



FROSTY MOUNTAIN - OCTOBER 7

1260m (4134 ft). 22.3 kms (13.9mi).

I had to get up at 4am!!! for this one. Thanks a lot Cal for organizing this hike and punishing me that way. We went for dinner after the hike at the Pinewoods restaurant at the resort and I didn't get home until 10:30pm. Thanks Cal for arranging this. It was a very good way to make amends for that punishing early morning alarm. A very long day but I wouldn't change a thing.



It was below freezing when we started the hike, but I warmed up fairly quickly once we started the trail incline. I would like to be able to describe this hike properly, but it was a very unique hike for me, and I don't think I have the vocabulary for it. The beginning of the trail was quite worn out and filled with roots and steps in the roots and some quite muddy sections, but it was just a steady incline. Then it started up a series of switchbacks which were quite a bit steeper, but still not as steep as the switchbacks I am accustomed to. Somewhere it had to get Really steep to achieve the elevation gain this hike has and the longer this gradual incline persisted the steeper it



was going to get somewhere. I was truly wondering if I was going to be up for it when it came. Further along that question loomed much larger as the trail really smoothed out and flattened out. There were even long sections of almost flat trail that would be measured in kilometers. (You have no idea of how long a kilometer is unless you are hiking it). I'm now starting to get nervous. Anyway, we finally got to the camping area and the hut. We took a break there and rested up for the upcoming vertical wall that must be coming. After leaving the hut we eventually got to what they call the Meadows. I went on a great hike, and someone threw in a bunch of Golden Larches. It seems that these beautiful larches are the reason so many people do this hike. The summit and the suffering are the reasons I did this hike.

We spent a lot of time taking pictures in these meadows. Not only for the larches but of the range of mountains across the canyon from the meadows. We could see our objective - that still looked like it was a good 3 or 4 days away and the jagged length of mountains to the west of it that looked just like the Sawtooth Mountains in Central Idaho. Eventually, we carried on and once out of the trees the thing I was concerned about was right there! And it validated every one of my concerns about all that easy distance. Holy Crap! Oh well, nothing to do but get on with it, so up I went, through all those slippery, snow-covered boulders with huge, sketchy steps and a lot of exposed sections that if you fell you would

say more than ouch. Or you might say nothing at all. I don't want to drag you through every carefully considered step, so I'll just say that I made it to the top of the first peak. This is where the loop over to Windy Joe peak starts and where the sign says USE EXTREME CAUTION BEYOND THIS POINT. Well, I have to go beyond this point to get to the summit, so I am a bit lost here. What the heck do they think I was using to get up here? If I have to use more than what I was already using, I'm in big trouble. I don't miss getting to a summit so whatever it is I need, I better find it soon, because the summit is Waaay over there. Through that ridge of nothing but snow-covered boulders. Oh, Waaay over there and waay UP over there. Oh well, suck it up buttercup. Off I went and Cal decided to follow me so he could take pictures of my demise. He said he wanted to summit with me, but I know better. It was a long, slow, careful process but I finally made it to the summit. With Cal. I apologized for not providing the opportunity for pictures he was waiting for.



There were quite a few people on the summit besides the 12 of us and they were all pretty happy. I forgot to mention that we passed a lot of people on our way to the rocks up to the first peak that turned around due to how difficult and dangerous it was. After lunch on the top and many photos, the really hard part loomed ahead of us. Getting down. It is always harder going down than up. In this case it is also a lot more dangerous. However, if you're reading this, you've probably already figured out that I survived and cheated Cal once again of those photos he wanted of my demise. We got down to the hut again and someone had made a tiny snowman and put it on top of a stump. We all took photos of it. The fun started because there were fearless Whiskey Jacks there and the snowman builder put the snowman on top of her toque with a peanut on top the snowman's head and a Whiskey Jack immediately swooped in to grab it. It was quite entertaining. Then it was off for the many kilometers of hiking back to the car and then to dinner. There were 5 of us that went to dinner. Cal, Jocelyn, Ling, Fred and myself. The food in that restaurant is truly excellent. Especially my barbecued chicken with a glass of really nice white wine. The conversation was also excellent on the long drive back to Chilliwack and my van and then another hour drive home from there. It was a fantastic day. The Joy of Life and Relish the Struggle.



