

51st Annual CSEG Family Ski Spree

The 51st Annual CSEG Family Ski Spree was held from February 23 – 25, 2018 at the beautiful Fairmont Hot Springs Resort in Fairmont, B.C.

Fifty-four CSEG members brought their families to B.C. for this weekend that saw a total of 223 participants. It was a weekend of fun for everyone of all ages and skill levels. You definitely didn't need to ski in order to participate. The format for the weekend is a long-standing tradition that focuses on all the children while keeping the adults entertained.

Friday evening began with family registration and name tags supplied by Eagle Canada Seismic Services and then the games began! The CSEG Toddler Room, ages 0-4, was filled with safe and age-appropriate toys. The EXPLOR Mini Mixer, ages 5-11, was where all the action was. There were multiple crafts for everyone, some needing adult supervision and some not. Pizza, snacks and drinks were readily available throughout the evening. Everyone then helps in the massive clean-up as we set up for a Night at the Movies.

Everyone knows how hard it is to keep the teenagers occupied, but the volunteers in the Teen Room, ages 12-18, seemed to have the formula for success. The night was centered around a scavenger hunt that scattered the teens to all corners of the hotel, along with interactive games that kept teens occupied most of the night. Again, tons of pizza, snacks and drinks for all.

Let's not forget about the adults! The Absolute Imaging Mogul Mixer was a chance to meet up with old friends and make new ones as the adults gathered for an Italian buffet. This was followed by the Divestco Ski Spree Grande Prix, racing Hot Wheels cars on a 10m track. Entertainment for the adults then continued upstairs in the Bear's Paw as DJ Nico spun tunes later into the evening.

Saturday was focused on the Fairmont Hot Springs Resort Ski Area, about a 5-minute drive from the hotel. For the younger generation, the LXL Consulting Ltd. Snow Snake Hunt and the Earth Signal Processing Ltd. Obstacle Race occupied the beginner hill. Children of all abilities navigated the minimal difficulty obstacle course and searched for snakes in the snow to receive small prizes. For everyone else, they were encouraged to participate in the Seitel Canada Ltd. Snowboard Races and/or the Katalyst Data Management Downhill Races.

Participants raced side-by-side against their parents, siblings or friends. The race commentary done by Peter Harding from Fairmont Ski Hill provided great entertainment to everyone as it could be heard all over the Main Hill. Lunch was provided courtesy of Integrity Industries Ltd. and TGS provided Cocoa on the Mountain at the top of the ski lift. There was just enough time after all the events on the hill for many of the participants to take a quick dip in the giant hot tub before heading for dinner.

Saturday dinner saw all the families seated together as the Ski Spree Committee recognized the sponsors for the weekend and handed out all the awards from the day. Table wine for evening was sponsored by SISMA Drilling. A charity raffle is held each year and this year we were raffling off 2 Canada Goose jackets donated by Inn From The Cold, a pair of diamond earrings donated by Jewels By Maxime's, and a pendant donated Korite International, along with a PS4, wine basket, team Canada Olympic apparel, Flames tickets and a Hitmen suite, all donated by various companies. These items raised \$3,270.00 for "Inn From the Cold", and \$1,000.00 for the CSEG Foundation.

Mr. & Mrs. Ski Spree is an award that recognizes years of participation and a visible positive attitude towards this event and it was given this year to Roger and Rigel Bilger.

For the adults, the night did not end after dinner. Synterra Technologies Ltd. Late Night occurred in the Bear's Paw lounge, again, with DJ Nico providing the music for the evening. In another difficult year for the industry, the 2018 CSEG Family Ski Spree is extremely grateful for all the sponsors that donated what they could for this fantastic event. All it takes is to have seen all the kids faces either in the Crafts Room on Friday night or coming off the hill on Saturday to know that it was worth it. On behalf of the organizing committee we hope that everyone had a wonderful and fun-filled weekend and we look forward to seeing everyone again in 2019 at our 52nd celebration.

GEOFF CASTLE

CSEG FAMILY SKI SPREE CHAIRMAN, 2018