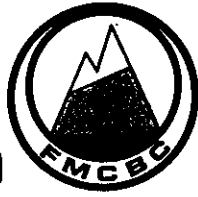
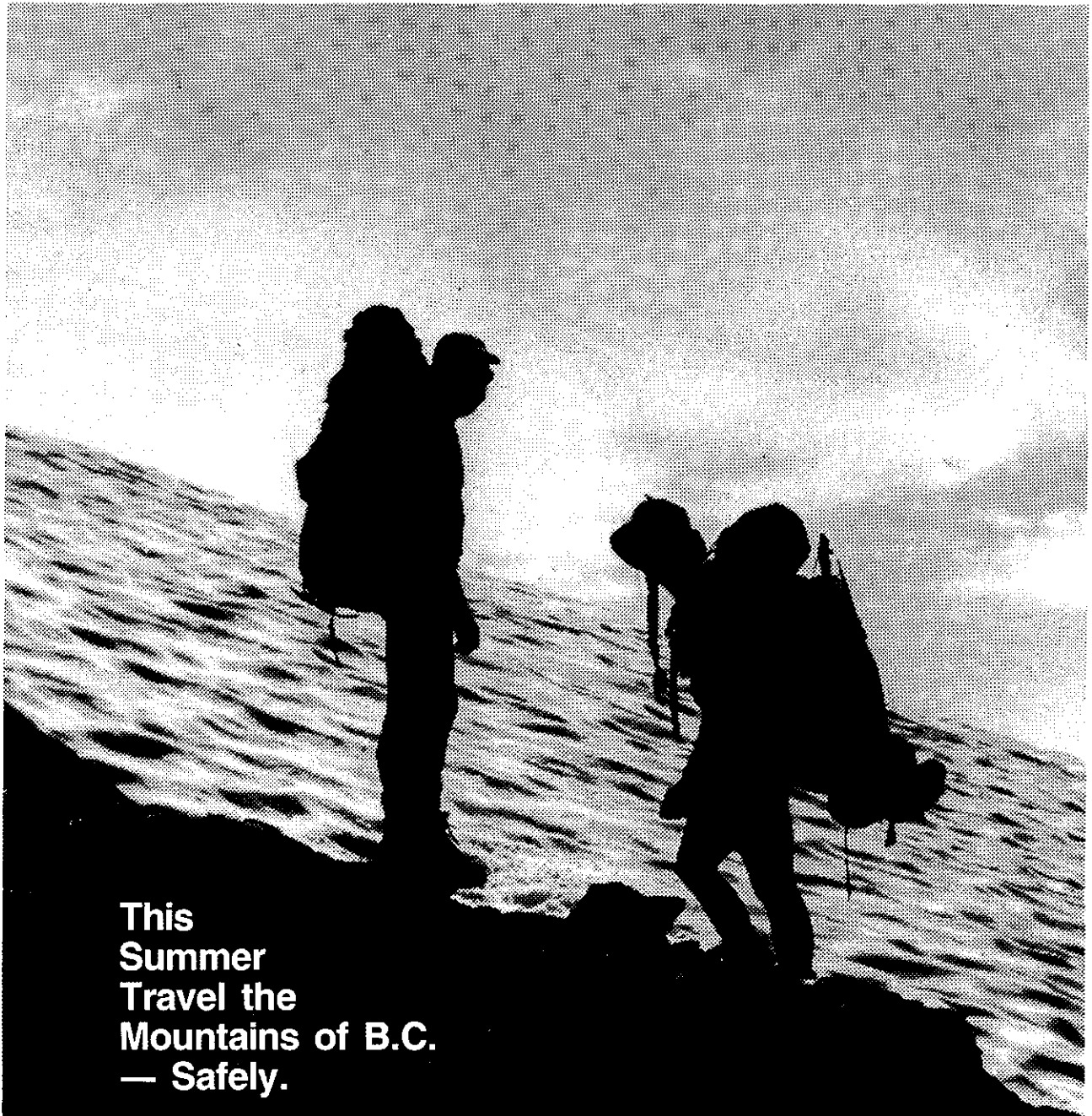


CLOUDBURST



Federation of Mountain Clubs of British Columbia Newsletter

Spring 1986



**This
Summer
Travel the
Mountains of B.C.
— Safely.**

1986 F.M.C.B.C. Courses

MAP AND COMPASS

ROCK CLIMBING (Basic, Int., Advanced)

MOUNTAINEERING (Basic, Int.)

SNOW AND GLACIER TRAVEL

BACKPACKING

Guided Hiking Trips to

Moresby Island

Stein Valley

Spatzizi Wilderness

Southern Chilcotins

Strathcona Park

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A formidable year for the FMCBC

The new year has found the FMCBC office coping with a larger-than-ever winter course schedule, planning for spring and summer courses throughout B.C., coming to grips with an Expo 86 project to provide hiking opportunities for visitors, representing our concerns to the Wilderness Advisory Committee, finalizing course instructor hiring and special training and working out how to administer five federal job development projects.

Once again, thanks to Bruce Blackwell's volunteer efforts, our job creation applications were approved. Five workers are currently halfway through a biophysical assessment of Lynn Headwaters Park and a new crew will build hiking trail and visitor facilities there throughout the summer. Nine workers will also begin a major trail system at the Squamish Chief. And at the office from March until next December, two new assistants will work with my assistant, Lindsay Mitchell. This will displace me to a new office one floor up.

Our current winter conditions have produced high avalanche hazards across the province. Appropriately, the Basic Avalanche Course was offered in Prince George with George Evanoff of the Caledonia Ramblers, and in Vernon through the sponsorship of Gray Cameron's store "Far West". The Vernon response was so good, a second course will be run soon. Other courses this season will be at Courtenay, Kamloops, Penticton, Grand Forks and Vancouver.

