

# The Marmot

Summer - Fall 2014 • Volume 24 - #1 • milehigh.ca



ACCOMMODATIONS GUIDE - HIKING TRAIL MAPS - REAL ESTATE & MORE

## Paradise Meadows

Alexandra Peak Croteau Lake  
**Lake Helen McKenzie**  
Hairtrigger Lake Strata Mountain  
Moat Lake **Mt. Albert Edward**



**Mt. Becher** Castlecrag Mountain  
Slingshot Meadows **Circlet Lake**  
**Battleship Lake** Kwai Lake  
**Cruikshank Canyon**  
Jutland Mountain **Lake Beautiful**  
**Golden Hinde** McKenzie Lake

## What's In A Name?

Have you ever wondered what the meanings are behind the interesting names of places in Paradise Meadows and around Mount Washington Alpine Resort?

Many are named for early explorers and trailblazers from the Comox District Mountaineering Club, like Clinton Wood, who built the original Forbidden Plateau Lodge in the 1930s. A dozen are named for war heroes, thanks to the personal efforts of Comox Valley activist Ruth Masters, who was immortalized herself in December 2008 when the name Ruth Masters Lake was formally adopted for a small, turquoise-

coloured lake in the heart of Strathcona Provincial Park.

**Here are a few features and how they got their names:**

**Paradise Meadows** When Clinton Wood was searching for an easier way to get to Forbidden Plateau in 1928 (those efforts resulted in the Dove Creek Trail), he spotted these meadows. The name was adopted on Dec. 12, 1939 and re-approved on Oct. 7, 1948. A 2.2 kilometre loop trail has been created from the trail-head adjacent to Raven Lodge and through the subalpine Paradise Meadows. It is the jumping off point for many other hikes in Strathcona Park.

**Lake Helen McKenzie** Helen Maud Hutton McKenzie was the niece of British Columbia Lieutenant Governor Robert Randolph Bruce. She served as chatelaine at Government House (Bruce's residence), from March 1926 to February 1930.

*Continued on page 7*



**rickgibson.ca**  
ROYAL LE PAGE In the Comox Valley

Photo: Courtesy Slipstream Images





**FACT:** Mount Washington Alpine Resort has NOT sold.

**FACT:** In time, Mount Washington Alpine Resort WILL sell.



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## News In Brief

Encompassing people, places and community happenings at Mount Washington Alpine Resort.

...

**Don Sharpe, Mount Washington Alpine Resort's Director of Business Operations and Marketing, has been named Assistant Chef de Mission for Team BC for the Wood Buffalo 2015 Western Canada Summer Games.**

Diane St-Denis, who is Executive Director of the Canada West Universities Athletic Association, is the Chef de Mission. "Diane St-Denis and Don Sharpe are both highly qualified for their newly appointed roles in Team BC, and we are fortunate to have their leadership," Coralee Oakes, Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, said.

**We need to applaud the work of the current owners that have spent the last 25 years plus making the Resort a world class 4 season alpine attraction.**

They have made a clear decision that it is time for them to step away and bring the next generation of ownership to the table.

**FACT:** Real estate prices are at an all time low at the Resort.

**FACT:** With new ownership will come a new direction, new development and new and renewed excitement.

**FACT:** With renewed excitement will come high demand for recreational properties.

**FACT:** If prices are at an all time low, and it is clear that there will be new direction in the future, isn't it quite obvious to see that this is the time to buy?

**FACT:** There are all kinds of properties for sale right now at attractive prices and lower interest rates.

## Why are you waiting?

Sharpe has extensive experience managing a large staff and multiple operations. He had a lead role directing the activities for hosting more than 200 Olympic athletes prior to the 2010 Olympics and Paralympics.

As a co-founder of the Vancouver Island Mountain Sports Society he has spearheaded initiatives to support emerging high performance athletes.

"I am very excited to join Team BC on its journey to the Western Canada Summer Games," Sharpe said. "I have a passion for sport and its impact on youth and our communities. I am looking forward to assisting in getting outstanding results and in putting together a great team."

...

**Cassie Sharpe**, Don Sharpe's daughter, has been named to the Canadian National Halfpipe Team. *Congratulations Cassie!*

...

Don Sharpe's son, **Darcy Sharpe**, finished fourth overall in the World Snowboard Tour this season. *Congratulations Darcy!*

...

## RESORT STAFF CHANGES

**Eugene Chung**, who has worked at Mount Washington Alpine Resort for 14 years, will gain a new toque this year. Chung, who is probably as well known for his blog at mountwashington.ca as he is in his role as Tube Park Supervisor, will take over as Events Coordinator.



**Zoe Cooper** is also taking on new responsibilities at the Resort. Cooper, who of late worked with the Safe Slopes Department, moves into the vacant Marketing Co-ordinator's job.

*Continued on Page 19*



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To purchase event tickets only: [mountwashington.ca/mymw](http://mountwashington.ca/mymw)

\*prices are per person based on four people sharing a two bedroom condo, taxes extra.

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[www.mountwashington.ca](http://www.mountwashington.ca)







Photo: Susie Quinn  
Photo: Courtesy Mount Washington

## In Profile: Luke deBoer

### Luke deBoer is a familiar face at Mount Washington Alpine Resort.

He grew up skiing on the mountain, and living for a few years with his parents and sister in a couple of different mountain residences. You'll have to forgive him if he is overcome by a sense of déjà vu...

Late last August, deBoer moved into Paradise Ridge with his wife and two children to take over as caretaker, just as his father did 19 years ago, when Paradise Ridge first opened.

"When we first moved up here we lived in this unit," says Luke, sitting at a table in the combination dining / living room, leafing through family photo albums with his daughters, Katie, 12, and Alex, 11 and wife Tara. "Dad was the first caretaker here," says Luke.

Paradise Ridge opened in 1995, offering

private condominium units and Mount Washington's first (and still only) outdoor swimming pool.

Ron and Pam deBoer and their children, Luke and Kandyce, lived in the caretaker's unit for two years before building a chalet on Foster's Place, where Luke lived another two years before he graduated from Vanier Secondary School in Courtenay.

Once on his own, Luke worked in Duncan, Courtenay and Campbell River. He never dreamed he would return to the Resort, and especially not doing the job his father did two decades ago.

"I've always liked it up here," says Luke. "When I was a teenager I did the mountain biking and the racing and outdoors there was fishing and camping. There's a lot to do. I was surprised at how many people are still up here that were here when we were first here." *Continued on Page 19*

## The Sochi Sojourn



Spencer O'Brien reflects on her Sochi Olympics experience.

**There was a taste of Mount Washington Alpine Resort at the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics in Russia this past winter.**

Two athletes and a team of experienced Biathlon Officials, who have been together since Mount Washington hosted its first International Paralympic Committee Event in 2007, attended either the Winter Olympic or Paralympic Games.

**Spencer O'Brien, who hails from Alert Bay but learned to snowboard at Mount Washington, broke ground in Sochi by competing in the first-ever Women's Slopestyle Snowboarding Competition.**

"This was Slopestyle's debut at the Games, so getting to be a part of sports history was a really unique and incredible experience," says O'Brien.

"My favourite part of the Games was getting to watch my friends realize their

dreams. We're all very close on tour so I know what some people went through to earn those medals and it makes it so much more special," she added. "It changed the Olympic experience for me, being able to root for people I knew on a personal level."

O'Brien finished 12th in the Ladies Slopestyle Event, not where she had hoped to finish, but a proud moment for Canadians anyway. "I fell short of my goal and my potential, but it was an incredible honour to wear Canada's flag and represent my country," she said.

**Braydon Luscombe of Duncan first cut his teeth at Mount Washington in Para-Alpine Events, and with the assistance of grants from the Vancouver Island Mountain Sports Society, he earned his way onto the National Paralympic Team.**

*Continued on Page 18*

## Rick Morson is Proud to Give Back to the Learn to Ski Program



Students from **École Puntledge Park Elementary** were some of the keen participants in the **CIBC Wood Gundy School XC Ski Program**. Students proudly pass a cheque from Rick Morson of CIBC Wood Gundy to Lynda Magor and Lynn Swift of the Strathcona Nordic Ski Club, who oversee the program. This past winter, the program took local elementary students cross-country skiing 2,139 times on Mount Washington.

At CIBC Wood Gundy, we believe in giving back to the community where our employees and clients live and work. Funds are raised annually by Rick Morson through the **CIBC Miracle Day Program**.

**Rick Morson, B.A., Vice-President, Investment Advisor**  
250 703-5383  
[www.cibcwg.com/rick-morson](http://www.cibcwg.com/rick-morson)





# Hike Mount Washington

- In the Village
- On the Mountain
- In Strathcona Prov. Park

## HIKING LEGEND

- VIEW POINT
- MILE HIGH CHAIRLIFT
- SERVICE ROAD
- LODGE/RETAIL
- PARKING
- FIRST AID

### Easiest trails

**1. MEMORY LANE - .07 km** This short trail has a series of benches to honour the lives of staff, family and friends.

**2. TOP OF THE WORLD - 1.0 km** Enjoy this spectacular sea to sky panorama from the peak of the mountain. This trail is a must do!

### Intermediate trails

**3. LINTON'S TRAIL - 2.1 km** Following the famous ski run, Linton's Trail provides great awe-inspiring views of Strathcona Provincial Park and Mt. Albert Edwards.

**4. SEAVIEW - 1.3 km** What was once a bike trail has now become one of the more formidable hikes on the mountain.

### Advanced trails

**5. GIVER - 1.1 km** It's steep up and steep down. The most challenging way to get to the peak!

**6. WEST SUMMIT RIDGE - 4.3 km** This trail winds through the West Basin and then peaks at little Mount Washington before descending through alpine meadows.



www.mountwashington.ca

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## RECENT REAL ESTATE SALES\* ON MOUNT WASHINGTON

\*Source: Vancouver Island Real Estate Board



Other Realtors



Location	Unit #	Bdrms	List Price	List	Sell	Location	Unit #	Bdrms	List Price	List	Sell
Cruikshank Ridge	850		\$84,900			Blueberry Hill	312	3	\$249,000		
1380 Henry Road	102	3	\$224,900			Blueberry Hill	216	2	\$149,900		
Bear Lodge	102	2	\$149,900			Bear Lodge	202	2	\$159,900		
Bear Lodge	301	2	\$149,000			Bear Lodge	205	2	\$224,900		
Paradise Ridge	308	3	\$184,900			Clinton Wood	915	4	\$284,900		
Bear Lodge	214		\$192,500			910 Cruikshank Ridge			\$75,900		
Deer Lodge	207	2	\$149,900			Creekside	101	3	\$199,900		
Blueberry Hill	303	2	\$189,900			Ptarmigan Ridge	302	1	\$134,900		
Ptarmigan Ridge	304	1	\$114,000			1290 Alpine Road	210	2	\$149,900		
695 Castle Craig	203	2	\$127,900			11 Nordic Road			\$119,900		
Blueberry Hill	108	3	\$159,900			Ptarmigan Ridge	305	1	\$127,500		
Creekside	201	3	\$224,900			Blueberry Hill	201	3	\$224,995		
Bear Lodge	208	1	\$149,900			969 Beaufort Heights			\$99,900		
Bear Lodge	310	2	\$219,900			959 Beaufort Heights			\$99,900		
Bear Lodge	210	2	\$214,900			691 Castle Craig	12	2	\$139,900		
Bear Lodge	105	2	\$219,900			Paradise Ridge	302	3	\$149,900		
Bear Lodge	201	2	\$189,900			1280 Alpine Road	410	2	\$179,900		
Deer Lodge	201	2	\$144,900			1290 Alpine Road	215	2	\$105,900		
Ptarmigan Ridge	204	1	\$122,900			Creekside	303	2	\$179,900		
931 Clinton Wood	B	3	\$439,900			Bear Lodge	301	2	\$149,900		
1088 Meadow Lane		4	\$285,000			Snowbird	7	3	\$164,900		
Paradise Ridge	503	3	\$149,900			Bear Lodge	413	2	\$179,900		
1236 Foster's Place		6	\$585,000			Blueberry Hill	103	2	\$176,500		
Deer Lodge	212	3	\$249,900								



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## Love is in the Air at Mount Washington this Summer.

