



Parks  
Canada

Parcs  
Canada



STATE  
of **CANADA'S**  
Natural and Historic Places 2011

PARKS CANADA AGENCY



Canada 



**Cover Photos**

*Top left: Bar U Ranch National Historic Site (AB), ©Parks Canada, Photo: J. Ricou*

*Top centre: Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area Reserve and Haida Heritage Site (BC), ©Parks Canada, Photo: D. Andrews*

*Top right: Gros Morne National Park (NL), ©Parks Canada, Photo: D. Wilson*

*Bottom: Gulf Islands National Park Reserve (BC), ©Parks Canada, Photo: C. Stewart*

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*Riel House National Historic Site (MB), ©Parks Canada, Photo: C. Aronec*

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Carleton Martello Tower (NB), ©Parks Canada, Photo: C. Reardon

# Minister's Message



This year, Parks Canada celebrates 100 years since its creation as the world's first national parks service. Year by year, generation by generation, Canadians have added to that legacy so that, today, Parks Canada is the steward of a network of national parks, national

marine conservation areas, and national historic sites that, taken together, equal the size of Germany.

It is not just the vastness, the unsurpassed beauty or the cultural significance of these heritage places that make Parks Canada notable. The Agency has remained a pioneer in finding new ways to protect these special places, and heritage organizations around the world have turned to Canada for guidance on a number of issues such as cooperation with local communities and Aboriginal peoples.

Since 1990, Parks Canada's remarkable legacy has been traced through the series of reports made to Canadians on the status of Canada's heritage places. I'm pleased to present the *State of Canada's Natural and Historic Places 2011*, which provides both an analysis of their current condition as well as an update on advances made since the last report was tabled in 2010.

Two achievements in particular stand out. One is the six-fold increase in the size of Nahanni National Park Reserve in the Northwest Territories. Some have described this as the most significant conservation measure in a generation, but I believe the second achievement is equally remarkable: the addition of a national marine conservation area to an existing national park to create the Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area Reserve and Haida Heritage Site. For the first time, an area has been protected from the alpine meadows to the depth of the ocean beyond

the continental shelf. Neither of these achievements could have been accomplished without both partnership and leadership from Aboriginal communities.

The 2011 Report outlines the steps Parks Canada is taking to care for and expand existing heritage places, and to increase the number of national parks, national marine conservation areas, and national historic sites. But it also outlines the challenges we face.

As an institution that has existed for 100 years, Parks Canada oversees an infrastructure that is in constant need of refurbishment, repair and upgrading. Over recent years, some \$374 million of funding under Canada's Economic Action Plan was committed to improve cultural resources and assets and to enrich the visitor experience in Canada's heritage places. The funding is helping to create jobs and stimulating the tourism economy in all regions of Canada – often in remote areas that need it the most.

One of Parks Canada's greatest challenges is to make more Canadians aware of the marvellous and fascinating sites offering them opportunities for exploration and adventure, and of the importance of protecting these heritage places. A generation of young, urban, and newly-arrived Canadians is growing up without the connection to the wilderness and to our history that previous generations had taken for granted. Parks Canada is uniquely positioned to help Canadians of all ages and backgrounds to connect or reconnect with the geographic, cultural and historical forces that have made us who we are.

**The Honourable Peter Kent, PC, MP**

Minister of the Environment and  
Minister responsible for Parks Canada



# Chief Executive Officer's Executive Summary



Dear Minister Kent,

Under the auspices of the *Parks Canada Agency Act*, I am pleased to submit the 2011 report on the State of Canada's Natural and Historic Places. It outlines Parks Canada's stewardship of many of Canada's greatest treasures: our

42 national parks, 167 national historic sites, and four national marine conservation areas – known collectively as our “heritage places.” A century after we were established as the world's first national parks service, we are proud of our legacy as steward of these protected places, but we are fully aware of the challenges we face in the future.

To date, the national parks protect areas representing 28 out of 39 natural terrestrial regions and five of 29 marine regions. The system of national historic sites, together with persons and events of national historic significance, showcase our country's vibrant cultural heritage. We continue to move forward to add to our network so that eventually Parks Canada will protect the full range of regions, and are developing a framework to monitor the health of marine ecosystems under our protection.

In the two years since the last report, Parks Canada has expanded the system of heritage places, and maintained the resources entrusted to our charge. We have taken significant steps to add to the area protected under existing national parks and to lay the groundwork for new parks, to be located in the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland and Labrador.

We have expanded Nahanni National Park Reserve to six times the size it was when the United Nations declared it as one of the world's first UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Canada also became the first nation in the world to protect an area from mountain top to deep seabed with the creation of the 3,500 square kilometre Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area Reserve and Haida Heritage Site adjacent to an existing national park.

Two existing parks received legal protection under the *Canada National Parks Act*. For Gulf Islands National Park Reserve, this will mean additional legal tools to protect a delicate ecosystem, and in Wapusk National Park, these legal tools will help protect one of the world's largest polar bear denning areas.

