



PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

We had our last general meeting on 31 May prior to the summer break. Since last summer, we had in-person meetings in Sept and Oct, a zoom Christmas party in Dec and four zoom meetings in Feb through to May. Notwithstanding the challenges with virtual meetings, I think we were successful in continuing club business and entertaining everyone with several very interesting speakers. Thanks to all who have participated.

We heard very encouraging news last week from the province on BC's Restart Plan. The reducing case counts and hospitalizations combined with rapid inoculation of the population bode well for our summer activities and a return to in person club meetings this fall.

Our annual bbq is tentatively scheduled for September 19 at Yarrow Community Hall. Hopefully we will be able to meet as a larger group at that time with most of Canadians having received both doses of vaccine.

A note on use of the Google groups email account. This means of communication is for the purpose of members announcing hikes, rides or other activities, or for your Board to inform you of events, meetings, policy proposals, etc. If you have any concerns or suggestions, please contact one of the Board members directly rather than sending an email to the entire club. Similarly, if you want to respond to a hike event, respond to the sender only rather than "to all". That helps keep everyone's in baskets manageable!

Cal Francis has been compiling a running total of club events including walking, hiking, snowshoeing and biking. We are going to post this on our website because the number and variety of activities are quite impressive. For the month of May there were 23 posted activities including 10 hikes, 9 cycles and 4 trail maintenance days. Thank you to all those who step up to organize these. You are the heartbeat of the Chilliwack Outdoor Club.

Have a great summer in the outdoors and I look forward to seeing your photos on the club FB site and reading about your adventures in the monthly tripper.

Grant A

TRANS CANADA TRAIL MAINTENANCE

Since mid-April and throughout the month of May, several members have been working on sections of the TCT from Cultus Lake to Chilliwack Lake with the Trails BC crew. The trail roughly follows Chilliwack Lake Road with several trailheads where one can access the trail. Work has included benching, drainage works, removal of dead fall, pruning, weed whacking and collection of garbage. Because the



Ministry has so few resources, they, and the hikers who use the trails, are dependent on volunteers such as our club to perform these necessary ongoing maintenance tasks. It is always gratifying when hikers will walk by our work sites and offer their sincere thanks for our efforts. Photos with this report include the group gathering for our pre-work tasking and safety brief, and the successful retrieval of a freezer that someone had dumped on the trail.



Keep watching for more work event announcements, which will provide more opportunities for you to give back to our trails. Thanks to Jim A, John L, Sue A, Tim and Bernie Y, Heinz and Emilie B, Don R, Patrick R, Gary R, Don B, Don M, Leora P, Harry W, Ross Y, Andrew D, Paul L, and **Grant A**.

CULTUS LOOP – MAY 1

What to do when 23 people sign on for a hike? Split them in two. Eight opted to do the shorter version of the loop, which excluded Teapot Hill. The agreement was to wait at every one of the 9 junctions, splitting off at junction #2 (about 8 km in). I think next time I'll take a whistle along. Getting 23 chattering spread-out hikers' attention was quite the challenge. Off we went, leaving our long row of cars behind us at precisely 9:00am. No bear spray necessary on this hike, with the constant flow of human voices.

This is my favorite forest with the moss-covered maples, cedars and Douglas firs. Through the tops of them we could see snippets of International Ridge. In 2 km we arrived at junction #1 where we turned right onto Watt Creek trail. Purple forget-me-nots, Maiden-hair ferns and vanilla plants lined the path. In another 3.5 km we were at junction #2, which was part way down the 1st hill. At this point 2 of the hikers changed their minds and decided to keep going, rather than turn off to go to the Seven Sisters on the Clear Creek trail with the other 4 hikers (Irene & Simon had a later start and caught up to this group later).



At junction #4 (staying left at junction #3) we turned left after crossing Watt Creek and stayed on the Watt Creek trail. This was the beginning of our 2nd hill. At junction #5 we turned left onto a trail that leads to Camp Stillwood. We did not cross the dry creek farther down but turned right at the sign (junction #6) and walked about 7 minutes on the Watt Creek trail to another green sign (junction #7) alongside the right side of the trail. Here we turned right onto a narrow path. Now we were in uncharted territory (for the rest of the group anyways). This was the old original trail rising steeply

up the south-facing slope to the summit of Teapot Hill. Thankfully it was a short stretch.

At the humble summit we could see the west end of Cultus Lake. We continued on east, past the chain-link fence where there was more of a clearing. From there we could see the east end of the lake, including Main beach. An ideal spot for lunch. We were good and hungry after 3 hours of hiking. We descended on the popular Teapot trail and did spot some teapots but last time I'd been up there I counted 54. Now there weren't near as many.