**“We have a lot of weddings booked this summer,” says Don Sharpe, Director of Business Operations and Marketing for the Resort.**

With more than 20 booked for both Raven and the Alpine Lodges, staff will handle “sometimes three” per weekend. The first wedding of the summer happened on June 7.

Because the Resort had weddings planned for every weekend in June, the Mile High chairlift was open on the weekends leading up to opening day on June 28.

### EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Weddings aren’t the only special events taking place at Mount Washington this summer. **TAPPED** returns on July 11 with a variety of brews for sampling and a pig roast.

**MUDD SWEAT AND TEARS VANCOUVER ISLAND**, the adventure event, returns for the second year in a row on July 19 with six km and 12 km routes.

**THE ALPINE WINE FESTIVAL** features wine tasting with vintners and distributors and an optional barbecue from 6-9 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 8 and a wine pairing dinner on Saturday, Aug. 9.

Also scheduled for Aug. 9 is the **GUT BUSTER ASCENT RACE**, the only uphill trail race on the Island. It’s a six km run up to the top of Mount Washington, with 505 metres of elevation gain. The route starts at the Alpine Lodge.

Some of the world’s best freestyle mountain bike riders return to Mount Washington for the **BEARCLAW**

**INVITATIONAL**, Aug. 22-23.

Darren Berrecloth, arguably one of the best freeriders in the world, will be back in advance of the event to groom the permanent Bearclaw forested course.

A number of family events are planned for the summer, Sharpe said, such as a **FAMILY SCAVENGER HUNT** on July 26 and the **INUKSHUK BUILDING CONTEST** from Aug. 2-4.

**Aside from the special events and the Mile High chairlift, disc golf, mini golf and the bungee trampoline will be open all season, as will hiking trails around the Resort. Ted’s Bar & Grill will be open daily as well.**

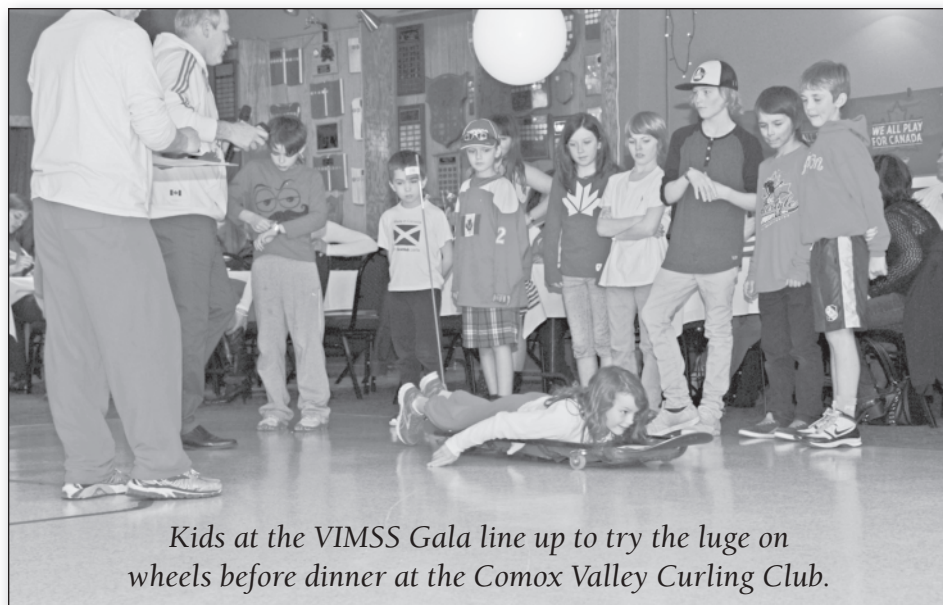
Although Raven Lodge is closed (except for weddings in the summer), the Vancouver Island Mountain Centre is open daily. This year there will be seven tent camping spots available around the Mountain Centre (book through the Centre, not the Resort).

Outdoor programs are available for groups too. *“Andrew Scherck, VI Mountain Centre Manager, has a menu of options for people,”* Sharpe said.

Recreational vehicles are welcome to set up in the Raven Lodge parking lot free of charge, but there are no services and no sani-station.



The Resort will be open until Labour Day.



Kids at the VIMSS Gala line up to try the luge on wheels before dinner at the Comox Valley Curling Club.

## VIMSS Fundraiser Packs Curling Club

**Families and supporters packed the Comox Valley Curling Club in April for the annual Vancouver Island Mountain Sports Society’s Fundraiser.**

The theme was Red and White, and the crowd got into it with their reddest and whitest Olympic and Canadian gear; everything from red sweatpants and white golf shirts to red dresses and white ball caps.

Fun events included skiing with a twist and wheeled luge. Gold, silver and chocolate medals were handed out.

Olympic stars for the evening were Paralympian Braydon Luscombe of Duncan, who competed in Sochi, Russia for the 2014 Winter Paralympic Games, and Yvonne Visser, a 1992 Olympic biathlete and a regular volunteer for both the Paralympic and able-bodied games since then. Luscombe is a past

VIMSS-funded athlete who has trained and competed at Mount Washington Alpine Resort.

Visser was instrumental in bringing international athletes to Mount Washington prior to the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics.

*“I’ve seen the Olympics from both points of view,”* said Visser, a Nanaimo resident and Level 3 coach who also does massage for some of Canada’s Winter Olympic teams. *“I feel very strongly about what you are creating.”*

Visser said it cost Canadian athletes roughly \$8,000 to be a part of the National Team, and fundraising efforts such as that of VIMSS is integral in helping athletes earn their spots on national teams.

The real stars of the evening were the athletes for whom VIMSS raises funds.

*Continued on Page 19*



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## What's In A Name

Continued from Page 1

McKenzie accompanied Bruce to the official opening of the Dove Creek Trail, accessing Forbidden Plateau, in 1929.

**McKenzie Lake** is named for John McKenzie, who was Mayor of Courtenay in 1929, the year that water rights were obtained to dam the lake. The lake was originally named Seean, a native word meaning "Chief", to honour all Mayors of Courtenay, but too many people complained about it so it was changed.

**Douglas Lake** is named for William (Bill) Douglas, a Courtenay City Alderman, who was the first to introduce trout fry to this lake and also to McKenzie Lake, part of the Douglas-McKenzie Lake Trail in McKenzie Meadows.

**Battleship Lake** When Clinton Wood took his son hiking with him in Paradise Meadows one day, his son said the profile of trees on the three small islands in the lake resembled battleships at anchor. The Comox District Mountaineering Club applied in 1935 to formalize the name.

**Kwai Lake** is named for the Clinton Wood family. Kwai is a native word for "wood."

**Croteau Lake** Eugene Croteau operated Croteau Guest Camp in the 1930s. Ruth Masters suggested the lake be named after Croteau and it was adopted in 1939. Croteau Beach in Comox is also named after the same man.

**Mt. Albert Edward** Considered the most ascended of the 2,000-metre peaks on Vancouver Island, Mount Albert Edward was named for Prince Albert Edward in 1862 and formally adopted on March 31, 1914. The Prince later became England's King Edward VII.

**Mt. Becher** Mount Becher is named for Admiral Alexander Bridgeport Becher, a well-known and respected surveyor with the Royal Navy. His name appeared on the feature on a British Admiralty Chart published in 1862. The mountain was known in the 1920s as Quartz Creek Mountain and early explorers accessed it from the Strathcona Trail near Bevan Village, just outside of Courtenay. The trail connecting Paradise Meadows and Mount Becher is still popular with hikers, nearly 100 years later.

**Golden Hinde** The Golden Hinde was first 'dubbed The Rooster's Comb' during a 1914 survey of Vancouver Island, although author Lindsay Elms writes that no one knows who gave the 'barnyard' name to the peak. In 1937, surveyor Norman Stewart felt the highest peak on the Island (2,200 metres or 7,218 feet) should have a more regal name, and suggested naming it after Sir Francis Drake's flagship, Golden Hind.

**Castlecrag Mountain** While "Castlecrag Mountain" is the official name of this geographical feature now, it was first named as Castle Crag in 1935 by Norman C. Stewart. British Columbia's Geographic Board at the time, however, felt the name was too obscure; hence the name change in 1948. Located southwest of Moat Lake, Castlecrag Mountain rises 1,765 metres (5,791 feet) above sea level.

**Moat Lake** The late Sid Williams, a pioneer in the Comox Valley who was also known for his sense of humour, named Moat Lake because it sits below Castlecrag. The name was formally adopted on December 12, 1939.

**Circlet Lake** Prospector John Brown named this lake in the 1920s. Late Comox naturalist Allan Brooks surmised that because the lake is located within a cirque (a deep, bowl-shaped hollow located at the head of a valley), it might have been a corruption of the term.

**Hairtrigger Lake** As its name suggests, this lake was named for an incident in the 1930s where an outdoorsman, Clinton Wood (also Courtenay's Water Commissioner in that era) was a little quick on the trigger while out hunting deer for his party. Since he missed, they all had to hike back out of the bush without dinner.

**Strata Mountain** The pronounced vertical stratification and colouring of this peak prompted either Clinton Wood or C.L. Harrison to come up with this name in the early 1930s. The name was formally adopted on Dec. 12, 1939.

**Lake Beautiful** Lake Beautiful is one of three lakes so named in B.C., but it has the distinction of being the first to be registered in the B.C. Geographical Names Information System. Clinton Wood and Bill Douglas supposedly named the lake in 1927; however, it wasn't formally adopted until Dec. 12, 1939.

**Cruikshank Canyon** George Cruikshank, for which Cruikshank Canyon is named, was Honourable Secretary of the 1864 Vancouver Island Exploration Committee.

**Murray Meadows** Jack Murray used to pasture his horses in a peaceful meadow southwest of Croteau Lake, in between trips packing for Eugene Croteau. The meadows were so named sometime in the 1930s.

**Slingshot Meadows** Similar to the origins of Murray Meadows, Slingshot Meadows was named in the 1930s to identify a place where horses used to be tethered. It was called "Slingshot" because someone allegedly left a slingshot hanging on a tree in the meadow.

**Alexandra Peak** Named for the wife of King Edward VII in December 1939, in association with Mount Albert Edward.

Alexandra, the eldest daughter of King Christian IX of Denmark, was Princess of Wales to Albert Edward, her prince. He later became King Edward VII.

**Jutland Mountain** Jutland Mountain was known in the 1920s as Mt. Arthur, referring to Arthur Leighton, QC of Duncan. In the 1930s a Captain Beadnell proposed that the peak's name be changed to Mount Jutland to commemorate the famous First World War naval battle. The new name was formally adopted on Dec. 12, 1939 then changed in 1948 to Jutland Mountain.

### DID YOU KNOW?

**Mount Washington** was named after Rear-Admiral John Washington, a Royal Navy officer who made a name for himself as a naval hydrographer, surveying and mapping seas, lakes and rivers for navigation. Captain Richards, part of a crew dispatched to survey Vancouver Island for the Royal Navy, named the mountain in Washington's honour in 1864, the year after Washington's death.

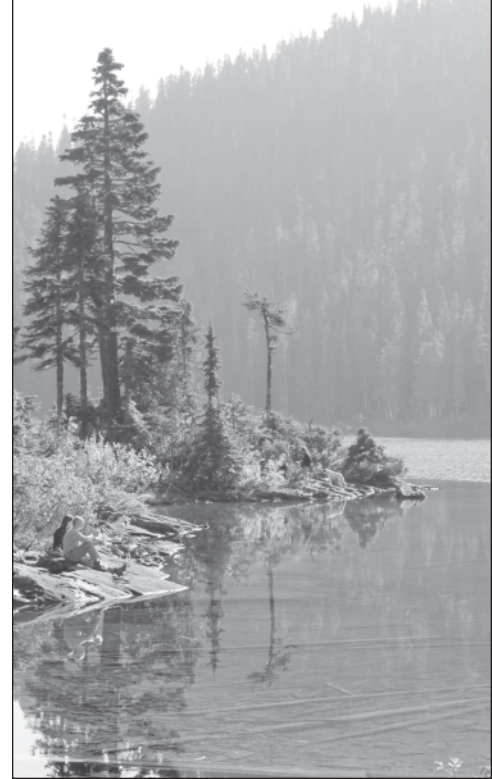
### DID YOU ALSO KNOW?

