



Fall 2023

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: \$214
Nov 2 to Dec1: \$244
Dec 2 onwards: \$294
+\$7.50 - processing fee
- **Classic* & Gift Cards:**
Before Dec 1: \$171.20
After Dec: \$201.20
+\$7.50 - processing fee
- **Multi-day Permits**
\$45 - per day**
+\$7.50 - processing fee

*Sled Year 1999 or older
** minimum 2 consecutive days

Permits info and purchase:
www.ofsc.on.ca/permits/

BEAUTIFUL EASTERN ASSOCIATION OF SNOWMOBILE TRAILS

B.E.A.S.T.



President's Message – Chris Angell

Hi Everyone! You may have noticed we have had a few personnel changes take place over the off season. The most notable change is that Ian Edwards, our former President, has climbed the local snowmobiling corporate ladder and has taken over as the President of District 1 with the Upper Canada Snowmobile Region. He has left big shoes to fill with the club and is thankfully staying on with us in a smaller role.

I am the next most visible change. My Name is Chris Angell, and I have been an active trails volunteer within the club and had recently started taking over the Volunteers in Action position and have now taken on the challenge of trying to manage some of the best trails that Eastern Ontario has to offer. Coming along into an Executive role this year is Todd Russell as our new Vice President. Todd is a long-time dedicated volunteer and groomer operator.

The work to get our trails ready for another season has already started. We kicked things off this year with a bit of a push to gather some more volunteers in our eastern sectors and have had some pretty good results from this already, with a bunch of new faces coming forward to volunteer to get their communities ready.

The most notable results we have seen though come in the form of 2 new Sector Directors. Stepping up in a leadership role for the Northeast sector is Jason Kilby and for the Southeast Matthew Wilson. We are always very thankful for any volunteer that comes forward, but I wanted to extend special thanks to both of these guys for coming forward to ensure that snowmobiling in their regions remains viable.

Returning to their Sector Director roles this year are Mario Tremblay in the

Northwest and Brent Phifer in the Southwest, and I don't want to discount the work that either of these guys put in for us as well. So, thank you to you guys too!

Another new face for us this year is Duane Morris as our treasurer, he has been doing a great job at bringing up the financial literacy of our Board of Directors.

Julie-Anne Bedard rounds out our executive committee by agreeing to come back for 1 more season as our Secretary.

We also have a couple new Grooming Coordinators, Andrew MacHardy and Todd Russell, these guys have already done a ton of work to ensure that we all will have the best possible trails again this year.

Snowmobiling in Ontario does not exist without 2 very important groups. The first group is all our dedicated volunteers that work tirelessly so the rest can benefit, an awful lot happens behind the scenes before the first flake of snow falls. The second group are all our landowners. These folks offer up their properties for all permit holders to use, in most cases with nothing to gain, out of kindness and generosity. Please keep this in mind when you are out riding trails this season, if you see a landowner give a wave and treat their properties better than you would treat your own.

We still have a few club vacancies we are looking to fill, so if there's something you think you might want to help with, please take a look at the contact info on our website and please don't hesitate to sign up.

You will be hearing from me much more during the season on our social media channels and in your email inboxes. In the meantime, pull your sleds out of storage, get them tuned up and ready to go and start praying to whoever is appropriate to you for cold weather and a ton of snow! See you on the trails.

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

Northwest Sector Director - Mario Tremblay

It's the most wonderful time of the year!

At last, some cooler nights and days to remind us winter is coming. So, let's get ready.

Club Meetings

We meet on the first Thursday evening of each month. Locations vary so stay informed via e-mails, or Facebook, or the Club Website. We already had great turn outs at Danby's Roadhouse in Richmond for the September and October meetings. It's not a boy's club, everyone is welcome to attend, be heard, bring new ideas and lend a hand to the multiple seasonal tasks. Not all assistance the Club can use is physically demanding, some tasks are more administrative. There is something for you if you'd like to get involved. Meetings are a social event, a time to talk a little business, catch up on what is going on in each of the 4 Sectors, plan Club Rides, talk about Safety and other issues that affect Club Operations. Please make a point to attend and see for yourself.

The Great Northwest

Our borders and points of entry are defined by Innisville, Mississippi Lake, Carleton Place, Bennies Corners, White Lake and Lanark. Lots of these trails are in wooded areas. They require a fair amount of maintenance to keep them passable. Before frost hits, we install pickets, then start brushing, and then do signage. It's fun to have the

ATV's out and spend these days out in the fresh fall air and prepare the trails we will be soon ride. As always, we trust Mother Nature will spoil us with plenty of snow and cold weather. Remember, none of the volunteers are prepping the trails are paid. It's up to all of us riders to make a small contribution of time or effort so we can all enjoy fabulous rides on our Club Trails.

Landowners

Big thanks to all our Landowners for allowing us access to their properties so we can enjoy the sport we love. Please be respectful, Stay on the Trail, Leave Tracks, Not Trash.

Draw-2 Sleds and a Trailer \$5.00 / 4 for \$20.00!

Don't forget to get your tickets for the UCSR District 1 Snowmobile Draw. Buy before December 21st from local Powersport Dealers and Club Directors. Only 21,650 tickets printed gives you better odds than the 6/49 for a chance to win this package valued at over \$44,000.00. Proceeds go towards safety equipment for the selling club. I got mine, got yours? Good Luck!

That's it for me. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns during the season.

