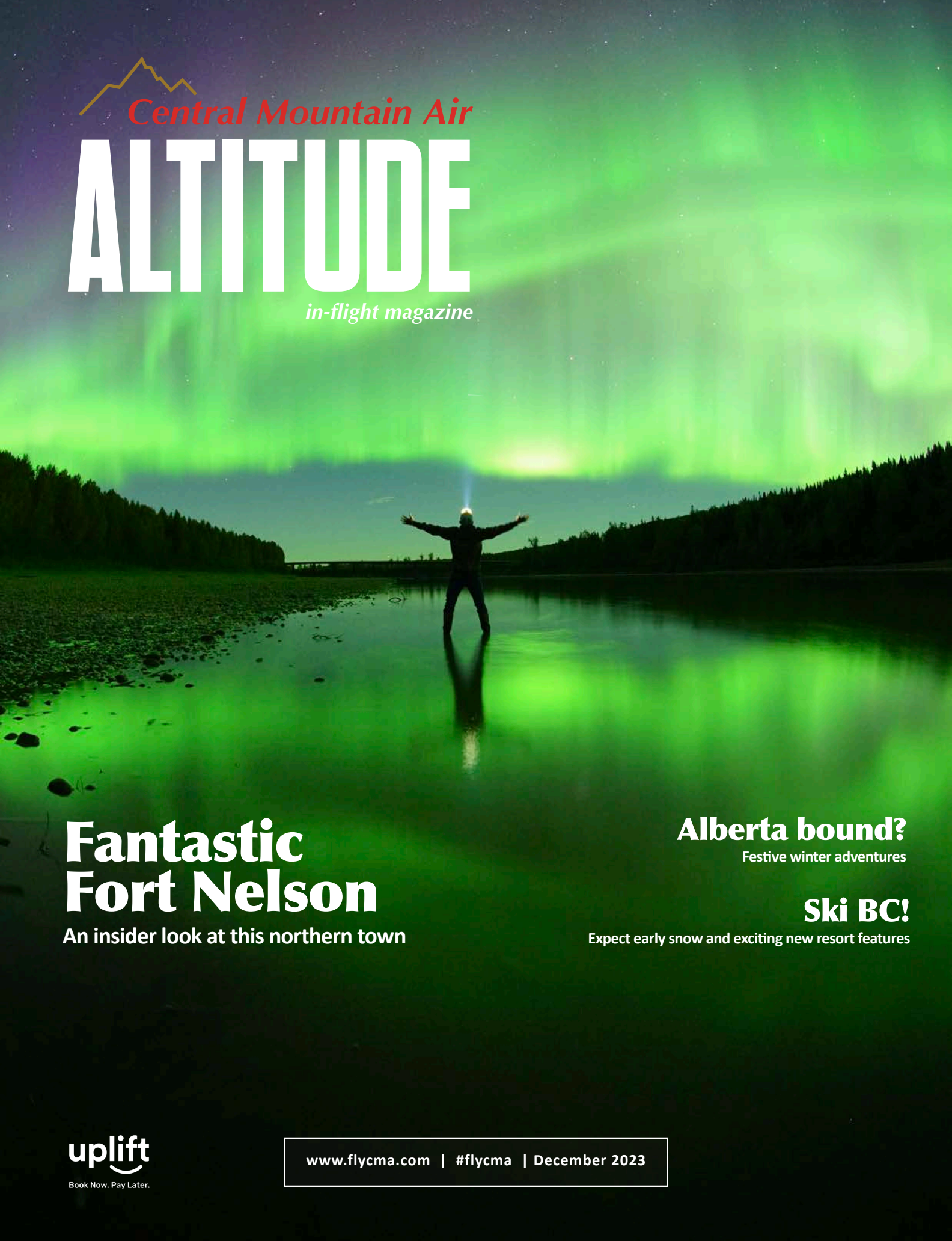




Central Mountain Air

ALTITUDE

in-flight magazine



Fantastic Fort Nelson

An insider look at this northern town

Alberta bound?

Festive winter adventures

Ski BC!

Expect early snow and exciting new resort features

uplift

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Quadra Island Oceanfront: 3.96 property with approx. 1200ft of shoreline in **Granite Bay**. Two titles, power to the lot, domestic water license, partially forested. Road access from **Quathiaski Cove** ferry terminal and a community dock in **Granite Bay**. **\$1,120,000**



Quadra Island Acreage: Picturesque 4.9 acre highbank oceanfront lot at the south end of **Quadra Island**. Views over **Georgia Strait**. Part of a 77 acre development offering standing forest, beautiful pastoral land, a valley ravine and a secluded beach. **\$731,000**



Campbell River Development Property: 0.77 acre cleared lot zoned multi-residential in a mixed-residential neighbourhood. Quick access to main transportation routes into town. Close to schools, rec centre, college, shopping and park trails. Surrounded by stunning natural beauty, **Campbell River** is a growing, active city with a need for all types of housing. **\$950,000**



Rupert Inlet, Kenny Point: Off grid substantial semi-oceanfront 99 acre property with stunning views over **Rupert Inlet!** State of the art infrastructure, quality-built one bedroom cabin with power, plumbing and wood finishing throughout. A recreational retreat in a picturesque, rural north island location - fish, crab and prawn in front of the property! **\$1,150,000**



Pearse Island Oceanfront: 1 acre, approx. 100ft waterfront in **Pearse Bay**, 560sqft cabin with loft. Private moorage shared with one other property. **SW** exposure, great views and sunsets. Nicely forested. In the **Broughton** region of **Johnstone Strait**. **\$299,500**



West Coast Residential Lot: Here is an opportunity for someone looking to move to the west coast, or to establish a summer base. 0.298 acres with electrical and water service. The Village of **Zeballos** is accessible by forest service road and is located approximately 14 nautical miles from the **Pacific Ocean**. One of the premier fishing regions on Vancouver Island! **\$74,900**

INSIDE

CENTRAL MOUNTAIN AIR IN-FLIGHT MAGAZINE

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ON THE COVER

Fort Nelson. Photo by Winter Hawk Studios.

*Gratitude, compassion
and unity*



Douglas McCrea

President, Central Mountain Air

As we approach the end of 2023, I find myself reflecting on the incredible journey we've shared throughout the year. In the spirit of the holiday season, I wanted to take a moment to extend my warmest wishes to each and every member of our esteemed Central Mountain Air team, as well as to our valued passengers, who make our skies come alive with the joy of travel.

I am filled with gratitude for the hard work and dedication demonstrated by our staff each year. Your professionalism, passion and collaborative spirit have been instrumental in our success, and for that I am truly thankful.

I am delighted to share that Central Mountain Air has undertaken various community initiatives in 2023. Through our donations and community outreach programs, we have donated approximately \$40,000 in flights and have had the privilege of making a positive impact on the lives of those in the communities

we serve. These efforts underscore our commitment to being not just an airline but a part of the community, dedicated to the well-being and prosperity of the regions we call home.


Looking ahead to 2024, I am excited about the possibilities that the new year holds for Central Mountain Air. We are committed to enhancing our services, improving customer experiences and exploring innovative ways to elevate the standards of regional air travel. Together, we will continue to reach new heights and create lasting memories for our passengers.

As we embrace the holiday season, let us remember the importance of gratitude, compassion and unity. May your holidays be filled with joy, laughter and the warmth of loved ones. Wishing you and your families a festive holiday season and a happy New Year.

