RA SKI & OUTDOOR CLUB

www.raski.ca

September 2026

More Than Just a Ski Club

Editor: Glen Campbell, *publicity-2020@raski.ca*

RA SKI CLUB COUNCIL

Chairperson	**VACANT**
Weeklong Chair & Vice-Chair *Jaime Impey*	weeklong-2025@raski.ca
Secretary *Louise Lefebvre*	secretary-2025@raski.ca
Treasurer *Jean-François Mélançon*	treasurer-2025@raski.ca
Membership Chair *Bob Cavan*	membership-2025@raski.ca
Publicity Chair & Webmaster *Glen Campbell*	publicity-2025@raski.ca
Downhill Day Chair *Gord Chamberlain*	downhill-2025@raski.ca
Cross-Country Co-Chairs *Mike Dewing & Louise Cameron*	xc-2025@raski.ca
Hiking & Cycling Chair *Jane Maxwell*	bikes-2025@raski.ca
Member-at-Large/Snowshoe Chair *Wendy Baily*	member-2025@raski.ca
Downhill Weekend Chair *Bob Cavan*	membership-2025@raski.ca
Social Chair	**VACANT**

RA SKI OPEN HOUSE

Let's reconnect this Fall to check out our 2026-2027 season's programs and activities! Keep reading this newsletter to get a taste for the items we have is store for Club members this season. Hope to meet you at the Open House to tell you more!

When:. Wed. Oct.28, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Where: RA Centre, Courtside B (East end of building)

TIME TO RENEW!

If you signed up last year in August or September, it's time to renew your RA Ski Club membership to take full advantage of the great benefits offered.

Renew now if you're interested in any of: downhill, cross-country, snowshoeing, a weeklong ski trip, weekend ski trips, cycling, hiking, golfing, or theatre.

Returning members have already received info from the RA. New members contact the RA at 613-733-5100 ext 360.

OTTAWA SKI & SNOWBOARD SHOW

WHEN: Sat. & Sun. Oct. 17 & 18

WHERE: EY Centre, 4899 Uplands Drive by the airport
https://ottawaskishow.com

COST: It's free!

Drop in to say hi to us at the RA Ski & Outdoor Club booth.

NEWS FROM THE CLUB COUNCIL

FALL GREETINGS!

The Club has officially turned sixty, having been formed for the 1966-67 season! As we enter our seventh decade, we welcome new and returning members to our 2026-2027 season. We hope you enjoyed the many hiking, biking, and social outings that rounded out our 2025-2026 season and look forward to seeing you out and about this fall.

CLUB COUNCIL

Club Council 2025-26. (L to R)
Louise Cameron, Jane Maxwell, Jean-François Mélançon, Mike Dewing, Jaime Impey, Louise Lefebvre, Bob Cavan, Glen Campbell

At our May 5 Annual Club in-person meeting, we recapped our season, and refreshed our Club Council during our year-end elections. We welcomed Gord Chamberlain and Wendy Baily to our ranks, but we still have an opening for Social Chair.

Council continues to meet virtually, for convenience, but the Club continues our in-person presence at the annual Ottawa Ski Show (October 17-18), open house at MEC and our Open House (October 2026) at the RA Centre.

Our Council members jumped into their portfolios and began organizing the many summer activities we have enjoyed, and moved right into Fall and Winter planning. Read on for the details, and we hope to meet you at our Fall Open House.

Be sure to follow our Facebook page or sign up for Ski-Mails to receive regular news and updates.

MEMBERS

We thank our membership for supporting our programs, our generous volunteers who support our Council by assisting and leading our activities, our RA support team, and a big thank you to Club Council members who have dedicated their efforts and time to plan and organize our year-round calendar of activities and events.

We are always looking for ideas to retain and increase our Membership and you can help! If you enjoy our programming, please tell your friends and help our Club grow! Let them know that we're a friendly club operating year-round. Become a Club ambassador by encouraging new members to join.

FIRST AID

Most of our volunteer leaders have been able to obtain or recertify for their First Aid certificates under our annual fund to assist with their fees. Please talk to your Council chairs about how to volunteer, certify, and have a portion of the fees covered by us in exchange for your service to the Club.

RA SKI OPEN HOUSE

We will be holding our annual Open House information night in October - let's reconnect this Fall to check out our 2026-2027 season's programs and activities! Keep reading this newsletter to get a taste for the items we have is store for Club members this season. Hope to meet you at the Open House to tell you more!

