

To: National Ski Patrol Board of Directors
cc: NSP Division Directors
Date: 2/1/2006

From: The Patroller Committee Team representing the thousands of Patrollers and Members who have registered and encouraged PC efforts: Ken Anderson, Al Auten, Hal Froot, Tom Horak, Pete Hutchison, Karl Jurries, Bill Kirksey, Larry Murton, Terry Reed, Mark Rees, Hank Steiner, Dick Thalacker

Subject: **OEC Program Asset Compromise**

NSP has two major assets of value: the OEC Program and the Members who utilize OEC information to the benefit of NSP customers and partners. The NSP OEC Program can be broken down into two parts, 1) the OEC content information and delivery processes and 2) the dedicated Members who develop and deliver OEC information to the member. This OEC Program is a most valued asset of NSP.

Without OEC or an equivalent program, NSP would have little to offer its membership. As you know, in recent years NSP has made some significant quality and delivery advances under the leadership of National OEC Program Director, Larry Bost and his dedicated volunteer staff. This includes the delivery of a standardized evaluation package used across the country this fall. During this past year, many NSP Members have actively sent a message to NSP National leadership that they want a voice in the destiny of NSP. Larry Bost and his staff have attempted to stay out of controversy, as Larry believed the value for NSP of continuing the improvement process for OEC was greater than becoming engaged in the ongoing political struggle. Despite these good intentions, it has come to my attention that Larry Bost, with seven years experience of OEC development, has just been relieved of his Leadership position as National OEC Program Director after expressing his concerns about some OEC Program decisions and compromises that were being made or proposed by NSP staff and the Executive Committee members. This was done with little or no effort to discuss or address Larry's concerns, which still exist today. The Boards support for the dismissal of Larry Bost shows incompetent leadership and a lack of respect for the other half of OEC Program asset, the dedicated members who develop and deliver it.

Along with the discovery, that Larry Bost had been removed, it has come to Members attention that the NSP Board has signed a contractual agreement to sell the rights to produce OEC materials to the publishing company, J&B. The agreement gave 90% of the content rights to J&B and retained only 10% content control for the NSP. The OEC program was developed by and for the members of the NSP. Under what justification can you have to compromise the NSP asset position by signing such a contract which allows the loss of control of our premier program to occur?

In this same vein, OEC instructors used to have available to them, the “National Instructor’s Web Page” where all manner of instructor assistance was available. Untold number of volunteer hours of effort were reflected in the content of this site which was not supported by NSP. Due to an NSP mandate and Board mishandling, the Instructor’s web page now offered by NSP is of little value to anyone today.

In October 2005, the OEC Supervisors were gathered together in Lakewood at considerable expense for Quality Improvement discussions, but no minutes for the meeting and action plans were ever mailed out by NSP staff, despite repeated requests, which significantly limits the return on the investment from the meeting. This is just another example of mismanagement from the Board and the Board’s oversight of NSP Staff.

Members demand to hear the Board’s justification for these actions. If poor leadership and incompetence are involved, then those Board members responsible should realize the damage and compromise that they have created and relinquish their Board position to someone that will respect Members and protect the valued assets of NSP.