



# THE PROBE

## The Voice of the CSPS Calgary Zone

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**December 2011 (11) 12**

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### Schedule of Events

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Dec. 4	Nordic returning & new patroller orientation at PLP	<a href="mailto:nordic@cspscalgary.ca">nordic@cspscalgary.ca</a>
Dec. 11	Nordic returning & new patroller orientation at CNC	<a href="mailto:nordic@cspscalgary.ca">nordic@cspscalgary.ca</a>
Dec. 14, 221, Jan. 4 - Mar 14	Ski Improvement	
Dec. 4 - 11	Nakiska - NORAMS	<a href="mailto:nakiska@cspscalgary.ca">nakiska@cspscalgary.ca</a>
Dec. 17 - 18	Nakiska ski testing	<a href="mailto:nakiska@cspscalgary.ca">nakiska@cspscalgary.ca</a>
Dec. 18 & Jan. 14	Nakiska new patroller ski-around	<a href="mailto:nakiska@cspscalgary.ca">nakiska@cspscalgary.ca</a>
Feb. 27 & Mar 3-4, 2012	Avalanche skills training level 1 (AST1) Cal/LL	<a href="http://www.mountaindivision.ca/education.htm">http://www.mountaindivision.ca/education.htm</a>
Feb. 17-20	Avalanche skills training level 2 (AST2) LL/RP	<a href="http://www.mountaindivision.ca/education.htm">http://www.mountaindivision.ca/education.htm</a>
Mar. 5-9, 2012	National World Cup & Avalanche Training week	
Mar.10	Division First Aid Competition at Marmot	Speak with your PL

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***Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all of our patrollers from the Calgary Zone.***

### ***Inside this issue:***

*Help needed for new patroller orientations at COP*  
*Avalanche training courses*  
*Ski testing and ski improvement*



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### **The President's Desk** **Rachel Crook Calgary Zone President**

Hi everyone, it has been another busy month with several challenges and there are a couple of things that need to be addressed here.

The first issue involves alcohol and patrolling. I'm sure everyone knows that being under the influence of alcohol, while in jacket patrolling, is strictly forbidden. That is so obvious that it barely requires mentioning. However, less evident is the fact that alcohol is forbidden in any operational situation with the CSPS. This includes days of recertification, at our zone store and in our patrol rooms. Consumption of alcohol in these situations opens the zone up to liability and is therefore prohibited. There have been issues recently in which decisions around this topic have had to be made, however unpopular they may be.

Secondly, we are well into the process of all zone members being cleared by Calgary Police Service or RCMP to work with the vulnerable sector. I want to make it perfectly clear that there is absolutely no profiling being done with these security checks and any suggestion otherwise is inaccurate and misleading. As I stated in my letter sent out with your registration package, "It's unfortunate that the world we in which we live has come to a point where volunteers need to be screened but that is the reality. We deal with all aspects of the public and we need to be seen as completely reliable and responsible, the very work we do puts us in contact with those who are already in a vulnerable state due to illness or injury, we quite often will attend to an injured minor or a person with diminished capacity of some sort. These reasons require us to take the step of having all patrollers complete a security check." It is absolutely up to the individual to decide to



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what level of security check they are willing to submit themselves, but it is the zone's decision that clearance must be done by each patroller who is an active member.

New Patroller training is underway at COP. All new patrollers are required to complete 4 training shifts. We need experienced patrollers to join our new patrollers for 2 of these 4 shifts, and we would ask you to please check your schedule to see if you are able to help our new patrollers by mentoring them. Further information on this is available through your Patrol Leader.

I'd like to wish all of you the best of the upcoming holiday season. However you may celebrate the season I hope you have some time to enjoy the snow and manage to get some patrol days in as well.

R.C. [zonepres@cspscalgary.ca](mailto:zonepres@cspscalgary.ca)

### Operations

#### Elizabeth Oldfield VP Operations

By now, all ski areas in the zone are gearing into full operations and all patrollers should be rostering to help share the load of providing excellent, professional services to their areas.

We have completed the Men's World Cup at Lake Louise and are engaged in the Ladies' World Cup this week. During the Men's races, a lot of snow fell on the course and the Medical Team pitched in with late evening and early morning shoveling and clearing duties. Our efforts were noticed and appreciated by the rest of the volunteer community. John Cassels, Chairman of the Lake Louise Winterstart World Cup Race Organizing Committee said, "This is the best Medical Team in the World."

