

2012 Trans Canada Trail Ride

One of the events scheduled to commemorate the NBFSC's 30th anniversary was to retrace the trails of a national snowmobile ride from 1998. This particular ride through New Brunswick's Trans Canada Snowmobile Trail departed Sackville with 17 Riders on March 6th, with excellent weather and trail conditions. The first day of the ride had the group on NBFSC provincial trail 52, with stops at the Maple Bush in St. Marie for coffee, then on to the Rexton Curling Club for lunch. We then continued on to Miramichi with other rest stops along the way. Our lodging for the evening was the Howard Johnson Hotel, after 272 kilometers, where everyone enjoyed a fine dinner, and each rider received their commemorative 30th anniversary TCT Ride fleece jackets, and deals.



Day 2 again provided everyone with sunny skies and cold temperatures for the next leg of the ride on trails 52, 23, 19, and 22. Stops along the way were at the various trail shelters, and at the Nepisiguit Sports Lodge for coffee, then on to the Chalgar Snowmobile Club for lunch. We then pressed on to the Howard Johnson Hotel in Campbellton, with 307 kms on the trip meter, for another great dinner, and overnight accommodations.





The last official day of the ride had the group leave Campbellton early that morning in order to stay ahead of some forecasted mild temperatures and possible rain. We headed out on trail 17, with rest stops along the way, and arriving at the Moose Valley Sporting Lodge just at noon time for a well deserved lunch. We then continued on to trail 12 for the short run into the Quality Inn located in Edmunston, and managed to arrive after logging 248 kms, just as some rain showers were about to begin. We again were provided with wonderful rooms and a great group meal to finish off the day.

Even though the ride had officially terminated, the group as a whole decided to stay together for the (unofficial) return portion of our trek on the following day. Departure was from the NB/Quebec border on trail 12 down to St. Leonard, where we would take trail 19 to Mt. Carleton provincial park, then 149 and 23 into Serpentine Lake for the night after 302 kms. Once more we

had been blessed with great trail conditions with the exception of a couple of washouts and slushy areas along trail 12.



The final day of our return portion dawned with very cold temps, and after a hearty Serpentine Lodge breakfast, we headed out for trail 58 towards Doaktown, where a couple of our riders parted ways with the group. Reports were such that we knew ahead of time, it would not be feasible to continue past Blackville, and so arrangements were made to rendezvous at that point, with a convoy of trucks & trailers to get everyone home.

All in all everyone expressed their satisfaction with all aspects of our experience over these 5 days. We had seasoned snowmobilers, which enabled us to travel in one group. The riders on this trip represented 4 of the 8 provincial snowmobile zones, and many new friendships were created during this outing. Should there be a future edition of a TCT ride, it would

appear the riders, who took part this time around, will more than likely be the first to register for another great adventure.



1998 Ride



2012 Ride