At the bottom of our 3rd hill, we turned right at the broad gravel walkway (left led to the Teapot Hill parking lot). In just a few minutes we were back at junction #5. We backtracked up and over the 2nd hill and partially up the 1st hill, to junction #2 (am I confusing you yet?). Why did I take the longer harder way back when we could've turned left at the Teapot Hill junction #8 and avoided the climbing those hills again? Because I just had to show everyone that pretty piece of forest on the Clear Creek trail.



By the time we got to the Seven Sisters (staying right at junction #9), no one was very eager to do the little loop to

the other two Sisters. It would've meant more climbing. The largest Sister was at the bottom of the loop where we were standing. It took 5 adults, arms outstretched and fingertips almost touching, to surround this tree. Dave Beihn's long arms were probably equal to 1½ of a regular adults, so I'd say 5½ adults. The 3 remaining Sisters are about 500 years old. Just 200 years ago these giant Douglas Firs dominated the landscape from here to the Pacific Coast. Now only isolated pockets of old growth remain, protected in parks. Constant precipitation and a mild climate contributed to their size.

There was a bit more uphill as we hiked to the empty Entrance Bay campsite where we cut across it, ending up at the Columbia Valley Rd. We walked alongside the road for about 10 minutes before we got back to our long line of cars. Stats: 18.4 km / 980m cumulative gain / 397m highest point / 5 hours MT. And that's it for the numbers. Phew.

Participants were (two being first timers): Gary A, Terry B, Dave B, Denise D, Marlene D, Bridgette G, Darlene G, Corinne H, Wayne H, Simon & Irene H, Don F, Michelle K, Sue McK, Liz L, Len & Miriam S, Val S, Anita U, Allana W, Phoebe Z + Case & **Joce T**

SUMAS PRAIRIE – VEDDER BIKE RIDE – MAY 5



On Wednesday, May 5 a group of 9 of us rode a very pleasant and scenic 60 km loop on quiet country roads, gravel trails and dykes. The route starts and ends at the Cole Rd. rest area and is about 1/3 on gravel.



We started immediately on a short but pretty dyke section then on country roads to Yarrow.

At 27km into our ride we stopped for coffee and eats at Chestnut Springs Bakery, a very popular spot for cyclists. From there we immediately headed onto the Vedder Rotary trail and followed the trail around. On the north side we biked the awesome Peach Creek trail option. Then we continued onto the dyke and eventually crossed the Keith Wilson Rd bridge to take a shorter route back to our start point. The weather was mainly sunny all day. Everyone agreed that this is an awesome cycling route worth doing again.

Herb Chlebek

SUMAS MT – MAY 6

Anne O'Leary led this hike, it being the last time she'll come with us on the weekly hikes for a while because she's moving to Victoria in a few days. She can access the trail by the first small bridge, on her very own trail coming from where she lives. So for her this was very familiar ground but for about half of the group it was a first time experience. For most of the group, seeing the lower more open viewpoint close to the summit was a first. It takes about 2 hours + 600m gain to get to Chadsey Lake and another hour + 300m gain to get to the summit.

9:30am: After a bit of a drop twice, for two bridged creek crossings, we began the relentless climb towards the lake. When we got to the FSR crossing, we turned left and left again at the fork in the road, walking only about 7 minutes to an expansive viewpoint overlooking the Fraser River, Matsqui flats and Mission. Back to the trail we went and a bit past it to a signed junction where the trail continued. A few years ago, they clear-cut a large area right beside the trail so now that section of forest allows more light to come in. Just before a bit of a clearing where you can peek through the trees and see Dewdney & Nicomen Mts, you pass the side of a gully where numerous trees have fallen over like matchsticks. A rope assists on a short-steep-slick section. After the viewpoint we traversed across a steep slope that



led to the Chadsey Creek crossing on a lovely bridge. Another rope aided the short scramble up the rocky bank and then it was only another 15 minutes through forest to the lake.

The plan was to meet up with Ingrid F at the lake. She had parked higher up on the road and hiked the short distance down to the lake. We looked and yelled but couldn't find her. Some other hikers did say they saw a single woman pass by. Then Anne found a message on her phone that stated she'd gone on ahead of us, estimating that we'd catch up to her.



So on we went, along the left side of the lake. The water was an emerald green and the grove of old-growth cedars at the northeast end of the lake, towered above us. Just past them, the trail began to climb again, switch-backing up a steep slope that levelled off close to the summit. We passed some huge not so often seen Balsam Fir trees just before the summit where we did not linger long because the best was yet to come.

