

2002 Report to Members

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2002



WESTERN CANADA
WILDERNESS
COMMITTEE



Executive Director's Message

Dear Friend of Canadian Wilderness,

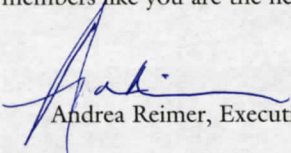
Riding on the roller coaster of wild successes and heatbreaking defeats in pursuit of wilderness preservation in Canada for the past 23 years, you'd think we would have seen it all. But this past year held some pretty big new surprises.

Its always exciting to start off your year in the midst of an election but especially so in one as anticipated as BC's 2001 provincial election. The ruling NDP were finally swept out after ten years in power but in their place was a BC Liberal government (no relation to the federal Liberals) with a 97 percent majority in the house.

We rose to the challenge of the new dynamic by going national with campaigns like the proposed Bugaboo Inland Rainforest national park and revving up our seven-year-old campaign to get meaningful endangered species legislation that includes habitat protection. Imminent danger to a pair of spotted owls found us in court alot more often too. With only 25 pairs left in Canada (down from 500) every owl counts. Our efforts won us the first injunction ever awarded to protect an endangered species in Canada. We went local too and finally saw a legislated end to logging in Vancouver's drinking watersheds.

A very pleasant surprise was the creation of the 5,000 square kilometres Caribou Mountains Wildlands Provincial Park in Alberta —a campaign that we've worked on since 1994. Surely if Alberta can make such a large area of wilderness off limits to development, our campaigns in Manitoba will stop the destruction of their parks and help to create new ones. The tireless efforts of our crew in Winnipeg continue to build the broad public support that will make this a reality.

The biggest news of all was this past January when Founder Paul George left on a leave of absence for nine months. Paul leaves very big shoes to fill, but while he may have been the soul of our organization, members like you are the heart. Thank you for ongoing inspiration and support to work on your behalf.


Andrea Reimer, Executive Director

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Chair

Mike Gildersleeve

Secretary Treasurer

Alice Eaton

Membership Secretary

Bob Broughton

Directors at Large

Kevin Bell

Ian Mackenzie

Annette Tanner

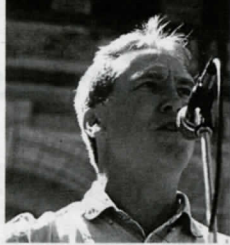
Paul Morgan

Susan Jones

Executive Appointees

Joe Foy

Matt Jong, CMA



Campaign Director's Report

I am often asked "What is a wilderness campaign?" "What does the Wilderness Committee do?" "How do you save wilderness?"

I usually answer that wilderness campaigning is one part art form, one part magic, one part luck and one thousand parts old-fashioned hard work! Then I list the wilderness areas that the Wilderness Committee has played a vital role in protecting over the past 23 years – areas like the Carmanah Valley, Stein Valley, South Moresby, Pinecone-Burke, Megin Valley, Clendenning Valley and Caribou Mountain Wildlands. Over six million hectares of western Canada's wilderness have been protected forever as a result of these efforts. People usually say something like.... Wow!

While campaigning for wilderness protection we've backpacked into countless wild places, photographed some mighty big trees, spoke at friendly and unfriendly meetings, built many kilometres of hiking trails, written and published enough words that if strung end to end would probably stretch from here to the Tatshenshini and back, held up protest signs of various sizes and designs, handed out thousands of leaflets, climbed trees (some of them 25 stories tall), dressed up as animals, including spotted owls and grizzly bears, made owl hooting noises, spoken to cabinet ministers, supreme court judges, and giggling school children. And somehow, all of these activities have worked in the most magical way to help save some amazing wild places.

This past year - May 2001 to April 2002 – has been a wild ride, as usual. Read on to hear about some of our road trips, expeditions, reports and other campaign activities. We are a grassroots group and we can always use more help. How about you?

