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## ROUGE NATIONAL URBAN PARK

## NEWSLETTER

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# The Government of Canada will take action on the creation of Rouge National Urban Park

As stated in Budget 2012, the Government is committed to preserving Canada's natural beauty and will take action on the creation of Canada's first national urban park in the Rouge Valley in Ontario.

The Government of Canada is excited about this groundbreaking initiative. We envision the building of a "people's park"; where connections are forged between the people of this great nation and the elements that make us truly Canadian. Rouge National Urban Park will be a place where people can gather, connect, be engaged, be stewards.

The opportunity to establish Rouge Park under the stewardship of Parks Canada, as the first national urban park, builds on the legacy of the Agency as international leaders in heritage conservation, visitor experience and partnering opportunities. It is also well aligned with our current priority to meaningfully reach Canada's youth and its increasingly diverse urban population.

Details regarding how Budget 2012 relates to the Rouge National Urban Park initiative will be offered on our website as they become available. Please visit [www.parksCanada.gc.ca/rouge](http://www.parksCanada.gc.ca/rouge).



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## A Proposed Park Concept

Parks Canada has been actively developing the Rouge National Urban Park concept— an important component in the establishment process that has been developed this past year based on input from many provincial, municipal, Aboriginal, youth and community partners. The proposed Rouge National Urban Park concept includes such things as conservation of natural and cultural resources, opportunities for learning, a wide range of visitor experience possibilities, and the integration and promotion of sustainable agriculture.

We look forward to finalizing and presenting this proposed concept to all of Canada, as we begin public consultations this summer.





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## Next Steps

This is a chance in a lifetime to be a part of something brand new; to explore an idea that has never been done before in Canada. With no comparable places, we have a unique opportunity to work together towards building something new – Canada’s first national urban park.

Input from the public is of great value in the park establishment process. Beginning this summer, Parks Canada will ensure there is an opportunity for you to provide input during public consultations.

Following the completion of public consultation, Parks Canada will then be in the position to put forward a recommendation to Government on the legislative process.

This is an exciting time that is only just beginning. Parks Canada embraces the important role our diverse communities, whether Aboriginal peoples, volunteers or local citizens, play in helping to fulfill our mandate. As an Agency, we can’t do our work alone. We welcome your involvement during this establishment process and hope to nurture your long-term involvement with the future management of this treasured place.



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## Get Involved

Owing its existence to the dedication and engagement illustrated by many local visionaries, our collective passion for this park can be fully celebrated with this federal government commitment. Updates on the Rouge National Urban Park initiative are posted regularly on our public website at [www.parksCanada.gc.ca/rouge](http://www.parksCanada.gc.ca/rouge).

### For more information:

To find out more or to be added to our mailing list for future newsletter updates, please contact us at [rouge@pc.gc.ca](mailto:rouge@pc.gc.ca)

### Did you know....?

The current Rouge Park is more than ten times the size of New York’s Central Park or Vancouver’s Stanley Park and 30 times the size of Hyde Park in London, UK