Tentative plans for spring and summer are exciting and we expect them to further our mandate to promote hiking, mountaineering and related conservation issues.

You will find opportunities to hike on Moresby Island, across the most remote parts of Strathcona Park; walk through a loop of the southern Chilcotins, and traverse the Stein Valley. Mountaineers will be offered a new Intermediate Mountaineering course, combining the best of Leavenworth rock and multi-pitch climbing on Mt. Stuart. Rock climbers needing advanced instruction will be able to climb 2:1 on the Squamish Chief with the best free climber in North America teaching for the FMCBC.

Vancouver Island will see a range of new courses promoted through Greg Poweraker's Island Alpine Equipment Store in Victoria. Basic rock courses will be complemented by the six-day mountaineering course taught at Arrowsmith and Victoria Peak and a higher level course at Colonel Foster. If you live on Vancouver Island, visit Greg's store for details.

An ideal way to promote hiking and produce significant user statistics towards the protection and maintenance of trails is to have visiting tourists use them. This is only suitable for areas close to urban centres where wilderness ethics are not at stake. Expo visitors will probably be able to take various day trips this summer with us and experience the joys of our local mountains. Watch for details.

In summary, it looks as if '86 will be a formidable year for the FMCBC. On all fronts it will be busy, but exciting. If you wish to be involved as a volunteer, call us soon.

Jim Rutter

CLouDBURST

Cloudburst is published quarterly by the Federation of Mountain Clubs of B.C., 1200 Hornby Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 2E2

The FMCBC is the only provincial organization which exclusively represents the interests of hikers, climbers and conservation groups of British Columbia. The FMCBC operates as a non-profit organization in addressing mountain-related conservation issues and in promoting the safety and education of its members and the public through courses of instruction.

Membership to the FMCBC is open to any individual or group involved or interested in non-mechanized outdoor activities and conservation concerns. Membership includes a subscription to Cloudburst. Contact the FMCBC office.

Assisted by B.C. Recreation and Sport.

Jim Rutter, Executive Director
 Jay MacArthur, President
 Steven Threndyle, Vice-President
 Margaret Brown, Vice-President,
 Vancouver Island Section
 Dale Harper, Treasurer
 Miriam Soet, Secretary
 Lindsay Mitchell, Admin.
 Assistant

Committees:
 Recreation & Conservation,
 Chairman Roger Freeman
 Trails, Chairman Bruce Blackwell
 Safety & Education, Chairmen
 Ross Peterson/Kevin Haberl
 Communications & Cloudburst
 Editor Sandra Leitch
 Forest Land Use Liaison,
 Mary Macaree

CYPRESS BOWL

TRAILS

The Park Use Permit drawn between Cypress Bowl Recreations Ltd. (CBR) and the provincial government bars traditional access to Hollyburn Peak and prevents reasonable use of ungroomed back-country skiing areas.

The result has been a number of confrontations between CBR and individuals who feel that their right to the use and enjoyment of public park land has been taken away by a provincial government that took no account of park users' opinions before drawing up the contract. There is inadequate provision for access to traditionally used back-country skiing areas which are beyond the trails formerly groomed by the provincial government operator.

Consider this extract from the contract: "... the Permittee shall not unreasonably impede any person from passing freely and without charge over or through the Unimproved Controlled Recreation Area during any Ski Season provided that the Permittee may make reasonable restrictions on the activities of any such person that are consistent with the use and management of a downhill ski area, and the protection of its property, but this shall not authorize the Permittee to close to the public the Unimproved Controlled Recreation Area without the prior written consent of the Minister."

While the downhill area is mentioned, the term "Unimproved Controlled Area" also applies to the cross country area. Even with a copy of the contract in hand, it would be difficult for a skier, or even an employee of CBR, to recognize all areas in the Park Use Permit since they are not extensively identified by signs or physical boundaries. Hence the confrontations.

CBR could argue that it has a valid contract and that it is difficult to differentiate between a cross-country skier who has purchased a ticket for the use of the groomed trails and one who has entered the Controlled Recreation Area from some remote point. Therefore, CBR would wish to restrict to ticket holders the use of the area which includes the Triangle, Unknown Lake, Pacific Run and Powerline Trails.

It is evident from the map defining the Controlled Recreation Area that restriction of access to the back country was intended by drawing the boundary to preclude entry to the powerline right-of-way which has for many years been used as a route to Hollyburn Peak.

Correspondence with the Minister of Lands, Parks and Housing, Mr. A.J. Brummet, has achieved little more than a "let's agree to disagree" response. And yet the minister is on record (North Shore News, 19 July 1985) as saying, "The park use permit, the contract under which the ski area is operated does guarantee public access to the park. Off-trail skiing, hiking, and general snowplay continue, as they traditionally have been, to be available to the public free of charge."

"This permit, however, was designed to grant the operator a viable business opportunity within strictly defined parameters. The use of groomed trails, specified parking lots, and associated facilities or access through the controlled cross-country area where groomed trails must be used in whole or in any part is subject to a fee as determined by the permittee. Any "free" access through the cross-country area could have a serious detrimental effect upon the business of the operator."

The effect of back-country skiers going through CBR's permit areas is not likely to be detrimental as the numbers would be small compared to the users of groomed trails. However, CBR does have a contract and will operate it in its own best interests. Confrontation with the employees of the operator will accomplish little.

