



Annual Report

BC Parks Foundation

2024 - 2025



bcparksfoundation.ca • info@bcpf.ca



Message from the Chair



The past year marked another extraordinary year for the BC Parks Foundation. Our programs have grown in support of our mission to make BC's parks and protected areas system the greatest in the world. We have received more funding from more people to conserve land, build better facilities and get more people throughout BC enjoying parks. Our Park Prescriptions program (PaRx) has also strengthened, encouraging more people to gain the proven health benefits of being immersed in natural settings. In short, the Foundation had another amazing year just ended and is setting itself up for another great year ahead.

My personal focus has been to support BC's and Canada's mission to increase our protected areas system in BC to conserve 30% of our land mass by 2030. This is in synch with creating protected areas in 30% of Canada's marine areas by 2030, something that took a big leap forward in 2024. Our Conservation Funds seek to raise a total of \$500 million to identify and conserve priority biodiverse areas, and I'm very pleased to report that we have raised more than \$350 million to date. Our teams are hard at work reviewing proposals for new protected areas in BC and I'm confident we will reach our ambitious goal of adding at least 10 million hectares to BC's protected areas system by 2030.

The outpouring of support for the BC Parks Foundation is nothing short of heroic – from people all over BC, and from companies, foundations, First Nations, municipalities and our provincial and federal governments. Our growing management team, led by Dr. Andrew Day, work tirelessly in support of our mission and they are strongly supported by our stellar Board of Directors who volunteer their time and skills to make the Foundation function smoothly, with good governance and good financial controls. I thank all those in our ecosystem who have contributed in the last year to our amazing success.

Onward and upward!

Ross Beaty, C.M.

Chair, BC Parks Foundation

Letter from the CEO



Dear Community,

When I first visited the Pitt River valley 4 years ago, I saw salmon gasping for oxygen in puddles of stagnant water. What was going on? The river had been moved to one side of the valley by a forestry road over 100 years ago, disconnecting the main stem of the river from the estuary. Water couldn't follow its natural course.

This year, we worked with a great community of people to reconnect the river to the estuary. The water started to flow, and with it came life. Within a few months, the salmon were back.

Those salmon will feed hundreds of other creatures. Those creatures will fertilize plants. Plants will produce oxygen, store carbon, and release compounds into the air that will attract moisture, form clouds, and produce rain. The rain will flow into the river, and the great cycle of life will bring abundance back to the area once again.

The Katzie First Nation, who spearheaded the project, were still connected to their past and their culture. They had never let go of their memory of the abundance of the area, and their will to see it come back. To them, the salmon and all the other life in the area were family, connected together in a great web of life.

That project shows the power of connections. You will find many other examples of the power of connections in this report. In fact, all the incredible results that you read about in this report happened because of connections. Connections to the land. Connections to wildlife. Connections to other people. Connections to the past. Connections to the future. Connections to yourself.

Each connection is a thread. Our work is to weave those threads together into a blanket. That blanket is what keeps everyone and everything warm and protected.

Making those connections and weaving them together is central to who we are as a Foundation, and who we are as a diverse and active community of support for parks and people.

Please join me in celebrating your wonderful 2024-2025 results. When you are done reading, I invite you to take a moment to go outside and feel proud, grateful, and connected to the world.

We are lucky to live in this place, and to belong to a community of people who are keeping it beautiful. Belonging to that community is one of the most wonderful feelings a person can experience in our short time on this earth. Life is precious, life is fragile, life is a gift. Protect it now, enjoy it forever.

Dr. Andy Day

Board of Directors



Ross Beaty



Cynthia Callison



Warren Beach



Barbara Brink



Jessica Hopkins



Dan Johnston



Rudy Kerklaan



Tamara Little



Jim Standen



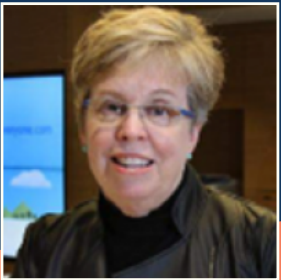
Terry Teegee



Ivan Thompson



Gill Winckler



Linda Coady



Greg Moore
Special Advisor



Ric Careless
Special Advisor, Director Emeritus

PaRx – Canada’s Nature Prescription Program Surpasses One Million Prescriptions

One million prescriptions for nature written. Seventeen thousand healthcare professionals engaged. Countless lives transformed.

“Positive thoughts, more energetic, strengthened bones and muscles, stronger immune system. Overall, I am a happier person and smile more!”

These words from Doris Kin-Mei of North York, Ontario represent just one of thousands of PaRx patients whose health has been enhanced by the simple yet powerful act of spending time outdoors. What began as an innovative approach to healthcare has evolved into a national movement reshaping how Canadians think about wellness.

Growth Across Canada

In 2024, PaRx expanded its reach from coast to coast, with significant new endorsements representing diverse healthcare disciplines and regions:

Major National Endorsements:

- Canadian Nurses Association (representing 400,000+ nurses nationwide)
- Canadian Association of Wilderness Medicine
- Council of Professional Associations of Psychologists

Regional Leadership:

- Athabasca Health Authority: the first health authority in Canada that’s established an integrated federal, provincial and First Nations health services organization Saskatchewan
- Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (Ontario)
- Vancouver Division of Family Practice (British Columbia)



Provincial Endorsers:

- New Brunswick Association of Occupational Therapists
- Psychologists’ Association of Alberta
- College of Psychologists of New Brunswick
- Ontario Pharmacists Association
- Physiotherapy Association of British Columbia
- Psychological Association of Prince Edward Island
- Social Workers Association of Alberta

Breakthrough Partnerships Removing Barriers to Nature

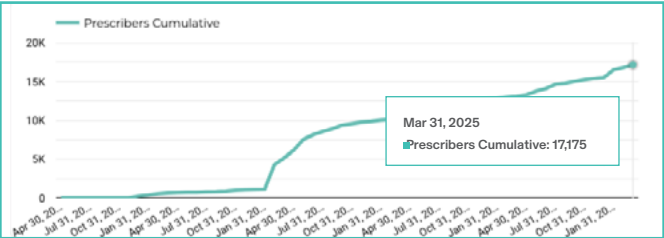
In a first for the nature prescription movement, PaRx partnered with Evo Car Share and Lime to address a critical barrier to nature access: transportation. Patients with a PaRx prescription now receive free Evo drive time and discounted Lime e-bike and scooter rides, making it easier—and greener—for people to reach outdoor spaces.