Just a hop & a skip back and we turned right on a narrow trail that led down along the edge of a cliff for not even 10 minutes. Then came the "Wow!!!" moments. From north to east to south we could see Robie Reid, Slollicum, the Cheam Range & Mt. Baker (to name a few) with the Fraser River, Chilliwack & the Vedder Canal down below. We were in no hurry to leave our lofty perch, there was so much to see. It was a pleasant surprise when Brigitte & Don showed up.

Back at the vehicles we bid our good-byes to a very regular cheery member of the club. Anne will be sorely missed.

Stats: 17.80 km / 1104m gain / 947m high / 6 hours MT



Participants: Gary A, Terry B, Lorenz B, Denise D, Ingrid F, Irene H, Sheri K, John Laf, Jan S, John & Diane W, **Joce T** (report & pics) + **Anne O'L**

ROTARY VEDDER TRAIL – MAY 8 - SATURDAY WALK



This familiar walk is well known to most Chilliwackians. We started our walk at the dog park on Rotary Trail, Chilliwack River/Vedder and headed clockwise. The south end of the trail is not as busy, and bikers generally go the opposite direction. It was lovely to connect with a new member, and long-time members.



We crossed at the train bridge, with one member leaving to do more of the trail. The rest of us returned back to our cars. It's just over 12 km and 3+ hours...thank you for joining me, Carolyn, Ken, Elishka, Bridgette, Jackie and **Irene H**



This private tour of our section of Vedder Mt. always seems to generate a crowd. Twenty hikers split in two, one started out from our house and the other from the south side of our property. Half of this hike was on a trail on mostly private property and the other half on an FSR of which the lower Majuba Hill part has been barricaded against motorized vehicles and the last stretch past the farm leading to the final viewpoint has become more overgrown.

Our six children grew up here and our sons spent many hours in the mountain building things like swings and forts and campsites. So first we crossed the train tracks and started out on the old Yale wagon road that used to skirt Sumas Lake. Soon we turned left onto Lucky's #201 trail. These trails are named after our neighbor who created them. We passed by two high stream/waterfall combos, and then turned left at a junction that led us to our son's campsite. When he was digging the ground to level it, he found an old firepit. The site is close to a waterfall & old reservoir.

Then we backtracked, passed the trail we'd come up on and turned left at a broader ATV track. After about 10 minutes we turned right onto Lucky's steepest part of the trail.



The scents of the fresh foliage and flowers surrounded us. Thimbleberry and strawberry, Elderberry, Vanilla plants and

Hooker's Fairybells lined the path. We took a quick break when we got to the FSR to catch our breath and regroup and then continue south on the road. Once at a farm we turned right and continued on the FSR which soon narrowed and became a tree tunnel of sorts as the alder trees angled in and over.

A few more steep stretches and I called a stop. Its easy to miss the rounded hump of rock on the left side of the road. Climb up on it and you'll get a broad view of all of Columbia Valley. The Canadian half on the left looked far more cultivated and inhabited than the American half on the right. In the middle was the valley that held Silver Lake. Back on the road it didn't even take 10 minutes to get to our lunch destination. This open viewpoint held lots of room for 19 hikers which is good because the second group got up there when we were halfway through our lunch break.



Sumas Prairie spread out before of us like a patch-work quilt. 0 Avenue to our west was all that separated our two countries. McKee and part of Sumas Mt. were to our north and the community of Arnold was right below us. I'd never seen the White Fawn Lily growing here before. Blue-eyed Mary was a pretty groundcover on a piece of gravel. My bladder was telling me it needed some privacy, so I wandered a bit away into the bush and found a nice spot. Having done my deed, as I got up, I heard some loud anxious voices and wondered what was going on? I was almost back out in on the open bluff when Terry called, "Joce, where are you???" I emerged to see half a dozen hikers hesitating in the process of bolting after having grabbed their packs. It was with great relief that they saw I was not a bear.





We backtracked the same way down until we were about halfway down the Lucky trail. Then we veered off to the left, heading south on the wagon road till we got to a makeshift shelter that my son built. From there we bushwhacked to the biggest Douglas Fir in the Fraser Valley. We could also see

the remnants of Corwin's first swing that hung from cables tied about 100' up in 3 trees. We did one more quick stop to check out our son Nathan's cabin, built on a very steep slope. It was quite something how he and his friend managed to get the heavy iron wood stove up there. Thanks, Irene, for cleaning up some of the beer cans. We returned to our property on an overgrown old railway track.