The concept of national marine conservation areas is relatively new. Over the last two years, we have increased the protected marine areas by 30 percent through the addition of the waters of Gwaii Haanas to adjoin the existing national park on land. The process for creating new areas is underway in Lancaster Sound, the Strait of Georgia, and the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

We have also moved forward on our mandate to commemorate the places, persons, and events that helped to shape Canada. During the period covered by this report, we added nine places, 17 persons and nine events to the national historic system. Plaques were unveiled for historic icons ranging from the Montréal Canadiens and the Alouette satellite programme to Terry Fox. We made progress in increasing the number of designations in Aboriginal history, women's history, and the history of ethnocultural communities.

While the first section of this report details our accomplishments in the past two years, the remainder outlines the state of heritage places. It focuses on seven areas:

- Aboriginal relationships, including our partnership with Aboriginal communities;
- Assets, including more than \$11 billion in real property assets;
- Cultural resources, including the challenge of protecting Canada's heritage buildings and structures against the elements;
- Ecological integrity, including our efforts to protect and to reintroduce species at risk;
- The health of national marine conservation areas, including protection and ecologically sustainable use;
- Public appreciation and support, including our use of media, outreach and other methods to bring the spirit, wonder and awe of heritage places to Canadians; and
- Visitor experience, including our efforts to maintain visitor satisfaction and enhance opportunities for Canadians to visit our extraordinary places.

The visitor experience section points to an overarching challenge of reaching out to a new generation not yet familiar with our heritage places. As demographics, social values, urbanization, technology, and uses of leisure time change in Canada, we must find new ways to make more Canadians aware of the wonderful natural and historic treasures available to them.

Many other external factors influence Parks Canada's heritage places and the level of visitation – everything from economic cycles to climate change. We will adapt to those circumstances, and continue to address the issues that we can influence.

In 2011, Parks Canada enters its second century as the Agency responsible for protecting and presenting Canada's natural and historic places. The vision started with Banff National Park continues to be honoured by Parks Canada on behalf of all Canadians. As it steps into its next century, Parks Canada will endeavour to adapt to the changing natural and social environments while holding true to the core values underlying the system of heritage places, and to be present and known by Canadians where they live, work and play. Through its passion and shared actions, Parks Canada will inspire Canadians to learn about, appreciate, experience, and support the rich system of heritage places inspired by and protected for all Canadians.



**Alan Latourelle**

Chief Executive Officer  
Parks Canada Agency



# Introduction



Prince Edward Island National Park (PEI), ©Parks Canada, Photo: N. Boisvert

Canada's national parks, national historic sites, and national marine conservation areas are among the nation's greatest treasures. These remarkable natural and historic places are a source of pride to Canadians and have emerged as an integral part of our collective identity. They are also an enduring legacy for generations to come.

Parks Canada as the proud steward of these heritage places protects and presents them for the benefit and enjoyment of Canadians, while ensuring that they remain unimpaired for present and future generations. In order to make informed decisions to secure their future, it is important that Parks Canada regularly take stock of the state of these heritage places.

This report fulfills the obligation in the *Parks Canada Agency Act* to report to the Minister on the state of Canada's national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservations areas. The first *State of the Parks* report was tabled in 1990. Subsequent reports cover the full range of Parks Canada's heritage places.

