



## **Celebrating 25 Years of Guiding & Instruction**

We're celebrating and I want you to join us! Over the next year and a half, ending in July 2009, Cyril Shokoples o/a Rescue Dynamics will be offering special courses, gear sales, loyal customer guiding discounts and much more. This announcement contains details of these specials, but first, bear with me and see what we have to celebrate.

### **A Rescue Dynamics Retrospective**

In July 1983 I registered the name *Rescue Dynamics* for my guiding and instruction company. At the time I was still an ACMG assistant guide with visions of some day providing guiding services with a special focus on instruction in the areas of Mountain Leadership, Rescue and Emergency Care. A quarter century has now passed and although many of my dreams regarding Rescue Dynamics have been fulfilled, there is still more to come.

Where has Rescue Dynamics been in the last 25 years?

#### **Mountain Rescue Training**

I first ran high angle mountain rescue courses in the early 1980s. Beginning in 1989 I started instructing the Canadian Military Search & Rescue Technicians (SARTECHs) in their mountain training. Almost 20 years later Rescue Dynamics remains the sole source provider for this training and instructs the mountain phase of both the TQ5 and TQ6A courses for the SARTECHs.

I am very proud of this achievement and will continue to strive to provide the best possible training for the women and men who wear the scarlet beret. I now employ Peter Amann and Jeremy Mackenzie to assist on these courses.



## **Emergency Medical Training**

Thirty years ago I began instructing Advanced Wilderness First Aid under the tutelage of Dr. A.E. Ausford and John Nicklin. I was coaxed into working for the Alberta Vocational College (now Portage College) and worked closely with Al and John in helping to develop Alberta's first nationally accredited EMA Level 1 program. The Portage College Emergency Medical Technician program, still offered today, is the product of that work.

## **Parks Emergency Responder**

While at the college, I was seconded to the Research & Development Department in 1990 to develop the Parks Emergency Responder course. I hired Morgan Neff to assist me in developing the PER course and Karen Stroebel joined in as research assistant. The result is a program that is the standard of training in advanced first aid for National Park Wardens throughout western mountain parks, the arctic and many other Parks. As a contract instructor to Portage College I continue to have the supreme pleasure of delivering this course to park staff and wardens in such amazing parks and places as Riding Mountain, Banff, Jasper, Yoho, Kootenay, Revelstoke, Glacier, Waterton, Elk Island, Wood Buffalo, Prince Albert, Pacific Rim, Kluane, Victoria, Iqualuit and Inuvik.



## **Wilderness Emergency Care**

Upon leaving the college I revised the curriculum for the Wilderness Emergency Care course and I am happy to say that today Rescue Dynamics delivers WEC advanced wilderness first aid training to more ACMG full mountain guides than any other agency.

The WEC course is highly focused and tailored to the guiding community where guides providing emergency care in the mountains may have to rely on improvised techniques one day and a week later may respond to an accident with a helicopter and advanced tools and techniques including oxygen, suction, vacuum splints, vacuum mattresses and much more. Kathy Elliot and Peter Symons, both avid outdoor enthusiasts and veteran past instructors of the Alberta Vocational College EMT program, are contract instructors for the Rescue Dynamics WEC program. I have also created alliances with the Emergency Care and Safety Institute to allow Rescue Dynamics to offer a much more broad array of certifications in CPR, AED, first aid and emergency care.

## **Mountain Leadership**

I first began instructing climbing at Blue Lake Centre in 1979, before I was an ACMG member and before Rescue Dynamics formally began. Even in those early days I had a strong interest in mountain leadership and the development of safe, excellent leaders. Blue Lake Centre was the provincial government's adult outdoor leadership training centre and as such provided excellent opportunities for someone interested in training outdoor leaders. Under contract to Blue Lake I developed their climbing,

mountaineering, avalanche and ski touring course curricula and outlines. (In 1994 the Alberta government stopped funding adult outdoor leadership training and private firms such as Rescue Dynamics had to take up where Blue Lake left off.)

