



# Fundrace 2020

Sunday, January 12, 2020

A truly unique event in the region



**XC Chelsea Masters and Kanata Nordiq Ski Club are proud to have partnered this year for [Fundrace 2020](#), and with the help of many combined efforts, the whole team supported 4 amazing athletes in both XC Skiing and Biathlon.**

The event was supposed to be held on 12 January 2020 at Kanata Nordiq (KN). KN was the last of the local clubs asked to co-host Fundrace (after Nakkertok, Chelsea Nordiq and Skinouk). Fundrace is a community builder, which is why we alternate and engage different clubs every year. Thank you Kanata Nordic for co-hosting this event with us, even though the weather didn't cooperate this year.

We had initially mapped a course through the ski trails at Wesley Clover Parks. Due to little snow coverage, we switched to Plan B which would have seen the race go through the camping grounds. When rain hit two days before the race, we had to cancel.

The Fundrace was created, and promoted as, a means to support Junior athletes going to the Worlds – initially for XC skiing, then extended to include biathlon – while still at the Junior level. In 2019, we extended the grants to senior athlete(s), and while this was under exceptional circumstances, we recognize the benefits to the athletes and the community.

In 2020, we are acknowledging that athletes whose performance is at such an outstanding level that they will carry on with world level racing, incur significantly higher expenses than the others. Therefore, for Fundrace 2020, we put in place what we think is a comprehensive bursary structure: we primarily support junior athletes, and senior athletes who did so well at the Worlds that they qualified for the rest of the racing season; and, to a lesser extent, we also provide support to senior athletes.

***We raised \$2510.24 this year....without even holding a race!***

That is so amazing! This happened because the local XC ski community, now familiar with the Fundrace cause, decided that adversity would not prevent them from supporting their local elite athletes.

XCCM did phenomenal fundraisers with a professional wine tasting soirée with a partnership with Opimian Wine Club (\$470, <https://www.opimian.ca/>), and an online silent auction (\$500, our 1st attempt at online, and it worked!). Generous folks directly donated towards Fundrace (\$200). The racing community rallied behind Fundrace when the event got cancelled, with many registered donating their entry fees to the cause.

**Thank you to an extraordinary local XC ski community for your support to Fundrace 2020!**

**Congratulations to the following athletes:**

Laura Leclair (U23), CNEPH/Skinouk  
Antoine Cyr (U23), CNEPH/Skinouk  
Pierre Grall-Johnson (U23), Nakkertok Nordic  
Zachary Connelly (U20), Chelsea Nordic

Due to COVID-19, we are not able to hold the award ceremony at [Fresh Air Experience](#), our club gold sponsor. Bursaries are being sent to participants, while Julie Coburn, XCCM President, has posted a [video message](#) about Fundrace 2020.