

For Immediate Release

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## Backcountry Film Festival by Friends of the Rossland Range to feature “A Life Ascending”

The Friends of the Rossland Range is again bringing the Backcountry Film Festival to the Rossland Miner’s Hall, featuring the first Rossland showing of the new award-winning documentary film, “A Life Ascending” by Ptarmigan Films. The Festival is a single night of diverse films and shorts that promote the work of grassroots filmmakers who tell their stories of backcountry, non-motorized recreation and environmental preservation.

Proceeds from the festival will be used by the Friends of the Rossland Range to achieve its goals to foster the traditions and community spirit of the Rossland Range, work toward keeping this gem a great place to play, and teach the natural recreational, cultural, historical values of the area. For more information visit [www.rosslandrange.org](http://www.rosslandrange.org).

Friends of the Rossland Range is now working on:

- Inspiring the community-based, multi-use recreation plan for the Rossland Range, including establishing a winter backcountry recreation area in the Old Glory Alpine area;
- Developing a local Streamkeepers program;
- Developing a forest interpretation project; and
- Developing the Trax FoRR Tracks program to identify and report wildlife in the Rossland Range.

The ALL AGES film program is presented below (*subject to change*):

### **Australis** (27:00) *Granite Films*

An Antarctica ski odyssey featuring Chris Davenport’s venture to the bottom of the world in search of the ski lines of his dreams. During his journey to the Antarctic Peninsula, the team discovered a new understanding of the beauty of ski mountaineering and of the depths of human connection to nature. [http://live.tetongravity.com/\\_Granite-Films-Australis-An-Antarctic-Ski-Odyssey-Trailer/VIDEO/1453059/75233.html](http://live.tetongravity.com/_Granite-Films-Australis-An-Antarctic-Ski-Odyssey-Trailer/VIDEO/1453059/75233.html)

### **From Stew’s Eyes II** (5:00) *Stew Spooner, Rossland*

Local photographer Stew Spooner shares footage of his vision of our outstanding local Rossland backcountry.

### **Cross Country Snowboarding** (3:10) *Holiday Films*

The story of 2 Canadians who have a dream to bring their sport to the world.

### **Desert River** (4:30) *Sweetgrass Productions*

A beautiful ski adventure shot in the Chilkats near Haines, Alaska, a short from one of the most interesting and talented grassroots filmmakers on the planet. <http://www.sierradescents.com/film-television/2010/11/07/sweetgrass-short-desert-river.html>

### **Pigs in Heaven** (2:00) *Michele Desjardins, Rossland*

Featuring powder addicts: Keisha, Jim Firstbrook and Gareth Cryer in deep April pow down a secret line in the heart of the Rossland Range.

### **Rossland Backcountry** (3:00) *Jim Firstbrook, Rossland*

Rosslanders skiing their home turf.

**Schuss** (4:38) *Dave Heath Photography*

A photographic homage to the early days of skiing...all shot and produced during the month of March 2010.

<http://vimeo.com/10737539>

**Extreme Tobogganing** (4:40) *Pepperschnickel Productions*

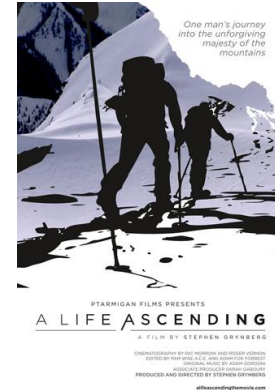
The debut of this creative film directed and produced by Florina Beglinger stars a cast of teenage girls whose sport and enthusiasm will warm your heart and inspire a smile.

**INTERMISSION**

**A Life Ascending** (57:00) *Ptarmigan Films*

Stephen Grynberg's first feature length award-winning documentary film chronicles the life of acclaimed ski mountaineer and mountain guide Ruedi Beglinger. Living with his wife and two young daughters on a remote glacier in the Selkirk Mountains of British Columbia, Beglinger has built a reputation as one of the top mountaineering guides in the world. The film follows his family's unique life in the mountains and their journey in the years following a massive avalanche that killed seven people. Documenting the sublime beauty and ever-present risk of a life lived on the edge, the film ultimately explores the power of nature as both an unforgiving host and profound teacher. An award-winner at the Banff Mountain Film Festival and others, not to be missed.

[www.alifeascending.com](http://www.alifeascending.com)



The show will be Sunday, February 27, 2010 at the Rossland Miner's Hall – films start at 7pm (doors open at 6:30pm). Admission is \$5 (under 12 are FREE) and tickets can be purchased at Butch Boutry Ski Shop.

Many thanks to the organizations who made this event possible: Columbia Basin Trust, Teck, Nelson District Credit Union, Kootenay Nordic Sports, Mountain Life, Gerick Sports, Big Red Cats, Whistle Tours, Powderhound, Butch Boutry Ski Shop, Rossland Rotary/Interact, Kootenay Association for Science and Technology, Rossland Council for the Arts and Culture, Rossland Mountain Film Festival, Ptarmigan Films, Winter Wildlands Alliance, Red Mountain Resort, Black Jack Ski Club, Kootenay Mountaineering Club.

