

NSCF COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS



Committee Reports April - June 2014

PRESIDENT

Joe Harvis, President

Summer is here! I am sure you've begun your planning for next season and with that in mind it's time for you to begin your travel plans for the upcoming annual meeting in Park City. Registration is now open. Please register soon.

A new feature of the registration process this year is each registrant will be required to submit a brief bio on themselves. We ask that you submit a minimum of five lines but you can provide as much info as you like. Additionally we need you to send us a headshot to go along with your bio on our new meeting app. Please email them to registration@skifederation.org.

The NSCF app is now available in the App Store and on Google Play. Simply search for "NSCF" then download and install the app on your phone, table or laptop. The app is your point of reference to familiarize yourself with the Westgate Resort, the delegate and industry reps attending the meeting as well as our guest speakers and hosts. Additionally the full agenda will be available on the app and if any changes are needed the updates will be made available real-time via the app. We also plan to have info on site and activities in and around the Park City area. You can also download the app using the QR code on the attached spec sheet or from the registration page on the website.

The Agenda committee has assembled another comprehensive schedule of presentations for you this year. Please take the time to thank them for their time and hard work. Also, if you have an idea or topic you feel would benefit us please share it with the committee so it can be considered for a future meeting.

Once you have made your airline reservations, please send your flight information include arrival and departure dates, times, airline and flight numbers to registration@skifederation.org so we can share with all attendees to make ride sharing arrangements to get to/from the airport and the Westgate Resort. Additionally on the registration pages you will find links to both Hertz for rental cars and All Resort Express for shuttle service which has a cost of \$35 each way.

We are still working on pre and post meeting lodging rates and will provide an update as soon as the Westgate communicates them to us. We also are working on putting together dinner arrangements and will communicate that information and costs to you as soon as those plans are finalized.

www.skifederation.org

Arizona Ski Council

Bay Area SnowSports Council

Blue Ridge Ski Council

Central Council of California

Chicago Metropolitan Ski Council

Cleveland Metropolitan Ski Council

Connecticut Ski Council

Crescent Ski Council

Eastern Inter-Club Ski League

Eastern Pennsylvania Ski Council

Far West Ski Association

Flatland Ski Association

Florida Ski Council

Intermountain Ski Council

Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

Metropolitan Detroit Ski Council

Metropolitan Milwaukee Ski Council

Metropolitan New York Ski Council

Midwest Sport/Ski Council

National Brotherhood of Skiers

New Jersey Ski Council

New Mexico Ski Council

New York Capital Ski Council

Northwest Ski Club Council

Ohio Valley Ski Council

Orange Council of Ski Clubs

San Diego Council of Ski Clubs

Sierra Ski Council

Texas Ski Council

Western Pennsylvania Ski Council

Additionally, we have begun investigating insurance programs. Dan Gieger from Ohio Valley and Sandra Knapp from Los Angeles Council are actively working on this topic and we plan to have a proposal to present at the meeting this fall.

We continue to update the benefits site as we acquire new programs. A new benefit added this year that caters those who thrive on adventurous travel, **The Adventure Project** has published their 2015 dates for their guided trips to India's Himalayan slopes. A copy of their new brochure is attached. As the number of participants is limited please forward the information out to your clubs quickly.

Our new website development is progressing much quicker than stated in my last report. Coding of the site is almost complete and we should be able to start entering content shortly after the upcoming Independence Day holiday with the goal of a beta site being available by mid August.

We are taking steps to create a fund raising committee and need volunteers to help. We are still making plans to create a virtual silent auction with funds dedicated to supporting the annual meeting to help offset the costs for our hosts. We will have more on this topic in September during our business meeting.

The Bylaws committee will continue with their work to develop our Standing Rules and Procedures Manual as well as any updates needed in our Bylaws. Cheryl Mann will continue as chair of the committee. Please submit any thoughts or ideas for either document to bylaws@skifederation.org.

We hope you have enjoyed our monthly "Newsbeat". Please let Jo Simpson, our Public Affairs chair, know your comments and suggestions. Thank you Jo for keep us informed. She also authors our articles for the National Ski Club Newsletter. We are always looking for ideas for these articles, so if you have any please let us know.

