



**Discover the Beauty of the Backcountry - Welcome Back Winter**



We loved the crisp clean air of the fall season at Purcell Mountain Lodge. Our Purcell family of caretakers have watched the muted colours of the terrain transform from earthy greens to golden hues and now into a blanket of white powder. Caretakers Butch, Kelly & Joel were busy the last weeks overseeing the mechanical systems and managing the continuous fresh snowfall. December Caretakers Doug & Cathy and Thomas and Murray will complete the final preparations leading into our festive holiday tours. Over 180 cm of glistening powder has fallen and more soft pillows are forming. For skiers craving that magical feeling only

mountains can bring December is an exciting month ahead. Everyday is a glimpse of what is to come as the snow continues to drape the mountaintops. December offers comfort and joy as skiers are rest assured a deep alpine base is forming. Whistler, Revelstoke and Kicking Horse Mountain Resort in British Columbia have opened and have reported above average conditions. As we welcome the last month of the year, it is important to start getting conditioned for the upcoming winter season. The best way to get your ski legs conditioned is to sort out your gear and head for the slopes. Be cautious in your travels to the mountains wherever you may venture too. There are ample resorts and mountains terrain to choose from to celebrate that winter has arrived. Welcome back!

**The Banff Film Festival** was a wonderful way to ease into winter and connect with past guests. It was a joy to meet new backcountry enthusiasts too. Purcell Lodge representatives Jackie, Sarah, Hugh and Cheryl were at the Mountain Market with warm greetings and smiles and shared information about the upcoming guided or self guided winter season. We appreciated all the valuable feedback from Purcell Lodge friends and embraced the positive energy of the fun crowd of film goers.

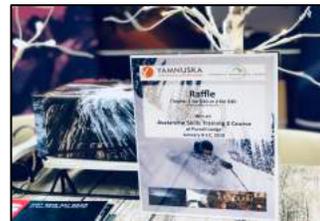


Backcountry Lodges of BC Association Executive Director Brad Harrison was in Banff representing the BLBCA along with many of the Backcountry Lodge Association family of operators Selkirk Mountain Experience, Talus Lodge, Sol Lodge, Assiniboine Lodge and Icefall Lodge.



The **AST 2 Banff Film Festival** raffle in partnership with Yamnuska Mountain Experience was a success. The lucky winner will attend the AST 2 course January 8-12 at Purcell Mountain Lodge.  
**Congratulations to Anne-Sophie Champagne for winning the AST 2 Raffle.**

Thank you dear friends for stopping by and entering the draw, we look forward to seeing you at next year's show!



**Enjoy Newly Stocked 2017 Banff Mountain Competition Award Winning Books in our Lodge Library this Winter**



**Imagine This Valley Essays and Stories Celebrating the Bow Valley**  
 Collected by Stephen Legault.  
**Art of Freedom The Life and Climbs of Voytek Kurtyks**  
 By Bernadette McDonald  
**Rising Abruptly**  
 Stories By Gisele Villeneuve  
**The Push A Climbers Journey of Endurance, Risk, and Going Beyond Limits**  
 By Tommy Caldwell

## December Holiday Tours Update

Holiday season draws record crowds to resorts which is why flying into the backcountry continues to be the best choice to stay and play. Each year more families are booking to maximize quality family time. It is a royal treat for everyone to be able to take in outdoor activities right at our doorstep. Gourmet meals prepared by creative adventure Chef Grace will finish off a perfect day of rocky mountain high. We continue to welcome all ages and abilities and customize each tour based on guest needs. Limited **Helicopter seats and accommodations** on guided and catered tours **December 26-29, January 1-5 and January 5-8 are available.** Call Jackie at 1 888 767 8989 for best rates & last minute deals.



If you are looking for creative holiday gifts for the upcoming 2018 season here are a few ideas...