Sincerely,

Joe Foy

National Campaign Coordinator

PRIORITY PROGRAMS

Temperate Rainforests
Canada's Species at Risk
Boreal Forests
Pacific Coast - Marine
WILD - International
Public Education
Research

Ancient Temperate Rainforests

CAMPAIGNS

Blue Mountain
Bugaboo Inland Rainforest
Cathedral Grove
East Creek
Elk Creek Rainforest
Great Bear Rainforest
Parks Defence
Protecting Drinking Watersheds
South Chilcotin Mountains
Stoltmann Wilderness
Stopping Raw Log Exports
Walbran Valley

The majority of species are found in Earth's wild (frontier) forests. Less than 20 percent of Earth's wild forests are left intact. Yet, according to conservation biologists, about 40 percent of the land base should be protected in order to fully conserve biodiversity, still leaving enough land for people to live comfortably and sustainably. British Columbia is one of the only jurisdictions with sufficient wilderness left to be able to protect 40 percent of our land base in protected areas.

The Wilderness Committee has called BC home for 23 years so its not surprising that the front line of our campaigns is on-the-ground in **BC's last remaining tracts of temperate rainforest**.

This campaign year had an exciting start with a provincial election call in April 2001. We questioned the various political parties and many of the individual candidates running in the **provincial election** about their stands on some of the **key environmental issues** facing British Columbians. There were a few surprises.

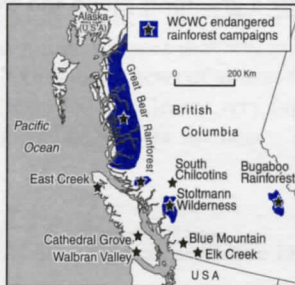
The BC Liberal Party – which went on to win – came out *against raw log exports* before the election but *increased* them after they took power!

In response we immediately began shooting footage of the increasing raw log shipments in prepa-

ration for the production of a video, which you can now see on our web site or pick up a videocassette from our office or store. (Exporting BC's Future: Stop Raw Log Exports). Our **Victoria Chapter** held a rally with IWA members who share our concern for increased raw log exports.

The Victoria Chapter also worked hard to secure support for preservation of the **Upper Walbran Valley**. The Lower Valley is protected, but the Upper Valley with its magnificent Castle Grove of giant cedars was left open to logging. Preservation of **East Creek**, north of the Brooks Peninsula on Vancouver Island, is part of Victoria Chapter's ongoing efforts too. We organized public camping weekends, slideshows, letter-writing campaigns and met with MLA's to educate them about these issues.

We got great news this year about our campaign to save the **Stoltmann Wilderness**, west of Whistler. The Squamish Nation officially released their Draft Land Use Plan for the forests and wilderness of their territory. The plan calls for some key wilderness areas the Wilderness Committee has been working to protect to be put off limits to commercial logging or other industrial development. These areas, called **Wild Spirit Places**, include: the **Sims Valley**, **Upper Elaho Valley**, West Side of the



Bill to



Squamish River Valley and the Callaghan Valley.

Up the coast from the Stoltmann Wilderness is the **Great Bear Rainforest**, a vast 3.5 million hectare rainforested wilderness. On the heels of an April 2001 announcement to slow down logging in the area we were able to put significant time into producing and distributing a stunning video.

Our ten-year-old campaign to protect **drinking watersheds** in the province, and particularly in the Vancouver region, had a scare at the beginning of summer when local governments proposed **privatizing aspects of water supply**. We joined unions, environmental groups and concerned citizens to successfully stop the plan. Summer also saw the launch of our campaign to protect the **Bugaboo Inland Rainforest** as a mountain-caribou lifeline addition to Glacier National Park. Wilderness Committee staff and volunteers conducted a ten day expedition with locals and a representative of the Sinix't First Nation. This has helped us gain the attention of senators, BC municipalities and local tourism operators in support of preservation.

The BC Forest Service held a public open-house meeting about logging the **Elk Creek Rainforest** near Chilliwack in early 2002. We joined with local conservationists to rev up a public campaign that sent

the message loud and clear: preserve Elk Creek Rainforest – home to some of the tallest trees in Canada and a rare remnant of ancient forests in the heavily populated Vancouver region.