All the Best, Mario Tremblay nwdirector@thebeast.ca

Southeast Sector Director - Matthew Wilson

Hello, I'm new to this position but I am trying to get up to speed. As many of you know the Southeast sector is a very wet and swampy area. That being said there is still lots of work that can be done before the freeze up.

One of our amazing volunteers has been out on the brushing tractor getting everything he can trimmed back, which save countless volunteer hours.

There are still many kilometers of trails that need attention that were not opened last year, not only because of the lack of cold but the countless amount of windstorms, ice storms etc..

I am hoping we the volunteers can get these trails open this year. I have been out and looking over a few of the

trails and think with enough help we can get the task accomplished. I look forward to meeting you.

As we wait for the cold weather to hit and are buying your passes I encourage you to send me a email if you can help out the cause, even if its only for a hour or 2, every little bit helps. I also would like your input as to how you think I could improve the Southeast sector, I know this might flood my email, but I encourage it and I will take all suggestions into account.

Thank you, Matthew Wilson
sedirector@thebeast.ca

Northeast Sector Director - Jason Kilby

Hello fellow Sledgers, I am very new to this role and plan to serve you well as the Northeast Trail Director. I am fortunate to be getting lots of support from previous

board members and volunteers who are all helping me get up to speed as quickly as possible. Thank you all.

The Northeast section trails from Stittsville to Carleton

Northeast Sector Director - continued - Jason Kilby

Place/ Ashton and from Almonte to Munster and the surrounding area are looking to be in decent shape this year. We are fortunate to be mostly high and dry and are typically some of the earliest to open and among the last to close. One area of note is the 206 trail at the Ashton swamp, we were not able to open through there last season due to the weather conditions, I am hoping that it will get a chance to freeze up this winter.

The 200 trail on the Trans Canada Trail is currently the only connection with Stittsville, I would like to remind everyone to be mindful that this is a shared trail and to keep to the posted speed limit, slow down and give other users lots of room and be respectful of others on the trail. We want to keep this important trail open in the future and need to keep complaints to a minimum.

The A-Trail from Carleton Place up to Almonte and from Dwyer Hill down through Munster crosses a lot of private land and fields. We are fortunate to have some very generous Landowners who allow us to cross their land, please do not abuse this privilege by straying from the marked trails or by leaving garbage on the trail or their property. Without these Landowners we would not be

able to enjoy these beautiful trails, let us show them the respect and appreciation they deserve.

While travelling through the Northeast section, please be sure to stop in Ashton and Munster to grab a bite to eat, supporting local businesses is one of the many ways we can foster good relations with the communities our trails pass through.

A lot of work goes on behind the scenes to get these trails up and running, as well as maintain them throughout the season. Volunteers are the lifeblood of the snowmobile club. If you enjoy any of the trails mentioned above and want to see them exist in the future, please contact the BEAST, and consider taking on some of the volunteer tasks required to keep them open.

Don't forget to take advantage of the early bird prices on the trail passes. This is a great deal for your daily sleds trail pass as well as your 1999 and older classic, and there's nothing I love to see more than an old Enticer or Polaris Wedge ripping down the trail!

I can't wait to see you out on the trails this season, stay safe and enjoy the winter months!

nedirector@thebeast.ca

Southwest Sector Director - Brent Phifer

Hello fellow snowmobile enthusiasts, as your Southwest Trail Director, I wanted to take a moment to give you an update on what has been happening in our sector. We have several projects planned that will need to be completed this fall. Unfortunately, we have lost a long-time landowner that will impact the E104a between the 9th line of Beckwith and the OVRT. We have been exploring options to re-route this trail to avoid a lengthy stretch of road travel along the increasingly busy 9th line. There are several other minor re-routes, due to farming activities and landowner requests, that will be completed as well. In the coming weeks brushing and signage placement will be taking place for these re-route as well as throughout the Southwest sector. As always, we will be looking for volunteers to help us complete these projects during the scheduled BEAST workdays and through out the time between now and when the snow flies.

In other exciting news, we took delivery of our brand new 2022 Prinoth Husky Groomer, complete with new drag, in early 2023. Originally, we had been expecting a Piston Bully groomer, however, due to delivery delays it was not guaranteed we would see that unit in 2023 or 2024. Fortunately, we were presented with the offer of the Prinoth Husky, and we jumped at the opportunity. I think it would be an understatement to say that we have been very pleased with features and performance of our new unit. Even

though last season had its challenges with a lack of cold weather, we still managed just under 400 hours of grooming time on the Husky. Hopefully we have a good snow year with the cold weather needed to freeze some of our more challenging areas and were able to put some more miles on the new Groomer Unit.

The Southwest sector borders are basically south from Carleton Place to Smiths Falls along the OVRT, East towards Ottawa to Ashton, 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, some 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".

With the seasons changing and the weather starting to cool off, snow is not far behind. Soon we will be holding a series of BEAST trail workdays 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.

