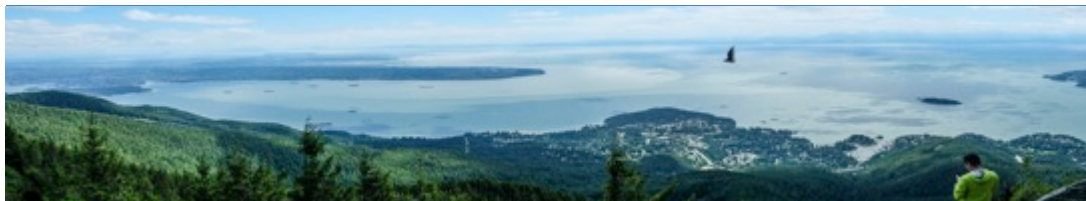


## THE TRIPPER



Newsletter of the Chilliwack Outdoor Club

C/O 381 Cedar St., Cultus Lake B.C. V2R 4Z1

## TRIP REPORT

## NAHATLATCH – MAY 27 - 29



## Women's camp out up the Nahatlach:

Six of us enjoyed a long weekend exploring this area. We arrived on Sat. and eventually found a great campsite that fit all our tents. After setting up camp we drove to the Mehatl Falls trailhead and began the 4 km hike. At the start the trail was somewhat boggy and we were accompanied by the multitudes of mosquitoes. It was an interesting trail over different terrain, finally arriving at the spectacular Mehatl Falls. The falls were impressive.

We returned to our vehicles and drove a short distance



further to Grizzly Falls, which had an amazing double rainbow over it and spray that had us don our jackets. On Sunday we were driving up to the rebuilt Nahatlach Forest Lookout. We planned to drive 4 -5 km and then hike the 5-6 km up. We got only a km or so and found the road running through private property was closed. A log had been placed across the road. We decided to ask if we could park and walk up and were met with a gracious owner who showed us a road through their property. (The road was closed due to the yahoos on the previous weekend who created clouds of dust over the campground.)

We began our walk at 6km and the road was much steeper than it looked when John and I had driven up the weekend before! AND the temperature was in the high 30's. Eventually 3 of us hiked up and 3 went back for a vehicle and drove up. The views from the Look Out looking over the Fraser River and surrounding mountains was beautiful. A peaceful tranquil place.



We enjoyed a second night of potluck and the next day were bagged from the heat and hiking so we played tourists on the way home. We hiked down to Hell's gate and later hiked over the old Alexander Bridge. I'm thinking of making our women's get away an annual event. Sorry for the people who had to cancel because of health issues. It is an awesome area to explore.





Thanks to a great group, Debby H., Helen T., Jocelyn T., Tammy S., Tammy W., **Judy P.**

## BURNABY MOUNTAIN TRAILS - MAY 27

Neither Deborah L, Manfred H (thanks Manfred for the pics), nor I have hiked Burnaby Mountain trails before. I say trails in the plural because the approximate 10 km of hiking on the mountain is a combination of many trails. The combination of trails is a circular route that brought us back to the parking lot on the Barnet highway.



The first trail of the day was the Mountain Air trail. A relaxing walk through mature evergreen forest with many big leaf maples that with the autumn season will add rich contrasting colors. Mountain Air connected with the Velodrome Trail which is a 100 m, 500 plus steps climb to the Pandora Trail. All along there are excellent views of Burrard Inlet, Deep Cove and of course mountains.

At the end of Pandora we arrived at Burnaby Mountain Park with more views, native carvings and lunch. At this spot we were near the end of our 265 m elevation climb. Walking along the fence line that prevented the reckless from dropping off the steep precipice we continued on the Trans

Canada Trail. East of Simon Fraser University we turned north and headed downhill to join the Cougar Creek Trail. From here we turned west for the parking lot along the Barnet Trail past the bike skills park next to where we began.



