



Annual Report

for the year ended 30 April 2009



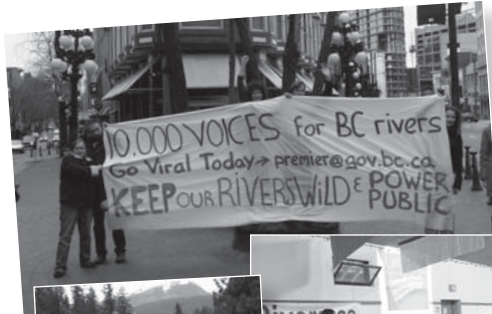
WESTERN CANADA
**WILDERNESS
COMMITTEE**

10,000 Voices for BC Rivers

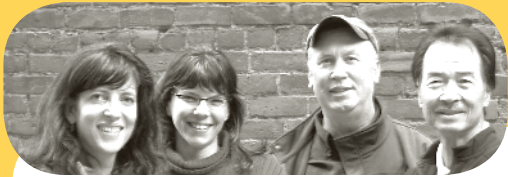
On March 26, 2009, as part of our BC Rivers at Risk campaign, we encouraged the people of BC to contact their local MLA and the Premier to call for a moratorium on private run-of-river hydroelectric energy projects until they are regionally planned, environmentally appropriate, acceptable to First Nations and publicly owned.

Throughout the month of March, from Powell River to Golden, from Duncan to Invermere, we partnered with environmental and community groups on dozens of public forums about the threat to BC's rivers from private power projects. Engaged citizens held coffee klatches, film screenings and rivers parties all over the province. Some of our most active members spent evenings and weekends calling thousands of fellow Wilderness Committee members to help spread the word.

March 26th was a huge success. We received reports from all over the province about people who had phoned, emailed, or faxed their MLAs and the Premier. The phone lines to the Premier's office were so busy that they had to get more help to handle the deluge of phone calls. That day, over ten thousand British Columbians told our government to keep our rivers wild and our power public!



From top left:
Outside our offices March 26th; Kootenay Rivers forum; Volunteer Ruth Fahlman phoning members; Ashlu River power project construction; Glacier Creek



Welcome *from the Executive Team*

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Chair

Jennifer Campagnolo

Directors at Large

Mike Gildersleeve

Stuart Mackinnon

Paul Morgan

Ross Muirhead

Devon Page

Dr. Tom Perry

Heidi Sherwood

Diana VanderVeen

Executive Appointees

Joe Foy

Matt Jong, CMA



Dear Wilderness Committee Member,

Every year about this time, we ask ourselves, "What stories most define the past year of our wilderness and wildlife saving work?"

Certainly the generosity of our members and supporters was at the very top of our list of outstanding stories for the 2008-09 period. In these tough times, people really stepped it up to support the Wilderness Committee. Consequently, we were able to keep our campaigns going flat out, with great results.

This year our campaign to keep BC's rivers wild and power public spring-boarded off of our success last year in the fight to protect the Pitt River. Together with our partner groups we conducted public meetings in communities the length and breadth of the province, setting us up for future wins protecting threatened rivers in the Bute Inlet and the Kootenays.


The champagne corks were popping on several occasions when the lawyers at Ecojustice, working for us and our partners, won several court cases for endangered species. It was a very hopeful year in the fight to save Canada's endangered critters.


It was also a good year for parks, particularly in Manitoba where our office there wildly celebrated the provincial government announcing the end of logging in Manitoba's provincial parks system.

As usual, there's just too much good news, mighty battles and big plans to stuff into this little letter. You'll have to read the whole annual report to find out the full story.

A mighty big thanks to all of our members and supporters from the bottom of our hearts for making this, our 29th year of protecting Canadian nature, so wildly successful!


Joe Foy
Campaign Director


Gwen Barlee
Policy Director


Andrea Reimer
Executive Director


Matt Jong
Comptroller

2008-09: A Wild Year

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Our Wild Vision

The Wilderness Committee works to protect Canada's remaining native biodiversity. Our programs focus on five priority areas.