Our International Committee is creating an RFP modeled on our current domestic RFP we use for our annual meetings. They hope to have one completed for review at the meeting.

Our Facebook page continues to gain new subscribers and we have formed a Social Media Committee to keep it updated and current. Send your pictures and events to socialmedia@skifederation.org and we will post them on the NSCF page. Please also allow any pictures you post to Facebook to be shareable and we will share them on the NSCF page. **Please inform your members to LIKE our page.**

We now have a presence on Twitter. You can find us at @NatlSkiCnclFed. Shortly we will also have Pinterest and Instagram pages as well.

Lastly, attached is our current roster. Many of your councils have had their elections but have not updated us with your new leaders so please advise us of any changes in your incoming Presidents including their name, email and postal addresses, home, work, cell and fax numbers.

Thank you!

VICE-PRESIDENT

Dennis Heffley, Vice President

Below are my Committee Reports. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Westgate Resorts September 17 ~ 21, 2104 for our next NSCF Annual Summit Meeting

SECRETARY

Lisa Beregi, Secretary

Many councils have had elections, please review the attached membership roster and confirm we have your current President. Let us know of any changes in your contact information including name, email and postal addresses, home, work, cell and fax numbers.

TREASURER

Cheryl Mann, Treasurer

Eight councils have submitted their dues to me and one to Joe Harvis. I understand some were sent to Dawn and I'm in the process of compiling the information.

As of May 31, 2014, the balance at Chase Bank was \$5,179.09.

There will be a complete report with the yearend information sent prior to the meeting in September.

COMMITTEES

AGENDA

Dennis Heffley

The 2014 NSCF Annual Summit Meeting *DRAFT* Agenda is complete. The document has been sent to all of our Industry Councils and Member Councils.

Please look over the document and contact myself or Joe Harvis (NSCF President) to let us know which topic you'd like to assist us present during the meeting.

It is with great excitement to share, this year our Key Note Speaker is Ms. Deedee Corradini. She is a former Mayor of Salt Lake City, strong advocate for and who achieved getting Woman's Ski Jumping included in the Winter Olympics.

BENEFITS

Joe Harvis

Nothing new to report. Trying to connect with Nordica to plan a series of online webinars following up on the one we had last summer.

BYLAWS

Cheryl Mann

One bylaw change has been submitted for review. It was submitted this prior week and will be reviewed and an update provided if it will be voted on in September.

INTERNATIONAL

Mark Harris

The committee is in the process of developing a cover letter to accompany the RFP that is also in development. We are using our existing domestic RFP as a base to get started. Mark had discussions at MTS with some potential hosts that appear to be interested in hosting us.

INSURANCE

Dan Geiger

Two bids have been submitted with a third in the works. One of the carriers is same that FWSA uses and is \$13/member/yr and they want a minimum of 5000 members, price goes down if more sign up, \$1mil general liability, \$2mil max.

Cornerstone is same \$13/member/yr plus \$150 per trip or major event, it has other coverage's and also covers \$2mil umbrella or 4mil total, many optional riders.

Sports Insurance is the third bid we are waiting to be delivered. The committee will spend more time evaluation and putting into a spreadsheet with recommendations. It would be a master policy with NSCF, and made available to all councils and clubs.

MEMBERSHIP

Lydia Hill

Reviewing initial associate applications based on original web design and the new revised web site to determine what adjustments are needed to move forward on the development of the various associate applications for our ski industry partner's classifications.

Target is to have sample associate applications to committee by the end of July for adjustments. Final applications approved by the committee by the end of August.

Develop a list of ski industry partners to as possible associate members.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Jo Simpson

Regularly sending out the "NSCF Newsbeat." NSCF has the opportunity to submit an article to the quarterly National Ski Club Newsletter. We are always looking for ideas for these articles, so if you have any please let us know. Jo can be reached at publicaffairs@skifederation.org.

Airfare 'transparency' gets cloudier. Will the real airfare transparency bill please stand up?