Grooming - Andrew MacHardy and Todd Russell

Hello fellow BEAST members; My name is Andrew MacHardy and I was elected to be co-grooming coordinator with Todd Russell (16 year club volunteer and groomer operator) at the BEAST AGM in April. Both Todd and I on behalf of the club wish to thank outgoing grooming coordinator Brent Phifer for his leadership last season. I am also a Director-at-Large and have been riding snowmobiles since 1980. I joined the BEAST snowmobile club around 2005 holding different rolls such as Vice President, Director-at-Large, and Communications coordinator and have been operating BEAST groomers since about 2010. Building our snow highways is a passion of mine along with the small, dedicated team of operators we have in the BEAST. Thanks to the OFSC for assigning a new 2022 Prinoth Husky groomer along with a new drag (equipment valued around 350K) in mid January 2023, which replaced our aging 2001 BR 180. Mother Nature blessed (and cursed) us with early snow and we got an early start to the season with the first shift in our BR 180 on December 19th, 2022. This BR 180 was transitioned to be the district spare when the new Prinoth Husky arrived. Although the ground never froze, and there were many starts and stops to the season, we were still grooming almost 12 weeks after accumulating around 850 hours of grooming in the BEAST last season. Our last scheduled shift was around March 14th and there were still fantastic conditions to be found in our club boundaries.

With the lack of prolonged cold along with deep snow insulating the swamps last year, we along with others all across the Province struggled with opening trails that had any accumulation of water. Trail closures were rampant all across the Province as well as within the BEAST. The area around Richmond (also known as the Southeast sector) was particularly problematic and while efforts were made by volunteers to pack swamps with personal snowmobiles, there was insufficient ice to support snowmobiles let alone the 12,000 lbs of grooming equipment. In January volunteers secured a temporary alternative storage location for the Northeast/Southeast sector BR 180 and groomed Northeast/Southeast trails that could be opened safely. To avoid significant water areas, groomers across our entire club were forced to travel roads which causes premature damage to equipment, wastes club resources, and leads to potential damage to municipal roadways and/or negative interactions with the public.

This fall volunteers have been active repairing damage to equipment and getting the units ready for first snow. Routes, including alternative low ice routes, have been developed for all groomers operating 5-6 days per week and most operators have been scheduled. We are still in need of a few more groomer operators to round out our grooming

New Groomer – 2022 Prinoth Husky



March 14th, 2023 – view from groomer operators seat



schedule; especially for the Northeast/Southeast unit. Operators are paid on an hourly basis by the district although you can volunteer if you like. We aim to do most of our grooming at night, so the trails have the best chance to set properly before traffic damages the trails. If you are interested in grooming, please reach out to machardyfamily@gmail.com and I will share the onboarding and training requirements. Grooming operators must attend mandatory grooming training either in person or online and must be registered/applied to the District prior to December 9th, 2023.

Remember our operators are passionate snowmobilers and they are giving up a day of riding to make the trails smooth for you; so please be kind to our operators, our volunteers and be as gentle on a freshly groomed trail as you can so all others can enjoy the fruits of our labour. See you on the snow!

BEAST Club Rides - Val Illingworth

We are currently planning some club rides again this year. Snowmageddon will take place on Feb 10th, 2024. We hope to have a family type ride planned for the Family day weekend as well.

Keep checking in on the website: 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. If you have any ideas for a group ride or would like to help out, we would love to hear from you.



Time for a pit stop

Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail (OVRT) - Ian Edwards

The 2022-2023 season was somewhat unusual. The heavy snowfalls and warmer temperatures meant that trails on wet areas that would typically freeze were not available to use. If they became available it would be for a short time. As you probably know the use of the OVRT provides early and continuous use when snow arrives. Having other trails closed because of the lack of ice (wet areas) puts more traffic on the high and dry trails like the OVRT. The good news from last season was that Lanark County had received fewer complaints of speed and noise than from years past. Again, we would like to repeat that

we don't have exclusive use and we must treat other users with respect and stay within the posted speed limits. 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. This is not only for the other users of the trail but also adjacent property owners who just don't want to hear it. Keep up the great effort!

BEAST Workdays - Saturdays Nov 25, Dec 2, Dec 9

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, swdirector@thebeast.ca
- Northwest:** 1465 Wolfe Grove Rd, Almonte
Mario Tremblay, 613-880-6400, nwdirector@thebeast.ca
- Southeast:** Call or email for location
Matthew Wilson, 613-913-3168, sedirector@thebeast.ca
- Northeast:** Call or email for location
Jason Kilby, 613-852-3224, nedirector@thebeast.ca

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

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 | George's Bar and Grill (Munster) |
| Barley Mow (Almonte) | Mementos Signs, Awards, Promotions |
| Black's Corners Motorsports (Polaris) | Next Gen Sign Specialists |
| Carleton Place Marine (Yamaha) | Perth Powersports & Marine (Ski-doo) |
| Clayton General Store | Rental Village |
| Crawford Landscaping | Ryno Motors |
| Danbys Roadhouse (Richmond) | Subway (Almonte) |
| J & M Harvey Property Maintenance | Thirsty Moose Pub & Eatery |
| Jim Licari Automotive (Carleton Place) | Twisted Metal Garage & Paint Shop |
| Kanata Opticians | 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 Go Snowmobiling 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 2023



Two 2023 Skidoo Renegade 900 ACE Adrenaline Ski-doo's and a 2023 Triton Enclosed Trailer. Draw on 21 Dec 2023 at 7pm.

Tickets are \$5 each with 21,650 tickets printed.

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

Locations to buy tickets or contact us at tickets@thebeast.ca

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

BEAST Snowmageddon Club Social Ride - Val Illingworth

This years ride will be at Sands on Golden Lake. www.sandsongoldenlake.com The main ride day will be Saturday February 10th but some will be heading up Friday. It will be your choice if you would like to stay Friday and Saturday night or just Saturday night. If staying the night does not work for you, you are welcome to join us for the day. For those who prefer to trailer up there is parking available. Please watch for further details on our Facebook page as well as our website. I hope you can join us!