Wildlands

Clayoquot Sound • East Cascade Connector • East Shore Wilderness Area • Haida Gwaii • Inland Rainforest • Okanagan-Similkameen National Park • Cayoosh Range • Vancouver Island Ancient Forests • Wild Spirit Places

Wildlife

BC Species at Risk • Federal Species at Risk Act • Grizzly Bear • Marbled Murrelet • Orca • Spotted Owl • Woodland Caribou • Nooksack Dace • Greater Sage Grouse

Public Lands Defence

Parks Defence (BC & Manitoba) • Stop River Privatization • Access to Information

Wild Salmon

Offshore Oil and Gas Moratorium • Stop Salmon Farms • Protect Wild Salmon Rivers

Healthy Communities

Agricultural Land Defence • Global Warming • Greenbelts • Stop Gateway Highway & Infrastructure Expansion • Turning the Tide on Toxins





Formed in 1980 by a small band of citizens determined to preserve wild Canada in the face of unbridled industrial development, the Wilderness Committee has since grown to over 30,000 members. We have five staffed offices across the country and several volunteer-run chapters. We've had many successes over our 29 years, helping gain protection for over 50 major wilderness areas, including critical wildlife habitats and some of the world's last large tracts of temperate rainforest and boreal forest.

But much remains to be done. Scientists predict that, due to current trends of accelerating resource use and natural ecosystem disruptions by humans, one-quarter to one-half of the estimated 30 million different species now living on Earth will be forced into extinction over the next 50 years unless we turn things around.

The majority of species are found in Earth's wild ("frontier") forests. Less than 20 per cent of Earth's wild forests are left intact. Yet, according to conservation biologists, about half of the land base should be protected in order to fully conserve biodiversity, and still leave enough land for people to live comfortably and sustainably. Canada is one of the few jurisdictions with sufficient wilderness left to be able to protect even 40 per cent of our land base in wilderness preserves.

The Wilderness Committee prioritizes protection for Canada's most threatened ecosystems such as remaining old-growth forests in southern BC, the 'pocket desert' in the Okanagan-Similkameen,

and large intact boreal forests in northern Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario.

Our wildlife program targets protection for the habitat of Canada's most critically at-risk species such as the spotted owl, sage grouse and orca. At the same time, we are working to strengthen legislation so that citizens can be assured of protection for all species at risk. In addition, our wild pacific salmon program focuses on marine protection from salmon farms.

Even when protection is gained for an area, weak legislation and funding cuts have eroded the ecological integrity of our parks. Thus, a necessary part of our work is defending existing parks. Other policies which protect public lands — such as stopping proposed river privatization hydroelectric projects in BC — are also campaigns we aim to win.

The urgency of our work is underlined by ever-increasing scientific evidence of the impacts of global warming and widespread toxic pollution, and the stress these two massive threats are placing on our remaining wild places and human society. These concerns have led us to include programs aimed at fighting freeway expansion, protecting local farmland and reducing toxins in our environment. We also support local economies by standing up against raw log exports.

When we take care of nature, nature takes care of us.

Victories!



Carrying a Big Stick

Over our 29 year history we've helped to gain protection for over 50 major wilderness areas in Canada, including millions of hectares of critical wildlife habitats, and some of the world's last large tracts of old-growth temperate rainforest and boreal forest. This year saw new victories: working in conjunction with others, we helped to extend new protections for wildlands, wildlife, parks and healthy communities.

Logging Axed in Manitoba Parks!

Our standout victory for this year is the Manitoba government's decision to end logging in all but one of the province's 80 parks. This decision came after nine years of work by the Wilderness Committee. Over 13,000 letters were sent to Premier Doer, asking that he stop logging in parks, many of them sent by our 70,000 members and supporters. Special congratulations to our staff and volunteers in the Wilderness Committee Manitoba office for an outstanding victory!

Inexplicably, one park, Duck Mountain Provincial Park, was excluded from the decision so we are still campaigning vigorously to stop logging there and proposed logging road construction through another Manitoba park.

groups in a campaign that included volunteers folding 1000 origami snow geese for an imaginative protest, the highly unpopular project was put on hold.

Action for Orcas!

There is new cause for hope for BC's imperiled orca populations. After a lawsuit by several environmental groups, including the Wilderness Committee, the federal government issued an order that will provide legal protection for the orca's habitat — a stunning policy reversal. This order is the first of its kind under Canada's *Species at Risk Act*.

The lawsuit alleged that the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) had failed to protect critical habitat. DFO had claimed instead that existing laws and unenforceable guidelines were sufficient to protect orca habitat from serious threats like toxic contamination and declining salmon stocks.

