

Rockwalls & Waterfalls



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President's message:

Happy Spring to all our members.

It was an unusual winter here in Yoho with less than usual snow and lots of mild temperatures. The intrepid skiers are enjoying spring conditions up high while early hikers are exploring the valley bottoms.

The ice is thinning on the lakes, the birds are back from their winter holidays, and the animals are coming out to show off their new families.

The Board has been busy planning some fun summer events which we will tell you about here.

We have a couple of long term projects- saving the Telegraph building, getting the Spiral Tunnel Model in the information centre working- which we are still working on . Hopefully we will be able to report movement on one of these projects by the next newsletter.

Until then, we hope you have a wonderful summer, and please drop by the store at the Visitors' Centre to say hello if you are visiting the park.

Helen Barry, President



Volunteers use Friends' Snowshoes for Trail Activities

This past winter the Friends' generously donated the use of four sets of snowshoes to International Volunteers in a joint initiative between Parks Canada, Go International, Lake Louise Ski Area, Castle Mountain Chalets and Alberta Improvement District #9.

Three groups of international volunteers from as far away as Japan, Switzerland, Belgium and France travelled to this region to volunteer for four weeks. Most of the volunteers had never even seen snowshoes let alone walked in them. Using snowshoes was a unique and enjoyable experience that many identified as a highlight of volunteering in the mountain national parks.

One of the volunteers summed up her experience by saying, "I think this volunteer experience will help me a lot in the future.... Thank you to all those who supported us! I'll never forget about this program."

Karen Nickurak, Partnering and Engagement Officer
Parks Canada: Lake Louise, Yoho and Kootenay Field Unit

Summer Programs

☞ We are pleased to offer a number of programs this summer to help you continue to learn, explore and enjoy Yoho National Park. All events are available by donation. Your generosity is appreciated.

☞ Historic Walk of Field: Every Tuesday and Thursday night at 8 pm meeting at the Field Community Centre. July 2st until September 30th.

☞ Burgess Shale and Marble Canyon Discoveries: Wednesday July 15th 8 pm at the Field Community Hall. Speaker: Kathy Taerum

☞ Parks day: July 18th. Meet S'More Friends. Come by the Kicking Horse Campground community Fire pit and have Hot Chocolate and S'More with us between 5-8 pm.

☞ Cemetery Ghost Walk: July 29th – Meet at the Field Community Centre at 8:30 pm.

☞ Art in the Park: August 6th 10am-4pm at Emerald Lake picnic area. Bring a t-shirt to paint on and join us to explore your creative side.

☞ Trail Blazers of the Parks: August 19th, 8 pm at the Field Community Centre. Speaker: Kathy Taerum

☞ Full Moon walk: Thursday August 27th - Meet at 8:30 pm in the Parking Lot at Takkakaw Falls.

Volunteering in the Park: Go International Volunteer Program

Report by Ron Allen, project co-ordinator for Go IVP

The Go IVP is designed to offer international travelers an opportunity to live and volunteer within the Canadian Rocky Mountains for four weeks. During the volunteer program, they are offered a unique experience to visit an area of natural and cultural significance and return to their home countries knowing they had a positive impact on environmental conservation and community facilities, and have left the area healthier than when they first arrived. Throughout this process they are able to immerse themselves in the culture and natural beauty of the Canadian Rocky Mountains.

The Go IVP aided the Friends of Yoho by refurbishing our memorial benches. The old benches were coated with 2 coats of stain and the newer benches were maintained with 1 coat of stain. This involved sanding and painting the benches with Sikksens Cetol 1. The third and fourth groups refurbished the memorial benches at Takkakaw Falls), the back of Emerald Lake, Faeder Lake, Field Elementary School, Field Post Office and Stephen Creek, Field. The benches at the elementary school and post office have been well preserved, however, the bench near the creek required organic matter to be removed from the crevices and may need attention from the 2015 Volunteers.

This project is important for the Friends of Yoho because as a not-for-profit community organization, the maintenance of the memorial benches purchased for deceased friends and family members who lived and worked in the community, as well as visitors that enjoyed the national park, are a great fundraiser for us. Well maintained benches help people appreciate the beauty of Yoho National park and embrace its values. The volunteers are particularly crucial for this role because maintenance of the benches was originally to be performed by Parks Canada. However, as a result of budget cuts, the Friends of Yoho approached the Go IVP for labor support and in return the Friends of Yoho provided a supervisor (Mike Finn) to enable the groups to be split up so more benches could be treated at the same time and the supplies.



Go International Volunteers Program at Takkakaw Falls.

Annual General Meeting

June 9th, 2015 at 7 pm Field Visitor Reception Centre

Guest Speaker: Kathy Taerum

Manager of Operation & Geoscience Programs of the Burgess Shale Geoscience Foundation.

Kathy will give a talk updating us on the developments of Burgess Shale in regards to the discoveries found in the Marble Canyon site in 2012.

Please join us for this informative talk, meet our Board and enjoy some refreshments.

We will look forward to seeing everyone there!

Our Membership...

Members of the Friends of Yoho Society come from communities in and around Yoho National Park, and we have supporters from further away. A board of directors and an executive have been chosen from this membership, and serve for two to four year terms. We welcome anyone interested in joining.

Meet our Board...

Debbie Bancroft, Manager

Helen Barry, President

Maggie Fields, Secretary

Brianna Burley, Mike Finn, Karla Gaffney, Mikki Morency, Ginette Therrien

The Benefits of Membership...

- ✓ **Develop friendships with other members who share the same vision for Canada's special places.**
- ✓ **Feel a sense of accomplishment and pride as the projects of the Friends of Yoho bring benefits to Yoho National Park**
- ✓ **Receive a membership card that entitles you to a 10% discount on store merchandise at our retail store and website, as well as at a variety of Friends stores throughout Canada.**
- ✓ **Receive 2 newsletters per year that will keep you informed of what projects the Friends are currently working on.**

Early Bird Draw Winner Lifetime Membership: Men Camastral

Donations

Individuals or organizations can make charitable donations that support the Friends of Yoho National Park. These donations enable us to continue to preserve the natural and cultural history of Yoho National Park through educational programs and projects.

How to Join Us...

If you share our love for Yoho National Park, we encourage you to join us. Fill out the membership form and enclose your payment, payable to Friends of Yoho. We will inform you of upcoming meetings and invite you to join us in our next project.

Membership Fees:	Individuals:	\$20.00
	Family:	\$40.00
	Corporate:	\$100.00
	Lifetime:	\$200.00

Renew your member ship:

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Province/State _____ PostalCode/ZipCode: _____

Please make cheques payable to **Friends of Yoho**, or include your Credit card number with your expiry date and CVS number.

Thank you!