012 at the Beckwith Township Office, 1702 – 9th Line Beckwith (across from Carleton Place Marine). The course will be held from 8:30 – 4:30. Pre-registration for this course is required and will be held on October 30th, 2012 at 6:30 pm at 7 West Motel, 10470 Hwy 7 (across from Harvey's in Carleton Place). You are required to show up at preregistration to prepay for the course and get additional information.

A second date is being considered for January 26, 2013, however this date will be dependant on having at least 10 registered in advance. If you have a 12-16yr old please register them today!



Volunteers on BEAST work days installing signs on the A trail to Almonte.



After a long day of trail work, this volunteer crew couldn't make it back to the truck without some rest!

Watching the sun set over the Mississippi River on the A Trail .

Volunteers In Action (VIA)

If you've been snowmobiling for a while, you know the trail system is maintained by a group of dedicated volunteers. What you likely don't know is that this group of volunteers is small, and they work year-round to ensure that our local trails are ready for snowfall, maintained during the season, and closed up when Mother Nature melts the snow away.

Within the BEAST, male and female volunteers of all ages contribute to making snowmobiling a viable sport in our community. It's our volunteers that have made this one of the most respected and progressive volunteer organizations in Ontario.

You can get involved!

We're always looking for enthusiastic individuals to volunteer. You don't have to be a snowmobiler; anyone who wants to contribute can. Whether you have a lot of time, or just one afternoon, we can tailor a job to suit your abilities and interests. And, as a non-profit organization, **high school students can complete their 40-hours of community service with our club!**

Volunteer projects that are always in need of assistance include:

- Trail work
- Social activities
- Fundraising
- Communications

Whatever your interest,

we'll make sure it is productive, rewarding, and FUN!

If you love this sport and want to see it continue (or improve), then get involved. Contact Julie-Anne Bedard at 613-256-2973





Brent, the fastest driller in Carleton Place, makes short work of the plywood decking on the new access trail to Carleton Place at -22°C

New Access Trail To Carleton Place Facilities

The BEAST is pleased to announce that thanks to the significant cooperation on behalf of the Town of Carleton Place, an access trail has now been officially provided to the Hwy 7 corridor from the Trans Canada Trail. Only minutes from the "A" trail, the opening of this trail provides fuel, food and lodging services to the OFSC trail network and at the same time, makes Carleton Place a tourist destination.

nation.

This access trail is a direct result of hard work on behalf of your club volunteers and significant cooperation by the Town of Carleton Place. Without their cooperation this trail would not be possible. The Town of Carleton Place does wish to limit damage to the asphalt pathway and we ask that all sledders respect both the landowner and the

hard work of the volunteers and stay off the pathway as much as possible.

Please remember, with all trails within close proximity to residential areas, the presence of pedestrians are likely and we request you drive slow at all times to ensure continued use of this trail graciously allowed by the Town of Carleton Place.

Snowmobiling and the Laws

Each snowmobile operator must fully understand the applicable laws before going snowmobiling. Namely, the *Motorized Snow Vehicles Act*.

not more than \$1000.

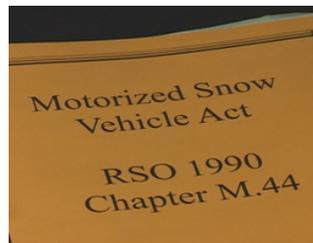
The *Trespass to Property Act* provides the legal basis for the OFSC to patrol OFSC trails and require operators of snowmobiles to either pay for (and display a trail permit) or exit the trail system. Driving a motorized snow vehicle over private property without a permit constitutes a trespass.



OFSC Prescribed Trail to have and display a valid snowmobile trail permit. Before you go out on an OFSC trail, ensure you have your permit and it is affixed to your snowmobile. Ontario Trail Permits are required to travel on OFSC Prescribed Trails. A valid Snowmobile Trail Permit must be affixed to your windshield to ride on OFSC trails. The fine for



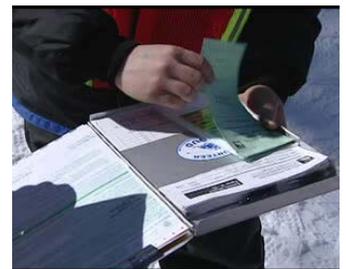
Do you have a snowmobile that is more than 15 years old? (1997 or older) If so you qualify for the classic permit which is only \$130 for the entire season. Classic permits can only be purchased at the OFSC District One office or, new for this season, Arnprior Sportland will also be an authorized distributor of the classic permits for District One. Please support the buy where you ride concept and ensure the BEAST is specified as the club you wish to support.



