



# NLSF TIMES

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR SNOWMOBILE FEDERATION

Hi everyone,

Another successful snowmobile season has come and gone. This Newsletter will capture some of things that NLSF has participated in throughout the 2016-2017 season with emphasis on some of the season's highlights.

## HIGHLIGHTS

2016-2017

- Season Start and End Dates are a Highlight in itself with a Start date of December 27<sup>th</sup> and a finish date of April 25<sup>th</sup> for some clubs.
- Western/Northern NL, as of May, was still playing with 15ft of base snow in the backcountry and only an hour away from home so the season was far from done for the adventurer.
- Central and Eastern – Experienced extended snowmobiling seasons with an early start and a late end, with all clubs grooming into the month of April and beyond.
- NLSF has experienced a bounce back from a crippling start to the season with hurricane Mathew taking out 200 plus kms of trail on the main artery crossing Central NL but thanks to our Federal Disaster Relief Fund, the Emergency Measures department and Parks Canada/NL along with NLSF clubs collaborating with municipal leaders the trail system was safely restored by February for a record sales season for NLSF.
- 17 Clubs were active and successful this season with the potential for past clubs to return to the fold.
- ACOA Partnerships – Economic Impact Assessment showing our potential going forward and the opportunities that exist to make this a \$100 million dollar annual industry for the province of NL. While the project is late in delivering the final product, our funders have agreed to put a greater focus on capturing industry spending (50 Dealers) to better position the NLSF and its members for growing and promoting the snowmobiling product in NL. Report is due in August of 2017
- Terra Nova Trestle Completion – NLSF with support from the CCSO AND OHVA secured the \$65,000.00 in funding necessary to complete the Trestle (Total Project Cost \$650,000.00) connecting 300,000 of our provincial population to the trail system going East and West.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

• Snowmobile Environment Month (Pictures available on our Facebook page).

• Sledworthy Magazine Profiled – CCSO, NLSF, Parks Canada and Gros Morne event

• NLSF Rendezvous Event – Raised \$1785.00 towards Ronald McDonald House

-Race on the Rock – Marble Mountains busiest day of the year, involves snowmobiling ☑

• Mid-Winter Bivver – Partnered in the promotion of the event and getting trails repaired and open for the event.

• Snowfari – Helped provide support and consultation with Provincial Government to get event trails open.

- \$1,000,000.00 announced by the province to support the completion of repairs along the Provincial T'Railway from last year's Hurricane Mathew (Thanksgiving Rain Storm). Which will bring lasting improvements to infrastructure along our main artery connecting East to West.
- Like any Non-profit volunteer organization the success comes down to the strength of the Club volunteers and at the board of director's level. This all leads to successes generated from the selfless acts of all these tremendous human resources and for that we are all most grateful.
- As a New GM, I will also take this opportunity to highlight what I believe makes this all work seamlessly as possible, our staff! ☺ The Employees operating our equipment throughout the island and within the Administration and operational staff at NLSF! A job well done.

## NLSF

### Partners and Funding

Thanks to the continued support of our membership and partners we were able to salvage a season that started with many major problems from storm damages. NLSF had the second highest pass sales in our history, with over 13,000 this year and with an epic snow season and continued efforts in the off season to develop our trails and modernize our groomer equipment we are hoping for continued growth and an even greater product to offer members and tourists next season.

#### TERRA NOVA TRESTLE

ACOA – \$292,500.00 – 45%

The Province - \$292,500.00 – 45%  
Towards the completion of the Terra Nova Trestle opened in 2017

NLSF -\$ 65,000.00 – 10% Private Funding Source – With the dedication of NLSF and partnership with Parks, many user groups are benefiting from the repairs reconnecting Eastern to Central and beyond via the great trail.

#### ADVANCED EDUCATION AND SKILLS

#### JCP Corporate Partnership and

#### Marketing Position – Sandra

Ollerhead - Completion date May 2017

-Corporate sponsorship package is complete but working with New Brunswick Federation and Drafting Policy to support clubs who wish to gather local corporate sponsorship. 5 Platinum, 10 gold, 15 silver and 20 bronze will equate to = \$80,000.00 annually to support provincial club projects and grooming operations.

#### Other Promotional Events

-NLSF Float in DL Santa Clause Parade – Sandra and Stephen represented awesomely.

-Provincial Commercial Branding – Outdoor Tourism Event at Marble – TV Ads

-M.A.D.D. – Connected and discussing signage in all club areas to promote the reduction in alcohol and drug usage on our trails and in our warming shelters.

-TV Promotion – RDS Outdoor Show – Ranking NLSF as the #2 destination in Canada for Snowmobiling

Destinations, with all 3 offerings; Back Country, Mountain and trail riding. Uniquely gifted with crown land its mix of fun, adventure and accessibility to extreme riding options offers something for everyone.

-Sledworthy Magazine Story on Environment Month in conjunction with GNP, Park Canada, NLSF and Sledworthy

-Mid Winter Bivver Promotion Sponsorship promotion.

#### JCP Bay of Islands Trail Development Project

-4 Employees approved – Brush Clearing, Bridge Repairs, Signage placement and trail safety auditing

-employees were absolutely exceptional, go anywhere, do anything, safe, mature and snowmobile enthusiasts who loved the outdoors. \$4500 in participant support, \$4200 in project cost supports, signage, supplies, wood, chain saws, tools, etc. - \$50,000.00 project in kind. With others pending.

