



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF SNOWBOARD INSTRUCTORS

## HALL OF FAME AWARD

**ROB STEVENS**

INDUCTED NOVEMBER 2017



**AWARD PRESENTED BY STUART BOTT**

I was given the honor of trying to describe Rob Stevens and I thought how difficult that task would be. There's a lot to tell, there's no doubt, but CASI has conditioned us to talk less and ride more, so I'll try to honor that code.

In order to excel in snowboarding you've got to have skills, abilities and maybe a bit of luck. I definitely count myself among the lucky; I had Rob as a snowboard mentor. When I first started out Rob and I would spend hours bouncing technical and tactical ideas off each other. It was a learning experience that shaped my time on a snowboard, giving me a connection to the sport that still serves me very well.

Like many who call CASI home, I've been asked the enigmatic question....who is the best CASI instructor? For any of us to anoint just one of many greats who could fill that position would be an injustice to the others. But, I do know, if you ask me who I'd want as their guide and educator in all things snowboard my choice was and still is obvious.

Rob's got some statistics that others aspire to: Level 4 Snowboard instructor, Carving Instructor, Level 4 CASI Evaluator, Park 1 Evaluator, Carving Evaluator, Level 1 Freestyle Coach, Level 1 Race Coach and Park 1 Instructor. Impressive, yes. But there's many other accomplishments Rob is famous for, TV Host and Commentator, Event Announcing and Karaoke and Lounge Singer. Worthy of great fame and accolades indeed, but he never really cared about fame. Fantastic times is what gives Rob his drive. Looking for pleasure in the simple things, like a day of shred with his crew. Really how can those times, not be the best of times?

When he stepped up to the Presidency his tenure at CASI came full circle. The evolution was complete. And once again, as president, it wasn't about fame or ego, it was the advancement of CASI and snowboarding. Now it's time to honor my friend with his induction into the CASI Hall of Fame. And I know Rob will accept the award like he has with all his accolades, with humility and maybe even a small measure of grace.

I'm proud to call Rob my friend. We've influenced each other lives in ways we can even define. Thanks for all you've done for me, your friends, CASI and snowboarding. Like Rob says, "The times.....we have had them" and for anyone who has had the fortune to ride with Rob, we'll continue to have them.