Halton Healthcare in Ontario made history as the first hospital system in Canada to formally partner with PaRx. This aligned with a new partnership with Conservation Halton where PaRx patients can now enjoy their nature spaces for 10 free visits. The region’s inspiring leadership generated 1,000 new practitioners ready to prescribe nature.

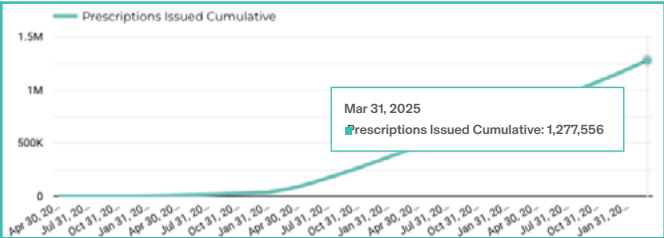
Manulife became the first health insurer in Canada to support a national nature prescription program, signaling a fundamental shift in how our healthcare systems value time outdoors. As Manulife CEO Roy Gori says: “We remain committed to accelerating longevity by collaborating with partners who are driving innovation and research to help people live better for longer.”



A PaRx patient summed up the program's life-changing impact: "Having this National Park Pass through PaRx allowed for my husband and I to build core family memories in nature—hiking, lakeside picnics and exploring with our little one. Having this break from hospital appointments and at-home disorder management helps us feel normal. Our mental and physical health are impacted positively. Thank you."



+4,076 PaRx prescribers in 24/25



+352,767 PaRx prescriptions in 24/25



Learning By Nature

Sowing Seeds on BC's Schoolgrounds

Research shows that learning in nature boosts student focus, creativity, health, social-emotional skills, and environmental stewardship. BC Parks Foundation's Learning by Nature program is bringing these benefits to schools by transforming ordinary schoolgrounds into biodiverse nature spaces—through a first-of-its-kind collaboration among federal and provincial governments, school districts, businesses, and researchers.

As Jennie McCaffrey, our visionary VP of Health and Education, puts it: "We're helping build Nature Parks at schools across BC so kids can access nature every day, right where they are. These spaces connect them to local biodiversity and to the real conservation stories unfolding in our parks. A culture of being Healthy by Nature supports learning outcomes, human health, and conservation—for the benefit of people and planet alike."



Setting the Vision: Every Student Learning in Nature

In May 2024 we held an inaugural Learning by Nature Gathering, made possible with the support of our partners Environment and Climate Change Canada, BC Parks, and Teck. It brought together leaders in education, health, biodiversity, and climate resilience to establish a bold shared vision: every student in BC should have access to nature where they learn, every day.

As one Environment and Climate Change Canada representative noted at the gathering: "Canadians are aware, want to act, and don't know what they can do. Nature spaces on schoolgrounds can be a source of meaningful action for Canadians."

Educator Jeremy Morrow from SD 71 in Comox Valley captured why this approach matters: "If nature education is always a field trip, if it always needs a bus, if it always needs supervisors, then it will never be a priority."



From Vision to Reality: Pilot Schools Leading the Way

Following the Gathering, we formalized partnerships with five BC school districts —Prince George, Comox, Kelowna, Surrey, and Vancouver—chosen for their geographic and cultural diversity. Together with school leaders, students, and community partners, we’re transforming these sites into hubs for nature-based learning, featuring:

- Native plant installations
- Student-led biodiversity monitoring
- High School Park Councils
- Connections to nearby parks and protected areas

Guided by educators and enriched by Indigenous knowledge, these pilot sites are the first step toward our 2030 vision: for every student in BC to learn about nature and in nature, every day. Our vision will boost student focus, creativity, health, social-emotional skills, and environmental stewardship, all while bringing more biodiversity to urban areas. What could be better than that?



Spark Grants: Supporting Well-Being Through Outdoor Connection

Our Spark Grants program funds innovative community initiatives that use nature to enhance wellbeing, with a particular focus on reaching underserved populations.

One example is our work with MOSAIC, an organization whose programs help immigrants and refugees settle and start a new life in Canada. After we led walks with them several years ago, they picked up the torch and started a Green Ambassador program. The program empowers newcomer youth to lead outdoor experiences for families exploring BC’s natural spaces—often for the first time. These outings reduced isolation, eased resettlement stress, and promoted active, connected living.

Green Ambassador Abdelrahman Mustafa reflected: “My goal was to support others and help people feel more at home here, and yes, I do feel like I’ve achieved that. Every time I see someone smile or hear them say they had a great time, it means a lot to me. At the same time, I feel like I gained so much myself.”



Healing Through Nature Program

This initiative gave newcomer women and children from the REACH community a chance to step away from daily stress and into shared healing. Through nature-based outings to places like Mount Seymour and Bowen Island, participants spent time walking, sledding, hiking, and forming new friendships in supportive company.

Amnah, a participant from Syria, shared: “After my separation and enduring abuse, I felt isolated and overwhelmed. This trip was like a breath of fresh air. It was my first time getting out in Canada—and I wasn’t alone. I was with women who understood, and I felt real support to move forward.”



Discover Parks Ambassadors — A Record-Breaking Year Bringing Parks to Life!

From guided Nature Walks to kids' programs and community science, our Discover Parks Ambassadors make BC's Parks come alive. These passionate educators offer free, engaging programming—like Jerry's Rangers, evening amphitheatre shows, and nature activities for all ages—inviting thousands of visitors each year to deepen their connection to nature.