Contact social@thebeast.ca for any questions.



All assembled and ready to head out on the ride

Beauties of the BEAST - Julie-Anne Bedard

Beauties 11th Anniversary Ride, 2023

The Beauties of the BEAST 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 to raise money for a great cause.



We always start to plan our ride in early fall for the first weekend in February. For the 11th Annual Beauties Ride last season, we decided to go east to Morrisburg. We had never been before, so we booked our trip. Due to the lack of snow and cold conditions, by the time January came and the closer we got to February we knew we had to move our ride to another date. We picked March 4th, and because of the date change a lot of women couldn't make it but we still had 17 Ladies show up on March 4th.



The night before leaving, we had a nice snowstorm, and because it happened the night before the trails weren't groomed but that didn't stop us. A couple of people left early to help break trail, and the ladies headed out with Sue Chayer leading the pack and picking ladies up along the way. They stopped at **Kemptville Snowmobile Klub** for lunch and **South Mountain** for gas. They made it to MacIntosh Inn in Morrisburg in time to relax before dinner. The next day was a lot milder than when they left the day before. But all in all, we enjoyed ourselves.

For the 11th Anniversary Ride, 2023, the Beauties of the BEAST raised \$3500 for Lanark County Interval House! Congratulations Ladies!

We would like to thank the clubs whose trails we were on, Beautiful Eastern Association of Snowmobile Trails (BEAST), Rideau Snowmobile Club (RSC), Kemptville Snowmobile Klub (KSK), Nation Valley Snowmobile Association (NVSA), Riverside Snowmobile Club (RSSC), and Osgoode Carleton Snowmobile Trail Club (OCSTC). And Kemptville Snowmobile Klub for the use of their Klub House for lunch.



Beauties 12th Anniversary Ride, 2024

This year we will be heading west to the Quality Inn & Suites in Petawawa on Saturday February 3, 2024. So Mark your calendars, book your room and register with jabedard@storm.ca. Looking forward to more adventures Beauties!

Understanding Trail Status

Trails Availability – Trail Status

The OFSC official guides for Trail Status are the **OFSC Interactive Trail Guide (ITG)** and the **Go Snowmobiling App**. These are offline during the summer, and become available in the fall. Be sure to follow these guides during the season to see when trails become available, and check often and before going out for trail status. The official trail status is one of three; Available (green), Limited Availability (yellow) or Unavailable (red). Don't go when it's red !

Check www.ofsc.on.ca/trail-maps/

Please Stay on the Trail

Each season we see reports from across the province of revoked access because snowmobilers have been going off trail and trespassing. Let's all come together and respect land-owners by staying on the marked trails. It's the least we can do in exchange for their generosity each season. We don't want to see any Trail Closed signs !

BEFORE YOU GO
UNDERSTANDING TRAIL STATUS

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| AVAILABLE | THE IDENTIFIED ROUTE IS ACCESSIBLE WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE TRAIL WILL LIKELY VARY CONSIDERABLY IN QUALITY, ATTRIBUTES AND TERRAIN OVER IT'S LENGTH. |
| LIMITED AVAILABILITY | ACCESS TO THE IDENTIFIED ROUTE IS LIMITED WITH MARGINAL RIDING OPPORTUNITIES, SNOWMOBILERS ENTER WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY SHOULD EXERCISE EXTREME CARE AND REDUCE SPEED. |
| UNAVAILABLE | THE ROUTE IS NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME, ACCESS IS PROHIBITED AND ANYONE ENTERING THE PROPERTY MAY BE TRESPASSING. |

DON'T GO WHEN IT'S RED!

OFSC

BEAST Trail Patrol - Rob Illingworth

The trail patrol program started in 1983. The goal of the Trail Patrol program is to ensure the trails are safe and to promote a positive image of snowmobiling. Trail Patrol members, across the district, work closely with the Ottawa Police Service and the Ontario Provincial Police to promote education and enforcement.

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 team is currently comprised of 25 members who patrol as their individual time permits. Patrols generally consist of two members but occasionally include four to eight.

Interested in joining the Trail Patrol team? We are always looking for new members. Getting started involves an introductory session to the Trail Patrol program. There will be a training session held on Saturday December 2nd from 8am to 12pm in Kinburn.

Email trailpatrol@thebeast.ca if you are interested in joining the team.

TRAIL PATROL
OFSC

There For You!

A **ABSTAIN** from **ALCOHOL and DRUGS**

B **BE PREPARED** for the **UNEXPECTED**

Use **CAUTION, CARE and CONTROL**

Driver Training - Dale Visneskie

Last season at this time we understood that OFSC had agreed to resume in-person classes for Driver Training for the 2023 snowmobile season. Unfortunately, this didn't work out as planned.

OFSC decided that Driver Training will be available as the on-line option only. All of the information you need can be obtained at www.ofsc.on.ca (Under the GO SNOWMOBILING drop down menu, select DRIVER TRAINING)

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.

The Motorized Snow Vehicle Operator's License is proof that you have successfully completed the Motorized Snow Vehicle Operator's Course provided by the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs.

If you have any questions, please contact drivertraining@thebeast.ca



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.

Volunteers in Action (VIA) - Chris Angell

Volunteering with a snowmobile club is a great way to get outside with people that have a shared interest and work together to achieve a common goal. There's nothing quite like the feeling of heading down a trail you know you had a hand in getting up and running.