Date: Wednesday, October 28

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: RA Centre, Courtside B (east end of building)

On behalf of the RA Ski Club Council,

Jaime Impey Vice Chair, Weeklong Coordinator
weeklong-2025@raski.ca

WEEKLONG TRIPS 2027 – EUROPE and CANADA

In response to membership requests, the Club is excited to offer members the opportunity to ski in Europe or British Columbia (*or both!).* In January (22-30), we'll be exploring Ischgl, Austria for the first time, and in February (20-27) we will return to Panorama Resort, last visited in 2018. See the full details in our Trip Information Packages for each trip under the Weeklong tab at www.raski.ca - application forms are available to download as well.

ISCHGL, AUSTRIA - JANUARY 23-31, 2027

Ski the Silvretta Arena, the largest cross-border hub of Austria and Switzerland! An IKON destination.
Registration CLOSES: Friday, November 20 at NOON

- Double $5,299
- Single in a Double $6,984
- Single $5,419 (***Sold Out***)

Trip Information Package: Full details are available at www.raski.ca

REGISTRATION
Registrations will be accepted on a first-come basis, subject to availability, until November 20.

DETAILS
- Standard Package includes:
- Round-trip flights between Ottawa & Zurich
- Current flight taxes and fuel surcharges
- 1 carry-on, 1 checked luggage included
- Dedicated airport/hotel motor coach transfers
- Coach drivers' gratuities
- 7 nights' accommodation Hotel Antony 4*
- Breakfast buffet daily
- Ski and public bus transportation to Silvretta ski areas
- 5-day Adult Silvretta Ski Pass valid at Ischgl, Samnaun (Switzerland), Galtür, Kappl & See resorts
- All local hotel taxes and resort fees

Options:
- Adult 5-day ski pass included
- Adult 6-day ski pass add $120
- Senior (65+) 5-day ski pass deduct $25
- Senior (65+) 6-day ski pass add $40
- No lift pass or IKON holders deduct $690
- Adult IKON 6th day add $tbd
- Senior (65+) IKON 6th day add $tbd
- Land Only [1] (no flights) deduct $1,485
- Flight delay package add $inquire *
- Insurance add $inquire *

* Rates provided by Skican at time of booking

[1] Transfers to/from Zurich will be provided if your flight times correspond with the group.

NOT Included in Price:
- Optional travel insurance
- Gratuities (except coach transfers)
- Items of a personal nature, bar or beverages, and other meals or services not specifically shown as included in package.
- Land transfer, if purchasing a Land Only [1]
- ETIAS will be required, starts 2026 Q4.

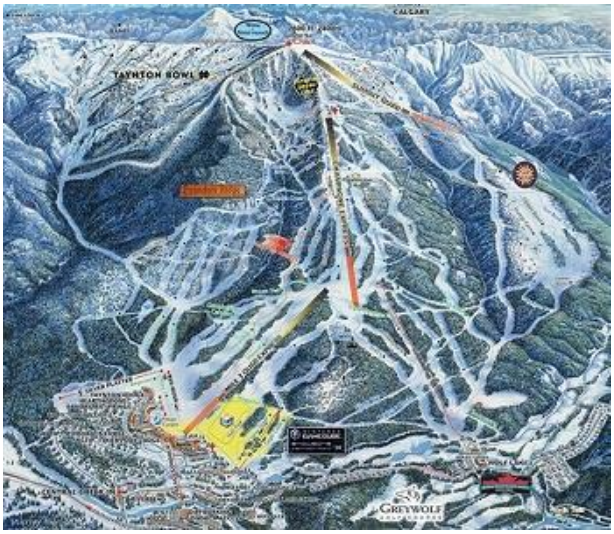
DESTINATION

The Ischgl-Samnaun, Galtür, Kappl, and See resort areas form a massive alpine winter region in the Paznaun Valley of Tyrol, Austria, and across the border into Switzerland. Together, they offer 362 kilometers of ski slopes, 75 modern lifts, and a shared regional lift pass known as the Silvretta Skipass.

Hotel Antony 4*: Look forward to a relaxing holiday at a family-run and beautifully furnished 4-star hotel where you're sure to enjoy some serious pampering and the excellent location in the centre of Ischgl,

PANORAMA BC – FEBRUARY 20-27, 2027

There's nearly 3000 massive acres of terrain (120 named trails) across 4000 vertical feet of fall line perfection. An IKON destination.
Registration CLOSES: Friday, December 20 at NOON



Condo Occupancy:
Studios, 1-bedroom, and 2-bedroom condos - see descriptions in Trip Info Package

- Double occupancy: $2,865 - $3,250
- Single occupancy: $3,650 - $4,185 -*limited avail*

Trip Information Package: Full details are available at www.raski.ca

REGISTRATION
Registrations will be accepted on a first-come basis, subject to availability, until December 20.