There are 99 mountain peaks in Strathcona Provincial Park. The park itself was the first designated provincial park in B.C., dedicated in 1911. The Province celebrated the Park's centennial in 2011.

For more on place names in Strathcona Park and areas surrounding the Comox Valley, the Comox District Mountaineering Club has a thorough list online at [www.comoxhiking.com](http://www.comoxhiking.com).

Hikers enjoy the peaceful beauty  
at Lake Helen McKenzie in  
Strathcona Provincial Park.

Photo: Neil Havers





# Tourism



**mount  
Washington**

**Winter 2013-14 “definitely was an interesting season,” Tourism Mount Washington Manager Sarah Nicholson summed up.**

The Resort saw 82 days of snow, not all at once, and both Resort management and business operators alike found creative ways to deal with it.

“I think everyone in the Resort felt the ‘no-snow’ impact,” Nicholson said. “That being said, the Community as a whole really rallied together to make the best of the situation.”

The Resort itself “really stepped up”, she said, and the business community appreciated efforts to retain Season Pass holders with ideas such as the 100-day assurance (which entitles season’s pass holders to discounts next year).

March and early April provided excellent spring skiing conditions, which translated to visitors already booking their trips for next year.

With the break in service, Tourism Mount Washington kept stakeholders up to date with regular e-mail newsletters of events and activities so they could pass the information on to their customers. This is the second year for the newsletters, Nicholson said, which are released more frequently during the winter season.

The Association held its Annual General Meeting on June 7. The Board set some strategic goals prior to the

meeting: to enhance the visitor experience and destination image; and to increase mid-week and off-season occupancy. These meld with the Association’s overall mission “to coordinate the common interest and collective resources of the resource community and to enhance the overall experience of visitors and maximize benefit to members,” Nicholson said.

“We’re really committed to working with the resort community as a whole to ensure we coordinate common interests... so we can also collectively work together to ensure our guests have a positive experience,” she said.

One of the tangible ways Tourism Mount Washington works to achieve its goals is by obtaining Tourism BC approved accommodation status for their managed rental properties. “We get annual inspections, and the inspection at the end of the season this year gave another positive result, with accommodation being accepted for approved status.”

While the snow situation made for an interesting season, Nicholson said news that the Resort is for sale has been met with a sense of anticipation in the on-hill community.

“There’s a lot of acknowledgement of significant investment that has been made to date by current ownership; acknowledgement and appreciation,” she said. “There’s a quiet optimism and excitement about the potential of new vision and taking the existing resort to the next level. This is a strategic sale, not a distress sale,” Nicholson added. “This could be very exciting not just for the resort community but the surrounding community as well. There really is a sense of excitement on the mountain about new ownership and bringing in some new capital investment.”

## Looking Back on Winter 2013-14

**Last winter created some interesting challenges this year, so Mount Washington Alpine Resort got creative with the way groomers moved snow around, and innovative in dealing with season’s passes.**

“If you look back at the winter, the fact that we lost Christmas and only had one tubing lane open, it was hard to deal with. We got the snow in January then we got 17-degree Celsius weather. Groomers did what they could with the snow they had,” said Don Sharpe, Resort Director of Business Development and Marketing.

By the time the season ended in late April, the Resort saw 82 snow days, where a normal year is 125-130. “We’ve been up to 145-150 if we open in November,” Sharpe said.

The Resort promised season pass holders 100 days of snow this year. If they were open under 100 days pass holders would get a certain amount of credit towards season’s passes for next year. That amounted to 18 days credit, Sharpe explained.

For the first time, the Resort closed temporarily part way through the season. Sharpe worked with Whistler Resort to offer Mount Washington Alpine Resort Season Pass holders free skiing if they used their passes at Whistler in January, until Mount Washington reopened. “It worked out really well,” Sharpe said. “We talked to Whistler and they were willing to work with us. It’s about people who are dedicated and diehard skiers just wanting to get out on the snow. For us, our season

pass holders are our most loyal customers.” The Resort has agreed to the snow assurance again next year for Season Pass holders. “For us, the tough part is we’re guaranteeing there will be snow for them to ski on but we don’t get to control that.”

While the Resort has snow fences that collect snow in large drifts, they only work well when it snows. Same with the “snow farms” the Resort has: areas that are unsuitable for skiing where snow is allowed to collect, so groomers can push it onto runs, like Linton’s Loop and Rainbow. “Again, it’s a small thing but every little thing helps,” Sharpe said.

Although the concept has been studied for many years, there are no snow-making machines on Mount Washington. “We always explore the options of snow making,” Sharpe said.

“We’ve been looking at it for a long time. Water is a big issue and the amount of water it takes. So is the mix of temperature and humidity and whether the numbers are suitable at Mount Washington. The fact you can make snow at different temperatures is based on humidity,” he explained.

The Resort has looked at niche snow-making so groomers could spread it around in order to have some areas open earlier than others. But again, water, and the lack of it in sufficient quantities, is a stumbling block.

“That’s not to say we haven’t looked at all the options,” he said. “We continue to look at ways that might work for us.”

Until then, staff and skiers alike will start their annual snow dance even as summer wanes.

## Visit Cumberland

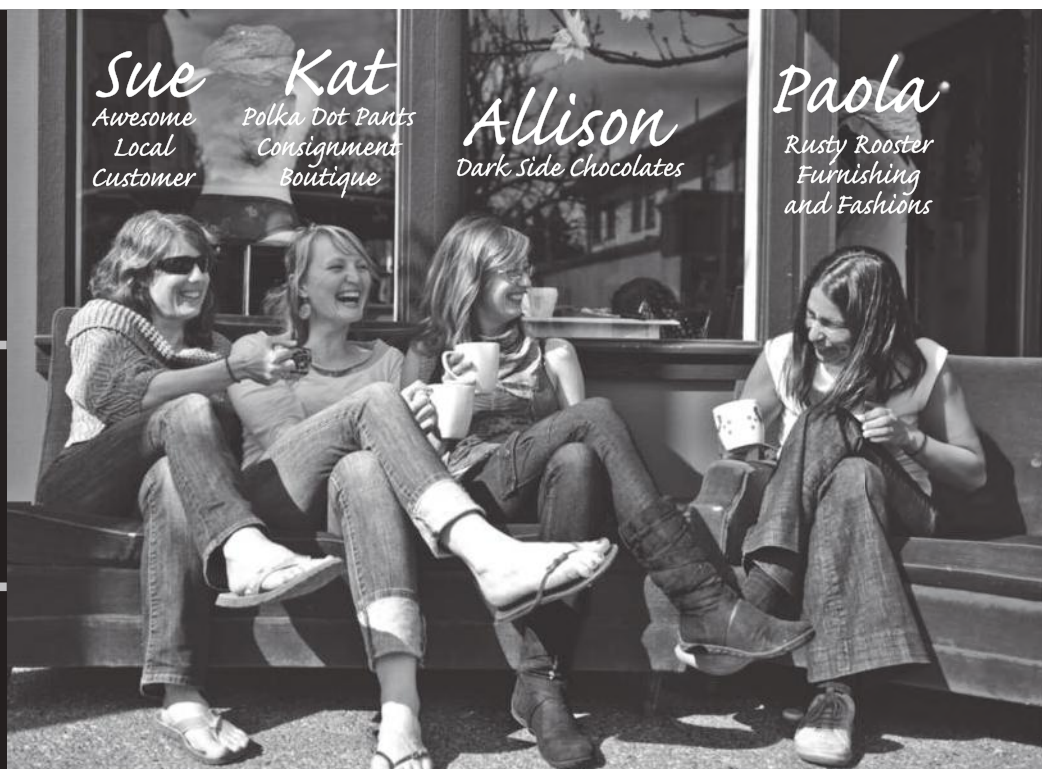
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# BC Parks Strathcona Provincial Park

# Forbidden Plateau & Paradise Meadows



Strathcona Park Wilderness Centre and Amphitheatre  
Photo: Krista Kaptein

The Strathcona Park Wilderness Centre at the Paradise Meadows trailhead has a Coordinator on site every weekend during the summer. Information on trail conditions and hiking destinations is available to park visitors. The Centre is open (9 am - 4 pm) Saturdays, Sundays and holiday Mondays; from the end of June to early October. Volunteers also staff the Centre on many weekdays.

**SPWC Rental Space** The Centre is available for day rentals. The lower level is ideal for presentations, workshops, or school groups, with meeting space for up to 30 people, a small kitchen, and accessible washroom. Reduced rates are offered for non-profit groups or schools - check the SWI website for info [www.strathconapark.org](http://www.strathconapark.org)

The Centennial Trail into Paradise Meadows from the Wilderness Centre parking area is completely wheelchair accessible. With gentle grades, this 2 km. trail is also suitable for seniors and families with strollers. The trail connects into the extensive trail system leading to Battleship Lake, Lake Helen Mackenzie and beyond.



Photo: Krista Kaptein

Want to enjoy the mountain flowers and plants at your own pace? Strathcona Wilderness Institute has placed native plant markers at numerous locations along the Centennial boardwalk. Or, visit the Wilderness Centre for a brochure to help you on your self-guided plant identification walk.

Strathcona Wilderness Institute is continuing the weekend information service at Buttle Lake in Strathcona Provincial Park. See page 16 for details.

Volunteers are always welcome to help at either the Wilderness Centre or the Information Hut. A good knowledge of Strathcona Park and its trails is essential.

The Strathcona Park Wilderness Centre at Paradise Meadows fulfills the vision of Strathcona Wilderness Institute: to create, with community partners, a Centre for programs and information on Strathcona Park. Assistance and

donations, whether financial or in-kind, are always welcome, to help with the ongoing operations and programs of Strathcona Wilderness Institute.