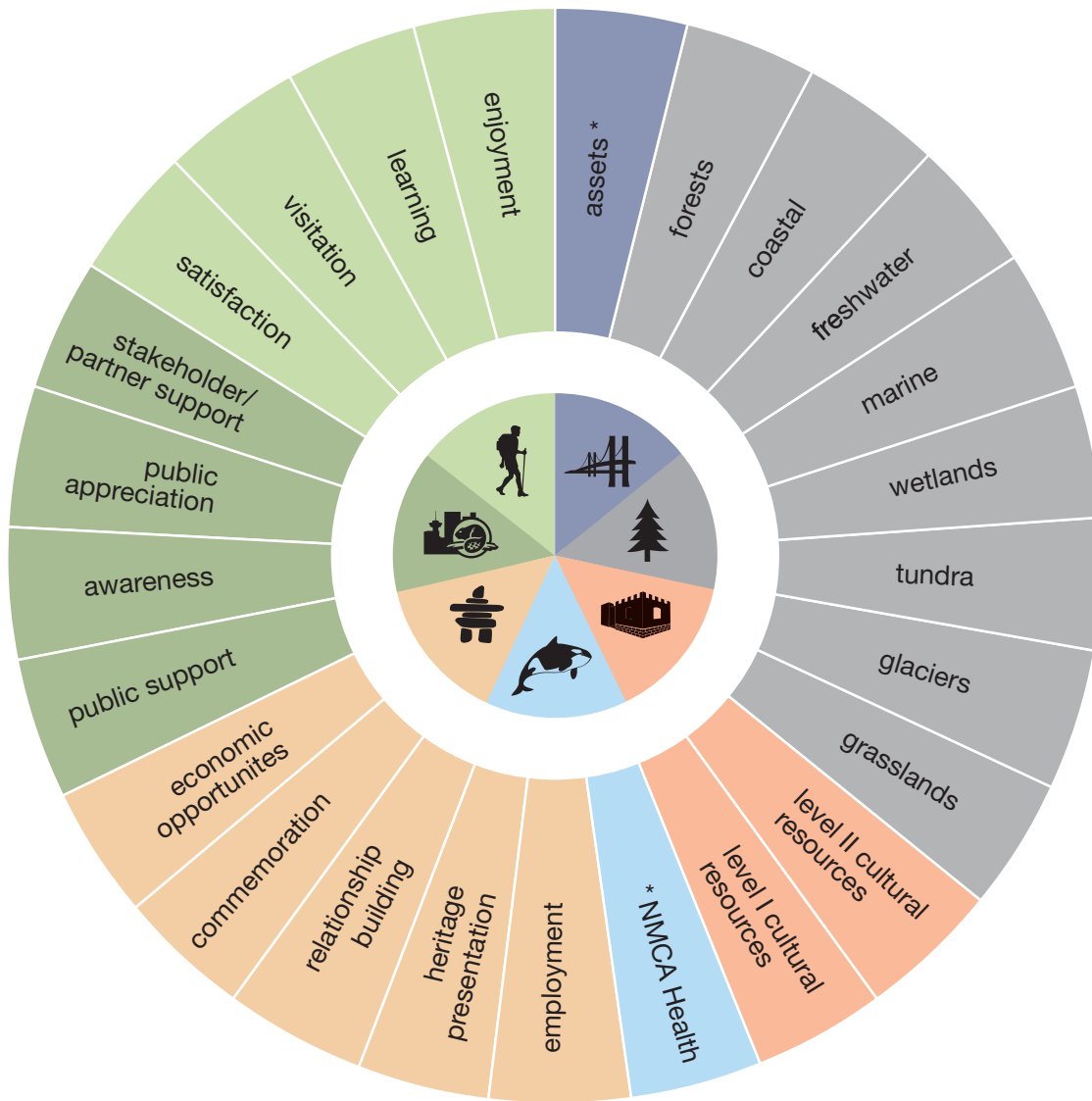
The *State of Canada's Natural and Historic Places 2011* report has two main sections. The first provides readers with the state of the heritage place systems. It documents the progress made towards establishing representative systems of protected natural and historic places.

The second section provides a snapshot of the state of our natural and historic places. In a similar fashion to how temperature and blood pressure provide a doctor with an indication of a patient's health, and the Gross Domestic Product and unemployment rate give an indication of the state of a country's economy, Parks Canada uses indicators to measure and communicate the state of the heritage places it is entrusted to protect. These include indicators such as the trend in visitation, the health of forest ecosystems, the status of assets, and the condition of cultural resources (Figure 1).








Parks Canada monitors seven categories of indicators, which together tell the story of the state of heritage places. For each category, the report provides a context, summarizes the current state and trend of associated indicators, highlights what actions have been taken over the last few years (April 1, 2009–March 31, 2011) to improve or maintain that state, and analyses of relevant issues. These issues will provide a basis for a collective understanding among decision-makers in the federal government, stakeholders and partners, and the general public as we embark together into the second century of managing these places.



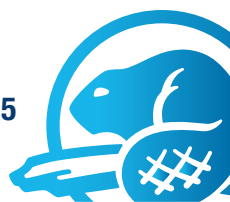
Figure 1: Parks Canada's Indicator Suite



**Legend – Indicator Themes**

Visitor Experience		Public Appreciation and Support	
Assets		Aboriginal Relationships	
Ecological Integrity		National Marine Conservation Area Health	
Cultural Resources			

\* Suite of indicators in development



# National Parks System



Mealy Mountains (NL), ©Parks Canada

## Context

Since 1911, Parks Canada has been entrusted to protect an ever-increasing number of outstanding wilderness areas within a system of national parks. The area of land in the system currently stands at 301,000 square kilometres, covering representative samples of the great diversity of natural landscapes that characterize Canada.

Parks Canada continues to work to expand the system, with the objective of representing each of Canada's 39 natural regions with at least one national park. National parks protect the ecological integrity of a natural area while providing opportunities for the benefit, education and enjoyment of present and future generations. They make an important Canadian contribution to the implementation of international conventions and agreements, including the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The need to protect a representative collection of Canadian landscapes was acknowledged by Parliament when it passed the *Parks Canada Agency Act* in 1998. Parliament directed Parks Canada to ensure that there is a long-term plan in place to establish the National Parks System, and indicated that the Agency is responsible for negotiating and recommending to the Minister of the Environment the establishment of new protected places.

