PARKS CANADA AGENCY

CORPORATE PLAN: 2002-2007

A Message from the Chief Executive Officer

This Corporate Plan presents revisions to key activities and investment strategies for the period 2002-2003 to 2006-2007, highlighting changes to performance expectations as a result of decisions and events since the last full Corporate Plan, which is available on the Parks Canada Web site.

Our long term commitment is to restore our capacity to protect the ecological integrity of the national parks, and to work towards the completion of the national parks system. During this planning period, the focus will be on strengthening monitoring of ecological integrity, preparing recovery plans for species at risk and working co-operatively with our partners to implement ecosystem-based management strategies for existing national parks.

With the release of the National Historic Sites of Canada System Plan in 2000, we have renewed our direction with respect to the commemoration of our national heritage places. Strategic priorities in the system plan include increased representation of the history of Aboriginal peoples, ethno-cultural communities and women.

Parks Canada is also continuing to take steps to strengthen our outreach and communications capacity to enrich, involve and inform Canadians as never before on the heritage that is such a fundamental part of our identity. We will encourage new voices to be heard, telling new and existing stories from a range of perspectives, and we will pursue outreach activities targeted especially at youth and ethno-cultural communities. We will continue to strengthen our relationships with Aboriginal peoples.

Parks Canada is also committed to recruiting a competent and diverse workforce to enable us to do our job right, and we will ensure succession plans are in place to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

Key to the achievement of our goals is addressing financial challenges. This Corporate Plan does not provide new money to meet Parks Canada’s mandate of system expansion and ensuring ecological and commemorative integrity for future generations. Discussions are ongoing to seek solutions to this issue.

Tom Lee
Our Mandate

On behalf of the people of Canada, we protect and present nationally significant examples of Canada’s natural and cultural heritage, and foster public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment in ways that ensure the ecological and commemorative integrity of these places for present and future generations.

Our Role

We are guardians of the national parks, the national historic sites and the national marine conservation areas of Canada.

We are guides to visitors from around the world, opening doors to places of discovery and learning, reflection and recreation.

We are partners, building on the rich traditions of our Aboriginal people, the strength of our diverse cultures and our commitments to the international community.

We are storytellers, recounting the history of our land and our people — the stories of Canada.

Our Commitments

To protect, as a first priority, the natural and cultural heritage of our special places and ensure that they remain healthy and whole.

To present the beauty and significance of our natural world and to chronicle the human determination and ingenuity which have shaped our nation.

To celebrate the legacy of visionary Canadians whose passion and knowledge have inspired the character and values of our country.

To serve Canadians, working together to achieve excellence guided by values of competence, respect and fairness.
Summary of Parks Canada Corporate Plan update for 2002-2007

**Service Line:**

**1: Establishment of National Heritage Places**
- To establish and manage resources to protect, present, and promote national heritage places.

**2: Heritage Resource Protection**
- To maintain reliable, safe, and efficient park services to ensure visitor satisfaction and minimize impacts on natural and cultural resources.

**3: Heritage Presentation**
- To provide visitors at national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas with services to enable them to safely enjoy and appreciate heritage places, while ensuring that the associated levels of impact on resources are minimized.

**4: Visitor Services**
- To maintain reliable, safe, and efficient management frameworks to ensure effective decision making and accountability.

**5: TOWNSITES**
- To maintain reliable, safe, and improved commercial integrity of national historic sites.

**6: Through Highways**
- To maintain or improve management integrity, particularly focusing on effective decision making and results-based management.

**7: Management of Parks Canada**
- To maintain or improve management integrity, particularly focusing on effective decision making and results-based management.

**8: People Management**
- To manage Human Resources so that a qualified Parks Canada workforce, representative of the Canadian population, works in a positive and enabling environment.

**Strategic Objectives**

- To work toward completing the systems of national parks and national marine conservation Canada's terrestrial and marine regions and to enhance the system of national historic sites which commemorate Canada's history.
- Continue implementation of the Action Plan in Response to Recommendations of the Panel on the Ecological Integrity of Canada's National Parks with a focus on strengthening and integrating science and monitoring into decision making.
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**Planned Results**

- Create national parks and national marine conservation areas in unrepresented regions and complete unfinished parks.
- Designated and commemorated national historic sites, persons, and events of national historic significance, particularly in under-represented priority areas.

**Key Activities**

- Complete agreements for one national park, two national park reserves and one national marine conservation area.
- Launch or continue feasibility studies and/or negotiations for 5 national parks and one national marine conservation area.
- Make progress toward the completion of land assembly of unfinished parks.
- Consult and provide research support to identify and designate 135 new sites, persons, and events of which will commemorate Aboriginal, women's, and ethno-cultural communities' history.

**Performance Expectations**

- Signs agreements to represent three new terrestrial regions based on the availability of funding.
- Sign agreements to represent one new marine region based on the availability of funding.
- 135 new designations of which 55 will be in priority areas.
- Continued enhancement initiatives related to Aboriginal peoples.
- Undertake initiatives related to Aboriginal peoples.

**Service Line:**

**1: Establishment of National Heritage Places**
- The establishment, protection and presentation of places that are of natural and cultural heritage significance.

**2: Heritage Resource Protection**
- Through-transit that minimizes ecological impact.

**3: Heritage Presentation**
- To provide visitors at national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas with services to enable them to safely enjoy and appreciate heritage places, while ensuring that the associated levels of impact on resources are minimized.

**4: Visitor Services**
- To maintain reliable, safe and efficient management frameworks to ensure effective decision making and accountability.

**5: TOWNSITES**
- Park communities are effectively governed and efficiently administered as models of sustainability.

**6: Through Highways**
- Highways remain open to maintain reliable, safe, and efficient management frameworks to ensure effective decision making and accountability.

**7: Management of Parks Canada**
- To maintain or improve management integrity, particularly focusing on effective decision making and results-based management.

**8: People Management**
- To manage Human Resources so that a qualified Parks Canada workforce, representative of the Canadian population, works in a positive and enabling environment.
This Parks Canada Agency Corporate Plan (update) presents revisions to key activities and investment strategies for the period 2002-2003 to 2006-2007. It provides revisions to operational priorities, and consequential changes to performance expectations as a result of decisions and events since the last full Corporate Plan (for the period 2001-2002 to 2005-2006). That document is available, along with other key documents referred to, on the Parks Canada Website at: http://www.parkscanada.gc.ca/library/index_e.htm#reports. Other documents which may be of interest include: the Parks Canada Agency Report on Plans and Priorities (RPP), the Parks Canada Agency Annual Report, and the Parks Canada Agency State of Protected Heritage Areas Report.