

Fall 2022

BEAUTIFUL EASTERN ASSOCIATION OF SNOWMOBILE TRAILS

For the most up to date information, please visit us at www.thebeast.ca

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Permit Prices

•	Seasonal & Gift	Cards:
	Oct 1 to Nov1:	\$20
	Nov 2 to Dec1:	\$23

Dec 2 onwards: \$280 \$7.50 - admin fee

Classic* & Gift Cards:
 Oct 1 to Dec 1: \$160
 Dec 2 onwards: \$200
 \$7.50 - admin fee

• Multi-day Permits \$45 - per day** \$7.50 - admin fee

*Model Year 1999 or earlier ** minimum 2 consecutive

B.E.A.S.T.



President's Message – Ian Edwards

My message last year was again a message of hope of a return to normal given the Covid-19 protocols we endured the previous year. For the most part, the winter showed a significant improvement with some localized protocols. All in all a good winter.

This past spring we were able to conduct our business as usual with both and AGM and a Landowner Dinner.

The AGM was held in early May with a couple changes. Ed Geier has accepted the VP position as well as Brent Phifer as Grooming Coordinator. Thanks go out to Rob Illingworth and Audy Bedard for their work. Other notable additions to the board are Grant Penstone, Zack Johnson and Andrew MacHardy as members at large.

Our landowner dinner was held also in early May. For the first time we held the event at the Mississippi Golf Club. Over 100 landowners and volunteers enjoyed a delicious prime rib dinner, abundant prizes and our gratitude.

This year you will see trail improvements in all sectors. Brushing and trail widening are the priority because OFSC is sending us a new groomer complete with drag and brushing bar. The brushing and widening are necessary due to the physical size of the groomer/drag. Hopefully, we will receive our new unit prior to the season. The supply chain has affected many deliveries of equipment like this so cross your fingers and say a little prayer.

In closing, I would like to think the worst of this pandemic is behind us. Good luck to all and we hope you have a great snowmobile season.

Best wishes, Ian Edwards President





Vice President - Ed Geier

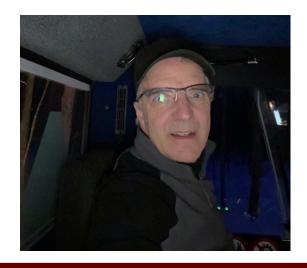
I have been a passionate snowmobiler since my early twenties and recently took on the role as Vice President with the Beast.

Last year I moved to White Lake from Ottawa where I was involved with the Carleton Regional Snowmobile Club as a trail sector volunteer and Trail patroller for many years.

Last winter as a new member of the Beast I started as a groomer operator for the NW sector and thoroughly enjoyed it as well as volunteering for trail improvements and as a Trail patroller.

I look forward to meeting all of you at club meetings and on our great trails

Ride safe! Ed Geier



UCSR TrailBlazers

At the Oct 6 general meeting UCSR and the BEAST members honoured those members who have volunteered for the past 25 years. UCSR District 1 gave them unique jackets with their name, club affiliation and the Trailblazer logo on the back.

Pictured here is (L-R) Audy Bedard, Rob Campbell, Julie-Anne Bedard, Stuart Spoor, and Dave Poaps. Recipients missing from the picture are Darrell Drew, Jim Lackey, Jim McEwen, and Rodger Spoor.

Many thanks to these long time volunteers!





Trail Sector Reports Learn more about the sectors history: https://www.thebeast.ca/about-us/

Southeast Trail Sector - Shaun Cunningham

Hi Fellow snowmobilers. Southeast has been busy in the Marlborough Forest area with the brushing tractor getting, things cleaned up from the storm where we can. We have lots of areas we cannot get into until things freeze up to see what work needs to be done. We are working on a trail re-route at Sand-Del-Lee due to the bridge being at the point it's getting too deteriorated to cross with the groomer. All our other trails in the sector should be the same as last year. Once the crops are off around Richmond, we will start getting the pickets in and hoping for some cold weather to get into the wet areas to get things cleaned up from the storm where needed.

Northwest Trail Sector - Mario Tremblay

Well folks, here we are the eve of a new snowmobiling season. I just love this time of year, cool mornings, fresh air, falling leaves. It will be soon time to put the car away and pull the old sled out of the trailer and get it ready. Much to do before it hits the snow. Remember, these machines take a lot abuse and should be carefully inspected, maintained and repaired regularly to prevent often avoidable break downs on the trails. The season is short, no one wants a broken sled sitting waiting for parts or service for any length of time. Be pro active, fix in the off season. BTW, I was acclaimed as the North West Sector Trail Director for the second year in a row. Yeah, I'm getting good at this! I should pay closer attention to proceedings at the AGM:)

NW Trails

Trails in our Sector consist of the E104A from the west shore of Mississippi Lake to the Village of Lanark, The 307 from Hwy 7 to Innisville, The 306 from Boyds to Sugar Bush Road, the 202 from Tatlock Rd. to the O.V.R.T. just North of Carleton Place and the 308 from the Village of Clayton to White Lake. Our volunteers are constantly looking for ways to improve and re route trails. Last year work was done on the 202, this year emphasis is on stretches of 306 and 308. We have Fuel Stations and Convenience Stores located in Innisville, Clayton, Carleton Place, Lanark and White Lake. Come and ride with us!

