

About Peace Valley Snow Riders

The Peace Valley Snow Riders organizational meeting was held on October 15, 2009 with the Club incorporated under the Alberta Societies Act on July 14, 2010. Since the initial organizational meeting the Club has worked diligently to promote responsible snowmobiling in the area and in particular, to develop formal trails which are intended to form a network on both the east and west side of the Peace River. In addition to providing another recreational venue for current residents that focuses on the positive aspects of our abundant winters, it is anticipated these trails will assist in retaining and enticing residents and businesses to the Peace Country.

The Club's efforts have been recognized by the Alberta Snowmobile Association who has awarded the Peace Valley Snow Riders with the Mighty Peace Region – Club of the Year Award on five occasions (2010, 2013, 2014, 2020 & 2024). Furthermore, others associated with the Club have also been recognized as follows:

- Francois Allard was awarded Groomer of the Year 2018
- Mighty Peace Powersports & RV was awarded Dealer of the Year 2018
- Dwayne Buchholtz was awarded Outstanding Snowmobiler of the Year 2019
- The Allard family was awarded the Outstanding Snowmobile Family of the Year 2022

Part of the Solution

Northwest Alberta and the Peace Country in particular have a high ratio of off highway vehicles compared to other areas of the province. Those that live in the region often consider outdoor activities, including motorized sports, in the sparsely populated area as one of the benefits to residing in the area. A couple of the downsides have been environmental damage and trespass of private land. The Club is seeking to be "Part of the Solution" by:

- Promoting a motorized sport that leaves a minimal foot print as a result of accessing frozen snow-covered ground.
- Promoting the development of a trail network which directs snowmobile traffic to areas of acceptable use on trails that are cleared, signed, and groomed.
- Promoting the use of shared footprints and other existing disturbances for trail routes to minimize environmental impact and the impact to other stakeholders.
- Promoting safe responsible operation of snowmobiles.

In a report titled "The Economic Impact of Snowmobiles in Alberta in 2009" prepared for Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation, the opening statement provides clear indication that the direction of our Club is in step with the direction of the sport: **"The popularity of snowmobiling as a recreational activity has increased dramatically over the past three decades in Alberta. Sight-seeing close to home**

on a managed trail is quickly becoming the preferred pastime of thousands of environmentally conscious snowmobile enthusiasts across Alberta.”

Trail Information

Developed Trails

The following are common to all of the Club’s existing trails:

- Direction signs are located on local area highways and municipal roads to assist in locating staging areas.
- Each trail has a minimum of one staging area at a trail head which provides space for vehicle parking and off loading of snowmobiles.
- Each staging area has a large sign showing a map of the trail along with conditions of use.
- Most trails have signed Community Access points known to provide snowmobile access for local residents. No vehicle parking is provided at these locations.
- Trails are generally cleared to a width of 5 metres although reduced widths to 3 metres may be encountered in select areas.
- On trail signs and markers are provided to assist sledders with route and hazard identification.
- All trails have at least one rest area including fire pit, picnic table, outhouse and wood shed.
- Trails are cleared of vegetation and groomed, as volunteer resources and funds for contractors allow.

Osmond/Getaway Cabins Leddy Lake Trail (PNT100284)

Operations sponsor - R. Osmond Tree Services Ltd./Getaway Cabins

- Officially opened March 19, 2011.
- The staging area is located north of Peace River and can be accessed using Weberville Road (Highway 743) and the Leddy Lake Road.
- Runs 40 km north from the staging area shared with the Leddy Lake Recreation Area, to the area of Driftwood Lake near Deadwood. The trail also includes a small loop near the Leddy Lake Recreation Area.
- This trail currently offers two (2) rest areas with another being proposed. In addition to the usual rest area amenities, a warm up shelter is available for use at the Leddy Lake Recreation area. The other current rest area is located on the south side of the Whitemud River valley with a new rest area being proposed for the north end of the trail at Driftwood Lake, which if approved, would be available sometime in 2025.
- A community access point is located at the intersection of RR221 and TR864.
- **Getaway Cabins** continues to be under renovation but has been available for rental since the winter of 2019 and can be accessed from the Club’s trail via a short private trail. For more information contact Roger Osmond (cell 780-625-6560).
- Current regulations for those from the local area accessing the trail via snowmobile are:

- County of Northern Lights – Currently does not have an Off Highway Vehicle bylaw in place. Obey all current provincial bylaws, restrictions/bans and do not trespass on private property.