The parties to the contract must be persuaded to amend the Park Use Permit to provide access to the back country which is still provincial park outside the jurisdiction of a private operator. One possible solution is to cut a new trail from the road to the Pacific Run Trail which should be taken out of the Park Use Permit. Such a cleared trail could remain unmaintained and ungroomed for use by skiers such as those who have been using the Hollyburn trails for the last 50 years and who justly feel they have a right to continue doing so.

Negotiations to this end must be carried on through the FMCBC acting on behalf of all its member clubs. Confrontations may win the occasional battle, but may lose the war.

Editor's Note: At the request of the FMCBC a meeting has been organized by the Outdoor Recreation Council to discuss possible resolutions to the concerns expressed over the loss of traditional access to Hollyburn Peak. The February 19th meeting will be chaired by Juri Peepre, ORC chairman, and will be attended by George Trachuk, Regional Director Parks & Outdoor Recreation Division, Wayne Booth, Cypress Bowl Recreations Ltd., Jim Rutter, FMCBC Executive Director and Jay MacArthur, FMCBC President.

By Charles Nash

The Annual General Meeting

The FMCBC held its annual general meeting November 30 at the SPEC office, 2150 Maple St. Turnout from all lower mainland clubs was excellent and several groups from Vancouver Island and the Interior sent representatives as well.

This was the last AGM for outgoing President Stephan Fuller, who resigned earlier this year to work in the Yukon for the territorial government. Michael Feller of the BCMC tabled a motion of gratitude for the excellent job Stephan has done in his two years of presidency. Because of his ongoing interest in wilderness policy issues in this province, Fuller hopes to continue to provide input to the Federation as past president, but his leadership and awareness in responding to land-use conflicts will be sorely missed.

Most of the morning business dealt with committee reports. Roger Freeman will continue as Chairman of the Recreation and Conservation Committee. Good environmental news has not been terribly abundant this year with the imminent road construction in the Stein Valley and our ongoing battle with the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing for access to Hollyburn Peak.

Ross Peterson, Safety and Education Committee Chairman, reported there were a total of 58 courses run in 1985, with a total enrollment of 667 people. For next year, plans include the development of course manuals and standardized instructions for all courses, both to accommodate course presentation in the more remote parts of the province and to continue the high quality and safety standards for all courses. A complete list of winter courses and information is available from the Federation office.

Trails Committee Chairman Bruce Blackwell reported the completion of several excellent trail-building projects, most notably in the Upper Lynn Valley, Buntzen Lake, and the Squamish Chief areas. The Federation will be approaching Squamish Town Council with the master plan for a series of trails and recreation facilities to be constructed in the Squamish Chief vicinity. Hopefully, we can get some kind of municipal park status for this extremely popular hiking and climbing area.

After lunch, Ken Farquharson gave a presentation encouraging the Federation and its member clubs to become actively involved in the public input to the provincial government's Wilderness Advisory Committee.

Mr. Farquharson, who has an impressive background in environmental issues, was appointed to the WAC after pressure was applied by environmental groups for more input on the committee. Although the rest of the committee still appears heavily slanted in favour of industry, it's "the only game in town" and wilderness groups must realize that any boycott or lack of participation will be done at their own peril. While a certain amount of park boundary rationalization is inevitable, it is hoped that currently unprotected wilderness areas can be legislated into existence through land swaps and compensation. The WAC report with its recommendations is due March 3.

Following Ken's talk, we had a number of constitutional amendments to pass and officers to elect for the coming year.

The Federation will now be classified as a charity and a new Society has been formed which will be amalgamated with

the Federation of Mountain Clubs of British Columbia. Each member is entitled to one vote as of the date of the meeting of delegates. A new classification of "Individual Member" will be introduced but only one delegate vote per 1,000 members will be permitted, thus ensuring that the member clubs maintain control of the Federation. Individual member fees have not been set, but they are likely to be around \$15.00. As explained earlier, the individual membership is designed to accommodate those people in remote areas of the province who do not have a local club to belong to and are interested in wilderness, safety and recreational issues in the province. These members will receive the Cloudburst with their membership. We wish that we could afford to send out our magazine to everyone, but under the current situation, we are barely making money from it.

Jay MacArthur will be the 1986 Federation President, Steven Threndyle will remain as Vice President, Marion Scott will be our new Secretary, Dale Harper will replace John Randall as Treasurer, Kevin Haberl will replace John Manuel as Safety and Education Co-chairman, Bruce Blackwell will stay in charge of Trails and Roger Freeman will chair Recreation and Conservation again. Evelyn Feller will replace Stephan Fuller as the Federation representative to the Outdoor Recreation Council. Best of luck to our new executive and a huge vote of thanks to our Executive Director, Jim Rutter, and his Administrative Assistant Lindsay Mitchell for a job well done in 1985.



By Stephen Threndyle

—Outgoing President's Message

It's been nearly three years since the FMCBC executive decided to hire a full-time staff and dramatically expand the activities of the organization. This experiment has worked and is successful on almost every front. In particular, the FMCBC is now recognized as a frontline environmental group, capable of sophisticated comment and occasional protest, on a wide range of issues related to the mountain environments of British Columbia. When the present government chooses to listen, they expect to learn from the Federation. When they don't, they can anticipate one of the irate voices to be the Federation.

The executive members and executive director have worked exceptionally hard to get to where we are, but in no sense can the work be considered finished. There are many remaining goals which will require hundreds of hours of additional volunteer effort. Increasing membership, providing better support services to clubs, achieving financial stability, a Wilderness Act in B.C. and other objectives require additional commitment from individual club members. None of these can be completely undertaken by paid staff, nor should they be. Individual commitment to the goals and projects of the FMCBC is the only way this can be achieved.