Spring Wind Storm

Now for the serious business. As you probably can imagine, the spring Derecho Wind Storm has been hard on our trail system. Many trees of all sizes are down or leaning and will need to be trimmed or removed. We have a trusted core of volunteers (bless their hearts) that have been working through the summer but much remains to be done. We have 3 weekends scheduled for trail maintenance, they are the last of November and first two of December. Sadly, the work load exceeds this short amount of time. We ask anyone available to volunteer on these dates or any others between now and the opening day to please contact me. We can use your help. The more people, the lighter the work load. It's also a great way to make new friends and extend your ATV season. Last year, I put over 250 kms on mine! You get to work as a team with great people and make our trails safer. Please consider.

On that subject, I cannot stress enough how generous and fragile is the right of passage accorded to us by the Land Owners. We must all stay on the trails and be respectful. This is the only way to enjoy, preserve and gain access to more riding trails in the future. Same etiquette should be used as we ride through towns and villages, keep noise and speed down, share trail with other users.

Trespassing

Trespassing and riding off trails are still sources of annoyance for us and landowners. These practices lead to loss of right of passage. Please stay on the trails, remind offenders to stay on our groomed trails. Be respectful and thankful to the landowners who grant us permission to ride on their private properties. Just put yourself in their shoes for a minute, you'll understand the way they feel. Be sure to wave when you see them.

Garbage

Bloody garbage. I have trouble understanding how someone can pack a cooler full of their favourite beverages a snack for a ride and toss empty containers and wrappers on the trails once done. Correct me if I'm wrong, but does it not take just a fraction of the original space for a crushed can or empty chips bag? Take these back with you for Pete Sakes, that's the right thing to do. Leave Tracks, Not Trash! Be a good citizen and don't let those you ride with get away with littering.

Grooming

The B.E.A.S.T. is aways looking for groomer operators for all sectors. These are paid positions with flexible hours. Training is provided. This year, thanks to the O.F.S.C., our Club is lucky to add a brand new PistenBully Groomer and Drag to the fleet to make our Beautiful Eastern Association of Snowmobile Trails even better!! Contact us for more details.

Well, that's all I can think of for now, got to save some for next year's newsletter. Have a wonderful season and be safe on the trails!



Northeast Trail Sector - Jason McKay

The northeast is poised to be in excellent shape again this season. Our agreement with the City of Ottawa is in its 3rd year of 5. Currently, under that agreement we have access into Stittsville on the Trans Canada Trail, BEAST 200, to Westridge Drive, which is about 200 metres within the "Urban Boundary" of the city. All that to say is that if Trail Pass holders who wish to continue to have access directly off Westridge need to heed posted speed limits and be on their best behaviour. Especially, when other users are on the trail. At this point in time it is ours to use and ours to lose.

This season, northeast has procured a new shed to keep the trail supplies in as the old storage area was torn down. Last season, we worked out an A trail change to remove ourselves from the road running along Flewellyn Road. This re-route of the A trails seems to have worked out well, so it will be used again this season.

There has been some trail damage from the May storm, to the trail through the Ashton swamp that needs some clean up but we can't get into the area till the freeze to assess the extent of it. Hopefully we get the freeze early so we can get it done before sledding season.



Southwest Trail Sector - Brent Phifer

Hello fellow snowmobile enthusiasts, as your Southwest Trail coordinator, I wanted to take a moment to give you an update on what has been happening in our sector. In the past weeks brushing and chipping have been taking place along the OVRT. With the storms that have swept through our area this past summer, I would expect that there might be more than our usual amount of trail clearing to be done. In the coming weeks the routes will be surveyed and hopefully we'll have a plan and lots of Volunteer bodies to help us get it completed.

In other exciting news were looking forward to the delivery of our new PistenBully Groomer complete with new drag. Here is a link to their brochure:

www.pistenbully.com/100 Trail brochure 09 20.pdf Hopefully we have a good snow year and were able put some miles on the new Unit.

