

Marie-Catherine Bruno 1971 - 2018



It was with the most profound sadness that the CANSI family recently learned of the incomprehensible loss of one of Canada's greatest Nordic ski instructors. Marie-Catherine Bruno not only excelled from a technical/pedagogical point of view, but also from her untiring involvement with CANSI and Nordic skiing across Canada.

Born in Québec, Marie-Cat chose to move to the mecca of deep powder and sunny days: SilverStar Mountain Resort in British Columbia.

Along her journey to Western Canada, she attended McGill University, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy (Bsc PT), Physiotherapy and later became a certified pedorthist (CPed). Once at SilverStar, she opened the Sole Mate, a custom orthotic and footbed specialty practice in Vernon, that continues to be a thriving business.



During the 1990s Marie-Cat found orienteering and soon became a member of Canada's national team. She gravitated to ski orienteering, where she successfully competed on the international stage!

She joined CANSI in 2006 and had a meteoric rise through the various certification levels, achieving her Level IV XC in 2008 and her Level III telemark in 2014. She thus became a CANSI Master Instructor in January 2014: she was the first woman and the third person in Canadian history to achieve this elite status. She also became a Level II telemark Course Conductor in 2012 and a Level IV XC CC in 2015. Also, in 2015, M-C was selected to be part of the Canadian Telemark Demonstration Team representing Canada at Interski 2015 in Argentina.

But these impressive accomplishments only tell a small portion of Marie-Cat's story. Through her presence at the highest level as well as through her personality, she was a source of inspiration, admiration and respect for her fellow female instructors. She was a truly wonderful person who always had time for anyone needing her help and counsel. I can remember many occasions when I was completely stressed out during a certification course or at a national seminar. Marie-Cat would clearly, concisely and with great empathy provide me with the eureka explanation that fully cleared things up for me . . . and that I still use to this day!

A pivotal member of CANSI's National Technical Committee, Marie-Cat worked tirelessly to improve the technique and pedagogy for both XC and telemark across our great country.

To say that she will be missed is an understatement of the highest order!

While I grapple with the illogic of her much too early departure from our midst, I can only use this experience to endeavour, in what little way I can, to continue her work with CANSI.

We miss you so very much Marie-Catherine. Long may you ski the great powder fields in heaven!
You have left a track that no snowfall will ever erase.

Robert Lafleur

On behalf of the National Technical Committee



Website: cansi.ca