

The location and characteristics of three parks established in 1972 are as follows:

Kluane, southwestern region of Yukon Territory, 8,500 sq miles. Canada's highest mountains, most extensive icefields and glaciers, fine wildlife populations; accessible by highway.

Nahanni, southwestern region of Northwest Territories, 1,840 sq miles. Wilderness area including South Nahanni River; three deep canyons and spectacular Virginia Waterfall, numerous hot springs, interesting flora; not yet accessible by highway.

Baffin Island, on Cumberland Peninsula of Baffin Island, 8,290 sq miles. Scenic area with fjords and deeply carved mountains; numerous glaciers extend from Penny Ice Cap (second largest icefield in world); interesting wildlife; not accessible by highway.

A location map and details of these parks is available in *Canada's national parks* published by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

An important step in the evolution of national park administration was taken when all policies concerning the parks were reviewed, amended and consolidated in a statement that was approved by the federal government and announced in the House of Commons on September 18, 1964. Following are the main points of this policy statement, which will guide administration and provide objectives for planning and development.

(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 into visitor service centres, a definition that applies to existing town sites.

(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 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.

The National Parks and National Historic Parks and Sites are administered by the five regional directors who are responsible for operations in the Western Region (Alberta and British Columbia), Prairie Region (Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories), Ontario Region, Quebec Region (plus the new Baffin Island National Park), and the Atlantic Region which includes the Maritime Provinces and Newfoundland. A resident superintendent manages each park and has the assistance of a staff of wardens who protect the park and its natural features and enforce regulations, naturalists who explain the park to visitors and offer various educational services, and other administrative, maintenance, and visitor service personnel. A somewhat similar organizational structure exists on a smaller scale in each national historic park.

There are campgrounds in most parks; daily charges are \$2.00, \$3.00 or \$4.00, depending on services provided.

There is free entry to some parks, including those in the Atlantic Provinces. A \$1.00 permit is valid from a day to a year in Elk Island, Prince Albert, Riding Mountain and St. Lawrence Islands National Parks. The \$2.00 annual fee charged for most western parks permits entry to all parks except Point Pelee National Park in Ontario for which the \$5.00 annual licence includes complimentary use of the park's transit system. Trailer fees vary from 50 cents per day to a \$1.00 annual permit, valid in all national parks.

Each park is developed to yield the recreational/conservational potential for which it is suited. Sightseeing, camping, fishing, hiking, photography and nature study are the most popular forms of recreation common to the parks now accessible to the public. A program was initiated in 1970 to encourage national, provincial and local associations and private citizens to