The past two years as President have been personally fulfilling and exceptionally educational. I've seen basic personal concerns for environmental issues of several members develop into an ability to pointedly analyze government behaviour and effectively advocate alternative procedure policies. I've seen senior government bureaucrats in environmental agencies dramatically alter their deliberate attempts to obfuscate issues once they realized we were on to their games. I've seen the term wilderness move to the center of the provincial political

stage while several industrial lobby groups have gone on the defensive arguing against wilderness legislation and preservation rather than being able to set the agenda themselves.

Being part of the FMCBC's growth and knowing that we have succeeded in achieving some of these environmental agendas and have provided a well-organized vehicle for individuals and groups to affect the future of the province has been a tremendous pleasure and privilege.

Thank you. My new circumstances require me to be away from Vancouver, but I have no intention of reducing my involvement in our campaign for a Wilderness Act and proper management of wilderness environments. In fact I should now be able to increase efforts in that respect and look forward to a long, if somewhat focussed, involvement with the FMCBC.

by Stephan Fuller

—President's Report

When I stepped down two years ago, I didn't imagine I'd be President again so soon.

Since we hired Jim Rutter as Executive Director in 1983 the FMCBC has grown tremendously. In 1982/83 we held one mountaineering course, one map & compass and three avalanche courses with 56 people. In 1984/85 we held 18 winter courses, 15 avalanche and 3 snow & survival with 200 people. In the summer, we held 43 courses with 458 people. This year, we expect to maintain that level.

Our budget has increased from \$20,000 in 1982/83 to \$175,000 in 1985/86.

This fantastic growth is due to the hard work of Jim Rutter, Steve Fuller, Bruce Blackwell, Kevin Haberl, Lindsay Mitchell and others. Without them we couldn't have held so many courses or organized so many trail projects.

Our goal for 1986 is to increase our role promoting

wilderness conservation in British Columbia. You can assist us by participating!
Jay MacArthur

—A "Different" Concession

The FMCBC will gain a higher profile and visitors will find a concession with a difference at Lynn Headwaters this summer.

In addition to local maps, guidebooks, rainwear, toques, and other supplies appropriate to the area, there will also be information on local history and historical photo displays at the FMCBC-run concession.

The GVRD has been supportive of FMCBC activities and the concession will provide an opportunity to promote the Federation and its instructional courses. It will be staffed by volunteers or students on a job development grant.

—Job Development Projects

The FMCBC has been awarded five federal job development projects to employ 34 people in comprehensive training programs to include industrial first aid, solid timber construction, chainsaw maintenance and handling, stone masonry and trail design, Executive Director Jim Rutter announced.

The projects are to develop trails in the Squamish Chief area, the Chilliwack Valley and Lynn Wilderness Park. One project initiated several months ago involves producing an ecosystem map of the Lynn Wilderness Park.

The fifth project is for three workers at the Federation office. Their work will include researching the National Trail route and related land designations, producing visitor assessment systems of trail use and completing the curriculum guides for all FMCBC courses.

The projects will begin in March and go through until September, expect the 10-month office project, which ends in December.

KEN FARQUHARSON

PROFILE

When Ken Farquharson returned from Scotland after being away only 30 days, to serve on the controversial Wilderness Advisory Committee, reaction was mixed. While some conservationists thought his participation only shattered the solid boycott against the committee, others heaved a sigh of relief.

Dr. Thomas Perry, who worked with Farquharson on the R.O.S.S. (Run Out Skagit Spoilers) committee thought it was too good to be true.

"He brings a very great love of wilderness and absolute honesty and forthrightness," says Perry. "He is the one person the government could have appointed who can hold his own on a committee relatively biased in favour of resource extraction and who will forthrightly say exactly what he thinks."

Indeed he does. When Trevor Jones was making a presentation to the WAC on the Stein, a committee member cautioned Jones to be prudent in using the word subsidy. Farquharson interceded: "I don't want to see any restraint put on anyone on the way they address this committee. If they want to call it a subsidy, then goddammit, let them call it a subsidy."

It's well-known Ken will fight to the finish -- but not without understanding all sides of an issue, including the economic and political forces that shape an argument.

His interest in environmental issues in B.C. began in 1965 while doing design work on the Mica Dam. It perplexed him to see \$15 million spent on "the design of the pile of dirt that is the Mica Dam and all its facilities," but not a nickel went towards studying the effect of the reservoir on the area.



In 1969 he began to work on the Skagit issue and was naive enough to think the issue could be settled in six months. The agreement the provincial government had made with the City of Seattle to flood the Skagit by raising the Ross Dam seemed indefensible. Because outstanding recreation and wildlife values would have been lost, there was continuing support for R.O.S.S. and outrage at what the government had done. Even so, it was a long, hard-fought struggle for what was a less complicated issue than the Stein and Moresby.

If there were lessons learned from that experience the first is that once a mistake in land use allocation is made, it is a long and difficult business to try and correct it, as Farquharson wrote in the May 1984 issue of B.C. Naturalist.

What should also be recognized is that governments change and since conservation issues are long-term, it does no good to overwhelmingly identify with one political party. You have to be able to deal with them all, says Farquharson.

The ability to synthesize diverse ideas and interests is one of Farquharson's great strengths, yet he is a man of intense conviction who "sticks to his guns," says Perry. Once he's made up his mind an issue is worth fighting for, he doesn't give up until he wins.

If you're interested in conservation issues, you have to be prepared for a long haul. If you haven't got the state of mind to deal with a 10-year argument, then maybe you shouldn't start, Farquharson says bluntly.

Some of the issues before the WAC may take as long or longer, but Farquharson recognized an opportunity "to get some very strong recommendations to government on the wilderness issue.

