



## The Silver Ice Axe

The Newsletter of the Jasper/Hinton Section of the  
Alpine Club of Canada

Summer 2023

### Jasper Hinton Section Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Jasper-Hinton-Alpine-Club-of-Canada/164972823530538>

You can use this link to follow the section, post “short notice” trips that may not be on the schedule, post pictures and stories of trips you have done, and to follow the section.

We have a website! Check it out. <http://accjasperhinton.ca/>

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### Message from the Chair Spring 2023

Hello all,

I hope this finds you well. What a change in landscape with the ongoing threat of fire in our region. It's been quite sobering this spring with all that's going on and keeps everything in perspective for sure. I can't remember a time I was hoping for cold and rainy weather more ☺.

Our section is still recovering from the quiet Covid years with respect to trip offerings. Our board is currently looking into ways to increase our number of volunteer trip leaders. If you are interested contact Peter Amann (trip coordinator) for more information. [pamann@incentre.net](mailto:pamann@incentre.net) Currently, our trip leaders have access to a few incentives including some funding for any courses that enhance leadership skills. Examples include first aid courses, or guided technical courses such as glacier travel courses etc... As a volunteer leader you would need to contact the board to see if you qualify for such a reimbursement. Volunteer Leaders also have access to “**The North Face Leadership Course**” which is a heavily subsidized week-long course delivered by the National Office of the ACC at the annual General Mountaineering Camp. This course is designed for current trip leaders to gain more leadership experience and work on technical skills with other volunteer leaders from across the country. **There are still a couple of spots available for this summer.** Information can be found here:

[https://adventures.alpineclubofcanada.ca/WEB/Camps/Programs/Leadership\\_Program.aspx](https://adventures.alpineclubofcanada.ca/WEB/Camps/Programs/Leadership_Program.aspx)

I hope you all have a great summer!

Sincerely,  
Matt Reynolds  
[mattmountainguiding@gmail.com](mailto:mattmountainguiding@gmail.com)  
(780) 883-1013

## Trip Report: Glacier Lake Winter Camping March 8-10th 2023

Trip Leaders: Sarah Ray, Isobel Phoebus  
and Connor Pase  
Author: Isobel Phoebus



Exploring beyond Glacier Lake to check out the Lyell and Mons glaciers.

On a cold mid-week morning in March, cars filed in at the Glacier Lake trailhead on Highway 93 near Saskatchewan River Crossing. Those who stepped out were inbound from Jasper, Grand Prairie, Golden and Calgary. Six brave souls gathered to make new connections, face the cold, test gear, build winter camping skills, and explore Howse River and Glacier Lake.

Three days of clear skies brought ample sunshine to happy faces. At night, the skies lit up with a full moon and glowing peaks, but temps dropped down to  $-30^{\circ}$ . Luckily our camp was south facing and fires permitted, so we were able to manage quite well. The snowpack in the valley was very shallow, limiting our planned skills building sessions. Uncertain if the 50 centimetres of facets would even work for a quinzee project. We piled and packed a heap of sugar snow early in the day, leaving plenty of time for it to settle. Meanwhile we traveled west across the large lake for a closer look at our scenic backdrop of the Lyell and Mons glaciers. That night, the quinzee ended up holding strong and providing one of our crew with some valuable extra warmth.



Quinzee building time!



The crew (left to right): Sarah Ray, Doug Bodnar, Isobel Phoebus, Emma Pettey, Troy Mostowy and Connor Pase.

Overall the venue was an excellent option for mellow travel, winter beach hangouts, warm fireside tales, riverside adventures and sharing a couple days together in the beautiful winter landscape.

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### **Call for route submissions:**

Jasper/Hinton is a difficult region to get acquainted with as a newcomer. The ACC Jasper/Hinton chapter wishes to put together a resource of favorite and lesser known ski touring routes and climbing areas.

If you have submissions you would like to share, please email [parsonsadamreid@gmail.com](mailto:parsonsadamreid@gmail.com)

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### **2023 Summer Schedule**

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The following trips are filled on a first call first in basis. **Please contact leaders one to two weeks before the trip.** Volunteers lead all trips. **The exact date for the trip may change due to the leader's commitments.** For liability protection, each participant must sign a waiver.

Be sure to ask section leaders what other equipment may be necessary. Some section equipment is available on loan for club outings.