~ Douglas McCrea

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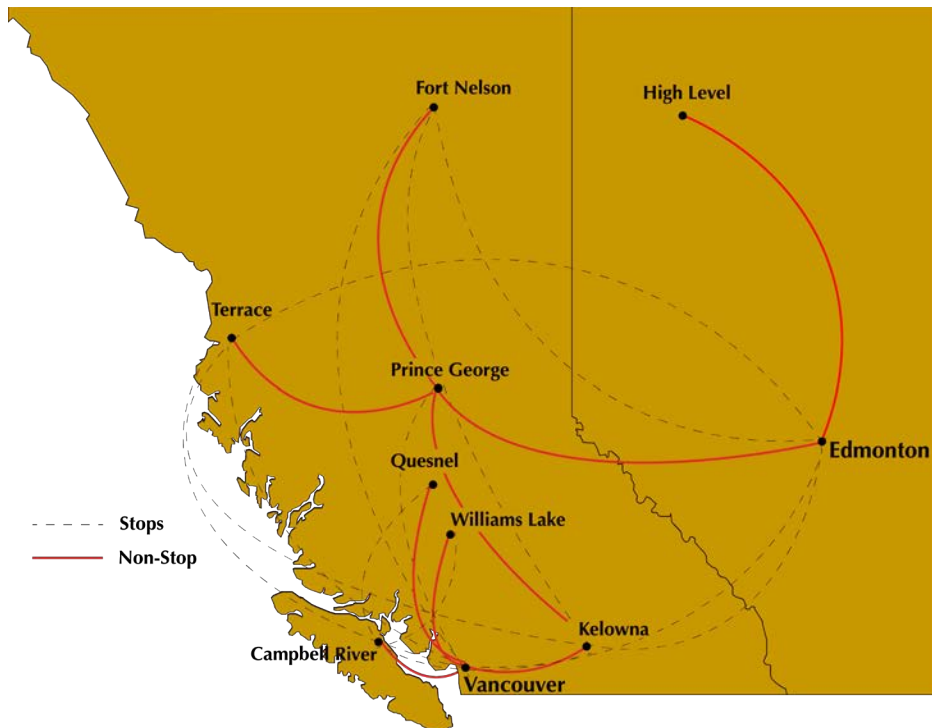
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Alberta *bound?*



Festive adventures for the holiday season

BY • TRAVIS DEVONPORT, WESTCOASTTRAVELLER.COM

As the holiday season takes hold, Alberta's national parks and local landscapes are calling. With dazzling glaciers, crystal-clear lakes, thundering waterfalls and evergreen forests, all surrounded by mountains, Alberta is the place to be as you spend your holidays with family or that special someone.

And with regular flights to Edmonton and High Level, Alberta, Central Mountain Air can get you there.

Whether you want to get out for some adventure or enjoy the sights, here are some ways to enjoy the beauty Alberta has to offer this holiday season.

SLEIGH RIDE IN BANFF

The community of Banff is nestled firmly in the heart of the mountains, with true wilderness lapping at the edges of town. Here you can venture into the evergreen forests and explore pristine areas via a traditional horse-drawn sleigh ride.

From the moment your sleigh glides out onto the snow-blanketed fields, you'll feel every sense come to life. The soft jingling of horse harnesses provides a soundtrack to the tales of your cowboy guide as he gently flicks the reins and leads you across the winter wonderland.

Where: Banff Trail Riders Stables, 100 Sundance Road, Banff

When: From December 2023 to March 2024

BOREALIS LIGHTS

Experience the enchantment of the holiday season as Borealis Lights Drive-Thru Christmas Lights Display returns to the St. Albert Kinsmen RV Park. Immerse yourself in the festive magic with an expanded array of lights, captivating displays and an extended route, promising an even more spectacular celebration of lights and joy.

Where: Borealis Lights Light Park, 47 Riel Drive, St. Albert

When: Until January 7

BLUE GRASS ENCHANTED CHRISTMAS MARKET

Experience the enchantment of the holiday season at the Blue Grass Enchanted Christmas Market. Like a picturesque scene out of a charming, snowy European village, the market offers truly one-of-a-kind, handmade treasures by local creators that will make the perfect Christmas gift for the ones you love.

Where: Blue Grass Nursery, Sod & Garden Centre,
102-39026 Range Road 275, Red Deer County

When: Every Sunday in December, from 11 am to 4 pm

MALIGNE CANYON ICEWALKS

In the heart of the Maligne Canyon, explorers will discover frozen falls, frosted limestone and natural ice sculptures. Alongside a professional guide, and wearing protective gear like helmets, boots and cleats, guests can safely navigate the canyon floor. Your Maligne Canyon Icewalk experience also includes a smokehouse lunch at Maligne Canyon Wilderness Kitchen, complete with main course, side and non-alcoholic drink.

Where: Maligne Lake Road, Jasper

When: December 15 to March 31

GO SNOWSHOEING

The arrival of winter in the mountains transforms the forests and hills into a fresh, clean canvas, reinvented daily by shifting winds and falling snow. For thousands of years, humans have used snowshoes to traverse the terrain without sinking deeply into the soft snow.

In North Alberta, some of the snowshoeing adventure destinations include Lesser Slave Lake, High Level and the Queen Elizabeth Provincial Park (Peace River). In Central Alberta, snowshoe Miquelon Lake Provincial Park and Elk Island National Park (Edmonton) and the Willmore Wilderness Park (Grande Cache). In South Alberta, visit Chain Lakes (High River); Fish Creek Provincial Park (Calgary); Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park and the Waterton Lakes National Park.

When: December 2023 to April 2024

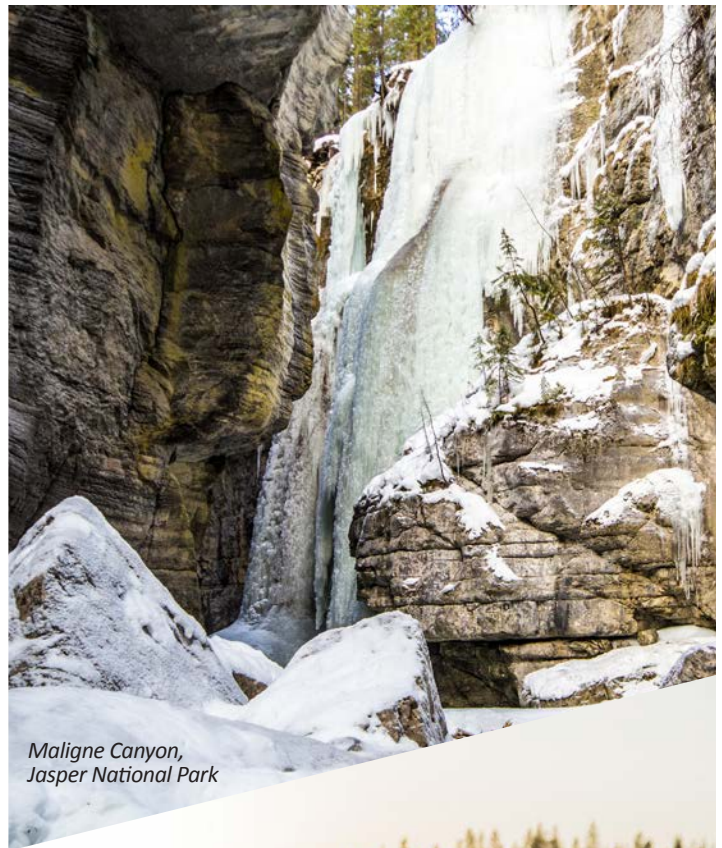
DOG SLEDDING IN LAKE LOUISE

The excitement of dog sledding begins the moment you hear the exhilarated chatter of the Lake Louise sled dogs, and it builds as you bundle yourself into a well-insulated sled and feel the pack lean into their harnesses.

