

Viking Thursday Tour Report for 4th March 2021

Routing: Outer loop of the Camping Ste-Agathe trail network

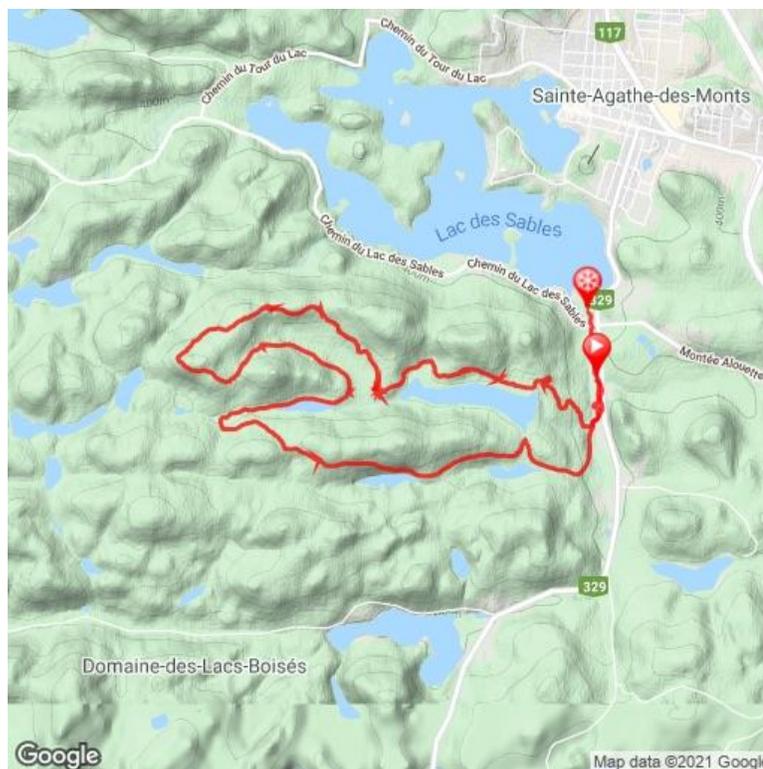
Summary: Skied some 15 km taking 3-1/2 hours, on these trails:

S3/Vanier, S7/Gohier, S9/Cohen, S10/Legault, S11/Sommet

Weather: Brilliant sunshine, around -9 Deg. C, not including some unwelcome wind-chill here and there!

The dozen Vikings showing up at the Camping Ste-Agathe rendezvous were faced with an unusually crowded car park facility? Of course....March school break, no wonder there were so many kids around! First duty was to mask up and go into the Chalet d'accueil to purchase our \$17 x-c ski day pass and face the now all-too-familiar pandemic protocols with entrance hand sanitizer, one-way floor arrows, and reminder not to exceed a 10 minute stay indoors!

This shows how satellites tracked us as we skied our traditional routing around this excellently laid out network of trails, all of which were nicely track set, on a firm, and fast, base! This was in stark contrast to last Thursday's tour which entailed hours of trail breaking!