Passengers may be forgiven for asking that question last week after Sen. Robert Menendez, D-N.J., introduced the Real Transparency in Airfares Act — not to be confused with a congressional bill called the [Transparent Airfares Act of 2014](#).

Both claim to bring "transparency" to airline tickets. But only one actually does, at least for air travelers. Question is, which one?

The House bill, introduced in March, promises to "return transparency to U.S. airline fare advertising" by allowing airlines to quote a base airfare and separately disclose any government-imposed taxes and fees through a link or pop-up. Currently, airlines must display the price you actually pay, which the Transportation Department refers to as "full-fare" advertising.

Related Article: [Fliers say bill will give airlines license to lie about fares](#)

The Senate bill does more or less the opposite. It leaves the current fare rules in place while doubling the maximum penalty from \$27,500 to \$55,000 a day for airlines and large ticket sellers who fail to show an "all-in" fare.

"For years, some ticket sellers and airlines have tried to hide full trip costs from travelers to make ticket prices look significantly cheaper than they really are," Menendez says. "The tougher penalties in my legislation will make unscrupulous ticket sellers think twice before they try to pull a fast one on their customers — and pay more heavily if they do."

Menendez says he was concerned about the Transparent Airfares Act in Congress, which he says benefits only the airline industry by allowing airlines and ticket sellers to advertise inaccurately low prices and then hit customers with additional fees later in the booking process.

"By doubling the fine, I think we send a very clear message that we're not going to stand by while consumer protections are trampled," he adds.

A rep for Airlines for America (A4A), the trade organization representing the domestic airline industry, calls Menendez's bill "a solution in search of a problem" that would put airlines at a disadvantage when competing with other modes of travel.

The real problem, says the association's spokeswoman, Jean Medina, is that the government is "burying tax hikes in the advertised cost of a ticket, hiding these considerable charges from consumers who pay them."

There may also be financial considerations. Privately, airlines have been arguing that killing the current fare advertising rules would offer an economic stimulus to the profitable airline industry, say people familiar with the industry's lobbying efforts. How much? In a recent A4A newsletter, the organization linked to an article that suggested airlines were losing \$1 billion a year by advertising a tax-inclusive fare.

So who's behind these proposed laws?

Airlines and their unions favor the House bill, with support from industry-friendly analysts and some congressional representatives. Consumer advocates are rallying behind the Senate bill — or at least the idea of keeping the current "full-fare" advertising rule in place — and so are many air travelers. A Change.org petition backing the DOT's full-fare advertising has collected more than 35,000 signatures.

In a twist, the U.S. Travel Association, an organization that represents the American travel industry, endorsed the Senate's version of transparency.

"By no means should we undo the existing rule that enables consumers to see the full bottom-line price when they're ticket shopping," U.S. Travel Association President Roger Dow says.

Interestingly, the U.S. Travel Association represents other travel companies, such as hotels, that are routinely allowed to quote a low "base" rate and then add taxes and mandatory resort fees to their prices. The reason: Hotels are regulated at the state level, and the Federal Trade Commission can't control a rate, as initially advertised.

But who's right? To answer that question, let's bring in Robert Mittelstaedt, dean emeritus of the W.P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University and an aviation industry expert known for his evenhanded and fair approach to the aviation industry.

"The result of bringing the so-called transparent fare bill in the House into law would be a huge disservice to consumers," he says, noting that it would be impossible to determine the actual cost of a ticket until just before you're ready to book it.

"The Senate version would at least come closer to the concept of transparency, but the real question is: How far do we want government to go in regulating every aspect of our lives?"

So there you have it. The choices are: Give the airline industry permission to lie about its prices, or punish airlines by doubling the fines for misrepresenting their fares--two somewhat extreme solutions.

The only thing worse might be a compromise allowing airlines to quote anything less than a complete airfare.

How to be heard

- If you favor the airline approach to "transparency," you can register your support for the House bill at the airline-sponsored website: airfaretransparency.com.
- If you favor the Senate bill, which would leave the current regulations in place, you can sign the Change.org petition by visiting change.org.
- Write or call your congressional representative. It's an election year, and lawmakers are more likely to listen.