In 2024, Ambassadors were active in 25 parks across BC, creating memorable moments for tens of thousands of visitors while logging over 10,000 iNaturalist observations to help deepen our understanding of biodiversity in BC Parks.

This year marked several exciting milestones:

- Our first-ever in-person Ambassador training over three days in beautiful Camp Elphinstone on the Sunshine Coast
- Expanding into the Okanagan with a brand-new team
- Piloting programming in Mount Robson Park—our northernmost site that year
- A surge in bookings through our DiscoverParks.ca website, supported by RBC Foundation's Tech for Nature program and the BC Parks License Plate Program



I have missed these programs since I was a kid. It made our camping much more fun to be a part of and engage with ALL the other campers!

Carmelle, Wasa Lake Park visitor

The Park Ambassadors were incredible and did such an amazing job teaching and bringing awareness to things people might not know.

Sunny, Rathtrevor Beach visitor

In 2024, Discover Parks Ambassadors were active in 25 Parks:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Cypress Park | 13. Bear Creek Park |
| 2. Alice Lake Park | 14. Wells Gray Park |
| 3. Porteau Cove Park | 15. Wasa Lake Park |
| 4. Shannon Falls Park | 16. Moyie Lake Park |
| 5. Stawamus Chief Park | 17. Kikomun Creek Park |
| 6. Garibaldi Park | 18. Goldstream Park |
| 7. Cultus Lake Park | 19. Rathtrevor Beach Park |
| 8. Chilliwack Lake Park | 20. Englishman River Falls Park |
| 9. Golden Ears Park | 21. Manning Park |
| 10. Lac Le Jeune Park | 22. Miracle Beach Park |
| 11. Paul Lake Park | 23. Kokanee Creek Park |
| 12. Fintry Park | 24. Mount Robson |



Nature Houses: Hubs of Discovery and Connection

Whether watching salmon spawn, shaping mountain ranges in an augmented reality sandbox, or peering into the life of a watershed, visitors to BC Parks' Nature Houses found inspiration, wonder, and learning in every corner this year.

Together with our Nature Houses at Goldstream and Rathtrevor Beach and partner Nature Houses at Kokanee Creek and Miracle Beach, we welcomed 94,181 visitors in 2024. That included 5,430 school kids!

At Goldstream Nature House, the fall salmon run was once again a seasonal highlight, drawing 40,817 visitors and 195 school and community groups. We introduced two new exhibits: an augmented reality sandbox illustrating watershed dynamics, and an interactive salmon exhibit with live salmon showcasing the complete life cycle.



We are all very thankful for your efforts in making this experience both educational and enjoyable.

Teacher, Goldstream Park

Discover Trails: Modern Access to Nature

This year, we launched new ways for more people to connect with BC's beautiful protected places, whoever and wherever they are. Through immersive 360-degree virtual tours and guided experiences translated into American Sign Language (ASL), parks are becoming more accessible to more people than ever before.

If people can't get to parks, we should find ways to bring parks to them. From hospital rooms to rural homes, these digital visits offer not only beauty, but also healing, planning, and inspiration.

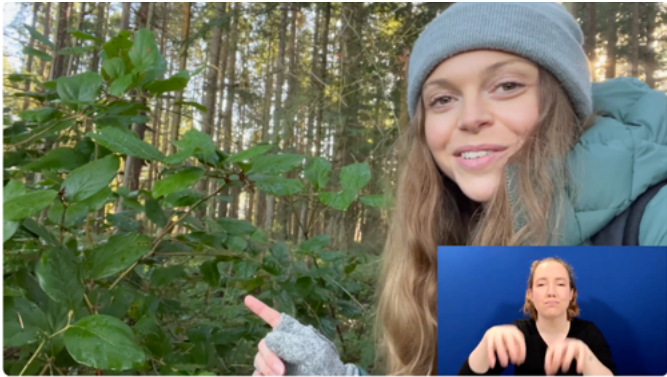
Aaron Butcher, Discover Trails Coordinator

This year, we created immersive 360° park tours for:

- EC Manning Park
- Rathtrevor Beach Park
- MacMillan Park
- Goldstream Park
- Porteau Cove Park

For Deaf and hard-of-hearing nature lovers, connection to a place often begins with access to information—which has long been hard to find in parks. So, with the Island Deaf and Hard of Hearing Centre (IDHHC), BC Parks, and members of the local Deaf community, we co-created something special: guided park tours and activities translated into American Sign Language in five BC Parks.

This initiative is breaking barriers and opening doors—creating deeper connections with nature, and helping bring BC Parks' Commitment to Inclusion to life.



Virtual Guided Walk - Rathtrevor Beach - American Sign Language



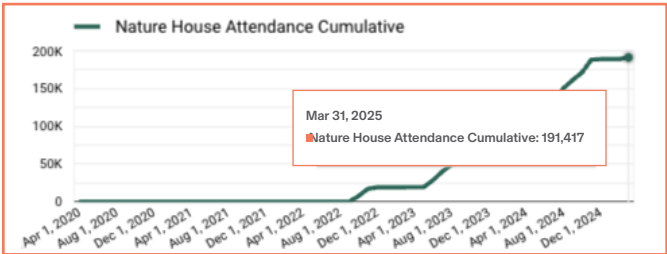
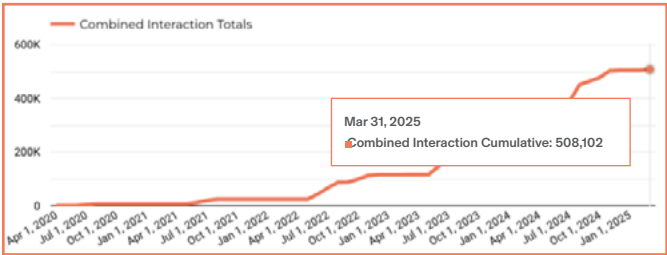
Sunset Photography with Jillian Brown - American Sign Language

As a deaf parent and advocate, accessible experiences in nature, especially those that include ASL, are life-changing for families like mine. Too often, deaf individuals are excluded from outdoor education and community events due to language barriers.

