



May

2008



News Round-Up

Just a few tips and newsy reminders.

The GST Dance

You'll notice that trip costs look slightly different for international (including US) and Canadian guests: International guest prices include the federal government's visitor Goods and Services Tax (GST) rebate of 2.5% (meaning that international guests only pay 2.5%); Canadian prices include the full 5% GST.

Referral discounts

For those very kind folks who refer us to other people who subsequently book with us, we're offering a 10-percent discount on your next Heli Canada Adventure — just our way of saying a warm "thank you!"

Post your pictures!

Have you enjoyed one of our adventures? Don't forget that we're looking for your photos for our new photo gallery. Just e-mail them in jpg format to info@helicanada.com and we'll put them up on the website for everyone to enjoy.



It's lots of work for both Bob and Big Eddy. The fall season usually sees them start training in case they're needed to help search an avalanche area — one technique is for Bob to bury several socks in the brush or in snow, with Big Eddy's job to find each of them systematically. It sounds easy, but it's actually quite challenging. Big Eddy works upwind on training, often around distractions such as people looking for buried avalanche beacons, and he has to find all of the socks, not just one of them.

As a sixth-generation working dog, Big Eddy loves the challenge and the snow, but Bob has decided that HCA's pooch has earned a great retirement. be no gold watch, of course, but the rules of a working dog will be seriously relaxed. We predict that Big Eddy will be sleeping on the bed, tracking paw prints through the spring thaw, and generally getting into dog mischief in no time at all. Continuously, he finds all kinds of items with human scent in the bush and bringing them out to Bob — so he continues to be a canine force for cleaning up the environment!

You'll no doubt meet Big Eddy this summer in his new role as "retired and relaxed" greeter of guests — but right now, we'd like to thank everyone who has shared Big Eddy's success as a working dog and enjoyed his company on the helicopters, winter and summer. We're especially grateful to Hills Pet Nutrition for their generous sponsorship of Big Eddy's food — thanks, Hills!

Sometimes we think that our returning guests come back just to see Big Eddy . . . and he certainly enjoys the attention. For those of you who haven't yet met our canine ambassador, Big Eddy is our 10-year-old, four-legged team member — a golden retriever/black shepherd mix who's half of HCA's CARDA-qualified Avalanche Dog Team. (The other half is HCA owner and professional guide Bob Shafto, who trains Big Eddy.)

Well, May is a big month for Big Eddy, as it's his last month in the work force. As of June 1st, he's officially retired from his duties as an avalanche rescue dog.

Did You Know?

Revelstoke was founded at the "big eddy" on the Columbia River — a spot where people rested during the 1830s on their travels through the Columbia Valley, and the location for which Big Eddy was named!

CARDA — which stands for the Canadian Avalanche Rescue Dog Association — offers training courses and validates dog-handler teams for this important search and rescue role, which Big Eddy has performed for the past six years.

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A Completely Custom Experience

We like to think that our Diamond Cut package is . . . well, a cut above. It provides you with the ultimate in flexibility, as we'll customize our adventures to your needs completely. You can select your own dates, and mix and match adventures and activities to create the trip of your dreams. We'll add exclusive private guiding, accommodation, fine food, helicopter transport and whatever else is needed.

For more information about any of our heli hiking or heli mountaineering adventures, visit helicanada.com or call 1-888-837-5417

About Heli Canada Adventures

HCA specializes in exclusive, small group heli adventures. Our summer adventures range from **heli picnics** to **heli backpacking**, with **heli hiking** and **heli mountaineering** as our signature offerings.

Our winter adventures feature powder ski and snowboard touring, and heli snowshoeing — and we also team up with two high-quality partner companies to offer heli skiing and heli snowboarding.

We match each trip and group to your pace and expertise, making our adventures ideal for families, couples and single travelers. We also specialize in designing corporate, private and incentive heli adventures to fit your goals. From our base in Revelstoke, British Columbia, we provide unparalleled access to some of North America's most pristine mountain wilderness.



Featured Adventure Heli Rock Climbing Course

Whether you've never rock climbed before or you're already a seasoned veteran, our three-day heli rock climbing courses can be customized to suit your needs. We'll use the helicopter to access superb quartzite, limestone and compact gneiss terrains, skipping lengthy approaches to the climbing area so that we can focus our days on techniques and training. You can expect small groups, excellent training from professional guides, and an unbeatable setting deep in the mountains of British Columbia. To learn the ropes with us, just drop us a line at info@helicanada.com or 1-888-837-5417.

Ready for Family-Friendly Adventure!

One of the great things about the alpine backcountry is that it offers such great variety — making it the ideal place for family vacations, even during those tough-to-please teenage years. We've seen plenty of these combinations — the kids taking a **rock climbing** course, for example, while their folks are **heli hiking**. It also makes HCA a perfect partner if you're planning a family reunion. We know that families who play together stay together — but they don't always want to do the same thing at the same time!



Our new family pricing is making it easier for families to enjoy their vacation or reunion — a family of four in any combination of family members (such as grandparents, parents and children) can take advantage of special pricing for our packages, including Gold Star (great pre-arranged adventures that you'll find on our website at helicanada.com) and Diamond Cut (privately guided adventures customized just for you).

For more details on our new family pricing packages, just check out helicanada.com or call 1-888-837-5417.

Getting All Romantic . . .

Family pricing also applies to engagement, wedding and honeymoon adventures — just put four family members together (and yes, the bride and groom are already two of them!), and we'll do the rest, helping you to celebrate this important life milestone in style.

Contact Information:

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We would love to hear from you!