The establishment of a national park includes a series of steps starting with the identification and selection of a potential park, followed by a feasibility assessment that includes public consultations. If governments agree

to proceed, national park establishment agreements are negotiated with the relevant governments and concerned Aboriginal organizations. The final step is to formally protect the new park under the *Canada National Parks Act*.

## State of National Parks System

To date, 28 of 39 Parks Canada natural regions are represented by 42 national parks and national park reserves, leaving 11 natural regions unrepresented (Figure 2). In total, about 3% of the Canadian landscape is safeguarded in national parks for future generations.

Land is currently reserved from future dispositions to industrial exploration and development for three proposed national parks: Bathurst Island (Nunavut); Thaidene Nene (East Arm of Great Slave Lake, Northwest Territories); and the proposed Nááts'ihch'oh National Park Reserve (Northwest Territories) to protect the headwaters of the Greater Nahanni Ecosystem.

The trend towards further expanding the national parks system accelerated over the last two years. Negotiation of national park establishment agreements commenced for three proposed national parks in unrepresented regions (Bathurst Island, Nunavut; Mealy Mountains, Newfoundland and Labrador; and Thaidene Nene, Northwest Territories). Feasibility assessments continue in unrepresented regions for the South Okanagan – Lower Similkameen (British Columbia) and Thaidene Nene proposals.

## Actions

In June 2009, Parliament passed legislation enabling a six-fold expansion of Nahanni National Park Reserve of Canada, one of the planet's first World Heritage Sites. With 30,000 square kilometres now protected under the *Canada National Parks Act*, important habitat for grizzly bears is conserved, as is a significant portion of the South Nahanni River watershed, which includes waters also designated as part of the Canadian Heritage Rivers System. Among the most significant conservation actions in a generation, it was achieved with the active participation and support of the Dehcho First Nations.

During this period, both the Gulf Islands National Park Reserve (British Columbia) and Wapusk National Park (Manitoba) received legal protection under the *Canada National Parks Act*. This measure enables Parks Canada to conserve one of Canada's most endangered ecosystems in the Gulf Islands, and one of the world's largest polar bear denning areas within Wapusk National Park.

Significant progress was also made on a number of national park proposals:

**Mealy Mountains (Newfoundland and Labrador)** – The governments of Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador signed a memorandum of understanding in February 2010 confirming the proposed boundary for a 10,700-square-kilometre national park reserve in the Mealy Mountains to represent the East Coast Boreal natural region of the national park system.

**Bathurst Island (Nunavut)** – In April 2010, Parks Canada and the Qikiqtani Inuit Association launched negotiations to establish this national park, which contains important habitat for the Peary caribou, including calving areas and summer/winter habitat. The Nunavut Land Claim Agreement requires that an Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement be concluded to establish a national park.

**Thaidene Nene (East Arm of Great Slave Lake)** – In April 2010, the Minister of the Environment signed a framework agreement with the Łutsel K'e Dene First Nation that commits the parties to negotiating a national park establishment agreement to protect the lands and waters in the East Arm of Great Slave Lake. A similar agreement has been negotiated with the NWT Métis Nation, the other principal Aboriginal group in the area.

**Nááts'ihch'oh (Northwest Territories)** – A public consultation program in 2010 demonstrated overwhelming support for this initiative. In early 2010, Parks Canada and the Sahtu Dene and Métis concluded the impact and benefit plan required under the Sahtu Dene and Métis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement to establish the park. Work with other federal departments and the Government of the NWT on determining the park boundary was a priority activity during this period.

**Sable Island (Nova Scotia)** – In May 2010, the governments of Canada and Nova Scotia announced their commitment to undertake public consultations and to negotiate the necessary agreement to formally designate Sable Island as a national park under the *Canada National Parks Act*. Public consultations completed in September 2010 demonstrated strong support for this designation. During this period, negotiations towards a national park establishment agreement between the governments of Canada and Nova Scotia were advanced.

**Bowen Island – Expansion of Gulf Islands National Park Reserve of Canada (British Columbia)** – During winter 2009–2010, at the request of the Bowen Island Municipality, Parks Canada undertook an initial assessment of Bowen Island lands to determine their potential for national park designation. In July 2010, on the basis of that assessment, Parks Canada launched a feasibility assessment, including public consultation, with the support of the British Columbia government.