What you might not expect is the purposeful silence that falls suddenly over the dog team as they powerfully pull onto the trail. The sights and sounds of the snowy forest take over as your sled speeds along the Great Divide Trail towards the Continental Divide of the Rocky Mountains.

Where: Kingmik Dog Sled Tours, 16430 Hwy 1A, Lake Louise

When: December 2023 to April 2024



*Maligne Canyon,
Jasper National Park*



*Snowshoeing in
Elk Island National Park.
Photo by Cooper O'Hara.*

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SkiBC



Expect **early snow** and **exciting new resort features** for the 2023-24 season

BY • SUSIE QUINN

With an El Niño year on the way, British Columbia's ski resorts are expecting early snow and bluebird spring skiing in 2023-24.

"The unmistakable, magical, clean scent of the first snow in the alpine and frosts on the ground have arrived," says Christopher Nicolson, president of the Canada West Ski Areas Association.

Resorts closest to Central Mountain Air destinations were already transitioning to their white winter coats in early November.

Fly Central Mountain Air to experience the best of winter fun at the following five resorts.

BIG WHITE SKI RESORT →

Big White Ski Resort is a one-hour drive from the CMA destination at Kelowna International Airport. It features 119 green, blue, black and double-black runs spreading over 7,300 acres, with 16 lifts in operation.

The multi-award-winning Okanagan resort features western Canada's largest night skiing area as well as three beginner-area carpets, a tube park, a gondola and more.

Known for its off-hill offerings as well, Big White has boosted the Ridge Day Lodge with a retrofitted kitchen concept named Spuds, with quick-serve options top of mind. Happy Valley Day Lodge has also updated its main cafeteria area with some menu adjustments, and Black Forest Day Lodge will feature more international flavours. Bringing this all together is the return of former Big White executive chef Boddie Macklin-Shaw.

The Spa at Stonebridge Lodge will also open for 2023-24, offering space to relax and rejuvenate after a day on the slopes. Electric vehicle charging stations have been added, and expanded parking is coming along.

Big White has a total uphill capacity of nearly 30,000 skiers and snowboarders per hour. With that kind of popularity, expansion plans include staff accommodations and new housing options.

bigwhite.com



← GROUSE MOUNTAIN

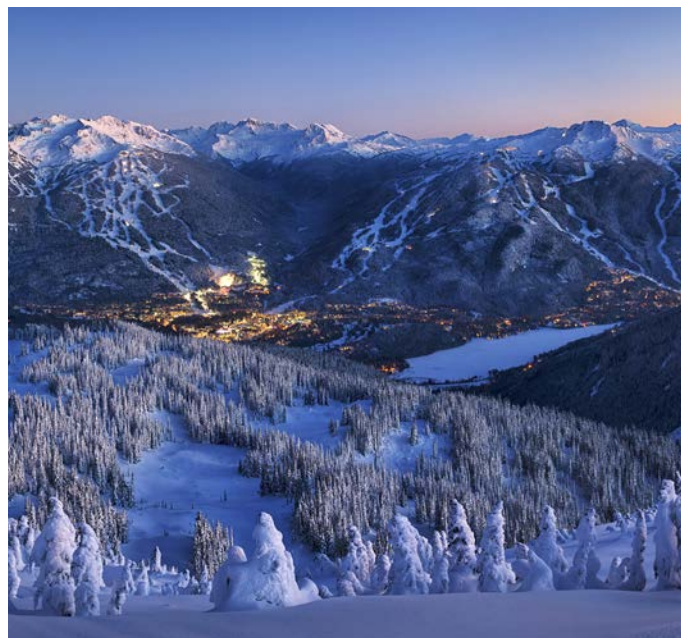
Grouse Mountain is a one-hour drive from the CMA destination at the South Terminal of Vancouver International Airport (YVR). It's been Vancouver's backyard playground since its first official season in 1926.

The resort is about to enter a new era with a "transformational" lift project: a state-of-the-art gondola will replace the aging Blue Skyride in the leadup to the resort's 100th anniversary in 2026. When it opens, the new ride will feature 27 eight-person gondola cabins, bringing the mountain to the same capacity as when both the Blue and Red Skyrides were operating.

The gondola easement area has been completed, as has the building of the foundations for the base and plateau stations. Towers will be assembled and lines installed in spring and summer 2024, with a projected opening of winter 2025.

Keep up to date with features and conditions via the Grouse Mountain app.

grousemountain.com



↑ MOUNT WASHINGTON ALPINE RESORT

Mount Washington Alpine Resort is located on Vancouver Island, a 45-minute drive from the CMA destination of Campbell River.

Mount Washington boasts an average of more than 11 metres of snowfall in a typical season. With snowmaking equipment, the season runs from the first week of December to early April.

Skiers and snowboarders are treated to 81 alpine runs, accessed from five chairlifts, and a dedicated beginner learning carpet zone. The Raven Lodge features another 55 kilometres of Nordic and snowshoeing trails.

Mount Washington embodies the coastal vibe of Vancouver Island: ski in the morning, golf in the afternoon and return for some après-ski while you stay in one of the various ski-in, ski-out accommodation options.

mountwashington.ca

TROLL RESORT

Exciting things are happening at Troll Resort, a ski area in the Quesnel Highland. It's located 44 kilometres east of the CMA destination of Quesnel, near Wells-Barkerville, the heart of the historic Cariboo Gold Rush.

Troll may fly under the radar as far as BC ski resorts go, but its expansion to Pinegrove Mountain, west of the existing resort, is arguably one of the largest happening in the province in 2023-24. The planned expansion will double Troll's skiable terrain, which features four T-bars (five once the expansion opens), runs for all kinds of snow sport enthusiasts, and 527 metres of vertical terrain.

The terrain park has also expanded to offer more features and line options. The Troll season runs from early December to April.

trollresort.com

↑ WHISTLER BLACKCOMB

Whistler Blackcomb, just two hours away from the South Terminal at YVR, will open Canada's newest eight-person chairlift this winter.

The new lift will replace the Fitzsimmons Express and is designed to reduce lift line wait times from the base at Skier's Plaza in Whistler Village. Management is expecting the new lift will improve circulation in the mid-mountain area.

This is the second lift to open in two years for Whistler Blackcomb, which features a 200-day ski and snowboard season. The resort enjoys an average snowfall of nearly 11 metres and boasts extensive snowmaking infrastructure to ensure early snow coverage.