Monika, a longtime park-lover whose story helped shape this initiative

ASL-guided tours and activities are now available in:

- Goldstream Park
- Rathtrevor Beach Park Photo
- Gold Creek Park
- Porteau Cove Park Photo
- Cultus Lake Park



+35,278 program attendance in 24/25

+221,457 combined interactions in 24/25

+98,035 nature house attendance in 24/25



Spark-Funded Impact

With Spark Grants, we supported community organizations to create a variety of nature experiences for British Columbians and guests.

NatureKidsBC reached more than 3,400 participants across provincial parks through hands-on activities from tree planting to guided hikes. After a day at Goldstream Park, two children exclaimed, “This was the best day ever!”

The Nature Zone partnership with YWCA Metro Vancouver connected over 75 youth from equity-deserving communities with five provincial parks, removing barriers by providing transportation, supplies, and art kits.



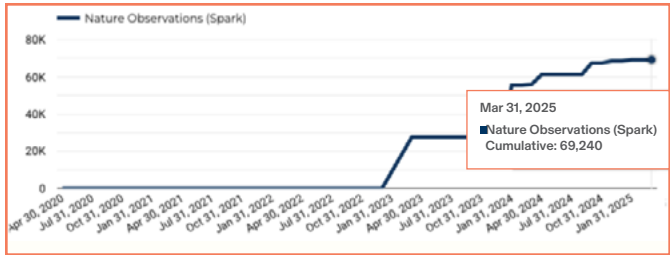
Reconnecting with the plants I know by name... It felt like a wonderful reminder of how much I love being on this land.

Mediha, Nature Zone participant

First-time canoers explored Paul Lake when Kamloops Immigrant Services hosted a “Try It Out” canoeing event at Paul Lake Park, giving many participants their first experience in a canoe!

Thank you for this generous grant! It created meaningful connections and promoted a sense of belonging in dozens of newcomers, breaking barriers for them and enriching their lives.

Yenny Yoa, Kamloops Immigrant Services team lead



+7,953 nature observations in 24/25

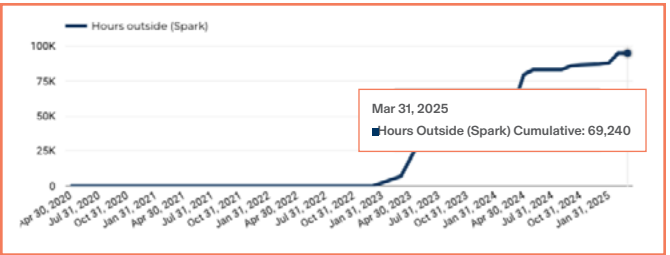
+14,845 spark participants in 24/25

Partner Events

We were thrilled to welcome our partner Subaru to Goldstream Provincial Park for a guided Nature Walk with our Discover Parks Ambassadors. Together, we explored the park’s rich ecosystems and shared stories of wildlife, seasonal migrations, and local conservation efforts.

Our partner QuadReal laced up their boots for a guided hike and some community science in Cypress Park! As part of the QuadReal for Good program, the team contributed valuable biodiversity data while learning about local ecosystems and species on the mountain.

We celebrated our partnership with RBC Foundation at Golden Ears Provincial Park with a Nature Walk and special celebration event. RBC Foundation’s generous support through their TechForNature program has been instrumental in enhancing our DiscoverParks.ca website, allowing us to expand our reach and impact while providing valuable experiences and resources to park visitors across BC.



+11,840 hours outside in 24/25



Park Enhancement Projects: Building a Better Experience for Everyone

Park Enhancement Projects are infrastructure improvements—like trails, signage, bridges, shelters, docks, and washrooms—that go above and beyond what public funding can support. Made possible by incredible donors, these upgrades improve accessibility, safety, and the overall experience of being in BC’s Parks. They’re the tangible, lasting impacts of people who care deeply about protecting and enjoying nature.

Infrastructure and Safety Upgrades :

- **Golden Ears:** Donor support helped rebuild the first bridge on the Sleepy Hollow Trail, improving access and safety for hikers.
- **Mount Robson:** A portion of merchandise sales, along with donor funds, helped rebuild the Marmot Shelter—an important rest stop for park visitors.
- **Miracle Beach:** Thanks to a generous anonymous donor, upgrades to the washroom facilities included a new universal-design building with accessible showers, toilets, sinks, handrails, benches, and a dishwashing station.



Donor Spotlight: Roland and Anne Neave

Some park champions go above and beyond. Roland and Anne Neave have spent more than 40 years advocating for Wells Gray Park—preserving wild spaces, supporting education, and inspiring future generations to care. Their donations to BC Parks Foundation have:

- Funded interpretive signage at Green Mountain, Dawson Falls, and the Grove of Giants
- Supported the Discover Parks Ambassadors program for three years, covering half the cost
- Contributed to the BC Parks Foundation’s land protection work, including a gift supporting Okanagan Lake Park



Protection is just the beginning. Stewardship lasts a lifetime.

Roland and Anne Neave

Sea to Sky Legacy Fund: A Model for Regional Investment

The Sea to Sky Legacy Fund, created and managed by BC Parks Foundation, connects regional businesses and communities to long-term conservation impact in one of BC’s busiest tourism areas. Supported by organizations like the Sea to Sky Gondola, the fund backs initiatives in four key areas: Stewardship, Accessibility, Experiences, and Safety.