The S.W. sector borders are basically south from Carleton Place to Smiths Falls along the OVRT, East towards Ottawa to approximately Munster, and then west towards Perth on the south side of Mississippi Lake. Our terrain has quite a few wet areas and includes the crossing of the Jock River in a few different places. As a result, trail clearing and eventually grooming cannot be completed until several days and weeks of cold weather so please stay off the trails until the interactive trail guide has them listed as "yellow" or "green".

In the S.W. several trail improvements have been made this fall with still more to come. Stay tuned for more news on other trail improvements that were hoping to complete this fall

With the seasons changing and the weather starting to cool off, snow is not far behind. A big thanks to everyone

and their great efforts. For pictures see the following link to the BEAST website. https://www.thebeast.ca/photo-gallery-2021-2022-season/

Soon we will be holding a series of BEAST trail work days to install trail markers and signs as well as complete any trail maintenance that might be required. If anyone interested in one of our fast approaching trail work days, please contact me at brentphifer@yahoo.ca. Everyone is welcome, no previous experience or tools are required.

Stay safe everyone and we'll see you on the trails.



City of Ottawa Trails

Two seasons ago, Upper Canada Snowmobile Region and The City of Ottawa Reached a new Agreement for Use of City Land for Snowmobile Trails. We are in our 3rd year of the 5 year agreement.

License of Occupation Agreement was reached with the City of Ottawa to allow the five snowmobile clubs [Beautiful Eastern Association of Snowmobile Trails (BEAST), Carleton Regional Snowmobile Club (CRSC), Osgoode Carleton Snowmobile Trails Club (OCSTC), Rideau Snowmobile Club (RSC), and West Carleton Snowmobile Trails Association (WCSTA)] continued seasonal use of City land for the 2020-2021 snowmobile season and through to the spring of 2025.

The use of the city's lands is subject to:

- City of Ottawa All-Terrain Vehicles and Other Vehicles By-law (By-Law 2019-421,), as applicable in Osgoode area
- Highway Traffic Act of Ontario;
- Motorized Snow Vehicles Act of Ontario
- Off-road Vehicles Act of Ontario
- Trespass to Property Act of Ontario;

- Occupiers' Liability Act of Ontario Snowmobilers are reminded:
 - to follow the snowmobiler's code(s) of ethics
 - exercise caution and show courtesy to other users as the Lands are shared
 - to not perform activities that may be considered a nuisance
 - to comply with safety protocols for snowmobiling when passing, which include slowing down to "dead slow", when in the proximity of other users
 - to reduce speeds to safe levels during times of limited visibility or inclement weather to ensure their safety and the safety of others
 - to adhere to the prohibited access and reduce speed zones as indicated on the trails and where available pathway/trail specific maps.

For trails open status, follow the OFSG ITG at www.ofsc.on.ca/trail-maps/ or the Go Snowmobiling ITG App.

Groomers - Brent Phifer

Hello fellow snowmobile enthusiasts, as your new BEAST Grooming coordinator, I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself and give you an update on what has been happening Grooming wise. My name is Brent Phifer, and although I'm new to the grooming coordinator position, I'm not new to the BEAST or to snowmobiling. I was introduced to the sport of snowmobiling in 1974, by my parents, and have seen the changes in the sport first hand for the last 47 years. I've been volunteering with the BEAST snowmobile club since 2005 when I attended my first BEAST work day. In the early days I did most of my volunteering in the N.W. sector. I also currently hold the S.W. trail coordinator position and have been grooming the trails you love since 2007.

As far as news goes, we have just about the biggest and best news possible grooming wise. The BEAST will be taking delivery of a brand new Groomer!! As grooming coordinator I cannot think of anything more exciting to share. The exact details like delivery date and exact model are yet to be determined as supply chain issues are still plaguing all manufacturing. Originally the OFSC had awarded us our first choice of a Pisten Bully 100. Follow the link below for some info on this machine. This is still the machine we are hoping for but if the last 2

years have taught us anything its that nothing guaranteed or certain.

www.pistenbully.com/100_Trail_brochure.pdf

The new groomer will replace our beloved BR 180-693. We will continue to use 693 until the new unit arrives when at which time 693 will become the district spare. As a result of this the District will be refurbishing 693, at their expense, so that it will be ready for service wherever it is needed in the district.

The rest of the fleet will be coming out of storage in the next month or so to be serviced and complete any repairs that are required.

We've also had a fair bit of interest in becoming a grooming operator. These candidates have been informed as to what training and paperwork is required. All grooming operator candidates, new and returning, are currently working on getting that training and paperwork completed. If your reading this and might be interested in becoming a grooming operator please reach out to me at brentphifer@yahoo.ca and I will forward you the information.

Stay safe everyone and we'll see you on the trails.

