

# CLOUDBURST

Federation of Mountain Clubs of British Columbia Newsletter

Fall 1988





# CLOUDBURST

CLOUDBURST is published quarterly by the Federation of Mountain Clubs of B.C., 336 - 1367 West Broadway, Vancouver, B.C. V6H 4A9,

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The Federation of Mountain clubs of British Columbia (FMCBC) is the official sport governing body for mountaineering in B.C., representing the interests of hiking, climbing, and outdoor clubs in the province.

The FMCBC operates as a non-profit organization addressing mountain-related conservation issues, promoting safety and education through courses of instruction, and constructing and maintaining hiking and mountain access trails throughout B.C.

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.

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President: John Randall

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Jim Rutter

Executive Director

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Recreation & Conservation:

Roger Freeman and Jay MacArthur

Safety and Education:

Simon Tooley

#### Trails:

Gabriel Mazoret and Peter Westlake

Unsolicited manuscripts will be considered for unpaid publication. Submissions should be typed or neatly handwritten, double-spaced, signed and accompanied by a SASE for return. Your ideas are welcome.

Assisted by B.C. Recreation and Sport.



Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Recreation and Culture  
Honourable Rita M. Johnston

#### Cover Photo:

Volcanic rock columns frame the view over Spruce Lake and the distant Dickson Range. The FMCBC's 8-day Chilcotin trip's base camp is in the alpine meadows (foreground). This area will be featured in the next Cloudburst.

Photo: J. Rutter

## Executive Director's Report

### Strathcona Decision

From its epicentre in Victoria the shockwaves of reaction travelled across the province. The new Minister of Parks had just announced that the major recommendations of the Strathcona Report had been accepted.

What had looked like a stall, as the report did not surface for two months after its completion, turned out to be the time needed for senior government to become convinced that complete protection for Strathcona was the only way to go.

Idealism and government decision making are by their nature conflicting. Though one person can be idealistic the very number of players behind most government resolutions, and the very press of powerful opinion, force some level of compromise into every decision.

Though to some the Strathcona decision may appear to be idealistic, the truth is the compromises have already been made.

Seventy-five years of this great park area's history read not as a ringing affirmation of true park values but as a

silent scream of compromise and neglect at every level.

It isn't really important who is blamed, or how much credit to give to whom for the new deal. What is very important is that the truth was said and the decision was made.

Now the hard work begins. Real change at Strathcona will take time, and it will take vigilance. There is a momentum to be maintained, and six pages of report recommendations to be worked on. We should worry that those responsible for poor decisions in the past may be asked to also determine the future.

Our members on Vancouver Island need to lobby to be their own park region, rather than be run from the Mainland. They know why. Major decisions with regard to park promotion and tourism development will need to be made with all the local communities, so stay involved.

To every person who participated in the Strathcona process I say, well done — your contribution made the difference.

### Club Fees

Each club member reading this pays \$3 a year to the FMCBC. It is a very important contribution. Unfortunately it is called a membership "fee", which sounds more like a tax levied on you than a contribution you willingly make in order to support what we're doing on your behalf.

The reality is that \$3 does not keep us going, it provides just a fraction of the costs needed for a most basic operation — one without any frills or capital to work with.

In this issue there are a few articles describing our work, and our costs. I would like you to read these carefully so that as an informed member you will understand the proposed "fee increase".

After you read the centre page describing "some" of our work I'm sure you will see how important your contribution is.

### Operating Costs

Although the Federation does a lot, it does not yet accomplish what it can. Much of its energy has to be spent on survival, and the shortfall between basic office costs and membership contributions (approx. \$20,000 per year) has to be found.

This money, along with a further \$20,000 needed to finance a full operation, has for five years been created by administering job development projects and running instruction courses at a profit.

I have prepared the following figures to demonstrate the most basic cost to the membership of being a provincial organization, namely a minimal office (Vancouver rates), with one secretary and expenses. My salary is roughly equivalent to the government grant so I have shown neither.

