

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 13, 2019

Katherine Stewart-Jones and Bob Thompson Win AltaGas Sprint at Haywood NorAm Candy Cane Cup

Antoine Cyr from Gatineau wins the silver medal in the senior category

Gatineau, Québec: There were a large crowd of spectators today for the AltaGas sprint events at the Haywood Candy Cane NorAm Cup at the Nakkertok Nordic Ski Center. **Katherine Stewart-Jones of Chelsea** won the women's senior event, followed by Maya MacIsaac-Jones of Canmore and Katie Weaver of the Hollyburn club north of Vancouver. Maya won the AltaGas sprint event last winter at the Canadian Ski Championships.

Katherine Stewart-Jones: "My race was awesome. Tactics were super important on a course like this. There was a lot of draft on the first downhill and I knew I was strongest on the uphill, so I went for it on the last uphill and it worked out".

Laura Leclair of Chelsea, from Chelsea Nordiq was fifth in the senior women category.

For the senior men, the final was tight. Bob Thompson of Hardwood Club won the event, followed by **Antoine Cyr of Gatineau, from Club Skinouk** and Antoine Briand of Sept-Îles. Antoine Briand won the AltaGas sprint event last winter at the Canadian Ski Championships.

Bob Thompson: "The final was really tactical and fun. Overall my feeling was building over the day. It wasn't all there at the start, but each heat got better, so I was really pumped I made it all the way to the end. It was the perfect result I could have asked for, it was exactly what I needed."

Antoine Cyr: "My race was really good today. I had a quite hard qualification but as the day went by, in between heats I felt better and in the end, I was able to put on a good show at the final and finish really strong"

Pierre Grall-Johnson from Ottawa posted the fastest time in the open qualifying category.

Dominique Moncion-Groulx, of Gatineau and representative of Université Laval, finished second in the men's college and university rankings. On the first step of the podium, Ricardo Izquierdo-Bernier, representative of the University of Quebec in Montreal, won the test in the ranking. Then, Nicolas Beaulieu, representative of the University of Sherbrooke climbed on the third step of the podium.

For women, Marie Corriveau, representative of Cégep Garneau in Québec, won the college and university ranking test, followed by two sisters **Williams, Zoë and Bronwyn**, both representatives of Carleton University.

In the under-20 categories, **Magalie Daoust of the Skinouk Club** finished third in the women's category, behind Anna Stewart of the Nordic club Big Thunder and Liliane Gagnon of Quebec.

Magalie Daoust: "My race was actually very good. It was good for a first race here at Nakkertok, in December, it's really early in the season so I was really happy about today's race".

In men under 20, **Luke Allan of Nakkertok** also finished third, following Olivier Léveillé of Orford and Kai Meekis of Nordic Big Thunder.

Luke Allan: "The race was really good today especially the final because I had very good grip so I was able to pass a couple guys on the final up hill and then that carry to the finish so I had a great race today".

Complete results can be found at: <https://zone4.ca/event/2019/CandyCaneCup2019/>

Tomorrow, Saturday 14 December, the short distance event in free technique will take place. The first departures will take place at 9 a.m.

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About the Haywood NorAm Candy Cane Cup

The organization of the NorAm Haywood Candy Cane Cup is a joint initiative of several clubs in the Ottawa-Gatineau area:

- Nakkertok Nordic
- Club Skinouk
- Chelsea Nordiq
- Kanata Nordic.

The event will take place from Friday, December 13 to Sunday, December 15, 2019 at the Nakkertok South Nordic Center in Gatineau / Cantley, Quebec. In addition to being part of the Haywood NorAm Series, the Candy Cane Cup is also part of the Alta Gas Canadian Sprint Series, the FIS Continental Cup, the Quebec Cup and the Ontario Cup. The races will also serve as a selection for the National Group for Quebec City, Minneapolis and Canmore World Cup races.