Since 1996 I have contracted to the Alpine Club of Canada at the national level to instruct the *North Face / ACC National Leadership Courses*, and I now instruct on both the summer and winter courses. For both courses I developed the curriculum and course objectives. In addition, I developed the curriculum and delivered the *Central Canada Rock Leadership Course* for the ACC in Quebec.



As many people know, I continue to contract as a guide every summer for the *ACC General Mountaineering Camp*. My roots as a leader at the GMC date back to 1980 where I first began developing my lifelong friendship with Camp Manager and guide Brad Harrison. I have also guided under contract to the ACC at many other camps including the *Centennial Camp* in the Little Yoho.

### **New Leadership Initiatives**

At the regional level I have delivered leadership courses for the Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg and Toronto Sections. In addition to the regular two to five day leadership skill courses offered to Sections there are two most exciting developments in this regard. The first is the highly specialized two day *Mountain Leadership Seminar* which has been delivered in Edmonton, Winnipeg and Toronto. The second, and perhaps most exciting development is the brand new *Rock Solid Leadership Course*, developed in consultation with Sandra Bowkun, chairperson of the Toronto Section of the ACC. This week long rock climbing leadership course will take place in June 2008 in Jasper National Park.

### **Avalanche Safety**

In the avalanche safety end of the continuum, I have been involved in organizing three *Avalanche Safety Symposiums* in Edmonton and am attempting to organize a fourth avalanche symposium in this anniversary year. In 1989 I was contracted by the Canadian Avalanche Association to help with some design work for their evolving website and developed their original online avalanche glossary. The CAA website has gone far beyond since that time. I remain an active CAA professional member and run AST (Avalanche Skills Training) level 1 and 2 courses and have been in contact with the CAA regarding instructing on their professional level *Industry Training Programs*.

### **Scuba Diving**

On a more personal level, I have taken my love of scuba diving to a whole new level. A few years ago I became a PADI Divemaster and took the Divers Alert Network courses and Instructor course in order to expand the options available through Rescue Dynamics into the aquatic realm. In 2007, I went one step further and became a PADI

Open Water Scuba Instructor with plans to become a Master Scuba Diver Trainer on the immediate horizon. You will begin to see some selected scuba offerings on the Rescue Dynamics website in the next year. I do not intend to compete with local dive shops but rather fill a void in a specialized niche area that fits with the overall nature of Rescue Dynamics.

### **Climbing Courses and Guiding**

Rescue Dynamics has continued to offer climbing, skiing, and avalanche courses and private guiding and I have been very careful to hand pick guides and assistant guides to instruct any course that I do not personally instruct. We also offer practicums to aspiring guides and have helped a number of guides develop the skills necessary to progress along their path to full mountain guide. We only provide practicum placements for individuals who are part of the ACMG training scheme and meet our exacting standards.



Rescue Dynamics remains a small sole proprietorship and I have resisted the temptation to expand. Instead I have chosen to focus on specialized high quality training and guiding rather than mass marketing. Instead of explosive growth I have hand picked a very select few to work with me on the many special programs Rescue Dynamics offers. We will continue into the next quarter century with measured growth and a focus on high quality and specialty training for those interested in excellence in mountaineering, diving, rescue and emergency care.

### **How Can you Help Us Celebrate?**

#### **Private Guiding in 2008 / 2009 at 1983 Prices!**

Private guiding currently runs from \$350 to \$400 per day for single person guided trips depending upon the nature of the objective. If you have hired a private guide from Rescue Dynamics in the last decade we are offering you the opportunity to hire a full guide one on one for the ridiculously low price of \$250 to \$300 per day plus expenses and GST depending on the objective. Additional persons can be added at increased rates. This offer is subject to availability and restrictions apply regarding the nature of objectives that can be chosen as part of this special offer. (For example, Mt. Robson cannot be chosen as an objective under this special offer.)