At the request of the Lake Louise Winterstart World Cup Race Organizing Committee, the entire Medical Team (patrollers,



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paramedics, and physicians) are wearing a distinctive uniform this year to help unify the team and increase its visibility among the sea of volunteers working the course.

Locally, our new patrollers have completed the on-snow segment of their training and are now applying their skills at COP. We need assistance from every patroller with mentoring the new patrollers at COP. If you can spare an evening to mentor these patrollers, we would appreciate your help. Your involvement will help sharpen your skills. Please contact Walter Wirth, the COP Patrol Leader if you can help out.

In an effort to reinforce Rachel's message, I would emphasize that alcohol is not a part of our CSPA operations.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at [operations@cspscalgary.ca](mailto:operations@cspscalgary.ca).

E.O. [operations@cspscalgary.ca](mailto:operations@cspscalgary.ca)

### **Administration**

**Karen Kwong VP Administration**

New CSPA ID cards will be mailed in January 2012 (after I receive them from National.)

Merry Christmas. Live long and prosper.

K.K. [administration@cspscalgary.ca](mailto:administration@cspscalgary.ca)

### **Finance**

**M-A Roy VP Finance and Secretary**

I hope everyone is enjoying the fresh snow.

A couple of items this month.

### **Expense reports**

Here is the procedure to submit expense reports and invoices for payment. This is to ensure proper approval of the expenditures as well as their timely processing.



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- Ski hill expenditures: Patrol Leaders (PL) need to approve all expense reports and invoices relating to their respective hills. Patrollers need to forward their expense reports and invoices relating to hill expenditures to their PL. The PL will then approve the expense report and/or invoice and forward them to my attention for payment.
- CZ expenditures: VPs need to approve all expense reports and invoices relating to their respective portfolios. Patrollers need to forward their expense reports and invoices relating to a CZ expenditure to the VP responsible for that portfolio. The VP will then approve the expense report and/or invoice and forward them to my attention for payment.

### CSPA Store

- The store is open from 19:30 to 21:30 every Thursday. However, **the store will be closed on December 29** due to

the Holiday Season – it will re-open on January 5 at its regular time.

- New Patroller First Aid Starter Kits are available for pickup at the store. The price was included in your First Aid Course fee. Drop by to pick them up.

Please feel free to drop me a line if you have any questions or comments.

M-A R. [finance@cspscalgary.ca](mailto:finance@cspscalgary.ca)

Mailing address:  
CSPA Calgary Zone  
Attn: VP Finance  
1111 Memorial Drive NW  
Calgary, Alberta T2N 3E4

### Public Affairs

**John Bannerman VP Public Affairs & Communications**

Hi everyone: Congratulations to the new patrollers who are now wrapping up their on-hill training at Canada Olympic Park; I've



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spent time with all of you during the first aid course and it's great to have you on board. Please remember that if you have any questions or concerns about your journey through your first year with the Calgary Zone CSPS you can contact any of the New Patroller Liaisons – Angela Dashney, William Dorman, Geof Liddon, Ashley McCulloch, and M-A Roy – their contact information is listed in the Zone Directory. If you see any of them at any of their respective areas, introduce yourself and let them know how things are going.

We've just wrapped up our initial patroller survey – this first one asked returning patrollers about their experience during the recertification weekend training sessions. The results have been compiled and will be discussed at the next Zone Executive meeting in December. Thanks to everyone who participated. If you'd like to

see a summary of survey results (please note that respondents' names will not be released) feel free to send me an email. By the end of December, new patrollers will be asked to respond to a survey about first aid and on-hill training. Please take the time to complete the survey. It's important to identify problems and ensure that further training meets your expectations.

Finally, the Zone Executive has created a committee to look into the redesign of [www.cspscalgary.ca](http://www.cspscalgary.ca). We'll do our best to keep you updated on our progress. And don't forget to check on our website and Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/cspscalgary](http://www.facebook.com/cspscalgary)) for news about the latest Calgary Zone events.

I hope everyone has a great holiday season, and best wishes for 2012!