This act details the requirements for licencing, registration, and insurance. It also describes how to cross roadways, age restrictions, driving requirements, operator's licenses, duty to report accidents, towing, speed limits, and careless driving. Under Section 2.(1): The owner of a motorized snow vehicle shall not drive on an OFSC Prescribe Trail except under the authority of a permit. Any driver who contravenes this section is guilty of an offence, and on conviction, is liable to a fine of not less than \$200 and

Under the *Provincial Offences Act*, a snowmobile owner is liable for any fines unless the driver is convicted of the offence or the driver did not have the owner's consent to use the motorized snow vehicle. If found guilty, the person is liable for a fine of not more than \$2000. Trail Patrol Members will contact the police and ask them to lay a charge.

In support of the OFSC User Pay System, Ontario law requires every recreational sled entering an



failing to have a valid permit is not less than \$200.00 and not more than \$1,000.00.



Volunteers having a great time riding in fresh powder!

Help Wanted!

Are you enjoying this newsletter? Did you enjoy your time on the trails last winter? Ever wonder how everything gets done? So do we and we are looking for good people just like you to help us at the following positions:

(Executive) South West Sector Coordinator - The current BEAST SW sector coordinator has spent many years at the helm and it has become time the duties are passed onto another club member. This position is one of the executive positions within the club and is responsible for overseeing all aspects of a sector of the trail. This includes working with trail section coordinators, resolving landowner concerns, possible re-routes, signage and grooming aspects as well as ensuring all trail conditions are meeting minimum standards.

North East Land owner Coordinator - This task has been currently held by the same volunteer for well over 10 years now. The candidate will communicate with approximately 25 landowners within the NE sector and continually monitor and liaison with landowners or any potential new landowners in the event of ownership changes. The importance of this task is simply stated; no land means no trails. The current volunteer will remain intricately involved during this season and transition duties for next season.

North East Permit Coordinator - The same volunteer who also provides landowner coordination for well over 10 years now currently holds this task. The candidate will be responsible for the liaison and distribution/collection of permits/money to three retailers in the NE area. In addition, the candidate will be responsible to ensure permit buyer details are entered into the OFSC online system, and the administration of any lost or replacement permits. The current volunteer will remain intricately involved during this season and transition duties for next season.

OFSC Response Coordinator (Alternate) - This role is currently vacant. The candidate will provide assistance to the OFSC Response Coordinator when required.

Health and Safety Coordinator - This role is currently vacant. The candidate will be responsible for maintaining an up to date Health and Safety Policy, promote a safe workplace throughout the year and report any concerns or complaints to the Board.

Alcohol Policy - This position is currently vacant. The candidate will review policy annually with Directors in September, communicate our policy to members annually at December AGM and ensure policy material is available for events.

Trail Maintainers - The Club Trail Maintainers assist in conducting maintenance on trails. This includes signage and brushing.

Trail Patrol Members - Patrol all BEAST trails for unauthorized access and ensure the safety of all trail users.

Trail Section Coordinator - The Club Trail Section Coordinator is responsible for maintaining an assigned section(s) of the trail. This includes all aspects of operation for the specified season such as landowner permission, signage and brushing.

In a recent survey of non-volunteering snowmobilers, 39% of respondents indicated they didn't have enough time to commit time throughout the whole year. According to the 2002 Canadian Census, 75% of the people who volunteer do so for only a few hours (under 20) each year. If this sounds familiar, that's OK as even only a few hours would be a big help. Please contact Julie-Anne Bedard at 613-256-2973 to identify your willingness to help out.



Volunteers check stakes to make sure they are sturdy.



Ever wonder what activities are going on at the club, what events are happening or if the trails are open? Why bother with having to go check the website yourself when we are willing to deliver the news, events and information right to your inbox? If you haven't received an email from us lately, you're probably not on our mailing list. When filling out your permit application make sure to include your email address or better yet visit our website at www.TheBEAST.ca to sign up today. We will not sell your information nor will we fill your mailbox with useless emails!

It's the Law!

Ontario law requires every recreational sled^d using an OFSC Prescribed Trail to have and display a valid Snowmobile Trail Permit. Fines for failure to comply range from a minimum of \$200. to a maximum of \$1000. *Exemptions or partial exemptions for specific user groups.



BEAST helps purchase Cardiac Monitor

Over the past number of years, the BEAST has hosted an annual poker run in support of the Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital (CPDMH) Foundation. Previous rides have seen the BEAST club members raise in excess of \$15,000 for the hospital.

This past year was another successful ride where we had 30 snowmobilers participate in the beautiful ride, which started from the Beckwith firehall and ended at Wheelers Pancake House. Club members raised \$4,231 with the BEAST donating an additional \$1000 to raise

the total donation to \$5,231. The donation was directed towards the purchase of a cardiac monitor for the Hospital's operating room.