### Minimum Office at Sport B.C./Per Year

*Rent: 300 sq.ft. @ \$19.85/yr	
.....	\$5,955
*Telephone: 2 lines @ \$45/mo	
.....	1,080
*Long Distance: \$60/mo	720
*Copying: \$100/mo	1,200
*Office & Computer Supplies:	
.....	2,400
*Storage: .....	1,500
*Secretary: @ \$1200/mo	14,400
Sub Total	\$27,255
*Less Government Grant for Rent:	
.....	1,500
Sub Total	\$25,755

Newsletter Costs ..... \$5,540  
TOTAL PER YEAR ... \$31,295

As you can see, there is a serious shortfall between these costs and the membership income of \$12,000 per year paid by 4,000 club members @ \$3 each.

This is why the Board of Directors has determined that \$9 per year is needed from you.

Jim Rutter

## Letters-to-the-Editor

### Strathcona

Dear Mr. Rutter,

It is sometime since you submitted your report to my colleague and predecessor, the Honourable Bruce Strachan. As you are aware I have only recently taken on my responsibilities for provincial parks and this has, of necessity, delayed our consideration of your report, for which I apologize.

My purpose in writing to you is to express appreciation for your work on behalf of the people of British Columbia and, most particularly, those closely involved with Strathcona, both inside the Ministry and beyond. You were given a difficult task at a time of considerable public discord. I believe that you achieved a great deal in a very short period.

Your report will be the basis for future management of Vancouver Island's most valuable recreational mountain wilderness and I do believe that in time we will "Restore the Balance".

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,  
Dr. Terry Huberts,  
Minister

### More Strathcona

Dear Jim,

Now that I have gathered myself together after reading THE REPORT, here are my comments:

Considering the hundreds of millions in resource wealth which has been plundered out of the Park over my lifetime, I would say you were very circumspect and polite, — but you got the message across, alright, and while I don't expect any of the looters have gone for good, they are backed up quite a bit.

I bet it will be a long time before the government includes a mountaineer on any environmental matter.

The government hung on to the report for as long as I guess they dared, — wouldn't I love to know of all the frothing and fuming which must have gone on behind the scenes.

Anyway, next time I am in Vancouver, I shall come around and EMBRACE YOU IN PERSON.

R. Masters

### Gate at Centre Creek

Dear Sirs,

This year, I have answered several enquiries to the effect that there would be no gate on the road into Centre Creek (Chilliwack Lake area), one of the drainages in which we have forest operations.

Since most people who access Centre Creek outside of hunting season do so to visit the mountains, you may wish to advise your member clubs that a gate has been established on the Centre Creek road for the 1988 and 1989 seasons. This was done reluctantly after several incidents of vandalism.

Individuals or groups wishing to gain access may arrange for a key by contacting our office (823-6525) between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. weekdays.

Their call will be returned if no-one can answer their access questions at the time.

J.B. Richardson,  
Cattermole Timber,  
Sardis, B.C.

### Hell-Skiing Question


Dear Editor,

Not infrequently an avalanche occurs soon after the helicopter has left the mountain top. Has anyone considered that this danger may be triggered by vibrations from the helicopter?

K. Capes

Anyone out there know about this?  
Drop us a line.

Editor.



# QUALITY BOOT REPAIR


*by mail*

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## Annual General Meeting

The AGM, held in Vancouver on September 24, was well-attended. Twenty-four clubs were represented, with some delegates travelling from Kamloops, Victoria, and Courtenay.

As usual the morning was spent hearing all the reports from the Directors and Committee Chairmen, with a lot of attention focused on the Audited Financial Statement (AFS). There was some confusion that although the Projects Report gave a figure of \$1.2 million from Job Development funding for the year to March 1988, this figure did not show up on the AFS. The Treasurer, Ian MacLean, explained that most of this money was for the project workers' wages. We list the figure for that portion of the \$1.2M going to the FMCBC for project administration, vehicle and equipment lease, etc. — which relates to the figure for FMCBC project costs.

This shows a net income to FMCBC general revenue from project administration for that period.

