



STRATHCONA CENTENNIAL
EXPEDITION
1910-2010
www.sce2010.ca

Strathcona Centennial Expedition
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Background

The Strathcona Centennial Expedition is celebrating the 100th anniversary of the 1910 Strathcona Discovery Expedition that explored the mountainous heart of Vancouver Island leading to the **creation of Strathcona Park, the first of British Columbia's Provincial Parks.**

The 1910 expedition was led by the Hon. Price Ellison, Commissioner of Lands. Between July 5th & August 12th, 1910, Ellison and his party of 23 journeyed through the heart of Vancouver Island exploring the mountains and lakes and assessing their suitability for a park. They began in Campbell River poling and paddling heavily laden canoes up the river and across the lakes.

From Upper Campbell Lake Ellison's group struck overland to the summit of Crown Mountain, which they successfully summited on July 29th, 1910. The splendid view of the surrounding mountains certainly made a deep impression on Price Ellison as did their journey down the near-mythical Buttle Lake and on to Port Alberni.

The successful completion of this adventure and Ellison's report to the BC Provincial Cabinet led to the **Strathcona Act passing into legislation on March 1st, 1911**, beginning British Columbia's world-renowned parks system.

Between July 21 and August 9, 2010 a **group organized by the Strathcona Park Public Advisory Committee and BC Parks will retrace Ellison's journey.**

Departing the city of Campbell River on the morning of July 22, 2010 the Strathcona Centennial Expedition will embark on officially re-enacting the 1910 expedition as marked by proclamation by BC's Lieutenant Governor, thereby launching BC Park's 100th anniversary in 2011.

This exciting adventure will help raise awareness of the amazing natural, historical and recreational opportunities of Strathcona Park. The project will establish a legacy fund for enhancing stewardship, building and maintaining infrastructure, land acquisition and environmental rehabilitation.

It has been the dedication and hard work of the Strathcona Park Public Advisory Committee, BC Parks along with financial and logistical support from the expedition sponsors NVI Mining Ltd and Strathcona Park Lodge that has made this historical re-enactment possible.

The expedition will arrive in Port Alberni for welcoming festivities on August 7th and conclude in Victoria with a final breakfast at the Fairmont Empress on the morning of August 9.

in association with



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