We were dismayed to find ourselves **defending BC's protected areas**. It started in **Cathedral Grove** adjacent to popular **MacMillan Park**. We were shocked to learn from our **Mid Island Chapter** that Weyerhaeuser had begun bulldozing a half-kilometre-long road and had plans to log out 40 truckloads of the finest oldgrowth Douglas fir on Vancouver Island. Fast action and a determined protest by Wilderness Committee members and other local people convinced the company to cease logging operations. The provincial government is currently in negotiations with Weyerhaeuser to purchase the rest of Cathedral Grove and add it to the park.

Locally, **Blue Mountain** (adjacent to Golden Ears Provincial Park) and **Manning Provincial Park** were both proposed as targets by the logging industry. BC's newest park, the **South Chilcotin Mountains** also became a target. A government decision on opening the park to logging and mining is still pending but public support for provincial parks runs high and our public outreach work has resulted in thousands of letters to government on the issue.

2001-2002 STAFF

Gwen Barlee
Larry Commodore
Joe Foy
Paul George
Andy Miller
Chris Player
Andrea Reimer
Annette Tanner
Ken Wu



Canada's Species at Risk

CAMPAIGNS

Grizzly Bear
Marbled Murrelet
Mountain Caribou
Northern Spotted Owl
Pacific Salmon
Species At Risk Act
Woodland Caribou

Every environmental victory, large or small, has been a hard fought battle which has required perseverance, creativity, dedication, knowledge, commitment, laughter, tears, and, invariably, some good fortune. Environmental victories also require faith — in a better world, a sustainable future, and ultimately, faith in the human condition.

As you know from the 23 years that the Wilderness Committee has existed we have had plenty of faith and lots of victories. From Clayoquot Sound to the Stein Valley, the Wilderness Committee has successfully worked to protect endangered ecosystems and the species that need these areas to live, breed and forage.

The protection of **Canada's species at risk** was a premier campaign last year. In February 2001, the federal government introduced the Species at Risk Act (SARA) which had the dubious distinction of being weaker than the endangered species legislation of either United States or Mexico. This legislation galvanized the environmental community into action. Over the course of 12 months the Wilderness Committee:

- went to Ottawa to educate Members of Parliament on the inadequacies of SARA;
- made a formal presentation on SARA to the

- Standing Committee on the Environment; distributed over **100,000 poll cards** calling on the Prime Minister to strengthen SARA. (In a Freedom of Information request we were informed that the Prime Minister had received over 31,000 postcards calling for SARA to be improved.);
- engaged in a **cross-country endangered species tour**, with our giant blow-up Grizzly and Vancouver Island Marmot;
- held a **rally** at Environment Minister David Anderson's Victoria constituency office where we hand-delivered over 8,000 poll cards;
- received considerable **media coverage** including dozens of radio, print and television interviews as well as an opinion editorial in the Victoria Times Colonist;
- traveled to the Hague in Holland to attend an **international biodiversity conference** where we distributed over a thousand pamphlets to dignitaries, media and international environmental groups calling attention to Canada's refusal to enact meaningful species at risk legislation.

This hard work paid off in February of this year, when the federal government was forced to make

changes to improve SARA because of increasing public pressure. Although the changes to improve SARA were modest, they are a testament to the unprecedented outrage of Canadians coast to coast who demanded an improved bill.

Another flagship campaign was working to protect Canada's endangered **northern spotted owl**. After just 100 years of commercial logging in southwestern British Columbia, the spotted owl's remaining old-growth forests exist in only fragmented and isolated patches with few connected corridors.

D u r i n g
the seven
years since
the BC
govern-
m e n t
s a n c -
tioned a
"manage-
m e n t
plan" for
the owl,
the spot-
ted owl
popula-

tion has actually fallen by almost 50 percent to just 25 breeding pairs. In June 2001 we went to court to stop logging in a small area of spotted owl habitat. This action resulted in a precedent-setting court decision to grant an injunction to halt logging.

The spotted owl was not the only endangered species that we campaigned to protect, we also went to court defending a piece of **marbled murrelet** habitat. Although our cases are not always legally successful, given the limited environmental protection laws in Canada, they are still powerful mechanisms for raising public awareness, and the Wilderness Committee has learned through experience that an educated and mobilized public exerts the ultimate democratic pressure on decision-makers.