A request was made that trail project accounting be reported separately from other projects such as Summer Guides Training, or Office Staff Training projects.

The guest speaker, Jake Masselink, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister of Parks, gave an overview of Parks priorities and the opportunities available now for public involvement. He predicted that public involvement would increase, and he emphasized the valuable role played by organizations such as the FMCBC. He claimed that input from such knowledgeable groups is a great help to Parks as they work to complete their park system plan of 6% of B.C. as provincial park by 2000 A.D.

The balance of the afternoon focused on the proposed membership fee increase. See John Randall's comments about this at the beginning of this issue of CLOUDBURST.

### Cloudburst — what a name!

Some love it — some hate it.

Is it traditional or are we just used to it?

We would like your response. What should your newsletter be called?

What name reflects your image of the FMCBC?

All reasonable suggestions will be printed in the next edition. If one is a winner, and the Directors go for it, we will award a prize.

Send your entries to the Editor.

According to the Guinness Book of Records — the world's most frequently asked question is "what do we get for our FMCBC membership fee?"

# WHAT IS THIS WORTH TO YOU?

## ACCESS AND PRESERVATION OF TRAILS?

- Lions Bay Trail — threatened to be closed by the Municipality
- Greendrop Lake Trail — logging destroyed its beauty
- Hudson Brigade Trail — logging destroyed the trail.

### ***Because of the Federation:***

- the Lions Bay Trail remained open
- the Forest Service implemented a tough new public consultation system to prevent trail destruction in the future
- the Hudson Brigade Trail was rebuilt.

## SOLITUDE IN THE MOUNTAINS?

- Helicopter skiing and hiking
- Snowmobiling
- Motor biking.

The Federation is continually monitoring actions by businesses and government to ensure that these activities are restricted. It had significant input in formulating government policies.

## PRESERVATION OF PARKS?

- Strathcona — opened to mining and logging
- Garibaldi — opened to downhill and heliskiing
- Cypress — access to the mountains closed.

### ***The Federation has been instrumental in:***

- preventing further mining and logging in Strathcona
- restricting downhill and heliskiing in Garibaldi Park
- providing new access to the mountains in Cypress Park.

## WILDERNESS?

The Federation was the first organization to submit a wilderness policy statement to government. This policy has recently acknowledged in amendments to the Forest Act.

## **WHAT ELSE?**

The Federation has built miles of trails — Lynn Valley, Seymour, Squamish, Pemberton, Nelson, Chilliwack and more as well supporting volunteer organizations to maintain trails.

The Federation provides excellent and inexpensive courses promoting safety in the mountains.

The Federation publishes the 'Cloudburst' newsletter and also provides financial support to important policy publications.

The Federation has preserved the Smoke Bluffs.

## **WHAT IS THE FEDERATION?**

The Federation is made up of volunteers from your own Club. Many thousands of volunteer hours are freely given each year. However, it still costs \$100,000 per annum to be effective. We must have an office with permanent staff.

## **WHY WE NEED A FEDERATION?**

We need a Federation to speak on your behalf to redress the imbalance of industry spending millions of dollars on advertising and lobbying efforts. Resource industries are essential to the province — but the Federation believes that areas such as the Stein, Southern Chilcotin Mountains and Chilko Lake must be preserved.

## **WHY DOESN'T THE FEDERATION SEEK MORE PUBLICITY?**

The Federation does not actively seek publicity. We are moderate in our actions but firm. We have taken Government to Court and will not hesitate to do so again. The Federation must exist. Government cannot negotiate with extreme groups. They can and do with us.

## **WHY THE INCREASE IN FEES?**

The Federation has relied on at least 50% of its operating costs from Governments. This is not permanent and is showing signs of drying up. All Clubs together currently provide \$12,000 per annum (\$3 per member) toward our \$100,000 costs.

## **FREEDOM OF THE HILLS — ARE YOU KIDDING? —**

Surely \$9 each year is not too much. The Federation is not the whole solution — BUT it is an important part and it needs \$9.00\* from you each year to be that part.

