

March Madness

March 21 and 22, 2015

The first annual March Madness was an adventure! We started by meeting at the west-side Tim's at 7:30 AM. After intros. we hit the road. Fog pretty much all the way to Nordegg, but the highway was nice and clear.

We decided on hiking an out-layer on Mt. Abraham. Our goal was to get to the hole in the wall; a tunnel left behind through some rock outcrops.



The shoulder was clear all the way...at the beginning. A steep, steady climb was the order for the day. Once we reached the last hour or so of the hike, we were met with lots of snow. At times, we could walk on the top, but on occasion we fell through. We were up our thighs; but, depending on a person's height, they may have been up to the waist. ☺



After lunch, the last part of the hike was left. Excellent views met us as we left the trees behind. Snow was on the ridge, so we had to pick our way along.

The goal was to get to the place where we were going to down climb to the tunnel. However, snow conditions caused us to change our mind. After a summit photo we headed down...on everyone's mind was the hot tub and tons of food.



Then the snow started, and never quit. All the way down we were met with large puffy flakes. It made a person think about Christmas again...NOT.

After tons of food, potluck style; everyone agreed it was hot tub time. And the snow was still coming down...nothing like sitting on the deck in a hot tub, in a rather heavy snowfall! It was so comfortable we all stayed in for two hours.

After cleaning up, dessert was next on the menu. Ron and Shelly taught us a multi-named game which we played until the eyes got heavy. Bed time....

Some people got more sleep than others; breakfast came too soon. After feeding ourselves, we had a discussion about the schedule for Sunday. Given the weather conditions, commitments some had, and some injuries, we headed off in our separate ways. Some came back to Red Deer, and a few hardy souls went on a walk.



The first March Madness was a ton of fun. Lots of laughs, great company, and a great start to the 2015 hiking season.

Cheers.