Baytex Wesley Creek Trail (PNT140001)

Operations sponsor – Baytex Energy Ltd.

- Officially opened March 5, 2016 in conjunction with the Club’s first Poker Rally.
- This 35 km trail runs in a loop to the east and north of St. Isidore and includes an extension into St. Isidore.
- The staging area can be accessed from Highway 688 by travelling north of St. Isidore and turning east on Township Road 842.
- Community access points are located in St. Isidore and at the intersection of RR200 and TR832.
- This trail is preferred by many families as it is primarily flat with a short ride to the rest area.
- Current regulations for those from the local area accessing the trail via snowmobile are:
 - Northern Sunrise County – See Bylaw B306/17
<https://northernsunrise.civicweb.net/filepro/documents?expanded=108>

Zavisha Smith Mills Trail (CNT120007)

Operations sponsor – Zavisha Sawmills Ltd. in conjunction with Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta

- Officially opened March 11, 2017.
- Runs 80 kilometers from north of Figure Eight Lake to just east of Stony Lake and includes a significant loop provided in association with the community access in the Last Lake area.
- The east end staging area is located to the north of Grimshaw and can be accessed from Highway 737 in the area of Figure Eight Lake. The west end staging area is located to the north of Hines Creek and can be accessed from the Canfor P-100 road.
- A community access in the Last Lake area is located at the north end of RR11 which is accessed from TR840.
- Current regulations for those from the local area accessing the trail via snowmobile are:
 - County of Northern Lights – Applicable to the east end of the trail, currently does not have an Off Highway Vehicle bylaw in place. Obey all current provincial bylaws, restrictions/bans and do not trespass on private property.
 - Clear Hills County – Applicable to the west end of the trail and the Community Access, see Bylaw No. 212-16 <https://clearhillscounty.ab.ca/county/bylaws/page/2/?document-categories=8>

Canfor Hines Creek Trail (CNT180005)

Operations sponsor – Canadian Forest Products Ltd. in conjunction with Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta

- Officially opened in February 2022.

- Runs 50 kilometers from the Village of Hines Creek to a connection with the Zavisha Smith Mills Trail approximately 6 kilometers south of the Zavisha Smith Mills Trail west end staging area.
- The staging area is located in the Village of Hines Creek where access to fuel, food and the services of a snowmobile dealership are available.
- A community access point is located at the junction of TR850 and the Canfor P-100 road (known as kilometer 5).
- A scenic viewpoint is located near the midpoint of the trail in conjunction with the rest area.
- Current regulations for those from the local area accessing the trail via snowmobile are:
 - Clear Hills County - Clear Hills County – See Bylaw No. 212-16
<https://clearhillscounty.ab.ca/county/bylaws/page/2/?document-categories=8>
 - Village of Hines Creek – See Bylaw No. 573-17 <http://hinescreek.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Bylaw-573-17.pdf>.

Additional Trail Plans

As part of the long-range goal to complete a network of trails on both the east and west sides of the Peace River, the Club is always considering the addition of other routes for new trails. From a conceptual perspective the Club has identified the potential of the following trail becoming part of the local trail network:

- **Harmon Valley Trail** – An Expression of Interest requesting concept approval from the primary stakeholders was issued on 12NOV24 with only one stakeholder reply outstanding. This proposed trail would be located on the east side of the Peace River and be an extension of the existing Baytex Wesley Creek Trail.

Benefits Provided by the Club

- **Members**
 - Responsible snowmobiling on formal trails with minimal risk of prosecution due to trespass or unintended impact to other users such as forestry, oil & gas or trappers.
 - Reduced risk of personal injury and damage to snowmobiles as trails are generally cleared of vegetation, signed and groomed.
 - Access to viewpoints, warm up shelters or rest areas.
 - Social network of other snowmobilers provides the opportunity to meet and ride with others with similar skill levels and family involvement.
 - Given the pressure on the land base for other uses, the opportunity to work with the Club to leave a legacy of trails for future generations while the opportunity is available.
- **Landowners and other land-based stakeholders**
 - Formal trails direct snowmobile traffic to areas of acceptable use minimizing inappropriate use of lands.