(\* Family \$18; People belonging to more than one Club will only contribute \$9.)

## **THERE IS SO MUCH TO DO!**

# Hut Hiking in the Dolomites

In June of 1988 I had the good fortune to be invited on a trek in the Dolomites. The experience taught me that even though I had heard about the European mountain huts system, I knew nothing about what to expect and how to use them. This article is intended to help others in such a state: who want to try the European huts, but don't know where to start and aren't lucky enough to have an instructor. It presents in outline form, for brevity, some pointers based on what I learned.

## What They Are

The Dolomites are the section of the Alps contained in northern Italy. They are named after Dolomite, a hard crystallite mixture of lime and magnesia that makes up the strikingly rugged sheer rock faces that characterize the area. The Dolomites are grouped into separately named clusters of peaks, which are referred to in guidebooks by names such as The Brenta, The Rosengarten, etc. These clusters are quite distinct, individual groups of craggy walls and spires separated by alpine meadows. When you get your map use it to identify the groups, which are some fifty-odd in number.

## Where They Are

The Dolomites lie between the Swiss-German-Austrian borders and the Po Valley that runs between Venezia (Venice) and Milano (Milan). They are often called the South Tyrol ("Sud Tirol") from the pre-1918 days when they were a part of Austria-Hungary.

## How to Get There

By plane, the closest major airports are Venezia (Venice) on the south, or Munchen (Munich) that services Innsbruck from the north. Frankfurt is about six train hours further away, but offers an airport that is a major transportation hub.

By train, European national railroads are fast and inexpensive from all directions.

By car, consult any standard European travel book or your travel agent.

## What to Find There

The Dolomites are a mountain region of great beauty. As relatively new mountains they have raw, sheer cliff faces that rise precipitously out of mountain alps, or meadows. Since this countryside has been densely settled for hundreds of years, the alps are farmed, largely serving for grazing and hay. They are connected by an intricate network of trails and farm roads which alpine clubs have organized into numbered trails. The trail numbers are

clearly identified by painted and posted signs, and are marked on the maps so that knowledge of the language is not required.

## Where to Find Information

Bolzano is the logical city to use as a base for access to the Dolomites. It is conveniently located on the main railroad and highway lines through the Brenner Pass, an ancient access route from Italy to Germany. When you arrive in Bolzano at the Hauptbahnhof (main train station) or the bus station (to the left of the train station), find the printed list of hotels that the information service provides (note: most train stations in Europe have similar lists). Since the Dolomites were only transferred to Italy from Austria-Hungary after World War I, the list is bi-lingual. However, even in Italian and German the listing of room prices, locations in town, and phone numbers is easy to understand.

Once you are lodged find the regional information office across the street from the main post office at the edge of the main square, the Piazza Walther (the cathedral is a useful landmark on the square). Ask for Hans Hagar at the information bureau: he speaks English, is helpful with trekking information, and his recommendations proved to be accurate.

We found two maps that were immensely useful: the Kompass-Karte which at 1:500,000 scale gives a good overview of all the mountains in northern Italy and adjacent parts of Switzerland, Germany, and Austria, and the Casa Editrice Tabacco 1:25,000 map which we hand-carried for frequent reference during the day's hike. This map was so amazingly detailed that it overcame language barriers and eliminated any need for a hikers' guide to the Val Gardena region where we spent our time.

## What is a Refugio?

Literally speaking, this Italian name means a refuge, which suggests an overnight lodging providing minimal protection from the elements. In fact the refugios I saw were small hotels, with individual rooms and dormitories, sleeping upwards of 25-50 guests, and containing restaurants that provided full meal service. There is an unwillingness to turn any traveler away, even if shelter consists only of a space on the floor. (Incidentally, the German name for the accommodation is eine hutte, or hut, which is equally misleading.)

Some refugio are owned and operated directly by the different mountaineering clubs in the Dolomites: CAI

(Italian Alpine Club, or Club Alpina Italiano) and AVS (South Tyrolian Alpine Club, Alpenverein Sudtirol, a German speaking club), while others are privately owned and run. (The significance of this is that you can get a discount at club huts if you are a member. Otherwise they are freely open to the public).