"...To stay aside from it is crazy."

His interest in this opportunity where for the first time the issue of wilderness was being discussed was strengthened by his respect for the integrity of the committee chairman, Bryan Williams.

Criticisms of the committee's structure, terms of reference and time frame have been well-expressed and to Farquharson, that's as it should be.

"This is not the definitive study on what will be wilderness in British Columbia and how wilderness will be managed. I see it as a step in a continuing (process) leading to a wilderness system in British Columbia, but it's one of the early steps."

Farquharson couldn't say what the outcome of the WAC hearings will be, but "there's a lot of interest in the concept of a wilderness act. I myself will be arguing very strongly for it."

WILDERNESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

He'd like to see wilderness management defined in a Wilderness Act that the Park Act and the Forest Act could adopt. What's needed is specific instruction regarding management of wilderness within and outside parks.

"...I argue with my fellow committee members that preservation of wilderness is not simply an option for the few, but is an ethical issue in terms of the future," says Farquharson.

Just what will induce a change in ethic is a difficult question, particularly in tough economic times when politicians have to deal with arguments that possibly reduce jobs, he admits.

"But the people of this province will have to realize these are not finite resources and we have to make decisions."

What Farquharson would like to see develop from the Wilderness Advisory Committee's work is a logical land use allocation process that will reduce the level of confrontation required and the level of insecurity that the present system induces.

"I don't think the people of this province are well-served by the way we go about land allocation."

He may not be able to participate in this process for some time when he returns to family obligations in the farmlands of Scotland, but he is satisfied to have been part of a growing awareness of and sophistication in conservation issues.

At this point, he's not sure how or if he will adapt from the active lifestyle he's had here with all the stimulus from his many friends, the variety of B.C.'s geography and controversial conservation issues to a more mundane rural life in Strathmore Valley.

If he doesn't it will be B.C.'s gain.
by Sandra Leitch

The Wilderness Advisory Committee (WAC) was established by Austin Pelton on 18 October 1985. Environmental groups, including the FMCBC, strongly protested the absence of any voice for wilderness on the committee, the short time frame, the exclusion of areas that need protection, and the continuation of industrial activities in debated areas while they were being discussed. The media responded to this protest and positive developments ensued; the foremost being the appointment of Ken Farquharson, a founding member of the Outdoor Recreation Council and the Sierra Club of Western Canada, to the committee. Farquharson spoke at the FMCBC AGM in November and as a result the FMCBC decided to participate in the WAC process.

The committee's mandate was also expanded to include making "recommendations to the Minister that will result in a planned, comprehensive and balanced approach to the entire issue of competing (wilderness) land uses in this Province." The third development was the establishment of a public consultation process requesting written submissions and the scheduling of public meetings.

The FMCBC submitted a report describing our concerns regarding wilderness to the WAC on December 19. The main points of our submission are:

- That there is a need for wilderness in B.C.
- That wilderness is a resource with identifiable value to society.
- The current legislation, regulations, policies and management practices of LP & H, the MOF and other ministries are inadequate to protect wilderness resources in B.C.

Our recommendations to the committee were:

1. That the Stein River Valley, South Moresby Wilderness Area, and the Cascade Wilderness Area be designated as National or Provincial Parks.

2. That a new committee be set up with an adequate mandate and time to write wilderness legislation that recognizes wilderness as a resource and provides for a process to designate Wilderness Areas. The FMCBC would be pleased to designate a delegate to such a committee.
3. That the WAC delineate a review process for any area for which no WAC recommendation is made, and which could also be applied to areas described by the B.C. Caucus.
4. That a Wilderness Study Reserve be established on all 16 areas until the review process is completed to prevent further alienation of the wilderness resource. In addition, Wilderness Study Reserves should be declared over each of the wilderness areas recommended by the B.C. Caucus on Heritage for Tomorrow. Appropriate protected area status should also be granted to other unique areas identified by the B.C. Caucus.

The FMCBC is prepared to support any efforts by the committee to establish a legitimate wilderness land-use planning process for British Columbia. FMCBC submissions to the committee have stressed the need for such a process.

The FMCBC also wrote to Tony Brummet, Minister of Lands, Parks and Housing to express our extreme displeasure with the submission that the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing presented to the WAC. The LP & H submission did not mention or include recommendations for the 16 study areas. By the time you read this, WAC's report will have gone to Austin Pelton. Please write to Premier Bennett, Austin Pelton, other Cabinet members and your MLA telling them that wilderness is important!
by Jay MacArthur

A beginning to better understanding

This is being written under pressure, on location. The Editor is after my hide for being nearly a week past deadline. But one of the most exciting and encouraging processes is underway and being part of it an education. I speak of the Wilderness Advisory Committee hearings.

Decried by most of us as a further stall in the decision-making process for South Moresby and then reluctantly joined on the basis of the WAC being the only horse in town, this committee is, in my opinion, giving British Columbians the finest opportunity so far to state a case for wilderness recognition and protection.

Let us not be mistaken, though, in giving Environment Minister Austin Pelton undeserved credit. The formation of the WAC in the first place was a stall of gigantic proportions. Similarly, the selection of committee members, who were apparently supportive of industry, and the lack of representation for environmental groups was not an accidental choice.

What we are witnessing is not what was planned. In Nanaimo, I made a presentation on the boundary changes of Strathcona Park and I have witnessed much of the WAC action in Vancouver. What I have seen and heard, and only the future will prove me to be a naive nincompoop or not, is a committee of such obvious intelligence, tolerance and insight, that I am convinced the personal integrity of these individuals is transcending any expectations that they rubber stamp industry positions.