Whistler Blackcomb offers a variety of pass options for its winter visitors, including Epic Passes, EDGE Cards and day passes. Guests planning to visit this winter are encouraged to buy their lift tickets in advance and to check availability throughout the season.

whistlerblackcomb.com

5 MORE ON THE RADAR

KELOWNA

SilverStar Mountain Resort skisilverstar.com
Sun Peaks Resort sunpeaksresort.com

WILLIAMS LAKE

Mount Timothy Recreation Resort skitimothy.com

FROM SMITHERS

Hudson Bay Mountain hudsonbaymountain.ca

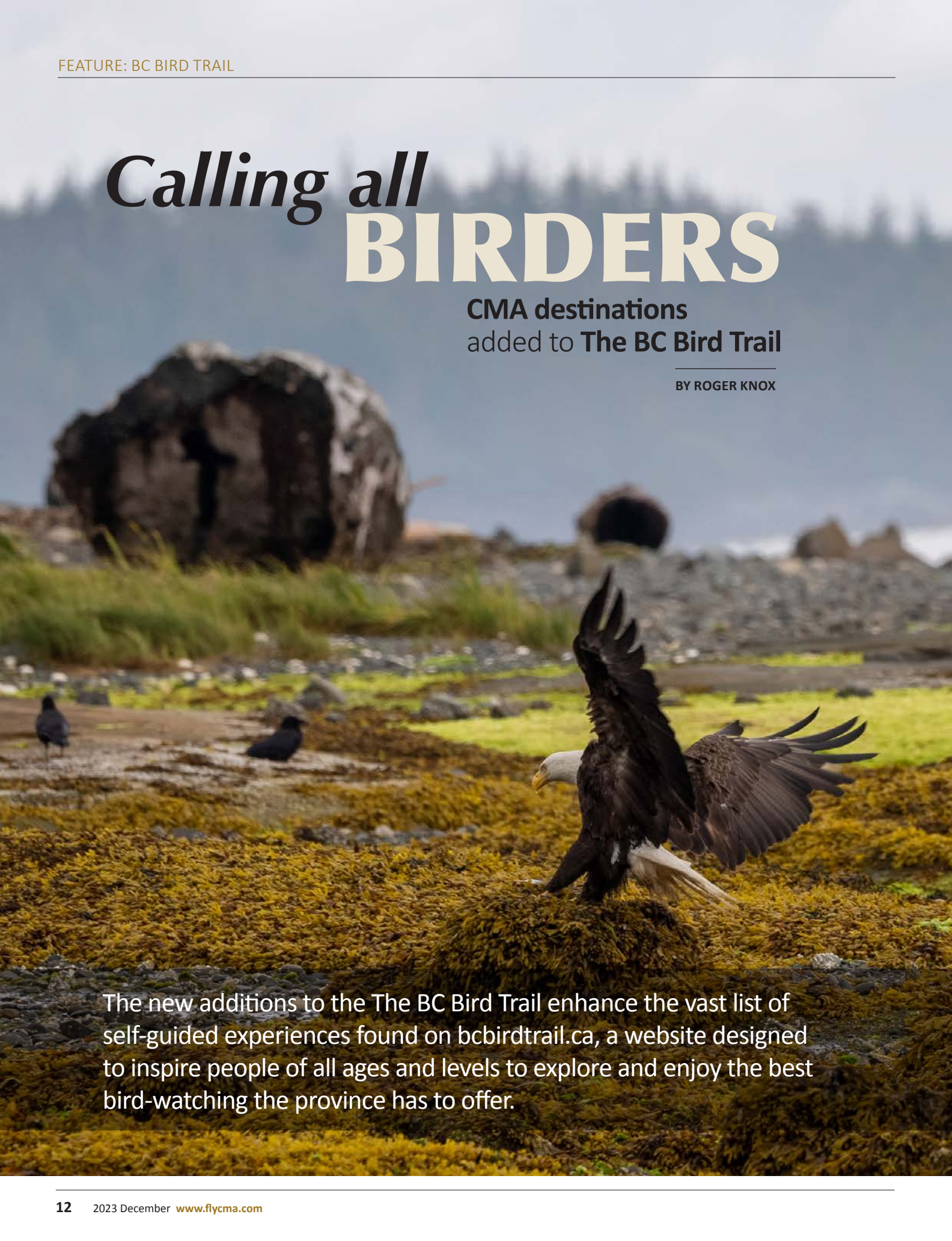
PRINCE GEORGE

Powder King Mountain Resort powderking.com

Calling all **BIRDERS**

CMA destinations
added to **The BC Bird Trail**

BY ROGER KNOX



The new additions to the The BC Bird Trail enhance the vast list of self-guided experiences found on bcbirdtrail.ca, a website designed to inspire people of all ages and levels to explore and enjoy the best bird-watching the province has to offer.

The CMA destinations of Kelowna and Prince George are among 11 communities added to the BC Bird Trail. And an entire new network of trails on northern Vancouver Island can be accessed from CMA's Campbell River destination.

The new additions to the The BC Bird Trail enhance the vast list of self-guided experiences found on bcbirdtrail.ca, a website designed to inspire people of all ages and levels to explore and enjoy the best bird-watching the province has to offer.

Birding is trending—and apparently, it's good for our mental health. Bird-watching first soared to popularity in 2020 when it quickly became a popular pandemic hobby, with birdwatchers setting a world record for the highest number of bird observations reported in one single day (May 9, 2020) as reported by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

Since the pandemic, bird-watching has continued to grow in popularity and today people of all ages are interested in the avian world—to enjoy nature, learn about wildlife, and reap the mental health benefits. Bird-watching has even been recognized as a practice of mindfulness with bird sounds and sights helping to alleviate anxiety. One study has found that locations with higher bird diversity are seeing lower mental health admissions.

The brand-new bird-watching trails, launched in partnership with Destination BC, include Kelowna and nearby Vernon and Shuswap, the Vancouver Island North Trail—encompassing Port McNeill, Port Hardy, Port Alice, Sointula and Alert Bay—and several individual outposts in Prince George, Nelson and Kootenay Lake, Vancouver's North Shore, Vancouver, Southern Gulf Islands, Sooke and Tofino.

“With so many new communities getting on board, we'll be able to introduce the practice of birding to even more people across the province,” said Ceri Chong, director, destination and industry development at Tourism Richmond. “As we add trails in the northern regions of the province like Vancouver Island North and Prince George, it allows us to further showcase the biodiversity of birds you can find in BC.”

This is the fourth year of this campaign, and the addition of 11 communities is the biggest growth ever.

In collaboration with tourism and conservation partners throughout the province, The BC Bird Trail develops free self-guided travel itineraries for visitors and locals of all ages to explore some of the most renowned birding areas in the country. Each destination at bcbirdtrail.ca includes key birding-related information like a seasonal list of the birds you might currently spot in the area, along with birding hot spots like parks, wildlife centres and estuaries to visit. To help visitors and locals make the most of their bird-watching experience in the communities they visit, each trail and outpost also includes key transportation information, bookable outdoor experiences in the community—like golf courses, bike rentals and helitours—and top picks for shopping, dining and accommodations.

The BC Bird Trail also has a free mobile app available on the Apple App Store and Google Play Store to help birdwatchers track their birding progress, check in at birding hot spots and earn rewards along the way.

TRAVEL WITH CMA

CMA flies non-stop to Campbell River from Vancouver South Terminal 6 times per week, and to Prince George 5 times per week from Edmonton, Kelowna and Terrace, and 3 times per week from Fort Nelson.

Book now at flycma.com





Indulge

Combine the snowy outdoors with culinary experiences in Kelowna

BY • SHEREEN ABBAS PHOTOS COURTESY TOURISM KELOWNA

Whether you are staying in the city, visiting a nearby ski resort or driving in for a day trip, Kelowna offers something-for-everyone outdoor experiences that range from backcountry skiing to exploration of well-groomed snowshoe and hiking trails.

But after enjoying the great outdoors, why not balance it out with some culinary indulgences?

At Meadow Vista Winery, try snow e-biking along with lunch, wine tastings and s'mores. Or take in the The View Winery's Slip 'n Sip experience, which combines snowshoeing, fondue and wine tasting. At Grizzli Winery, you can enjoy a guided hike through frosted vineyards followed by fireside tastings.

There's more! After a day of exploring the outdoors, try diving into a cooking class hosted by Lakehouse Kitchens Cooking School, The Okanagan Table or Mission Hill Winery. Or cosy up to a classic movie at Bernie's Supper Club—a restaurant and cinema rolled into one—where food and cocktails are delivered to your seat.

