The completion of the Strathcona Provincial Park Wilderness Centre and the Paradise Meadows wheelchair accessible Centennial Trail loop, celebrates BC Parks centennial in 2011 and the birth place of our provincial park system. Championed by the non-profit Strathcona Park Wilderness Institute (SWI), this project took approximately 14 years of volunteer dedication through the planning, design, fund raising, and 5 year (2005-2010) construction period, ultimately solving a 100 year old problem in making “Paradise” accessible to everyone.

Overall success came via numerous initiatives such as Mount Washington Alpine Resort's key land donation and construction of the new Nordic road. This “paved the way” for a new unfettered public access into Strathcona Park, while providing much needed space for parking and these new facilities. SWI’s reliance on temporary shacks to distribute trailhead information, is now history and their important service is acknowledged through this permanent centre. All of this would not have been possible without the generous contributions from the donors listed below. These supporters have left a new legacy and along with the facilities, can take pride in being part of Strathcona’s unique and continued history.

A special thank you also goes to: Comox Valley Natural History Society; RLC Enterprize; Means of Production Film Co., Comox District; Mountaineering Club; Vancouver Island Trails Information Society; Isfeld Secondary School Carpentry Students; Oyster Bay Park Association.

Appreciation is also extended to the many other public donors, far too many to list, but whose support was invaluable.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE:
Steve Smith (SWI); Evan Loveless (SWI); Ted Foster (CR Rotary); Gerry Roberts (SWI Treasurer); Andy Smith (BC Parks); Don Sharpe (Mt. Washington Resort)


The Coast Sustainability Trust Government of Canada

Western Economic Diversification Fund
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National Trails Coalition
Comox Strathcona Regional District
Ted Foster & John Foster Trucking

BC Hydro NVI Mines

Vancouver Island Mountain Scouting Society

A school group appreciates the new Wilderness Centre.

Barry Penner, Minister of Environment, & Andy Smith, BC Parks Supervisor, with new granite portal sign in 2007.

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Thank You!

Strathcona Provincial Park Wilderness Centre and the Wheelchair Accessible Centennial Trail


The final step is top-coat compaction October 2006.

Barry Penner, Minister of Environment, & Andy Smith, BC Parks Supervisor, with new granite portal sign in 2007.

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