Stats: 16.5 km / 815m gain / 540m high point

Participants: Grant A, Gary A, Terry B, Lorenz B, John & Ginger C, Don F, Charlotte H, Irene H, Liz L, Don McD, Eileen R, Mark S, Allana S, Diane W, Elishka +

Case & Joce T

PITT POCO RIDE – MAY 13



On Thursday a group of 9 of us did one of my favourite rides through Pitt Meadows and Port Coquitlam. It is a 57 km loop which is roughly half gravel trails and dykes and half paved trails and roads. The start was at the Pitt River Greenway near Osprey Village at the bottom of Harris Rd. We followed the dyke and crossed the Pitt river bridge to PoCo then more dykes all the way to Minnekhada Park, at 22 km, where we made our first snack/lunch stop.



We had a quick look at the Minnekhada lodge which was built in 1934 as a hunting lodge by Lieutenant Governor, Eric Hamber. From there we continued into the PoCo trail system, much of which is paved trails. At 32 km we made a short detour into downtown PoCo for an ice cream stop at a Dairy Queen.

Then onward to eventually head onto the Colony Farm trails and then back to follow the PoCo trail along the west side of the Pitt River back and over the Pitt River bridge. On the way back to our start point we used quiet roads rather than the dyke. It was an awesome sunny day. – **Herb C**

MT. THOM – MAY 15



This was the fourth of the leisurely hikes started by Irene and meant for a broad range of members. Thirteen new, seasoned and prospective members joined Cal, Irene, Elishka, Don, Stelian & Sue, Maeve & S..., Patricia, Maureen & Colleen met at the Syvan trailhead and took the old standard route to the summit. There we met the "Prez" Grant who magically appeared out of nowhere. We returned to the trailhead via the back side and Karver trail. Thanks to Irene & Cal for running sweep and Irene for showing everyone the Karver trail.

Stats: 6.5 km / 450m gain / 2 ½ hours

Gary A

HAYWARD LAKE – MAY 18



The question was can we get around the lake without turning back at the broken bridge. Yes, fellow trampers have put in a route that follows the inlet at where it becomes a creek. Slipping and sliding down a muddy slope (thankfully not raining out), we were able to cross the creek and trudge up the other side. The detour was about 20 mins but worth the adventure. Onward along the east side of the lake, the trail goes up and down amongst the big trees.



We stopped for a quick break at the canoe deck, Steelhead falls and a few beaches. At Stave Lake Dam, I found some cans and had to pick them up. Thank you, Phoebe, for helping me carry out those cans. It's a long loop of 21 k. I believe we all were a little fatigued by the end of that walk. Even Bubble had a great workout today...



cheers to my fellow hikers –

Phoebe, Cal, Don, Sherry, Lori, Gary, Sonia (Bubble) and Irene H

CYCLE BURNABY AND VANCOUVER – MAY 20



As many of my fellow cyclists know, I love cycling in the city. There are so many interesting routes and trails that crisscross all around. This trip proved to be interesting. I decided to follow a trail that was new to me and brought us up to Burnaby Mountain. With a bit of a bike hike, we ended up down at the Barnett hwy.



From there it was back to the cycle route (hehe kind of) into Vancouver. Ended up at Granville island for a well-deserved break and food (yes). Sonia had fun taking some great pictures. Thanks to Jackie we followed a flatter way back via the central Greenway...Thanks for the adventure, Dave, Denise, Jackie, Sonia, Simon and **Irene H**

WILBAND CREEK & MORE – MAY 22 SATURDAY WALK



This was a new walk for me in Abbotsford and although short, the path surrounds a lovely wetland area. Great spot to watch birds especially swallows and an osprey. Again, it was a time to catch up with old friends, spouses, newer members



and some four-legged companions. We zig-zagged and meandered around the park and ended up with just over 3km. 6 of us decided to continue the adventure and headed to Bateman Park. We walked on a lovely, shaded trail following Stoney Creek then through the Sub-division to Discovery trail. This trail took us back down the hill, cutting through the cemetery and back to Wilband creek.



Lovely Sunny day, we added another 7km ending with a small tailgate lunch at Lepps Farm. thanks to for coming Gary, Era and Athena – Lori B and Mossy – Jacqueline, Christine C, Audrey – Elizabeth, Terry, Ben, E -**Irene H**

GOLD CREEK LOOP – MAY 22

In 2015 a new bridge was built that now connects the East & West Canyon trails. This loop has much to offer, from a rushing river to waterfalls to beaches and to peaks. Three side trails led to these scenic points.

