

Canadian Birkie News

Apr 21, 2021 [View this email online](#)



New year = new board

A huge thank you to our board members for their impressive effort managing this extraordinary year. While some directors are staying on, there are a few positions now available. Please see our [website](#) for details and consider joining the fun.

Together we will develop and produce the beloved Birkie events. We are looking for people with marketing, social media, human resource, information technology, merchandising and/or event planning skills. We need people with a passion for the Birkie to help our non-profit thrive! [Contact us](#) today.



AGM on May 27

The Canadian Birkebeiner Society Annual General Meeting will be held online on Thursday, May 27 from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Our President,

Dave Cooper, will give his year end report, review the society's financial statements, and present a proposed board slate. If you would like to join us, email ski@canadianbirkie.com. We will send you a copy of the agenda and a link to the meeting.



Virtual Vikings

Your 2021 Virtual Canadian Birkie attracted 1,110 registrants from across Canada, US and seven European countries. Together they travelled a total of 22,000 total kilometers, which is halfway around the world! There were 37 enthusiastic teams and the SKI-anderthals team won the Most Kilometres Group Award. There were: 14 sponsors who donated cash and prizes; and a total of 1,134 funny, scenic and inspiring photos posted! Check out the adventures by following our [Virtual Birkie Group Facebook page](#).



Huge THANK YOU!

The Canadian Birkebeiner Society got through this trying year because of the amazing support of our skiers, volunteers and sponsors. Special thanks to:

King Haakon Circle: Alberta Government, Global Edmonton, Imperial Oil,
Torskeklubben Edmonton, Ukrainian Village

Prince Haakon Circle: BOXX Modular, Melcor, Wingspan Studios

Inga Fra Varteig Circle: Alley Kat Brewing Company, Altitude Energy Drinks, Elk Island National Park, Fast Trax Run & Ski, Ostrem Chemical, Track 'N Trail



Call for nominations

Send in your suggestions for the following two awards:

The Ole Hovind Award is presented annually to the skier who best represents the spirit of the Birkebeiner and the things which Ole Hovind valued – skiing for the sheer joy of it, having fun, joking a lot, achieving something and just getting out there and doing it.

The Founders and Builders Award is presented to an individual who worked to create the Canadian Birkebeiner Ski Festival and/or who has been a key contributor to growing this event over the years.



Kelker Junction

The Canadian Birkebeiner Society (CBS) board approved a motion to name a trail intersection in Cooking Lake - Blackfoot Provincial Recreation Area after Doug Kelker. The Lost Lake and Elk Push intersection will now be called Kelker Junction. Doug was one of CBS's founding members and actively involved for 32 years until he passed away in the spring of 2017. He participated as a volunteer in many ways including Chief of Loppet. He loved maintaining the trails and designing our various Canadian Birkie Ski Festival loppet routes.

“Doug’s contribution to the Birkebeiner and Blackfoot is unique. You cannot separate the two and he was a very large reason for the successful nurturing of that partnership from the start and over many years.”

Birkie Past President, Jim Black



Mark your calendars Feb 11-13, 2022

Our next Canadian Birkie Ski Festival will be held on February 11-13, 2022. Long ski events will start at Ukrainian Village and short ski events will be held at Cooking Lake Blackfoot Provincial Recreation Area.

Please do not reply to this newsletter, office [contact](#) information below.

Photo credit: Virtual Canadian Birkie Photo Contest Submissions and [JaN Studios](#).

Canadian Birkie Ski Events
Feb 11-13, 2022

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King Haakon Circle Sponsors



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