DETAILS

- Round-trip flights between Ottawa & Calgary
- Current flight taxes and fuel surcharges
- 1 carry-on, 1 checked luggage included
- Dedicated airport/hotel motor coach transfers, including a grocery stop
- Coach drivers' gratuities
- 7 nights' accommodation Panorama Resort
- 5 of 6 day Adult pass
- All local hotel taxes and resort fees

Options:

• Adult 5-day ski pass	included	
• Adult 6-day ski pass	add	$110
• Senior (65+) 5-day ski pass	deduct	$60
• Senior (65+) 6-day ski pass	deduct	$40
• No lift pass or IKON holders	deduct	$450
• Adult IKON 6th day	add	$115
• Senior (65+) IKON 6th day	add	$100
• Land Only [1] (no flights)	deduct	$705
• Flight delay package	add $ inquire *	
• Insurance	add $ inquire *	

* Rates provided by Skican at time of booking
[1] Transfers to/from Calgary will be provided if your flight times correspond with the group.

NOT Included in Price:

- Optional travel insurance
- Gratuities (except coach transfers)
- Items of a personal nature, bar or beverages, and other meals or services not specifically shown as included in package.
- Land transfer, if purchasing a Land Only [1]

DESTINATION

Panorama Mountain's vertical is one of the largest in North America. Glide down endless corduroy cruisers. Blast through The Extreme Dream Zone and Taynton Bowl, which features over 750 acres of patrolled ex-heli ski terrain. Free mountain tours are hosted by Panorama's locals, the Mountain Friends, at 10 AM and 1:30 PM daily. Nordic tours are offered too on weekends at 10:30 – noon.

Panorama Resort Condos: Upper Village condos have ski-in, ski-out convenience and Lower Village condos are steps away from the Toby Chair and gondola access to the Upper Village. All condos have fully equipped kitchens, Wi-Fi, and permit access to the pools at Panorama Springs and the large common area in the lobby.

Jaime Impey, Weeklong Coordinator
weeklong-2025@raski.ca

DOWNHILL DAY TRIPS

The El Nino weather forecast this coming ski season will, no doubt, have an effect on snowfall but it won't stop us from getting our gear on and going out. Last year, our downhill season got a great start on the first week of December and we skied right through to mid-April. In fact, we actually got to ski our full planned ski calendar and a few dates after – something that we haven't been able to do in quite a few years due to early Spring weather. Let's hope for an early start this season and see if we can beat last season's run into Spring !!

Our downhill day program will get you up & down more hills and to more local destinations than any other ski club in town. Between our weekly Meet n'Ski days to all local hills, our "Fortune Fridays" destination to Camp Fortune where many of our members have season passes, and our last-minute, "Pop-Up" destinations that take advantage of special offers, good ski conditions, or just the whimsy of one of our members that plans a fun-filled day….we'll have it all mapped out for you.

Mont Ste Marie Feb 2026

We also will be continuing our partnership with the Bytown Ski Club to offer bus trips to Tremblant…and maybe a late winter surprise trip !!

We've realized that a lot of people don't know how much our ski & outdoor club has to offer, so look for us at the Ottawa Ski Show at the EY Centre October 17-18, and for our promotional material in sports stores and in other locations around town.

Help us spread the word !! We truly are "More than just a ski club "

Stay tuned for our full program…..

2026/27 SKIMAX TICKETS

Maximize your mountain experience and enjoy max savings! Your privileged relationship with Tremblant now brings you more than ever with savings of up to 44% off regular ticket prices! Blackout periods apply.

Entirely transferable, you can share them with your family, friends and colleagues!

These prices are valid to Oct. 22.

There are two types of tickets:

SKIMAX TICKETS

- $95 per day, per adult
- Usable 7 days a week
- Blackout period: Dec. 27 to Jan. 2 & Feb. 13 to 19

SKIMAX BASE TICKETS

- $87 per day per adult
- Usable Monday to Friday
- Blackout period: Dec. 10 to Jan. 3 & Feb. 13 to Mar. 11

To order, go to:

htpps://www.tremblant.ca/groups-business/skimax
and use code Mx-RASKI

Gord Chamberlain, Downhill Chair, *downhill-2025@raski.ca*

CROSS-COUNTRY

Our cross-country program features a variety of day trips on both weekends and weekdays.