BEAST Club Rides - Rob Illingworth

Club Rides again will be considered for this year. These events will be local rides consisting of a few hours to an all-day event. Check in on the BEAST Website https://www.thebeast.ca/ or The Beautiful Eastern Association of Snowmobile Trails (BEAST) Facebook page for updates you can also email clubrides@thebeast.ca to be notified of these events.



Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail (OVRT) - Ian Edwards

Over the past 2 years the club and district have enjoyed over a 30% increase in trail pass sales. Obviously, this is translating to heavier trail use, in particular on the OVRT, due to its direct path to more northern and remote areas of the Ontario. Due to the multi-use nature, the OVRT sees all kinds of users along its route. Closer to the towns of course you will see pedestrians, cross country skiers and fat tire cycling is starting to catch on. In particular, e-bikes with fat tires. The long and short of it is that we don't have exclusive use and we must treat other users with respect and stay within the posted speed limits.

How can I help you ask? At all times, respect other users, keep your speed within the limits allowed, slow down even slower when approaching other users, and abstain from using modified exhaust products on your sled. The main thrust of this request is to not draw attention to yourself, not only to the other users of the trail, but also the adjacent property owners who just don't want to hear it.

BEAST Workdays - Saturdays Nov 26, Dec 3, Dec 10

BEAST has organized workdays that provide an opportunity to pitch in and help us get trails ready for the season. Often, we hear from people that they want to help but family commitments or their work prevent them from participating. We are offering three different choices again this season, but don't let your unavailability on those specific dates stop you from volunteering to help. We do have some volunteers that work on the trails during the regular work week, which may be better suited for shift workers or people who have more time during the week than on the weekend.

Many hands make light work, so why not give our team a hand? We all seem to be able to make time in our plans to snow-mobile on the weekends after the trail work is done and ready to ride. We would appreciate it if similar planning could be considered to pitch in and help rather than leave it all to the few die-hard volunteers. I can assure you that you will learn a lot about the sport that you may not have known and you will have a lot of laughs with a great bunch of people.

Having assets like a chainsaw, an ATV or power tools are all great things but not absolutely necessary to have. All that is needed is to show up, and we will figure out a task for you.

Workdays usually start around 9 am with people meeting at a designated location a few minutes early so we can organize work groups. There are the usual meeting places to choose from, so pick the one closest to you and come on out!

- **Southwest:** 2021 9th Line Beckwith, Carleton Place Brent Phifer, 613-222-9506, brentphifer@yahoo.ca
- **Northwest:** 1465 Wolfe Grove Rd, Almonte Mario Tremblay, 613-880-6400, <u>nwdirec-</u>

tor@thebeast.ca

- Southeast: Call or email for location
 Shaun Cunningham, 613-227-9445, <u>cpl1@bell.net</u>
- Northeast: Call or email for location
 Jason McKay, 613-227-9522, nedirector@thebeast.ca

Sponsorship

This season we will not print maps, thus won't have map ads this season. Please support our generous sponsors..

A-J Repairs Services
Barley Mow (Almonte)
Black's Corners Motorsports (Polaris)
Carleton Place Marine (Yamaha)
Clayton General Store
Crawford Landscaping
Danbys Roadhouse (Richmond)
J & M Harvey Property Maintenance
Jim Licari Automotive (Carleton Place)
Kanata Opticians

George's Bar and Grill (Munster)
Mementos Signs, Awards, Promotions
Next Gen Sign Specialists
Perth Powersports & Marine (Ski-doo)
Rental Village
Ryno Motors
Subway (Almonte)
Thirsty Moose Pub & Eatery
Twisted Metal Garage & Paint Shop
Universal Supply Group (NAPA)



OFSC Interactive Trail Map—Points of Interest (POI's) are still available (for \$75). The OFSC on-line trail map, at www.ofsc.on.ca, and the GoSnowmobiling phone app, offers Points of Interest (POI's) listings all year. This feature lists your businesses GPS coordinates and makes your business more visible to sledders, displaying location on the map, including address, phone number, logo, photo and business hours. Contact us at info@thebeast.ca or at sponsor@thebeast.ca for more information.

UCSR Sled Raffle 2022



Two 2022 Skidoo Renegade 900 ACE Adrenaline Ski-doos and a 2022 Lightning Avalanche Enclosed Trailer.

Tickets are \$5 each with 15,500 tickets printed.

See all of the details at www.ucsr.ca/lottery

Locations to buy tickets or contact us at <u>tickets@thebeast.ca</u>

- Blacks Corners Motorsports
- Carleton Place Marine
- Clayton General Store
- Perth Powersports and Marine

BEAST Snowmageddon Club Social Ride - Rob Illingworth

Last year this event was held on Feb 4^{th} to 6^{th} 2022 at beautiful Golden Lake. The Sands on Golden Lake did an awe-some job of hosting the event for the Club. There were several that travelled to Golden Lake by Sled and a few that arrived via Truck and Trailer. No matter how everyone arrived it was unanimous that a good time was had by all.