The federal government's complete turnaround marks a victory for one of BC's most iconic species and for the environmental groups behind the lawsuit.

Coal Mine is History

Beaverhill Lake, located approximately 60 km southeast of Edmonton, is famous for huge flocks of snow geese. Recently, the lake was threatened by the proposed 312 sq. km Dodds-Roundhill coal strip mine and a planned coal gasification plant, which would have piped gas to the tar sands to power oil extraction there. Working together with other environmental





Cathedral Grove Logging Stopped

After stopping BC government plans to cut down several dozen old-growth trees within MacMillan Provincial Park (the protected part of world-famous Cathedral Grove), a much more serious threat was uncovered by Mid-Island Chapter members in late September 2008. Island Timberlands had plans to log 250 logging truckloads of Cathedral Grove trees on private forestlands around the edges of the park. Quick action through rallies, media attention and other outreach convinced Island Timberlands to back off. Our volunteer-led Mid-Island Chapter continues to work for the expansion of MacMillan Provincial Park to fully protect Cathedral Grove.

Carbon Taxed

On Canada Day 2008, BC's new Carbon Tax came into law. The Wilderness Committee had earlier joined with other environmental groups to successfully introduce North America's first consumer tax on climate-changing carbon emissions. We attended the BC legislature in support of the Finance Minister introducing first reading of the carbon tax legislation, which has subsequently been passed into law and implemented.

Haida Gwaii – a Long Time Coming

With the passage in the spring of 2008 of Bill 38 — 2008 Protected Areas Of British Columbia (Conservancies And Parks) Amendment Act many wilderness areas that the Wilderness Committee had long advocated were finally protected. One of the most long

fought-for areas is the 139,789-hectare Duu Guusd wilderness located on the northwest section of the island of Haida Gwaii. For over three decades the Haida Nation have advocated for protection of this amazing area of mountains and valleys cloaked in ancient temperate rainforest and rimmed by a wave-tossed coast line. For the three decades that the Wilderness Committee has been in existence, we've featured Duu Guusd in our educational material, including our endangered wilderness calendars. This is a tremendous victory for wilderness lovers everywhere!

It's Official: Elaho Saved!

Another result of the passage of BC's Bill 38 in the spring of 2008 was the formal protection of the Elaho Valley as a Conservancy under the Park Act. Long-time members will remember that the Wilderness Committee started fighting for the protection of the Elaho Valley back in 1995. Our volunteers constructed a multi-day hiking trail, conducted research on the ancient Douglas firs found in the valley and mounted several high profile court challenges. We pulled-off countless rallies, meetings, and camp-outs and published thousands of copies of our educational reports, posters and mail-in opinion cards. We were thrilled to have the opportunity to attend a ceremony with Squamish Chief Bill Williams and Chief Ian Campbell in the Upper Elaho Valley at the end of June.

Campaign Updates All Year Round...

...available online at www.wildernesscommittee.org

ALEXANDRA MORTON

For her work to inform the public about the threats to BC's wild salmon

Partnerships

Making Friends

Part of the Wilderness Committee's mission is to bring people together in the community around environmental issues. This year was a banner year for partnerships in every area of our campaigns, helping us get the message out further and exposing us to the great work of many more amazing environmental activists in local communities.



WILDLANDS

Castle Crown Wilderness Coalition
CPAWS - BC Chapter
CPAWS - Manitoba Chapter
Dogwood Initiative
Fisher River Cree Nation
ForestEthics
Friends of Clayoquot Sound
Greenpeace
Manitoba Wildlands
Purcell Alliance for Wilderness
Save the Cedar League
Seton Lake Band Council
Skagit Environmental Endowment Commission
Skowman First Nation
Sierra Club of Canada - BC Chapter
South Okanagan Naturalists Club
Squamish Nation
St'át'imc Tribal Council
Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation
University of Winnipeg EcoPIA
Wildsight

WILDLIFE

Castle Crown Wilderness Coalition
CPAWS - Manitoba Chapter
CPAWS Wildlands League
David Suzuki Foundation
Ecojustice
Environmental Defence
ForestEthics
Georgia Strait Alliance
Granby Wilderness Society
Greenpeace
Sierra Club of Canada - BC Chapter
Valhalla Wilderness Society
UVic Environmental Law Clinic