In addition to spotted owls and marbled murrelets, the Wilderness Committee engaged in active campaigns on the renewed **grizzly hunt in BC**, the ongoing grizzly hunt in **Alberta** and the environmental repercussions of **fish farms** on the BC Coast (see section on Pacific Coast - Marine for more information). Protection of habitat for critically endangered **mountain caribou** in interior BC and Manitoba's falling **woodland caribou** populations have also been a major focus for our ongoing efforts to protect Canada's species at risk.

2001-2002 STAFF

Gwen Barlee
Joe Foy
Andy Miller
Paula Neuman
Ron Thiessen



Boreal Forests — Manitoba

CAMPAIGNS

East Shore Wilderness Area
Manigotagan River
South Atikaki
Stop Logging in Parks
Sturgeon Bay
Woodland Caribou

The Wilderness Committee's Manitoba Office — opened in 1999 — is leading the way in Manitoba to new park creation, defending species at risk, and protecting existing parks that are presently victim to extensive industrial undertakings.

In Manitoba, 47 percent of **Whiteshell**, 62 percent of **Nopiming**, and 61 percent of **Duck Mountain** provincial parks are open to ongoing clearcut logging. To make matters worse, only in Manitoba will you find massive industrial logging operations in the habitat of threatened species *within provincial park boundaries* — this is the plight of the **woodland caribou** in Nopiming. Caribou have already been eradicated in Duck Mountain and Whiteshell parks.

A far less dubious distinction is that Manitoba embraces the largest, roadless section of boreal forest remaining on Earth! **The East Shore Wilderness Area**, larger than Greece, is bound by the east side of Lake Winnipeg and the Ontario border. Its about to be infiltrated by a network of several hundred kilometres of roads that will introduce the ecologically irreversible effects of logging, mining, and hydro projects to its pristine environment.

The provincial NDP government is proposing a “develop before planning” land use planning process that will give out resource allocations for logging

and hydro projects before the process is even complete. We are working hard to ensure that effective planning can occur before development. We are advocating for a ban on industrial activity during the planning process and no cap on preservation in order to allow for large new protected areas for wildlife and future generations that are needed in this vast pristine wilderness.

We are also working tirelessly to permanently protect the **Manigotagan River, South Atikaki, and Sturgeon Bay** park reserves. Park reserves are a creation of the Manitoba government and are best described as parks with an expiry date. A park reserve like Manigotagan River can be set up for a few years and then expire, allowing development to take place and forcing concerned local citizens to work to protect the same precious areas every few years!

In response to our postcard and email campaign, the Canadian public has recently submitted over 1000 confirmed submissions to the government stating their support for expansion and permanent preservation of the Manigotagan River park reserve.

Our Manitoba office also hosts a lively **door-to-door educational canvass** (see photo right) that reaches out to thousands of Manitobans each year on important local environmental issues.



Boreal Forests — Alberta

2001-2002 STAFF

Ron Thiessen
Nathan Zahn



About a decade ago Gray Jones came to Edmonton from Vancouver with fifty dollars in his pocket and the blessing of Wilderness Committee founder, Paul George. He had a difficult mandate: create an effective grassroots organization focused on wilderness preservation in the heart of resource crazy Alberta.

With the help of many energetic, talented and committed people over the years the Wilderness Committee Alberta Branch has persevered to be successful. Working with other organizations we spearheaded the campaign to protect 5,000 sq. km. of spectacular northern Alberta wilderness in the **Caribou Mountains Wildlands Provincial Park**, established in July 2001.

This past year we've been at the forefront of citizen efforts to curtail industrial activities that cause **climate change** including **fighting sour gas flaring** and the expansion of the **Athabasca Tar Sands project**. Gray sat as the Co-Chair of the **Pollution Prevention Team**.

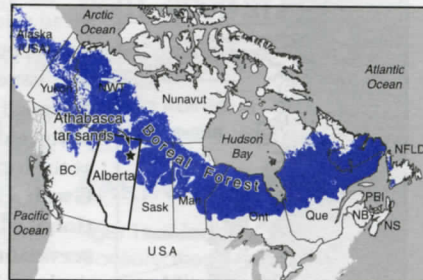
We've also thrown our oar in on many of the local battles over land use that are fought between communities, government and industry in all areas of the province. Some examples: **Cooking Lake/Blackfoot natural area** and protecting **drinking water and fish habitat in the Kehewin Lake area**.