J.B. [communications@cspscalgary.ca](mailto:communications@cspscalgary.ca)



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### Education Matters

**Andy Hill VP Education**

As winter blows into Calgary this week we are in the process of finishing up the new patroller on-snow evaluations and introducing them to life as a patroller outside of the classroom. Congratulations to all of you who have passed your first aid exams and on-snow testing. We now have 38 new patrollers in the Calgary Zone. Please welcome them in joining the 145 patrollers who successfully completed their re-certification this year. Thank you to all who completed the returning patroller weekend survey; we will be taking account of your feedback when organizing next year's sessions. A similar survey will be conducted for the new patrollers.

Starting from December 5, the next step for you new patrollers is to sign-up for your mandatory 4 shifts at COP. For those of you who have expressed a desire to patrol at a particular hill the intent

will be to pair you up with a mentor from that hill for your COP shifts before you head out to the hills for their specific training and ski/board evaluations. There will be orientation sessions at COP for those mentors/instructors on 1 and 2 December, starting at 6:30 p.m. (18:30) in the Hall of Fame. If you missed this, please contact your PL.

Thank you to all of the instructors and assistant instructors who have helped out with the new patroller first aid course and on-snow evaluations. Don't forget to log your instructing/examining hours in the National Database ICP Log. This also applies to any registered instructor and assistant instructor who are involved in the on-hill training at their hill, to the on-snow skills improvement instructors and the avalanche course instructors.

Ski/board skills improvement lessons at COP will be held on Wednesday nights from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. (19:00-2100) starting on December 14, December 21, and then January 4 to March 14.



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Please sign up on the CZ roster calendar if you plan on attending so that appropriate lift tickets and instructors can be arranged. James Northwood is the coordinator for these events. Details are also on the zone website.

The following avalanche courses have been organized for this season:

AST1: A classroom session will be held the evening of Monday, Feb 27, 6 – 9 pm in Calgary at a location to be confirmed followed by a two-day field session at Lake Louise the weekend of March 3-4, starting at 8 a.m. in the Guides Room at the Hostel in Lake Louise. The cost for this course is \$75.

AST2: Feb 17-20 one classroom day starting at 8:00 a.m. in the Guides Room at the Lake Louise Hostel, followed by one field day at Lake Louise and 2 field days in Rogers Pass. It is strongly recommend that students practice with their gear at least once

before the class; practice can be arranged through Don McClatchie at Lake Louise CSPA. The cost for this course will be approximately \$220 depending on number of students. AST1 is a pre-requisite.

If you are interested in either of these courses please e-mail Don McClatchie at [Don.McClatchie@cmgl.ca](mailto:Don.McClatchie@cmgl.ca) Please note that there is a limit of 16 attendees for the AST1 course and it is open to non-Calgary Zone patrollers on a first come, first served basis. If numbers are short this course can be opened up to patroller family/friends. Another AST1 course is being planned for Norquay, however details have not been finalized yet. The AST2 course is a Mountain Division course that is open to all division patrollers.

A Calgary Zone On-Snow Instructor/Assistant Instructor course is being organised for next year, details to follow in the next Probe.

Other events of interest:



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National On-Snow Course to be held at Brookvale, PEI at the end of January 2012.

Mountain Division First Aid competition March 10 at Jasper.

FIPS Conference in France, April 14-21, 2012.

That's all for now. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

A.H. [education@cspscalgary.ca](mailto:education@cspscalgary.ca)

## **Ski Improvement James Northwood**

Ski Improvement events are now ONLINE! You can roster.

Ski improvement will start Wednesday December 14 and continue until Wednesday March 14 (Excluding Dec 28).

Meet at 7:00 p.m. (19:00) ready to ski in the upper level (NE corner) of the COP day lodge.

Sign up by clicking ROSTER on the CSPA Calgary website, <[www.cspscalgary.ca](http://www.cspscalgary.ca)>. The deadline for rostering is 12:00 a.m. Monday the week of ski improvement.

The ski improvement team is working toward ski improvement in mountain terrain. Check out the ski improvement section in future probe publications for further details.

J.N. [education@cspscalgary.ca](mailto:education@cspscalgary.ca)

## **Hello From Year-Round Canada Olympic Park Walter A. Wirch PL COP**

Greetings Rookies: As you are aware, we need to get you through your 4 training shifts. We have a good team of instructors who are willing and able to contribute their time and efforts to get you



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completed as quickly as possible, while at the same time having some fun. The game plan is to have 1 instructor to 2 new patrollers. New Patroller training will be done during weeknights from 5 p.m. – 9: 30 p.m. (1700-2130) Sign up will be done on the rostering system. While on scene it is a 1:1 ratio to make sure what you learned in class is being practiced in the field. All your hard work and effort in class has come down to practicing. Not to worry though, you're in good hands and so are your patients.