PUBLIC LANDS

Alouette Field Naturalists
Alouette River Management Society
AWARE
BC Citizens for Public Power
BC Creek Protection Society
BC Government and Service Employees' Union
BC Guardians
BC Wildlife Federation
Bow Valley Naturalists
Burke Mountain Naturalists
COPE, local 378
Comox District Mountaineering Club
Council of Canadians, BC and Yukon
CPAWS - BC Chapter
Crescent Spur-Loos Community Association
Council of Senior Citizens Organizations BC
Federation of BC Naturalists
Fraser Headwaters Alliance
Friends of Bute Inlet
Friends of Strathcona Park
Hyde Creek Watershed Society
Jasper Environmental Association
Malaspina Communities for Public Power
Okanagan Similkameen Parks Society
Save Our Rivers Society
Sierra Club of Canada - BC Chapter
Watershed Watch Salmon Society
West Coast Environmental Law
West Kootenay Eco Society
Wildsight

WILD SALMON

Adopt-a-Fry.org
Oil Free Coast Alliance
Rivers Without Borders
Union of BC Indian Chiefs

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Against Port Expansion in Delta (APE)
Bridgeview Action Group
Burns Bog Conservation Society
Campaign for Open Government
Canadian Auto Workers - Local 111
Canadian Cancer Society
Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives
Citizens Against Urban Sprawl Society
Climate Action Network
Cooperative Auto Network
Council of Canadians
David Suzuki Foundation
Ecojustice
Environmental Justice Organizing Initiative
Formosa Nursery
GatewaySucks.org
Georgia Strait Alliance
goBeyond
Green Club
Greenpeace
KAİROS Canada
Kwantlen Student Association
Kyoto Plus
Livable Region Coalition
Oxfam
Rail for the Valley
Save our Valley Alliance
Smart Growth BC
SPEC
Sunbury Neighbourhood Association
Surrey Environmental Partners
Toxic Free Canada
UBC Farm
VALTAC
Voters Taking Action on Climate Change
Zero Waste Vancouver
350.org



if you want to go far, go together



EnJOI Climate Justice

In 2008, the Environmental Justice Organizing Initiative (EnJOI) and the Wilderness Committee co-organized a climate justice training camp to bring together members of communities feeling the impact of global warming in BC. First Nations peoples, communities of colour, low income

and working class communities bear many of the costs of climate change, and don't always have a place to speak in the climate conversation.

Together we held an intensive weekend training session that allowed activists and community leaders to make connections among one another. Coming out of that session, we've had wonderful experiences working with many of those activists around these issues. It was one step in building the movement for climate justice.



Alberta Grizzlies

Working together with nine other environmental organizations we produced campaign materials for the new Action Grizzly Bear campaign in Alberta. The campaign focuses on providing the B.E.A.R.S. essentials for

recovery of Alberta's grizzly bears: **B**udget dedicated for recovery, **E**ndangered species legislation listing, **A**ction on habitat, **R**educe conflict and human caused mortalities, **S**cience-based recovery team. Alberta's grizzly bears now have many more friends!



Stop Gateway

Our campaign to stop the Gateway freeway and port expansion scheme in BC's lower mainland is part of a broad community effort. Grassroots community groups such as Surrey's Bridgeview Action Group, Delta's Against Port Expansion and Burns Bog Conservation

Society, and Vancouver's Grandview Woodland Area Council all pulled together to stop this destructive project. So far we managed to take Gateway from a 'done deal' to a hotly contested issue, and we have built our capacity to organize on both sides of the Fraser River to protect farmland and stop run-away climate change.



Public Outreach



Creating Community

When we **inform** people, through our publications, at rallies or in news reports we call this the 'one-way conversation'. When people become interested in what we have to say they become **engaged** and contact us to learn more. We call this the 'two-way conversation'. When engaged citizens become **activated** and contact their elected representatives to demand positive change we call this the 'three-way conversation'. When enough citizens become activated, we win!



inform

When the Wilderness Committee was founded in 1980 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 preservation. We dreamed we would become a leader in public education campaigns. Twenty-nine years later we have achieved that dream, reaching out to twelve million people every year through door-to-door canvassing; printing and distributing educational materials such as newspapers, mail-in opinion cards, calendars and books; holding rallies and events; tabling booths; conducting school talks; maintaining outreach centres in five Canadian cities; and through our web sites and local, national and international media coverage. Together, these actions have helped to save millions of hectares of wilderness. Projects in 2008-09 included:

EDUCATIONAL REPORTS

Why BC needs a law to protect endangered species

Grizzly Bears: A Majestic Creature Faces Extinction

Vancouver Island Protecting Paradise

Vote Wild! 2009

MINI-REPORTS

Threat to Alberta's national parks

Get Wild! Report to members

Endangered Species Law Action Kit

Rivers of Life: Save Guelph's Old-growth

1% for wildlife in Crowsnest Pass

Protection or Poison: Saving a key architect of the Prairies

MAIL-IN OPINION CARDS

Canada's Tar Sands: Clean them up or shut them down

BC Rivers for Sale

ELECTRONIC PUBLICATIONS

Seven websites (National Office, Victoria, Manitoba, eight campaign-specific) and four email newsletters.

EVENTS & RALLIES

127 events and rallies in BC, Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario.

EDUCATIONAL CANVASS

Year-round: Calgary, Guelph, Edmonton, Toronto, Winnipeg, Victoria, Greater Vancouver

Seasonal: Bowen Island, Orillia, Ottawa, Sunshine Coast, Southern Gulf Islands, Whistler, Saskatoon



engage & activate

Finding opportunities for members and supporters to meet, talk through issues and take action is critical to the long term success of the environmental movement. In 2008-09 we re-committed to this effort in a big way. Some highlights:



Old-growth Campaign

We were very successful this year in getting large numbers of people involved and sending a strong message on the need to protect southwestern BC's remaining old-growth forests and forestry jobs. In October, almost 3,000 people

came out to our massive march and rally for ancient forests and forestry jobs at the Legislature in Victoria including forestry workers and First Nations. With the help of numerous volunteers, we were able to collect 30,000 signatures on an ancient forest petition that was introduced into the Provincial Legislature in March. We also organized dozens of slideshows, hikes, campouts, and smaller information pickets at MLA offices, and we produced a new old-growth documentary, "Our Living Legacy" directed by filmmaker Jeremy Sean Williams.

Check out viforest.org for more information on this exciting campaign!

Guelph Ontario Old-growth Forest



This year, the Wilderness Committee canvass expanded nation-wide, growing our capacity to inform Canadians one door at a time. Here's what happened in Guelph, Ontario... Tapping into an engaged community of activists, we jumped into action, lending our resources to protect Guelph's last remaining old-growth from development. In the spring of 2009 we produced a campaign

publication that promoted a family-friendly community celebration at Hanlon Creek, inspiring citizens from all over southern Ontario to write letters supporting a ban on the development.

Endangered species petition

Last March, we asked "did you know that BC has no endangered species law?" Many British Columbians are shocked that our province has no law to protect the over 1600 species at risk in this province.

We sent out an Endangered Species Action Kit, asking our members to collect petition signatures to show the provincial government that BC wants strong and effective endangered species legislation. The response was incredible: in just over a month, we received over 12,000 petition signatures asking our government to become a leader in protecting endangered species.





Research

Out In the Field

Research is the backbone of the Wilderness Committee's work. Over the past few years we have intensified our research programs working to **study, map** and provide **on-the-ground documentaion** of damage in a record number of areas. In addition, our growing expertise in **Freedom of Information requests** has allowed the public access to important information about the state of wildlands and wildlife.



EXPEDITIONS

Bulson Creek Valley, Clayoquot Sound
Clayoquot Sound aerial photos
Hesquiat Point Creek Valley, Clayoquot Sound
Lost/Melvin/Spider Creek Valleys
Metro Vancouver farmland & wildlife habitat threatened by Gateway Program
Nopiming Provincial Park – Industrial Developments Survey, MB
Northern Spotted Owl Habitat & Logging Surveys, and Research Camp, SW Mainland
Seton Portage Irrigation & Community Farm
Silver Daisy Creek Valley
Upper Walbran Valley
Walker Wilderness, northern Inland Rainforest
Widgeon, Flora & Greendrop Lakes

MAPPING PROJECTS

BC protected areas
Boreal Forest Conservation Vision, MB
Bute Inlet Private Hydropower
Cathedral Grove Proposed Additions
Clayoquot Sound – Pristine Valleys,