The huts set their own rates, but there appears to be a fair degree of conformity among them: in our one week trip in the summer of 1988 we found the rate for bed and breakfast ranged from L16,000-21,000, or approximately \$C16-21 at the current exchange rate. Dinners were about \$8-12, including wine, depending on what we ate. Lunches were the cheese, sausage, and bread that we brought from Bolzano.

## What to Take

The great advantage of staying in the refugios is not needing full camping equipment. The refugio may be expected to provide bedding, meals, and in most cases towels. You only need clean clothes, a jacket or sweater for cool evenings, rain gear, a hat or umbrella, a light capacity rucksack, camera and other entertainments, maps and a compass.

You will probably want to take a phrase book or dictionary. Berlitz publishes good pocket sized combination phrase and dictionary books. Get Italian and German. You need a quick draw so you can get the meaning of words as they come up in context. Another way to use them for communication is to point out a desired phrase to a European for him to read it. Carry your cash in a money belt. If this is uncomfortable buy or make a zippered or velcroed money pouch and hang it around your neck inside your shirt.

Things definitely not needed are credit cards. They are useless in the refugios, and although the huts we visited had phones, telephone credit cards seemed to be a mystery to them. Just ask to put phone charges on your tab.

## Weather

Weather in the Dolomites in general is dry, sunny and hot in the summer. As one would expect, bad weather generally comes from the south, as it gathers its moisture from the Adriatic Sea, while good weather systems flow from the continental plains of Germanic Europe to the North. The Alps have a general reputation for bad weather, which should be expected when one recognizes how high and how far north they are. In

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general, a good rule of thumb is don't try to wait out a storm in high country. Expect a storm to stay stuck on the high peaks for several days, and take off for the museums in the cities of the surrounding low country. From there keep your eye on the weather in the mountains, and start your next approach during the tail end of the storm.

#### Via Ferrata

The Italian alpine clubs love to establish these "Iron Paths" which consist of metal cables for hand rails and protection, and in more precipitous places iron steps or iron ladders for the feet. As one would expect, they are found at higher elevations, on sheer rock faces or traverses. We prepared for them by taking a length of 1" webbing and some carabiners, one with a lockable gate, to clip on to the iron rail. If you plan to use via ferrata, you should be similarly equipped.

#### Bibliography

(All available in Vancouver's public libraries)

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Charles Conrod  
Vancouver, B.C.

## Update on Trails

Agreement has been reached with the community of Lions Bay for parking to be provided at the head of the Lions Trail. This should provide a benefit for hikers and keep parked cars off the community streets.

The bridge across the Chilliwack River to the Radium Creek trail and to part of the Centennial Trail has been removed. The Federation is pressing for a pedestrian replacement but for now there is no convenient crossing near this location.

The popular Rainbow Lake trail has been badly affected by logging, a washout across the trail has become worse, and there are two crossings down.

## Trails Committee

The Trails Committee has been restructured and is working on a program to improve the marking and maintenance of trails in B.C. The restructuring involves assigning each committee member a geographical area. The responsibility of each member is to assess the work required for suitable maintenance of the trails in their area. The committee members are also responsible for getting this information to trail users, and keeping in touch with two or three Federation Clubs.

A program in the Chilliwack area, called Adopt-a-Trail, has been very successful in identifying groups whose members undertake to travel their adopted trail once a year and to keep it clear.

The Committee is planning to extend this approach to other areas. If you know of any groups who would be interested in adopting a trail, the Committee would be glad to discuss a mutually agreeable trail with them. The Committee is also looking for sponsors who would be interested in funding the signs for some trails, with suitable acknowledgement being made of their sponsorship.

Several clubs already have trails they are looking after. One or two more for each club already involved would be a great asset. Tools and trail maintenance instructions are available from the Federation. A good example has been set by several groups in the Fraser Valley who are really keen and have maintenance and update programs in progress.