Myself and all who are involved hope you have fun out there so when you get to your hill of choice, it will be a seamless process for you and much more enjoyable.

Hoping for nothing but good things for all of you!

W.W. [wwirch@telus.net](mailto:wwirch@telus.net) or [canadaolympicpark@cspscalgary.ca](mailto:canadaolympicpark@cspscalgary.ca)

### **Lake Louise Whisky Patrol**

**Matt Laws PL Lake Louise**

No article submitted this month.

M.L. [lakelouise@cspscalgary.ca](mailto:lakelouise@cspscalgary.ca)

### **Noteworthy @ Nakiska**

**Joe Van Humbeck PL Nakiska**

Well, this winter is sure off to a great start! Plenty of snow in the glades and a thick man-made base on the remainder of the runs. Starting December 2, Nakiska will be open full time to members of the public and we will be ramping up the services we provide to them (jumping from 4 to 7 patrollers on snow).

Some upcoming dates to keep in mind:

December 6 to 9 Nakiska will be hosting the Noram's. Jan and Bill were hoping that a couple of experienced Nakiska patrollers would be able to help out on each of these four days. These days



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will not count as commitment days, but Jan is offering up double credits.

December 17, 18 and January 7 – patroller ski testing. All returning patrollers (including transferees) must sign-up for one of these ski test days. If you don't get tested you may not be able to patrol after Jan 31. If you have any questions or concerns please contact APL of Education Chris Oliver

December 18 and January 14 – New Patroller ski around days. Are you interested in patrolling at Nakiska this year? Well come and check us out on one of these days. We will be showing interested new patrollers (and transferees) around the hill and answering questions. Please contact me directly to sign-up and with any questions you may have (please do sign-up in advance so that I can be sure to have the right number of lift tickets – no sign-up = no lift ticket). JVH [nakiska@cspscalgary.ca](mailto:nakiska@cspscalgary.ca) or [joevanh@shaw.ca](mailto:joevanh@shaw.ca)

### **Mt. Norquay, a Touch Above Banff** **Mark Bartko PL Norquay**

Norquay Patrol had a busy, yet fun recertification day on November 19. We spent part of a desperately cold day on outdoor accident scenarios involving the Norquay chair. Patrollers demonstrated creativity and skill in dealing with their separate incidents.

Norquay patrollers are now identifiable by a red fleece shirt thanks to a small committee headed by Brook. Our patrolling season officially starts the weekend of 3 December and all patrollers are encouraged to roster for their days.

If new patrollers wish to do a shadow day at Norquay, please contact Mark Bartko at [mbartko@shaw.ca](mailto:mbartko@shaw.ca).

M.B. [nakiska@cspscalgary.ca](mailto:nakiska@cspscalgary.ca)



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### The XC Files

Tina Crossfield PL Nordic

The Nordic on snow evaluation, which was supposed to take place on Dec. 3, has been postponed due to the XC venue not being open yet at COP. It will be rescheduled, TBA.

Our orientation for Peter Lougheed Park in the Kananaskis will be held on Dec. 4. The next orientation will be held at Canmore Nordic Centre on Dec. 11. These dates are important because of the presentations done by the Conservation Officers.

Dual patrollers are welcome! If you haven't already done so, please RSVP so I know how many people to expect.

T.C. [nordic@cspscalgary.ca](mailto:nordic@cspscalgary.ca)  
[tcrossfie@gmail.com](mailto:tcrossfie@gmail.com)

### Letters to the Editor

No submission this month.

### Editor's Desk

Tina Crossfield Probe Editor

Thanks for taking the time to read this issue. You may notice a bit more space between the lines of text and between paragraphs. I have done this to make the Probe more readable on digital devices, such as ipad, iphone, and e-readers. Please let me know of any glitches, such as over-lapping lines or weird font changes. I am always open to new ways to make this publication more accessible.

Remember the **Letters to the Editor** column, which is open to all patrollers. Be sure to check out the new **Facebook** page for photos and winter exploits of your fellow patrollers.

The next call for submissions will Dec. 20 for the January 2012 issue. Have a wonderful and safe holiday season.

T.C. [theprobe@cspscalgary.ca](mailto:theprobe@cspscalgary.ca)



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