Projects this year included:

- **Solar panel upgrades at Elfin Lakes Shelter,** reducing avalanche-season trips for BC Parks rangers and ensuring reliable lighting for visitor safety
- **New urine-diverting toilets at Helm Creek,** improving odour control, decomposition, and maintenance in Garibaldi Park’s backcountry
- **A seasonal park ranger in Shannon Basin,** guiding visitors and leading community science initiatives like bat and peregrine falcon monitoring
- **Support for the Squamish Discover Parks Ambassador team,** enhancing on-the-ground park stewardship
- **Creation of Discover Trails virtual tours at the Stawamus Chief and Porteau Cove,** expanding park access and education
- **Funding for Spark-supported groups,** helping local organizations lead community science and stewardship initiatives across the region



A Year of Bold Conservation

Parks Bank

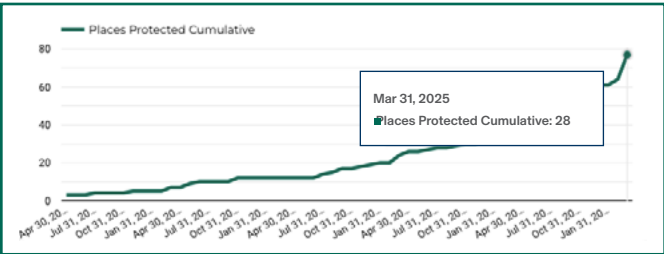
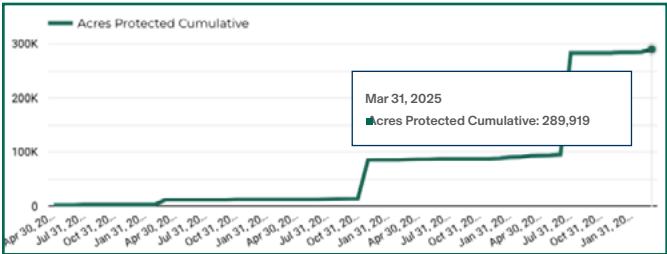
An ancient grandmother fir used for ceremony and prayer. Critical habitat for Southcoast Grizzlies. River frontage home to ancient White Sturgeon—fish older than dinosaurs, now endangered in BC. Remnant old growth forest. Rare mineral licks vital for the health of postpartum elk. Grasslands, where more threatened species live than anywhere else. Salmon spawning on the shores of Okanagan Lake. The largest terrestrial conservation area in the Gulf Islands. Future campsites. The endangered Western Painted Turtle. And what might be the oldest Yew tree in BC.

These treasures are found among 25 new properties BC Parks Foundation protected this year, spanning 8,300 acres of ecologically and culturally significant land. We also contributed to three additional projects, protecting another 188,211 acres—bringing our impact to a total of 77 sites and nearly 290,000 acres across BC.



Newly protected or supported properties include:

- Soo Valley
 - Lumley Road
 - Nechako 1 & 2
 - Earthspring
 - Rosebud Lake
 - High Lonesome Ranch
 - Summerland Lakefront
 - Kwiakah
 - Clayoquot
 - Mary Hill Connector
 - Westside Rd, Okanagan
 - Sturgeon Point
 - Saturna
- Puntledge River
 - Bowron River
 - Lily Lake 1-3
 - Mt. Kobau
 - Old Richter Pass Rd
 - Juniper Ridge
 - Horse Camp Ranch
 - Stewardson Inlet
 - Big Bar Rd
 - Mystic Ridge, Bright & West Trematon (Lasqueti Island)



+196,511 acres protected in 24/25

+28 places protected in 24/2025

Spotlight: Kelowna Residents Unite to Protect Shoreline Habitat

In one of our biggest news stories of the year, three Okanagan residents—Colin Pritchard, Gordon Baughen, and Robin Durrant—came together to protect 288 acres of rare salmon spawning habitat along Okanagan Lake. The effort also drew support from the Okanagan Collaborative Conservation Program, Wilson 5 Foundation, and Environment and Climate Change Canada's Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund.





Spotlight: Clayoquot Sound

We joined Ahousaht and Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations and the Province to help protect 187,800 acres of old-growth temperate rainforest. 25% of the world's remaining temperate rainforest are in BC, and this area is part of that global heritage.

Spotlight: West Vancouver

Over 780 hectares of forested mountainside—an iconic city viewscape—in West Vancouver will remain protected forever! The Cypress Hollyburn Legacy Fund, launched by BC Parks Foundation and kickstarted with a \$3 million matching gift from the Wilson 5 Foundation, will support long-term stewardship and access in the Cypress-Hollyburn region. In addition to the 780 hectares, an additional 106 hectares on Eagleridge Bluffs were added in April.



People-Powered Campaigns

Saturna Island: Precious coastal lands protected with community support. “We were excited to help protect 372 acres of undeveloped land, with 3km of shoreline favoured by orcas,” said Jim Phillips, BC Marine Parks Forever Society

Juniper Ridge (Kamloops): 500 acres secured through a crowdfunding campaign, thanks to hundreds of residents and an anonymous Kelowna donor who helped close the gap.

Salt Spring Island: Community donations raised funding to protect 31.2 acres of endangered Coastal Douglas-fir habitat, including a grant from the Salt Spring Island Foundation's Land Protection Fund.



BC Conservation Fund

A first-of-its-kind initiative in the province, the BC Conservation Fund was created to support the long-term protection, restoration, and stewardship of priority areas of high biodiversity across British Columbia.

In summer 2024, BC Parks Foundation issued a province-wide call for Expressions of Interest, marking the first step in launching the Fund's inaugural round of support. The response was strong, with proposed projects reflecting decades of work, trusted partnerships, and deep relationships with lands, waters, and the species they sustain.



In early 2025, full proposals were invited and reviewed by the BC Conservation Fund Oversight Committee—a group of skilled experts, more than half of whom are First Nations.

Selected projects span the province, varying in size and complexity but sharing a common vision: long-term, active care for biodiversity, cultural continuity, and climate resilience—grounded in a model of working together.