CAMPAIGNS

Athabasca Tar Sands
Caribou Mountains
Climate Change
Stopping Sour Gas Flaring
Support on Local Land Use Issues

2001-2002 STAFF

Nick Chamchuk
Gray Jones
Larry Phillips

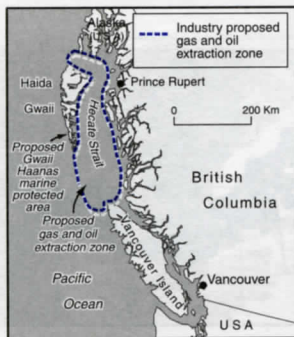


Pacific Coast - Marine Ecosystem



While BC is still blessed with a productive and diverse ocean, the current richness pales in comparison to years past. Vast schools of rockfish swarmed through rocky reefs and coastal kelp forests. Ling cod were once thirty times more abundant in the Strait of Georgia and the seas teemed with seemingly inexhaustible stocks of **salmon**, steelhead, perch, and Pacific cod.

BC's land-based parks are places where commercial resource extraction like logging and mining are banned. This is not the case with marine parks, where commercial fishing and other extraction activities occur. The time is long overdue for a network of "no-take" **marine protected areas**.



Victoria Chapter continued to take a lead role on educating the public on marine issues including the need for marine protected areas such as the long-promised **Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area** and the looming threat of

offshore oil and gas drilling in Canada's most earthquake prone region — Hecate Strait.

The provincial and federal governments have moved towards a lifting of the 30-year-old moratoria on offshore oil and gas development in BC. The threat of massive oil spills, daily toxic discharges, seismic testing that kills fish larvae and drives away whales, and major contributions of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere all threaten our marine environment. The Victoria Chapter organized a major protest rally for an Oil Free Coast with 500 participants, 3 major public forums, letter-writing campaigns, and distributed 50,000 copies of its educational newspaper to citizens throughout BC.

Through the main office we continued our seven-year-old campaign **against ocean-based fish farm operations**. Decades of stream-destroying logging, development and overfishing have depleted wild stocks and made a market for farm-raised fish. But the farms have proven to have a high cost, heavily impacting on wild stocks through disease and pollution. Our work has included allying with groups like the Union of BC Indian Chiefs and scientists who share a common concern —wild fish stocks are in decline and need our help.

CAMPAIGNS

Fish Farm Moratorium
Stop Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling
Marine Protected Areas

2001-2002 STAFF

Gwen Barlee
Paul George
Andrea Reimer
Ken Wu

WILD — International Work

TITHING SUPPORT TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

As the Wilderness Committee's campaigns to save wild places like the Carmanah Valley grew past Canada's borders in the late 1980s, we called on other countries for help. While environmentalists around the world were happy to assist, it also brought us face-to-face with the reality that globally wilderness was disappearing at an alarming rate and the right of indigenous peoples to live sustainably in their homelands was being abrogated. The lack of resources available to individuals and groups, especially in Asia and South America was sobering.

Knowing that we could not possibly help everyone but recognizing that we did have skills, expertise and an obligation to share, we launched the WILD (Wilderness is the Last Dream) Campaign. Our first project was to bring over a hundred activists from

around the world together in Hawaii in July 1990 to start mapping the world's remaining wilderness. We haven't finished the map but as a result of the conference the Wilderness Committee launched its first international campaign — saving the forested homeland of the **Penan** people in **Sarawak, Malaysia**.

In 1993 we moved to **South America** and produced an atlas with macro-level maps of all the remaining wilderness on the continent. Our on-the-ground work focused on **Chile** where we provided technical assistance to **Fundacion Lahuen** and **CODEFF** to build fundraising and publications capacity to help their efforts to save the country's temperate rainforests.

For the past four years, we've been in **India** working in partnership with **Tiger Trust India** on community economic development projects that takes pressure off the forests the endangered tigers of India call home. Visit www.endangeredtiger.org

This year we started work with the **Maisin** people and **Conservation Melanesia** in **Papua New Guinea**. Their forests are threatened by logging and strip agriculture. Our ongoing **Indonesian Urban Outreach** program in Jakarta is aimed at bringing inner-city children closer to nature.



