



# Trangeleds' in Canada



No. 2

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First of all, we would like to wish all of you a Happy and Prosperous 2001, albeit somewhat belated. Thank you to those who sent Christmas letters; it was so nice to read about what other people are doing.

We are now settling down in our new home and finally getting more organized, but we still need to develop the basement, fix up the garage and landscape the gardens. We have also decided to paint some of the rooms, so you see we still have many projects ahead of us yet.

I went to England for a week late last year to see my Mum and we had some nice days together, as well as with other

family. At the same time, my three 'buddies' and I got together to decide on a holiday for our 50<sup>th</sup> birthday, a momentous occasion we all will reach between now and June. We are renting a private villa with pool in Menorca in May, for one week of talking, eating, drinking, having fun – and no commitments. So, another trip to England is now scheduled for May and then I am hoping to bring Mum back with me for a few months.

I returned home to a much colder Calgary than I left, but one with most homes adorned with Christmas lights and we enjoying driving around looking at all the different lights on the houses and in the gardens.

In December, our neighbourhood ice rinks were prepared for the season and there are always people there, daytime and evening, either on the pleasure rink or

*Activity at the neighbourhood ice skating rinks*



playing on the hockey rink. There are grooming machines and changing facilities too and it is quite a lively atmosphere, especially at night with the floodlights. All areas have these kinds of facilities.

By mid December, the temperatures plummeted as low as -35 degrees, something that is apparently very unusual for that time of year. Frostbite and hypothermia are then major concerns, as well as the lesser incidents like a child sticking his tongue on a school sign, becoming stuck and having to wait for the paramedics to arrive and 'remove' his tongue without causing major damage. However, it does not feel as cold as it sounds, especially if the sun is out, which it usually is.

We had our first White Christmas in many years and the weather was perfect - snow on the ground and sunny blue sky, with temperatures around -4. We spent a quiet Christmas Day, just the

three of us and went for a walk. The following day we went skiing to one of the main ski resorts near Banff. Ironically, the best conditions this year, so far, are at Canada Olympic Park, 10 minutes away,



*Canada Olympic Park, our local ski hill*

where we have a family membership, so we go there often, even after work for an hour or so. Steffen loves it as they have a great snowboard park and that's where he spends his time; learning tricks and jumps, so he is content to stay there. For us 'old-fashioned' skiers, though, one hill gets a

bit boring after a while. Still we manage to go skiing once a week, at least, even if it's only for a few hours.

New Year's Eve was a slight anti-climax, as people do not seem to celebrate it as much as we do in Europe. We spent the evening having a good meal, some nice champagne and went out in the snow at midnight. However, all was totally quiet – not

at all like it is in Denmark where everyone goes outside at midnight and sets off fireworks. Individuals cannot buy fireworks here and many people, including us, have a wooden roof, so they are not allowed, although there is a firework display downtown. Still, our moderate

evening at least had the effect that we went skiing on New Year's Day – without a hangover!

Steffen and I were both off for two weeks, so it was a nice long break. In fact Steffen got an extra day as he hurt his neck after a fall snowboarding the day before school began and was taken by ambulance to hospital. Luckily it was not serious and he came home the same day, although was still in too much pain to go to school the next day.

Well, I have now got yet another job, on top of my regular one(s). I am sub-contracted by a company contracted by the Government to check royalty statements on the oil and gas wells on the



Indian Reserves. I work from home, as and when I like and it pays well.

Jesper has now set up a business called DanCan IT Services Inc., which is to help companies with computer problems., although this will only be in his spare time at the moment, as he still has his 'proper' job.

The temperatures, which are normally very cold in January, have increased since Christmas and have reached 12 degrees some days. While it's very nice, it isn't helping the skiing conditions and we're now hoping for a lot of snow in the near future, so we can ski, hopefully until May.

You must think about me on 9 Feb., when I reach the grand old age of 50! We have decided to go away, so Jesper has booked us into a ski resort called Panorama in British Columbia for a 3-night ski package and we are looking forward to it very much.

Last weekend, we went to an exhibition of RVs (recreational vehicles) and bought a trailer (caravan as we know it). It is 25 ft. and sleeps 7, so there's place for visitors. We are looking forward to travelling around in Canada and we thought this was the best and cheapest way to do it.



Regards, Julia, Jesper and Steffen



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