- Become an Affiliate Member of the Backcountry Lodges of BC Association \$25.00;
- Purcell Mountain Lodge privately guided Snowshoe Tours in the Backcountry \$1500 + tax per person in January to April;
- Yamnuska's Mountain Adventures AST 2 Course January 8-12 \$1700 + tax per person for an all inclusive 5 days trip includes helicopter flight, instructor, course, meals and accommodations;
- Valentine's Day in the Rockies -February 12-16, 2018 - Choose Guided Alpine ski touring or Guided Snowshoe tour \$2311 per person + tax;



*Due to high enrolment Yamnuska Mountain Adventures has opened registration for a second AST 2 course at Purcell Mountain Lodge. Eight spots are available. Course Instructors are Dave Stark and Darcy Chilton*

### Avalanche Safety Training 2 Purcell Mountain Lodge, Golden British Columbia \$1700 + Tax Five Days in the Backcountry All Inclusive

Includes helicopter transportation to and from Golden, British Columbia  
Private accommodations for four nights, all meals and snacks,  
AST Level 2 Instructor & AST 2 Certificate upon Completion of Course  
**Course Date Monday January 8 to Friday January 12, 2018**



Learn how to be cautious and safe in steep backcountry terrain. This is the perfect course if you are a serious winter mountaineer or backcountry skier that seeks a solid foundation to expand your safety knowledge. Take time and invest in yourself this winter and increase your knowledge and gain hands on experience in this essential course.



## Ring in 2018 with January Self Catered and Self Guided Tours

Spending time in the mountains will form lasting bonds with family and friends. Take advantage of early season January special rates. The best price for a group can be offered for a full helicopter load of six passengers flying in. The private Chalet is a perfect option for small groups with two bedrooms accommodations for up to 8 guests. Alternatively, the main Lodge has ten appointed guests rooms with different sleeping configurations and can sleep up to 28 guests.



January 1-January 5  
 January 5-January 8  
 January 8-January 12  
 January 12-January 15



January 19-January 22  
 January 22-January 26  
 January 26-January 29  
 January 29-February 2

*Team work  
 makes the  
 Dream work*

### Purcell Family Pride

Welcoming back a dedicated team this winter. The care of each and every one of our Purcell family shows that commitment and unity are powerful. Teamwork makes the dream work and when we come together as one it is a magical journey.

*Thank  
 you!*

#### Apprentice ACMG Ski Guides

Sarah  
 Kirstin

#### ACMG Ski Guides

Burke  
 Ken  
 Aaron  
 Stewart

#### Tail Guides/ Volunteer Guides

Peter  
 Tim  
 Kyle  
 David

#### Host/Caretakers

Hugh & Cheryl  
 Lara  
 Dylan  
 Martina & Luke  
 Thomas & Murray  
 Laura

#### Adventure Chefs

Peter  
 Grace

#### Stagers/Expeditors

David  
 Jamie

#### Host/Caretakers

Doug & Cathy  
 Butch  
 Ladd & Sheila  
 Mady & Larry  
 Erin & Tim  
 Tony

### Interesting Tidbits About Our Purcell Mountain Lodge Family

#### Leah Evans, Airplane Mode Camp Purcell Mountain Lodge, August 2017

Leah's first Airplane Mode camp at Purcell Lodge was an experiment to connect a group of strangers thru nature, self awareness and laughter. The mandate of the camp was "Disconnect to Connect". It was a weekend getaway from the outside world.





**Leah Evans, Purcell Mountain Lodge Assistant Hiking Guide,  
Pro Skier, Girls Do Ski Proprietor, Cabin Jams Documentary  
Producer & Airplane Mode Camp Director**

“How to Disconnect for Deeper Connection”  
Written by Cassidy Randall

Go to [patagonia.com](http://patagonia.com) to read the article  
<https://www.patagonia.com/blog/2017/11/how-to-disconnect-for-deeper-connection/>

**David Perez, Purcell Mountain Lodge Expediter and Stager Xplore Golden Proprietor, Golden BC**



Customers can learn about Golden’s unique history, local industry and culture of the locals. Offering relaxed casual sightseeing and nature walks that are safe and accessible experiences for everyone to enjoy. Small and large bookings welcome. Contact David at [info@xploregolden.com](mailto:info@xploregolden.com) or call 1 250 939 8419. The company has a pristine 15 passenger vans available for transporting groups around Golden. Round trip transportation options from Calgary airport to Golden, B.C..



