

## Viking Thursday Tour Report for 9<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Summary: Morin-Heights ski network, however, due to track conditions, this might rank in the category of “wise short tours!”

Temp: around -13 deg. C, intensely sunny, little to no wind.

Some 7 initially optimistic Vikings (Gordon, Frank, Linda, Murray & Judy, Tim and Derek) showed up where steam locomotives did decades ago, i.e. the ex-Morin-Heights railway station that is now officially the “Corridor Aérobique Pavilion” wherein the “Station Mistress” Sylvia was there to greet and inform us of trail conditions.

Initially, we had in mind to attempt all, or part of, the Triangle (No. 2) Trail, but after skiing it for the initial kilometer or so, it was clear that conditions were not conducive to safe descents; despite the best efforts of the Morin-Heights track setting team. The recent dump of some 12 cm of “granulated sugar” had rendered the ski track akin to the surface of a wedding cake, sans soft marzipan!

However, we were in for a brief pleasant surprise as ski trail direction signs took us back down via the Bellevue (No.37) Trail which was wide, soft and alpine-ski like, having just been “freshly ruffled” and set. Upon our arrival at the base of the Basler Hill, we encountered the scene of a track-setting vehicle in distress, having sunk unwittingly into what was a fire pit recently created for an evening “under the stars” community event! Extraction was eventually facilitated, thanks to an electric winch attached to a fellow municipal employee’s parked car.

Feeling somewhat guilty of such an early ski retreat, we ventured over to the Basler Loop trail which offered less extreme down hills, and had just been freshly track set. Only too happy to help the local economy, we partook of soup/coffee/hot chocolate at the local Restaurant O’ Petit.





Information overload!

Viking Thursday Tour 9 Feb/17



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(Morin-Heights)

An adrenaline-charged return descent on the freshly preped Bellevue (No. 37) Trail !

Viking Thursday Tour 9 Feb/17  
(Morin-Heights)



Oh dear!  
It's not only skiers that end up in holes!

Thursday Tour (9 Feb/17)  
Morin-Heights Basler Trails



Track-setting does not get any fresher than this!