Bulson Creek Valley, Hesquiat Point Creek Valley
Clayoquot Sound – Catface Mountain proposed copper mine
Clayoquot Sound: Ha'uukmin Tribal Park
Gateway Freeways & Ports
Garry Oak endangered plant critical habitat
Grizzly bear populations straddling US border, BC & AB
Lake Winnipeg Watershed, MB
Lost Valley/Melvin Creek/Cayoosh Range
Marbled Murrelet Critical Habitat
Manning Park west side expansion with Ghost Pass
Northern Spotted Owl Habitat, & Logging Plans
Sunshine Coast Proposed Private Hydropower
Private Hydropower Proposals, BC
"Rim to Rim" Biosphere to Biosphere Linkage
Ryan River Proposed Private Hydropower
Sea to Sky Greenbelt
Coast-Cascade Connector Proposed Park
Zoonie River Proposed Private

Hydropower
Upper Pitt River Valley proposed Private Hydropower

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Brohm Ridge proposed ski resort
Coquihalla Summit proposed ski resort
Marine protected areas
Mountain Caribou Recovery Strategy analysis
Nuclear power plants proposed, AB & SK
Guelph Old-growth forest, ON
Private hydropower projects
Strychnine poisoning, AB & SK
Wildlife freeway overpasses efficacy
Proposed mines, BC & AB

TRAIL PROJECTS

Clayoquot Valley Witness Trail re-clearing
Hesquiat Point Creek
Lost Valley trail re-clearing
Lower Melvin Creek trail
Silver Daisy trail re-clearing
Spider Creek ridge, Cayoosh range

RESEARCH REPORTS

Dollars and Sense – the economic Rationale to Protect Spotted Owl habitat in British Columbia



ground-breaking research

Underlying our efforts to inform, engage and activate the public is good, solid research. Whether we're bush-whacking through the rain or tilling earth in the scorching sun, our on-the-ground research work is both enlightening and satisfying. Some highlights from the past year include:



Hesquiat Point Valley Kept Safe

In the spring of 2008, the Ma-Mook Coulson

logging company proposed logging in one of Clayoquot Sound's intact areas, the Hesquiat Point Creek Valley.

We joined with Greenpeace and the Friends of Clayoquot Sound to send several fact-finding expeditions into the ancient forests of Hesquiat Point Creek. After months of negotiations between the environmental groups, the logging company and First Nations, the logging plans were eventually dumped.



Marbled Murrelet Critical Habitat Mapping Project

The marbled murrelet is a threatened sea bird that nests in old-growth forests along the Pacific coast of North America. The governments of BC and Canada have been dragging their feet on identifying critical habitat for the marbled murrelet, required under the federal *Species at Risk Act*, by claiming it is too difficult to do. This ongoing mapping project, jointly done with several members of the Canadian Marbled Murrelet Recovery Team, is demonstrating that critical habitat can be delineated with some simple mapping methods.

Meditation Lake

Secrecy and environmental destruction often go hand in hand. This year a concerned citizen told us that a road had been built to Meditation Lake in Manitoba's Whiteshell Provincial Park for a proposed 300 bed youth camp, before the planned public consultation.

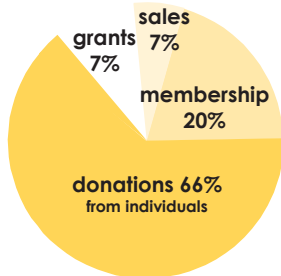
The Wilderness Committee then established a research camp to investigate water quality which may make the lake unsuitable for the development, and survey people in Whiteshell Park about the proposed \$10 million development in the previously roadless wilderness area.

Financial Statement *for the year ended April 30, 2009*



2008-09 REVENUES

Over the past five years, our budget has increased 53% and we were pleased to see that despite the economic downturn, our 2009 revenues stayed level with our all-time best year, 2008. This strong performance is thanks to increased sophistication in our membership and sales programs, and the dedication of supporters like you. Thank you!