## Key Issues

### Support

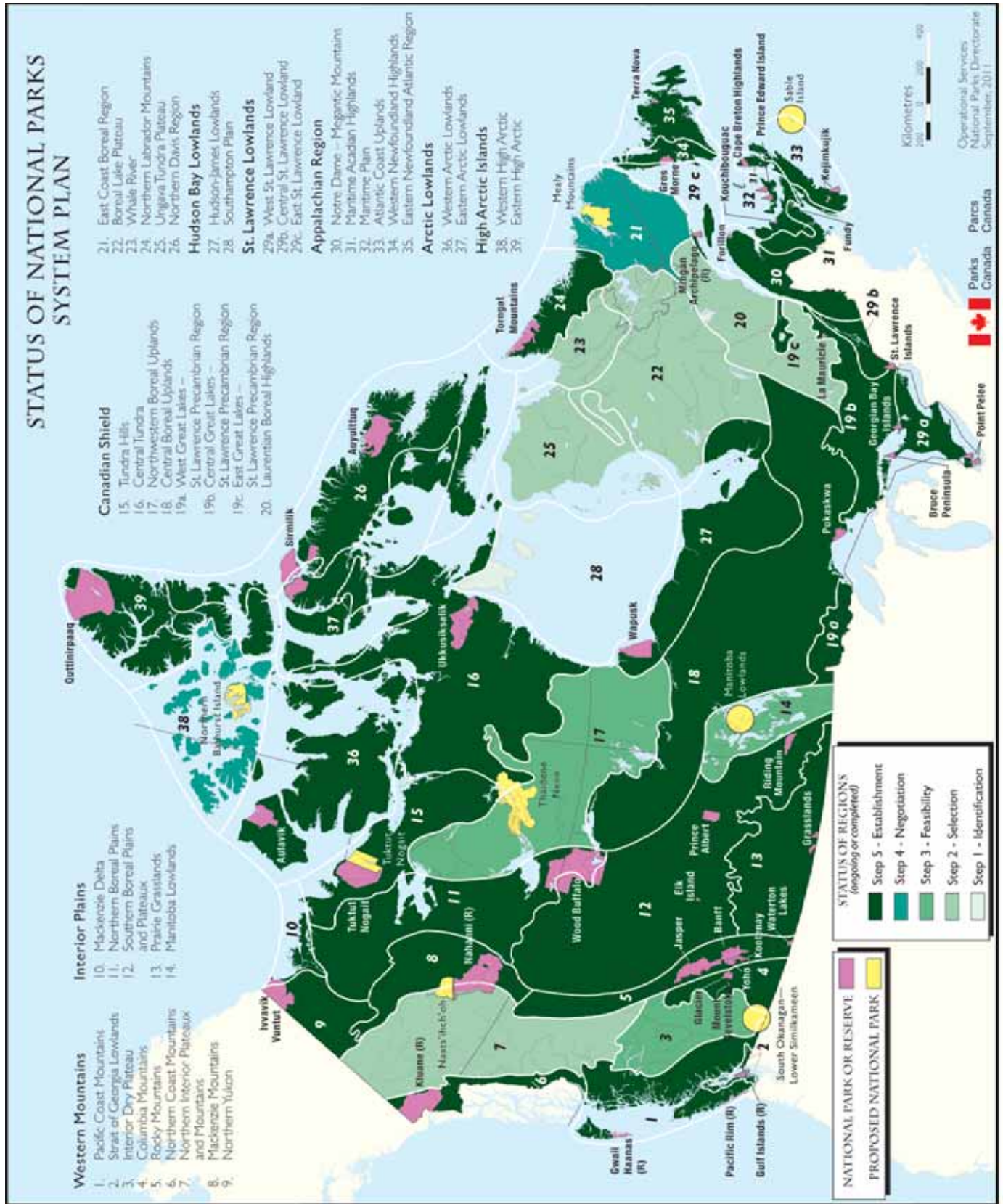
In order to succeed in establishing the remaining national parks in the System Plan, Parks Canada requires the active support of provincial and territorial governments, Aboriginal people, a range of stakeholders, and the Canadian public.

### Limited Opportunity

As more wilderness areas are being developed, achieving the completion of the System Plan becomes more of a challenge. Park establishment processes are increasingly complex and time-consuming due to this development and the number of interests involved.



Figure 2: Status of National Parks System Plan



# National Marine Conservation Areas System

Lancaster Sound (NU), ©Parks Canada, Photo: R. Beardmore

## Context

Canada has the world's longest coastline at over 243,000 kilometres along the Atlantic, Arctic and Pacific oceans, with an area of more than 5.5 million square kilometres of ocean waters. Canada also shares jurisdiction over the Great Lakes, the world's largest freshwater system. These environments are fundamental to the social, cultural and economic well-being of Canadians.

Their importance was recognized when Parliament mandated Parks Canada to establish a system of national marine conservation areas (NMCAs) that are representative of the diversity of Canada's 29 oceanic and Great Lakes marine regions. Parks Canada's role is to ensure the protection and ecologically sustainable use of these national marine conservation areas, to facilitate unique visitor experiences and an appreciation of our marine heritage, and to engage Canadians in the management of NMCAs.

The establishment of an NMCA includes a series of steps starting with the identification and selection of a potential NMCA followed by a feasibility assessment and public consultations. If governments agree to proceed, an NMCA establishment agreement is negotiated. The final step includes the development of an interim management plan and formal establishment under the *Canada National Marine Conservation Areas Act*.

## State of NMCA System Plan

Up to March 31, 2011, Canada's national marine conservation area system includes four sites protecting 14,846 square kilometres and representing five of the 29 marine regions (Figure 3).