Thankfully a COC'er warned me that to be able to park on a weekend in Golden Ears PP meant being there early. So I changed the meeting time from 9:30am to 8:30am. Even then, we ended up parking about ¼ km down the road while cars were continuously filing in. Taking a quick left from the



trailhead and then soon another left, we got onto the broad East Canyon FSR and followed this for about ½ hour to the trail to the Lower Falls. This was a steep rooty rough drop but well worth it. Roaring white water spilled from emerald, green pools. Of course, we had to check out the “Hazardous” area. The smooth massive slab of stone was dry and safe to venture out onto. Then a bit lower was the fenced in platform looking at the falls from the bottom up.



Once back on the East Canyon FSR we walked past the connector bridge to Viewpoint Beach. Ah ha. So that’s where these backpackers were camping. And “Wow!” for the view. I was the only one who’d done this hike before so it’s always a pleasure to hear the responses or the first-timers when they see those peaks. From left to right were: Evans (1050m), Blanchard (1320m), Edge (1410m) and Golden Ears (1620m) peaks. A snack break and then backtracking to the bridge. From there you could see Osprey Mt. to the north and the long stretch of Gold Creek before, under and behind us.

Once on the other side, the West Canyon FSR wound round a corner and upwards to the Golden Ears trail. This trail was boggy & rooty but had numerous metal bridges to

aid the way. It followed a bubbling creek to the Alder Flats backcountry campsite. Of course it was full. Turning right, past the outhouse (ignore the signs to the viewpoint because there’s no view and it’s the longer way), we climbed for another 20 minutes to a wide-open view of the same 4 peaks but this time they were closer. We sat down against the rocks of the talus slope and had a nice long lunch break. The rock reflected the sun and the view whet our appetites to try for the Golden Ears summit later in the summer.



Back at the West Canyon FSR we turned right, doing a gradual climb again. Past a car-sized boulder and massive old stumps, doing a quick stop at the Gold Creek lookout and turning left by the water tank on the Menzies trail (after having just passed the unsigned trail to Evans Peak), got us back to the road by 4:00pm. Driving back, we were amazed at how the cars had lined both sides of the road for several km.



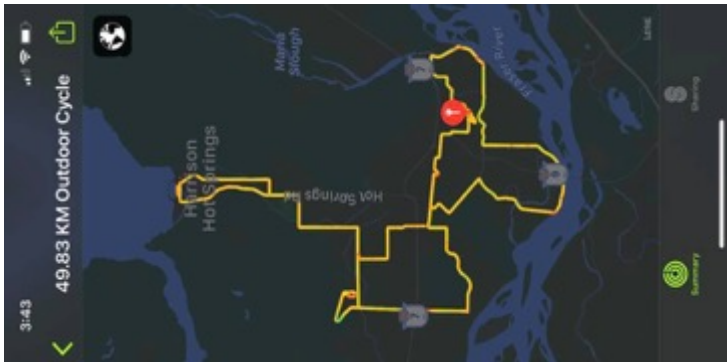
Stats: 19.3 km / 804m cumulative gain / 585m high point / 5:30 hours MT

Along for this beautiful day were Sonia A, Lorenz B, Denise D, Cal F, Sheri K, Michelle K, Liz L, Don McD, Allana S, Phoebe Z + Case & **Joce T**

CYCLE RIDE AGASSIZ – MAY 28



A quick call out for a cycle ride – Jackie and Liz joined me on a tour around Agassiz, District of Kent and Harrison Hotsprings. This 50 k route is a great ride which is mostly flat and on quiet backroads. There is a stretch of busy road towards Harrison. This was a first for me going up the hill towards the Stock Car track and cemetery. Lucky for us, we



were taking a break at Muddy Waters Cafe when the rain came down. Of course, we had to stop at the Cheese store too. Lovely tour, I would recommend this to anyone...thanks for joining me.

-Irene H

CAMPBELL LAKE – MAY 29

The first and steepest part of this hike is also called the Harrison Grind. A lot of our group of 23 had done the Harrison Grind before, some had carried on to the lake, but none had gone past the lake to the broader viewpoint. Cal was in charge of group #1 that started half an hour before our group #2.

Truck-sized boulders, roots and mud, decrepit wood stairs and log bridges made this a more challenging but interesting trail. The blooming forest was full, moist and moss covered,

requiring carefully placed steps throughout. Several short-cut trails made us stop more than once to check our GPSs.