#### **Thursday, June 15                      Crag Night**

Interested in rock climbing? Join us for a fun evening of learning to rock climb at one of Jasper's many beautiful intermediate crags. This is open to climbers of all ages and experience levels! Transportation and location TBD. Shoe, harness & helmet rentals are available at Gravity Gear. Leaders:

Sarah Ray & Connor Pase

[sarahray647@gmail.com](mailto:sarahray647@gmail.com)

#### **June 22nd, 2023                      Youth Rock Climbing at Cinquefoil Ridge**

Top rope and lead sport climbing in the 5.6-5.9 (YDS) grade range. The approach is a moderate 30-minute hike. Participants will meet up at the Cinquefoil parking lot at 3pm and return to the parking lot by 8PM. Participants will meet up in Jasper a few days prior to the trip to review anchor systems and belay techniques, to assess participants' experience levels and arrange carpooling/transport. This trip is intended for novice and intermediate climbers aged between 13 and 18. Aspiring participants who fall outside of that age range should contact the trip leader prior to registering. A maximum of six participants will be invited to join the trip.

For those interested in top rope climbing, no prior experience is necessary. However, participants must provide their own harnesses, helmets, rock shoes and belay devices. The trip leader will supply two climbing ropes for top-rope climbing. Participants who wish to lead climb should have prior experience and must provide their own quick-draws and ropes.

Trip leader:

Doug Olthof

[dougolthof@gmail.com](mailto:dougolthof@gmail.com)

780-852-8612

**July 13th, 2023**

**Youth Rock Climbing at the Suburbs**

Top rope and lead sport climbing in the 5.9-5.11 (YDS) grade range. The approach is a moderate 15-minute hike. Participants will meet up at the Suburbs pullout lot at 3pm and return to the pullout by 8PM. Participants will meet up in Jasper a few days prior to the trip to review anchor systems and belay techniques, to assess participants' experience levels and arrange carpooling/transport. This trip is intended for novice and intermediate climbers aged between 13 and 18. Aspiring participants who fall outside of that age range should contact the trip leader prior to registering. A maximum of six participants will be invited to join the trip.

For those interested in top rope climbing, no prior experience is necessary. However, participants must provide their own harnesses, helmets, rock shoes and belay devices. The trip leader will supply two climbing ropes for top-rope climbing. Participants who wish to lead climb should have prior experience and must provide their own quick-draws and ropes.

Trip leader:

Doug Olthof

[dougolthof@gmail.com](mailto:dougolthof@gmail.com)

780-852-8612

**Thursday July 13**

**Guide's Route, Morro Peak**

One of Jasper's oldest and most classic climbs up the Southwest Face of Morro Peak. This climb is a mix of sport and traditional protection. Familiarity with multi-pitch climbing and traditional gear is encouraged, but only experience lead belaying is required. This climb has a walk-off route so no rappelling is required. Participant must bring their own harness, helmet, shoes.

Expect 6-7 hours round trip. \*\*Very limited space\*\*

Trip Leader:

Connor Pase

[connor.pase@hotmail.com](mailto:connor.pase@hotmail.com)

**Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Roche Bonhomme scramble**

If you've always wondered about climbing Old Man, now is your chance! Join Sarah for a lovely day in the hills. This trail is steep in sections and involves some short steps of scrambling.

Experience in scrambling terrain is highly encouraged. Good, supportive hiking shoes/boots are a must. Expect 8-9 hours round trip.

Trip Leader:

Sarah Ray

[sarahray647@gmail.com](mailto:sarahray647@gmail.com)

**July 24<sup>th</sup> Monday**

**Mica Mine Trail**

Explore the old mine site where in the 1890s horses were used to haul Mica down the mountain. The trail and cat-track were updated in the early 1990's. This strenuous hike near Valemound leads to the old mine site then onto the ridge which can be traveled for a while for views of the Caribboos. It is over 1100m of elevation gain on a steep rough trail. Folks will need a vehicle with decent clearance to get us up the first 9km to the parking area. Participants should be fit and bring lots of water. More details on the hike can be googled.

I am somewhat flexible on the date, see what kind of interest there is. Heck, you can even bring your dog, just bring water for him/her.

Trip Leader:

**August 3****Youth Rock Climbing at the Rock Gardens**

Top rope and lead sport climbing in the 5.9-5.11 (YDS) grade range. The approach is a moderate 15-minute hike. Participants will meet up at the 5<sup>th</sup> Bridge parking lot at 3pm and return to the parking lot by 8PM. Participants will meet up in Jasper a few days prior to the trip to review anchor systems and belay techniques, to assess participants' experience levels and arrange carpooling/transport. This trip is intended for novice and intermediate climbers aged between 13 and 18. Aspiring participants who fall outside of that age range should contact the trip leader prior to registering. A maximum of six participants will be invited to join the trip.

