

BEING ADVENTURE SMART PAYS OFF FOR TOFINO LOCAL

TOFINO – A wrong turn on a January ski trip at Mt. Washington had a happy ending for 11-year old Flynn Saunderson all because he had taken the time to become AdventureSmart.

Flynn was skiing with his mom at Mt. Washington on January 9, 2007 and it was snowing heavily. As the wind picked up, conditions worsened and visibility decreased. While his mom went back to the condo, Flynn continued to do one more run. Due to the limited visibility, Flynn made a wrong turn on his last run and ended up in unfamiliar territory.

“When I realized I was lost, I stopped and used the whistle I’d been given at my AdventureSmart class,” said Flynn. “I blew the whistle three times just like Garth and Randy had taught me and I did this every five minutes until someone came to help me.”



Search and Rescue volunteers Garth Cameron and Randy Mercer had held an AdventureSmart snow safety workshop in Tofino the first week of January and Flynn had attended with his family. The workshop focused on tips for staying safe while enjoying the outdoors. At the end of the workshop, each participant received an AdventureSmart FOX40 whistle.

“The AdventureSmart program is a great way to teach kids and adults about potential risks and effective safety tips for participating in outdoor activities,” said Cameron.

The AdventureSmart program is a partnership between the BC Search and Rescue Association and the Government of British Columbia’s Provincial Emergency Program. For more information on AdventureSmart visit www.adventuresmart.ca