These areas include Parks Canada's first marine site at Fathom Five National Marine Park (Ontario); the Saguenay–St. Lawrence Marine Park in Quebec, which protects important habitat for beluga whales; Lake Superior National Marine Conservation Area (Ontario), which is the world's largest freshwater protected area; and Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area Reserve and Haida Heritage Site in British Columbia, which represents two marine regions and is the first area to be legally protected by Parliament under the *Canada National Marine Conservation Areas Act*.

Over the last two years, the area protected within the NMCA system has increased by 30%, and the number of represented marine regions has increased from three to five, with the addition of Gwaii Haanas.



## Actions

A significant achievement during this reporting period was that Parks Canada, in collaboration with the Haida Nation, formally established the 3,500-square-kilometre Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area Reserve and Haida Heritage Site. With the adjacent national park reserve of the same name, Canada's "Galapagos Islands" becomes the world's first to be protected from mountain top to deep seabed. This builds on the 2007 decision by the governments of Canada and Ontario to establish the Lake Superior National Marine Conservation Area, the largest freshwater protected area in the world at more than 10,000 square kilometres.

Significant progress was also made on another national marine conservation area proposal:

**Lancaster Sound (Nunavut)** In December 2009, the governments of Canada and Nunavut, along with the Qikiqitani Inuit Association, signed a memorandum of understanding launching a feasibility assessment for a national marine conservation area in Lancaster Sound, a globally significant ecological treasure often referred to as the "Serengeti of the Arctic." One year later, the federal government announced its position on a potential future boundary for an NMCA in this area, identifying 44,300 square kilometres in Lancaster Sound to be discussed through consultation. With an area the size of lakes Erie and Ontario combined, this site is a critical habitat for narwhal, beluga and bowhead whales, walrus, polar bear, seals and several million breeding seabirds. The government also announced that no exploration or development of petroleum resources within the proposed area would occur during the feasibility study, nor within the final boundary.

During this period, Parks Canada continued to work towards establishing an NMCA reserve in the southern Strait of Georgia in British Columbia. It also worked with the Government of Quebec to develop an approach for a joint assessment of a marine protected area around the Îles-de-la-Madeleine in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. In total, these three areas could add more than 50,000 square kilometres of marine waters to the NMCA system.

Consistent with the mandate to represent each of the 29 marine regions, Parks Canada has continued to work to identify the representative marine areas within each region that would lead to potential national marine conservation area candidates. By March 31, 2011, twenty-six marine regions had undergone a study to identify these representative marine areas. The last three marine regions will be addressed in the near future. Once all these studies are completed, the general plan for the NMCA system will emerge, allowing Parks Canada to better manage its future initiatives. In addition, discussions with various governments are underway to launch NMCA feasibility assessments in other marine regions.

The map on the next page provides an overview of the status of planning for the national marine conservation areas system.

