



The Greatest Adventure on Snow!

Canadian Birkie E-News:
January 29, 2016



Birkie 28



Okay, so after some good skiing (it was awesome out at Cooking Lake - Blackfoot last weekend and hundreds of skiers were out enjoying themselves), we got kicked this week with some rain and warm temperatures. Birkebeiner means 'strong in adversity', and we're getting our share of snow related challenges this winter, but we are still on track for the Birkie. We have a decent base over most of Blackfoot, even if it's pretty frozen. The Alberta Parks grooming experts have decided to let it be this weekend and to start renovating once the air temps settle in below zero early next week. The forecasts show lots of days over the next two weeks with excellent temperatures for Nordic skiing and a number with good potential for snow between now and Birkie day. We remain very optimistic that the Birkie is a go. We might end up with a bit of snow farming to do, and Plan B would involve some course modifications to take best advantage of areas of the park that hold snow best. Keep up the snow dances and bring it on!

Checking around conditions in ski areas other than Birkieland, the best bet for those wanting to get out for a ski in the Edmonton area is Gold Bar and Capilano which are receiving lots of grooming attention. Check out the [Northern Alberta Trail Reports](#) for other opportunities that might emerge over the weekend; Drayton Valley and Edson sound promising if you're looking for a fun daytrip afield.

Final Registration Date Draws Near

Wednesday, February 10th is the last day you can [register](#) for the Canadian Birkebeiner, 2016 edition. Everyone who intends to ski the Birkie must be registered by that day (including 2.5/4 km Ole's Tour participants – kids and adults).

2016 Program Guide Available

The 2016 Birkie Program Guide is [here](#) in online or PDF format. Please be gentle to the Earth and only print the pages you need. We'll also provide you with a leaflet in your race package, noting key time and location info and we'll have a large map at our Birkie Information booth at the Nordic Fair to help you get oriented.

Hot Chocolate Sunday Cancelled this Weekend

Hot Chocolate Sunday is, unfortunately, cancelled for this Sunday, January 31st. The trails will not have been groomed so will not be recommended for skiing.

Vikings' Feast

Feast [tickets](#) have been going fast so don't forget to get yours by Wednesday February 10th as well. The Feast is going to be a rollicking good time with a great buffet meal, slideshow of the day's events, entertainment, awards and tons of great draw prizes including great Salomon gift certificates.

Birkie Swag

Birkie 28 Merchandise is ordered and will be available soon. Check [here](#) for a preview!



See you out on the trails!