We welcome skiers of all levels, although skiers are expected to have some skiing experience. If you are looking for a way to consolidate what you have learned in your lessons or are looking for a friendly group to ski with, please join us.

The first few outings are usually on easy trails to allow everyone to ease into the ski season. Gatineau Park does have hills so you should ensure that you can comfortably execute a snowplow stop and a snowplow turn before skiing there. The Greenbelt and urban trails are generally more forgiving in this respect.

18 January — XC skiing on the Ski Heritage East

We will be including outings in the Gatineau Park, the Greenbelt and on Ottawa urban trails. Depending on conditions, the cross-country day trips start in early December and run until early April. We will plan at least one outing per week.

Generally, weekday outings start at 10:30 and weekend outings at 10:00 (Saturday) and 12:00 (Sunday). We meet at the trailheads.

If you are attending, please e-mail xc-2025@raski.ca by 6 pm the night before, so we can update you of last-minute changes. You can also check the Facebook page or the RA Ski website before heading out.

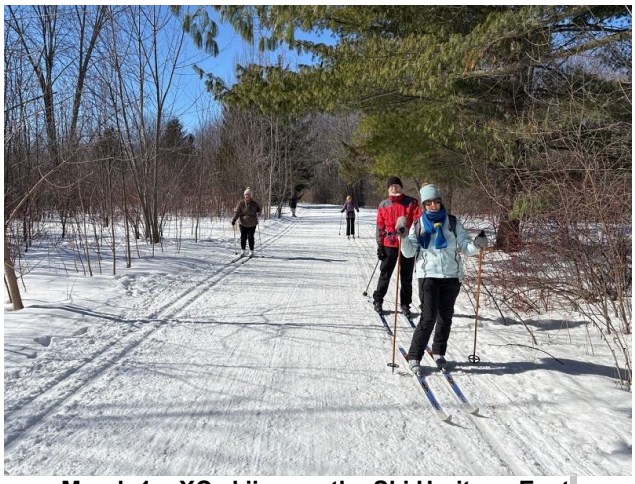
We are also hoping to be able to offer a day trip destination outside of the Gatineau Park and Ottawa. If you have a favourite ski route, let us know and we can look at adding that into the mix.

Cross-Country Ski Lessons
The RA Ski club does not offer cross-country ski lessons, but excellent lessons are offered at the Mooney's Bay Cross-Country Ski Centre (through the City of Ottawa)

Multi-Day Trip
We plan on arranging another 2-day, mid-week trip to the Lauentians again this year; in February 2027.
Stay tuned for news!

Gatineau Park Season Passes
The NCC offers a very good early-bird price for the winter season pass, so keep an eye on their website in early or mid-October https://ncc-ccn.gc.ca/places/gatineau-park-winter-passes

Trip Leaders Needed
Finally, we need volunteers to lead our outings. If you are interested in leading a day trip, please send an email to Mike at xc-2025@raski.ca. We provide guidelines and sign-in sheets and would be happy to answer any questions you may have concerning trip leader responsibilities. Please consider helping so that we can provide a good assortment of ski outings.



March 1 – XC skiing on the Ski Heritage East

Louise Cameron & Mike Dewing, XC Co-Chairs, *xc-2025@raski.ca*

HIKING & BIKING

Hello all you hiking and cycling enthusiasts! We are now embarking on the RA Ski Club FALL 2026 hiking and cycling schedule. Huge thanks to all our ski club volunteers who stepped up to lead hike or bike outings. Weather permitting, we will hike right through to November.

June 28 – King Mountain hike

Please remember to confirm your participation at bikes-2025@raski.ca. (**Note address change.**) This helps the leader to know who and how many are coming. Bring water and dress appropriately for the weather and terrain. Enjoy and spread the word about the RA Ski Club with your friends.

Aug. 28 – Osgood rail trail bike trip

FALL SCHEDULE

For all outings, please register at bikes-2025@raski.ca the day before, so we can let you know of last-minute changes.

We usually add trips as the season goes on, so keep checking the RA Ski Club website *www.raski.ca* or your Ski-Mail for updates.