## BC Parks Map & Trail Guide courtesy of Rick Gibson

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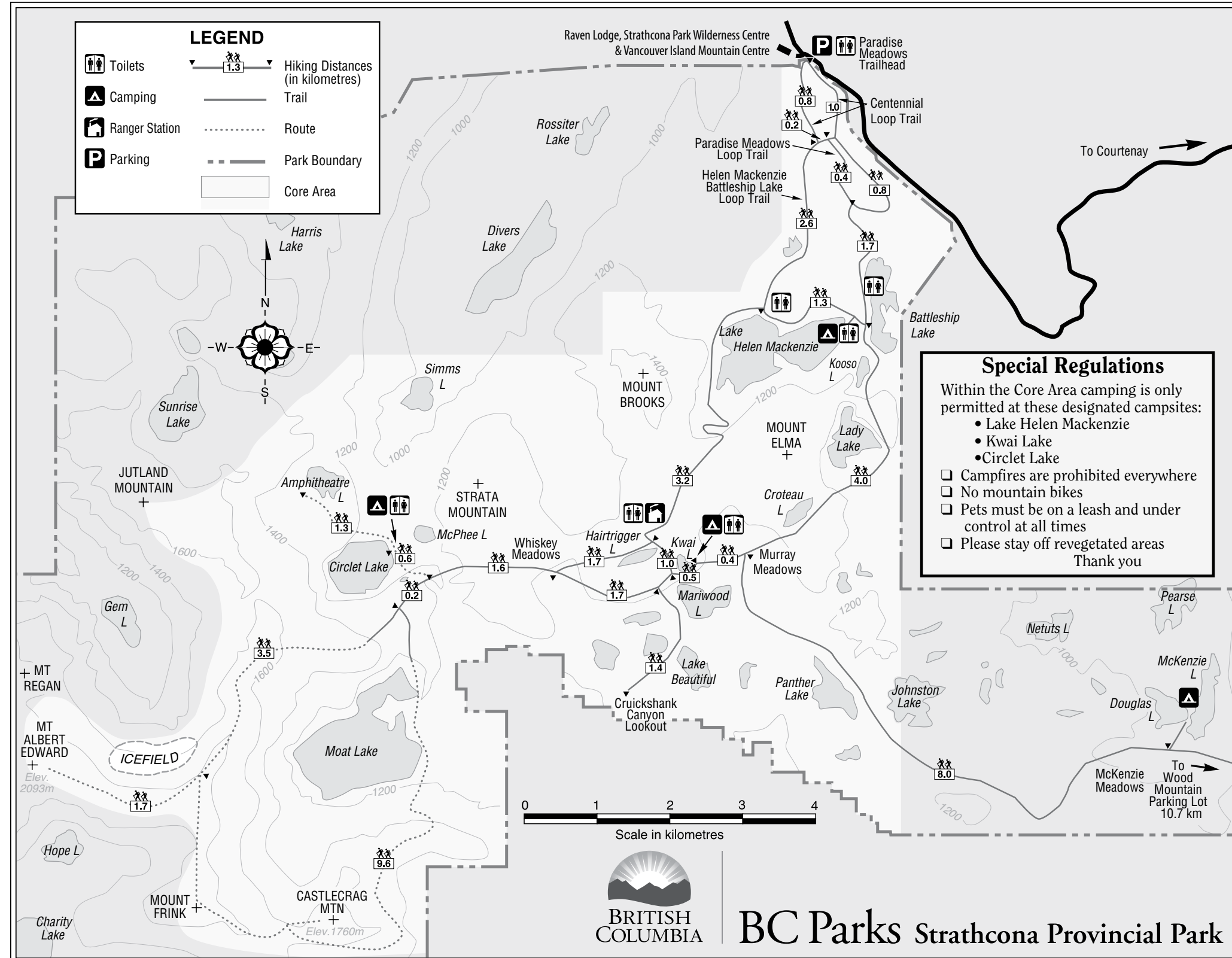
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**Special Regulations**  
 Within the Core Area camping is only permitted at these designated campsites:  
 • Lake Helen Mackenzie  
 • Kwai Lake  
 • Circler Lake  
 Campfires are prohibited everywhere  
 No mountain bikes  
 Pets must be on a leash and under control at all times  
 Please stay off revegetated areas  
 Thank you

## Accessing Forbidden Plateau and Paradise Meadows

### In Case of Emergency...

- Contact Park Facility Operator in the area. Location of Park Facility Operators may be posted on the notice board at the ranger cabin.
- Phones are located at Mount Washington.
- In case of emergency, Phone 911
- To report a forest fire, dial 0 and ask for 1-800-663-5555

### Maps and Guidebook

Scale 1:50:000 Nat. Topographic Series  
 -92 F/11 Forbidden Plateau  
 -92 F/12 Butte Lake  
 Hiking Trails III Central and Northern Vancouver Island

### For Further Info

- See Park Facility Operators or go online to [www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/parkpgs/strath](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/parkpgs/strath)

### Routes

These routes are suitable for experienced hikers. People using these routes should have map and compass skills and be prepared for inclement weather.

### From Circler Lake

**Mt. Albert Edward** 2093m  
 Elevation gain: 935m • Distance: 6.5 km  
 Suggested time to summit: 5 hours

Follow signs towards Albert Edward from Circler Lake intersection. Trail climbs steeply for first 3 km. Once the first ridge has been reached look for route leading South and follow for 2 km. It's another 1.5 km to the summit.

**Castle Crag** 1760m  
 Elevation gain: 620m • Distance: 6.3 km  
 Suggested time: 5 hours

Route begins at the southeast end of Moat Lake. Follow route to the small col west of the summit. It's a steep scramble over loose rock to the top. Caution: This route crosses boulder fields and slopes with loose rocks.

### From Albert Edward

**Augerpoint Route** (not shown on map)  
 Distance: 25 km (one way)  
 Suggested time: 3 days

An extended route through to Butte Lake. From the summit of Albert Edward descend it's southwest ridge to the drainage divide above Norm Creek and Ralph Lake. Continue up to Ruth Masters Lake (local name) and above to the saddle southwest of Augerpoint Mountain. Continue southwest along the ridge to a high point of 1760 m before descending a long ridge above Shark Lake. Continue northwest along route to reach the beginning of the Auger-point Trail. This trail descends steeply for 1400 m before arriving on the Parkway at Butte Lake.

The following guidelines will help to ensure that the Forbidden Plateau area remains pristine for all who venture there.

**Hiking Trails** - Please stay on designated trails, stay off revegetated areas and avoid taking short cuts.

**Camping** - Designated camping sites are located at Lake Helen Mackenzie, Kwai, Circler and McKenzie-Douglas Lakes. Please use the tent pads and toilets where provided. If a tent pad is unavailable choose a site that has exposed soil or will not easily be impacted.

**Fires** - Campfires are prohibited. Please pack a campstove for cooking.

**Cache your food!** BC Parks has installed new metal food caches at Lake Helen MacKenzie, Kwai Lake and Circler Lake campsites.



**Garbage** - Help keep the back country clean. Pack out all garbage and please pick up any litter you see. Please do not use outhouses for trash receptacles.

**Pets** - Please keep your pet on a leash at all times. Free running pets can harm other animals, irritate other visitors and can be harmed by wild animals. Do not allow your pet to swim in the lakes as this could contaminate drinking water sources.

**Groups** - Larger groups of people tend to concentrate use in an area and cause extensive damage to the fragile vegetation. To reduce these impacts, we recommend that group size be restricted to ten or less people. Where this is not possible, the larger group should be split into smaller groups which should travel and if possible camp in different locations.

**Water** - Drinking water is available from the lakes at all designated campgrounds. All drinking water should be boiled or purified prior to consumption. Please avoid swimming in these areas as it may contaminate the water supply. It is also important to use the toilets and grey water pits provided to keep these pollutants from entering the lake.

**Safety** - To avoid bear conflicts while camping, never leave food, garbage or toilet articles in your tent. Please use pack sack hangers provided at designated campgrounds. Hikers should make noise when approaching blind corners to warn off bears and other animals.

**Mountain weather** can change without warning, be prepared. Take spare, warm clothing and rain gear. It is advisable to leave an itinerary of your trip with a friend or relative.

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Boardwalk Trails make Paradise Meadows easily accessible for hikers of all ages and abilities.

Photo: Neil Havers

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# Accommodations

2014 Summer Rental Listings & Village Map

## John Bindernagel is something of an expert on Sasquatch.

The Courtenay resident has had a 30-year international career as a professional wildlife biologist studying in numerous countries.

Aside from his work with the United Nations and various research projects closer to home in B.C. and Alberta, he has written two books about the North American sasquatch. Now he is sharing that knowledge even further, with a video series on YouTube.

Bindernagel's interest in sasquatch began in 1963 and led to him moving his family to Courtenay in 1975. His first book, 'North America's Great Ape: The Sasquatch (A Wildlife Biologist looks at the continent's most misunderstood large mammal)' was published in 1998. After seven years of research, his second book, 'The Discovery of the Sasquatch (Reconciling Culture, History, and Science in the Discovery Process)' was published in 2010.

Bindernagel is sometimes invited to give lectures on the subject, most recently at Vancouver Island University last April entitled 'The Unfolding Discovery of the North American Sasquatch.'

He decided to create the video series, which runs just under 40 minutes, "because I feel the public remains uninformed or is being misinformed about the sasquatch and I wanted to correct that to the extent that I could," he said.

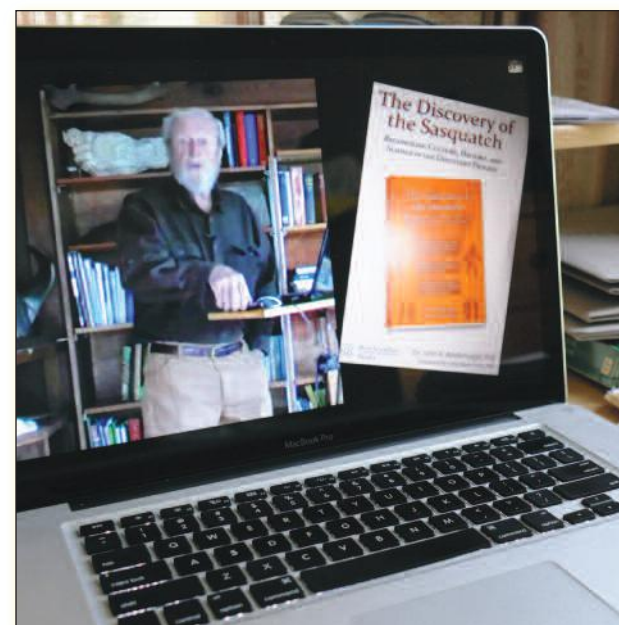
**His video series is divided into three sections: Descriptions • Tracks • Scientific Aversion**

The first section covers historical descriptions of sasquatch and what it looks like, he says: "...many anatomical details are apelike and consistent with a real existing mammal taxonomic group, ie. Primates."

The second segment covers sasquatch tracks: "the most important evidence which documents the sasquatch as a track-leaving mammal."

In the third segment Bindernagel covers scientific aversion to eyewitness accounts and sasquatch track molds, "to show that the real mystery is scientific dismissal of the evidence supporting the sasquatch as existing - and to try to understand this," he says.

**Bindernagel's videos can be found on www.YouTube.com "Sasquatch Illustrated Lecture".**



For more information on his book (orders can be made online) and his background, please go online to [www.bigfootbiologist.com](http://www.bigfootbiologist.com).

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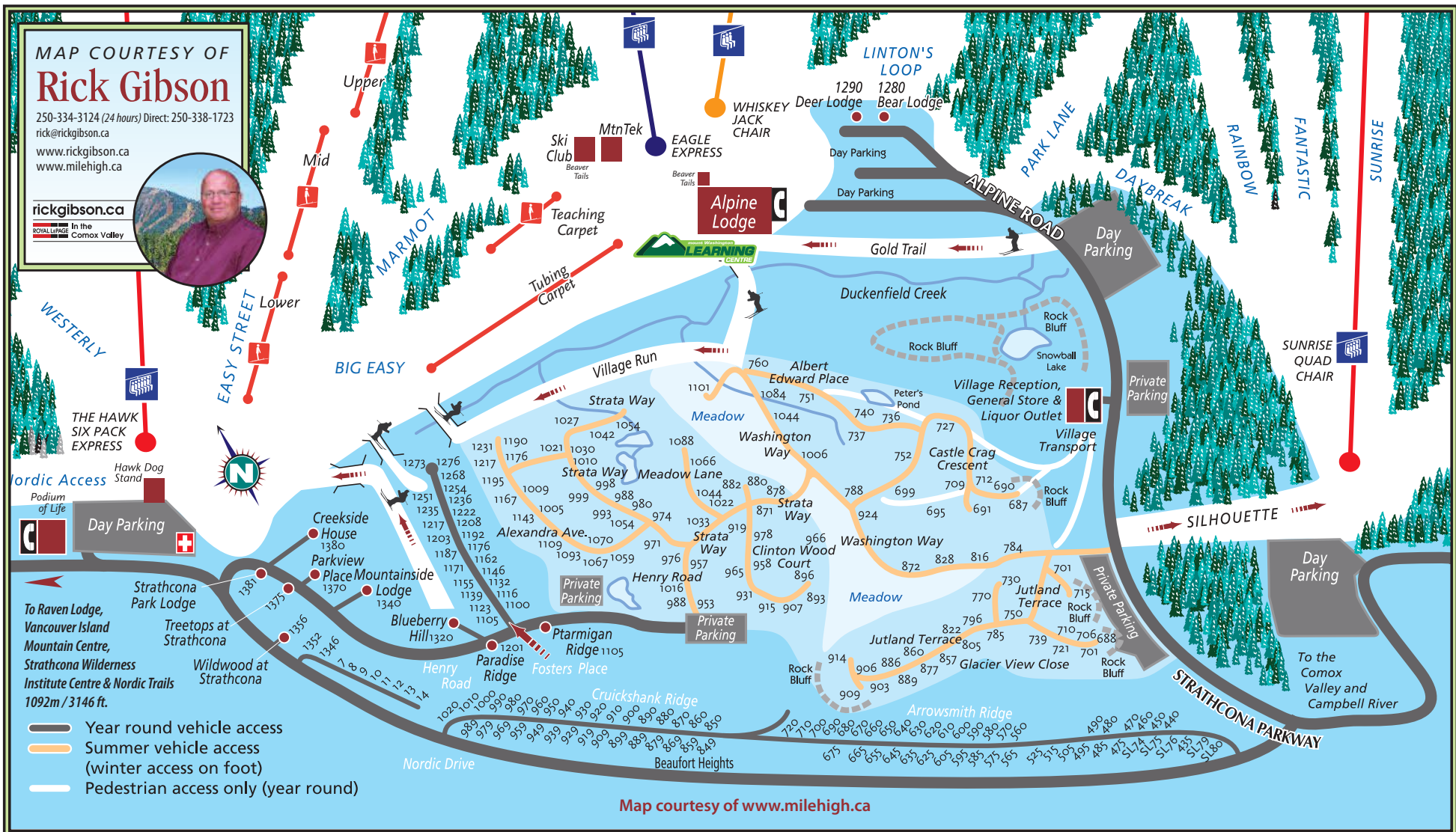