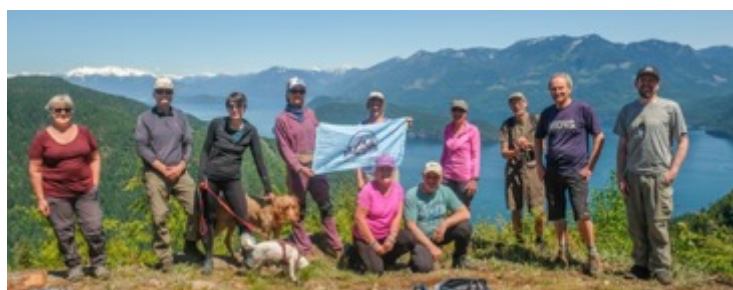
In 2 hours we were at the viewpoint, glad that the steep part was behind us and amazed at the beautiful view. Right below us was the river and before us was Harrison Lake with Long Island and the snow-capped Breakenridge Range as a backdrop on the distant horizon. Beside and left of Long Island is the cone shaped small peak where the new replica of the old Harrison fire lookout tower stands.



A well-earned snack and then before we got too comfy, up and at 'em again. On a much easier grade we continued, climbing carefully over a section of wet boulders and past a large, curved tree, rockslide + pond before arriving at Campbell Lake.

From there we went round the lake, staying right at the junction. My All-Trails app directed me to stay left at the second junction by the hydro towers. The view over the Harrison River to the northwest was impressive but the one of Harrison Lake was partially obscured by trees. And where was group #1?

So we backtracked a bit and turned right at the second junction. Within minutes we found them. They were in snooze mode, quietly facing the northern views. I had to yell "Hi!" twice before they heard me. Then mayhem broke out. It was a happy reunion. After all, some of us hadn't seen each other for a whole week. And what a view it was! Now Echo Island was in full view surrounded by Slollicum, the Old Settler and to our left was Judge Howay and Sasquatch ski hill with Mt. Klautt.



The poor young couple sitting there with their tent and hammock set up, were thinking they'd found a nice, secluded spot for an overnigher. Then ten noisy hikers show up (2 had turned back at the first viewpoint) and just when they quieted down and got into snooze mode, 11 more hikers show up. But thankfully they seemed to be quite entertained by the whole scenario.

By 3:30 we were back at the bottom, having stopped about $\frac{3}{4}$ way down the grind by the power lines to take some photos of the Cheam Range. Stats: 14 km / 917m cumulative gain / 722m high point / 4:45 hours MT

Group #1: Grant A, Gary A, Sonia A, Aman, Lorenz B, Denise D, Jayne F, Tracey G, Irene H, Sheri K, Jan S + **Cal F**

Group #2: Don F, Ingrid F, Manfred H, Linda & Wayne I, Michelle K, Liz & Alex L, Glen R, Phoebe Z + **Joce T**

BIKE AND HIKE: CHILLIWACK LAKE & ECOLOGICAL RESERVE - MAY 30



You have no doubt seen the dozens of photos posted to the club's 'Public Facebook Page' and accompanying comments about this ride. Folks seemed to like it! Really not much to add, but here are some observations from a trip organizer's perspective.

This activity was planned as a chance to broaden our gravel experience beyond the confines of the local dikes we all love to cruise. The challenge was to find a route that was 'flattish' and had an interesting destination. The FSR along the east side of Chilliwack Lake filled the bill perfectly. The distance from the Chilliwack Lake Provincial Park Day use parking area, about 14km, one way, with about 160m of cumulative elevation gain. The road surface proved to be a pleasant surprise. For the most part it was hard packed dirt, not that rough, hardly any loose sand or gravel. Yes, potholes galore, the trick was to treat the ride as a 28km slalom course. Potholes using this technique are easily avoided on a bike. NOTE: You don't need knobby mountain bike tires to ride FSR's. In fact, 'city or hybrid' style tires work as well if not better on hard packed dirt and gravel roads. It might seem to be counter intuitive, but they actually provide better traction, and they are so much nicer to ride on pavement. Just try and fit your bike with the widest tires that you can; it makes for a cushier road. Another observation that became apparent on this relatively flattish route is GEARING. I suggest you visit you LBS and ask about changing your rear cassette to the widest range possible without changing your rear derailleur. You want to be able to spin the pedals going up hills, not grinding or powering up at a slow cadence. Doing the latter is what really tires one out!



In planning the ride, I also wanted to have a defined destination and goal.

Goal #1: Do something new! Check! I had only been to the far end of the lake by kayak. I wanted to see if I could find the same beach via a land route.

Goal # 2: Be surprised. Check!