Add some romance by dining in a bubble dome at OAK & CRU while feasting on the nighttime views of Okanagan Lake, or make it a casual stop by visiting one of the many heated brewery patios in Kelowna's north end.

The combination of exploring the scenic outdoors while indulging in farm-to-table restaurants, award-winning wine and craft beverages, all in one day, makes Kelowna a unique hub for a well-rounded vacation in the mild Okanagan winter.

TRAVEL WITH CMA

CMA flies directly to Kelowna 5 times a week from Prince George, and 2 times per week from Vancouver.

Book now at flycma.com



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ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE

While visiting Alert Bay, immerse yourself in the rich history of the Kwakwaka'wakw people by visiting the U'mista Cultural Centre. The centre offers a profound and enriching experience, allowing you to gain a deeper understanding of the Kwakwaka'wakw arts, culture and heritage. The Alert Bay Library and Museum serves as a captivating repository of the town's history, embracing the rich narratives of both the municipality and the First Nations community.

The traditional 'Namgis Big House is an inspiring epicentre of culture, where traditions come to life through ceremonial events, as well as summer cultural sharing from the T'sasata Cultural Group. The World's Tallest Totem Pole which stands outside the Big House, is an enduring symbol of heritage and artistry, has been drawing visitors from around the globe since 1973.

ATTRACTIONS

Explore the heart of Alert Bay! Find maps, information, and local insights at the Visitor Centre. Dive into thrilling whale watching or bear tours, fishing, and scenic nature trails by walking or biking. In addition to the island trails, visit our tennis court and skate parks. Stop by Culture Shock for great coffee and one-of-a-kind treasures. Don't miss the exhilarating 360° kayaking race with competitors from around the world. Immerse yourself in the perfect blend of play and culture - your adventure starts here.



You can find more information on what Alert Bay has to offer, by contacting the Alert Bay Information Centre (250)-974-5024 | INFO@ALERTBAY.CA

U'mista Cultural Centre:
For events and cultural activities check out our website or social media: www.umista.ca
call us at (250) 974-5403 or 1-800-690-8222



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BEECH 1900D



Manufacturer: Beechcraft | Cabin: 18 Seats
Flight Crew: 2 Pilots | Flight Attendants: 0
Speed: 330 MPH | Altitude: 25,000 ft

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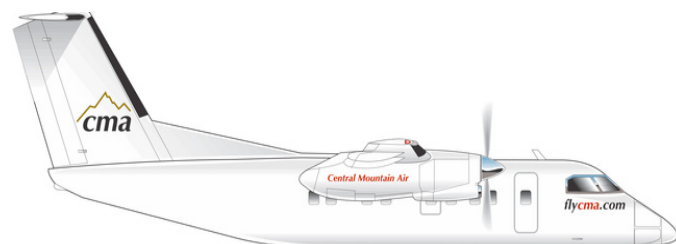
DORNIER 328



Manufacturer: Fairchild Dornier | Cabin: 30 Seats
Flight Crew: 2 Pilots | Flight Attendants: 1
Speed: 375 MPH | Altitude: 31,000 ft

Designed to offer passengers the comforts of stand-up headroom, inflight service, executive seating and a bathroom located in the rear of the aircraft.

DASH 8-100



Manufacturer: De Havilland | Cabin: 37 Seats
Flight Crew: 2 Pilots | Flight Attendants: 1
Speed: 310 MPH | Altitude: 25,000 ft

A regional airliner able to operate from unprepared airstrips while offering passengers the highest level of onboard amenities, including stand-up headroom, onboard washroom, galley and a flight attendant.

DASH 8-300



Manufacturer: De Havilland | Cabin: 50 Seats
Flight Crew: 2 Pilots | Flight Attendants: 1
Speed: 328 MPH | Altitude: 25,000 ft

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CMA CARGO



At CMA, with a fleet of over 30 aircraft in several configurations, we provide a wide variety of services for passenger and cargo transportation.

We provide belly freight and selected cargo services to the majority of our route network destinations. In addition, we have dedicated cargo aircraft—Beech 1900D converted aircraft—to meet the cargo transportation needs of freight forwarders, shippers and other organizations. With bases in British Columbia and Alberta and multiple aircraft, we are responsive to your needs, and you can trust our team to get your cargo where it needs to go safely and on time—entirely customized to your needs.

Our experienced CMA cargo team can facilitate the movement of goods such as dangerous goods, medical supplies, e-commerce packages, mail, parts and equipment, pharmaceuticals, perishables, groceries, seafood and more.

The Beech 1900D cargo aircraft has six loading zones with cabin floor panels that accommodate up to 75-square-foot loads with a cabin roller/conveyor installed and cargo nets. The Beech 1900D is a workhorse with a standard 4'4" door and cabin height of 5'11", and is able to move up to 4,439 pounds of cargo with relative ease and speed.

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CORPORATE ACCOUNTS

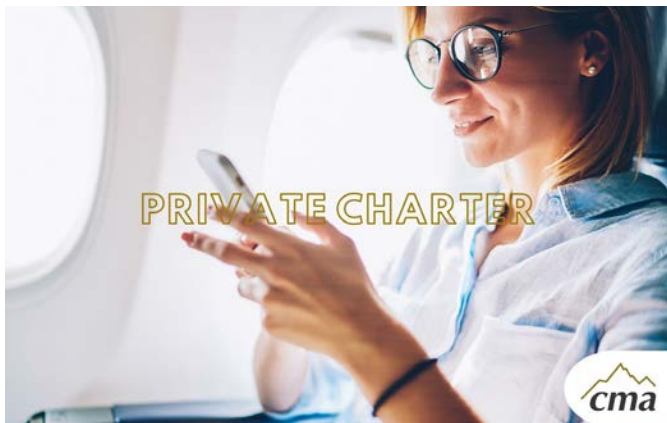


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THE CMA DESTINATIONS OF QUESNEL AND WILLIAMS LAKE
OFFER A GREAT GATEWAY TO ALL YOUR WINTER ADVENTURES IN THE CARIBOO.

Bring on the **COLD**

Five things to do in the Cariboo this winter

BY • CHLOE SJUBERG

British Columbia's Cariboo region is known for its magnificent natural surroundings, offering adventures for nature, wildlife and outdoor recreation lovers—even when the winter snows arrive!

The Cariboo has tons of activities for winter sports enthusiasts of all kinds, as well as those who love to get cosy with hearty winter fare and local arts. The Central Mountain Air destinations of Quesnel and Williams Lake offer great gateways to all your winter adventures in the Cariboo.



1 STRAP ON SKIS OR SNOWSHOES

The Cariboo is home to multiple ski destinations perfect for all ages and skill levels.

Troll Resort, just outside of Quesnel, is a family-run ski hill with an impressive 527 metres of vertical terrain, a newly expanded terrain park, and a funky atmosphere (keep an eye out for their namesake troll statues!).

Mount Timothy Recreation Resort, also locally owned and operated, is about an hour's drive from Williams Lake, near the town of Lac La Hache. It has three lifts and a wide variety of terrain.

For cross-country skiing or snowshoeing, Hallis Lake near Quesnel has a 75-kilometre trail network, with the Cariboo Ski Touring Club providing gear rentals and lessons at the day lodge. And in the city of Quesnel itself, there are ski and snowshoe trails in West Fraser Timber Park.

In Williams Lake, head to the Bull Mountain Cross-Country Ski and Snowshoe Area, which opened a brand-new lodge this fall.