Admittedly there are few spaces still available in summer 2008, but at this time there are still spots available for this offer beginning on August 13 until September 5, 2008. Additional openings will be available in winter and into mid-summer 2009. But remember, this is a time-limited offer and once the available dates are booked we will not be adding extra guides to guide at far below market rates. As they say on TV... ACT NOW. Call us for more details if you want to take advantage of this insanity.

### **Special Quarter Century Days and Quarter Century Weekends**

How many pitches of rock climbing have you climbed in a weekend? What is the largest number of pitches you have climbed in a single day? How would you like to try to max out with twenty-five pitches in two days or even twenty-five pitches in a single day?

Here is your chance to find out what you are made of. If you are fit, have the requisite experience and feel up to it, you can enquire about the quarter century weekend. If you are a repeat client and have taken a course or private guiding through Rescue Dynamics or Cyril Shokoples you may be eligible for this special one on one private guiding event at Hidden Valley in Jasper.

You will climb many of the special and classic routes with the person who did the actual first ascents! Discover the Hidden Gems with the person who knows more about Hidden Valley than anyone else. You must book a minimum of two days of private guiding and agree to the guide's choice as to which routes will be attempted as part of the quarter century weekend. If you are up to it you can try to do twenty-five routes on the first day and have a relaxed day for the second day (or the reverse if the weather does not cooperate).

If you are a repeat client you may qualify for the 1983 price special as above! Remember, book now before all of the available dates are gone.

### **Special Discounts on Climbing Courses**

If you have taken a climbing course from Rescue Dynamics in the last ten years you may qualify for a one time \$25 discount on a climbing course during our Anniversary year. In addition, you can apply for a further \$5 discount for every additional climbing course you have taken directly from Rescue Dynamics in the last ten years. This discount offer can only be used once and is not transferable.

(Courses apply toward this discount only if they were within 10 calendar years of the date of the course currently being applied for. Discounts only apply on courses where fees were paid directly to Rescue Dynamics. This discount does not apply to first aid courses. Rescue Dynamics reserves the right to limit or discontinue this offer at any time at its sole discretion.)

### **Special Discounted First Aid Courses**

In 2008 / 2009 there will be special limited enrollment first aid courses for friends of Rescue Dynamics and their direct family (we will refer to this groups as RD family and friends). Many of these courses will be ridiculously cheap and a limited number of spots will be free to some of our regular clients and friends. If you qualify you will receive a separate email with details of how to apply.

### **Special Discounted Scuba Training**

In 2008 / 2009 we will also be offering RD family and friends open water and advanced scuba training at our cost. Details of these courses will be on the website.

### **Special Gear Clearance Sale**

Watch our website under "Specials" for the announcement of when we will be selling off everything from ice screws to helmets to crampons to avalanche transceivers and more.

### **Special 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Promotional Items**

On many courses we will be giving away various promotional items. These will vary from course to course and include everything from stickers to pens to crests to mugs to t-shirts. Many of these items will also be available as limited time items for sale as well.

### **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Slide Shows**

During 2008 / 2009 we will be presenting video and slide presentations taking a sometimes humorous, sometimes serious look at the last quarter century. If you would like to book a presentation please contact us at least six months in advance.

## **How Do You Get In On The Specials ?**

### **Gear Clearance Sale**

If you want to be notified of the Gear Clearance Sale send an email to:  
rescuedynamicsinfo@telusplanet.net  
with Gear Clearance in the header.

### **Private Guiding / Quarter Century Climbs / Other Special Offers**

If you want to book a date for any of the special offers first check for available dates on the calendar at the Rescue Dynamics website: <http://www.RescueDynamics.ca>  
Then send an email to:  
rescuedynamicsinfo@telusplanet.net  
Mention the nature of the offer or discount you want to take advantage of in the header.

If you don't have internet access please call or write:

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