I have no idea what's next.

Enjoy life, my friends. 🍀🍀🍀

There were 12 of us: **Cal** (leader) **Jocelyn** (photos), Wayne, Ling, Vic, Arnold & Rosa, Lorenz, Fred, Iraj, Jaz and myself (**Don T**).

HOPE MT – OCT. 19

I was armed with my FJ and ready to do battle with the road but was robbed of that pleasure. The Hope Mountain Centre did a lot of work on the FSR leading to both trailheads for Hope and Wells Peaks. I'm sure those driving the other 3 vehicles didn't mind.

Just after 9:00am we began our journey, following Cal in single file up a steep narrow trail in the forest. About half an hour later when we reached the viewpoint-with-a-bench, most of us had stripped down to our T-shirts. Hope Mt. was in clear view. You could even see the distant radio towers on top. We then dropped down a bit where the now boggy trail levelled off to skirt alongside an open slope that led to Hope Mt. Frost coated fallen leaves and sparkled when the sun reached them.



Once we were on the slopes connecting with Hope Mt., the trail became steep again. But this time for a good hour or so. After crossing a talus slope where we got our first views to the south of the Skagit Valley, we stayed left at a fork in the trail and within minutes were on a warm rocky bluff. Time for tea. Then we got back onto the main trail and regrouped again at a picturesque tarn with closer views of our destination. Now came THE sketchy part. We traversed a partial cliff, with a low overhang of rock and a very narrow ledge that was rocky and wet. Not a good combination. But there were roots to hang on to and we all took our time.



Once through the sketchy section the views were wide open. A final steep slope before a cliff got us to the summit. There are now 4 green radio towers up there. And a new loo!!! Us women didn't waste any time in checking it out. It's an open "throne" with a sign dubbing it, the "Baker-view" Loo.



Lunch was a long leisurely affair, soaking up the sun and the peaks for a good hour. To our north was the mighty Fraser River, winding along the town of Hope. Kawkawa Lake lay to the east of the town. To our east was the Needle Peak a valley and then the Hope Slide with Mt. Outram tucked behind it. To our south was the Skagit Valley with its river and Silver Lake. Rising up on the left was nearby Wells Peak and south of that were Grant & Eaton Peaks. To our immediate southwest was Silver & Isolillock Peaks. Beautiful.



No haze on this autumn day except for some smoke lingering low in the Skagit Valley.

Going down made me realize how steep up was. Back at THE sketchy section it was a bit more challenging coming from the other end, having to make a more far-reaching step to that tiny wet foothold. Irene played it safe and slid down to it on her butt. Her light beige shorts ended up with a good portion of dirt on them. Sheri said it looked like poop. Back at the tarn as we were waiting for the others to catch up, I heard Sheri exclaim, "What are you doing??!" Irene was sitting on the moist grass and pulling herself along on her feet in an effort to clean the dirt off of her behind. So Sheri said, "Let me help you" and grabbed her feet and pulled her forward. Needless to say, we all had a good laugh.

Down down down across and then up again. Now we knew why they had a bench at the first viewpoint. It was well occupied, and we were reluctant to leave it. But it was only another downhill half hour to the vehicles.

Along for this fine day were: Lorenz B, Iraj F, Charlotte H, Irene H, Sheri K, Patrick R, Rosa P, Mark S, Ling S, **Joce T** (reporter + pics), Tim Y, Lori Y + **Cal F**

OTHELLO TUNNEL & HOPE-NICOLA LOOP – OCT. 27





A wonderful group of members came out to adventure in the rain. We met and carpoled at Cottonwood mall, and of course the weather did not look promising. Oh well, let it not spoil the day. Our objective was to see the Othello tunnels which will close for the season on Oct 31. We parked at the end of Kettle Valley Road in Hope and headed east on the old KVR rail line. Surprisingly, the Hope – Nicola trail came up fast. I suppose it was the great conversation, just catching up with everyone's lives.