## Key Issues

### Program Development

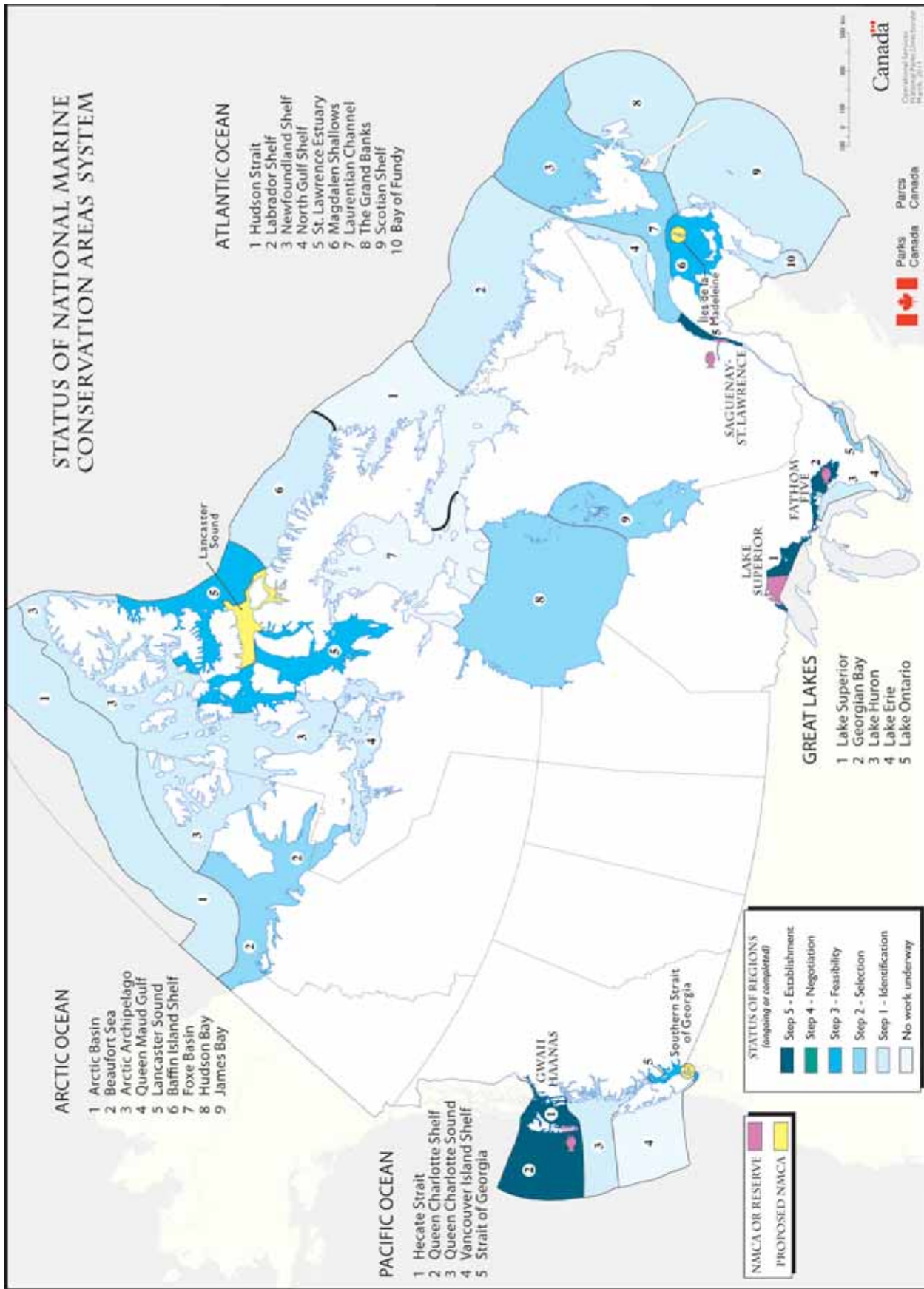
The NMCA program is Parks Canada's newest, and adapting to the jurisdictional complexities inherent to the marine environment and its activities has required some adjustments. Though the *Canada National Marine Conservation Areas Act* came into force in 2002, the Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area Reserve and Haida Heritage Site is the first site to be established under the *Act*. This achievement has enabled Parks Canada to gain valuable experience that will support the successful establishment of other NMCAs.

### Awareness and Relevance

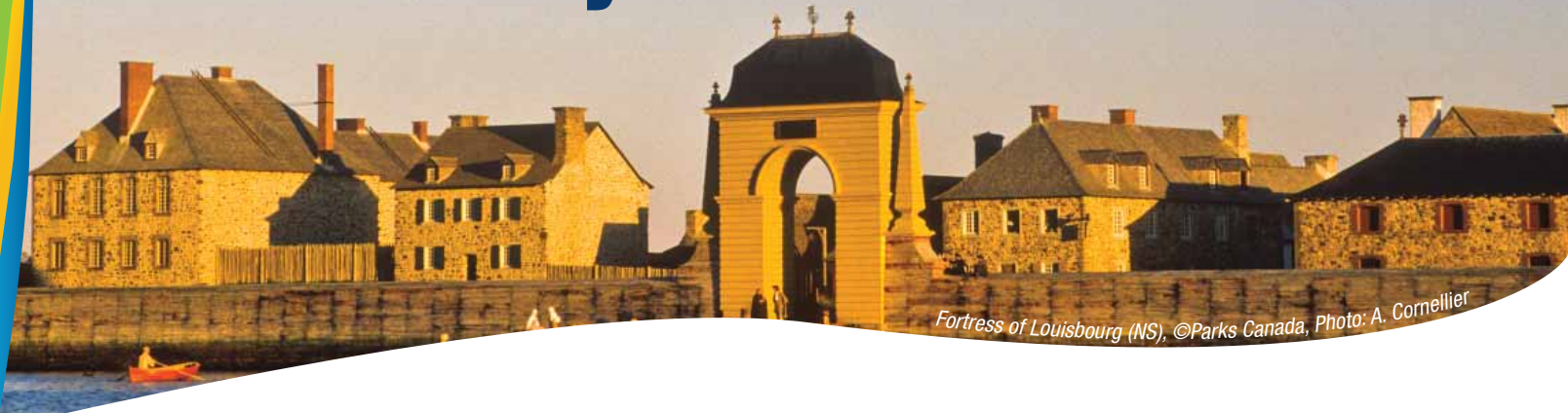
Many Canadians still have only a partial understanding of the purpose and benefits of NMCAs and other marine protected areas. Increasing public awareness of the importance of an NMCA system as a tool for conservation, education and discovery of Canada's marine and Great Lakes environments will help achieve our goals of accelerating the establishment of national marine conservation areas in Canada.

One of the best ways to increase public awareness of the need for marine conservation, and the role of national marine conservation areas in conserving our nation's diversity of marine and freshwater ecosystems, will be through the continued expansion of the system.