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1195 Alexandra Avenue "Chalet 62" Crows Nest	200	275	350	200	8	4	3	Y	N	N	N	1	1	1	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	O	P	N	Deidre Bjornson	250-390-4965	debjornson@gmail.com				
1195 Alexandra Avenue "Chalet 62" Lower Crows Nest	130	125	150	100	4	1	1	Y	N	N	N	1	0	1	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	O	N	Deidre Bjornson	250-390-4965	debjornson@gmail.com					
690B Castle Crag Crescent	275	350	450	Call	12	3	2	Y	N	Y	N	2	1	1	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	L	Y	N	Talaya	250-898-9238	talayac@gmail.com				
893 Clinton Wood Court "Chalet 26"	225	300	350	06/16/2014	11	3	2	Y	N	N	N	1	1	1	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	O	Y	N	Elisa Djurickovic	250-381-1649	elisa12@shaw.ca				
965 Clinton Wood Court	180	230	250	150	10	5	3	Y	Y	Y	N	0	0	0	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Kazimiera Stypka	250-477-2270	stypka@shaw.ca				
750 Jutland Terrace "Chalet Nine"	300	350	400	200	12	3	2	Y	N	Y	N	1	0	1	C	Y	Y	W	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Helen Austin	250-338-5859	www.chalet9.com				
889 Jutland Terrace "The 18th Hole"	325	375	425	275	12	5	2	N	N	Y	N	2	2	1	N	Y	Y	W	Y	Y	O	Y	N	Linda Marinus	250-338-2544	18thhole.ca				
909 Jutland Terrace "Chalet 21 - Cascadia Lodge"	250	300	400	175	10	4	2	Y	N	N	N	1	1	1	C	Y	Y	W	Y	Y	F	P	Y	Paul Reynolds	250-653-4201	ssipreynolds@yahoo.ca				
1044 Meadow Lane "Chalet 40- The Big Chill"	Call	Call	Call	Call	14	3	2	Y	Y	N	N	1	1	1	C	Y	Y	W	Y	Y	O	Y	N	Debra Stockdill	250-592-7278	chalet40@shaw.ca				
871 Strata Way "Doug's Chalet"	215	290	350	210	8	2	3	N	Y	Y	N	1	1	1	N	Y	Y	W	Y	Y	L	Y	N	Deanne Lee	250-592-5001	www.members.shaw.ca/dougschalet/				
974 Strata Way "Chalet 72"	165	260	350	150	8	3	2	Y	N	Y	N	1	1	1	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Glenda Kirk	250-658-1260	chalet72@telus.net				
980 Strata Way "Chalet 71"	200	300	375	175	12	4	3	N	N	Y	N	1	1	1	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Andy or Linda Blaine	250-889-3810	chalet71@shaw.ca				
988 Strata Way "Red Roof Chalet - 70UP"	250	350	400	200	15	5	2	Y	N	N	N	0	0	0	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Carol Turnham	250-592-2842	www.redroofchalet.com				
988 Strata Way "Red Roof Chalet - 70DN"	200	250	300	150	10	3	1	Y	N	N	N	0	0	0	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Carol Turnham	250-592-2842	www.redroofchalet.com				
1030 Strata Way "Inglennook Stacked Log Chalet 73"	150	250	300	N/A	12	5	3	N	N	N	N	1	1	0	C	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Dow	604-362-6006	natashadow@gmail.com				
<b>BEAUFORT HEIGHTS</b>																														
DRIVE TO WITH INDIVIDUAL PARKING																														
605 Arrowsmith Ridge "Pelayahu Escape"	475	575	625	350	12	4	4	Y	Y	N	Y	1	1	1	N	Y	P	N	N	O	Y	N	Elsie	604-530-8241	www.mountwashingtontchalet.com					
620 Arrowsmith Ridge "K2 Chalet"	225	275	325	150	12	4	3	Y	N	N	N	3	0	1	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	L	Y	Y	Stephan Krieger	250-477-3878	skrieger@telus.net				
680 Arrowsmith Ridge "Big Red"	498	600	700	300	16	5	2	Y	N	N	N	2	0	1	C	Y	P	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Lori Chesley	250-228-0223	www.bigredchalet.com				
680 Arrowsmith Ridge "Big Red" Main	249	300	350	150	8	3	1	Y	N	N	N	1	0	1	C	Y	P	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Lori Chesley	250-228-0223	www.bigredchalet.com				
899 Cruikshank Ridge "Mt. Washington Chalet"	Call	Call	Call	Call	26	7	4	Y	N	N	N	3	3	1	C	Y	P	N	N	F	Y	N	Julia & Arnie Hengstler	250-537-5083	www.mtwashingtonchalet.com					
909 Cruikshank Ridge	250	500	550	150	10	3	3	Y	N	Y	N	1	1	1	N	Y	Y	E	N	N	O	Y	N	Peter & Kari Zimmerman	250-951-8221	peter@peterz.ca				
<b>FOSTERS PLACE</b>																														
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1187 Fosters Place "Chateau Cona"	Call	650	Call	Call	19	5	3	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	3	1	S	Y	Y	E	N	N	O	Y	N	Brian & Karla	250-871-8807	www.chateaucona.com				
1187 Fosters Place "Chateau Cona ~ Upper"	Call	495	Call	Call	12	3	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	2	2	1	S	Y	Y	E	N	N	O	Y	N	Brian & Karla	250-871-8807	www.chateaucona.com				
1203 Fosters Place "Mt Washington Guest House"	Call	Call	Call	Call	28	7	4	Y	Y	N	Y	1	0	1	C	Y	P	N	N	F	Y	N	John or Sue Twose	250-335-0350	www.mtwashingtonguesthouse.com					
<b>HENRY ROAD</b>																														
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1375 E "Strathcona Vacation Rental Home"	Call	Call	Call	Call	9	3	3	Y	N	N	N	1	1	1	C	Y	P	N	N	F	Y	N	John or Sue Twose	250-335-0350	www.strathconabandb.com					
1381 A Strathcona Park Lodge ~ Alpine Chalet	505	595	715	505	12	3	3	Y	N	Y	N	1	0	1	N	N	N	P	N	N	F	Y	N	Strathcona Park Lodge	250-286-3122	www.strathcona.bc.ca				
1381 B Strathcona Park Lodge ~ Alpine Chalet	455	535	635	420	12	3	2	Y	N	Y	N	1	1	1	N	N	N	P	N	N	F	Y	N	Strathcona Park Lodge	250-286-3122	www.strathcona.bc.ca				
<b>NORDIC ROAD</b>																														
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1346 Nordic Road "Timberline Chalet"	250	399	500	175	7	2	2	Y	N	N	Y	1	0	1	C	Y	Y	N	N	O	Y	Y	Elaine & Al Dillabaugh	250-743-9378	phorse@shaw.ca					
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737 - 1 Albert Edward Place "92-1"	100	150	175	80	6	3	2	N	N	Y	N	1	0	1	C	Y	Y	P	N	N	N	Y	N	Cathy Bouthillier	250-812-9123	koi@telus.net				
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691 - 5 Castle Crag Crescent	110	140	180	75	8	2	1	Y	N	N	N	1	1	0	Y	Y	Y	W	N	N	N	N	N	Colin Green	250-477-3907	colin.green1@shaw.ca				
691 - 12 Castle Crag Crescent	120	160	180	75	7	2	1	Y	N	N	N	1	0	1	C	Y	N	W	N	N	N	Y	Y	Gabrielle or Brian Grady	250-592-4271	www.mtwashingtoncondo.ca				
695 - 307 Castle Crag Crescent	100	150	180	60	6	2	2	Y	N	Y	N	2	2	1	C	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Justin White	250-207-0341	justin.white@pntmail.com				
788 - 102 Castle Crag Crescent	85	150	185	60	8	2	2	Y	N	Y	N	1	1	1	N	Y	Y	W	N	N	N	Y	Y	Lisa Petty	N/A ~ email	mt.washingtoncondo@shaw.ca				
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1084 - 9 Washington Way "Westview Inn"	100	150	190	75	5	3	2	Y	N	Y	N	1	0	1	C	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Fred & Bernice	250-655-8827	millsfb@gmail.com				
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## Beaufort Winery now in the hands of the Comox Valley's most famous land owner.

When James Cameron... yes, THE James Cameron, and his wife Suzy Amis purchased Beaufort Vineyard and Estate Winery in February, they became the Comox Valley's most famous landowners.

"It's been a positive news story," said Mark Timmermans, who has been hired to run the winery located just north of Courtenay. "A lot of excitement."

Cameron bought the winery from Jeff and Susan Vandermolen, who opened Beaufort, Courtenay's first winery, in 2006.

The Vandermolens continue to be the winemakers at Beaufort, which has garnered dozens of awards for its wines since 2008 and which operates under an environmental farm plan that focuses on long-term health and sustainability of the land.

Timmermans doesn't see much changing at the winery now that there are new owners. "We're following the same business model they've [Vandermolens] been following the last seven or eight years. We're really glad they can continue on as winemakers. As far as day to day changes at the winery, besides new people running it we'd like to keep Jeff and Susan on as

long as they want to stay," he said. "We'll have a lot more to report on in the fall once we've had a season. We're carrying on business as usual this season."

Timmermans is looking forward to the season's opening, his first in the Comox Valley. He moved to Beaufort Winery from Duncan, where he was involved in farming for the past 12 years. He appreciates the Camerons' commitment to bio-dynamic farming, which they achieve on their 100-acre spread called Hollister Ranch in Santa Barbara, California.

Cameron, who announced in October 2012 that he has gone vegan, has also transformed a dairy farm he purchased in New Zealand to a crop-based operation.

He said in a 2012 interview that since he grew up working on his grandfather's farm in Ontario, and his wife's family owned a farm in Oklahoma, they want to raise their children close to the land, with the values they have "and with a strong work ethic."

"There is a bigger vision around sustainable organic farming and I find that exciting," Timmermans said. "How that is going to play out isn't determined yet."

Timmermans couldn't confirm that Cameron has also purchased other



agricultural property in the Comox Valley. "My role is around running the winery," he said. "I'm not involved in those other projects."

While the winery will be operating as normal, don't expect to see the new owners spending much time in the

Comox Valley this summer.

While James Cameron was spotted at a local liquor store perusing B.C. and California wines prior to buying the winery, appearances have been fleeting. Rumour has it he is almost as elusive as Sasquatch.



## Strathcona Wilderness Institute at Paradise Meadows



Photo: Krista Kaptein

### Discover the many natural features of Strathcona Park!

Join us on weekends through the summer, for a series of programs presented by the Strathcona Wilderness Institute, a non-profit charity.

Special Note for persons with mobility issues:

*Paradise Meadows Centennial Loop Trail is wheelchair accessible!*

To assist SWI with operational costs, donations for all programs are greatly appreciated (\$5 to \$10 is suggested).