With such a good turnout of riders, the Saturday ride was split up into two groups. BJ Mahon led a very enthusiastic

group on a 100 Km ride with a stop to warm up and have lunch at the Ash Grove Inn located in Barry's Bay. The other group was a much longer ride totalling over 250 km and was led by Gord Servant. This group stopped at Madawaska lodge, south of Madawaska for lunch. They made sure we were well fed and did not leave hungry to be ready for a fun afternoon of sledding.

The location for this season's ride has yet to be determined. So, save the date for Feb 3rd to 5th 2023. Watch the BEAST Facebook page for announcements, or email social@thebeast.ca

For the coming 2023 season, Social will be taken over by Val Illingworth.



Beauties of the BEAST - Julie-Anne Bedard

Beauties 10th Anniversary Ride, 2022

The Beauties of the B.E.A.S.T. Women's Ride is an annual snowmobile event open to all female snowmobilers, from beginner to experienced riders. This event encourages friendship, ridership, and community involvement. It is a great way for participants to meet other ladies that enjoy snowmobiling, and raise money for a great cause.



In October of 2021 the Beauties of The B.E.A.S.T. Committee started planning for the 10th Annual Beauties of the B.E.A.S.T. Ride with the hopes of making the 10 year anniversary event one of the best yet. The "Best Western Pembroke Inn" in Pembroke was confirmed as the Beauties destination and the charity the Beauties were raising money for during this milestone year, the "Lanark County Interval House" was selected. Advertising and registration continued through the fall and early winter with a final tally of 31 women registered to ride from Almonte to Pembroke at the end of January.

After much planning (and successful pleading with Mother Nature for a mid-January blizzard to ensure there was snow for the trails), ride day finally arrived. At 9:30am Saturday January 29, 2022, 27 ladies on 25 sleds started out on the 10th Annual Beauties ride, meeting up along the trail, and heading for the first stop in Renfrew for a trailside lunch and pit-stop at Subway. Thank you to **Subway on Raglan Street** for accommodating the Beauties once again this year. Unfortunately, one snowmobile broke down during this leg of the journey. Undeterred by mechanical issues and looking forward to the evening festivities, these ladies arranged for a ride to meet the remaining Beauties at the destination, and the ride continued.

As the group rode the trails that day, many wonderful points of interest were encountered and a myriad of snow-mobile-friendly businesses welcomed the group. Hat's off to the clubs including B.E.A.S.T., West Carleton Snowmobile Club, Calabogie & District Snowmobile Club, White Water Sno-Goers and Timberline Snowmobile Club, that groomed the scarce snow and provided a safe and enjoyable route for our Beauties. Thanks to the White Water Sno-Goers for the use of their Warm Up Shack. It was a hit! (How many Ladies can fit in a Warm-up Shack? We now know!) Additional pit stops were made at these amazing businesses; Clayton General Store, Gourley's Outdoors and Irving Big Stop before making it home for the evening in Pembroke. Once the group arrived safely at The Best Western Pembroke Inn the Beauties enjoyed a fantastic dinner at The Westwinds Restaurant and celebrated the 10-year Ride Anniversary as friends, sharing stories about their adventure on the trails, all while raising money for a good cause.

Because of this event the Beauties were able to raise \$4500.00 for **Lanark County Interval House**. Congratulations Ladies on another successful ride!

The Participants and the Beauties committee would also like to give a Big Thank You to our 3 major sponsors: **Modern OT**, **A-J Repair Services** and **Ryno Motors**. These fantastic businesses help make this ride the success it is each year. Thank You!

Thank you Beauties for another amazing ride, and we look forward to seeing everyone again next year. (I wonder where we'll go.)

BEAST Poker Rally - Dave Poaps

When: Saturday, 11 February 2023

Where: Munster, ON, TBD

Times: Registration from 9am to 11am

Return to starting point by 5pm Winners announced by 6pm

Who: Open to anyone who has a valid 2023 OFSC permit

Fee: \$25 with some proceeds going to charity

Contact: Dave Poaps 613-913-5400





BEAST Trail Patrol - Val Illingworth

The goal of a Trail Patrol program is to ensure the trails are safe and to promote the positive image of snow-mobiling. We want all riders to enjoy and respect our trail system. Members of the Trail Patrol will be out again this season checking for permits, assisting riders with information, and helping as needed. These volunteers are clearly identifiable by their Trail Patrol vest, and each member also carries their Trail Patrol ID issued by the OFSC.