This year the ladies of the BEAST will be hosting a ladies only beauties of the BEAST ride to Petawawa in support of the Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital (CPDMH) Foundation. The ride will commence on February 2nd and return to the area on February 3, 2013 and is designed to encourage all riders of various skill levels to participate. A minimum of \$50 in pledges is required in order to enter. Stay tuned to our

website for the official starting location, further details and pledge form availability.



Richmond Poker Run

Thanks to all the club members who took part in this past years Richmond Poker Run. We had 73 sleds attend the ride, raising over \$1,400 for the club. A special thanks to those volunteers who helped make the ride a success for everyone. Be

sure to stay tuned to our website (www.TheBEAST.ca) for details of the 2013 Richmond Poker Run. Better yet, contact Dave Poaps @ 613-489-0750 to see how you can help make this years poker run an even greater success!



Use Trails at your own risk

Ontario has the world's largest interconnected snowmobile trail system with 34,262 km of trails comprised of the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC) Trans Ontario Provincial (TOP) trails plus regional and club trails. TOP trails link most snowbelt communities, tourism regions and regional trail systems where the OFSC club trails (like the BEAST) feed into the TOP trail system, providing local links to a host of other communities, services and amenities, events and attractions.

Snowmobilers are expected to understand and accept the Assumptions for OFSC Trail Use and Liability Conditions before entering OFSC trails. As a condition of use of OFSC Prescribed Trails, the snow-

mobile operator agrees to never leave the trail base and assumes all risk. The assumptions of use also state that snowmobiling is an off-road experience and is an inherently risky activity. The OFSC assumes that every rider using an OFSC Prescribed Trail understands and accepts the assumptions of use. Several of the key assumptions are listed below but for a complete list visit www.ofsc.on.ca :

- That snowmobiling occurs in an unpredictable nature environment,
- It is not practical, possible or desirable to maintain all trails uniformly or to remove all potential hazards,
- Operators will not consume alcohol while using the trails,

- The maximum speed limit is 50 km/h,
- Cellular service may be limited on the trails,
- Operators know the unique particulars of ice crossing, and
- Operators are dressed and equipped properly for the conditions.

Remember: Snowmobiling on OFSC trails is regarded as a family-oriented activity.



Where do I put my Permit?

In support of the OFSC User Pay System, Ontario law requires every recreational sled entering an OFSC Prescribed Trail to have and display a valid snowmobile trail permit.

Before you go out on OFSC trails, ensure you have your permit and it is affixed to your snowmobile. On-

tario Trail Permits are required to travel on OFSC Prescribed Trails. A valid Snowmobile Trail Permit must be affixed to your windshield to ride on OFSC trails. The fine for failing to have a valid permit is not less than \$200.00 and not more than \$1,000.00.



Important Dates

These are important dates to mark onto your calendar.

- October 30, 2012 Deadline for Driver Training Pre-registration
- November 1, 2012 BEAST Club Meeting
- November 3, 2012 Snowmobile Licence Driver Training Course
- November 3, 2012 BEAST Bowling Night
- November 7, 2012 Signage and Trail Patrol Training
- November 24, 2012 BEAST Trail Work Day
- December 1, 2012 BEAST Trail Work Day
- December 1, 2012 BEAST Pot luck and Volunteer recognition
- December 1, 2012 Final day to get your discounted season permit
- December 5, 2012 International Volunteer Day
- December 6, 2012 Annual General Meeting
- January 3, 2013 BEAST Club Meeting
- February 2 & 3, 2013 Beauties of the BEAST ride to Petawawa in support of the Carleton Place Hospital (Ladies Only)
- February 7, 2013 BEAST Club Meeting
- February 9, 2013 Richmond Poker Run
- March 7, 2013 BEAST Club Meeting

Please check our website for full details and locations of each of our events.

Contact Us

BEAUTIFUL EASTERN ASSOCIATION SNOWMOBILE TRAILS

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 8 Stittsville, Ontario Canada K2S 1A2

The B.E.A.S.T. Executive Members 2011-2012

President	Dave Hunt		(613) 256-8526
Vice President	Daryl Rauhala		(613) 836 9348
Treasurer	Jim Lackey		(613) 253-5486
Secretary	Dave Poaps		(613) 489-0750
Trail Directors	Brent Phifer	North West	(613) 256-4188
	Daryl Rauhala	North East	(613) 836 9348
	Brian Moreau	South West	(613) 253-3153
	Mike Harvey	South East	(613) 229-6080



NO ATVs ON OFSC TRAILS!

- Please Don't Trespass -
ATVs are not allowed on OFSC trails on private land in any season without landowner permission.

ATVs must stay off all OFSC trails during the winter grooming season.