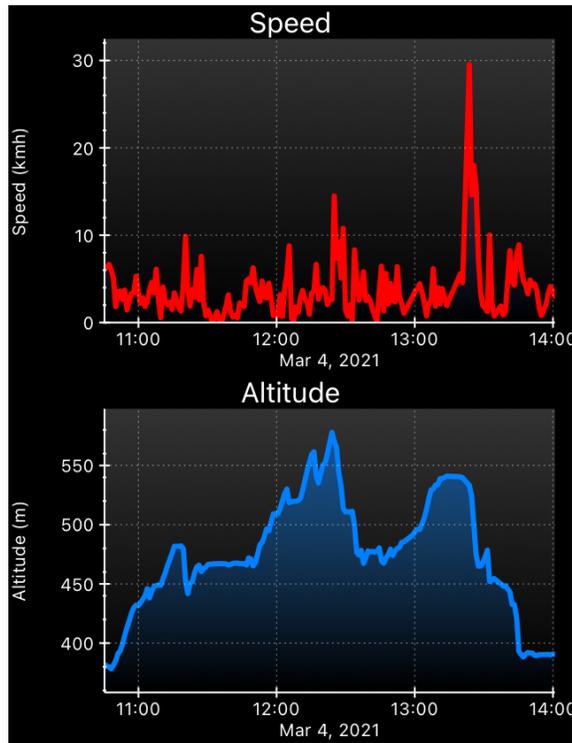


The Dejarbins Bank sponsored Refuge on the outgoing S7/Gohier trail was our first refreshment stop; disappointed to find that this facility was not being re-purposed to provide Covid -19 vaccinations! At later network junctions, some folks peeled off for a shorter return back to base, which left 6 of us to complete the longer loop. This entailed the famous S11/Sommet trail option to exhaust any adrenaline that we may have left over to expend on the long and exhilarating roller coaster downhill runs! No shortage of "Moyenne", "Pente Raide" and "Soyez Prudent" signs....which really translate as: "Tumble Ahead!"

Alas, following our return, we were not, as was customary, able to warm up over hot beverages or soup in the otherwise spacious and friendly Chalet d'accueil.....thanks anti-social Covid-19 !!!

PS We welcome newcomers Christine and Jack, introduced by Judee, and managed to survive their first Viking tour!

Derek



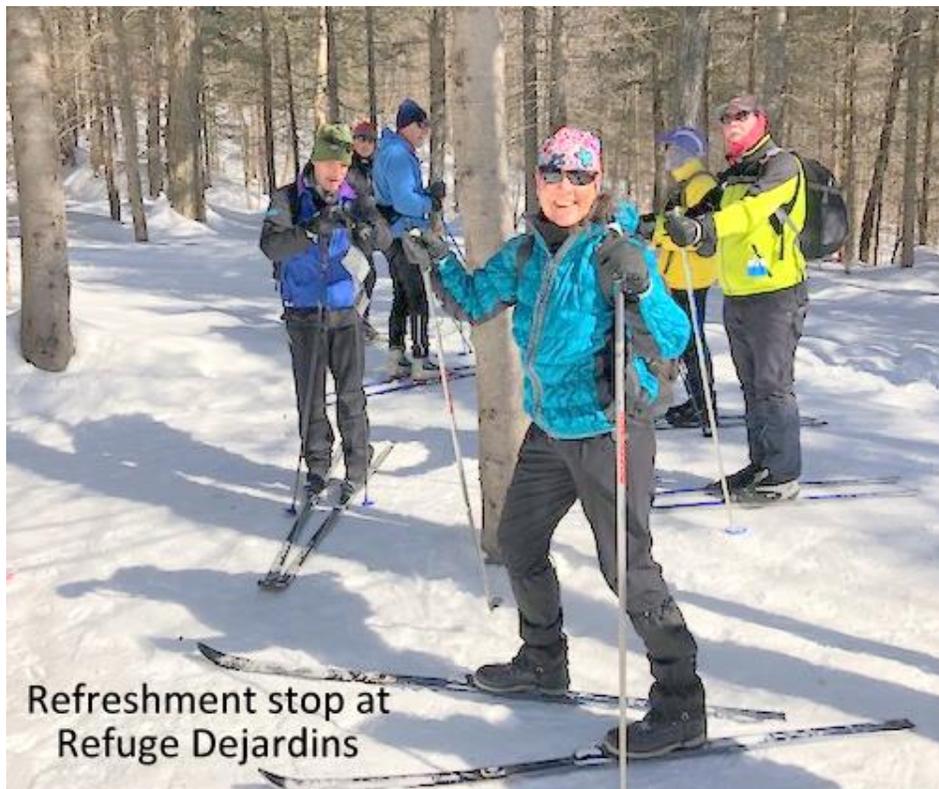
Thanks here to Judee who has satellites tracking our every move!





Welcome Vikings!

Camping Ste-Agathe



Refreshment stop at Refuge Dejardins