The BEAST Trail Patrol is currently comprised of 36 members who patrol as their individual time permits during the week, weekends and evenings. Patrols generally consist of two Trail Patrol members but occasionally include four to eight members. We have members stationed all over the BEAST Trail system including Stittsville, Richmond, Almonte, Barrhaven, Carleton Place, Munster Hamlet which also includes the including OVRT and the Trans Canada Trail.

Interested in becoming a Trail Patrol member? We are always looking for new members. Getting started involves an introduction session to the Trail Patrol program and some on the snow excursions to familiarize you with day-to-day activities on the trail.

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

- On-Trail Support: Trail Patrol members provide ontrail support in the form of maps, safety equipment, directions, help—and updated information on trail conditions.
- 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
- Landowner Agent: As the agent for the landowner, a

Trail Patrol has a responsibility to report trespasses to the Police.

Contact: trailpatrol@thebeast.ca

For the coming 2023 season, Trail Patrol will be taken over by Rob Illingworth.





Driver Training - Dale Visneskie

In Class Driver Training is back.....almost.....sort of

Hello from Driver Training. As of printing time, The OFSC has agreed to resume in class Driver Training for the 2023 snowmobile season.

From what we are hearing, it will be delivered in a hybrid format. This will consist of:

- 6 hours of in person classroom instruction
- followed by a written online exam to be completed within 48 hours of the class

If the students complete the class, instructors will issue them an access code so they can register online and write the exam.

More information will follow.

We are actively recruiting Driver Training Instructors and Adult Helpers, if you are interested, please contact the Upper Canada Snowmobile Region (UCSR) District 1 at drivertraining@uscr.ca.

Students must be at least 12 years of age to receive a Motorized Snow Vehicle Operator's License. A young, licensed operator must be accompanied by a legally licensed adult, who also must drive the youth's sled when riding on or crossing a roadway.

Safe Travels, Dale Visneskie Master Instructor – Driver Training Upper Canada Snowmobile Region (UCSR)/District 1 drivertraining@ucsr.ca



Volunteers in Action (VIA) - Julie-Anne Bedard

Beautiful Eastern Association of Snowmobile Trails, the BEAST, is a non-profit organization that relies on volunteers to help get the trails ready for snowmobiling.

From painting pickets to pounding them into the ground to make our trails, contacting landowners, organizing club rides, or fundraising, this is all done by volunteers.

Volunteering is a great way to meet new people and connect with the snowmobiling community. High school students can earn up to 40 hours of community service by volunteering.

We have 3 work days on weekends, Nov 26, Dec 3, and Dec 10, that we get together to get our trails ready for the season, this is just setting them up. In the spring we need to take everything down and clean up the properties that we use. If you can spare a few hours and would like



to see how it's all done please come out and meet us. Contact Julie-Anne Bedard at 613-256-2973 or email

jabedard@storm.ca

Consult the website www.thebeast.ca and our Facebook page for up to date information.



BEAST email updates:

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! You may unsubscribe at any time in the future if desired.







UCSR/OFSC News — Darin McRae

What is the UCSR?

The Upper Canada Snowmobile Region (UCSR) is District 1 within the OFSC and is comprised of 16 OFSC snowmobile clubs. The UCSR covers the area west to Napanee, north to Arnprior and east to the Ontario/Quebec border. The UCSR is governed by a Board of Directors composed of President, 1st Vice President - Grooming, 2nd Vice President - Trails, Secretary, Treasurer and 16 Board Members (represented normally by the Presidents of the clubs).

The UCSR President is also the District Governor and sits on the OFSC Board as a member. The UCSR has several committees including trails, grooming and finance. Membership of these committees are comprised of members from the clubs. The UCSR also has volunteers appointed to lead district wide initiatives including VIA (volunteers-in-action), Trail Patrol, and Driver Training.

The UCSR AGM held was on 16 June 2022 at the Kemptville Snowmobile Klub Clubhouse. For a full list of the UCSR Executive, Board members, committee chairs and staff visit: https://ucsr.ca/executive-board-committees/. The District is still short a Treasurer and 1st VP – Grooming.

2021-2022 Season by Numbers Across the District

- 16 Clubs
- 2100 Landowners
- 1000 Dedicated Club Volunteers
- 65000+ Volunteer Hours
- 13000 Permits Sold
- 3300 kms of Trails
- 7966 Grooming Hours
- 246 Avg Grooming hrs/Groomer
- \$2.76 Revenue Generated by Permit Sales in the UCSR
- 898 Grooming Shifts
- 32 Groomers (14 OEM & 18 Tractors)
- 56 Days of Open Trails
- 95 Active Trail Patrol
- 188 Bridges

What is a Trailblazer?

