**President’s Report**

This past year has marked my second year as the President of the Overlander Ski Club. This year allowed me the opportunity to settle into the role after being on a huge learning curve in my first year. I have once again felt incredibly supported by the Board members, staff and volunteers.

What a challenging and strange season it was for us. Where last season there was hardly a bad day all season, this year we struggled to have enough snow to open. I spent many days anxiously looking at the forecast hoping for snow, and I am sure many of you did the same. While the season may have been short, we managed to have some really lovely skiing when Mother Nature finally gave us some snow.

**Grooming**

While Mother Nature may have let us down this winter, our groomers certainly did not. We really wouldn’t have had the nice days of skiing we did without their significant efforts and ingenuity. While I am sure they all spent more time grooming on the snowmobiles than they would have liked while fondly remembering how warm and cozy the snow cats are, they worked their magic to keep us skiing for as long as possible. In speaking with them, they have learned a lot the season about how to groom during low snow conditions which will help us in years to come when we don’t have a lot of snow.

**Board and Trails Committee**

The Board continued work behind the scenes this season to support the Clubs operations. Some areas of focus have been around updating the Clubs governance hiring policies. As always, this work is incredibly important and will help to ensure clear procedures and guidelines for the Club into the future.

The Board is continuing work to finalize our updated strategic plan. We should have the plan completed soon and available on the website.

A big focus for the club has been work to improve the network during the off season. A big thank you to New Afton for helping us to complete work on the dog trails last fall. Their donation of equipment and equipment operators allowed us to widen and straighten sections of the dog trails. As a result, we are now able to use the Bison on these trails. This fall we were also able to use a brush cutter on the trails to help widen the trails from encroaching vegetation. We were really impressed with the results of this work and will be looking at potentially using it again in the future.

Many of you may have noticed that we had new signs installed in the network this season. These signs included updated trail names and also included the off piste trails. Thanks to the Trails Committee for updating the maps and getting the new signs installed in the network.

**Races**

As you all know we had been planning to host the popular Overlander Loppet again this season. Unfortunately, we had to cancel the race because snow conditions were not favorable to hold the race. While this was disappointing, we were are excited to hold the loppet again next season.

**Staff**

I want to take a moment to thank our amazing staff. While it wasn’t the season we had hoped for, we certainly couldn’t have done it without them. Not only are they the smiling faces we see when we drive up to the booth, they also make sure we are up to date on the latest trail conditions and make sure we are all safe out on the trails.

**What’s Next**

The club will continue work to improve the trail network during the off season. We will be looking for opportunities through grants, to improve the running surface of the trails. This work will enable us to operate during low snow years. Stay tuned for updates on this work in newsletters over the off season.