- Eliminates risk as formal trails crossing private land or dispositions are covered by formal agreements and include Alberta Snowmobile Association liability insurance coverage.
- Provides a formal avenue to communicate with area snowmobilers.
- **To the local area in general**
 - Enhances the recreation opportunities in the area thereby retaining or enticing residents and businesses to the area.
 - Economic benefits from increased tourism in the area or at the very least, by reducing those in the area leaving for other destinations.
 - Minimizes improper activities associated with the sport and by working with all stakeholders, promotes acceptable and safe practices.

Related Associations:

Peace Valley Snow Riders is a member of the **Alberta Snowmobile Association** (ASA) which supports the Club in many ways including liability coverage for trails, Online Youth Safety Course, avalanche training programs and by working to improve the sport in Alberta, Canada and internationally. Club membership requires the purchase of an ASA membership in the form of an Annual Trail Pass which is valid on all ASA member trails in the Province of Alberta. **ASA Annual and Day Trail Passes are only available on line at <http://albertasnowmobile.ca/> by selecting the Join Now button at the top of the web page.**

Supporters of the Club:

The Club’s day to day operations are primarily funded by the Province of Alberta, Trail Sponsors, Alberta Snowmobile Association Trail Pass sales, Club fund raising activities which currently includes an annual Poker Rally. Supporters of the Club have generously funded major and capital projects when fund raising has been required. The contribution of donations in kind by Supporters of the Club and Club volunteers has assisted in minimizing the cash required for both operations and projects. Following are those who are acknowledged as Supporters of the Club:

Development of the Osmond/Getaway Cabins Leddy Lake Trail

| | | |
|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ace Machine & Welding (Peace River) Ltd. | Lorette Truck Services (2005) Ltd. | Signs by Wood 'N' Art |
| Alberta Snowmobile Association | Rick Serhan o/a 10300844 AB Ltd. | Weberville Community Club |
| Highland Helicopters Ltd. | Roadrunner Leasing and Sales Ltd. | |

Development of the Baytex Wesley Creek Trail (including St. Isidore Connector)

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|--|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Ace Machine & Welding (Peace River) Ltd. | Can West Propane | Roadrunner Leasing and Sales Ltd. |
| Allard Logging Ltd. | Explore Surveys Inc | Shell Canada Limited |

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|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Amen Consulting Services Inc. | Lorette Truck Services (2005) Ltd. | Signs by Wood 'N' Art |
| Avenge Energy Services Inc. | MacMillan Construction Ltd. | Weaver Welding Ltd. |
| Baytex Energy Corp. | Northern Sunrise County | Western Canadian Mulching Ltd. |

Development of the Zavisha Smith Mills Trail

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|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| Ace Machine & Welding (Peace River) Ltd. | County of Northern Lights | MacMillan Construction Ltd. |
| Alberta Snowmobile Association | Daishowa-Marubeni International Ltd. | Peace Fuel Distributors |
| Allard Logging Ltd. | Explore Surveys Inc. | Roadrunner Leasing and Sales Ltd. |
| Amen Consulting Services Inc. | Government of Alberta – Community Initiatives Program | Rosenberger Log Salvage |
| Armarillo Contractors Ltd. | Kirby Controls | Stealth Projects Ltd. |
| Baytex Energy Corp. | Longrun Exploration Ltd. | Weaver Welding Ltd. |
| Clear Hills County | Lorette Truck Services (2005) Ltd. | Western Canadian Mulching Ltd. |

Development of the Canfor Hines Creek Trail

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|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| Ace Machining & Welding (Peace River) Ltd. | Explore Surveys Inc. | Roadrunner Leasing and Sales Ltd. |
| Avenge Energy Services Inc. | H. Friesen Slashing Ltd | Scanalta Power Sales Ltd. |
| Alberta Environment and Parks | Hines Creek & District Recreation Board | Signs by Wood 'N' Art |
| Amen Consulting Services Inc. | Jamey Bettenson | Troy Lorencz |
| Canadian Forest Products Ltd. | Peace River Correctional Center/Northern Lakes College | Weaver Group |
| Clear Hills County | Peace Country Ventures Ltd. | |