As a club we rely on volunteers for nearly every aspect of our operations so there are opportunities for nearly every skill set, plus a ton of opportunities to expand your skills. For the teenagers in the club, volunteering with the club is a great way to fulfill the volunteer hour requirements for graduation.

Most people are aware that we have a big push on 3 Saturdays leading up to the start of the season where we try to get as many people out as possible. This year these work days are November 25th, December 2nd, and December 9th. The truth is though that it takes much more than these 3 days to get our trails setup and ready to be groomed. There are people out all the time prepping so if these 3 days don't work please reach out and ask where

work is taking place at times that work better for your schedule. We also have to head back out in the spring and return our Landowners properties to the way we found it in the fall, so don't think we won't appreciate any help you can offer.

We have a few events over the season that can always use help if manual labour isn't your thing. We have some club rides scheduled, some social gatherings, even getting us ready for the Santa Clause parade in Carleton Place, there really is a spot for everyone.

If you're not sure where you might fit in best, send us an email to info@thebeast.ca and we'll make sure that you're able to do your part.

Have A Few Hours To Spare?



Many Hands Make For Light Work!

Communications - Gord Servant

Introduction

Hello, my name is Gord Servant, and I've volunteered as the Communications Coordinator for 9 of the last 10 years, taking a brief hiatus in 2017. The 2023-2024 season will be my 10th year doing the job. In that 10-year span, I've sledged a lot, enjoying participating in most club events and other rides with friends, and volunteered for trail work every season in the Southwest sector. Participating as a volunteer is a great way to enjoy your membership in the club and meet more people to ride with. I also retired from my full-time job 5 years ago, and developed some other hobbies and interests, one of which is travelling which is ramping up for me lately.

Succession Planning

Just as we have recently had some new executives come on board for key board positions, I think it's important for succession planning that we try to find some others interested in the communications tasks so they can bring a fresh perspective to the role. Not everything I'm doing needs to be handled by one person either, it could be shared. So, please let me know if you have an interest in any of the communications tasks I have described below. I'm happy to work with anyone who is interested, provided approved by the board of directors, to take on some or all these tasks, or transition into the role or roles gradually.

Communications Tasks

Facebook - As the lead administrator of our BEAST Facebook page, provide regular Facebook posts to update our membership with news about club events and trails, UCSR District Information, and OFSC information.

This would be the most time-consuming task as it requires constant monitoring and frequent postings throughout the season. The Facebook messages must also be monitored for questions, and the comments on posts monitored for appropriate content. OFSC has had "Snowcial Squad" online zoom meetings to help with guidelines for social media posts, so there are guidelines to follow.

MailChimp - An email marketing tool, which we use to send out regular e-mails to our membership with information about club events.

This would be the second most time-consuming task

with e-mails sent out every couple of weeks or once per month during the season. Since we have a free version of MailChimp limited at 2000 subscribers and we are near to our limit, each season the membership list needs to be purged of inactive readers, so that we have room to add new people. We add people from the trail permit buyers list, if they checked the consent yes box yes to provide contact information, when they bought their trail permit online. It takes some time to purge the inactive subscribers and add the new, but I have a process in place.

Newsletter - Our newsletter is done each fall to inform the membership about everything going on with the club for the coming season.

This is approximately a 2-week duration task each fall in October, to take inputs from executive members and volunteer coordinators and integrate into a newsletter using Microsoft Publisher, then e-mail out the newsletter using MailChimp as a pdf, and place on our website as well. Traditionally, it takes about 20 person-hours of work to complete. The previous seasons newsletter is used as a template and starting point.

Website - This is our web-site, www.thebeast.ca where all club information is maintained along with the events calendar. This is mainly a task for the beginning of the season to update the contacts list, calendar of events and any other pages that need updating. Also, any Facebook posts can be replicated as a website post which doesn't take too much time. For website updates and maintenance, you will need to become familiar with WordPress.

Bluehost Web hosting - Manage our Bluehost webhosting, which is for the website, and the club e-mail addresses and e-mail forwarding. We have emails for the directors and coordinators as needed and they can login to Webmail directly or have the email forwarded to a personal email or both. All of this is managed on the Bluehost user interface site. Also, keep track of subscription renewal dates and renew when required.

Webnames.ca Domain Name Server - Keep track of our domain names and renew subscription when necessary.

Thanks, Gord Servant

Land Use Permissions Coordinator - Gord Servant

Introduction

Described here is what the Land Use Permissions Coordinator does. I've volunteered to take on this task since the 2021-2022 season, so this will be my 3rd season doing the task. The number of landowner's properties our trails cross, is 21 in Northeast sector, 71 in Northwest sector, 26 in Southeast sector, and 51 in Southwest sector, for a total of 169 landowners. This number is higher when we include the townships, county, and city properties and road allowances or crossings, and shared use trails.

Thanks very much to our generous landowners for allowing us to cross their properties, allowing us to have trails to ride on.

MOU's and LUP's

When talking about landowner permission, we use the terms LUP and MOU interchangeably, but the form used is titled the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) form describing the agreement between the local snowmobile club and landowner, for snowmobile trail Land Use Permission (LUP). The form is filled in with the property lot and concession info, landowner address, and club liaison and signed by both parties. The MOU/LUP form describes the agreement to allow a trail to cross the landowner's property, along with the signage and grooming access to maintain the trail. There's also some legal jargon listed as a few terms and conditions to the agreement.

