

approved by the Government and announced in the House of Commons on Sept. 18, 1964. The main points of this policy statement, which will guide administration and provide objectives for planning and development, are:—

- (1) National Parks are established to preserve for all time the most outstanding and unique natural features of Canada for the benefit, education and enjoyment of Canadians as part of their natural heritage. They are dedicated forever to one use—to serve as sanctuaries of nature for rest, relaxation and enjoyment. No exploitation of resources for any other purpose is permitted. All development must contribute to public enjoyment and conservation of the parks in a natural condition.
- (2) Zoning will be used to guide development and to preserve park values. Visitor services will be grouped generally to visitor service centres, a definition that applies to existing townsites.
- (3) National Parks cannot meet every recreational need; the most appropriate uses are those involving enjoyment of nature and activities and experiences related to the natural scene.
- (4) The Federal Government assumes the cost of administration and protection in the parks and provides basic facilities for public use, such as roads, trails, campgrounds, picnic areas, nature interpretation and utilities. Other facilities beyond basic requirements, such as hotels, motels, restaurants, gas stations, stores and other special services, are provided by private enterprise.
- (5) Park residents and businesses should be in the same economic position as those operating outside the National Parks and this principle governs the approach to charges, rentals and fees. The users of special services such as swimming pools, marinas, golf courses and fully serviced campgrounds should pay the operation and maintenance costs of these publicly operated facilities. In general, permanent and seasonal residents should be limited to persons providing basic services to park visitors and to the park community.
- (6) All decisions affecting public development and the activities of private enterprise must be governed by the national interest as expressed by the National Parks Act.

In addition to the National Parks, which preserve natural features, National Historic Parks and Sites preserve and identify the places important in the history of Canada. The National Historic Parks are military or fur-trading forts that have been preserved, or historic buildings or reconstructions of historic buildings and most of them have museums associated with them. Hundreds of monuments or plaques commemorating personages or events have been erected across the country. A site is declared of national historical significance on the recommendation of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, an advisory board of historians representing all provinces.

The National Parks and National Historic Parks and Sites are administered by a director and three regional directors who are responsible for operations in the Western Region, the Central Region (Ontario and Quebec) and the Atlantic Region. Each director is advised by representatives of the four staff divisions of the Branch—Financial and Management, National Parks Service, Canadian Historic Sites, and Engineering and Architectural. A resident superintendent manages each park and directs a staff of park wardens who protect the park and its natural features and enforce park regulations, park naturalists who explain the park to visitors and offer various educational services, and other administrative, maintenance and visitor service personnel.

Each park is being developed to yield the recreational potential for which it is suited and sightseeing, camping, fishing, photography, hiking and nature study are the most popular recreations common to the 18 parks that are accessible to the public. There are campgrounds in each park; daily charges are \$1, \$1.50 or \$2 a day, depending on the services provided. A vehicle admission fee, varying from 25 cents for a single entry to \$2 for an annual licence good for all parks, is payable on entering all parks in Western Canada and Point Pelee National Park in Ontario; there is no charge for motor vehicles entering parks in the Atlantic Provinces.