



Season's Greetings from the Parks Foundation Calgary!

Holiday 2008

Parks Foundation Calgary waves hello, goodbye this holiday season

Farewell from Norm Harburn, Inaugural President, 1988-2008

Twenty years ago, the PFC began as a group of excited volunteers, of which I was one. As an agent of the city of Calgary, we successfully and in a short time frame, pulled together the political will and funding to build the James Short Park. Ten years later, the Foundation was taking on bigger projects, finalizing the funding for the Partnerparks Endowment and raising the nine million to build the world's largest skatepark, the "Shaw Millennium Park".

Today the Foundation has its headquarters in a fully furnished 1890's historic site, Haultain School, complete with its own park. Challenging and exciting projects loom on the horizon. The approximately \$20 million dollar Harvie Passage Project will be our largest and costliest project when it opens in three years time. In total, over 35 projects, worth \$120 million plus, have helped transform Calgary into an award winning centre in the area of parks, amateur sports and river valleys.

None of the Foundations successes would have been possible without the dedicated volunteers and citizens responsible for producing many of the park projects in Calgary. I want you to know how much I enjoyed working with each of you. You are all invited to visit me on Gabriola Island and pull a few weeds in my new private park!

I am pleased to be handing the reigns over to Myrna Dubé. I have known and trusted her for years to be a great leader. Myrna will make this foundation soar to new heights.

Thanks All,
Norm



Myrna Dubé and Norm Harburn

Greeting from President Elect, Myrna Dubé

Dear Friends of Parks Foundation Calgary:

I am honored to assume the role of president of the PFC and humbled to follow in the footsteps of Norm Harburn. Norm's 22 years of service have created a legacy of parks, pathways and river initiatives that are widespread throughout our community. We thank both Norm, and Tanya Kahanoff who leaves us in January, for their work and wish them every success in their future endeavors.

I am excited about the opportunities for the future of the PFC and it is my pleasure to welcome Berenice Schultz, who joins us as Fund Development / Volunteer Coordinator; and Sarah Hirst, our new Communications / Outreach Coordinator. Both Berenice and Sarah bring new skill sets to complement our present talented staff - Lily Llaguno, Brenda Smyth, Mac Hickley, Sheena Banfield and Robin McLeod. Together we are charting a new path for the future.

As ever, our dedicated core of hundreds of volunteers is essential to our on-going success. A special thank to volunteers who sit on the Board of Governors and many committees. I wish to express

my personal heartfelt appreciation to all of them for their efforts.

My best wishes to you and your family for a joyous holiday season.

Sincerely,

Myrna Dubé

President-Elect



Wayne Logan

A message of thanks from Wayne Logan, Chairman of the Board of Governors

Anytime there's an opportunity to recognize and thank the Parks Foundation Calgary's many volunteers, that opportunity is seized with gratitude. We have many hundreds of volunteers who each year give of their time and energy to work alongside the staff and committees at our Foundation so as to ensure our mutual vision is fulfilled. This year it is particularly important to say thank you to our volunteer Board of Governors and Committee Members. There are about 60 of such volunteers whose ongoing commitment to the Parks Foundation Calgary is both exemplary and legendary. We would not be able to accomplish our goals without their leadership nor plan for the future. Thank you to the Board of Governors. Executive

Committee, Fund Development Committee, River Valleys Committee, Haultain Management Committee, Communications Committee, Finance Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, Amateur Sport Committee and the many sub-committees that work hard with their parent committees. Both the Foundation and the city of Calgary thank you.

Haultain Park...soon to become a reality!

We are targeting summer 2009 for the completion and grand opening of Haultain Park.

Thanks to the generosity of governments, foundations, corporations and individuals, the majority of funds to complete this highly used inner city park, have been secured.

The total cost to complete the handicapped-accessible playground, mini-soccer field, pathways, seating areas and parkland is approximately \$1.5 million. To date more than \$1.1 million has been raised. Our target is to secure the remaining \$380,000 by March 31, 2008. ↗



Haultain School and its grounds

Harvie Passage

Connecting communities, parks and facilities along the Bow River

At long last, the construction of Harvie Passage is under way! Due to the inherent unpredictability of this kind of work, the projected completion date for in-river construction has been pushed back to 2011. It has been a tortuous journey at times, but the pieces of the puzzle have finally come together and we're delighted to say that we are now looking forward to watching this important project come to life.

For more info, contact Mac Hickley at (403) 974-0747 or check out our website at www.parksfdn.com

The playground component of the park will be a showpiece for our beautiful city. The playground will allow children a safe and challenging environment to play in, right in the heart of downtown. The contractor for this project was chosen by competition and the equipment has been ordered.

We thank our supporters and ask for further assistance to complete the Haultain Park restoration by summer of next year. Please contact Myrna Dubé at (403) 974- 1071 or Berenice Schultz at (403) 974-1073

Eyes on the Wetlands Project:

Creating a "living classroom" for Calgary's Children

The Parks Foundation Calgary, the Imperial Oil Foundation, Spruce Meadows and Ducks Unlimited Canada have partnered to create the Eyes on the Wetlands project. Located at Spruce Meadows, the project will include an outdoor classroom, a pond viewing platform, an interpretive marsh walk and a floating deep-water platform for viewing underwater life.

The Eyes on the Wetlands project will open in spring, 2009.



Jerry Brunen, Head of Education, Western Region at Ducks Unlimited Canada, shows what happens to a watershed when rain is added to it during a Spruce Meadows wetlands presentation at Nelly McClung Elementary School in Calgary

Stay Tuned in 2009 for...

- Building Playgrounds...Building Communities Grant Program
- East Calgary Greenway Project launch
- A new Brand for PFC with a focus on how PFC can help communities
- 2009 Celebration Event!



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