<b>Nature Walks &amp; Talks</b>	Two to three hour nature walks & talks on nature themes.
<b>Level 1 Hikes</b>	Two to four hour guided hikes for all ages.
<b>Level 2 Hikes</b>	Five to seven hour guided hikes for intermediate hikers.
<b>Level 3 Hikes</b>	Eight to ten hour guided hikes for fit hikers.

*No pets please on Strathcona Wilderness Institute guided nature walks and hikes unless otherwise noted.*

### All programs start at the Strathcona Park Wilderness Centre at Paradise Meadows.

The Centre is located at the BC Parks parking lot at the Paradise Meadows trailhead, next to Mount Washington's Raven Lodge. To get there: follow Inland Island Highway heading north from Courtenay or south from Campbell River; take Exit 130: Strathcona Parkway. Follow the paved road and signs to Raven Lodge where you'll find ample parking. Remember to dress for the weather and wear proper footwear. Bring water, snack or lunch, sunscreen, and bug spray. If you are setting out on your own expedition, visit the Strathcona Park Wilderness Centre for trail information or to obtain maps or books.

### The Wilderness Centre will be open from late June to early October.

(9 am - 4 pm Saturdays, Sundays, holiday Mondays and many weekdays)

Dates may be extended, depending on volunteers.

*Check the website [www.strathconapark.org](http://www.strathconapark.org) for the most up-to-date information.*

*Day Hike on the Boardwalk Trail to Battleship Lake*



Photos: Krista Kaptein

## Wilderness Centre Walks, Talks & Hikes

### 2014 Summer Programs at Paradise Meadows

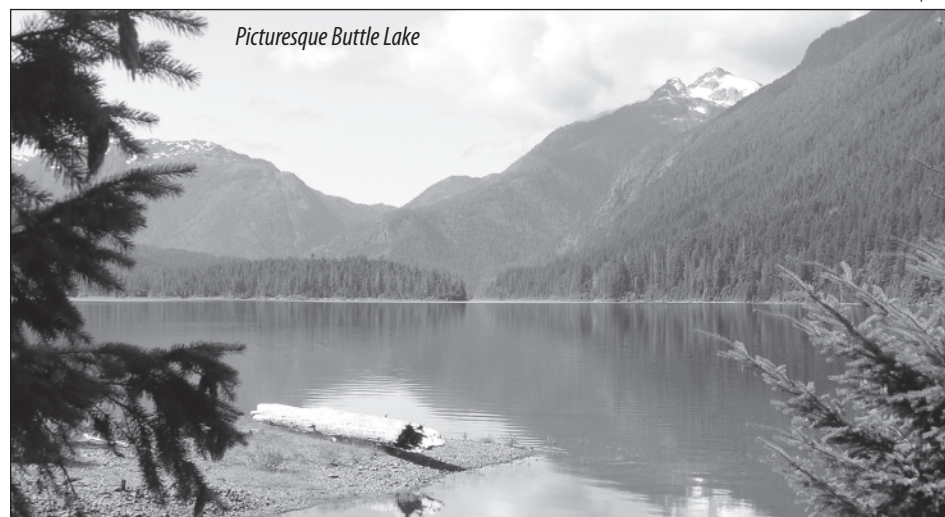
Saturdays: Day Hikes, 4-8 hours

Sundays: Nature Walks & Talks, 2-3 hours

Prepare for all weather conditions & please tread lightly in the park.  
No pets on SWI guided nature walks and hikes unless otherwise noted.

*For complete Wilderness Centre program details  
visit the website at [www.strathconapark.org](http://www.strathconapark.org)*

Photos: Krista Kaptein



Picturesque Buttle Lake

## Strathcona Provincial Park Buttle Lake Information Hut

*Run voluntarily by the Strathcona Wilderness Institute*

Do you have questions about Strathcona Park and its fascinating plants, wildlife or history? Are you interested in an easy day hike, or exploring some of the challenging back country?

Strathcona Wilderness Institute is pleased to provide all visitors with a wide range of information about BC's oldest Provincial Park, and one of our largest.

Maps, trail updates, visitor service details and more!  
Available every weekend from June 13 to September 14.

Visit us at the Park Information Hut located 300 m. south of Highway 28 at the Buttle Lake bridge turn-off to Gold River, at the Park Headquarters. Watch for the signs!

### HOURS OF OPERATION June 13 to September 14, 2014

Fridays: 3 - 8 pm                      Saturdays: 10 am - 6 pm  
Sundays: 10 am - 5 pm              Holiday Mondays: 10 am - 4 pm

*In poor weather, or if there are few visitors, the closing times may be earlier.*

### Hours of operation will be posted at:

- All campgrounds
- Trail head information kiosks
- At the 'Elk Portal'
- Various locations in Gold River
- Some Island Visitor Centers
- SWI website at [www.strathconapark.org](http://www.strathconapark.org)

Gerry Roberts ~ Volunteer Operator



# Is Anybody Out There?

Thankfully for 2 year-old Thomas, seen here at the mouth of his emergence burrow, the answer is yes.

Thomas was born in captivity in the spring of 2012 and released as a yearling to the Marmot Colony on Mount Washington last summer. Thomas, and ten other captive-born marmots, are in a preconditioning strategy to increase their chances of survival once they are relocated to historical marmot habitat in Strathcona Provincial Park. There, they are desperately needed to support the small colonies of Vancouver Island Marmots struggling to survive.

Thomas hibernated in one burrow with six other captive-born yearlings, and all seven of them successfully emerged from hibernation this spring. Two of Thomas' captive-born friends, Riesling and Burgundy, decided to hibernate with wild-born marmots on the ski hill, and they have emerged as well.

This makes it one of the best springs on record for overwinter survival of captive-born marmots in the wild colony on Mount Washington. At last count, 81% of pre-conditioning marmots on Mount Washington have successfully emerged.

Overwinter survival has often been a challenge for captive-born marmots during the first year after their release to wild habitat, and it has been a significant obstacle to the re-establishment of historical Vancouver Island marmot populations in Strathcona Park.

If these hardy recruits go on to achieve similar overwinter survival to their wild-born kin, Thomas and his buddies will have the chance to contribute to the establishment of a new colony. And they'll have help too.



Thomas (shown above) hibernated in one burrow with six other captive-born yearlings, and all seven of them successfully emerged from hibernation this spring.

The second marmot you see sitting on the front porch of his burrow is one of the 12 pups born at the Mount Washington colony last spring. They represent the second part of the strategy, which is to include wild-born marmots in the mix of recruits released to help rebuild these important historic sites.

**Wild-born marmots naturally have better overwinter survival than captive-born marmots, who might still be learning the tricks of the trade when it comes to winter slumbering.**

Further south on Vancouver Island, marmot colonies in the Nanaimo Lakes region of Vancouver Island required several consecutive years of

releases before the colonies began to function naturally. A total of 157 captive-born marmots were released there from 2004-2011. It was interesting to note that at the end of 2013, data showed that 97% of the marmots identified near Nanaimo Lakes were naturally recruited wild-born marmots - offspring of the original captive-born marmots that were released to recover the population.

It will take a while longer before the marmot populations north of Alberni Inlet prove that they can to do the same. But the numbers of established survivors are



Photos: C. Jackson

Crystal Reid with Susan the marmot

growing each year and, with them, so does their chance for success.

By Viki Jackson, Executive Director Marmot Recovery Foundation

If you would like to read more about this endangered and uniquely Canadian marmot please visit our website at [www.marmots.org](http://www.marmots.org).

Or better yet, join our Adopt-a-Marmot Club and help with the recovery efforts first hand.



## Adopt a Marmot

This is a great way to help this endangered species as well as an opportunity for you to learn more about these interesting creatures

When you join the **Adopt-a-Marmot Club**, you help protect the endangered Vancouver Island marmot every day of the year. Pre-arranged monthly gifts are a convenient way to help save this beautiful and special creature from extinction. Your gift supports the field research and captive-breeding that's so critical to marmot survival. For instance, your contribution will help fund ear-tagging of wild marmots, which is the only way in which we can identify and track individual marmots and the success of recovery efforts in future years.

### When you Adopt-a-Marmot you'll receive:

- Your personalized marmot adoption certificate
- Your full-color poster of a Vancouver Island Marmot
- Your official recovery project newsletter (The Marmoteer)
- Your special year-end report about individual marmots

For more info go to [www.marmots.org/adopt.htm](http://www.marmots.org/adopt.htm)

## HELP SAVE THE VANCOUVER ISLAND MARMOT!

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I authorize the Marmot Recovery Foundation to deduct the above amount from my chequing account monthly. (I have enclosed a blank cheque marked VOID for processing purposes.)

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**YOUR GUARANTEE:** You can change or cancel your pledge at any time.

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**Marmot Recovery Foundation** [www.marmots.org](http://www.marmots.org)

Box 2332, Station A, Nanaimo, B.C., Canada V9R 6X6 Fax: 250-753-8070



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## The Sochi Sojourn

Continued from Page 3

Luscombe finished 16th in the Men's Standing Downhill and 25th in the Men's Standing Super G in Sochi.

"Some of my greatest memories or things that impacted me the most [in Sochi] were the start gate and finish line," Luscombe said during the Vancouver Island Mountain Sports Society Gala in April.

"In the start it's such a crazy atmosphere to be in with everyone's different pre-race routines... just feeling the energy and nervousness from everyone, with the mixture of hearing the crowd roar down in the stands when someone crosses the finish line," he said.

"It was very difficult to capture and tame that atmosphere and not let it get you too worked up. It was a real challenge but one of the coolest things to experience. The second thing was being in the stands after my race or watching the GS Race, which I didn't compete in. I loved being in the stands taking pictures with everyone cheering and screaming and ringing the cowbells, then going down and congratulating teammates."

**Len Apedaile from the Strathcona Nordics was also in Sochi, as the Technical Delegate of the International Paralympic Committee for the Nordic skiing events at the Paralympic Winter Games.**

Apedaile has been involved in IPC World Cup events since 2007 at Mount Washington, and in 2010 was the Sport Manager for VANOC for cross-country events in both the Olympics and the Paralympics. Since 2011 he made several visits to Sochi as a technical delegate for the IPC, assuring technical requirements were met.

"At the Paralympics Apedaile was head of the jury, "making sure competitions were run according to all the rules," he said.

"The Paralympics in Sochi were a real success," he related. "The Russians set a really high bar. The athletes really felt like they were at a big deal. The profile is now that much higher... Russians filled the stadiums with raucous cheering crowds."

Joe Bajan arrived in Sochi about a week before the Olympic Games, this time as a contractor working with a team from Finland, to set up the biathlon range as well as a technical official for Canada.

"Bajan's knowledge from working with a number of IPC Cups and at the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver were invaluable," Apedaile said. "He was a big help."

Bajan and his wife were both at the Games, living up top in an extension of the Athletes' Village. Francoise Ducret, also part of the Mount Washington team, boarded in the volunteers' accommoda-



Len Apedaile, of the Strathcona Nordics Ski Club, left, and Joe Bajan from the Vancouver Island Biathlon Club prepare for an event at the Sochi 2014 Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia. They were part of a contingent of Mount Washington Alpine Resort alumni volunteering in Sochi in February 2014.

tion, while Apedaile roomed elsewhere within the Olympic facility.

Ducret volunteered for both the Winter Olympics and the Paralympics. She was supposed to work with the race office during the Paralympics but ended up pulling some security detail before she ran into Apedaile in the IPC building.

"We needed someone to help us with the commercial marketing management, because there are all these rules about commercial marketing and what logos athletes can and cannot have on their toques, suits, helmets, etc.," Apedaile said. "As a jury we were busy enough. We were able to grab Francoise and basically deputize her, so she was there at the



Francoise Ducret poses with a pair of Russian soldiers during the Sochi 2014 Winter Olympics and Paralympics.

starting area. She was a real contributor to the IPC. It was really nice to have this Vancouver Island team that started out with the IPC in 2007 also there at Sochi," Apedaile said.

