

Hollyburn Heritage Society

Issue No. 19 – December 2015

Since 1998 Hollyburn Heritage Society has been producing an annual newsletter to inform you of the history & heritage of “Cypress Mountain” that actually involves three massifs, Hollyburn Black & Strachan Mts. “C/M” is the title given to the area by the ski operator for both the downhill & cross country/Nordic facilities.

HHS volunteers have accumulated over 11,000 vintage photographs, news articles; 2008, published the book, *“Hollyburn, The Mountain and the City”* by Francis Mansbridge; developed an extensive website and a Facebook page and an outreach programs using videos produced from our collections.

1908, first ascent of Hollyburn Mt. by members of Vancouver Mountaineering Club, forerunner to BC Mountaineering Club. Since 1923 it is an all-season fun place to be, a wilderness experience close to Vancouver with its over 1M souls.

Incorporated April 2000 and has Registered Charitable Donation status with Canada Revenue Agency, we welcome donations for which you receive an official receipt for an income tax deduction for donation >\$25. Small donation is recognized as a membership and funds used to produce an annual newsletter, distributed free on mountain, and other Operations expenses.

2004, HHS members realizing that Hollyburn Lodge would someday be restored or rebuilt, started to accumulate funds for the project of Hollyburn Lodge, originally named 1926, “Hollyburn Ski Camp”, then 1946/84, “Hollyburn Ski Lodge”. These funds were

set-aside in our bank account as **“HHS Funds Allotted to Rebuild Hollyburn Lodge**. Such donations have been gratefully acknowledged. Group donations similarly treated.

1926, the lodge was constructed at its present location, elevation 3000’, on east side First Lake with materials hauled to site with a horse-hauled stoneboat from the dismantling of Nasmyth Lumber Mill buildings at 2500’elevation. Here, a group of Scandinavians operated a lodge since winter 1923/24, but they found best winter snows at higher elevation, hence the move, Since it was facilitated using their own money and labour, the new lodge was considered privately owned. These owners constructed it for public use – a place to warm up, dry wet mittens, and consume 'restaurant' food as well purchase food. They added overnight accommodation in the loft, using cedar boughs as mattress material.

The foremost impetus for this society was, 1997, Gordon Knight & Bob Tapp concerned about the deteriorating condition of Hollyburn Ski Lodge and its use as a public building, decided to get something done for its continued public availability. People did not want it changed – its ambience was its attraction.

2004, HHS members realizing that their beloved lodge will some day have that “something done” to preserve it for future generations started to accumulate funds for this project. 1926, originally named “Hollyburn Ski Camp”, then 1946/84, Hollyburn Ski Lodge, these funds were set aside in our bank account as **“HHS Funds Allotted to Rebuild Hollyburn Lodge”**. Such donations were gratefully acknowledged, as were those from groups.

2015, over the decades changes in property organization has resulted in the renewed Hollyburn Lodge will come to fruition financed in a manner referred to as “PPP” by former BC premier Gordon Campbell.

Acknowledgements

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Announcements

For year 2016, there are two announcements.

Annual General Meeting

Hollyburn Heritage Society Annual General Meeting will be held Wednesday, May 25th in West Vancouver Seniors’ Centre, located northwest corner 21st & Marine Drive at 7:30 pm.

Annual Pioneer Skiers’ Reunion

2016 is for Hollyburn to host then 24th Annual Pioneer Skiers’ Reunion. It will be held at Hollyburn Lodge Wednesday September 21st from Noon to 400pm. We welcome skiers /cabin folk/hikers from past decades prior to 1970’s to enjoy an afternoon at renewed lodge & swap tales of yore.

Accomplishments

It goes without much fanfare 2015 was a momentous year for HHS. Its signature mandate – renewal of Hollyburn Lodge saw reality. It’s a story that probably won’t need repeating until many decades in the future.

Early 2014, Bobby Swain, Manager “Cypress Mountain” let it be known that Hollyburn Lodge will be renewed next year. At the time HHS members didn’t take too much notice, since these words had been heard before. However, as the year wore on more details came to light – namely, “August 2014 Cost Estimate - \$1,100,000.” There were expressions of delight tempered with “How will it be paid for.”



A couple years previous, West Vancouver Municipal Council voted to support financially renewal of lodge with \$200,000. This amount was again reaffirmed 2014.



