

March 8<sup>th</sup>

As I look out the window right now I can see snow clouds surrounding the Lodge, and we are all doing our terrible version of the snow dance to freshen up the snow around the Lodge and in the area. As little snow as we have seen, it has still been very good skiing up at Mount Shark and great snowshoeing around the area as well. With the anticipated 5-10cm of snow over the next 24 hrs we should have everything freshened up and ready to finish off the month of March. Still some good availability over the next few weeks before we close and with the 15% discount on new bookings until the end of the winter season it should be a great way to enjoy the next few weeks.

Congratulations to John Wort Hannam of this summers Music in the Meadow concert series for his nomination for a Juno award of his latest CD Queens Hotel – we wish John lots of luck at the upcoming Juno's!!!

Look forward to seeing you over the next few weeks, have a great finish to the winter season!

February 16<sup>th</sup>

I know we are all engrossed in the Olympics right now, and as much as we don't have tv here at the Lodge the Internet has been our saviour to keep up with the action in Vancouver and Whistler. The guests have been asking for daily updates and the excitement in the dining room when Alex Bilodeau won Canada's first gold medal was amazing. We had a wonderful Family Day weekend here with a full house and while catching our breath for a couple days here midweek we are ready to be full again this coming weekend. While everyone is struggling to get some more snow we are thankful here at Mount Engadine that our early season snowfall is allowing us and our guests to still have great conditions around the area and especially at Mount Shark which is getting rave reviews from everybody, with most saying it is in the best condition of any trails in the area including the Nordic Centre. Regardless, we could still use some of the fresh stuff and we will be doing our snow dance over the next few days to enhance our already great conditions.

January 28<sup>th</sup>

Well were have the last couple of weeks gone??? What was supposed to be a relatively quiet January turned into very busy midweek business as we were thrilled to be hosting the Olympic cross-country ski team (men and women) for 6 nights over the past couple of weeks. It was a thrill to have the opportunity to meet the athletes that will be representing us at the Olympics in Whistler and have the chance to chat a bit with them. I can honestly say that regardless of their considerable athletic skills, these are some of the nicest individuals we have met, and their constant thanking us for the 'great food', 'the sauna was perfect' etc., showed just what ladies and gentlemen these young

ambassadors for our country have become. Having had the opportunity to get know them better, all of us at the Lodge will be watching with anticipation in February – well Linda and Kelli will be watching them in person with their team signed Canada t-shirts – woohoo! Otherwise bookings are really busy, could use a fresh dusting of snow, but the trails are in great shape and the weather has been perfect – still some March weekends left, but otherwise if you are looking for February you can take advantage of our midweek rates – see you soon!!

January 14<sup>th</sup>

With a couple of weeks off to catch our breath and enjoy some of the great outdoors, we are ready to open the doors again tomorrow to our second half of the season. We are still only open for weekends in January, but as of the 29<sup>th</sup> we stay open full time for the winter season until the end of March and then for the first two weekends of April. Bookings have been very good and a fresh dusting of snow overnight has us ready for this weekends guests. We had a great email from Travel Alberta this week, passed along from the Columbus Zoo home of Jack Hanna who visited with us this summer.

**Our shows from Alberta are being very well-received, but I wanted to pass along that we've been flooded with emails about Mt. Engadine ! I've been passing their contact information out---so, thanks again for suggesting and arranging that location. Can you please pass this along to our friends there?**

**Thanks!**

**Rick**

**Rick Prebeg**

**Production Coordinator,**

**Jack Hanna's "Into the Wild"**

Yep, that's us - and how good is that!!!! We had been wondering why our website numbers were so high, especially from the eastern United States and this would explain all the interest. Well time to get back to work and get the rooms ready for our incoming guests – talk to you soon!

January 2, 2010

Happy New Years to all of our fabulous guests, staff and friends of the Lodge. We have been treated to some amazing weather over the holiday season, and our guests have been commenting on not only the great temperatures and snow, but also the conditions of the trails in the area which are in great shape. New Years Eve was another fun evening with our main entrée being Powderhound Pilsner and Orange Braised Bison Short Ribs which were devoured by everyone around the tables. Followed by a great bonfire and lots of Prosecco inside the Lodge there were more than a few bleary eyes on the morning of the 1<sup>st</sup>. We had a nice surprise just before the New Year when we received a video copy of the Jack Hanna show, called 'Hoofin' it in Canada' and out of the 21 minute show, over 6 minutes were devoted to Mount Engadine Lodge – great video, way too much time on Shari-Lynn and myself haha, and the great snippet of video of Cara Luft at the end of the show highlighted our music series here at the Lodge. We will attempt to get this segment loaded onto our website over the next few weeks for all to enjoy! Otherwise, we close tomorrow until the 15<sup>th</sup> of January and still have some room for that weekend, and then are thrilled to be hosting some of the Olympic team for a few days and we will ensure we have them well fed and well rested to prepare for the Olympics in February. Afternoon tea has been booming and we look forward to seeing all of you over the next few months, enjoy the start of the New Year and the new decade – big hugs to all!

December 19<sup>th</sup>

It's official – we are open for the winter season and today we were treated to about 5cm of fresh snow, highs of -1C and then finished off the day with a little bit of sun. The forecast over the next few days shows some potential for some more snow, so it is nothing short of beautiful here right now! Shari-Lynn and I packed down the Meadow Loop for snowshoeing (yes, I am going to feel that for a few days – haha) through close to 3 feet of snow, but it is in great condition. Andrew has been out the past couple of days and has groomed both Pine and Spruce Loops twice, and today trackset both loops so the conditions on the trails are amazing as well, and Mount Shark was completely groomed and trackset just a couple of days ago – are you getting the drift (no pun intended) – the conditions are FANTASTIC! We had our first afternoon tea today and several of our Calgary fans were thrilled to have us back open and the treats coming out of the kitchen were very tasty as was Liza's Roasted Vegetable and Wild Rice soup. So now you know I am sore and very full and happy to be back and open for the winter season – see you soon!!

December 1<sup>st</sup>

Well, woke up this morning to a balmy -25C and some fresh snow that Shari-Lynn and I got to play in a little bit from yesterday afternoon, but with clear skies for the next couple of days, the crisp weather is upon us. We have started tamping down the snowshoe trail for the meadow (the snow is quite deep when breaking trail – trust me on this – haha!), and have done an initial pass up the Pine Loop to get ready for tracksetting, but need to clear a few trees first to make this task feasible.

The bookings have been coming in fast and furious and we just took an exclusive booking from a group of friends from Washington state who have taken over the whole lodge for 5 nights next July – should be a lot of fun and we are looking forward to having them all here. Weekends this upcoming winter are going quickly and we are starting to get our January weekends booked – looks like it will be an amazing year at the Lodge.

Hope everyone is getting ready for Christmas, remember a gift certificate from the Lodge for your family and friends is a perfect gift for those hard to buy for people. Less than 3 weeks until we open for the winter season, lots to do still, but we are ready and have a great team on board for the season. First afternoon tea will be on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December, soup will be ready and we look forward to seeing you after your ski or snowshoe! See you soon!