The trail is in great shape and the rain let up too. We all took pictures of the colourful foliage that mixed well with our bright, cheerful rain attire. At the main parking lot, we had a quick lunch break under an information sign and then headed

to marvel at the tunnels. Amazing that these were blasted out over 100 years ago. The total trip time was 4 hours, 11 km with a 249m gain. Thank you for joining me (**Irene**), Iraj, Ling, Joanne, Phoebe, Cal, Cheryl, and Simon

PIERCE CREEK BRIDGE NAMING CEREMONY LÉON LEBRUN – OCT. 24

On Sunday, Oct 24, 2021, members of the Chilliwack Outdoor Club, Recreation Sites and Trails, Trails BC, Backcountry Horsemen and friends and family met at Pierce Creek up the Chilliwack Lake Rd along the TransCanada Trail (TCT) for a naming ceremony of the aluminum bridge constructed with volunteers and donors including the City of Abbotsford that donated the 50 foot aluminium gangway, Matcon Civil Constructors that delivered the bridge and materials and Helmer Contracting that assembled the bridge.



The bridge has been named after the man who has been a tireless champion of the TransCanada Trail for the past 25 years: Léon Lebrun. One longtime friend, Don Reid, noted that naming the bridge after Léon was a bit ironic because he was not part of the building of the bridge. However, honoring him with the name is appropriate because much of his work as a trail advocate, trail builder and maintainer has been in the Chilliwack valley.

Some of his accomplishments:

How he got involved in the TCT: After picking up a brochure about the idea of a national trail network he contacted someone at Trails BC (the society charged with developing the BC section of the TCT and said he was interested in biking the trail. The response he got was something like, "that's a great idea, but you will first have to build it." So he began volunteering, became committed to the project and soon became an important player in the endeavor, both provincially and nationally.

- became involved with the TCT project in the mid 1990s after retiring as a princip



worked with Trails BC and eventually became President for several years

- With his administrative background and enthusiasm for the project he was soon deeply involved and became an important part of the endeavor
- Activities have included: arranging for funding from Trans Canada Trails Foundation and other local sources, engaging volunteers and organizing work parties, inspiring others to donate their time and services, acquiring and maintaining tools and supplies, planned opening ceremonies for the TCT, mapping and registering the trails with TCT and Rec Sites and Trails.
- Since 1996 has spent thousands of hours volunteering on behalf of the non-motorized trail user's community and notably on the TCT in the Chilliwack, Coquihalla Valley and Lower Mainland; estimates are he has travelled more than 200,000 kms with his only compensation the cost of fuel. He wore out his first vehicle and his second is now more than 300,000 km on the odometer.
- At age 82 he is not slowing down: he still organizes and participates in about 15 annual inspection and maintenance work party days for the 70 - odd km of trails in the Chilliwack, Silver Hope and Coquihalla Valleys and in the Maple Ridge-Mission area
- When he heard about the bridge opening event his first thought was to make plans to arrive early so that he could install replacement signage in the area.

- he is still highly involved with the TCT and various other trail projects. In addition to the ongoing trail maintenance work, examples of his other recent and/or current activities are:
 - attending as TBC's representative, monthly meetings of the Chilliwack Recreational Advisory Group (CRAG),
 - working with Municipalities and Indigenous groups on a project to try and create a trail/pathway from Tsawwassen to N. Vancouver
 - organizing and leading "Meet Up" biking trips of 50 to 100 km, and
 - advocating for provision of safe cycling paths in the planning of transportation infrastructure
- Léon received the Queens Diamond Jubilee Medal for his work on behalf of trail users, not only for the TCT, but for all non-motorized users: equestrians, bikers, hikers.



Personal notes about Léon:

- volunteers know him as taking a short lunch break and getting everyone back to work "More than ten minutes is a waste of time", according to Léon.

Grew up in Maillardville, BC.

He often says, "A day working on the trails is like having a holiday".

If you would like to learn more about the Trans Canada Trail through the area visit the website trailsbc.ca which provides maps and descriptions of the trail and information on the surrounding areas.