CAMPAIGNS

Save the Tiger
India

Urban Forest Outreach
Jakarta, Indonesia

Maisin Forest Protection
Papua New Guinea

2001-2002 STAFF

Larry Commodore

Sue Fox

Andrea Reimer

Diana Vander Veen

PARTNER GROUPS

Tiger Trust India

Conservation Melanesia





Public Education

2001-2002 STAFF

Gwen Barlee
Nick Chamchuk
Katherine Colby
Sue Fox
Joe Foy
Paul George
Chris Hawkins
Gray Jones
Dennis McCrossan
Greg McIntyre
Andy Miller
Lisa Mitchell
Scott Nelson
Paula Neuman
Larry Phillips
Chris Player
Andrea Reimer
Heidi Sherwood
Annette Tanner
Ron Thiessen
Steve Tindley
Liz Walker
Anton van Walraven
Diana Vander Veen
Ken Wu
Nathan Zahn

When the Wilderness Committee was founded there was little information available to the public on Canadian wilderness and wildlife issues. We focused on our mission to research, publish, and distribute information about threatened Canadian wilderness and wildlife in order to build broad public support for their preservation. We dreamed we would become a leader in public education campaigns and, through mobilizing citizen support, play a pivotal role in preserving our country's remarkable wilderness and wildlife heritage. 23 years later we have achieved that dream reaching out to five million people per year through **door-to-door canvass**, educational materials such as **newspapers, three-part mailers, calendars and videos**, holding **rallies and events**, conducting **school talks**, maintaining **outreach centres** in three Canadian cities, our **web sites**, and through consistent local, national and international **media coverage**. These actions in concert with the actions of other committed individuals and groups have helped to save millions of hectares of Canadian wilderness. Projects in 2001-02 included:

EDUCATIONAL REPORTS

Bow Valley Under Siege
Parks at Risk/Manitoba
Expand MacMillan Park
Blue Mountain
Oil Spill?
Saving the Stoltmann Wilderness
BC's Fabulous South Chilcotins
Bugaboo Inland Rainforest

BOOKS

The Marbled Murrelets of the
Caren Range and Middlepoint

Bight

3 PART MAILERS

Strengthen SARA
South Chilcotins
Fate of BC's Grizzly Bears
Biodiversity Convention

POSTERS

Canada's Endangered Species
Protect Squamish Nation Wild
Spirit Places

VIDEOS

Great Bear Rainforest
Raw Logs (web short)
Spotted Owl (web short)
Wedge to the Ledge

EVENTS & RALLIES

Vancouver & Region (52)
Vancouver Island (51)
Rest of Canada (18)
Outside Canada (6)

DOOR TO DOOR CANVASS

Year Round

Edmonton
Vancouver
Victoria
Winnipeg

Seasonal

Banff, Bowen Island, Calgary,
Gulf Islands, Fraser Valley, Jasper,
Sunshine Coast, Whistler



Research

Research is the backbone of the Wilderness Committee's work and we are proud of our ongoing achievements in this area. Some highlights include establishing the world's first **upper-canopy, temperate rainforest research station**. Research at our station led scientists to revise the number of insect species existing in Canada from approximately 33,000 to 66,000. We also use **mapping** extensively as part of our **Conservation Vision** project aimed at mapping all of the remaining tracts of wilderness in Western Canada. Our mapping work in the mid-1990s was instrumental in debunking the myth that preserving 12 percent of the land base would be adequate for saving biodiversity in British Columbia and pushed for 40 percent preservation. This position has since been adopted by many major environment groups working in the province. We also conduct scientific research in conjunction with other groups and institutions. Our research in the 2001-02 project year included:

MAPS

Area Projects

Blue Mountain
Bow Valley Corridor
Bugaboo Inland Rainforest
Elk Creek
Great Bear Rainforest
Manitoba's Parks
Rainshadow Wilderness
South Chilcotin Mountains
Spotted Owl
Stoltmann Wilderness
Upper Walbran Valley
Ongoing Capacity
Data Collection
Hardware Upgrade