Into the car and across the highway to Barnet Marine Park we headed. The park is a popular beach a picnic site through which we walked then onto the Drummond Trail about a three km return. The nice weather, largely urban wilderness hike and refreshments at Waves made this a worthy hike to repeat again. Maybe when the fall colors are in their full glory.



-Dave Ortis

## MINNEKHADA REGIONAL PARK - JUNE 3

The 200 hectare Minnehada Regional Park in Coquitlam has nice trails. Forested with old growth and second growth trees a lot of our hiking was on mountain sides requiring non-arduous climbing. The trails themselves are a combination of packed gravel, lots of roots and rocks.

We first hiked the perimeter Quarry and North trails to High Knoll. The Knoll is the highest elevation about a 150 m climb with a view of the Fraser Valley, mountains to the north and the Pitt-Addington Marsh to the east. Here we rested, had a snack and enjoyed the views. Back down the Knoll we headed toward the Addington Marsh Overlook. We chose not to head down the steep embankment to the dyke. Instead we headed to the picnic site near the Minnehada Lodge for lunch. Built by Eric Hamber in 1934 as a country





retreat for hunting. Hamber was a lumber baron. He was governor general of B.C. from 1936 to 1941. Unfortunately we could not snoop around the lodge due a party by invitation only.



Instead we headed across the Mid-Marsh Trail. Here we saw a mama bear and her cub rummaging a beaver house for food I'm sure. I waved to her to come closer for better picture taking. Some of us Sharon R, Reg S, JoAnne P, and Manfred H did not appreciate my efforts. Oh well, thanks



Manfred for the bear picture and the other two pics.

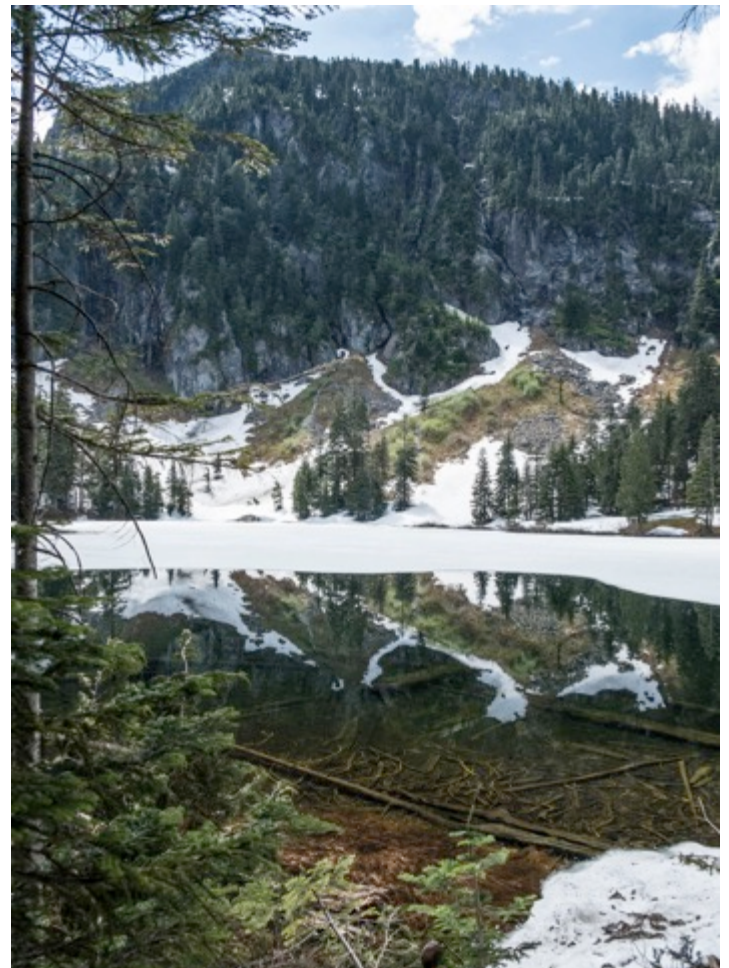
At the end of Mid-Marsh we rejoined the North Trail climbing to the junction of High Knoll then continued back along the Quarry trail to the parking lot. Thus ending an approximate 14 km and just over 4 hour hike. Into the car and off to Waves we headed.

