

Douglastown Could Lose Miramichi Cross Country Ski Club

By JANE WOOD

The executive of the Miramichi Cross Country Ski Club will recommend that the members vote to move the club from Douglastown to Nelson-Miramichi when the Annual General Meeting is held on April 8th.

Norman Brown, president of the Club says the executive wants the decision to be a majority one and not be made by a few members.

He said there are many reasons why the club is considering leaving Douglastown. "We've had a serious problem with vandalism. The clubhouse was vandalized four times

through the summer and twice through the winter."

"The McKinnon Road has

been opened for traffic for the past several winters and our trails must cross it.

"We're being squeezed out land wise. We need new competitive trails but we don't have

access to land to build them.

"The fire burned out many of the trees so there isn't much cover for the trails beyond the McKinnon Road and many of the trees are falling down," Mr. Brown said.

He also cited the location of the clubhouse, which is down a steep hill and not easily accessible as a severe drawback.

Mr. Brown stressed that Douglastown Village Council had been very supportive of the Club over the years, but many of the problems are ones the Council could not rectify.

Nelson Site Has Many Pluses

Nelson-Miramichi has a lot of pluses for the Miramichi Cross Country Ski Club

Chamber Supports Drive To Save Seamen's Hospital

By JANE WOOD

The Miramichi Chamber of Commerce will support the efforts of a committee that is trying to save the old Seamen's Hospital in Douglastown.

The Chamber decided after a lengthy discussion at Monday's meeting to put their weight behind the project and to make their support known by sending letters to Heritage Canada and the Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Heritage,

Roland Beaulieu.

There will also be tangible support in the form of a \$100.00 donation to the Marine Hospital Advocates, subject to the acquisition of the old hospital by the committee.

Father Charles Mersereau told the Chamber members the Marine Advocates have a 30 day option to buy the hospital for \$80,000.00. He said if the group can raise \$40,000.00, Heritage Canada will donate

the rest of the purchase price.

The group already has a donation of \$5000.00 from MP & P and a \$2000.00 donation from Moosehead Breweries.

The Marine Hospital Advocates hope to turn the building into a Medical Museum where the history of medicine can be shown from the earliest stages to the present.

A room to honor doctors is also in the plans.

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Ski Club

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locating in the Village, Mr. Brown said.

"The land is not burned out. There is a lot of cover for the trails. They have recently spent \$23,000.00 on competitive trails."

He said it would be necessary to construct more recreational trails but added that Nelson has control of 150 acres of land dedicated to cross country skiing so that wouldn't pose much of a problem.

Another big plus for the Nelson location is the fact that Council has budgeted money for the ski trails and support of cross country skiing.

There would be easy access to a new ski chalet that would be located near the Nelson Fire Hall and would be highly visible to protect it from vandalism.

Mr. Brown urges all members who are interested in the future of the Miramichi Ski Club to attend the annual meeting at the Nordin Recreation Centre on April 8th beginning at 8 p.m.

He said there is also one other option that has been discussed and that is to relocate on two acres of land on the Williston Road near the site of Douglastown's new well.

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