Fri. Sept. 11th BIKE – Russell Rail Trail 2.0 to Embrun and return – 10:30 a.m. Ice cream stop in Embrun and a BBQ lunch at Gord's Place. Meet at Russell Curling Club - 1072 Concession Road. Leader: Gord Chamberlain

Thurs. Sept. 17th BIKE – Hog's Back Falls to Rideau River Falls – 10:30 Meet at The Pavilion at Hog's Back Falls. Mostly flat ride along Rideau River (24 km.) except for 2 long hills. Lunch at 'Tavern on the Falls' on Sussex Drive. Social time at nearby Mooney's Bay Beach Bistro. Leader: Wendy Cram

Tues. Sept. 22nd HIKE – Gatineau park - Trails 66 and 67 - P1 (Asticou) Meet in Asticou parking lot near entrance to trail. Leader: Louise Cameron

Thurs. Sept. 24th BIKE – Andrew Haydon Park to Shirley's Bay - 10:30 a.m. Bring a picnic lunch to eat at Shirley's Bay. Leader: Jane Maxwell

Fri. Oct. 2nd HIKE – Larose Forest – P7 on Ferdinand Lane near Limoges. 10:30 a.m. An easy 5 km. hike in Larose Forest. Lunch at Bouboul Pizza in Limoges. Leader: Mike Dewing.

Thurs. Oct. 8th HIKE – Gatineau Park (P11) to Carbide Ruins – Meet at 10:30am at P11 parking lot for a hike to the Carbide Mill ruins. Total distance 4 km. Picnic lunch at Mill ruins or O'Brien House at Meech Lake. Trip Leader: Bob Cavan

Wed. Oct. 14th HIKE – P7 to King Mountain (Gatineau Park), 10:30 a.m. Meet in P7 parking lot. Bring a lunch or snack. Leader: Marie-Reine Fournier.

Wed. Oct. 21 HIKE – 'Gatineau Park Cabin Cruise' - Meet at 10:30 a.m. at Keogan shelter parking lot to hike to Western Cabin. We will pass/visit Shilly Shally, Huron cabins enroute. Total 8km. Leader: Bob Cavan

Jane Maxwell, Hiking & Biking Chair, *bikes-2025@raski.ca*

SOCIAL

In spite of not having a Social Chair to organise our social events, we managed to schedule

- A tour of the Governor-General's residence,
- Two nights of theatre-in-the-park,
- Three tours of the National Art Gallery, and
- Two Ottawa Titans baseball games.

July 6 - Company of Fools *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
Fifteen of us enjoyed this play in Strathcona Park. The play was a humorous version of this well-known Shakespeare play. It takes place in ancient Greece, but that didn't stop one of the actors arriving on stage on a bicycle. Often during the play, one of the actors would bring out a guitar and the whole cast would break out into an ABBA song. The play was well-acted, and is probably the best play this group has put on. The rain held off, she sky was clear, so it was a perfect night.

July 6 – Company of Fools "*Midsummer Night's Dream*"

1 Aug. – Tour of the Governor-General's Residence

Seven of us enjoyed the Governor-General's Open Doors. We visited the residence, her private gardens, the greenhouse, and the herb garden. After, we had drinks and food at the Tavern on the Falls.

1 Aug. - Visiting GG's Tent Room

Aug. 1 – GG's greenhouse

7 Aug. - Odyssey Theatre's "*Mirandolina*"
Six of us enjoyed the Odyssey Theatre's production of "*Mirandolina*", a story about an innkeeper who all the men fall in love with – except one. It was a perfect night in Strathcona Park, as the rain held off and the acting was amazing.

7 Aug. - Odyssey Theatre's "*Mirandolina*"

National Art Gallery Tours

Our very own Lousie Lefebvre gave us three fascinating tours of the National Art Gallery on June 18, July 16 and Aug. 20.

July 16 – Louise Lefebvre explaining Jacob Jordaen's painting

Aug. 20 – Louise Lefebvre discussing a painting by Helen McNicoll

Emily Carr painting

Aug. 20 – RASki learning about Maman's spider sculpture

Ottawa Titans Baseball

We attended two baseball games:

June 19 vs Quebec City Capitals. This was Star Wars Night, and the game kept getting interrupted by rain. Finally, the game was called at midnight.

June 19 – Bob Cavan with Chewbacca

July 18 vs the Down East Bird Dawgs. Six of us enjoyed a perfect evening as the Ottawa Titans defeated the Down East Bird Dawgs 8-5. It looked dicey for a while, as the Bird Dawgs scored 5 runs in the 4th inning, but Ottawa eventually pulled ahead.

Something I had not seen before was that an Ottawa player hit a home run that just cleared the right field fence. When the Bird Dawg player jumped, trying to catch the ball, his glove caught the top of the fence and dropped on the other side of the fence. Another player had to run out to loan him a glove.