For each of these athletes and volunteers, Sochi was one step on their Olympic and Paralympic journeys. Apedaile has already made a site visit to PyeongChang in anticipation of the 2018 Winter Games.

"PyeongChang is definitely on my radar," O'Brien said. "There are still other things I would like to accomplish in my sport besides competition, but I still really enjoy what I do and I want to continue on that path as long as it makes me happy."

"I look forward to the next four years of my skiing journey leading into PyeongChang, South Korea in 2018," Luscombe said. "After experiencing the Games as a competitor, over the next few years of training and racing I'm going to feel an extra bit of drive from being at Sochi."

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Parksville	250-248-3613	<a href="http://www.parkvillechamber.com">www.parkvillechamber.com</a>
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Qualicum Beach	250-752-9532	<a href="http://www.qualicum.bc.ca">www.qualicum.bc.ca</a>



## VIMSS Fundraiser

Continued from Page 5

"We have been blessed in our community to have some gifted athletes and VIMSS has been a part of that," said MC Don Sharpe, a founding member of the Mountain Sports Society.

VIMSS has funded more than 70 athletes since its inception 10 years ago, paying \$89,000 back to emerging athletes to help offset costs associated with travelling off-Island to compete and attend advanced training events.

"The annual Spring Gala Event is the biggest fundraiser of the year," VIMSS Chair Karen Bonell said.

There are six athletes who awarded VIMSS grants last winter: Teal Harle (freestyle skiing), Campbell River; Mei Pond (Freestyle Skiing), Nanaimo; Avalon Wastenays (Nordic Skiing), Campbell River; Thomas Bergvinson (Slopestyle Snowboard), Courtenay; Mel Pemble (Para-Alpine Skiing), Victoria and Maja Nymann (Alpine Skiing), Campbell River.

For more information on VIMSS, please go online to [www.vimountaincentre.com](http://www.vimountaincentre.com).

## News In Brief

Continued from Page 2

**A new Tube Park Supervisor and Safe Slopes Department replacement** will be hired in time for next winter, said Don Sharpe, Resort Director of Business Relations and Marketing.

**Christine Reynolds** has wrapped up her first winter as the Food and Beverage Manager. She took over from Colleen Reitsma last year. Reynolds is part of the team Director of Hospitality Operations Tim Defert has assembled at the Resort.

•••

**Vancouver Island Society of Adaptive Snowsports (VISAS)** team had a good showing at the Western Canadian Para Alpine Championships on Panorama Mountain in March. It was the farthest the team had ever travelled to compete.

**Three VISAS racers made the podium:** **Melle Pemble** won gold in slalom and gold in GS; **Joe Grubweiser** won silver in both slalom and GS; and **Ron Greenhorn** won bronze in both events. **Bazz Petropoulos**, VISAS' snowboard racer, completed the GS on a challenging course.

For more on VISAS' programs, visit their website at [www.visasweb.ca](http://www.visasweb.ca).

•••

**Fans of the Tube Park at Mount Washington can expect to see some tweaking on the runs this summer**, based on things learned over the winter. The expanded tube park was moved to its new location



Photo: Stacie Quinn

*Yvonne Visser, a biathlete who attended the 1992 Winter Olympics in Albertville, France, praises the Vancouver Island Mountain Sports Society for what they are doing to help athletes. Visser was a keynote speaker at the VIMSS gala in April, 2014.*



*Paralympic athlete Braydon Luscombe describes his experience competing at the 2014 Sochi Paralympic Games in men's standing alpine events at the VIMSS Gala.*

last year. Grounds crews will also continue with summer grooming on various other runs.

•••

**Evan Luksay** of Brooklyn Elementary in Comox won an Honour medal at the Regional Heritage Fair hosted by the Alberni Valley Museum in Port Alberni in May, for his exhibit on the history of Mount Washington Alpine Resort. His was one of two exhibits featuring the Resort. Luksay is a member of Strathcona Nordics Ski Club.

•••

**Strathcona Wilderness Institute brought the Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival to Courtenay** on March 28, the only Island stop on the "Best of the Fest" tour. The premier mountain film fest of the spring season screened winning films ranging from climbing, skiing, trekking, surfing, biking and environmental themes. It was a first for the SWI, which is spending 2014 expanding its outreach and fundraising initiatives. •••



## Luke deBoer

Continued from Page 3

The deBoers, Luke and Tara, spent six years in Campbell River before moving to Mount Washington. "Up here, it was an eye opener," says Tara, who gets up at 6 a.m. to get the girls ready to drive to school and her own job in Campbell River. "We were looking to move back to Courtenay and this job came up, so up the mountain we came."

She quickly learned how to drive in snow, something she hadn't truly experienced until winter on Strathcona Parkway. While she doesn't ski, she's looking forward to doing some fishing and camping in her first summer living on the mountain.

"We like to take the girls to the park and feed the Whiskey Jacks," she said. The family does a lot of geocaching as well. Tara says there are a few sites to be found around the Resort.

Life is different for the girls than it was for Luke, he admits. "I was always outside skiing, digging a snow cave, mountain biking, hiking, snowshoeing. With the girls it's all I can do to get them out tobogganing," he says as the girls grin.

Family outings are few and far between, especially in the busy season, as Luke is required to be available to customers. "I have a lot of time to myself but my job entails that I'm here," he says. "When it snows, there's definitely a lot more to do; a lot of shoveling and hallways to clear. Hand-shoveling nine hours a day really wears you out."

"When I'm busy I get up in the morning, deal with my hot tub and pool chemicals and make sure they're ready for the day. There is garbage in the building that need to be dealt with all the time. There's mopping and shoveling in front and letting people know if they're parked where they shouldn't be. Mostly it's keeping the building clean, changing light bulbs. And shoveling snow."

Luke deBoer looks through scrapbooks with his daughters Katie and Alex, trying to find photos of himself when his parents were caretakers at Paradise Ridge.

The building has undergone some construction updates this spring, making repairs and refinishing the pool.

While Luke has returned to his roots, his parents are both in Campbell River now. His mother Pam has stayed connected to the Resort over the years, sitting as a director for Tourism Mount Washington. She has been involved in property management for many years at the Resort. His father Ron runs a construction business in Campbell River and is sorry to be losing one of his most faithful employees. Ron also looks after snow removal at the Resort.

His sister Kandyce lives in Victoria and "gets up here when she can," says Luke.

As for Luke and his family, "I hope I'm here for a few years," he adds. "I'd like to be up here for a while. We are enjoying being up here."

**The Marmot**  
MILE HIGH NEWS ON MOUNT WASHINGTON

Published for your convenience by Rick Gibson  
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If you are looking for more information, wish to advertise, or want to submit information in future issues please refer to these contacts:

**Information:** [rick@themarmot.ca](mailto:rick@themarmot.ca)

**Editorial:** Susan Quinn

**Sales & Circulation:** Email your inquiries to [info@haversdesign.com](mailto:info@haversdesign.com)

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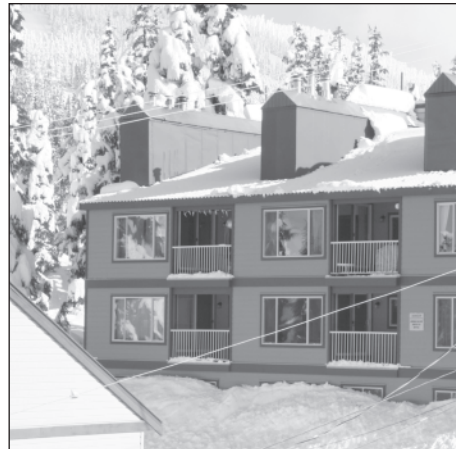




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**Corner Unit with Natural Light!**

A few minutes walk from the Alpine Lodge you will find this hidden treasure. On two levels plus storage in a basement this 3 bedroom townhome is well worth a look. This corner unit offers plenty of natural light plus the exposure from the two outside decks facing Southwest, letting in ample sunshine and sunsets.

**\$109,900**

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The only duplex lot available on Mount Washington in the Alpine Village! Prime location and still owned by its original owners this jewel is waiting for you. Many opportunities as you could build both, sell one and keep the other side. **\$325,000**

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Photo: Neil Havers

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212 3 Bdrm 1013 Sq Ft Corner **\$319,900**  
**FREEHOLD**

402 Top Floor 2 Bdrm 879 Sq Ft **\$199,999**  
Parkside **FREEHOLD**

411 3 Bdrm 1013 Sq Ft Corner **\$399,900**  
Top Floor **FREEHOLD**



## Ptarmigan Ridge

### Features Include:

- Furnished Apartments
- Drive To Access
- Propane Fireplaces
- Self-contained Kitchens
- Ski Storage Lockers off Lobby
- Breathtaking Mountain Views
- Convenient Location to Ski Lifts and Strathcona Provincial Park.

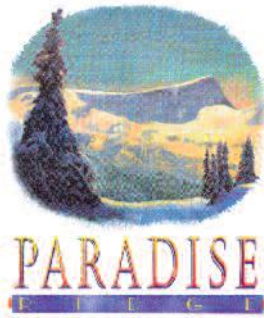
### ONE BEDROOM APARTMENTS

209 One bdrm, facing ski runs **\$106,900**

301 Top floor Corner Unit **\$118,500**  
Facing ski runs

305 Top floor, facing ski runs **\$132,500**

312 Corner unit **FREEHOLD** **\$149,900**  
Facing Strathcona Park



### Features Include:

- Swimming Pool
- Sauna and Hot Tub
- Underground Parking
- Convenient Location to Amenities
- Mountain / Strathcona Park Views

110 2 Bedroom **\$157,500**  
facing Strathcona Park **FREEHOLD**

111 23 Bedroom **\$249,900**  
facing Strathcona Park **FREEHOLD**

113 2 Bedroom **\$144,900**  
facing Strathcona Park **FREEHOLD**

214 4 Bedroom, spacious **\$199,900**  
park view Suite

407 2 Bedroom **FREEHOLD** **\$139,900**  
facing ski runs and Strathcona Park

501 3 Bedroom Penthouse suite **\$264,900**  
**FREEHOLD**

506 3 Bedroom Penthouse facing **\$159,900**  
Strathcona Park and ski runs



### Features Include:

- Slopeside Location • Hot Tub
- Fully Furnished • Caretaker
- Front Desk Service

103 3 Bedroom, deluxe suite **\$289,900**  
**FREEHOLD**

305 2 Bedroom lockoff, slopeside **\$205,000**  
**FREEHOLD**

312 3 Bedroom, facing **\$249,900**  
Strathcona Park **FREEHOLD**

313 2 Bedroom Lock-off **\$144,900**  
facing Strathcona Park **FREEHOLD**



110 3 Bedroom facing Strathcona Park **\$179,900**  
202 3 Bedroom facing ski runs and park **\$239,900**  
**FREEHOLD WOW View!**

### Features Include:

- Elevator Access • Spectacular Views of Strathcona Park and the Ski Runs
- Above & Underground Parking • Propane Fireplaces • Furnished units
- Ski Storage Room off the Lobby with separate lockers for renters

214 2 Bedroom facing Strathcona Park **FREEHOLD** **\$189,900**

308 3 Bedroom, facing ski runs **FREEHOLD** **\$239,900**



### Top Floor Unit Promises Mountain Views!

The suite has a comfortable layout with 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom and two extra built in bunks. There is a sunken living room with wood burning fireplace, a dining area, good sized kitchen, a laundry room and a large entrance. There is a deck off this top floor corner unit overlooking the mountains in Strathcona Park and sunrise and sunsets. Monthly fees include taxes, cable, internet, insurance, water and sewer. Great value and ambience in this family sized condo! **\$139,900**



### Skier Friendly Floor Plan!

3 level townhome all decked out and ready to sell. Located 200 feet from parking with easy ski out access to the slopes. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths & sauna. Very private location with the forest as your backdrop. Thoughtful skier, thought-out floor plan. Property comes complete with most furnishings. **\$149,900**



