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!
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

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

Welcome from the Executive Team
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
- 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. 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.
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.

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.
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
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.
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.

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.

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: Budget dedicated for recovery, Endangered species legislation listing, Action on habitat, Reduce conflict and human caused mortalities, Science-based recovery team. Alberta’s grizzly bears now have many more friends!
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!

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

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:

inform
**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 documentation 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
- Butte 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
- Tzoonie 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 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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership dues</td>
<td>431,036</td>
<td>415,764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>1,354,894</td>
<td>1,442,428</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant Revenue</td>
<td>151,983</td>
<td>212,312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales of ed. material</td>
<td>143,279</td>
<td>146,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unreceipted donations</td>
<td>48,403</td>
<td>44,199</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenues</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,129,595</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,260,883</strong></td>
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### EXPENDITURES

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Campaign &amp; grant project costs</td>
<td>1,175,611</td>
<td>1,219,341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales costs</td>
<td>153,932</td>
<td>184,215</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canvass costs</td>
<td>418,820</td>
<td>232,707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership costs</td>
<td>211,783</td>
<td>236,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration costs</td>
<td>164,628</td>
<td>169,593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amortization</td>
<td>19,281</td>
<td>89,390</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest to Finance Assets</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5,007</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,144,057</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,136,545</strong></td>
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**Net Income (loss) for the year**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>(14,462)</strong></td>
<td><strong>124,338</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**Members’ equity, beginning of year**

|                      | 492,528    | 368,195    |

**Members’ equity, end of year**

|                      | 478,066    | 492,533    |

**Assets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and equivalent</td>
<td>221,120</td>
<td>205,587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted funds</td>
<td>67,203</td>
<td>72,896</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short term investments</td>
<td>83,741</td>
<td>163,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>16,276</td>
<td>21,719</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inventory</td>
<td>83,998</td>
<td>85,497</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>15,215</td>
<td>14,661</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>487,553</strong></td>
<td><strong>563,360</strong></td>
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**Capital assets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>619,913</strong></td>
<td><strong>700,117</strong></td>
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**Liabilities and net assets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Indebtedness</td>
<td>29,345</td>
<td>20,813</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>112,502</td>
<td>82,856</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferred grants</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>30,933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans payable</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current portion of mortgage payable</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>72,982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>141,847</strong></td>
<td><strong>207,584</strong></td>
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**Mortgage payable**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>619,913</strong></td>
<td><strong>700,117</strong></td>
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**Net Assets**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>478,066</strong></td>
<td><strong>492,533</strong></td>
</tr>
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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

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.
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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W E S T E R N C A N A D A
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C O M M I T T E E

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www.wildernesscommittee.org

NATIONAL OFFICE
341 Water Street, 4th Floor, Vancouver, BC
Phone: (604) 683-8220  Fax: (604) 683-8229

VICTORIA OFFICE, STORE & OUTREACH CENTRE
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