- **Intake 1 - Projects**
 - o 28 Area Based Conservation Projects | Total Area Size: 2,250,089* ha
 - o 16 Projects helping identify Priority Biodiverse Areas
- **Intake 2 -Expressions of Interest:**
 - o 13 new Area Based Conservation Projects 4,698,688* ha
 - o 2 Projects helping identify Priority Biodiverse Areas

**In early stages; project areas indicate areas of interest*



Restoration

In 2021, BC Parks Foundation secured the protection of 733 acres in the Upper Pitt River Watershed, supported by a landmark gift from Age of Union. The property included prime valley bottom and estuary land, with the Pitt River running alongside it. But the river had been cut off from the land and estuary for over a century due to the construction of a logging road. That meant no water was flowing into it, and salmon were dying in the stagnant water before being able to spawn.

In 2024, the vision of reconnecting the river to the land became reality. Through a partnership with Katzie First Nation and many other groups, water now flows once again. Within a few months, the salmon returned. With the salmon back, other animals will also return to the area, the trees will grow, and the area has the potential to return to its natural abundance. It's one of the largest salmon restoration projects in Western Canada.



At Katzie First Nation, we refer to the salmon as family. Now, we have hope.

Councillor Rick Bailey

Stewardship

Rare Discovery at Jeddah Point

In August 2024, we proudly announced the protection of Jeddah Point on the Sunshine Coast. A Rare Plants Report revealed 33 individual Texas Toadflax growing in a vernal pool—the first documented occurrence of this at-risk species on mainland BC. This rare discovery highlights the ecological importance of protecting unique coastal habitats.



Community-Driven Stewardship at French Creek Estuary

Two years after protecting the French Creek Estuary through public crowdfunding, the Regional District of Nanaimo unanimously approved its long-term management plan. Developed with community input, the plan prioritizes education, community science, and hands-on stewardship to ensure the estuary thrives for generations.



Collaborative Stewardship Agreements

It takes a whole community to steward a beautiful place. We're grateful for the individuals and organizations who help steward lands we have protected, helping to ensure that these places stay beautiful and thriving forever:

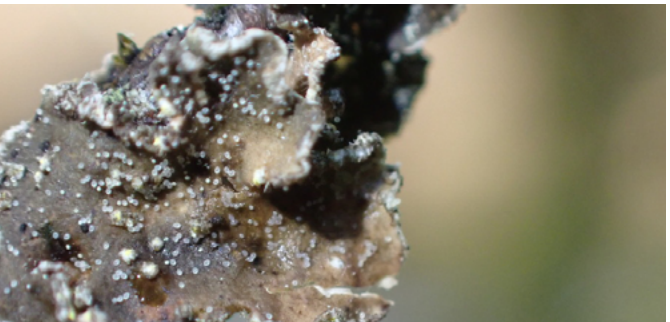
- Beatton Slough with Dan Loewen
- Cowichan River with the Quw'utsun' Cultural Connections Society
- Deep Bay with Fanny Bay Salmonid Enhancement Society
- High Bar Ranch with Erin Morissette and Louis Rosenthal
- High Lonesome Ranch with Bruce Langereis
- Kelly Point in Salt Spring Island with Salt Spring Conservancy
- Lasqueti and Marine Island with Lasqueti Island Nature Conservancy
- Nechako with Bernie Rolf Wendler
- West Ballenas with BC Marine Trails

Community Science

This year, BC Parks Foundation's community science program reached one million iNaturalist observations in BC's provincial parks—uncovering rare species and even one that may be new to science. From red-listed lichens to undocumented moths, these sightings drive conservation and deepen our understanding of BC's ecosystems.

Launched just five years ago with under 20,000 observations, the BC Biodiversity Program (a partnership with UVic, SFU, BC Parks, and Sitka Foundation) now includes over 13,000 observers. Together, they've created one of Canada's richest biodiversity datasets—simply by exploring nature.

One of the observations was something never seen before. "I was thrilled when I found out it was likely new to science," said Tori Miller, who recorded an undescribed globular springtail in South Okanagan Grasslands. "It's like finding hidden treasure—alive, and part of our natural world."



30 Million and Counting!

Over 30 million community science observations have been recorded in BC across all platforms. From camera traps and audio recordings to photo uploads and field notes, these diverse tools are helping scientists, land managers, and community members better understand and protect the living richness of BC.



Empowering Community Science with Spark Grants

BC Parks Foundation's Spark-funded groups play a vital role in advancing community science across parks and protected areas. Grants enable hands-on monitoring, species documentation, and habitat restoration—building lasting connections between people and nature while informing conservation efforts province-wide.

With support from a Spark Grant, Birds Canada held 12 workshops at Elk Falls, Mitlenatch, Strathcona, and Naka Creek, partnering with nine First Nations and BC Parks. Participants documented 98 species and 648 birds—including the endangered Black Swift—building local capacity for Indigenous-led stewardship of threatened birds.



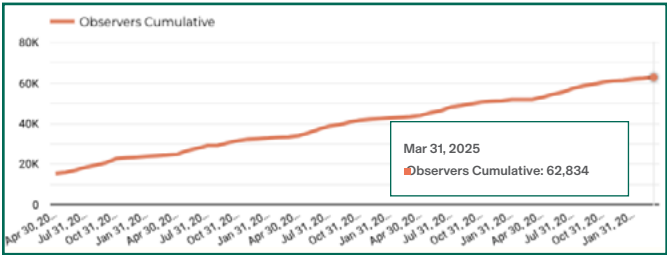
A rare glimpse of a Black Swift nest tucked behind a waterfall.



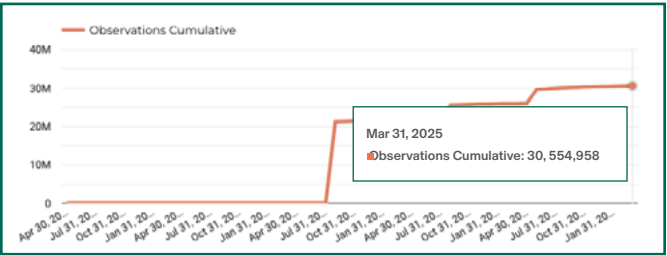
Kootenay communities supported pollinators through the Pollination Pathway Workshop Series, funded by our Spark Grants, with Teck's support. Led by experts, the four-part series taught native plant ID, restoration, and seed propagation, empowering locals to create a connected pollination pathway across the region.