At present, the following people are coordinating sections. Should you have any information or queries, please contact the following people:

- Fraser Valley Area: Charles Clapham (224-0329)
- Pitt River to Lynn Headwaters: North Shore Hikers, Gabriel Mazoret (984-8401)
- Grouse Mtn. to Petgill Lake: North Shore Hikers, Peter Westlake (684-1965) Squamish to Pemberton: ACC, Frank Grundig (987-6565)
- Lillooet Area: BCMC, Len Soet (432-4129 office)

This information will be easily obtainable from Trip Leaders of all in determination of planned trips at given times of the year.

This information will be easiest obtainable from Trip Leaders of all clubs. The intent is to keep in close touch with Trip Leaders for information on trail conditions and work requirements.

Many thanks for your anticipated assistance.  
F. Grundig

## North Shore Development

[The following material was sent to the FMCBC in response to questions about the effects of current and future building developments in the North Shore area on hiking trails. The material has been selectively edited.]

Dear Mr. Rutter:

On checking into the concern expressed in your letter I realized that we had inadvertently failed to reply to your letter of March 14, 1988. At that time the Planning Department was requested to investigate the concerns expressed in your letter and prepared the attached report dated April 14, 1988. I believe a further commentary is warranted relative to our position concerning the major trail system.

First of all as is evidenced by the developments in the Seymour area and Grouse Mountain area, our current policy in all new major developments is to require extensive walking trails throughout the developments. These are primarily intended to satisfy three needs: first to provide ready access to bus routes, second to provide access to the parks and schools and third to provide general walking trails through forest settings.

Where development interferes with an existing trail in a relatively minor fashion we will attempt to relocate the trail around the development. An example of this is the Baden Powell Trail just above the Underwood Development. Where the development interferes in a major way with the trails we would not normally expect to replace it.

[For example], when the Northlands Development proceeds [the Blueridge area] trail in all likelihood will be lost and we would not expect to replace it in kind. The development will, as mentioned earlier, include an extensive pathway system which will satisfy the walking needs but will not be suitable for horses.

The two areas in the Municipality which are and will be undergoing development in the foreseeable future are the continuations of the development in Seymour and Kilmer Creek Development north of Lonsdale and east of Lynn Valley. Neither of these developments are expected to interfere with the Baden Powell Trail for many years to come.

I trust the attached report and my comments provide you a clear understanding of the District's position in this. We certainly recognize the benefits to our residents of the Baden Powell and other trails and will continually work cooperatively with you to upgrade and develop additional trails.

E.J. Bremner  
District of N. Van.

## Rebolting the Chief

Climbing routes on the Squamish Apron date from the late 1960s and early 1970s. Frequently, bolts were placed to provide protection and belay anchors on these routes. After 15-20 years, many of the original bolts provide questionable security because of the high rainfall which accelerates weathering of the bolt hole and rusting of the bolt not to mention deformation caused by the occasional fall by climbers. Further, some bolt holes were too shallow or were defective.

Personal experiences and comments of many climbers regarding the uncertain quality of existing bolts prompted the writer to begin replacing the bolts, beginning in the spring of 1987. Seventy bolts have been replaced to date. Funding has been provided by the many climbers who contributed to the Manky Bolt Fund at Mountain Equipment Coop. (MEC) as well as by the writer.

Priority has been given to ensuring that every belay has at least one 3/8 bolt plus replacing those bolts which sustain the most falls or look particularly bad.

It is estimated that at least 20% of the bolts replaced to date would not stop a serious fall. For example, the third bolt on the second pitch of White Lightning was bent in the hole and once tapped up with a hammer could be removed by hand. Some of the original bolt hangers have snapped when the bolt was extracted. In one instance, the hanger broke in my hand without any significant force. Occasionally, the nut is sufficiently corroded that it shears off, making it difficult to extract the remainder of the bolt.

Hangers have been replaced on new bolts at the Smoke Bluffs on several occasions because someone has been removing them. In an attempt to prevent the removal of bolt hangers, the nuts have been tightened and sealed in epoxy. Unfortunately this makes it difficult to remove the nut for inspection in the future.