RA SKI WEBSITE

Our amazing RA Ski website contains everything you wanted to know about the ski club, but were afraid to ask.

Check it out! *www.raski.ca*

UPDATES ON SOCIAL MEDIA

You can find or receive news and updates about Club activities through a number of methods:

- **SKI-MAIL**

  Find out about last-minute additions or changes, club news, and upcoming events, by subscribing to Ski-Mail, our e-mail newsletter.

  Send an email to: *RASkiClub+subscribe@groups.io* using the email address you wish email to be sent to.

- **WEBSITE**

  www.raski.ca
  Our website covers everything you wanted to know about the RA Ski Club, but were afraid to ask. Last-minute updates to all of our activities are covered in the "Upcoming Events" section.

- **FACEBOOK**

  Visit us on Facebook to learn about upcoming events, read members' comments, and much more! Go to **RA Ski and Snowboard Club of Ottawa** and ask to join.

PHOTOS & TRIP REPORTS

Photos and trip reports from most of our outings are on the RA Ski web site *www.raski.ca* .

TRIP REPORTS

Trip reports for all our outings over the last year are put on our web site ***www.raski.ca***. Click on "TRIP REPORTS" on the menu at the top of our home page.

PHOTOS

Photos are on our website at
https://www.flickr.com/photos/raski/albums/
Then click on the appropriate album ("Cross-country", "Downhill", "Snowshoeing", or "Biking Hiking Golf & Theatre".)
To see the photo larger, double-click on it.

To see the photos as a slideshow:

1. Double-click on the little square icon on the top right under the number of photos. Wait a few seconds and the slideshow will start. Click on the right arrow to advance to the next slide.

Downloading photos:

1. Double-click on the photo.
2. On the bottom right, click on the down arrow with the bar underneath it.
3. Click on the size you want (i.e., "Original".)
4. Click on "Save File", then click on "OK."

Your file will be downloaded to your directory "Downloads."

DISCOUNTS

Our club has the power of group purchasing to obtain discounts at many local ski hills, sports stores, and other venues. Check out the current offerings at www.raski.ca/discounts and make any suggestions for other discounts to your Club Council.

The more places we get….the more we save.

Bob Cavan, Membership Chair, *membership-2025@raski.ca*

MORE PHOTOS

2017 – Weeklong trip to Solden, Austria

2018 – Panorama weeklong trip

2020 – Weeklong trip to St. Moritz, Switzerland

2024 – Weeklong at Banff

Dec. 23/25 – DH Meet'n'Ski at Pakenham

Jan. 23 – XC ski from Relais plein Air

Jan. 2026 – Weeklong trip to Val Gardena, Italy

Jan. 30 – XC ski along Chelsea railway tracks

Feb. 13 – DH bus trip to Tremblant

Feb. 1 – DH skiing at Calabogie (painting by Don Konrad)

Feb. 24 – XC skiers at Larose Forest

Feb. 2026 – Midweek XC trip to Tremblant

Mar. 1 – XC ski on Heritage Trail East

Mar. 4 – DH skiers at Calabogie

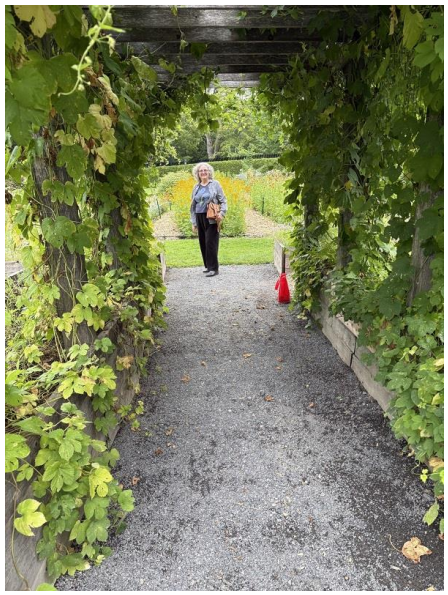
April 1 – DH skiers at Calabogie

June 25 – Biking to Aylmer Marina

July 6 – Biking to KIN winery

July 15 – Biking to Chelsea

July 29 – Biking to Ottawa River House



Aug. 1 – Tour of Governor-General's herb garden

Aug. 6 – Biking the Osgoode rail trail

Aug. 12 - Biking Central Farm/Britannia loop

Aug. 22 – Biking to Roslyn Park, Orleans

Aug. 28 – Biking on Osgoode rail trail

Sept. 3 – Hike to Healey cabin