Surprise # 1: We didn't find the beach I was looking for; we found a better one. While planning the ride, I learned that there was an Army Sappers' cairn somewhere at the end of the lake. The army engineers used to do training exercises there. Sadly, we didn't find it. Perhaps when we go back, and YES I plan to organize a ride back there sometime in July. It will be called **Bike, Hike, Picnic, and Swim!** Hopefully by then the water temperature will be more tolerable....😬



Surprise # 2: Google Maps/Earth didn't indicate that a portion of the road would be under water during the Spring melt. Oh.... Sh &(^(%())^)...t! We hesitated but there were cars on the other side. Herb made a dash for it and one by one we all followed! NO problem, but as the day warmed up and the alpine run off accelerated in the afternoon heat, the water would likely be much deeper on the return ride, and it was.

Surprise #3: Our hike took us into an Ecological Reserve of ancient trees, giant Cedars and Douglas Firs, many 500-700 + years old. We were in awe, but what was on the ground proved to be equally as fascinating thanks to the knowledge of the newest member of the club on his very first club event. Dale is a Professional Forester. As we climbed over, under, around fallen decaying trees, new saplings and plants of various species, he shared his knowledge of the role all the ferns, mosses, plants, decaying materials, etc. played in the health of the forest and how all these plants work together to thrive as a community.

It was a fun filled day. I want to thank everyone who followed me, apparently some of the newcomers had heard of my reputation to end up in interesting places: Linda P., Don F., Liz L., Mark S., Sheryl H., Herb C., Don Mc., Dale Mc. I. John La F. and Mo. NOTE: John and Mo were riding their E-assist bikes. Everyone did a lot of smiling, but I sensed their smiles were just a bit wider! - **Gary B.**



Elishka is one of our newer members.

Masthead of Harrison Lake

COC 2021 MULTI DAY HIKING TRIPS

TRIP: OCEAN KAYAK TRIP TO NUCHATLITZ, WEST COAST VAN ISLAND
DATE: JUNE 05-12, 5 DAY PADDLE
LEADER: DAVE BIEHN @ dave.biehn@gmail.com
PEOPLE: 8 PEOPLE MAX & MUST HAVE SOME OCEAN KAYAKING EXP

TRIP: BACKPACK FROM BLACKWELL PEAK TO WHATCOM TRAILHEAD VIA NICOMEN LAKE OR VERSION OF
DATE: MAYBE ABOUT JUNE 28-30, 3 DAY TRIP
SUBJECT TO THE ROAD TO BLACKWELL PEAK OPENING UP
LEADER: MAURICE DODD @ mauricego@gmail.com
PEOPLE: 8 PEOPLE MAX

TRIP: HIKE TO THE SADDLE BETWEEN WEBB & MACDONALD PEAKS, CAMP THE NIGHT AND THEN SCRAMBLE UP BOTH PEAKS
DATE: END OF JUNE/BEGIN OF JULY, SUBJECT TO WEATHER, 2/3 DAY TRIP
LEADER: CINDY WASLEWSKY @ twin-creeks@shaw.ca
PEOPLE: 8 PEOPLE MAX

TRIP: HIKING/SCRAMBLING, CAR CAMPING IN YOHO / ROCKIES AREA
DATE: MID OF JULY 17 - 27 DAY TRIP
LEADER: CINDY WASLEWSKY @ twin-creeks@shaw.ca
PEOPLE: 10 PEOPLE MAX

TRIP: BACKPACK TO PIERCE LAKE, THEN CLIMB MT MACFARLANE AND OUT
DATE: 2 DAY MID JULY, SUBJECT TO WEATHER
LEADER: MAURICE DODD @ mauricego@gmail.com
PEOPLE: 8 PEOPLE MAX

TRIP: BACKPACK INTO GARABALDI PP, DAY HIKE IN THE AREA
DATE: LATE JULY – EARLY AUG, 3 DAY TRIP
LEADER: CINDY WASLEWSKY @ twin-creeks@shaw.ca
PEOPLE: 10 PEOPLE MAX

TRIP: 1 WEEK IN REVELSTOKE & GLACIER NP 1 WEEK IN KOOTENAY NP, HIKING & CAR CAMPING
DATE: JULY 29 – AUG 12, 14 DAY TRIP
LEADER: GRANT ACHESON @ achesongrant9@gmail.com
PEOPLE: 10 PEOPLE MAX

TRIP: BACKPACK UP THE WINDY JOE TRAIL, CAMP OVERNITE, HIKE TO THE TOP OF FROSTY MTN, CAMP OVERNITE THEN HIKE OUT
DATE: JULY 29-AUG 01, 3 DAY TRIP
LEADER: TERYY BERGEN @ terrybergen@shaw.ca
PEOPLE: 12 PEOPLE MAX

