

VOCene #18 - Dec 6, 2006

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I. Letter From the Editor

Canada is shifting towards green. The green party won second place in a by-election in the riding of London, Ontario; a riding that is not even particularly green. Stephan Dion, an x-minister of the environment, ran on policies of green reforms and won the leadership of the Liberal party. Mr. It appears that the number one concern of the liberal party is the environment, and recent poles show that the environment is the number two concern for the people of Canada behind health care (and not by much). Maybe, just maybe, Canada's future is shifting towards a cleaner environment. The recent green movement could be a political reaction to Rona Ambrose's embarrassing performance in Nairobi. Green could be just political opportunism; I hope not.

I know the VOC is apolitical, but we do have a large concentration of people who care about the environment. The Harper government has offended Canadians with his pledge to do nothing meaningful until the end of his term in office. The Canadian public has been so dissatisfied, that both the Greens and Liberals are willing to fight an election over it. Regardless of who you vote for, public opinion will force meaningful change on the environment. A welcome change for the VOC, a group dedicated to spending time in the pristine outdoors.

II. News

-Chris Michalak will be receiving a gold pin for outstanding service to the club, specifically with reference to his creation and maintenance of the VOC web site. The web site has transformed the club, greatly improving organization, information dissemination, recruitment, and data storage/transfer. He will be the third member of the club to receive such an award. Roland also earned a gold pin for his years of leading beginner friendly trips and his huge amount of volunteer work building huts.

-Gear rentals over the Christmas break are allowed. The one week rule is going to be relaxed, but we highly recommend that if you only need gear for a day or two, to try and get it back by contacting one of the two gear masters.

-Dan Eagen is going to be running a VOC photo contest next semester. Please submit

any outdoor related pictures that you think are really good, even if you don't think they will win. We need a large number and variety of pictures to update the web page and for the VOC journal.

-The VOC will be shifting resources from hut building, to buying better equipment. This will have little impact on this year, but will start to show for next years budget. We will have new probe/shovel sets for the new year.

III. Slide Shows

When: Dec 13, @ 7pm

Where: Clubroom

Four months worth of weekends rock climbing around Melbourne Australia by Ben Singleton-Polster

IV. Upcoming Trips

1) Waddington Hut

When: Dec 11-14

Where: Waddington Hut

Wiki: http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Brian_Waddington_Hut_Dec_11-14

Waddington Hut has some of the best terrain a back-country skier could wish for. There is something for all levels although there will be no official instruction provided. The more people who go, the warmer the hut will be.

2) Brew Hut

When: Dec 16-19

Where: Brew Hut

Wiki: http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Brew_Hut_16-19_December

Another trip up to the Brew Hut, a beginner friendly overnighter with enough time to recover from the ski in before you have to ski out. Ideally, you should have some outdoor experience and enthusiasm. Two legs, at least on arm and half a heart beat are also assets.

Quote of the Week: "Allow me a bit of philosophy here... We started tele skiing as a rebellion against rules."

Paul Parker

CONTRIBUTIONS to the VOCene are welcome. Please send all inquires or additions to: vocene@ubc-voc.com.

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(This is no joke, no wimpy confirmation screens will appear, so don't mess around)

Varsity Outdoor Club