### Two Bedroom Freehold Condo

This two bedroom mountain home is centrally located in Mount Washington's Alpine Village. With two decks you get to view much of the area around the village. Converted to Freehold, this suite has loads of storage, 2 bathrooms, sauna and much much more. With a 5 minute stroll to the Alpine Lodge and virtually ski in and out, this is a location second to none. **#201 - \$139,999**



### South Facing Townhouse

Snowbird Townhome for sale! This south facing mountain home offers easy access to parking and skiing. Basement is undeveloped for additional usage. 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Propane fireplace for the cool winter nights. Quiet location and great building! **\$169,900**



### Corner Unit Close To Day Lodge!

Townhouse style condo located very close to the Day Lodge. Corner unit, sunny, nicely furnished and clean. Balcony runs along 2 upstairs bedrooms and provides mountain views. Ski in and out from the door! Sunset views and easy access. **\$174,900**



### Furnished Corner Unit has New Roof!

3 bedroom townhome - close to the Alpine Lodge. Corner suite for added privacy with views to the mountains and sunsets! Very open plan with 3 bedrooms up. Home has been lovingly cared for with new windows and upgrades. Brand new roof summer 2013. Suite comes with all furnishings and is ready to go! **\$179,900**





### Pride of Ownership

Pride of ownership is evident and all the upgrades are done! New kitchen, new flooring, new bathrooms. Bright corner suite with views west into Strathcona Park. Easy access to parking and ski out to lifts. Basement area could be further developed. **\$179,900**



### Large Loft with Skylights

Spacious 3 bedroom condo townhouse with 3 levels of living space. Large loft area with skylights provide ample sleeping space, shared common area with laundry, ping pong and storage. This is a wonderful family oriented complex located centrally on Mount Washington **\$184,900**



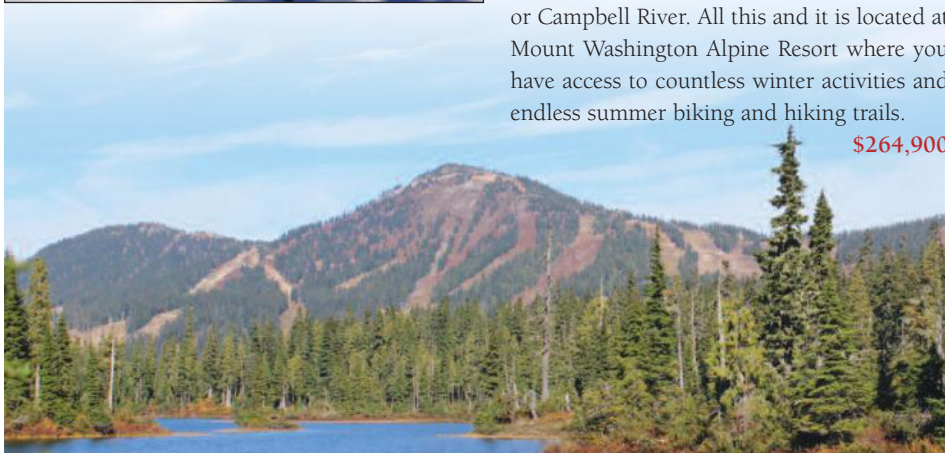
### Mountainside at Mount Washington

Top Floor two bedroom lockoff suite with views West into Strathcona Park for sunset views. Easy access to Hawk Chairlift in winter and Strathcona Park. Under building parking, shared hot tub and storage. Top floor corner for peace and quiet. Use the whole property as a two bedroom or it locks off as a one bedroom suite and a studio suite. **\$169,000**



### Special Family Retreat!

Looking for that special family retreat on Vancouver Island? Perched on the benchlands directly overlooking Strathcona Park is this 3 bedroom west coast custom built home. Enjoy the spacious bright living room with vaulted ceilings and real hardwood flooring. Concept kitchen includes granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. Relax in the 6' jet tub in the large master suite. This home is built on a larger than average lot with lots of room for parking on the paved driveway. Less than a 15 minute drive to the Island Highway or Campbell River. All this and it is located at Mount Washington Alpine Resort where you have access to countless winter activities and endless summer biking and hiking trails. **\$264,900**



### Location! Location! Location!

Cozy chalet close to parking and ski lifts. Ski in and out from this energy efficient chalet and then curl up by the woodstove and enjoy the ambience. Large loft area and basement storage. **\$299,900**



### Welcome to our Cabin!

The perfect smaller mountain home that is not set up to sleep 30! Very open bright design that is easy access to skiing in winter and the park in summer. Southern exposure off either of the two sun drenched decks. Vaulted ceilings and well thought out floor plan. A bathroom on each level, sauna in basement, loads of storage - just the perfect family retreat. And it is Freehold! **\$324,900**



### Chairlift Friendly

Located at the loading station of the Hawk chairlift is this luxury 3 bedroom townhome with a double garage. The finishing is exquisite with a view of the ski runs. Loads of storage and plenty of space. Parkview Place offers a great location with easy access to the Alpine and Nordic skiing. Close to Strathcona Park.

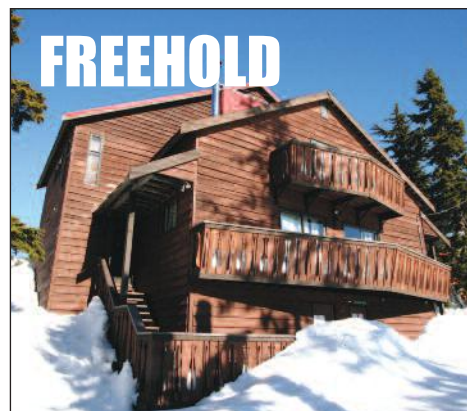
Three Bedroom **\$369,900**  
Four Bedroom Freehold **\$399,500**



### Creekside House

Rarely do suites in Creekside House hit the open market. Immaculately maintained 3 bedroom suite available. Quality plus building built by the same builder of Raven Lodge. Creekside is located immediately adjacent to the loading area of the Hawk Chairlift, so is about as ski in and out friendly as you can get. Easy access to Nordic and Strathcona Park.

301 Top Floor, 3 bedroom FREEHOLD **\$374,900**  
Sunny slopeside  
306 Top Floor, 3 bedroom **\$289,900**  
Strathcona Park view



### Once in a Lifetime!

This legal duplex on Mount Washington has it all. What you get is two legal titles and the two units share a common area. Within the common area is a third suite! Each side has 2 bedrooms and spacious plans. The common area which includes a large family room, sauna, kitchen, bathroom & bedroom. Ideal for 2 or more families with spectacular views. Buy the package and then sell one of the off, or keep the other. WOW - this one has many options. **\$398,800**





### The Ultimate Ski Chalet!

Your own log cabin perched high on a ridge with incredible views of Strathcona Park. The mountain home is separated into a lower 2 bedroom suite and the main upper 3 bedroom suite. The living area has a cathedral ceiling and an open wood burning fireplace. Many special features such as stained glass, hand carved mantel and very cozy touches. This has been a very popular rental with strong repeat business. **\$399,000**



### Perched on a Knoll...

This Alpine Village chalet is perfectly set up for a large family or those wanting a great rental property. Easy access to parking, ski in and out. Three distinct living areas; a lower 2 bedroom sunny owner's suite, main floor 5 bedroom suite with huge entertainment friendly kitchen and living area and an upper bachelor suite. Meticulously maintained with new hardiplank siding on the exterior. Loads of storage, well thought out design. Wood fireplace in the upper main suite and electric fireplace in the owners suite. **\$674,900**



### Three Decks!

Looking for something different? Your front door opens onto Strathcona Park while your back door opens onto Hawk chairlift. 3 bedrooms plus lofts with above average finishing including maple flooring, tile in bathrooms, fir doors, wood blinds and more. Sauna and roughed-in for hot tub. Loads of storage and 3 decks! Skylights, vaulted ceilings in main area and 10 ft ceilings down. Wow! This is a must see! **\$424,900**



### 2700 Sq. Ft. of Luxury!

Never before has a home of this style and quality been available on the market. Over 2,700 square feet with 6 bedrooms and 4 bathrooms. No expense has been spared from the silestone quartz kitchen, hardwood floors, solid cedar beams, log styled exterior to the open hearth style gas fireplace. All rooms are open and spacious. Fosters Place is Mount Washington's only drive-in, ski-out location. **\$799,900**



### Large Family Chalet

Are you looking for that large family chalet on Mount Washington? You will get the sun all day from the gorgeous mountain home. Well built, 3 floors with 5 bedrooms and other sleeping areas. There is a cozy woodstove and fireplace for warming up. After a long day on the slopes enjoy the hot tub and sauna. The games room comes with shuffleboard, foosball and a projection TV. There is about 1000 sq. ft. of basement that could be further developed. Year round recreational area. New windows and metal siding. Converted to freehold. **\$499,900**



### The Best of the Best!

Log home on Fosters Place. Over 3,000 sq.ft. of luxury in this 3 level home at bottom of cul-de-sac. A snowballs throw from ski runs. Lower floor could easily be converted to additional accommodation. Large deck, gourmet kitchen, cathedral ceiling in living room, etc. Views from the large deck over Strathcona Park. This is one of only a few properties on Mount Washington that are drive in and ski out and unobstructed views. **\$799,900**



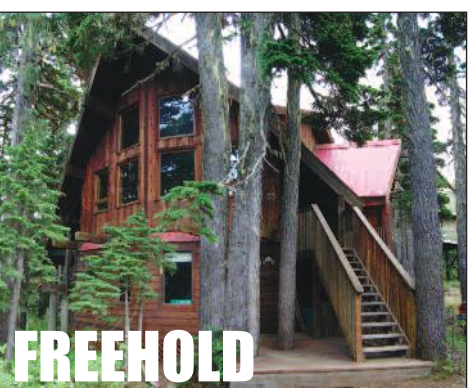
### Perched for Sunset Views

A GORGEOUS family home in the Alpine Village. FREEHOLD and 18 years old, this spectacular property is perched to take in the sunset views of Strathcona Park, yet virtually ski in and out and close to parking. 14 foot ceilings, open plans, 2 separate owner suites plus self-contained suite in the basement. Sauna, loads of storage and more. Beautiful west coast scenery with income opportunity. Meticulously maintained by its original owners. **\$499,900**



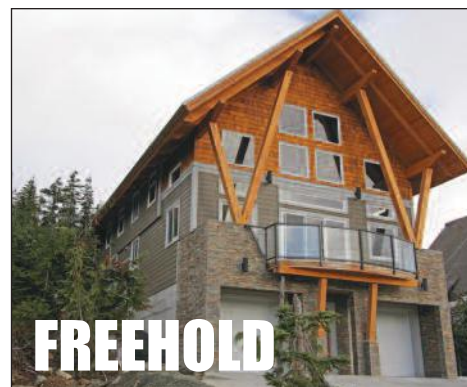
### One of the Finest!

Take in the morning and afternoon sun less than 100 feet away from the slopes on Foster's Place. Custom built with insulated concrete walls with R50 insulation. Inside are two propane fireplaces, HRV system, Low E windows, 4 bathrooms, central vacuum, 2 hot water tanks, private concrete patios (both wired for hot tubs). The home has been split into two areas, the main part with 4 bedrooms and the owners suite with 2. **\$674,900**



### Nestled in the Trees!

"Doug's Chalet" mountain home is lovingly maintained by the original family that built it. The home is surrounded by trees yet you can ski in and out to the lifts. Main area includes a towering floor to ceiling brick fireplace and vaulted ceilings. A cozy kitchen complements the living area. Sleeps 6 comfortably. A sauna and jetted tubs round out the upper suite. Spacious downstairs self-contained two bedroom suite. There is an area where a hot tub could be installed. **\$549,900**



### On Arrowsmith Ridge!

Thought out design with 6 bedrooms. Two of the bedrooms have their own ensuites while the others are designed as family suites. Each family suite has two bedrooms and a shared bathroom. Open living area with grand gourmet kitchen and huge cathedral ceilings. Main floor offers a large deck with BBQ. Sauna, loads of storage, two garages, heated drive way, huge laundry area and more. If you have been looking for the ideal property for a larger family, or for joint family ownership, this is the one! **\$1,050,000**



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