**-Dave Ortis**

#### MT. ST. BENEDICT TRAIL – JUNE 7

I was surprised to see that much snow yet. It started already at the 750m level. Making the summit was not possible. We'll try again in the summer months.

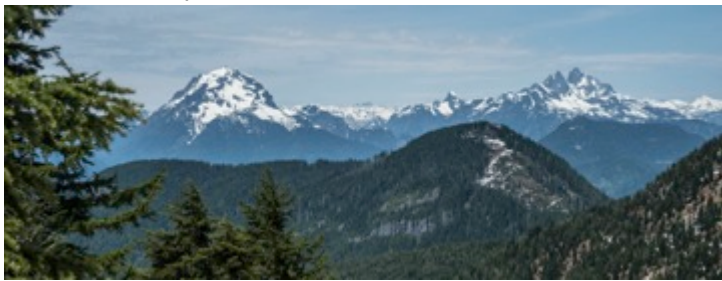
9:35am – We parked by the McDonald Falls pull out area in Davis Lake Provincial Park. Watch for the trailhead at the parking area. If it weren't for some pink flagging tape it'd be easy to miss. The gate on Lost Murdo FSR was closed so we couldn't drive any higher in our 4WDs. But it only takes less than half an hour to hike to the road and the trail takes you through a beautiful second growth Douglas-fir forest. Turn left on Murdo FSR and stay left at the next junction. A tall waterfall cascades down black rock into a little pool at the roadside. Keep walking till you come to a pullout on the left with a rock fire pit. Don't let all those pink flagging tapes along the way deter you. The trail is easy to see across from







the fire pit. It wasn't long before we were negotiating our way over and around patches of snow. There was a set of fresh footprints in the snow that we followed. We never did meet the mystery hiker (there were no return footprints). The picturesque McKay Lake nestled at the base of Mt. St. Benedict is the halfway point. A solid layer of ice still floated on the water's surface at the southern end of the lake, which spends most of the day in the mountain's shadow. We realized at this point that we would not make the summit.



But we carried on, seeing if we could maybe get some better views of the surrounding mountains. The slope got steeper as we climbed. So six hikers decided to turn back and have lunch at the lake. Three of us continued to carefully climb up to the ridge, kicking steps into the snow. When we got to the ridge where it leveled off we were rewarded with open views of Golden Ears, Robie Reid, Blanchard Peak & Alouette Mt. We were now only 130m below the summit.



We reunited before getting back to the fire pit. By 3:30pm we were ready to hit the road.

Stats to the ridge: 9.1 km / 875m gain / 1145m high

Participants were: Terry B, Heather B, Deborah H, Wayne H, Brenda L, Dave W, Cindy W, Robbin Y + **Joce T**

OTHELLO TUNNELS AND HOPE-NICOLA VALLEY TRAILS - JUNE 10



Added to our three and a half to four hours of actual hiking were leisurely stops to enjoy the always beautiful scenery especially at the tunnels. Three in our group Ray D, Reg S, Sharon R, Margaret T, Allen C, Pat H, Margaret T, Linda I, Irene H and I had never been on these trails. So we took our time. Besides the scenery was our meeting long-time COC member Vern S. Time was necessary to do a little catch up gossip. Coincidentally we met Vern at nearly the same spot just before the tunnels close to two years ago. Then as now Vern likewise accompanied the group back to the tunnels to the exact spot where we took both group shot. Thanks Ray for this and the other pictures.



Speaking of other pictures note the man playing the Chinese bamboo flute. I believe he is head of the local fire department and likes to practice in the tunnels. What a wonderful sound with the roaring Coquihalla as backup.

Through the tunnels we counter-clock wised the Hope-Nicola trail. We stopped for lunch at the log benches at the top before descending to the KVR trail west of the tunnels.





