

HISTORY OF DURHAM SKI DAY

Back in 1981, Whitby lawyer David Sims, who was a member of the private Craigleith Ski Club in Collingwood, invited a small group of lawyers, accountants and business acquaintances to join him for a day on the slopes at his club. The first group of 13 brave souls included lawyers Charles Morison and Bob Alexander who were driven up north by Brian Callery in a borrowed and overcrowded motor home which on the way home suffered break downs, loss of battery power, dim headlights, loss of heaters in freezing cold weather (resulting in card playing by candle light wearing ski gloves and ski clothes) and arriving home around 2:00 AM!! Quite an exciting first trip but full of laughs and stories to tell!!

Over the next few years, the group of skiers grew, and we added wine and cheese parties après skiing and the day soon evolved as the Durham Lawyers' Ski Day which was greatly supported by DRLA. Due to the increasing numbers of attendees, we began travelling to Collingwood by bus. Around 1990, the day was expanded to become the Durham Lawyers' and Business Ski Day, often requiring 3 full buses.

Then in 1995, Bob's wife, Carolyn, died of breast cancer. However, prior to her death she was instrumental in inspiring the creation of the Hearth Place Cancer Support Centre—a place where women, men and children can get all kinds of assistance and help to deal with their terrifying journey with cancer.

David then approached Bob about turning the Ski Day into a fund raiser for Hearth Place and so began the current Hearth Place Ski and Spa Day which continues to raise money every year!! To date, we have raised approximately \$250,000 for Hearth Place programs.

Mark your calendars and please take a MINI HOLIDAY and join us (with or without spouses) on Thurs. Jan. 25th, 2018 for a fun filled day which includes bus transportation, breakfast, optional races, optional massages, optional spa day, après ski snacks, 2 free drinks, dinner and prizes!! Plus skiing at a private ski club at Blue Mountain with lots of fantastic runs (easy green runs up to double black) and no line ups!!!

OR if you or your spouse don't like skiing, you can enjoy a relaxing day at the Scandinavian Spa at Blue Mountain plus all the above fun things listed above!!!

Hope to see you on the 25th!!