REVENUES	2009	2008
Membership dues	431,036	415,764
Donations	1,354,894	1,442,428
Grant Revenue	151,983	212,312
Sales of ed. material	143,279	146,180
Unreceipted donations	48,403	44,199
	2,129,595	2,260,883

EXPENDITURES

Campaign & grant project costs	1,175,611	1,219,341
Sales costs	153,932	184,215
Canvass costs	418,820	232,707
Membership costs	211,783	236,292
Administration costs	164,628	169,593
Amortization	19,281	89,390
Interest to Finance Assets	2	5,007
	2,144,057	2,136,545

Net Income (loss) for the year	(14,462)	124,338
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Members' equity, beginning of year	492,528	368,195
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Members' equity, end of year	478,066	492,533
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ASSETS	2009	2008
Current		
Cash and equivalent	221,120	205,587
Restricted funds	67,203	72,896
Short term investments	83,741	163,000
Accounts receivable	16,276	21,719
Inventory	83,998	85,497
Prepaid expenses	15,215	14,661
	487,553	563,360

Capital assets	132,360	136,757
	619,913	700,117

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current		
Bank Indebtedness	29,345	20,813
Accounts payable	112,502	82,856
Deferred grants	—	30,933
Loans payable	—	—
Current portion of mortgage payable	—	72,982
	141,847	207,584

Mortgage payable	—	—
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Net Assets	478,066	492,533
	619,913	700,117

Auditor's Report *for the year ended April 30, 2009*

To the Members of the Western Canada Wilderness Committee

We have audited the statement of financial position of Western Canada Wilderness Committee as at April 30, 2009 and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year 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 audit.

Except as explained in the following paragraph, we conducted our audit 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 includes 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 revenue, excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures, assets and net assets.

In our opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to satisfy ourselves concerning 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, 2009 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

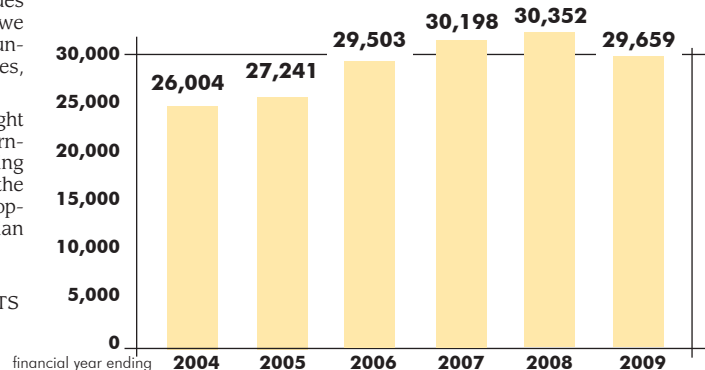
"Dale Matheson Carr-Hilton LaBonte"
DALE MATHESON CARR-HILTON LABONTE CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
Vancouver, BC August 19, 2009

2008-2009 Auditor

Dale Matheson Carr-Hilton
LaBonte Chartered Accountants

Report on Membership

The Wilderness Committee is proud to be Canada's largest membership-based wilderness preservation organization. Membership at year end was 29,659 — a good showing in the midst of the economic downturn, and a 14% increase over the past six years.





WESTERN CANADA
**WILDERNESS
COMMITTEE**

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NATIONAL OFFICE

341 Water Street, 4th Floor, Vancouver, BC

Phone: (604) 683-8220 Fax: (604) 683-8229

VICTORIA OFFICE, STORE & OUTREACH CENTRE

651 Johnson Street, Victoria, BC V8W 1M7

Phone: (250) 388-9292 Fax: (250) 388-9223

ALBERTA OFFICE

10429 79 Ave, Edmonton, AB T6E 1R7

Phone: (780) 421-7335

MANITOBA OFFICE

3rd Fl. – 303 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 2B4

Phone: (204) 942-9292 Fax: (204) 949-1527

ONTARIO OFFICE

204 - 425 Queen Street W, Toronto, ON M5V 2A5

Phone: (416) 849-6520

With 30,000 members, and 30,000 additional donors and volunteers, the Wilderness Committee is Canada's largest membership-based wilderness preservation group. We've helped to gain protection for over 50 major wilderness areas in Canada, including millions of hectares of critical wildlife habitats and some of the world's last large tracts of old-growth temperate rainforest and boreal forest. But much remains to be done.

Join us. Your \$35 membership fee makes a world of difference.

Front cover: Mount Assiniboine, Michael Wheatly

Back: Paddling in Manigotagan Provincial Park, Eric Reder.

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