Through the tunnels we counter-clock wised the Hope-Nicola trail. We stopped for lunch at the log benches at the top before descending to the KVR trail west of the tunnels.

Last time I facilitated this same hike Thacker Mountain was our final trail. Not this time and for good reason. I had a near mutiny on my hands. Eyes widened with iron like glaze nearly everyone said to the Blue Moose for coffee and refreshments we must head...NOW! With humble heart and soft words I complied. Good fellowship at the Moose with Ray's wife Pat joining us was enjoyed by all.

**-Dave Ortis**

## FLORA LAKE TRAIL – JUNE 14



We tried a different route to the first viewpoint on the familiar Flora Lake trail. This original trail is in the third edition of the "10? Hikes in SW BC" book. We parked at the Lindeman Lake parking lot and then walked about 10 minutes east on the road. Heather used her downloaded GPS track to find it.

This trail offers more views of Chilliwack Lake but it is steeper yet than the already steep main trail. Just before it connected with the main trail, we dipped down a bit and then passed alongside the base of a rocky bluff where there were

large patches of purple penstemon. We put pink flagging tape where it connects. From there it's only about 15 minutes hike to the campsite.

It was now 1.5 hours from the start and 11:00am. We took a vote as to whether to carry on or not. 16 out of 17 voted yes. Now the grade was more gradual. At the patch of pink heather Terry saw a female grouse sitting still as stone and camouflaged with her earthy colors. Within an hour we were all above the tree line at the plateau. We parked ourselves a little farther down the trail where there was an abundance of red Indian Paintbrush and purple Lupines blooming. We agreed this is one of the most beautiful views in our Fraser Valley.



Chilliwack Lake was spread out below us to the southeast. Northwest was the rocky ridge which 4 of the men in our group decided to climb up to after lunch. North was the long cascading waterfall and the ridge that takes you to the saddle above Flora Lake.

But John informed us there was still too much snow up there. So after saying goodbye to the 4 men we started our descent, but this time we took the main trail down. Eleven of us went to Waves for goodies where we were united with one of our regulars: Harry W.

Stats: 10.9 km / 915m gain / 1525m high



Thanks to all who came out for this grueling but rewarding hike and to Heather who led us up this new old route: Terry B, Dave B, Jerzy B, **Heather B**, John & Ginger C, Steve C, Vic D, Moira G, Joe K, Eileen R, Margaret T, John U, Dave W, Robbin Y + Case & **Joce T**.



## SUMAS MOUNTAIN - JUNE 17

Last minute circumstances caused half our group to withdraw from today's hike to Lighthouse Park. Saturday morning Sharon R, Bob J and I deliberated whether to postpone Lighthouse to another Saturday and instead choosing to hike closer to home. We chose closer to home, Sumas Mountain.

We intended to begin our hike at the Centennial trailhead with Chadsey Lake being our certain destination and perhaps the summit. Alas, our intention was thwarted by a serious accident near the trailhead. Police had closed the road because a car had plummeted into a ravine. Rather than wait for possibly an hour we opted to hike from the parking lot at the entrance to the Sumas Mountain Interregional Park off Batt Road.



This was the first time I've hiked to the top on Sumas from along this route. A couple of negative comments. For the trail only purists this would not be a good choice because it was road all the way. Finally expect traffic and mountain bikers. The way is criss-crossed by many bike trails evidenced by the bike trestle picture. Positively the steady ascent, all the way is an easier climb. Though easier apparently it is a longer route than from Centennial. I believe, the leader of the Fraser Valley Mountain Bikers Association group we met in the parking lot told us the summit was 8 km distance. Though we did not hike via Chadsey we did stop at a couple of view spots overlooking Abbotsford and west.



At the summit the view of the eastern Fraser Valley was greatly hampered by cloud and haze. Enjoyable was

watching two dads with their toddlers they back packed via Centennial and Chadsey Lake trails. Once lunch eaten back to the parking lot and off to Clik coffee bistro. We three agreed that it was a good day!



