

House Bill 245 Snow Classics Support Letter Index

Attached is a sample of letters received in support of House Bill 245. We have received letters from the following individuals, businesses, and organizations, which are available upon request:

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Professional Helicopter Services

November 16, 2011

Alaska State Legislature
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 3
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Committee Members of the House and Senate:

This is a letter of support for the creation of the Alyeska Snow Classic administered by Four Valleys Community Schools (FVCS).

My business supports this legislation. We request your continued support to enact this charitable gaming event into law.

For 30 years FVCS has been an essential year-round educational, recreational and cultural center for Girdwood and the Turnagain Arm Communities. They offer more than 200 classes, programs and events per year. FVCS focuses on lifelong learning, community involvement and efficient use of resources. They actively engage in collaborations and partnerships with local businesses, nonprofits and private donors to provide the full spectrum of services the Four Valleys communities seek.

An Alyeska Snow Classic will strengthen Four Valleys Community School and enable them to continue to meet the needs of the residents of Bird, Indian, Girdwood and Portage. A successfully operated Alyeska Snow Classic could fund their budget without recourse to property tax dollars when combined with their fundraising efforts.

In 1981 FVCS was created by community volunteers and is still governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. Due to the strength of its volunteer base, it is one of the very few remaining Community Schools operating in the state. Over 650 volunteers contribute their talents and time to support a wide range of activities. Whether it is individual or family growth, FVCS provides many opportunities to learn, serve and recreate.

FVCS is an integral and vital part of community life in Girdwood and Turnagain Arm because it is the only organization that brings together a diverse spectrum of people for educational, recreational and cultural opportunities in an environment that is healthy and safe year round. Our organization is in full support of the legislation establishing the Alyeska Snow Classic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Deb Essex".

Deb Essex
Operations Manager
Alpine Air Alaska, Inc



December 9, 2011

Alaska State Legislature
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 3
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Committee Members of the House and Senate,

This is a letter of support for the creation of the Alyeska Snow Classic administered by Four Valleys Community Schools (FVCS).

I believe that the inception of an Alyeska Snow Classic administered by FVCS would aid the organization in supporting programs offered to residents of Indian, Bird, Girdwood, and Portage, all small communities along the Turnagain Arm.

- FVCS has been operating since 1981
- FVCS is one of the last remaining Community Schools operating in the state of Alaska
- FVCS provides educational, recreational and cultural activities and operates similar to Parks & Recreation or a YMCA.

By operating the Alyeska Snow Classic, FVCS can meet the goal of funding its programs without the need of municipal tax dollars. It is also our hope that the Alyeska Snow Classic will one day allow FVCS to assist other non-profits in the Four Valleys.

I urge you to vote in favor of the legislation creating an Alyeska Snow Classic administered by Four Valleys Community Schools, Inc.

Sincerely,



Di Hiibner

Ski Area General Manager & VP
Alyeska Resort



GIRDWOOD



2020

P.O. Box 1102

Girdwood, Alaska 99587

www.girdwood2020.org

January 12, 2012

Executive Committee

Larry Casn, Cochair

Diana Stone Livingston, Cochair

Hank Hosford, Secretary

Cari Propes, Treasurer

Four Valleys Community School, Inc.

P. O. Box 790

Girdwood, AK 99587

Subject: Alyeska Snow Classic

To Whom It May Concern:

At a meeting of the board of directors of Girdwood 2020, upon motion duly made and seconded, the board unanimously approved holding an "Alyeska Snow Classic" to be operated and administered by Four Valleys Community School, Inc. with proceeds supporting Four Valleys Community School programs.

Accordingly, we encourage legislative support for SB 146 and HB 245.

Sincerely,

Diana Stone Livingston, Cochair

Gary Bucy

Randall Cail

Larry Daniels

Jeff Demain

Bryan Epley

Jessica Carey Graham

Bob Gross

Di Hilbner

Lana Johnson

Lynn Johnson

Philip Livingston

David McVeigh

Dave Parish

Sharon Perry

John Rense

Dave Stratton

Ethan Tyler

Dave Wilson

Jim Barnelt, Honorary Member

Per Bjorn Roli, Honorary Member

Chris von Imhof, Honorary Member



Municipality of Anchorage

PO Box 390, Girdwood AK 99587



Parks & Recreation Department

January 12, 2012

Alaska State Legislature
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 3
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Committee Members of the House and Senate;

I am writing in support of Four Valleys Community Schools in their efforts to create the Alyeska Snow Classic and I urge you to support the needed legislation to create and approve an Act establishing the Snow Classic as an authorized form of charitable gaming.

