PARKS CANADA AT A GLANCE

Parks Canada is the modern face of the world's oldest park service. Reporting directly to the Minister of the Environment, Parks Canada is responsible for managing 42 national parks, three national marine conservation areas and 160 national historic sites. At the same time, Parks Canada encourages and supports the owners of more than 900 additional historic sites. Over 21 million people a year visit a Parks Canada property. The Agency employs 4,300 Canadians in more than 460 communities. The Agency's goal is to ensure Canadians have a strong sense of connection, through meaningful experiences, to their national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas and that these protected places are enjoyed in ways that leave them unimpaired for present and future generations.

THE PARKS CANADA MANDATE

On behalf of the people of Canada, we protect and present nationally significant examples of Canada's natural and cultural heritage, and foster public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment in ways that ensure the ecological and commemorative integrity of these places for present and future generations.

PRIORITIES

Parks Canada has four main priorities:

- Establish national parks and national marine conservation areas and designate places, persons and events of national historic significance.
- Conserve existing national parks, national marine conservation areas and national historic sites administered by Parks Canada.
- Foster appreciation and understanding for the heritage places administered by Parks Canada and engage stakeholders and partners.
- Provide Canadians with meaningful experiences and quality visitor services to improve their personal connection to the heritage places administered by Parks Canada.

THE FUTURE FOR PARKS CANADA

- Parks Canada's long-term goal is to establish at least one national park and one national marine conservation area in each of Canada's terrestrial and marine regions.
- Twenty-eight of Canada's 39 terrestrial regions are represented (70% complete) and three of Canada's 29 marine regions are represented (10% complete).
- Parks Canada will continue to support the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada in designating and commemorating places, persons and events of national historic significance.

For information please visit the Parks Canada website at www.pc.gc.ca

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