**Summer Student – Application**  
process under review for summer of  
2017- Approved June 29<sup>th</sup>,2017

**Jobs NL Grant – Application in process**  
for Project approval of Trail Safety  
Maintenance Position

**JCP Project – Application involving 4**  
clubs with emphasis on high tourism  
areas and trail improvements

**Other Funding Partners...**

**Town of Gander** – KSA / GASA Bridge Project - \$7,000.00 In funding from Town of Gander and \$10,000 from the KSA Club In partnership with NLSF to link both the Kittiwake and Gander Club. Final request for Quotes has gone out with stipulations of completion by Dec 1, 2017

**Nalcor In Kind Support** – 5 bridges approximately 25,000.00 along with countless hours of heavy equipment support to help share roads for both project development and providing NLSF with a groomed trail in more than 5 project areas throughout the island.

**EMO** – Green Bay Repairs - \$15,000.00 – Remaining Provincial (Non T’Railway) damages estimate and repairs are ongoing with completion set for this summer/fall in ETN, NDSA, JTB, HWL AND WSR club areas.

**OHVA** - \$20,000.00 Grant that will go towards Repairs in Terra Nova club

area to allow for groomer to safely pass over Bridge, with new rails.

**Gros Morne National Park** – Signage placed in all 3 Warm up Shelters promoting safe and accurate park instructions as a support to enforcement and educating riders to avoid fines and going off the trail.

**Events, Committees, Programs and NLSF Functions 2017**

- PAC – Forest Management Planning Committee – CBPPL Partnership
- EIS Committee – Completing the Economic Impact assessment process
- Safety Presentation – Coordinating with schools to deliver Snowmobile safety for youth.
- Avalanche Training and Awareness delivered at JTB special event
- Gross Morne Advisory Committee – Working on keeping Snowmobiling in Gros Morn for the long term.
- Parks Canada Snowmobiling Environment Month – Celebration of Snowmobiling

and sharing information on accessing the park within the corridors allowed. Managing this partnership and compliance to park rules will allow everyone to share in the experience and maintain snowmobiling access for generations to come.

- CCSO – Canadian Council of Snowmobile Organizations 1<sup>st</sup> meetings were held March, in Ottawa, NLSF discussed Governance, Bylaws, Policies and ways to source funding to better position NLSF for groomer modernization and long term trail maintenance strategies. Also met with MP Gudie Hutchings to support NLSF.
- Tourism NL – Renewed membership with anticipated Economic Impact assessment to support winter tourism operators and how they can best maximize the revenue potential from alignment with NLSF. Our goal is to support members by offering quality trails and grooming and help businesses and stakeholders involved in the multi million dollar industry to understand what the industry needs based on recent studies and user group surveys. Teamwork makes the Dream work.

## NLSF WHATS NEXT...

### GROOMER REPLACEMENT STRATEGY –

NLSF is currently reviewing industry wide manufacturers for availability, pricing and options for financing new groomers to modernize our fleet and improve the groomed trail product being offered throughout the island. Once all details are secured from Manufacturers based on inventory available, we will submit to ACOA and the Province for Funding support in the NLSF Fleet modernization initiative.

### Trail Maintenance Repair Process –

Deadline for submissions was March 30<sup>th</sup> (Projects) and April 30<sup>th</sup> (Maintenance) With feedback from all clubs in need of trail maintenance submitted the focus will be on working closely with all clubs and proceed with cost review and determine priorities and scheduling for completion by volunteer or use of contractor etc. Our focus will be on the following off season goals and objectives;

- Trail Development  
Proposals – LTO'S, Permit requests, reroutes, major planning wish lists
- Trail Damages – Washouts, Storm Damage (Claims), Culverts etc
- Bridge Replacement and / or Major Repair requests

- Decking, Runners and Lumber requests
- Signage Requests
- Vegetation Control Requests

### NLSF AGM – 2017

- NLSF will be having its AGM this October in Deer Lake, NL (14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>)
- Policy and Bylaws amendments
- Plans for 2017-18 trail grooming operations at NLSF
- Strategic Plan 2020 Discussion
- Celebrate 20 years of groomed snowmobiling in the Province of NL

### NLSF STAFF

GM – BEN FITZGERALD

OFFICE MANAGER –  
MURIEL VATERS

GROOMER COORDINATOR  
STEPHEN LEGGE HOOPER

NLSF MAINTENANCE – DAN  
GOULDING

NLSF SALES COOR – TARA  
HOWELL - SALES

NLSF FRONT DESK -  
REBECCA OATES -  
SEASONAL

### NLSF CLUBS

NDSC – ST ANTHONY

NETR-MAIN RIVER

NWT – HAWKS BAY

BSGSA – STEPHENVILLE

WSR – CORNER BROOK

JTB – DEER LAKE

HWL – POLLARDS POINT

DSA – BAIE VERTE

GBSA – SPRINGDALE

ETN – GFW

GASA – GANDER AREA

ECSA – CLARENVILLE

NDSA-

LEWISPORT/GANDER

KSA – KITTIWAKE

TSR- WOODY POINT

TNT- TERRA NOVA

TRR - ST. GEORGE'S



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