Acting President, **Christine Camilleri**

CONSTRUCTION OF LEON LEBRUN BRIDGE – OCTOBER



On October 15 at 8:30 the Hiab truck & trailer with 4 lock blocks from Matcon Civil Constructors picked up the 48 ft aluminium gangway from City of Abbotsford works yard; the bridge was donated to Trails BC by the City of Abbotsford. Hiab truck arrived at the entrance to the service road on Chilliwack Lake Road, Sandy Otto from Matcon directed the unloading activities.



The 48ft aluminium gangway was loaded onto the Morooka carrier provided by Matcon.



Morooka carried the bridge along Larson Holdings service road to the trailhead. The bridge was left near the trailhead at 11:00am.



Matcon delivered 2 loads of blast rock for riprap and dumped it on the edge of the service road near Chilliwack Lake Road and away from the water line along the service road.



5:30 - 15 October Helmer Contracting crew arrived with skid steer and loader, plus lights, tools, generator and pizza.



The blast rock was loaded onto the Morooka carrier and transported to the trail head area. The Morooka was required as the tracks avoid damage to the waterline located under the service road.



Helmer Contracting excavated down to firm soil and placed the lock blocks two high on each side of the creek. The placement was carefully done to ensure the top of the lock block abutments were at the same elevation and level. The skid steer carried the lock block to the correct location and the loader assisted with the final placement under the supervision of Cody Helmer and Jim Alkins. The laser level was used as well as a 4ft level to confirm the blocks were placed in the correct position. A 50ft tape was used to confirm the 40ft spacing between the centre of the abutments.

The bridge was launched with the use of the loader to lift the end while the skid steer pushed the bridge into place. The rip rap was moved to the abutments with the skid steer and carefully placed around the lock blocks with the loader. The bridge installation was completed by midnight.



A crew from Trails BC and the Chilliwack Outdoor Club arrived at the bridge at about 2:30 Friday, 16 October and add a second 6x6 timber seat to each abutment and add a 4x4 frame around both ends of the bridge to protect the aluminium and to retain the bridge alignment with space for expansion.



A 6"x 6" pressure treated timber seat was secured with 5/8" rebar anchored 8" into the top of the lock block with epoxy.



View of the 6x6 timbers and the 4x4 frame which are isolated from the aluminium bridge structure so the bridge can expand and contract.



The uncertified wooden bridge is in the foreground and the new aluminium bridge is further upstream; the trail required minor realignment on the west side to provide access the new bridge location. Horses still cross at the original ford location.

– Jim Alkins

VEDDER RIDGE - OCT 30



This is a 10 km return hike through a beautiful forest. Dogs love this trail for the soft forest floor and trail runners because of the many short up and down parts. We went with a large group of mostly new members and a few guests. This was a great casual and social hike.



Unknown to me **Gary A** and **Jim S** who are Chilliwack Outdoor Club Members and part of the regular trail maintenance crew went up before us and did some work on the trail. The trail is in pristine condition, and it would be tough to even find a stick on the trail to kick off.



A big thank you to **Jim Alkins** for taking the lead in organizing and participation in most of the COC and Trans Canada trail maintenance outings this year. This year, COC members worked 142 person days for a total of 1,208 hours - fantastic!



TCT -- Hicks Lake section – Oct. 7

CHILLIWACK OUTDOOR CLUB ACTIVITIES OCT 2021

- 01 Oct Hike & Cycle Illal Meadows & Peak. 16 KM 750 MR
- 03 Oct Hike MT Frosty Manning Park 21 KM 1220 MR
- 03 Oct Hike MT Cheam Marilyn Cram Memorial
- 07 Oct Trail Maintenance Slesse Memorial Trail
- 07 Oct Hike MT Frosty Manning Park 12 KM 1220 MR
- 08 Oct Trail Maintenance Trans Canada Trail Hicks Section
- 19 Oct Hike Hope MT 9 KM 800 MR
- 24 Oct Trans Canada Trail Pierce Creek Bridge Ceremony
- 25 Oct Club Meeting Guest speaker Bob Koen, South America Cycle trip
- 27 Oct Hike Hope-Nicola trail/Othello Tunnels 10 Km 250 MR
- 28 Oct Movie Documentary The Alpinist, Marc-Andre Leclerc
- 30 Oct Hike Vedder Ridge 10 KM 320 MR

Masthead – Frosty Mt

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

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