

# Letter from the President

## September 16, 2021

Hunting season will soon be over, and we all will be putting away our summer stuff and preparing for winter. I hope you are starting to think about all the fun you will have riding the trails this winter!

By now, you should have received a notice in your mailbox and email explaining our club's campaign to raise funds for a new Snocat trail groomer. It has come to my attention there may be some confusion as to why we are going to all this effort to replace the Tucker and for that I apologize.

Over the past several years, the Tucker was frequently breaking down and had become unreliable to operate. We spent \$64,000 over the last four years on repairs and maintenance alone, and countless hours of volunteer time. Towards the end of the past winter season, the front axle housing broke which would have cost \$12,000 - \$14,000 to repair, and only if we could locate the parts. During our search for parts, an offer was made to purchase the Tucker from the club, and so the Board approved the sale at our annual meeting and authorized pursuing the purchase of a newer and more reliable groomer.

We have embarked on this fundraising endeavor with high hopes of getting a replacement groomer sometime this season. Our goal is to purchase a PistonBully 100 Trail Snocat which the Board thinks will best meet our trail grooming needs in the Lake Louise area. We are looking for one that is lightly used (\$100,000 - \$150,000) or ultimately, one that is brand new (\$250,000). Eileen Probasco has graciously volunteered her time to organize a raffle (\$10,000 prize, so get your tickets!!!) and helped us hire a professional grant writer who is preparing application packages for three different grant funding opportunities.

Grants are wonderful but most of them require matching funds, which is why we are fundraising. So, I am challenging each one of you to help us reach this goal by stepping up and doing what you can by selling raffle tickets, donating directly (the club is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization), or helping us find corporate/business donors. There are plenty of raffle tickets available that need to be sold by November 13th and if you would like to purchase one or get some to sell, call me at 907-232-9080 or Eileen at 907-354-3149. The raffle alone will raise \$15,000 once all the tickets are sold. Direct donations and business sponsorships will help too. We have raised nearly \$3,500 to date thanks to the generosity of some of our members.

You can find all the information for "Project Wolf Tracks" on the Lake Louise Snow Machine Club (LLSMC) Facebook page and our website ([lakelouisesnowmachineclub.com](http://lakelouisesnowmachineclub.com)). Please spread the word with all your friends via social media and encourage them to become a club member, buy a raffle ticket, donate to the cause, and spread the word too.

This coming season will be a challenge to groom trails with only one groomer. We will do the best we can until we reach our goal and can purchase another groomer. I am counting on all of you to pull together and do what you can do to raise the money for a new reliable groomer! If you have any questions or ideas, please do not hesitate to call me. I am looking forward to everyone's support.

Thank you,

Harry Holt, President