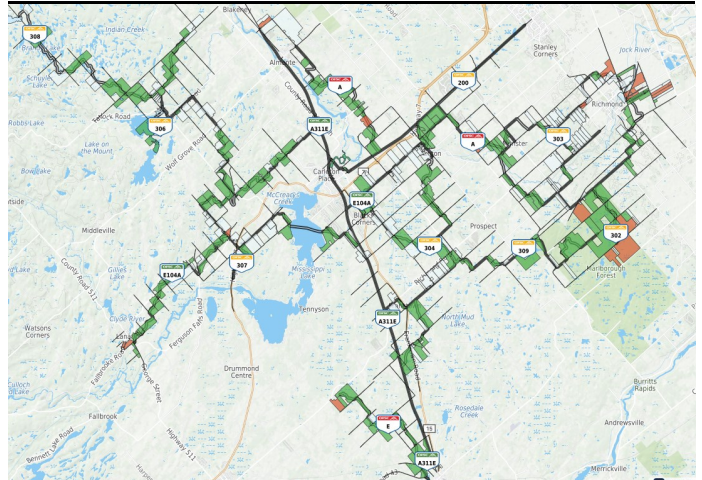
Land Use Permissions Coordinator

The purpose of the Land Use Permissions coordinator position is to keep track of all the club's landowner MOU forms, and check the district Landowners spreadsheet, and provide updates to district manager when we have updated MOU forms or new MOU's. Working with the Landowners coordinator from each of our 4 sectors to get updated MOU forms or new MOU's, a pdf is then provided to the district manager who enters the information for each landowner and maintains the district Landowners spreadsheet.

OFSC ITG Landowner Management Tool

The Land Use Permissions Coordinator also updates our club's information in the OFSC ITG Landowner Management Tool. (based on the OFSC Interactive Trail Guide (ITG)) This tool is a map view of our club trails, the same as the OFSC ITG shows, with the landowner

Screenshot of the OFSC Landowner Management Tool



property each trail crosses shown. Clicking on a property will open a window showing the registered landowner name and address, and clicking on the trail pops open a window showing the trail number, club and district, and landowner. Each season all trails and properties are checked to make sure we have a current MOU and information. Information needs to be entered or updated into the tool such as MOU expiry date and the landowner and the club liaison contact information. The property parcels are highlighted as red if information is missing and green if all information has been entered and the MOU uploaded.

Sector Landowners Coordinators

As Land Use Permissions Coordinator, I only monitor and check on what the Landowners Coordinator for each of our 4 sectors has done. Without these front-line landowner coordinators who are listed on our contacts page at the end of this newsletter, we would be lost so I'd like to acknowledge thank them here. Also, each of them has other volunteer helpers we need to thank, some who wish to help in the background, and they help greatly as liaison with landowners in different areas.

Ongoing work

Last season I started to create the list of landowners for each trail end to end to help me understand the landowners and the status for each sector. Using the OFSC ITG Landowner Management tool was invaluable for this process but also time consuming. I'm planning to review these trail-by-trail lists with each sector landowner coordinator so we can be better aligned.

UCSR News — Darin McRae

District AGM and Board

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 Board of 21 Directors including an executive of five (President, 1st Vice President - Grooming, 2nd Vice President - Trails, Secretary, Treasurer). 16 Board Members represent the 16 clubs.

Welcome to Ian Edwards as our new District President (former BEAST President) for the next two years and Sarah Craig (from LARR) as our new VP for trails for two years. We also welcomed two new Directors: Chris Angell for BEAST and Brenda Salmon for GSA. Many thanks to Peter Asquini as our retiring President. He will continue to serve as D1 Governor until the OFSC AGM in September 2023. Many thanks to Bernie Davy, former Director for GSA for your many years of service to the board.

The UCSR AGM held was on 15 June 2023 at the Kemptville Snowmobile Klub Clubhouse. Details of the elections may be found here: <https://ucsr.ca/ucsr-agm-and-board-of-directors-elections-2023-2024/>. The District is still short a 1st VP - Grooming. For a full list of the UCSR Executive, Board members, committee chairs and staff visit: <https://ucsr.ca/> (Select CONTACT dropdown menu)

2022-2023 Season by the Numbers

- 16 Clubs
- 2100 Landowners
- 1000 Dedicated Club Volunteers
- 65000+ Volunteer Hours
- 12812 Permits Sold
- 3345 kms of Trails
- 7878 Grooming Hours
- 254 Avg Grooming hrs/Groomer
- \$2.64 Revenue Generated by Permit Sales in the UCSR
- 936 Grooming Shifts
- 32 Groomers (16 OEM & 16 Tractors)
- 67 Days of Open Trails
- 130 Active Trail Patrol
- 188 Bridges
- 28 Fuel tanks
- 125 Groomer Operators

- 6 Clubhouses

New Ontario East Rails and Trails Loop

Brand new to Eastern Ontario, the Rails and Trails Ontario East Loop takes snowmobilers through rugged Lanark County and Ottawa Valley countryside, peppered with scenic small towns to warm up in. The loop is approximately 267 kms of beautiful wintry terrain on the Ottawa Valley Recreation Trail (OVRT), crisscrossing the Mississippi River in Carleton Place, Almonte and Pakenham, before heading north to the Ottawa Valley and then looping south down the K&P trail through hilly Canadian Shield territory to Calabogie and Sharboit Lake. This one, two, or three-day tour will take you through Lanark County's snowmobile friendly communities. For details on all the loops check out: <https://ucsr.ca> (Select the TRAILS dropdown menu)



Trails and Grooming for 2022-2023

From an operations perspective, the 2022-2023 season presented many challenges as Mother Nature threw us several curve balls. It started a year ago when the derecho hit our area and caused severe tree damage. It was a herculean effort on the part of volunteers to clear the hundreds of trees from the trails. If that was not enough, we had two ice storms that caused extensive damage to the trail network and taxed the capacity and capabilities of our volunteers to the limit. While we were able to clear most of the damage there were a few spots that we were unable to open. And finally, the February 2023 meltdown caused a 10-day suspension of operations which interrupted, which was shaping up to be, a great season.

