

Canadian Birkie News

Oct. 9, 2020 [View this email online](#)



Mid-Week Training available

The Winter Birkie Training Group is fully booked. We still have spaces available in our Mid-Week Birkie Training Group sessions. Our instructors focus on building ski specific stamina, strength and technique. [Register](#) now to avoid disappointment.

Birkie Mid-Week: 10 sessions; Tuesdays 10:00 - 11:30 am; starts Nov 24, 2020 at [Lower Gold Bar Park](#) in Edmonton.



Birkie ski registration delayed

Your volunteer Birkie Board and Loppet Committee are creating a Canadian Birkie Ski Festival that meets the new government Covid restrictions and guidelines. As a result, we must delay the opening of our 2021 registration. We plan to open our online ski event registration in November. Please check our

social media platforms and upcoming newsletters for more details. [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).



Birkie 2021 will look different

The Canadian Birkie Ski Festival 2021 will look and feel different than you are used to. We are designing the Festival to decrease touch points, and keep our volunteers and skiers safe. The 2021 Birkie will take place over a number of days. By spreading out our ski events we will have fewer skiers on the course each day. There will also be a cap on the number of total registrations allowed each day.



No Feast, Fair or Festival Tent

A number of traditional Birkie festival activities will not take place this winter due to COVID restrictions. We will not be setting up the Viking Feast, Volunteer Night, Festival Tent or Nordic Fair. The Birkie is also redesigning Registration and Bib Pick-Up to discourage people from congregating.



Your voice matters

Thanks to the over 1,500 skiers who supported *Birkieland* trail maintenance and grooming on our Birkie survey! Thanks to your efforts, Alberta Parks has hired staff to maintain Cooking Lake Blackfoot Provincial Recreation Area ski trails this fall and winter.



We have new tracks!

Thanks to our skier and volunteers cash donations this year we were able to purchase \$25,000 tracks for the Birkie's Prince Haakon groomer. We are now able to groom in lower snow conditions without bringing dirt onto the tracks. The Canadian Birkebeiner Society owns this grooming machine, affectionately called the 'Haak'. Alberta Parks supply the staff to run the machines and set the tracks for you.

Please do not reply to this newsletter, office [contact](#) information below.
Photo credit: JaN Studios

Canadian Birkie Ski Festival
Feb 12-15, 2021

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