From *USA Today*

REGION REPS

EASTERN

Michelle Moskowitz

We had a call on June 3rd. Participating were: Margaret Crum, Crescent; Clark Lineham, Eastern Intercouncil; Walt Priest, Western PA and Mike Caldarone, NY Metro. Two other Councils had RSVP'd but did not make the call)

We reviewed the notes from the last call as there were different people. We talked about the meeting agenda and Mike Calderone sent us a copy of the current draft that the Committee has been working on.

The conversation moved into how the Councils choose their trips, the criteria, the guidelines, how they work with vendors. It was very interesting, because each of us does it slightly differently and there were some interesting approaches. We agreed that I will request each of the Eastern Councils to write up their procedures and bring copies to the meeting which we will share with each other, for ideas.

Our next call would fall 2 weeks before the meeting at the Canyons, so we decided to carve out an hour for us to meet there.

CENTRAL

Pam Korenewych

Our last conference call was on May 14, 2014. We discussed how we're sharing the SWOT analyses & discussion from the last NSCF meeting with our clubs. We also discussed the upcoming draft agenda for the next NSCF meeting. Everyone likes the topics.

WESTERN

Dennis Heffley

While the intensions were good to conduct NSCF Western Region quarterly meetings concurrently with the Far West Ski Association quarterly meetings, it was decided in April, 2014 that beginning in the fall of 2014 the NSCF Western Region would begin having exclusive phone meetings.

The goal behind this is to allow our Western Region councils to focus on their needs and abilities to assist with the future plans of the National Ski Council Federation.

Everyone is looking forward to an informative and productive NSCF Annual Summit Meeting at The Westgate Resorts.

RESOURCE CENTER

Michelle Moskowitz

Inactive until website is online.

RFP

Dennis Heffley

At this time we have five (5) locations who've expressed interest in receiving the NSCF RFP for possibly hosting our 2015 or 2016 NSCF Annual Summit Meeting.

If your location would like to receive a copy of the NSCF RFP, please send your request to Dennis Heffley NSCF RFP Chair (vicepresident@skifederation.org). There are many benefits to hosting this annual bringing together of the leaders from our Member Councils. To mention a few, the NSCF brings together the leaders of the thirty (30) major ski councils/organizations in the nation representing over 330,000 individual members. As a NSCF Annual Summit Meeting Host you are given time for site inspections, show of your area, provide our Key Note Speaker, let us know why our member councils and clubs need to return to make turns on your slopes and more!

Please remember, all rooms do not have to be in one (1) property. They just need to be walking distance or have close dedicated transportation getting people to and from our meeting location. This also allows us to have various Site Inspections to show our Member Councils what your area has available for our future group trips.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Joe Harvis

We continue to post updates to our Facebook page and with the advent of our new meeting app, we now have a Twitter account as well as Instagram and Pinterest. We need some of you folks who are familiar with these apps to help us out and volunteer to become admins to post to the apps. Please contact Joe Harvis, president@skifederation.org to help out.

WEBSITE

Michelle Moskowitz

Joe and I have had web meetings with the developer every Monday for the last 2 months. The coding is almost complete—we are just tweaking the final layouts. We should be ready to start inputting content by the end of the month.

The last remaining critical element is that we need to find a coder who can work with us on the trips database that will replicate between club/council websites and the Fed website. Joe has 2 contacts that may be able to help and he is trying to contact either of them.

NEWS FROM THE COUNCILS

National Brotherhood of Skiers

The National Brotherhood of Skiers (NBS) will be launching a new and improved website this summer. Our web address will remain the same - www.nbs.org; but the new site contains a fresh look, provides a greater user experience, mobile device friendly, and incorporates improved web security. The launch of the site coincides with distribution of our national event information package and ways for individuals to connect with our organization.

The NBS returns to Aspen Snowmass February 21 - 28, 2015 for our national Ski Summit! We are expecting record number crowds for great skiing and boarding, club race competition, extended happy hours, the picnic on the hill and other entertainment and fun! Oh, and while we are in Snowmass, we will also take care of organizational business in a few scheduled meetings.