I now believe their collective wisdom will produce a report of great value to this province. Obviously, we can expect to be disappointed when



all the recommendations are not as we might have them. We may be further upset when this government finds the report not to their liking and ignores it. But I am confident the report will begin a change of process resulting in careful analysis of all conflicting land use issues with better representation and public input. Concerned parties will be better able to plan and will have expectations of proposed guidelines, regulations, and long-term objectives.

I never thought that a presentation on the economics of a logging operation (complete with sensitivity studies, fluctuating dollar values for cubic metres of chips or timber, and political arguments on the validity of stumpage credit transfers between TSA's) could be exciting and compelling until I watched Dr. Tom Gunton of SFU present his study on the economics of logging the Stein Valley -- an education.

To hear the frustrations of the logging industry, which has to live with the results of the careless and exploitive past and plan within changing public attitudes and public rules, is a lesson on their world view. To hear the B.C. caucus explain the values of wilderness, park, and recreation areas beyond any appraisal of their dollar value and their recommendations for a better way in B.C. is a lesson in quality thinking and future planning.

Some business presentations were poorly done. Mining continues to claim that wilderness advocates want to tie up the whole province for themselves. How wrong this is. Yet every mining presentation showed how clearly they want to tie up the province for their interests. This was one industry which did not concede a thing and had no proposals for solutions to the problems being faced by the WAC except to demand the right to look for and develop mineral possibilities anywhere and everywhere they wished.

In contrast, MacMillan Bloedel's written and verbal presentations were of the highest calibre. Their report showed respect for conflicting resource issues and offered a number of recommendations on process, one of which was even quoted by Dr. Peter Dooling of B.C. caucus.

These hearings have given all representatives of resource management and land use options the opportunity to hear first-hand what the various positions are, to ask questions and have them answered, and to meet in person instead of through letters. This is a beginning to better understanding and, as Tex Enemark, President of the Mining Association of B.C., said to me at Nanaimo, "Whatever happens, this type of opportunity must continue." (Enemark has since announced his resignation as President of the Mining Association.)

My only disappointment is that some groups chose to not participate. Let us hope that the rest of us who did have done our best.

By Jim Rutter, Executive Director, FMCBC

MOUNTAIN RESCUE DEMONSTRATION AT EXPO

National Park Wardens from Banff, Jasper and the Kootenays will demonstrate a cable rescue from a cliff on Grouse Mountain and a helicopter mountain rescue using the gondola May 13 as part of their special activities week at Expo, says Mike Schintz, Warden Operations Manager for Western Region, Parks Canada.

Coordinators of alpine activities are alpine specialists Peter Fuhrmann, President of the Alpine Club of Canada, and Willie Pfisterer. Rescue groups from Switzerland, Japan and the National Association for Search and Rescue in the U.S. may also be participating.

Transportation will be arranged to Grouse Mountain from the Expo site.

Other activities from May 12 - 18 will include rescue and climbing demonstrations on the three-storey climbing wall in the Alberta Pavilion, a seminar and a display on the history of mountain rescue in the National Parks of Western Canada.

"RIGGING FOR RESCUE"

Arnor Larson, a professional mountain guide based at Invermere, is offering a demanding, hands-on mountain rescue course, "Rigging for Rescue".

The Provincial Emergency Program also has its Technical Rescue Seminar, a state-of-the-art rescue system in North America from March 8 - 14 in Penticton, but enrollment is limited.

Larson's background in establishing cliff and mountain rescue courses, his 75 first ascents, 100 new routes, 400 summits, and five years of professional guiding promise to make this a worthwhile course for the alert and serious mountaineer.

Contact Arnor Larson, Box 399, Invermere, B.C. VOA 1K0.

AN EXHILARATING EXPERIENCE: SNOW CAMPING AND WINTER SURVIVAL

The FMCBC snow camping and winter survival course January 11 and 12 was an exhilarating experience. Group dynamics were great -- we shared our food, stoves, wax and sleeping platform and all of us were eager to learn and offer encouragement or hot chocolate to one another.

Before we left for the Diamond Head area, we organized gear and arranged to share rides and food. Many of us arranged equipment loans if we didn't have all the necessary equipment.

The instructor, Bob McGregor, was friendly and helpful in sharing his knowledge gained from practical experience. He kept the group together and made the trip an enjoyable experience, while making sure we were all aware of the hazards involved in travelling in the mountains during the winter.

Concluded fellow student, Mike Weaver, "It was a good introduction to living in the snow, assessing the hazards to stay out of trouble and avoid accidents and to show which direction you want to go regarding other courses." He also found the way the snow shifts and displays patterns fascinating.

Snow caves turned out to be easier to build than we expected. With no more than a shovel, a snowbank and couple hours, we had a comfortable enough dwelling with room for packs, sleeping bags and cooking facilities.

A highlight of the trip was an evening star-lit ski back to the cozy shelter of our snow cave, bright with the light of one warm candle. We were all convinced there was much more to snow than cold feet.

... And all this for only \$35.00. I've decided to become more involved in winter sports and to enroll in an FMCBC avalanche course.

Heidi Hueniken

NEW FMCBC COURSES

Spring '86 brings Intermediate Mountaineering and Advanced Rock Climbing in addition to established FMCBC courses. The Basic Mountaineering course may also be offered in various communities throughout B.C.

Course Instructors will all take a custom-designed Mountain First Aid course from Trauma Tech, a Vancouver training company. The course will concentrate on in-field treatment of typical climbing injuries. All FMCBC instructors have current First Aid certification, but this new weekend course is intended to upgrade any previous qualifications.

CERTIFICATION WORKSHOP

A number of prominent members of the mountaineering community will address the controversial issue of certification at a workshop the FMCBC will be organizing.

