



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Golden: early season storm biggest snowfall in 6 years**

*Winter storm and heavy snowfall allow activity operators to open early for winter season*

**November 24 - GOLDEN, B.C.** Tourism Golden announced today that the Town is experiencing one of the strongest starts to its winter season. The significant snowfall it has received in the past eight days has allowed activity operators in the mountain town to open earlier than anticipated.

Kicking Horse Mountain Resort is experiencing one of the strongest opening cycles since its inception and will be opening earlier than ever before. With 283 cm of total snowfall recorded mid-mountain to date and 89 cm received in the past seven days, it is the highest cumulative early season snowfall the resort has received in six years. These favourable conditions allowed the resort to move its opening date forward, to November 28 & 29. It will reopen on December 5 & 6 for a second preview weekend before skiers and snowboarders can enjoy daily operations from December 11.

"These are fantastic early season conditions and it's not only good news for skiers and boarders," says Joanne Sweeting, executive director, Tourism Golden. "From snowmobiling and snowshoeing, to cross-country skiing and dog sledding, there's something for everyone in our winter wonderland. After a day outdoors you can enjoy our dining and nightlife."

For visitors wishing to stay before their next adventure, Golden offers lodging options to suit every taste and budget with rustic award-winning cottages and cabins on the scenic outskirts to hotels and motels in town. For information on lodging options click [here](#).

The extensive snow coverage has allowed Dawn Mountain Nordic Centre to open its world-class cross-country ski trails. Guest can now enjoy 33 kilometres of upgraded groomed classic and skate trails.

Two maintained areas are now open for snowmobilers, with a third, Gorman Lake, expected to open in December. Quartz Creek and Silent Pass trails are groomed. With a huge trail network consisting of 240 kilometres, Golden caters to sledders of all abilities, from first-timers to advanced sledders seeking steep and remote alpine terrain. This season guests can enjoy upgraded maintained trails by Golden's volunteer organization.

"SledGolden was hard at work this summer with renovations to the cabin in Quartz and brushing on all our groomed trails and bridges on the Westbench trail," says Colin Wallace, president, SledGolden. Visit [www.sledgolden.com](http://www.sledgolden.com) for the latest trail updates and conditions for Quartz Creek, Silent Pass and Gorman Lake.

Dog sledding tour operators are now running backcountry experiences for soloists and families. Guests have the opportunity to enjoy an "off the beaten path" experience with spectacular rugged mountain scenery. "The abundance of early snow has kick-started all of our favorite winter activities and knowing our active mountain town, everyone will be taking advantage," says Matt Parr, owner, Golden Dog Sled Adventures.

"We were hit with an epic storm. In just under 24 hours last week on November 16/17 Kicking Horse received 56 cm of snow and there was one hour where we received 10.6 cm, which brings our incredible snow base to close to nine feet," says Matt Mosteller, senior vice president, marketing, sales & resort experience, Resorts of the Canadian Rockies. In 2009 Kicking Horse opened with approximately 300 cm of total snowfall and 132 cm of settled snow pack. Total settled snow pack is currently 113 cm.

Offering a wide range of culinary delights, guests can refuel for their next adventure at one of the many dining options available. Relax and reflect on the day's adventures at one of Golden's award-winning, casual, fine dining restaurants such as the Cedar House, Eleven22 or The Island. Those with a more energetic spirit can enjoy live music at the Rockwater Grill & Bar or The Golden Taps Pub.



Photo caption: Golden transforms into a winter wonderland after heavy snowfall  
Photo credit: Tourism Golden

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To access Tourism Golden's fact sheet, click [-here-](#)  
For the latest ski conditions visit <http://kickinghorsesresort.com/winter-main/the-mountain/conditions/>

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**About Tourism Golden:** <http://www.tourismgolden.com>

Tourism Golden is a non-profit, tourism industry-led Destination Marketing Organization (DMO) representing the Town of Golden and surrounding area known as Kicking Horse Country in British Columbia, Canada. Tourism Golden is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors representing accommodations, tourism operators, attractions and local businesses.