This season was very challenging in terms of trail work and grooming given all the storms, downed trees, and poor ice conditions. Regardless, groomer operators and mechanics were out in full force which allowed the district to achieve and surpass our grooming target this past year. Many thanks to all the grooming coordinators, grooming operators and mechanics who worked tirelessly to keep our fleet of

groomers operating throughout the season. The establishment of a BR180 as our spare was well received by those who were in need. The unit was in high demand and added over 250 hours of grooming that might have otherwise been lost.

The network was first AVAILABLE on 26 December 2022 and was made NOT AVAILABLE for the end of the season on 19 March 2023. The network was AVAILABLE or LIMITED AVAILABLE for a total of 67 days throughout the 2022-2023 season. There was a promising start to the season in late December but then the weather was not cooperative pushing the 'second' season opening to 14 January 2023. In early February 2023, there was another weather event which shut down most of the network for nearly two weeks. In the end, we were able to have trails AVAILABLE or LIMITED AVAILABLE in the later part of March 2023. Of the 3345 kms of trails, clubs were able to open 2974 kms throughout the season. 371 kms of trails simply could not be opened due to water, ice and safety considerations. Overall, and given the weather situation, it was a good season.

We are continually inspired by our district and club executives/boards, volunteers and groomer operators who have risen to the challenges of this past winter. They have demonstrated a steadfast dedication to the sport and to the clubs and communities we serve in Eastern Ontario. The story of our collective success was seen in the delivery of 3345 kms of OFSC Prescribed Trails with over 7878 hours of grooming - all accomplished by volunteers representing less than 8% of our permit base. Again, many thanks to the clubs, volunteers and landowners who made it all happen.

Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA)

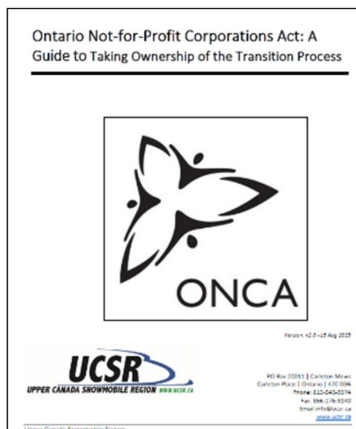
The Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA) was proclaimed on 19 October 2021 and not-for-profit corporations have until 18 October 2024 to comply. ONCA now provides Ontario not-for-profit corporations with a modern legal framework to meet the needs of today's not-for-profit sector. The District has engaged a law firm to provide legal advice and support to the District and clubs alike. We have developed a District guide to supplement OFSC information and collect all the

UCSR News Continued – Darin McRae

information into a single place and support clubs in this transition.

Clubs have been asked to appoint an ONCA coordinator to champion the change in the club. The District plans to host information sessions and discussions in Nov/Dec 23 and Jan/Feb 24. Each club will be expected to hold a special meeting to vote to adopt approved changes in the spring and the law firm will coordinate submission of any required documents in the late spring. The deadline to have this all complete is 18 October 2024.

OFSC has directed that membership in the club should have no correlation to the purchase of an MTO permit. Permit buyers cannot be members simply through buying a permit. Many clubs currently have wording related to permit buying which is problematic moving forward. A new definition is required. A district-wide discussion is required to hopefully come up with a simple definition that all clubs could adopt. Not all volunteers need to be members. OFSC has recommended the following membership statement: "Membership in the Corporation of a Club shall consist of the incorporators named in the articles and such other persons as are interested in furthering the Corporation's purposes and who have been accepted into Membership in the Corporation by resolution of the Board". UCSR recommends this wording.



Volunteers-in-Action Management Plan (VMP)

Over the summer, the District Volunteers-in-Action Committee and District staff drafted a new plan to help guide the management of volunteers. This plan was

recently approved by the UCSR Board.

This Volunteers-in-Action (VIA) Plan (VMP) outlines the UCSR's volunteer development plan for the next three to five years to significantly increase the number of active volunteers while strengthening volunteer skills across the district with a focus on clubs. This VIA Plan will help clubs develop volunteers so clubs will be successful. It will help clubs to attract, communicate with, train, motivate, manage, support, retain, and recognize volunteers.

This VMP has been written to support the positive volunteering culture at the club and district level. The VMP prioritizes the club's and district's goals and identifies the key strategies to be implemented. The purpose of this VMP is to:

- Connect the club and district's mission and vision with involving volunteers.
- Help bring appropriate volunteers into the club and district.
- Help volunteers develop a sense of commitment to the club and district.
- Provide and/or plan for training and development opportunities.
- Recognize and reward volunteer performance.
- Help volunteers understand the relationship and operations between clubs, the District and OFSC.

