



Revelstoke Glacier Challenge Slo-Pitch Tournament  
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## **The Future of the Revelstoke Glacier Challenge Slo-Pitch Tournament**

The Revelstoke Glacier Challenge Slo-Pitch Tournament has been a staple event in Revelstoke every August long weekend for the past 30 years. The tournament started with a simple passion for the sport of softball. It quickly grew in popularity and scope—at one point, even offering lifts by helicopter to a beer garden on the glacier of Mount Begbie. Over the years, the event has been met with both positive and negative feedback.

The current Glacier Challenge board has worked hard for the last two years, putting in hundreds of hours to keep the tournament running with fewer and fewer volunteers. Now, after 30 years of successful events, we must weigh the pros and cons of continuing this major undertaking.

### **THE GOOD**

- **Local sponsors.** Every year, amazing sponsors step up to the plate to help the tournament run smoothly. This year, GC turned a profit for the first time in years. A very special thanks goes to: *New Horizon Productions, Zalas Steak & Pizza & Bar & Grill, Best Western Plus, Stoke Hotel, The Regent, Cheers Liquor Store, River City Pub, Valley Retreat, Revelstoke Accommodation Association, The City of Revelstoke, Two Wolves Brewing Company, Red Apple, Revelstoke Golf Course, Revelstoke Mountain Resort, Great Canadian Tours, Reved, Somewon Collective, Integrated Apparel, Moxie Marketing, and the Revelstoke Rotary Club.*
- **Economic spinoff.** The tournament brings 1,000+ visitors to Revelstoke. While the event is largely limited to Centennial Park, teams do visit local establishments, support retailers and make purchases beyond just beer.

### **THE BAD**

- The BC Liquor Control and Licensing Branch has indicated that it will not be renewing the tournament's liquor license for next year without significant changes and control in respect to open liquor.
- The City of Revelstoke and local RCMP would also like to see a number of restrictions and additional requirements for the tournament moving forward. These changes would greatly increase the overhead cost of the tournament, and the GC team does not see how it can remain profitable going forward.

– The current GC team took on a tremendous additional workload to run the tournament in 2016 and 2017 in order to make the event profitable. The tournament requires at least 30 volunteers over the course of the weekend. It is simply too much work for a group of six.

– There is a strong sentiment from the City of Revelstoke, Revelstoke RCMP and numerous residents that they do not care for the tournament and would not like to see it continue.

It is with these points in mind that the current GC team will be stepping down from organizing the tournament. We do not feel that it can continue to be profitable, nor that it will be well received, here in Revelstoke.

It is unfortunate, however, the Glacier Challenge has had a great run. The ball tournament generates significant funding for service clubs and local businesses alike. It also brings together visitors from far and wide, who make Revelstoke their go-to summer long weekend destination.

## **GETTING INVOLVED**

The Glacier Challenge board wants to offer the opportunity for residents of Revelstoke to create a new board and continue the tournament.

Please email [info@glacierchallenge.com](mailto:info@glacierchallenge.com) by October 31, 2017 if you are interested. If no one would like to take on this project, the tournament will be dissolved and the remaining funds will be donated to charities in Revelstoke.

Thank you again to the amazing sponsors and volunteers who helped this year. It truly has been an honour to be part of helping this amazing tournament reach 30 years.

We sincerely hope it has fostered a love for both sport and positive community engagement.

**Mark, Maggie, Jen, Trista, Peter and Kyle**  
– *The Revelstoke Glacier Challenge Slo-Pitch Tournament Board*