Photo courtesy of Troll Resort



2 TAKE A WALK THROUGH HISTORY IN BARKERVILLE

When Billy Barker struck gold in 1861, Barkerville became the epicentre of the Cariboo Gold Rush, a driving force behind British Columbia's early growth as a province. Today, Barkerville Historic Town & Park, an hour east of Quesnel, is preserved as a National Historic Site, a living heritage museum dedicated to this era of BC's history, including Chinese and Indigenous perspectives.

The shoulder season in Barkerville is a great time to take a self-guided tour through the town, wandering the quiet streets as you explore more than 100 heritage buildings and educational displays. Entrance is walk-in and by donation.

To truly immerse yourself in history, you can book a stay in Barkerville at the quaint St. George Hotel or the Historic Kelly Guest House. From here, you can also access cross-country skiing and snowmobiling trails from the nearby town of Wells.

Photo courtesy of Barkerville Historic Town & Park



3 REV UP A SNOWMOBILE

For a real dose of adrenaline, traverse the groomed trails of the Cariboo Mountains on a snowmobile. The Gold Rush Snowmobile Trail (GRST) passes through several Cariboo communities, inspired by the path of gold prospectors in the mid-1800s looking to strike it rich. It passes coniferous forests, trout-filled lakes and pristine alpine landscapes, with access to provincial parks, campsites, lodges and a variety of services.

The Williams Lake Powder Kings and the Wells Snowmobile Club are among the groups that help maintain the GRST and other trail networks in the area. Snowmobile rentals are available from Becker's Lodge at Bowron Lake, east of Quesnel near the town of Wells.

Photo courtesy of Gold Rush Snowmobile Trail



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4 COSY UP WITH CULTURE

There's no better way to warm your spirits on a cold day or night than with some live entertainment or a stroll through a local art gallery or museum.

In Williams Lake, enjoy art at the Station House Gallery (in Williams Lake's oldest building, a historic train station), or a show at the Studio Theatre (in February, they're putting on the ABBA musical Mamma Mia!).

In Quesnel, you can take in a performance at Quesnel Live Arts, or learn about the history of the area at the Quesnel Museum and Archives, located at the visitor's centre. For a cozy night of local music, catch one of the "Tiny Den Concerts" at Moonshine Coffee on the first Friday of each month.

Photo courtesy of Station House Gallery

5 TAKE THE ALE TRAIL

The Northeast BC Ale Trail runs right through the Cariboo, stopping at two excellent local craft breweries. Toast the season with a brew from one of these delicious local spots.

In Williams Lake, Fox Mountain Brewing Co. is housed in an extensively renovated Greyhound bus station. Fox Mountain also serves up hearty and delicious pub fare to warm you up from the inside out—think burgers, nachos, sandwiches, wings and ribs. Coming soon to Fox Mountain is a coconut porter brewed in honour of Ullr, "the god of snow and patron saint of skiers."

Barkerville Brewing Co. is located in Quesnel but takes its inspiration from the adventurous Cariboo Gold Rush era of historic nearby Barkerville. Barkerville's latest release is the Lightning Creek Cold IPA, an invigorating hop-driven brew with hints of pine and citrus to match the crisp, cold weather.

For winter itineraries and more information to help you plan your trip to the Cariboo, visit explorecariboo.com.

TRAVEL WITH CMA

CMA flies non-stop to Quesnel from Vancouver 6 times per week, and to Williams Lake from Vancouver 4 times per week.

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Offers and prices are subject to change without notice. Prices include 5% Goods and Services Tax (GST).
If there is a discrepancy between this table and the tariff, the tariff will take precedence.



Photo by Winter Hawk Studios

Fort Nelson INSIDER

BY • CHLOE SJUBERG

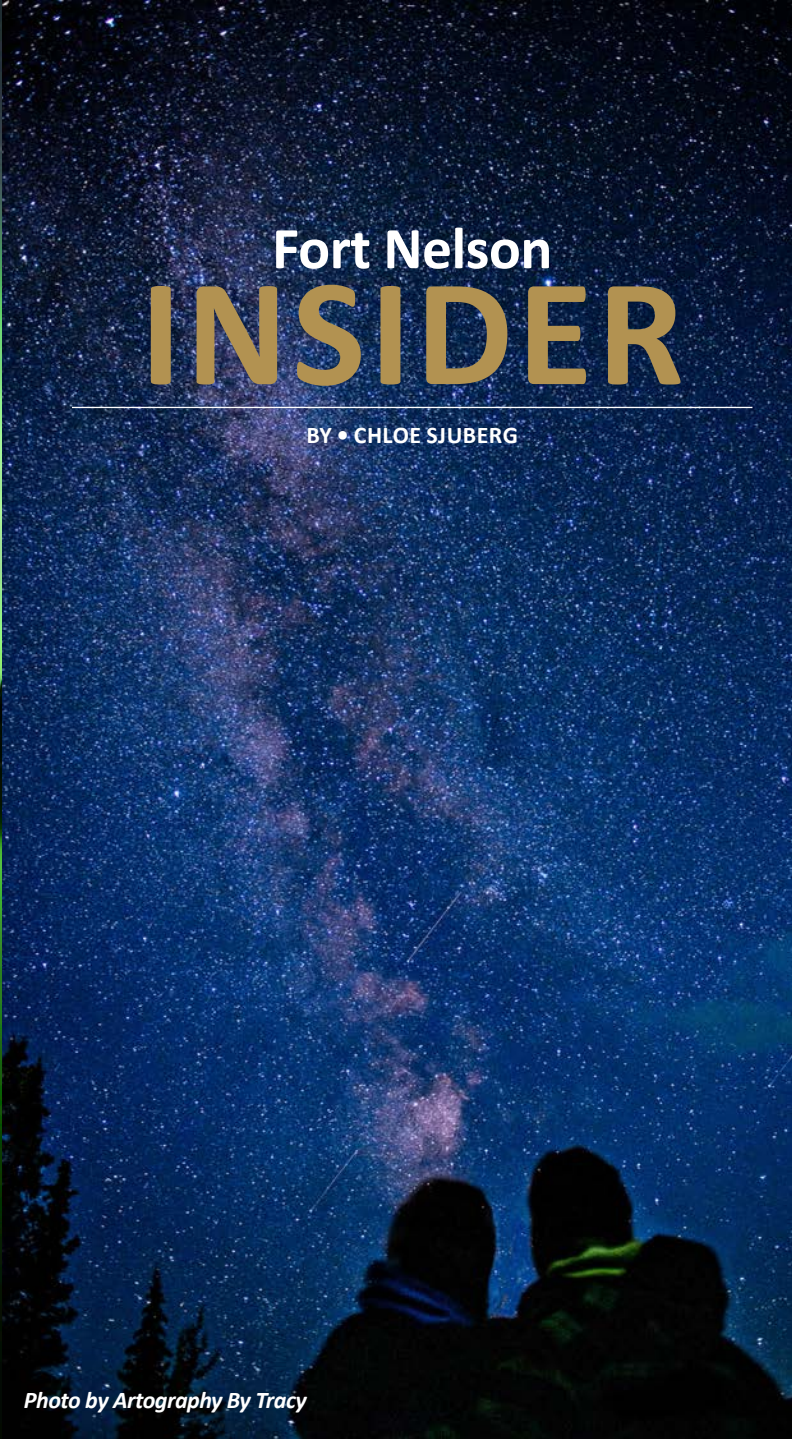


Photo by Artography By Tracy



Photo by Andrew Strain for Northern BC Tourism



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Photo by Artography By Tracy

Where does the name of Fort Nelson come from?

