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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

*Cardrona Alpine Resort*

*Wanaka, NZ*

*25 May 2016*

**RE: ALL TRAILS SET TO OPEN FOR CARDRONA’S JUNE 11 OPENING DAY**

After a significant pre-season snowfall early this week, Cardrona Alpine Resort is on track to have all trails open by Opening Day. With the current snow base, cold temperatures, snowmaking and grooming capabilities, all guns are blazing for the resort to open to the public on June 11.

35-40cm of snow fell across the entire mountain on Monday, with some wind drifts measuring over 2m deep. This has helped to create a 40cm compacted snow base over most of the resort, with just over two weeks before Cardrona’s scheduled Opening Day.

With temperatures forecast to remain cold over the next few days, Cardrona’s snowmaking team are blasting snow around the mountain to add to the natural base created in the last week.

“It’s all hands on deck to find the mountain again under all this powder!” says Cardrona’s General Manager Bridget Legnavsky. “We’re absolutely stoked to have had this much snow so close to Opening Day and we can’t wait to show everyone what we’ve been up to the past few months!”

Among the final preparations for the upcoming winter are the installation of both the new Learner Conveyor Tunnel and the Little Meg Café.

**MORE**

The see-through tunnel arrived on the mountain this afternoon and will take approximately 7 days to install. Once installed, it will protect skiers and snowboarders from the mountain elements on the Learner Conveyor, while still offering spectacular mountain views.

The Little Meg Café installation is also underway – foundations have been laid and the café itself has arrived in Wanaka, ready to transport up the mountain. The small café will sit at the bottom of Valley View Quad, beside the new Valley View Carpark.

For more information on Cardrona’s 2016 developments, visit <http://www.cardrona.com/our-latest/winter-2016-developments>.

**ENDS**

**Image:** The first turns of the 2016 Cardrona winter season have been claimed by Southern Lakes local snowboarders Stef Zeestraten and Nick Hyne, after significant pre-season snowfall early this week. Photo: Stef Zeestraten

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**About Cardrona Alpine Resort**

Cardrona Alpine Resort is New Zealand’s most popular ski area, attracting all kinds of snow enthusiasts – from beginners & families, to Olympic & X Games athletes. Cardrona’s vast 3 basins are home to the Southern Hemisphere’s most extensive terrain parks & pipes, & NZ’s most qualified ski & snowboard school. Wide, open trails offer some of NZ’s best snow conditions, groomed to perfection by a modern & innovative snow management system. Take an easy 50min drive from Queenstown Airport over the spectacular Crown Range & be welcomed with genuine Kiwi hospitality to NZ’s ultimate winter playground. In the summer months Cardrona is open for mountain biking, conferences & other alpine adventure activities. Cardrona is a wholly owned subsidiary of Real Journeys Ltd.