Ohio Valley Ski Council

The OVSC hosted its annual Summit meeting in Lexington, KY over the June 6 – 8 weekend. We had great weather for the golf scramble, bike ride, and the morning tours of the thoroughbred horse parks and bourbon distilleries before heading indoors for the Mary Manning and Andrew Kwang “roadshow” presentation of their 7th “State of the Snow Sports Industry” talk. Western and International trip destinations were highlighted, and more resorts and tour operators showcased their offerings during the Saturday afternoon Trade Show.

All had a great time, especially those that won the doCor prizes of ski trips complete with lodging and lift tickets, and Lexington showed off their city in all her glory.

NEWS FROM THE INDUSTRY

MAMMOTH LAKES

With mountain foliage bursting to life and the last of the snow quickly melting, [Mammoth Mountain](#) is making final preparations for a summer 2014 season that will see a number of improvements. From new activities to lodging options, events and improvements to California's largest mountain bike park, there's something new at Mammoth for everyone.

Explore Mammoth – New this year, a gondola ride from the Adventure Center at Main Lodge to the summit at 11,053 feet will set the stage for *Explore Mammoth*, an active and immersive learning adventure at the top of California. Through a combination of guided hikes, a museum, and a movie theater, *Explore Mammoth* will shed light on the region's explosive geological, natural and human history. From the volcanic activity that created the mountain itself to the unique weather patterns that produce the monster snowstorms Mammoth is known for, *Explore Mammoth* will offer unique insight into all of it, with stunning 360 views of the Eastern Sierra serving as the backdrop. The official grand opening for the museum is set for July 4th weekend.

MT. BACHELOR

Mt. Bachelor is excited to announce nearly \$2 million in improvements to the resort this summer. While construction of the new eastside lift is still at least a year away, we will clear additional trees, widen trails and make the top and bottom terminal locations "concrete-ready". With this additional work in the new lift area, we'll be prepared to open this terrain for hike-back and tow-out access as soon as the snow is sufficiently deep next winter.

The single largest investment Mt. Bachelor is making this summer is in snow removal equipment, including the purchase of a new, \$560,000 Kodiak snow blower (roughly the cost of two snowcats). In recent years, we've noticed a dramatic increase in skiing and riding demand on storm days and this new snow blower, in conjunction with an additional box-bladed frontend loader, will help us move and remove snow from the parking lots more efficiently. We'll be expanding our Downhill Bike Park with ongoing trail-building throughout the summer and fall. All told, it will be a busy season of tree and trail work on the mountain.

SKI BANFF-LAKE LOUISE-SUNSHINE

Mt. Norquay

Moving into the 2014/15 season, family and flexibility continues to be Mt. Norquay's main focus.

Mt. Norquay has Alberta's longest running mountain snow school programs for kids, teens and adults. 2014/15 will see further development and expansion of this ever growing program where everyone can learn to ski and ride in a fun relaxed atmosphere as they gain confidence exploring more of the mountain than ever before!

The coming season will also see another goal of Mt. Norquay's long-range plan be achieved with improvement and widening of several runs from Mystic Chair.

For those who are less inclined to don a pair of skis or a snowboard but still want to experience the sheer thrill of flying down the mountain, or for those who just want to try something different, Mt. Norquay's onsite tube park is the answer. 2014/15 will see further expansion and development of the park for groups of friends and family members to enjoy for hours on end.

Lake Louise Ski Resort

Visitors can look forward to an even greater on-hill experience in 2014/15, with improved grooming and snowmaking, a new Chef offering a wide variety of food and beverage choices, healthier food options and enhanced amenities. Located at 6,700ft (2,042m) the newly revamped mid-mountain Whitehorn Lodge Restaurant was completed towards the end of the 2013/14 season and offers an alpine themed menu coupled with some of the most spectacular views at the resort. On the backside, Temple Lodge will see further improvements this year also.