TRIP: BIKE RIDE (240KM+) “THE HEART OF THE KOOTENAY”, NELSON/KASLO AREA, BOTH ON AND OFF ROAD
DATE; EITHER AUG 09-15 OR SEPT 07-13, 7 DAY TRIP
LEADER: GARY BAKER @ garywbaker@shaw.ca
PEOPLE: 8 PEOPLE MAX

TRIP: BACKPACK THE HOWE SOUND CREST TRAIL, NORTH VAN (+ A COUPLE OF PEAKS)
DATE: MID JULY, 3 DAYS, SUBJECT TO WEATHER
LEADER: CINDY WASLEWSKY @ twin-creeks@shaw.ca
PEOPLE: 8 PEOPLE MAX

**TRIP: HELICOPTER IN/HIKE OUT TO BERG
LAKE @ MT ROBSON PP
DATE: MID TO LATE AUGUST
LEADER: MARY ANN DYKSHOORN @
madykshoorn@gmail.com & CAL FRANCIS @
calfrancis@gmail.com
PEOPLE: MAY DO MORE THAN ONE GROUP
SO CHECK WITH MARY ANN OR CAL**

**TRIP: DAY HIKING / CAR CAMPING HBC
TRAIL: MT. DAVIS + PODUNK CREEK
DATE: SOMETIME AUG 15 – 19, WILL PICK
THE 2 BEST WEATHER DAYS
LEADER: JOCELYNTIMMERMANS
jocelyntimmermans@hotmail.com
PEOPLE: 12 PEOPLE MAX**

**TRIP: DAY HIKING/CAR CAMPING SOUTH OF
MT BAKER AND INTO CASCADES NP ON
HIGHWAY 20
DATE: EARLY TO MID SEPTEMBER
LEADER: CAL FRANCIS @ calfrancis@gmail.com
PEOPLE: 12 PEOPLE MAX**

**TRIP: BACKPACK THE SUNSHINE COAST
TRAIL, WATER TAXI FROM LUND TO SARAH
POINT & END AT POWELL RIVER
DATE: OCT 09-17, 5 DAY TRIP, SUBJECT TO
GETTING HUT RESERVATIONS
LEADER: JANE DESBARATS @
janedesbarates91@gmail.com
PEOPLE: 8 PEOPLE MAX**

**TRIP: DAY HIKING/CAR CAMPING IN UTAH
(ARCHS, CAPITAL REEF, ZION, BRYCE
CANYON NP, ETC ETC)
DATE: OCT 02-23, 3 WEEK TRIP
LEADER: DAVE BIEHN @ dave.biehn@gmail.com
PEOPLE: 12 PEOPLE MAX**

**TRIP: DAY HIKE/3-4DAY BACKPACK ON MAUI
HAWAII
DATE: NOV 06-21, 16 DAYS
LEADER: JOHN MCLELLAN @
jhmclellan@shaw.ca
PEOPLE: 10 PEOPLE MAX**

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 (club sponsor), www.backpacker.com and 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

3	shovels	1	climbing dead man anchor
2	pairs of crampons	13	ice axes
2	avalanche transceivers	1	avalanche probe
6	climbing harnesses & a few carbineers	5	ice screws contact Cal Francis to use: calfrancis@gmail.com

Note: All equipment must be returned in the same condition as borrowed or repaired appropriately. The equipment is being examined to determine its state of repair and will be reviewed by the Board of Directors as to what should be retained, scrapped or sold.

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

Position	Name	E-mail
President:	Grant Acheson 604-791-5808	Achesongrant9@gmail.com
Vice President:	Christine Camilleri	4christinecamilleri@gmail.com
Secretary:	Jackie Chambers	Jackie.p.chambers@hotmail.com
Treasurer:	Irene Hofler 604-824-6741	ihofler@telus.net
Directors:	Cal Francis Carol Ault Pat Ramsden Gary Baker	calfrancis@gmail.com carolault@gmail.com patrickr@shaw.ca garybaker@shaw.ca
Membership:	Tim Yochim	membershipsecretarycoc@gmail.com
Past President & FMCBC Rep:	Ken Orr	orrke@shaw.ca
Club Trip Email:		chilliwackoutdoorclub@googlegroups.com
For trips and announcements to be forwarded to all		
Note: also you can post in members: Facebook: Chilliwack Outdoor Club Group		
Librarian:	Carol Ault	carolault@gmail.com
Newsletter Pub:	Jocelyn Timmermans	jocelyntimmermans@hotmail.com
Website :	Christine Camilleri	4christinecamilleri@gamil.com
Vedder Mt Trail Ass'n:	Gary Baker	604-858-4928 garybaker@shaw.ca