



November 28th, 2024

Subject: Letter of Support for Second Tracks Program

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of Alpine Ontario Alpin, I am delighted to express our strong support for the Second Tracks program, an innovative initiative led by North Shore Ltd. and the YMCA. This program directly aligns with our mission to foster access to skiing, increase youth participation, and build a healthier, more inclusive sporting community in Ontario.

The Second Tracks program is structured to remove barriers that prevent youth from experiencing winter sports, offering local participants aged 12–16 complimentary access to ski passes, rentals, lessons, and transportation. By collaborating with Blue Mountain and local organizations, the program delivers an affordable, comprehensive introduction to winter activities, prioritizing both fun and accessibility. Additionally, the focus on donated ski equipment and clothing ensures sustainability and access for families who might otherwise find these activities beyond their financial means.

This program mirrors the goals of Alpine Ontario Alpin by addressing challenges related to participation in winter sports. Skiing and snowboarding are not only avenues for physical activity but also foster mental well-being, teamwork, and a sense of achievement. Through initiatives like Second Tracks, we see an opportunity to engage underserved populations and expand the reach of winter sports in Ontario.

Further, the program emphasizes the significant mental health benefits associated with outdoor activity, offering participants a chance to disconnect from digital distractions and embrace the outdoors. Research and statistics show that active lifestyles improve resiliency, social connectivity, and educational outcomes. We commend Second Tracks for its commitment to improving youth outcomes in Collingwood and the surrounding areas.

By promoting equity and inclusion in winter sports, this initiative directly supports our vision of making skiing accessible to all and developing a lifelong love for the sport. Alpine Ontario Alpin is proud to support this program and looks forward to its positive impact on the local community.

Yours sincerely,

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