The Lake Louise Ski Resort continues to play host to the annual FIS Winterstart Alpine Downhill World Cup in November/December as the fastest skiers in the world compete in downhill and super-G. For the second year in a row FIS Snowboard Cross World Cup returns to round out a month of high-speed racing.

Après ski and evenings activities will be enhanced this year at LLSR as the famous Torchlight Dinners will now utilize the new Whitehorn Lodge mid-mountain Restaurant. Don't miss skiing down the mountain in the dark, guided by our trusty ski-school instructors under the light of flares.

Sunshine Village

Upping the ante on exceptional guest service, Sunshine Village keeps on delivering a unique ski experience in one of the most iconic destinations in the world.

Recently named one of Canada's Signature Experiences by the Canadian Tourism Commission, Sunshine Village's Historical Snowshoe and Fondue tour invites guest to be led off the beaten path by local guides to enjoy 360 degree panoramic alpine views in the heart of Banff National Park. A traditional Swiss-style cheese fondue with assorted fruits and vegetables will be served by Sunshine Mountain Lodge Chefs following the trek.

If you are more of a daredevil and prefer to tear it up in the terrain parks, Rogers Terrain Park is the place for you to practice the tricks of your trade. The biggest of the three terrain parks at Sunshine Village, the 12 acre park includes the latest street and slope style rails and boxes.

SUNPEAKS

Already the second largest ski area in British Columbia, Sun Peaks Resort will now be the second largest in Canada, growing to over 4,200 acres of in-bound ski terrain with the addition of two new areas for the 2014–15 winter season. Work has begun on over 500 acres of new, challenging terrain laid out in the resort's longstanding development plan, adding to the vast amount and variety of skiing available for guests while solidifying the Sun Peaks ski experience as one of the top in North America.

Known internationally for its true ski-in, ski-out alpine village surrounded by 360° of skiing on three peaks and outstanding family ski experience, the new ski areas will increase the amount of terrain available for advanced skiers and riders and offer more off-piste opportunities for intermediates in a safe and avalanche controlled area. New runs in the West Morrisey area will be expert ability level and utilize the same aspect as the popular Static Cling and Agitator ski runs. The second section, Gil's—a popular backcountry ski area at the top of Tod Mountain—will see the area's vertical double with the creation of a lower ski out back the main ski runs.

This winter you can expect new intermediate ski camps and family programs. Our All-Mountain Skills Camp focuses on safety and awareness of mountain hazards while exploring vast off-piste terrain and our Beyond the Groomers Camp will be taking skiers on our new intermediate terrain while developing all mountain skills and confidence. A new Family Fun Dual Race every Saturday night will give families the opportunity to race against each other on a beginners course and a Kids Craft Night will be introduced into our weekly schedule of family events. Also new this winter are Fresh Track Private Lessons, private instruction before the mountain opens and expanded First Tracks Breakfast, now three mornings a week, and Fondue Dinner and Evening Descent, now offered two evenings a week.

November 22 Winter Opening

VAIL RESORTS

As always, Vail Resorts continues to invest to improve the skier experience at our 10 mountain destinations. Over the past 5 years we have invested \$500 million into capital projects specifically designed to make your time at our resorts even better. This continues for 2014-2015 with \$85 million committed to new projects. The highlights include a brand new combination gondola/six passenger express lift at Beaver Creek. This replaces the Centennial lift; Beaver Creeks primary chairlift. This will increase overall uphill capacity by 35% and offer beginners an easy way to ride. 34 brand new full automated snowmaking gun are also being installed at Beaver Creek. At Breckenridge, the Colorado Super Chair will be upgraded from a four person to a six person high speed lift. This will increase uphill capacity by 30% at Breck's Peak 8. The peak 9 restaurant at Breck will also see a complete interior remodel including a new kitchen to better serve our guests. At Vail, we will complete significant renovations to the area's most historic hotel, The Lodge at Vail. 56 rooms and the lobby will be updated for the 14-15 season. Finally, at Canyons we will replace the temporary Cloud Dine dining structure with a permanent, 316 seat restaurant. In addition, Vail Resorts will upgrade Canyons pump station which will increase snowmaking efficiency by 25 percent.

