



For Immediate Release – January 23, 2017

The Haywood NorAm Western Canadian Championships and Teck Coast Cups #2 & #3 concluded yesterday. The event was a tremendous success and it was one of the biggest races held at Whistler Olympic Park since the 2013 Haywood Ski Nationals.



Photo credit: Anne-Marie Comte

Over 600 athletes aged 5 and up competed over the weekend. Participants travelled from across Canada, and included an Australian development team. The event drew aspiring Olympians and some very big names in Canadian cross country skiing, including Olympians Emily Nishikawa and Dahria Beatty.

The racers participated in sprints, distance races, and Sunday's closing event was a team relay, a new format for the race series. The relays were well attended and a hit with all the athletes.

The Haywood Westerns were hosted by Callaghan Valley Cross Country, a non-profit organization dedicated to hosting cross country ski events at Whistler Olympic Park.



Main sponsors of the event were Haywood, Buff, and Teck. The Province of BC and viaSport also provided significant funding. On Friday, MLA Jordan Sturdy took in the sprints action, presented a grant cheque, and handed out medals at the podium ceremony. Deep Cove Outdoors was the team relay sponsor on Sunday. Many businesses throughout the Sea to

Sky corridor came forward with support and prizing. See the sponsor page for more details: <http://callaghanxski.ca/events/westerns2017/sponsors/>

Margot Murdoch, Event Chair, said, *“To all our tireless volunteers and sponsors, thanks for a job well done! We pulled together to host one of the greatest weekends of racing at Whistler Olympic Park since 2013! It was so wonderful to see the cross country ski community from Vancouver to Whistler rally together for this big event.”*

Results are posted here:

January 20: Sprints <http://zone4.ca/results.asp?id=8419&cat=all>

January 21: Individual Classic Interval Start <http://zone4.ca/results.asp?id=8426&cat=all>

January 22: Team Relay <http://zone4.ca/results.asp?id=8440&cat=all>

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