For those interested in top rope climbing, no prior experience is necessary. However, participants must provide their own harnesses, helmets, rock shoes and belay devices. The trip leader will supply two climbing ropes for top-rope climbing. Participants who wish to lead climb should have prior experience and must provide their own quickdraws and ropes.

Trip leader:

Doug Olthof

[dougolthof@gmail.com](mailto:dougolthof@gmail.com)

780-852-8612

**Thursday, August 3****Morro Canyon Descent**

Did you know that there is a beautiful canyon with tall walls and narrow corridors between Morro Peak and Hawk Mountain? Equipped with some canyoning gear and techniques, we will first, hike up to the summit of Morro Peak (1.5-2hrs), drop down the backside, and rappel the canyon. This is a technical canyon that requires rappelling, but does not have flowing water (there may be a couple pools of water - and there is a chance of getting a little wet). No experience is required, but participants must bring their own harness and helmet.

Trip Leaders:

Sarah Ray & Connor Pase

[sarahray647@gmail.com](mailto:sarahray647@gmail.com)

**September 1,2, and 3                      Fryatt Hut**

2 nights stay. Hiking out Monday Sept.4th.

22km one way, about 6 hours in.

Please don't make this trip your first and only trip of the season. Bring your own food.

The hut has bedding, mattress pads, bring your own sleeping bag.

Propane stove provided. Bathroom: outhouse.

Trip Leader

Claire Levesque

[claire.levesque@telus.net](mailto:claire.levesque@telus.net)

## GUIDELINES FOR TRIP PARTICIPANTS

Amateur volunteer hikers, skiers and climbers coordinate all trips listed in the Jasper-Hinton Section's trip schedule. When on a trip, participants must act in a manner that is safe and responsible and participants are expected to bring the equipment requested by the trip leader. Participants should find out the requirements and demands of the trip well in advance by asking the leader and researching the trip in guidebooks and other literature. Further guidelines for participants are listed below.

1. Be prepared to complete an insurance waiver form.
2. You must be a member of the Alpine Club of Canada to join a trip.
3. Sign up for trips that will challenge you, but are not beyond your abilities. If unsure, ask the trip leader and tell them your experience and fitness level – **be honest**. People inexperienced in the mountains should start with easier trips.
4. Learn about the trip before you attend (which route, number of kilometers, amount of vertical gain/loss, type of terrain, length of day, etc.).
5. Give as much notice as possible to the Trip Leader if you are unable to go on the trip. There are often waiting lists of other members who would like to go.
6. Ensure that you have the right equipment and that it is in good repair.
7. For winter trips, make sure that you are using a digital avalanche transceiver and that it is in good working order. Single antenna (analog) transceivers are not acceptable.
8. Bring your helmet on all moderate and difficult scrambles, alpine, rock and ice climbs. Leaders may ask you to bring your helmet on certain ski trips as well.
9. Offer to drive, share expenses and be prepared to carry a part of the "group gear" (ropes, etc). The trip leader has often invested considerable time prior to the trip, investigating the route, reviewing the avalanche hazard, etc. and is often supplying his/her own equipment. Show your appreciation for this effort.



## **Section Executive**

### **Chair**

Matt Reynolds

[mattmountainguiding@gmail.com](mailto:mattmountainguiding@gmail.com)

### **Co-chair**

Cam Jenkins

[jasperfreeridecam@gmail.com](mailto:jasperfreeridecam@gmail.com)

### **Section Representative**

Claire Levesque

[claire.levesque@telus.net](mailto:claire.levesque@telus.net)

### **Trip Coordinator & Newsletter Editor**

Peter Amann

[pamann@incentre.net](mailto:pamann@incentre.net)

### **Treasurer**

Estelle Stewart

[Estelle@jaspercanadianrockies.com](mailto:Estelle@jaspercanadianrockies.com)

### **Membership Services**

Doug Olthof

[dougolthof@gmail.com](mailto:dougolthof@gmail.com)

### **Webmaster**

Ben Nearingburg

[ben.nearingburg@gmail.com](mailto:ben.nearingburg@gmail.com)

### **Access and environment representative**

Adam Parsons

[parsons.adamreid@gmail.com](mailto:parsons.adamreid@gmail.com)

### **Events Coordinator**

Sarah Ray

[sarahray647@gmail.com](mailto:sarahray647@gmail.com)

### **Leadership training and development**

Isobel Phoebus

[isobelphoebus@gmail.com](mailto:isobelphoebus@gmail.com)