The UCSR Trailblazer Program recognizes an exclusive group of snowmobile volunteers who have a long service of dedication to the clubs/district in UCSR. Entry

into this exclusive group required 25 or more years of continuous volunteering to your club/district. Each volunteer meeting the 25-year criteria will receive a blue spring/fall TRAILBLAZER jacket.

Many thanks to the following BEAST Trailblazers: Pat Herbert, Rodger Spoor,



Stuart Spoor, Jim McEwen, Julie Anne Bedard, Audy Bedard, Dave Poaps, Rob Campbell, and Darrell Drew. Check out the full list of Trailblazers: https://ucsr.ca/trail-blazers/.

<u>District Landowner Appreciation 2021-</u> 2022

On behalf of the 16 clubs in Eastern Ontario, the district is pleased to present each of



the 2100 landowners with a pair of highquality Stihl work gloves which have been partially sponsored by Stihl Canada and one of its local dealers, Murray Power Sports, Alexandria, ON. This is a small token of the snowmobile clubs' apprecia-

tion to say THANK YOU for allowing us to use your land for our trails. With the covid pandemic, the snowmobile clubs have not had the opportunities to meet up with landowners to provide



much in the way of appreciation events therefore, we hope you like your new gloves and think about the recreational enjoyment provided to the many snowmobilers in our region and to the significant impact on our economy that could not happen without you. Without landowner generosity, we would not be able to operate the 3300 Kms of trails in Eastern Ontario like we do. Enjoy and thank-you.

Trail Loops

Ahh, the plaintive cry: "Are we there, yet?" But around here inspiring places can be reached by interesting means; stunning vistas are complemented by the thrill of journeying there in exciting ways – the means and ways can only be done by snowmobiling. Each Trail Loop in the Upper Canada Snowmobile Region offers



snowmobilers the opportunity to capture a favorite piece of our diverse region while visiting this beautiful part of Ontario. So don't fret, there's plenty to go around. And yes you can now say "We are there" after five or six days, the Trail Loops are designed to be your most unforgettable vacation in Ontario. For details on all the loops check out: https://ucsr.ca/mini-trail-loops/ or https://ucsr.ca/mini-trail-loops/ and keep your eye our for the new 'Rails & Trails Ontario East Loop' coming in 2023.

OFSC News

- 2023 permits and gift cards go on sale 1 October 2022. You will see a small \$5 increase in prices over last year.
- Driver Training will be offered in both an online and in-person format for this season. The District and clubs are working on recruiting new trainers and recertifying seasoned trainers. Full details will be released shortly.
- OFSC held its 2022 AGM over the weekend of 23-25 October 2022. All the UCSR clubs had representation. The event was well organized and everyone enjoyed being back together inperson to talk about organized snowmobiling.

Permits — Ian Edwards

Ontario law requires every sled entering an OFSC Prescribed Trail to have and display a valid snowmobile trail permit sticker, and have the trail permit paperwork with you.

All permit sales are on-line, so keep the confirmation e-mail from OFSC until you receive your permit sticker and paperwork in the mail, just in case of a postal code mix-up, or in case you don't receive your permit in the expected time.

Thanks to all BEAST supporters who select Beautiful Eastern Association of Snowmobile Trails when buying permits!

Go online to https://permits.ofsc.on.ca to get your permits and gift cards.

Permits go on sale on Oct 1, 2022. Seasonal & Gift Cards

Oct 1 to Nov 1: \$200 Nov 2 to Dec 1: \$230 Dec 2 onwards: \$280. Admin fee – \$7.50 Classic* & Gift Cards Oct 1 to Dec 1: \$160

Dec 2 onwards: \$200 * Model Year 1999 and earlier

Multi-day Permit

Available Dec 2 onwards \$45 per day, 2 day minimum

\$7.50 admin fee on all permit purchases

Where do your permit dollars go?

As you may have learned last season showed a substantial increase in ridership, sled purchases and trail pass purchases. This translated into an overall increase of over 25% in our club trail pass purchases alone. Over 1,300 sold for our club alone and over 11,000 for our district. Record level stuff.

One would think that would translate into more dollars for our club work. This is not the case. The truth of the matter is the club is given a budget from our district and we have to stay within it regardless of trail pass purchases. This change happened a few years back under an OFSC Program called More On The Snow. The program allows financial resources from across all the member clubs of the OFSC to be pooled and redistributed to the districts on a "what is required basis" and not by the volume of trail pass sales.

The club receives an annual budget for administrative items and trail work which is based on kilometres of trail. The club also receives an hourly stipend for grooming which covers wages, fuel and repairs. It all seems to work but there isn't much if any dollars left over after a season. On the flip side of this the OFSC is responsible for any new grooming equipment required, which in past the club needed to fundraise to purchase. A new groomer and drag

typically costs between \$300,000 to \$400,000. We would need to sell a lot of hot dogs to get to this level. OFSC also provides admin support and Liability Insurance.