Vail Resorts has revolutionized the ski industry with the Epic Pass. Several options exist for 2014-2015, all offering the best value for your money in the entire industry. The Epic Pass (\$729 for adults and \$379 for children) offers unlimited skiing or riding at 11 resorts including Vail, Beaver Creek, Breckenridge, Keystone and Arapahoe Basin in Colorado; Canyons in Park City, Utah; Heavenly, Northstar, and Kirkwood at Lake Tahoe; Afton Alps in Minnesota and Mt. Brighton in Michigan. Plus, receive up to five free days at Les 3 Vallees, France and Verbier, Switzerland, when staying at select accommodations. New for winter 2014-15, Epic Pass purchasers will have access to five complimentary consecutive days at Niseko, Japan—well known as one of the resorts receiving the highest annual snowfall in the world each season.

WHISTLER

February 4, 2014 – Whistler Blackcomb is set to make the journey to the alpine a lot more enjoyable with the announcement of new eight passenger gondola cabins for their workhorse of a lift, the Whistler Village Gondola.

“The original cabins have been loading our guests onto Whistler Mountain since 1988,” says Dave Brownlie, President and Chief Operating Officer at Whistler Blackcomb. “These sleek new cabins are set to dramatically improve the experience for skiers, snowboarders and sightseers. Eight passengers will be able to sit comfortably with their gear in outside racks, and the new configuration is set to improve capacity for the Whistler Village Gondola by 12 per cent through four additional cabins and greater loading efficiency.”

It will cost around \$6 million to replace the Whistler Village Gondola cabins. The new “Diamond” level walk-in cabins are currently being fabricated in France by Sigma, a subsidiary of Leitner-POMA, the original manufacturer of the Whistler Village Gondola. It will be a much better ride with comfortable seating, and reduced vibration and noise over lift towers.

The gondola will operate all summer with the original cabins before closing this fall for a four-week period during September and October 2014 to install the new cabins for the winter 2014.2015 season. The lift terminals for the Whistler Village Gondola at the base, at the “mid” Olympic Station and at the top Roundhouse Lodge will also see improvements to enhance the functionality of the interior space as well as the terminal appearance.

For winter 2014.2015 Whistler Blackcomb will be investing \$5.9 million towards information technology initiatives, including a radio-frequency identification (“RFID”) system with lift access control gates on most mountain lifts. The RFID gates will reduce wait times at main access points and hands-free access means guests can go straight to the lift – no fumbling for passes with gloves on. The technology will also provide the necessary infrastructure to enhance guest engagement in the future.

WHITEFISH MOUNTAIN

Whitefish Mountain Resort will complete its two-year \$1.29 million Flower Point Project by installing a fixed-grip triple chairlift to the north side of the mountain for the 2014/2015 season. This will open up access to new runs and glading from the top of Flower Point creating an additional 200 acres of lift-served terrain and will provide more dependable conditions early and late season on its north-facing slopes.

The Flower Point Project added four new runs for winter 2013/2014, and with the addition of the chairlift four more runs will greet skiers and snowboarders this coming season. Flower Point is so named for the wildflower-covered alpine meadow on its peak and offers a spectacular view of the North Fork area in Glacier National Park. In tribute to this national treasure, most runs are named after locales in the national park: North Fork, Whiskey Spring, Big Creek, Inside Road, Outside Road, and Hidden Meadow. An additional run, Ridge Run, will run along the northeast boundary of the resort. The lift will also provide access to a sixth new run yet to be named on the south side of Flower Point.

WINTER PARK

Winter Park Resort is proud to announce the addition of the new Lunch Rock Restaurant, a 16,000 square foot, \$8 million jewel atop the Mary Jane Territory that will open during the 75th anniversary 2014-15 ski season! Winter Park’s largest and most ambitious on-mountain building construction in nearly 25 years, the new Lunch Rock Restaurant will feature a Colorado-themed restaurant and bar with modern convenience and comfort while embracing Mary Jane’s storied history. Follow the construction and learn more about the project at www.lunchrock.co!