A well-integrated VMP ultimately leads to increased volunteer productivity, greater satisfaction, and longer-term volunteer retention. Enjoyment of the snowmobiling volunteer experience is very important to keeping volunteers involved (Retention), developing healthy clubs and builds positive word-of-mouth that can help attract new volunteers as well (Recruitment). The District VIA Committee is always looking for more members. Email info@ucsr.ca for details.

Landowner Management Plan (LMP)

The UCSR is embarking on this initiative to continue securing access to private and public land to so that we can develop awesome snowmobile trails by partnering with landowners. Like the VIA plan, over the summer, District volunteers and staff drafted a new plan to help guide the management of landowners. This plan was recently approved by the UCSR Board.

This plan aims to recruit, retain, and reward landowners who graciously permit the use of their property for recreational snowmobiling. By fostering a collaborative relationship, we seek to maintain and increase the quality of our trail network, ensuring snowmobilers enthusiasts can enjoy unforgettable winter experiences while preserving the natural beauty of these landscapes. Together, we will forge a sustainable future where on-trail snowmobiling thrives, and landowners receive the recognition they deserve for their invaluable contribution to the snowmobiling community.

This Landowner Management Plan (LMP) has been written to support the positive club-landowner culture at the club and district level. The LMP prioritizes the club's and district's goals and identifies the key strategies to be implemented. The purpose of this LMP is to:

- Recruit landowners.
- Maintain current landowners.
- Recognize landowners.

This well-integrated LMP will ultimately lead to quality trails, greater satisfaction, and longer-term landowner retention. Enjoyment of the snowmobiling landowner experience is very important in keeping landowners involved (Retention), developing healthy clubs and builds positive word-of-mouth that can help attract new landowners (Recruitment).



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 www.ofsc.on.ca/permits/ to get your permits and gift cards.

Permits go on sale on Oct 1, 2023.

Seasonal & Gift Cards

Oct 1 to Nov 1: \$214

Nov 2 to Dec 1: \$244

Dec 2 onwards: \$294

Admin fee — \$7.50

Classic* & Gift Cards

Oct 1 to Dec 1: \$171.20

Dec 2 onwards: \$201.20

* 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 modest 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 1,400 sold for our club alone and almost 13,000 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 1, 2023 Last day to buy Seasonal Trail pass for \$214
- Nov 2, 2023, General Meeting
- Nov 25, 2023, BEAST Trails Workday #1
- Nov 25, 2023, Carleton Place X-mas Parade
- Dec 1, 2023, Last day to buy Seasonal Trail pass for \$244, after this date it is \$294
- Dec 1, 2023, Last day to buy Classic pass for 171.20, after this date it is \$201.20
- Dec 2, 2023, BEAST Trails Workday #2
- Dec 7, 2023, General Meeting
- Dec 9, 2023, BEAST Trails Workday #3
- Jan 4, 2024, General Meeting
- Feb 1, 2024, General Meeting
- Feb 3-4, 2024, Beauties of the BEAST Ride
- Feb 10, 2024, BEAST Snowmageddon Social Fun Ride
- Mar 7, 2024, General Meeting
- Apr 4, 2024, BEAST AGM (Annual General Meeting)

- Apr 6, 2024, BEAST Landowner Appreciation Dinner

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



Welcome

to the

Beautiful Eastern Association of Snowmobile Trails (B.E.A.S.T.)

Snowmobiles must have a Valid OFSC Trail Permit

Trails and grooming are made possible by Landowners, Volunteers & Permits

www.thebeast.ca



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 — 2023/2024

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| President | Chris Angell | president@thebeast.ca | |
| Vice President | Todd Russell | vp@thebeast.ca | |
| Treasurer | Duane Morris | treasurer@thebeast.ca | 613-316-0823 |
| 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 Kilby | nedirector@thebeast.ca | 613-852-3224 |
| Trail Director (Southwest) | Brent Phifer | brentphifer@yahoo.ca | 613-222-9506 |
| Trail Director (Southeast) | Matthew Wilson | sedirector@thebeast.ca | 613-913-3168 |
| Director-at-Large | Dave Poaps | davidpoaps@xplornet.com | 613-489-0750 |
| Director-at-Large | Ian Edwards | iedwards62@yahoo.ca | 613-257-1359 |
| Director-at-Large | Andrew MacHardy | Machardyfamily@gmail.com | 613-229-0507 |
| Director-at-Large | Dale Visneskie | dale.vis@outlook.com | 613-292-2154 |
| Director-at-Large | Vacant | | |

B.E.A.S.T. Coordinators — 2023/2024

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Volunteer | Chris Angell | volunteers@thebeast.ca | |
| 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.illingworth@sympatico.ca | 613-355-0953 |
| Signage & Inspection | Ian Edwards | iedwards62@yahoo.ca | 613-257-1359 |
| Grooming (shared) | Andrew MacHardy | Machardyfamily@gmail.com | 613-229-0507 |
| Grooming (shared) | Todd Russell | jlatru@storm.ca | |
| Trails | Ian Edwards | iedwards62@yahoo.ca | 613-257-1359 |
| Landowners NW | Julie-Anne Bedard | jabedard@storm.ca | 613-256-2973 |
| Landowners NE | Jason Kilby | nedirector@thebeast.ca | 613-852-3224 |
| 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 |
| Beauties of the BEAST | Julie-Anne Bedard | jabedard@storm.ca | 613-256-2973 |
| Club Rides | Val Illingworth | clubrides@thebeast.ca | 613-355-0953 |