Keizo,

The camera has been sent. Tracking number: xxx Tracking site: www.canadapost.ca

The LX is very sturdy and reliable, and it is also an excellent cold weather camera. If you use the camera and winder on a tripod, then you can put the winder batteries in the Remote Battery pack (RBP) and put the RBP in your pocket. The RBP connects to the winder using the 3-hole to 3-hole cable. The RBP also has a shutter release button on it, so you can keep the batteries and your hand warm while you take pictures from your pocket. You can increase the length of the cable by using one or more stereo headphone extension cords (miniphono). This works in the summer too, and is a great way to take pictures of birds at a feeder.

One important thing to remember for cold weather is that if you bring your cold camera and lenses into a warm house, they will pick up a lot of water on exposed surfaces because of condensation. One solution is to keep them in the camera bag, and let them warm up slowly, for at least a few hours. If you have to warm them up quickly (e.g. to get the film out), then put the camera and lenses in airtight plastic bags while you are still in the cold air, and then bring them inside. They will warm up quickly and the warm more-humid air will not hit the camera/lens until you open the bags after they have warmed up, and there will be no condensation.

If you are taking photos with snow or ice as the subject or background, I suggest that you should use an incident light meter. The LX has one of the best reflected light meters in the world, especially for dim light, but all reflected light meters in cameras work the same way; they produce an exposure which is correct for an image which has an average brightness (within the metering pattern) of "middle grey". If you take a photo of something on a background of mostly snow, then the camera meter will make the snow look grey. The incident light meter measures the source of illumination instead of the light reflected into the camera, and it is the most reliable method for "tricky" lighting conditions. I use a Sekonic Studio Deluxe II L-398M incident light meter for tricky lighting, and it is very reliable (and it has no batteries).

Please let me know when the LX arrives.

Thanks, Jim.

P.S. don't let sand get in the camera, use a "changing bag" to load film or change lenses if there is any sand in the air on a windy day.

P.P.S. here are some useful links for LX

Bojidar Dimitrov, KMP www.bdimitrov.de/kmp/

Rob Studdert, Digital Image Studio. http://members.ozemail.com.au/~distudio/thepentaxlx.html

Leonard Foo, Photography in Malaysia http://www.mir.com.my/rb/photography/hardwares/classics/pentaxlx/