I am a long time member of the Girdwood Community. FVCS has been operating for over 30 years and I am proud to say I have been involved with them throughout this entire time in one way or another. Over the years I have worked as Coordinator, held a volunteer position on their board, and have volunteered as instructor, teaching many varied classes for the benefit of community members. I tell you this to show that I am in a unique position having been involved with the organization in every conceivable way and continue to support this non profit organization. When I say they have been instrumental in changing the face of our community through educational, cultural & recreational programming it is not an exaggeration. At this time, as a Municipality of Anchorage employee in Girdwood, I continue to work closely with the community school as they continue to provide much of the recreational programming that is typically sponsored by the municipality.

Over the years, the community school has evolved from a municipal program to a non profit organization and continues to provide vital services to the Girdwood community. The change from a municipally sponsored program to a non profit has been difficult, as funding is always an issue. The community has supported the organization with small recreational grants, however this funding is not assured. The creation of the Snow Classic would help insure that the program of much needed funding without requesting local tax dollars. If successful, this game of chance has the potential to provide FVCS with a steady income stream and the ability to help other local non profits as well.

While I know that there are often questions about the suitability of games of chance, I feel strongly that the Snow Classic would not be a problem. A event such as these occurs only once a year and participation is strictly optional. It would provide a annual revenue stream for a hard working, funding strapped non profit that has a proven track record of giving back to and improving their community since 1981.

I urge you to support legislation creating the Alyeska Snow Classic administered by Four Valleys Community Schools, Inc.

Sincerely,

Jonnie Lazarus
Girdwood Parks and Recreation

Jen Wingard, President
Frans Weits, President Elect
George Stewart, Past President
Hugh Gellert, Vice-President
Cassia Roe, Secretary
Ryan Cadenhead, Treasurer
Scott Capshaw, Sgt-at-Arms
Veronica Tatum, Director
Rebecca Reichlin, Director



Girdwood Rotary Club



PO Box 1205, Girdwood, Alaska 99587 | e-mail: President@GirdwoodRotary.org | www.GirdwoodRotary.org

SERVICE Above Self

January 11, 2012

Representative Mike Hawker
Alaska State Legislature
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 3
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

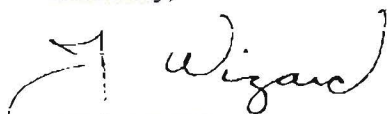
Dear Representative Hawker:

Thank you for introducing and supporting House Bill 245 which establishes the Alyeska Snow Classic operated and run by Four Valleys Community School, Inc. (FVCS). Our organization supports this legislation. We request your continued support to enact this charitable gaming event into law.

An Alyeska Snow Classic will strengthen Four Valleys Community School and enable them to continue to meet the needs of the residents of Bird, Indian, Girdwood and Portage. A successfully operated Alyeska Snow Classic could allow FVCS to become self-sufficient and no longer need public money to support its operations.

For 30 years FVCS has been an integral part of community life in Girdwood and Turnagain Arm because it brings together a diverse spectrum of people for educational, recreational and cultural opportunities in an environment that is healthy and safe year round. The Girdwood Rotary Club is in full support of the legislation establishing the Alyeska Snow Classic.

Sincerely,



Jen Wingard
President 2011-2012
Girdwood Rotary



Little Bears Playhouse, Inc.
PO Box 350
Girdwood, AK 99587-0350
December 9, 2011

Alaska State Legislature
120 4th St., State Capitol, Room 3
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Committee Members of the House and Senate:

This is a letter of support for the creation of the Alyeska Snow Classic administered by Four Valleys Community Schools (FVCS). Little Bears Playhouse, Inc., the non-profit childcare center serving the same communities as FVCS, supports this legislation. We request your continued support to help enact this charitable gaming event into law.

The services of FVCS are essential for Girdwood and the other communities of Turnagain Arm. An Alyeska Snow Classic will strengthen FVCS and enable them to continue to meet the needs of the residents of Bird Creek, Indian, Girdwood, and Portage. A successfully operated Alyeska Snow Classic could fund the organization's budget, combined with other fundraising efforts.

Similar to Little Bears Playhouse, Inc., FVCS was created by community volunteers and is still governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. Several hundred FVCS volunteers contribute their talents and time to support a wide range of activities. FVCS provides many opportunities for people of all ages in the Turnagain Arm area. Little Bears Playhouse, Inc. would like to see that continue for many more years to come!

FVCS is a very important part of community life in Bird Creek, Indian, Girdwood, and Portage. Little Bears Playhouse, Inc. is in full support of the legislation establishing the Alyeska Snow Classic.

We urge you to vote in favor of this legislation! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joan Lower, President
Little Bears Playhouse, Inc.

joan@alaska.net
907-223-3112