This workshop does not indicate any particular attitude for or against "tickets" which proclaim expertise. Instructors, club presidents and delegates should find this both interesting and informative.

EXPO NEEDS CLIMBERS

Urban Sax, a musical ensemble from France, needs 20 climbers to assist them in their musical assault on the Plaza of Nations at Expo on July 7 at 11:30 p.m.

For further information, phone 689-1986 or write to: Jeff Herd, Supervisor Production Services, c/o World Festival P.O. Box 1986, Station A Vancouver, B.C. V6C 2X5



Seven Sisters Park Proposal

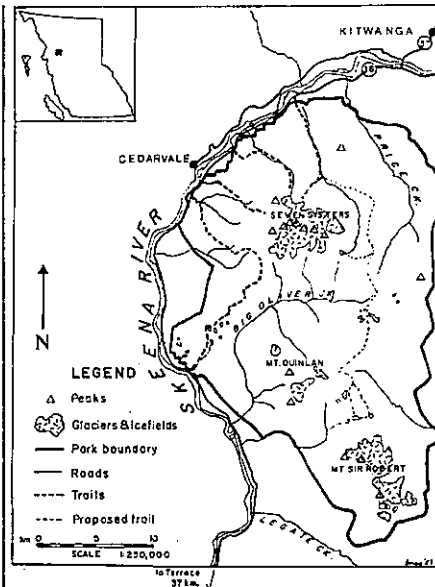
The Seven Sisters Society, from the Cedarvale of Kitwanga area of northwest B.C., has recently published a proposal for preservation of the Seven Sisters range, Mount Quinlan and Mount Sir Robert. The area lies just east of the Skeena River between Terrace and Hazelton. There currently are not sizeable parks in this part of the province.

The proposed Class A Provincial Park has an area of 61,382 hectares. E. Blix, in his book, "Trails to Timberline", describes the chain of peaks that constitute the Seven Sisters as being without equal on all counts in the whole of west central B.C. Their single most outstanding feature is their scenic beauty; their visibility from Highways 16 and 37, local prominence and rugged relief give them a commanding aspect. Their glacier-covered peaks rise abruptly 2750 metres from the Skeena Valley. Not surprisingly, the Seven Sisters is the most popular mountain destination for hikers and climbers in the Skeena Region.

The Society proposes that the Park remain primarily undeveloped except for the corridor along Highways 16 and 37.

The usual land use conflicts are present within the proposed area. Despite local opposition, the forest industry is poised to clearcut the timber. Commercial forests cover less than 17 % of the area and are predominantly rated poor site quality by the Forest Service.

The area of forest land within the Seven Sisters constitutes only 0.8 % of the forest base of the local Timber Supply Areas. The park proponents indicate that alternatives to this timber supply are available; for more long term timber would result



SEVEN SISTERS PARK
Proposed Boundaries

from reduced logging wastage, reduced reforestation delays and rehabilitation of the backlog of unsatisfactorily restocked land in the vicinity.

The mining industry, of course, can always be counted on to oppose park designations. There are about 20 active mining claims within the proposed park, none with demonstrated significant quantities of commercial grade ore.

The proposed park is within the Gitksan Wet'suwet'en Tribal Council land claim which is being negotiated with the federal government. The Seven Sisters Society recommends that the provincial park not be established pending the outcome of the land claim negotiations. They advocate that a park reserve be placed on the land, however, so that the option to eventually create a Class A Park remains open.

It is estimated that creation of a park could lead to 11 full-time jobs in the

tourism and service industries. Development of camping and other facilities along the highway corridor would encourage some of the 155,000 visitors who travel through the area each year to spend more time in the northwest. The resultant broadening of the local economy, currently dominated by the forest industry, would be beneficial. Logging has been on the decline in the region, especially in Terrace.

The long-term effect on the forest industry could be a potential loss of 8 to 10 jobs. However, the alternative forest management prescriptions outlined for increasing yield on other forest land in the area could circumvent this loss.

In view of the approximately equal employment values of the proposal area in tourism/recreation and logging, the Society suggests that the words of Jean Chretien (1980) be heeded: "Northern Canada is large enough to accommodate both the resource development that is essential for the economic well-being of all Canadians, and the need for conservation of our natural heritage, which is just as essential for the quality of life of a society... "At a time when Canadians are more and more preoccupied with problems related to economics, we must never forget the need to enrich the quality of life in a nonmaterial way."

For more information, or to lend moral or financial support for preservation of the Seven Sisters area, contact the Seven Sisters Society, P.O. Box 73, Kitwanga, B.C.

by Trevor Jones



Plans For Seymour River Valley

The lower Seymour River Valley may be developed as a major recreation and tourist destination area of the North Shore.

A position paper on recreation for the Seymour Demonstration Forest proposed by the Recreation Advisory Committee includes plans for a demonstration forest with special forestry equipment demonstrations and scheduled events including mountain bike races, bicycle Sundays, riding events, club outings, picnics and special industry events.

Brian White, chairman of the Lynn-Seymour RAC has been appointed to the Seymour Forest Demonstration Advisory Committee established by GWWD to deal with the multi-use issues in opening Lower Seymour to the public.

The RAC proposes initial development should focus around Rice Lake and trail linkages to the existing Lynn Headwaters trail system. Development should then proceed sequentially up the river corridor, according to the RAC position.

Ski Facilities Develop In Pentiction Through Cooperation

Pentiction has the best potential cross country ski site in the country, says Pentiction Outdoor Club President Brad Houston. And development continues through combined efforts of the Pentiction Outdoor Club (P.O.C.), the City, Forestry, Mining and Parks.