EXPEDITIONS

Athabasca Tar Sands
Blue Mountain
Bugaboo Inland Rainforest
Cathedral Grove
Ecstall Valley
Fraser Valley Fungi Tour
Manitoba's Parks
Peace River Oil Fields
Sims Creek Valley
South Chilcotins (3)
Spotted Owl Surveys (12)
Upper Bridge River

RESEARCH STATION

Upper Walbran Valley

RESEARCH PROJECTS

BC Big Tree Survey
Chilliwack Cottonwood Survey
Elphinstone Mushroom Survey
Oldgrowth Redcedar Survey
Spotted Owl Trend Analysis

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Stumps on Tour
Xay Temixw - Squamish Nation
Land Use Plan
Mapping coordinator Chris Player's time was unconditionally donated to the Squamish Nation to act as GIS coordinator for the Land Use Plan.

2001-2002 STAFF

Gwen Barlee
Larry Commodore
Joe Foy
Paul George
Gray Jones
Ralf Kelman
Andy Miller
Larry Phillips
Chris Player
Andrea Reimer
Ron Thiessen
Anton van Walraven
Jeremy Williams
Ken Wu

Financial Statement *for the year ending April 30, 2002*

	2002	2001
REVENUE		
Membership dues	348,716	392,337
Contrib & Donation	663,218	571,297
Grant Revenue	315,094	405,849
Sales of ed. material	155,318	177,956
Unreceipted donations	<u>59,008</u>	<u>70,925</u>
	1,541,354	1,618,364
EXPENDITURES		
Campaign, member and grant project costs	1,092,203	1,036,207
Sales costs	179,998	169,052
Canvass costs	203,701	202,467
Administration costs	<u>143,243</u>	<u>136,410</u>
	<u>1,619,145</u>	<u>1,544,136</u>
Net Income (loss) for the year	(77,791)	74,228
Members' equity, beginning of year	<u>390,680</u>	<u>316,452</u>
Members' equity, end of year	312,889	390,680

	2002	2001
ASSETS		
Current		
Cash and equivalent	143,945	304,139
Accounts receivable	26,778	26,018
Inventory	244,813	254,266
Prepaid expenses	<u>4,936</u>	<u>7,605</u>
	420,472	592,028
Capital assets	<u>191,728</u>	<u>195,447</u>
	612,200	787,475
LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS' EQUITY		
Current		
Accounts payable an accrued liabilities	112,227	105,261
Notes payable to related parties	97,381	99,615
Deferred revenue	-	95,016
Cur.rent portion of long-term loans payable	6,767	6,600
Current portion of mortgage payable	<u>1,700</u>	<u>1,600</u>
	218,075	308,092
Long-term loans payable	615	6,422
Mortgage payable	80,621	82,281
Members' equity	<u>312,889</u>	<u>390,680</u>
	612,200	787,475

Auditor's Report for the year ending April 30, 2002

To the Members of
Western Canada Wilderness Committee

We have audited the balance sheets of Western Canada Wilderness Committee as at April 30, 2002 and 2001 and the statements of revenue, expenditures and members' equity and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Committee's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

Except as explained in the following paragraph, we conducted our audits in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also included assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In common with many charitable organizations, the Committee derives revenue from unreceipted donations, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Committee and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to unreceipted donation revenues, excess of revenue over expenditures, assets and members' equity.

In our opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to verify the completeness of the unreceipted donations referred to in the preceding paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Committee as at April 30, 2002 and 2001 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Vancouver, Canada
Chartered Accountants
July 9, 2002

2001-2002 STAFF

Mona Lisa Amirsetia
Deb Drouin
Matt Jong, CMA



WESTERN CANADA **WILDERNESS COMMITTEE**

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VANCOUVER STORE & OUTREACH CENTRE

227 Abbott Street, Vancouver, BC V6B 2K7

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VICTORIA STORE & OUTREACH CENTRE

651 Johnson Street, Victoria, BC V8W 1M7

phone: (250) 388-9292 fax: (250) 388-9223

www.wildernesscommitteevictoria.org

Western Canada Wilderness Committee was founded in 1980 in British Columbia. The Wilderness Committee is now the largest membership-based wilderness preservation organization in Canada. We work for the preservation of Canada's wilderness through grassroots public education and scientific research.

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