-Dave Ortis

## WHYTE LAKE TRAILHEAD TO EAGLE BLUFFS CROSSOVER- JUNE 21

This hike took a bit more organizing but saved us from descending the way we came up. Six of us started hiking at 9:45am from the Whyte Lake trailhead. The trail wound through old growth Douglas Firs and over boardwalks through marsh where the still waters gave a mirror image of the trees and sky. The lake's boardwalk was partially submerged. Just beyond the lake we came to the Baden Powell Trail junction. This is where our group split up.



Two hikers went down, along the Seaview walk and back to the Whyte Lake trailhead. There they drove both vehicles up to the Cypress downhill ski parking lot. Then they hiked to Black Mt. summit.

The other 4 went north at the BPT junction. Now the trail became increasingly steeper, often with roots creeping across the path. The last section of trail was on a boulder slope. There weren't any markers close by. Stay on the right and as you ascend you'll see pink flagging tapes to the right. Then you go back into the forest again but soon come to the base of the bluffs. This trail cannot be done if it's wet. The





rocky sections would be too slippery. When I saw the ravens perched above us in the open on the bluffs I knew we'd come to our destination.



The weather was perfect, the smooth slabs of stone reflecting the warmth of the sun. The squirrels were quite entertaining, eating from Reg's hand and fighting with a feather he was teasing them with. The ravens grew bolder as Reg was 'talking' to them. They even started kissing with

their beaks and making high crooning noises to each other. And the view was amazing, stretching from the skyscrapers of Vancouver to the harbor, the ocean with its ferries and Vancouver Island on the horizon. We were in no hurry. It was a full hour before we got up to go.



The contrast in temperatures was significant when we entered the forest. Now we were off of the south slope and in snow. The picturesque tarns were partially melted, the water being a gold color and where the tarns were still frozen, the snow had a turquoise tone to it.



The trail did minor dips and climbs till the final slope to the closed ski resort where it was finally snow free. The other two hikers had not been waiting long. By now it was almost 5:00pm, it having taken us 3.5 hours moving time to get to Eagle Bluffs and 1.5 hours from there to the parking lot.

We all went to the Two Lions Pub in North Vancouver for dinner afterwards.

Stats: 11.5 km / 1324m cumulated gain / 451m loss / 1187m high

Thanks to all who came out for a challenging and wonderful day: Heather B, Irene H, Reg S, Margaret T, **Robbin Y** + **Joce T**



**2017 MULTI DAY TRIPS**

**TRIP: HIKING IN THE LAKE LOUISE AREA**  
**ORGA: RON DART AT RDART@SHAW.CA**  
**DATE: JULY 17-23**  
**PART: OPEN**

**TRIP: BACKPACK THE 1849 TRAIL**  
**ORGA: TERRY BERGEN AT TERRYBERGEN@SHAW.CA**  
**DATE: JULY 22-30**  
**PART: 10**

**TRIP: ASSINIBOINE AND THE BUGABOOS PROV PARK**  
**ORGA: JOCE TIMMERMANS AT JOCELYNTIMMERMANS@HOTMAIL.COM**  
**DATE: AUG 01-09**  
**PART: 6-8 NOW FULL**

**TRIP: HIKING IN THE JASPER NP AREA, FRYATT VALLEY, MALIGNE LAKE, SKYLINE**  
**ORGA: RON DART AT RDART@SHAW.CA**  
**DATE: AUG 12-20**  
**PART: 10**

**TRIP: HIKING CATEDRAL LAKES PROV PARK**  
**ORGA: CHRISTINE FAULCONBRIDGE AT CHRISFAULCONBRIDGE@GMAIL.COM**  
**DATE: AUGUST 19-27**  
**PART: 6-8**

**TRIP: HIKING IN THE BELLA COOLA AREA, GRIZZLEY BEAR VIEWING**  
**ORGA: AMRG TRANAH AT MARGARET\_TRANAH@HOTMAIL.COM**  
**DATE: SEPT 02-17**  
**PART: 6-10**