**I'm just gonna follow you around and learn all about bees.
I'm into this more than anyone else!**

Young participant in Keremeos



+19,379 observers in 24/25



+8,872,189 observations in 24/25



Media and Community Engagement

Wishes Made, Parks Protected, Millions Reached

In the News

From nature prescriptions to inclusive experiences, species protection to land conservation, the diversity of our impact resonated with the public and media alike, making headlines across BC and beyond. Together, these stories show how BC Parks Foundation is advancing a healthier future—for nature and for people.

Top Media Stories in 2024:

- **Nature prescriptions:** When Halton Healthcare became the first hospital system in Canada to partner with PaRx.
- **Land conservation:** The stories of funders coming together to protect fragile ecosystems on Southern Vancouver Island, the Sunshine Coast, and Okanagan Lake.
- **Wildlife protection:** BC Parks Foundation supports expansion park to protect Western Painted Turtles.
- **Ecological restoration success:** BC restoration project in Upper Pitt River shows early signs of success
- **Inclusive park experiences grow:** Sign language tours open up 'secret' world of BC Parks to Deaf community.

BC Gov News

More than 300 hectares of land secured to conserve old growth

Jun 28, 2024

Conserving old growth trees and wildlife habitat

Coast Reporter

Meet the conservationists behind the permanent protection of critical Sunshine Coast areas

Sep 2, 2024

Vancouver Is Awesome

B.C. car share service offers free rides to nature patients

Apr 22, 2024

Vancouver Sun

'A special moment': Water again flowing at Red Slough on the Pitt River, fresh hope for salmon

Nov 19, 2024

Castlegar News

Rosebud Lake Regional Park expanding to protect turtle habitat

Jan 21, 2025

Sooke News Mirror

Parks foundation secures land to protect North Saanich old-growth forest

Nov 26, 2024

West Vancouver | District

District of West Vancouver announces huge new park with support from BC Parks Foundation

May 27, 2024

Comox Valley Record

\$10.5M land purchase to expand Okanagan Lake Provincial park

Aug 28, 2024

The Williams Lake Tribune

Sign language tours open up 'secret' world of BC Parks to deaf community

Feb 2, 2025

Vancouver Sun

Health-care providers to prescribe nature-inspired art for wellness at Vancouver Art Gallery

1 month ago

Castanet Kamloops

Kamloops donor issues fundraising challenge after pitching in \$50K to protect...

Mar 16, 2025

Times Colonist

Fifteen acres added to LAU, WELNEW/John Dean Park

Nov 27, 2024

Unprecedented Digital Growth

This year saw record-breaking growth across all digital platforms. BC Parks Foundation's social media following surged by 53%, with Discover Parks up an astounding 1,381% and Healthy By Nature rising 11%. Instagram and TikTok led the way, driving thousands of younger, highly engaged visitors to our websites.

Traffic to [bcparksfoundation.ca](#) more than doubled, with 62,000 new users (up from 27,000), 155,000 page views, and an improved engagement rate of 39.3%.

[DiscoverParks.ca](#) saw new users skyrocket from 8,800 to 67,000, with page views climbing to 158,000.

[ParkPrescriptions.ca](#) also grew steadily, welcoming 69,000 new users (up from 59,000), with 240,000 page views and a 54.2% engagement rate—up from 53.4% last year.

+4,344,776,000 media impressions in 24/25

In the Community

This year, BC Parks Foundation took to the streets—booths, beer gardens, block parties, and festivals—to spark meaningful interactions with over 50,000 people!

The Wishing Tree returned to Gastown, bringing nature into the urban core. Lit with thousands of vibrant lights that respond to each wish made, our Wishing Tree creates a cross-cultural experience that fosters a deeper connection with nature. For every wish made, a generous donor gave \$10 to help create new parks and protected areas in BC.



Our booth at the inaugural Shipyards Christmas Market introduced us to thousands of festive shoppers who were thrilled to learn they could support BC's parks and protected areas and look good doing it.



We hosted events with prominent British Columbians and special guests, including inspiring speakers Her Honour, Janet Austin, Lieutenant Governor of BC, Gordon Campbell, former Premier & Canadian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom and Wade Davis, anthropologist, author, explorer (pictured here with BCPF Chair Ross Beaty and CEO Andy Day).



BC Parks rangers and staff, along with BC Parks Foundation and the Sea to Sky Gondola team, celebrated the collaborative success of the Sea to Sky Legacy Fund and its strides in enhancing the beauty and ecological health of the region.



Eight Penticton breweries came together to brew something special: Do Good Forest Pale Ale—a flavour-packed tribute to BC's wild beauty, made with sustainably harvested spruce tips, juniper berries, and Canadian-grown hops. Proceeds support BC Parks Foundation's work to protect at-risk lands in the Okanagan.



Other community events we attended:

- Granville Island Brewing Disco Party
- Khatsahlano Street Festival
- Main Street Car-Free Day
- Stanley Park Cinema Series
- Granville Island 40X40 Event
- Vanouwer Outdoor Adventure Show

**A Wild Year for the Shop:
244% Sales Growth and Counting !**

Our shop had its biggest year ever, with a 244% increase in sales, thanks to the community of nature lovers who fell head over hiking boots for our new collections. The retro-inspired Happy Camper line tapped into the joyful nostalgia of BC Parks adventures past, while the Wildflower Collection bloomed with colour and purpose, celebrating biodiversity and seasonal beauty.



Our collaboration with Revelstoke-based artist Turbo Bambi, whose bold, playful designs turned heads and sparked joy, all while reminding us to embrace nature's unpredictability.



Together, these items became this year's bestsellers of the year, with every purchase directly supporting our mission to protect and expand BC's Parks and Indigenous protected areas.