Indigenous peoples have lived here for thousands of years. They are the origin of the region's history. With a deep and enduring connection to the land, they were—and still are—hunters and gatherers, traditionally moving around the territory with the seasons and animals that sustained their way of life. In 1805, Fort Nelson, named after Admiral Horatio Nelson of the British Navy, was first established as a North West Company trading post. Members of the Fort Nelson First Nation began to gather there to trade and purchase goods. It remained a small outpost until 1942, when the US Army arrived to build the Alaska Highway.

What is Fort Nelson best known for?

Fort Nelson is the administrative centre of the Northern Rockies Regional Municipality, which spans over 85,000 square kilometres and is known for its beautiful natural landscapes, wildlife, and recreation opportunities—from camping and fishing at Muncho Lake to taking a dip in the Liard Hot Springs or even viewing the northern lights. Tourism, agriculture, forestry, geothermal, natural gas and mining support a strong and resilient local economy. Fort Nelson is a welcoming community with neighbourly, kind and generous residents.

What are some of the best family activities in Fort Nelson?

Take a scenic drive through the Northern Rockies to see beautiful landscapes and wildlife. You might see black bears, grizzly bears, bison, moose, stone sheep and caribou. Outdoor recreation opportunities are limitless: camping, hiking, cycling, horseback riding, skiing, snowshoeing, snowmobiling and more. For indoor fun, Fort Nelson's recreation centre offers many all-ages activities, including skating, swimming and rock climbing. The Phoenix Theatre provides movies and live entertainment throughout the year—and the most delicious popcorn. Northern Rockies community groups are dedicated, hard-working residents who host a variety of festivals and activities for families to enjoy.

Where's the best spot for a fantastic dinner in Fort Nelson? What about a hearty breakfast?

Looking for a healthy option? Down to Earth Health Shop is a great choice. A nice night out? The One Lounge is your place. For a hearty breakfast or lunch, check out the Triple G Hideaway or the legendary Fort Nelson Hotel. P&T Restaurant, Shangri-La Chinese Restaurant and Yammy Sushi all provide a variety of Asian dishes. And for fresh food grown and made locally, visit the weekly Saturday farmers' market.

What's the best locally owned getaway?

There are many terrific getaways located along the Alaska Highway, including Tetsa River Lodge (don't forget to try a cinnamon bun); Toad River Lodge, nestled in the scenic community of Toad River; or Northern Rockies Lodge, on the shores of beautiful Muncho Lake. Stone & Folding Mountain Outfitters provides unique backcountry experiences and accommodations for those looking to enjoy the outdoors or simply get away and relax.

How can visitors find out more about Fort Nelson?

Visit tourismnorthernrockies.ca to help you plan your trip and experience all that Fort Nelson and the Northern Rockies have to offer.

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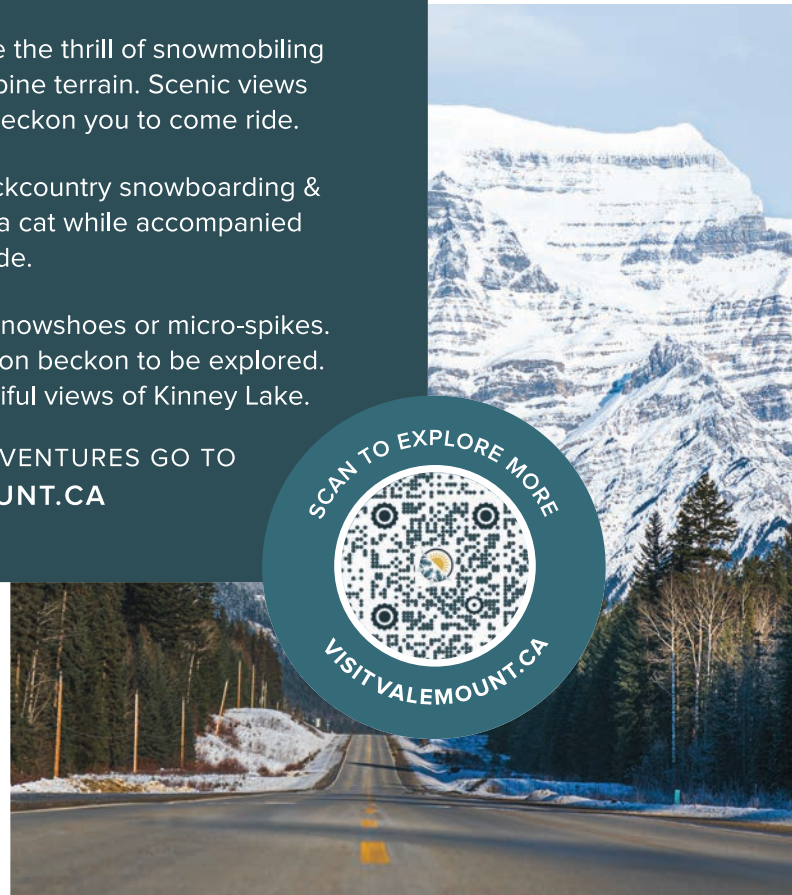
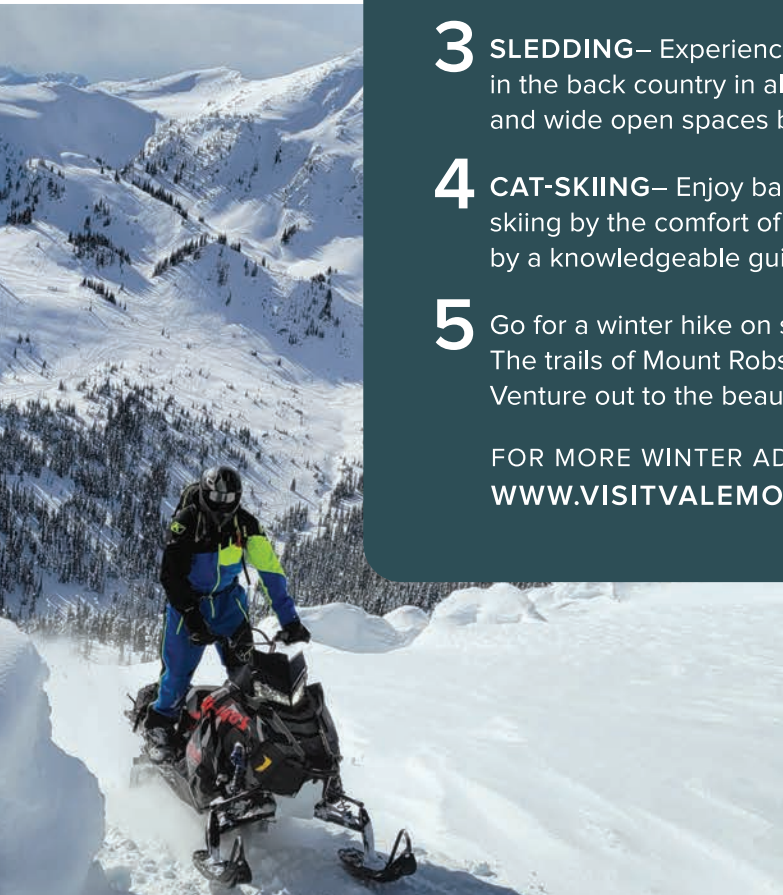
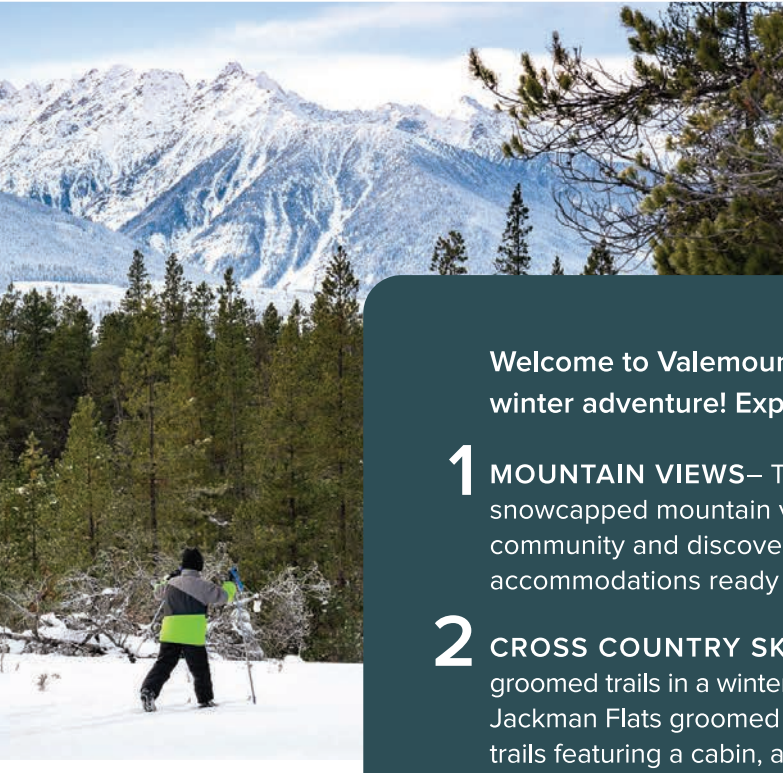
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What's Happening?