Osmond/Getaway Cabins Leddy Lake Trail Maintenance & Projects

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|--|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Ace Machining & Welding (Peace River) Ltd. | Baytex Energy Ltd. | MDP Oilfield Services Ltd. |
| Alberta Snowmobile Association | County of Northern Lights | R. Osmond Tree Services Ltd. |
| Allard Logging Ltd. | Fehr and Square Construction Ltd. | Signs by Wood 'N' Art |
| Amen Consulting Services Inc. | Fehr Building Materials Ltd. | Weaver Welding Ltd. |
| Attack Oilfield Services Inc. | Lorette Truck Services (2005) Ltd. | |

Baytex Wesley Creek Trail Maintenance & Projects

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| Ace Machining & Welding (Peace River) Ltd. | Bernard Fortin | Northern Sunrise County |
| Allard Logging Ltd. | Explore Surveys Inc. | St. Isidore Coop |
| Baytex Energy Ltd. | Mike Kolebaba Water Transport | Versatile Builders Inc. |

Zavisha Smith Mills Trail Maintenance & Projects

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|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Alberta Snowmobile Association | Frank Armella | Scanalta Power Sales Ltd. |
| Allard Logging Ltd. | H. Friesen Slashing Ltd. | Signs by Wood 'N' Art |
| Amen Consulting Services Inc. | MDP Oilfield Services Ltd. | Valley Landscaping |
| B&E Hardware (Hines Creek) Ltd. | New Gen Projects Ltd. | Western Canadian Mulching Ltd. |
| Clear Hills County | Peace Country Ventures | Zavisha Sawmills Ltd./Forest Resources Improvement Association of Alberta |
| County of Northern Lights | Roadrunner Leasing and Sales Ltd. | |

Canfor Hines Creek Trail Maintenance & Projects

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|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Allard Logging Ltd. | Canadian Forest Products Ltd. | Ski-Doo Snow Pass Program |
| Frank Armella | Mercer Peace River Pulp Ltd./ Forest Resources Improvement Association of Alberta | Zavisha Sawmills Ltd. |
| B&E Hardware (Hines Creek) Ltd. | Scanalta Power Sales Ltd. | |

Purchase of Arctic Cat Groomer (sold in 2020) & Trailer

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| Government of Alberta – Community Initiatives Program | Peace River Ford | Shell Canada Limited |
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Operations & Administrative Support (including Poker Rally)

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| Ace Machine & Welding (Peace River) Ltd. | GB Truck & Diesel Ltd. | Rentco Equipment Ltd. |
| Allard Logging Ltd. | Grimshaw Business Centre | Roadrunner Leasing and Sales Ltd. |
| Avenge Energy Services Inc. | MacMillan Construction Ltd. | Ruel Concrete Ltd. |
| Baytex Energy Ltd. | Maximum Powersports Ltd. | Scanalta Power Sales Ltd. |
| Buchholtz Financial Services Inc. | Mighty Peace Powersports & RV | Stat Energy Services Inc. |
| Can West Propane | Mercer Peace River Pulp Ltd. | Tim Lagace |

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|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Daishowa-Marubeni International Ltd. | Northern Arc Fabrication Ltd. | Thomas Homes & RV Center |
| Diverse Truck and Equipment Inc. | Northern Sunrise County | Travis Schmidt |
| Dwayne Thomas | Peace River Go RV & Marine | Vision Credit Union |
| Explore Surveys Inc. | Province of Alberta | |
| Freson Markets | RT Grading and Road Building | |

Contact Information:

The following can be contacted for additional information on the Club:

- Dwayne Buchholtz (Director/Publicity) 780-618-1504 or ameninc@outlook.com
- Greg Cottrell (Director/Membership) 780-625-7767 or cottrellgregory@gmail.com

For maps, the status of trails and other Club information please refer to the Club’s website at <https://peacevalleysnowriders.com/>. You can also follow us on Instagram and Facebook @PeaceValleySnowRiders.

“Peace Valley Snow Riders – Part of the Solution”