This is where your trail pass dollars are spent. Is it the best for the BEAST, NO. But it is the best for all the clubs in the OFSC. If this change didn't happen much of the inter connectivity of the OFSC trail system would cease. The small clubs would fold and trails would be lost.

In short your permit dollars are spread throughout the province helping all clubs. You are not only a BEAST pass holder but an OFSC supporter.



Important Dates - Gord Servant

- Nov 3, 2022, General Meeting
- Nov 26, 2022, BEAST Workday #1
- Nov 26, 2022, Carleton Place X-mas Parade
- Dec 3, 2022, BEAST Workday #2
- Dec 1, 2022, General Meeting
- Dec 10, 2022, BEAST Workday #3
- Jan 5, 2023, General Meeting
- Jan 14-15, 2023, Trail Patrol Check Point Weekend #1
- Jan 21-22, 2023, Trail Patrol Check Point Weekend #2
- Jan 28-29, 2023, Beauties of the BEAST Ride
- Feb 2, 2023, General Meeting
- Feb 4, 2023, BEAST Snowmageddon Social Fun Ride
- Feb 11, 2023, BEAST Poker Rally
- Mar 2, 2023, General Meeting
- Apr 6, 2023, BEAST AGM (Annual General Meeting)
- Apr 7, 2023, BEAST Landowner Appreciation Dinner

Please consult the website <u>www.thebeast.ca</u> and our Facebook page for up to date information.



CONTACT US: BEAUTIFUL EASTERN ASSOCIATION OF SNOWMOBILE TRAILS

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 8, Stittsville, Ontario, Canada, K2S 1A0

Email: info@thebeast.ca Website: www.thebeast.ca

B.E.A.S.T. Board — 2022/2023

President	Ian Edwards	president@thebeast.ca	613-257-1359
Vice President	Ed Geier	vp@thebeast.ca	613-612-6441
Treasurer	Sue Chayer	treasurer@thebeast.ca	613-315-6494
Secretary	Julie-Anne Bedard	jabedard@storm.ca	613-256-2973
Trail Director (Northwest)	Mario Tremblay	nwdirector@thebeast.ca	613-880-6400
Trail Director (Northeast)	Jason McKay	nedirector@thebeast.ca	613-227-9522
Trail Director (Southwest)	Brent Phifer	brentphifer@yahoo.ca	613-222-9506
Trail Director (Southeast)	Shaun Cunningham	cpl1@bell.net	613-227-9445
Director-at-Large	Dave Poaps	davidpoaps@xplornet.com	613-489-0750
Director-at-Large	Bob Mowat	robertmowat4@gmail.com	613-277-9393
Director-at-Large	Zack Thompson	mx_724@hotmail.com	
Director-at-Large	Andrew MacHardy	Machardyfamily@gmail.com	n
Director-at-Large	Grant Penstone	rdog19@gmail.com	

B.E.A.S.T. Coordinators — 2022/2023

Volunteer	Julie-Anne Bedard	volunteers@thebeast.ca	613-256-2973
Trail Patrol	Rob Illingworth	trailpatrol@thebeast.ca	613-355-0953
Communications	Gord Servant	gord.servant@gmail.com	613-250-0437
Driver Trainer	Dale Visneskie	drivertraining@thebeast.ca	613-292-2154
Social	Val Illingworth	social@thebeast.ca	613-299-2435
OFSC Response	Rob Illingworth	rob. il ling worth @sympatico.ca	613-355-0953
Signage & Inspection	Ian Edwards	iedwards62@yahoo.ca	613-257-1359
Grooming	Brent Phifer	brentphifer@yahoo.ca	613-222-9506
Trails	Rob Campbell	robc@xplornet.ca	613-880-3260
Landowners NW	Julie-Anne Bedard	jabedard@storm.ca	613-256-2973
Landowners NE	Jason McKay	nedirector@thebeast.ca	613-227-9522
Landowners SW	Ian Edwards	iedwards62@yahoo.ca	613-257-1359
Landowners SE	Dave Poaps	davidpoaps@xplornet.com	613-913-5400
Land Use Permissions	Gord Servant	gord.servant@gmail.com	613-250-0437
Health and Safety	Mal Farquhar	malfarqs@gmail.com	
Health and Safety Training	Chris Gervais	training@thebeast.ca	
Beauties of the BEAST	Julie-Anne Bedard	jabedard@storm.ca	613-256-2973
Club Rides	Rob Illingworth	clubrides@thebeast.ca	613-355-0953