Events in CMA destinations



Campbell River

Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival World Tour

January 11–12, 2024

Tidemark Theatre

Ignite your passion for adventure, action and travel with a curated lineup of mountain and adventure films from Canadian and international filmmakers. Campbell River is one stop on the Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival World Tour, which brings exhilarating big-screen stories to more than 500 communities around the globe each year. Learn more at banffmountainfestival.ca/tour and get tickets at tidemarktheatre.com.

Photo by Antoine Mesnage, courtesy of Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity



Prince George

Celebration of Lights

December 18–23 and 27–30, 2023

Central BC Railway & Forestry Museum

Celebrate the holidays with the largest light display in Prince George. Delight in over 150,000 lights and light displays, historic rail cars and buildings as you explore the

frozen wonder of the Central BC Railway & Forestry Museum's eight-acre park. The event is also the museum's biggest annual fundraiser. Learn more at pgrfm.bc.ca. For even more holiday lights, take the Light Up the Orchard walking tour at Northern Lights Estate Winery from November 17–December 31. northernlightswinery.ca

Photo courtesy of Central BC Railway & Forestry Museum



Edmonton

Deep Freeze: A Byzantine Winter Festival

January 20–21, 2024

Alberta Avenue

This multicultural festival celebrates all things to do with winter fun—including races in actual deep freezers! Take a stroll through the Alberta Avenue district and be enchanted by light installations, ice sculptures, song, dance and tasty delights that share the stories and cultures of Canada's Ukrainian, French-Canadian, Franco-African, Indigenous, Latin American and Asian communities. Learn more at deepfreeze.ca.

Photo courtesy of Deep Freeze



Vancouver

East Van Panto: Beauty and the Beast

November 22, 2023 to January 6, 2024

York Theatre

A beloved Vancouver holiday theatre tradition, Theatre Replacement's East Van Panto returns with a classic fairy tale retold as a hilarious adventure through East Vancouver. This enchanting experience for audiences of all ages features unforgettable characters, pop song parodies, stunning sets, silly costumes and fantastic performances by some of Vancouver's best actors. Get tickets at thecultch.com.

Photo by Emily Cooper, illustration by Cindy Mochizuki, courtesy of The Cultch



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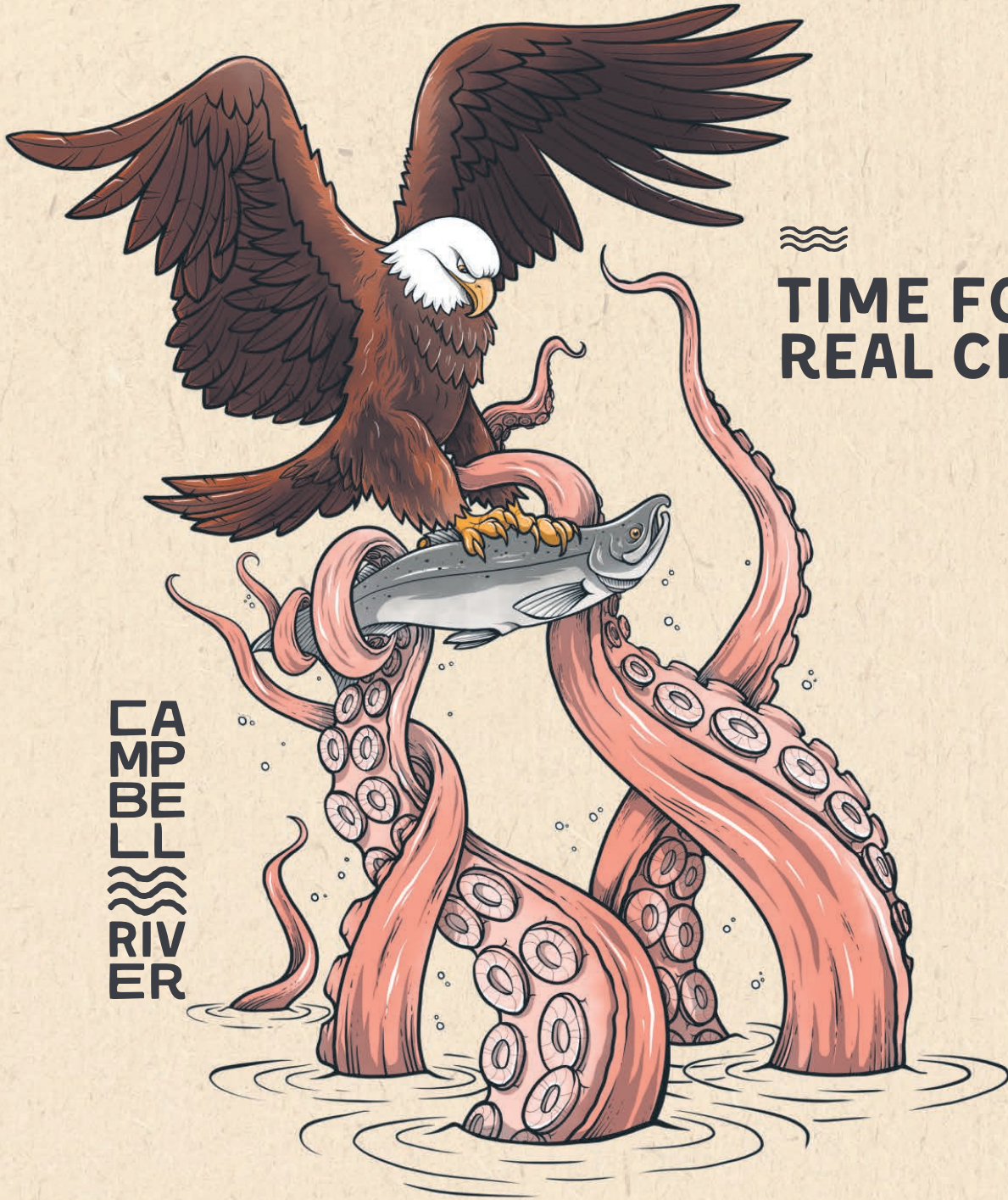
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