

## Welcome to the Chilliwack Outdoor Club (COC)

The COC has over 150 members from all parts of the Fraser Valley and schedules a variety of activities including hiking, backpacking, technical climbing, cycling, kayaking and canoeing, downhill and cross country skiing and snowshoeing. Our club offers a wide variety of weekend as well as multi-day activities for all fitness and experience levels. There's also an active group of mid-week hikers.

The membership fees are \$35.00 per year effective from the date of joining. Members are advised by email when their annual membership fees are due. The member's name is removed from the membership list and from the email distribution list if dues are not paid.

A part of the membership fee is used to pay for liability insurance during club activities and for membership in the Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC (FMCBC). All members are required to complete and sign an application form that is a disclosure of risk, responsibilities and waiver of all liability.

The COC Executive meets on the last Monday of each month to take care of COC business and for planning purposes. Copies of the minutes of the executive meetings are emailed to all members.

The COC General Membership meets on the last Monday of each month commencing at 7:30pm at the Mount Slesse Middle School on Tyson Road in Chilliwack. The agenda includes addressing club business, reviewing details of upcoming trips and providing various presentations of interest to club members.

The monthly newsletter - *The Tripper* is emailed to all members and includes some of the upcoming trips as well as trip reports and important information for all members. There are many other activities that are scheduled throughout the month and these are promptly emailed to all members as well. Therefore, if you are unable to attend the monthly meetings, you will still be kept informed of all COC activities provided you have email. If you move or change your telephone number or email address, you should inform the Membership Secretary promptly.

Activity notifications include the type of activity, location, degree of difficulty, the name of the activity leader, and his or her phone number or email address. It also includes the date, time and location where the members will rendezvous, generally in Chilliwack, to car pool. If the activity is in the USA, remember to obtain health insurance and to bring appropriate identification preferably a valid passport or a BC Enhanced Driver's License.

Members are responsible for coming to the hike prepared with appropriate gear, footwear and clothing. The activity leader can deny participation to members if he/she considers them inadequately prepared or equipped for the day's activity. *The Tripper* contains many helpful ideas to get you properly prepared.

Various local outdoor equipment stores periodically have special sales and discounts for COC members. Notices of these sales are sent to all members by email.