The remaining bolts on the Apron will be replaced as time and funds permit. Any general comments on the bolt replacement program should be directed to David Jones through the FMCBC. Notes or observations of other questionable bolts at Squamish would also be appreciated.

D. Jones  
Richmond, B.C.

P.S. The MEC. recently approved a grant of 400 hangers (\$1,000) to compliment the re-bolting programme sponsored by the FMCBC. We are grateful for their support of this important project.

J. Rutter

## Report Released on Strathcona

Following the release of the Strathcona Park Advisory Committee, the Provincial Government has approved the report's recommendations that no new mining or forestry tenures be permitted in the Park.

The Committee, of which FMCBC Executive Director Jim Rutter was a member, released its findings this past June. Called "Strathcona Park: Restoring the Balance", the report is a detailed study of the major sources of conflict surrounding the Park, with concrete proposals for resolving the issues.

The overall reaction of both government and environmental groups tends to be favourable. According to Bruce Wood, of Friends of Strathcona, the group was "very pleased, both with the report and with the fact that it was accepted by government."

And Derek Thompson, Planning Manager of the Ministry of Environment, feels that "the report is a confirmation of the importance of provincial parks and most particularly the value of Strathcona ... we are very pleased with the work the Committee did."

Formed in March 1988, the Committee, despite somewhat short notice, was

presented with 250 submissions at the hearings held in Vancouver and on Vancouver Island. FMCBC Director Jim Rutter believes that the government's decision to adopt the recommendations "gives credibility to the public review process."

In addition to mineral and forestry claims, there were also recommendations made regarding the potential of tourism:

"Greater public use by residents and tourists must be fostered. Strathcona Park offers an incredible potential for outdoor recreation, as well as wilderness and nature appreciation."

Currently, the Park is not used by tourists or local residents to as great an extent as it could be. The Committee feels that this is partly due to a lack of promotion outside Vancouver Island, as the Park itself offers a wide variety of outdoor recreation activities in a spectacular setting.

Congratulations to the Committee members, and all those who supported them, for your hard work!

Andrea Finch  
Project Coordinator  
Outdoor Recreation Council  
of British Columbia

## FMCBC Credit Card

Most FMCBC members will receive in the mail this November or December an invitation to accept a new VISA credit card.

This card has been put together by the Canadian Amateur Sport fund, with the TD Bank, and will be called the Pursuit Card.

Every dollar spent by an FMCBC member with this card will raise funds for the FMCBC, and be used towards our environmental projects costs.

Although we do not encourage you to be in debt, many of our members find a credit card useful. You will not need to have a TD account, all you have to do is switch to this card and without paying any more than you do now — you will send some of the bank's profits to us 1/4 of 1% to be exact.

This card has been prepared carefully to meet your needs. The list of benefits, including automatic flight insurance for example, are very attractive.

Please consider this offer.

## Policy Paper on Wilderness Areas

Victoria: The British Columbia Forest Service has released, for public review, a proposed policy framework for managing wilderness in provincial forests, Forests and Lands Minister Dave Parker has announced.

## Co-op Lecture Series

Once again the Mountain Equipment Co-op is offering a series of lectures on various topics of interest to outdoor recreationists. All lectures are free.

### October 13

The Garibaldi "Haute Route"  
Neil Baker, Irene Goldstone  
Liz and Manrico Scremin and Bob Stair.

### October 27

Aconcagua "Route Normal"  
Dr. Wolf Schamberger

### November 3

From Kluane to the Coast Range:  
Photography, Design and Composition  
in the Mountains  
Paul H. Lazarski.

### November 10

Avalanche Awareness:  
Evaluating Avalanche Hazards  
Frank Baumann.

The lectures are on Thursdays from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. They are held at the Mountain Equipment Co-op in the warehouse at: 428 W. 8th Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V5Y 1N9

Please enter through the rear of the building in the lane.

For more information please contact Joanne McIlveen at 872-7858.