An inclusive committee was organized that included representatives from “Cypress Mountain” – Bobby Swain, Manager; Joffrey Koeman, Marketing Manager; Kevin Healy, P.Eng. Project Manager; Jenn Dickie, Nordic Manager - Corporation District West Vancouver – Brent Leigh, Deputy Administrative Officer; Mary Ann Booth, Councillor; Christie Rosta, Manager Special Events; Caroline Hyatt, Asst. Special Events – Maureen Collins, CPA, Accountant – Hollyburn Ridge Association (cabin Owners), Jackie Swanson & Ann Talbot – Hollyburn Heritage Society, Donald Grant & Iola Knight. It was an exciting day December 3rd, 2014 that this committee met for first time. We decided to name this project,

“Hollyburn Lodge 2015 Renewal Project”



At our next meeting, Cypress Mountain had their Graphics artist develop a logo that has become symbolic for the new lodge. With documentary & photographic input by HHS Don Grant colourful information package was assembled by C/M’s Marketing to publicize the project. As mentioned previously, financing for H/L Renewal was a “PPP” – “Private” by owner, “Cypress Mountain” CNL Lifestyle Properties, Orlando FA \$500,000 – “Municipal government” Corporation District West Vancouver \$200,000 – “provincial government” BC Parks Olympic Legacy Fund Award to HHS in 2009 for H/L renewal \$100,000, for total \$800,000. The lodge is a public usage structure, hence there would be a Public Fund Raising Campaign \$300,000. West Vancouver Community Foundation was invited to handle an early amount of our funds, \$62,529 as they attracted better income for it than the bank. Subsequently, HRA was delegated to use their “Post Office” Box as address to receive donations; arrangement made by HRA to receive financial donations “online” and HHS with registered Charitable Donations status at CRA handled charitable donation receipts by Iola Knight, Secretary-Treasurer and deposited funds in HHS bank account. Kevin Healy as project manager looked after “In-Kind”

donations of building materials - soon he accumulated \$100,000. So everybody could follow our fund raising progress, there is a “Fundometer” on HRA, HHS & CM websites.

Completion date for the new lodge was originally October 31st. However, as summer wore on and little site work completed, several unavoidable glitches occurred that set back construction. We were looking for an opening day on December 25, 2015

This date we all had hoped for will not occur. Mother Nature had the answer – an early onslaught for winter. The following story tells it all.

Copied with kind permission from Layne Christensen, Editor, North Shore News & writer – 2015-12-13

**Hollyburn Lodge construction delayed
Restored ski lodge set to open in July 2016**

by Christine Lyon



Construction work at Hollyburn Lodge has been put on hold for the winter and will resume next spring. The restored building is expected to open July 1,

Builders were preparing to put a new roof on Hollyburn Lodge last month, but Mother Nature had other plans.

An early dump of snow was good news for skiers, but bad news for construction. Instead of installing roofing, workers ended up shoveling 10 inches of the white stuff off the floor of the lodge.

Due to the turn in weather, a plywood roof and weather-proofing materials have been put in place to protect the structure over the winter and construction is on hold until spring. The restored ski lodge in Cypress Mountain’s Nordic area is now slated to open its doors next summer.

“We were really hoping for a December 25 opening and racing to that date,” says Jackie Swanson, president of the Hollyburn Ridge Association. “We’re all disappointed that it couldn’t open Christmas day, but it was a real hefty hope.”

The 90-year-old one-story lodge has been undergoing much-needed structural upgrades since September. Once complete, heritage elements salvaged from the building, including some floorboards, windows and historical memorabilia, will be put back into place.

“All of those exciting things, they’ll all be incorporated by the time it opens on July 1,” Swanson says, noting that, thanks to a new sewer hookup, next year will mark the first time the lodge has been open to summer hikers.

Of the \$1.1 million required to rebuild Hollyburn Lodge, \$500,000 is coming from Cypress Mountain’s ownership group, CNL Lifestyle Properties, while the District of West Vancouver is pitching in \$200,000 and B.C. Parks is contributing \$100,000 from its Olympic Legacy Fund.

The Hollyburn Ridge Association and the Hollyburn Heritage Society have been busy collecting corporate and public donations to make up the rest. As of Dec. 10, funds stood at \$1,053,965.45 and Swanson hopes to close the gap by Feb. 29, 2016. A tribute board with

the names of donors will be permanently installed outside the lodge at First Lake.

“It’s such an important thing and it’s touched so many people’s hearts since the 1920’s,” Swanson says of the lodge. “it’s been giving for 90 years, and the way we’re constructing it, it’ll be giving for another 100 years.”

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**Hollyburn Lodge 2015 Renewal Project
FUNDOMETER
December 21st, 2015**