In Conversation & Connection

At COP16 in Colombia, BC Parks Foundation's work in nature-based health, education, and conservation was showcased globally. We led discussions on nature prescriptions, outdoor learning, and community conservation, showing how local efforts advance global goals.

Healthy by Nature Manager Laura Hergott and Discover Parks team lead Gabby Jolly both presented at the World Trails Conference in Ottawa, attended by 450 people from 35 countries. The conference theme was Connection to People, Places, and the Planet.



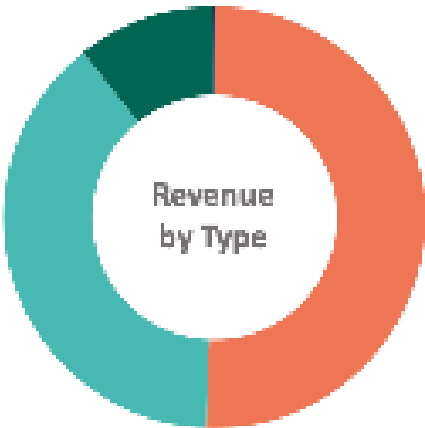
We joined the B.C. Cabinet and First Nations Leaders' Gathering at Vancouver Convention Centre West, uniting leaders to discuss collaboration. We exchanged ideas on supporting protected places, communities, and celebrating our connection to nature.



More Places We Shared and Learned

- Collaborative Stewardship Forum with the S'ólh Téméxw Stewardship Alliance and Stó:lō First Nations
- Canadian Women in Medicine Conference
- International Conference for Academic Medicine
- Generation Squeeze with Justin Trudeau
- Assiniboine Park Conservancy Business Alliance Event: Prescription for Nature
- Saskatchewan College of Family Physicians' 70th Annual Family Medicine Conference
- AFN National Climate Gathering
- BC First Nations Forestry Conference
- PARKS+ eSummit

Financial Summary



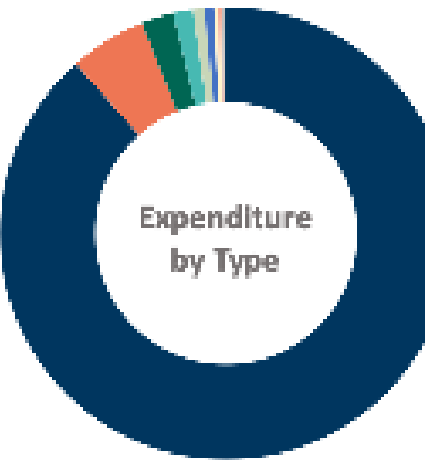
- 50.6% Donations
- 38.7% Grants
- 10.6% Investment Income
- 0.1% Merchandise
- 0.0% Services

2025	
\$	35,950,478
\$	27,446,754
\$	7,489,617
\$	90,440
\$	5,000
\$	71,001,298



- 98.7% Programs (including Land Acquisitions)
- 1.3% Admin & Fundraising

2025	
\$	66,202,900
\$	895,993
\$	67,098,893



- 88.4% Land protection
- 5.5% Salaries and benefits
- 2.3% Spark grants
- 1.4% Subcontracting
- 0.8% Professional fees
- 0.7% Office and general
- 0.4% Marketing and communications
- 0.2% Program supplies
- 0.2% Travel
- 0.0% Interest and bank charges
- 0.0% Amortization

2025	
\$	59,345,833
\$	3,684,220
\$	1,540,265
\$	945,452
\$	567,534
\$	444,957
\$	242,609
\$	152,818
\$	122,385
\$	20,050
\$	23,740
\$	67,098,893



Rosebud Lake Provincial Park taken by Rory Moorhead

Thank You to our Program Partners

As a valued program partner, your support is helping keep BC beautiful, protected, and thriving for generations to come. Every donation, volunteer hour, and partnership plants a seed that grows to help create the world's greatest system of parks and Indigenous protected areas. Thank you!

Peak



Mountaineering



Basecamp



Expedition



Ways to Give

Everything we accomplished this past year – for parks, nature, countless species and people, was made possible by this extraordinary community working together to keep BC beautiful. Our donors, partners, sponsors, and volunteers are at the heart of it all, and we are deeply grateful for your support. We honour the many ways people choose to make a difference by offering flexible giving options – so you can give in the way that's right for you.

1. Online Giving

- BC Parks Foundation Website Give using a credit card or direct bank withdrawal (ACH) at bcparksfoundation.ca. You can also call us at 604-343-3975 and we'd be happy to assist you.
- PayPal Giving Donate through our PayPal Giving page: paypal.com/ca/fundraiser/charity/3548233
- E-transfer
- Send an Interac e-transfer to gifts@bcparksfoundation.ca. Please include a note with your name, contact info, and preferred program or area you'd like your donation to support.

2. Cheque by Mail

Make your cheque payable to BC Parks Foundation and mail it to:
#300 - 2288 Manitoba St
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 4B5

3. Direct Bank Giving

- **Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)**
You can make a direct deposit by requesting our banking information. Please call us at 604-343-3975 and we can provide this to you.
- **Wire Transfer**
We accept both Canadian and U.S. wire transfers. Please call us at 604-343-3975 to receive the necessary details.

4. Tax-Advantaged Giving

Donating stocks can offer significant tax advantages for capital gains on any increase in share value. You'll receive a charitable tax receipt for the market value at the time of transfer. Ask us for our Securities Donation Form at gifts@bcparksfoundation.ca

5. Charitable Partners

You can also give through platforms like Canada Helps, Donate a Car, Benevity, or for donors in the US that wish to receive a tax receipt, visit our profile with American Friends of Canadian Conservation at <https://www.conservecanada.org/portfolio-item/b-c-parks-foundation/> Need Help? If you have any questions about how to give or which option is right for you, we'd be happy to assist. Please reach out to Heather Altas, VP Philanthropy, at heather.altas@bcpf.ca.

Enjoy Now, Protect Forever.



bcparksfoundation.ca • info@bcpf.ca