**TRIP: CAPE SCOTT PROV PARK**  
**ORGA: LORI BODKIN AT FIRECHICK@TELUS.NET**  
**DATE: SEPT 07-11**  
**PART: 6-8**

**TRIP: BACKPACK GLACIER PEAK, WASHINGTON STATE**  
**ORGA SUE LAWRENCE AT GWELU@TELUS.NET**  
**DATE: SEPT 12-17**  
**PART: 6-8**

**TRIP: GREEN LAKE, CHILCOTIN, CANOE OR KAYAK**  
**ORGA: JUDY PASEMKO AT JUDYPASEMKO@SHAW.CA**  
**DATE: SEPT 23-30**  
**PART: 6-8**

**TRIP: HIKE THE LAKES DISTRICT OF NORTH WEST ENGLAND**  
**ORGA: STUART WOOD AT STUART\_WOOD@SHAW.CA**  
**DATE: OCT 01-08**  
**PART: 8-10**



Reg teasing a squirrel with a feather. He grabbed it and wouldn't let go.



-masthead taken from Eagle Bluffs by Joce T



## CLUB INFORMATION

### Notice to Trip Participants

It is understood that risk is inherent to some degree in all outdoor activities. Please ensure that you understand the risks involved and are prepared to accept them. As a participant, you are responsible for your own safety and equipment at all times. Trip organizers are not professional guides—they are simply club members who have volunteered their time for your enjoyment.

Inform the trip organizer of any medical conditions that he or she should be aware of in an emergency, for example: diabetes, asthma, and bee sting reactions. Ensure that your previous experience, ability and fitness level are adequate for the trip. Be sure that your equipment and clothing are adequate for the trip. Stay with the group. Wait for other group members frequently and at all route junctions. Tell the trip organizer if you must turn back. **Be safe and enjoy!**

### Required Equipment

Trip organizers will be pleased to answer any questions regarding the required equipment for any outing. For more information, it is recommended that you visit one of the many websites that provide such information. Some recommended sites are: [www.valhallapure.com](http://www.valhallapure.com) (club sponsor), [www.backpacker.com](http://www.backpacker.com) and [www.mec.ca](http://www.mec.ca).

**Safety first, last, and always!** It is the responsibility of trip participants to be equipped appropriately. Plan for the **worst!**

### The Ten Essentials

Before you hit any trail, no matter how easy, no matter how short, no matter how close to home, make sure your backpack is loaded with the ten essentials. When in the backcountry you are responsible for your own safety, and any one of these ten items may help to save your life. Carry them all and know how to use them.

1. Map
2. Compass
3. Extra clothing
4. Sunglasses and sunscreen
5. Headlamp/flashlight
6. First-aid supplies
7. Fire starter
8. Matches
9. Knife
10. Extra food and water

### Equipment for Club Members' Use

2	canoes with accessories	1	stove
2	backpacks	1	water filter
1	two-person tent	1	pruning saw
1	three-person tent	1	dehydrator
1	projector and screen	13	ice axes
3	9 mm climbing ropes	4	pairs of crampons
4	climbing harnesses	8	assorted carabiners
2	avalanche transceivers	?	avalanche probes

**Note:** All equipment must be returned in the same condition as borrowed or repaired appropriately.

## Hike Grading System

Duration (hrs.)		Elevation Gain (m)		Difficulty	
A	0-4	1	10-500	a	Easy
B	4-7	2	500-1000	b	Moderate
C	7-10	3	1000-1500	c	Difficult
D	10+	4	1500+	d	Advanced

## CLUB CONTACTS

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Club Trip Email	For trips and announcements to be forwarded to all members	<a href="mailto:coctrips@gmail.com">coctrips@gmail.com</a> or <a href="mailto:terrybergen@shaw.ca">terrybergen@shaw.ca</a> Note: Give at least 1-2 days lead-time.
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Vedder Mt Trail Ass'n	Gary Baker 604-858-4928	<a href="mailto:garybaker@shaw.ca">garybaker@shaw.ca</a>
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