Last year, there were 20,000 users of the Carmi Trails System and the numbers are increasing there and in the newer Nickel Plate Trails where Mascot Mines work crews will be plowing the road regularly.

Prior to 1978, skiers used snowed-covered logging roads or short bush trails cleared by

individuals. Then the P.O.C., with the City of Pentiction Recreation Department, began, under winter work grants, a trail marking and clearing program at the 4300 ft. level along the Carmi Road, 10 km. east of Pentiction.

This cooperation among the various land use interest groups began an ongoing success story in the development of cross country ski trails.

The Parks Department was approached and meetings held with Parks Planners. In 1981, a series of meetings began with Forestry, which agreed to help P.O.C. develop Carmi trails. Ongoing improvements included wider, better laid-out trails, new loops, a proper parking lot, a toilet, a picnic table, a toboggan slide, trail markers, junction maps (put up by P.O.C.) and a large trail-head map.

P.O.C. has scouted out and marked new trails. Forestry has provided red trail markers, plastic name signs for trails and plasticized maps. P.O.C. has further supplemented these with our own maps and signs as necessary.

In 1983, with permission from Forestry, development of primitive trails in the Apex (Nickel Plate lake system) area began. In 1984, Forestry provided a parking lot and large trail head map. A crew was sent in by Parks, which had consulted P.O.C. about small projects to complete before their grant ran out, to clear trails.

Land and road use has been coordinated at meetings with local lumber companies and Mascot Mine's engineers. P.O.C. has pointed out areas they'd like left undeveloped and has made planned trails away from future clear cut logging sites. Mascot Mines will be ploughing the road past ski trails, thus improving a difficult access situation. Forestry has requested that the mine build two ski parking areas to improve road safety in exchange for use of the logging road.

The Squamish Corridor

Blacktopping the Duffy Lake road is one of a number of potential developments in an economic renewal and development program for the Squamish corridor.

With the new Pemberton airport and the uncertainty of the local lumber industry, tourism development in the area has a high priority, Pemberton Mayor Shirley Henry said January 29 at an initial meeting which included the Mayors of Whistler and Squamish.

In Squamish, port expansion is expected to create a major direct route to the Cariboo and the north. Funding for the development is administered by Capilano College.

Assembly Urges Conservation

Citizens and conservation groups should press for financing from governments and private foundations to preserve our natural heritage, the Canadian Assembly on National Parks and Protected Areas recently recommended at the "Heritage for Tomorrow" assembly in Banff.

The Assembly also called for volunteerism by industry and business at all levels and in all sectors for the conservation and presentation of heritage resources. Other recommendations are that government give a higher priority to environmental and heritage resources; that they invest more in the preservation of vital resources such as soil, water, air and forests and that they adopt and implement the principles of the World Conservation Society.



EVENTS

CELEBRATION OF NATURE

GVRD is planning "Celebration of Nature" to provide a showcase on the natural environment of Greater Vancouver. The event on October 5 at Campbell Valley Regional Park in Langley will feature many aspects of nature -- from fly tying, wildlife photography and crafts to slide presentations and talks on bats, bugs and spiders.

If you have any ideas for the event, contact Shirley Cameron at 432-6391 (weekdays) or 224-6509 (evenings and weekends).



CANADA ELECTED TO WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Canada was one of seven member countries elected in November to the World Heritage Committee at the 23rd General Conference of UNESCO in Sofia, Bulgaria.

A total of 87 member states have ratified the World Heritage Convention, which recognizes that the world's cultural and natural heritage transcends national boundaries and must be preserved for future generations.

COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN '86

Sports or community groups can raise funds for local projects by selling \$1 coupon booklets offering free services and travel and entertainment discounts through Canadian Pacific's Community Campaign '86. Out of each \$10 booklet sold, your group retains \$6.

For further information, contact Sport B.C., 1200 Hornby St., Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 2E2

EVEREST LIGHT NEEDS FUNDS

The 1986 Canadian "Everest Light" expedition to climb the west ridge of Everest from the Chinese side needs funds.

Each climber needs a sponsorship of \$10,000, team member Albi Sole said in a recent visit to the FMCBC office. Contributions written to Sport B.C. can be issued a tax deductible number.



EVEREST LIGHT

 *
 * HIKE MORESBY ISLAND *
 *
 * Members of the FMCBC have *
 * a great opportunity to see *
 * and enjoy the best of *
 * South Moresby this summer *
 * on the first FMCBC charter *
 * to the Charlottes. *
 *
 * The cost, including return *
 * air fare from Vancouver, *
 * ten days aboard a 60 foot *
 * ketch, food, and great *
 * company will be \$1075 for *
 * FMCBC members. There is a *
 * special early bird price *
 * of \$975 for paid bookings *
 * received before May 1. *
 *
 * Dates: July 9 - 18 *
 * Aug. 24 - Sept. 2 *
 * Sept. 2 - 11 *
 * Sept. 11 - 20 *
 * Sept. 20 - 29 *
 *
 * Captain Tom Ellison has *
 * run Moresby trips for 8 *
 * years, and an education in *
 * environmental concerns is *
 * promised. Hiking trips *
 * will traverse the San *
 * Cristoval Mtns., camping *
 * in the alpine. *
 *
 * Book immediately - there *
 * are only eight places per *
 * trip. *
 *



The new design and format for this issue of Cloudburst was made possible through the volunteer efforts of Heidi Huenekin and Sandra Leitch. If you're interested in assisting in the lay-out and production of Cloudburst, please contact the FMCBC office. We would appreciate your help! Anyone wishing to contribute articles or ideas should contact the Editor.