**Aaron Enns, ACMG Purcell Mountain Ski Guide and Artist from Golden B.C.**

Aaron has over 10 years guiding in the Purcells, Selkirks and Rockies. When Aaron is not at Purcell Lodge he is guiding at other reputable ski touring, helicopter and cat ski operations. If Aaron is not skiing you can find him painting, gardening and mountain biking. All his artwork is inspired by the great outdoors.



View more of Aaron’s art on:  
[@aaronskienns](https://www.instagram.com/aaronskienns)

Contact him directly at  
[aaronskienns@hotmail.com](mailto:aaronskienns@hotmail.com)



Aaron’s creations can be purchased at:  
Art Gallery of Golden  
Peaks Grill at the base of the Kicking Horse Ski Hill  
Bachus Books Café, Pleiades Spa Radium Hot Springs  
Jita’s Cafe

Aaron enjoys sharing his passion for the mountains with the new friends he meets at Purcell Lodge. If you would like Aaron to guide you for the upcoming 2017/2018 or 2018/2019 season please call 1 888 767 8989 to inquire about his availability or contact Aaron at [aaronskienns@hotmail.com](mailto:aaronskienns@hotmail.com)

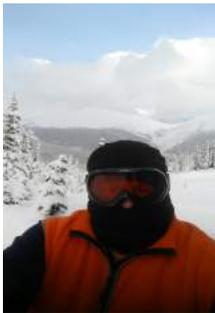
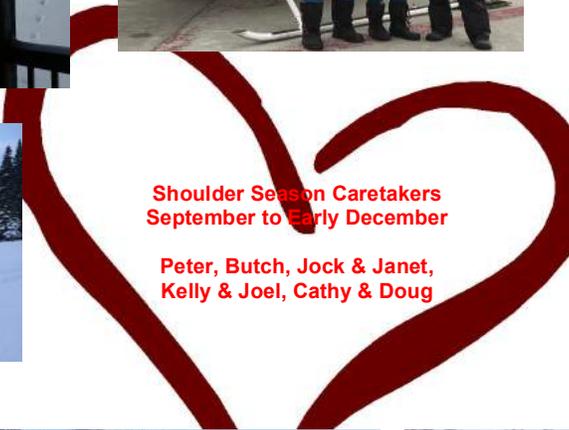
**Purcell Mountain Lodge Community Initiatives**

True North Mission Society  
U of C Emergency Faculty of Medicine  
Canadian Transplant Association  
Ronald McDonald House  
The Alex

Cochrane Alliance  
Win 4 Skin  
Snowflake Gala  
Jasper Park Chamber of Commerce  
Canadian Liver Foundation

Children’s Hospital Aid Society  
Ducks Unlimited  
Fashion For Compassion Breast Cancer Awareness  
Heritage Park  
LIVERight Gala

We continue to work within the community and provide ongoing support to non profit organizations. Through this incredible program we are able to welcome bucket list newcomers to the backcountry. Thank you to our many guests who opened their hearts and supported the numerous charities by bidding on a two guest certificate package. Together we can all achieve more. Please continue to lend a helping hand and support the numerous worthy causes. We thank you for kindness, generosity and care.



**Friends of Purcell Mountain Lodge** Last June, Bart Schouten, National Long Track Speed Skating Coach brought members of Team Canada to the Lodge for high altitude training. Congratulations to Ivanie Blondin and Ted-Jan Bloemen, both earned medal standings at the World Cup Races held in Norway in November.



ISU WORLD CUP SPEED SKATING 2017-2018			
FLOWER CEREMONY MEN 1000m			
1	Sven KRAMER	NED	12:50.97
2	Ted-Jan BLOEMER	CAN	12:52.64
3	Erik-Jan KOEHLMAN	NED	12:57.33