Figure 3: Status of National Marine Conservation Areas System Plan



# National Historic Sites System



Fortress of Louisbourg (NS), ©Parks Canada, Photo: A. Cornellier

## Context

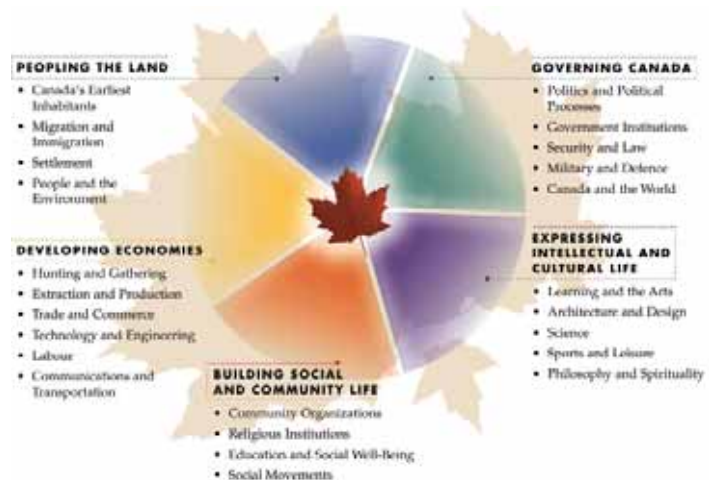
Created in 1919 and supported by Parks Canada, the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC) provides advice to the Minister of the Environment on the designation of places, persons and events that have marked and shaped Canada. Every year, new subjects of potential national historic significance are submitted to the HSMBC for consideration. The participation of the public in the identification of these subjects, and in their commemoration, is a key element of the program. In fact, approximately 95% of nominations for designation presented to the HSMBC are submitted by Canadian individuals and groups.

The National Historic Sites of Canada System Plan (2000) identifies a thematic framework that organizes Canadian history into five broad, interrelated themes (Figure 4). This framework is used by Parks Canada to assess the extent to which the diversity of the Canadian population and its history is reflected in our system of national historic sites, persons and events.

Designations of national historic significance are usually commemorated with a bronze plaque describing the historic significance of the subject, installed in a location that is closely related to the designated subject and accessible to the public.

Parks Canada provides professional and administrative services to support the Board's work, including historical and archaeological research needed for evaluating nominations. It also follows through on the ministerial decisions resulting from the HSMBC's recommendations by organizing plaque unveiling ceremonies and installing and maintaining the commemorative plaques.

Figure 4: National Historic Sites of Canada Thematic Framework





## State of National Historic Sites System

Thirty-five designations occurred in 2009–2011, for a total of 2,021 places, persons and events of national historic significance as of March 31, 2011 (Figure 5). This total consists of 648 national historic persons, 417 national historic events, and 956 national historic sites, 167 of which are administered by Parks Canada (Figure 6).

Figure 5: Status of Designation by Type

	2009–2011		
	Total New Designations	New Designations in Under-represented Themes	Total Designations as of March 31, 2011
Places	9	3	956
Persons	17	12	648
Events	9	3	417
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>2,021</b>

On average, close to 60 nominations of potential subjects of national historic significance are submitted by the public each year.

In recent years, public consultations have been held related to the nomination of candidates in three identified priority areas: the history of Aboriginal peoples, ethnocultural communities and women. As a result, Parks Canada has continued to make significant progress in increasing the number of designations in these under-represented themes (Figure 7).

Figure 7: Status of Representation of Under-represented Themes in the NHS System (April 1, 2009–March 31, 2011)

Under-represented Themes	% of Total New Designations
Women	11%
Aboriginal	3%
Ethnocultural communities	31%
Ethnocultural and women	3%
Aboriginal and women	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>51%</b>

## Actions

The plaque unveiling ceremony is the culmination of the designation process and an opportunity for Canadians to celebrate their history. The plaques for several high-profile new designations were unveiled over the last two years, drawing record crowds. These included the Alouette I Satellite Programme National Historic Event, (Ottawa, ON); the Montreal Canadiens National Historic Event, (Montreal, QC); the Abolition Movement in British North America National Historic Event, (Chatham, ON); and the Lions Gate Bridge National Historic Site of Canada, (Vancouver, BC). In collaboration with Veterans Affairs Canada, a moving commemoration ceremony was also held for The Battle of the Scheldt National Historic Event in the Netherlands in May 2010. In addition, three successful plaque unveiling ceremonies were held across the country (St. John's, NL, Thunder Bay, ON, and Port Coquitlam, BC) to commemorate the determination and achievements of Terry Fox National Historic Person, an enduring Canadian icon.

Over the last two years, Parks Canada continued to hold community consultations across the country through the New Commemorations Initiative (NCI). This successful outreach activity proactively engaged Canadians in generating new nominations for designations related to the under-represented history of Canada's Aboriginal peoples, women, and ethnocultural communities.

## Key Issues

### New Designations of Under-Represented Themes

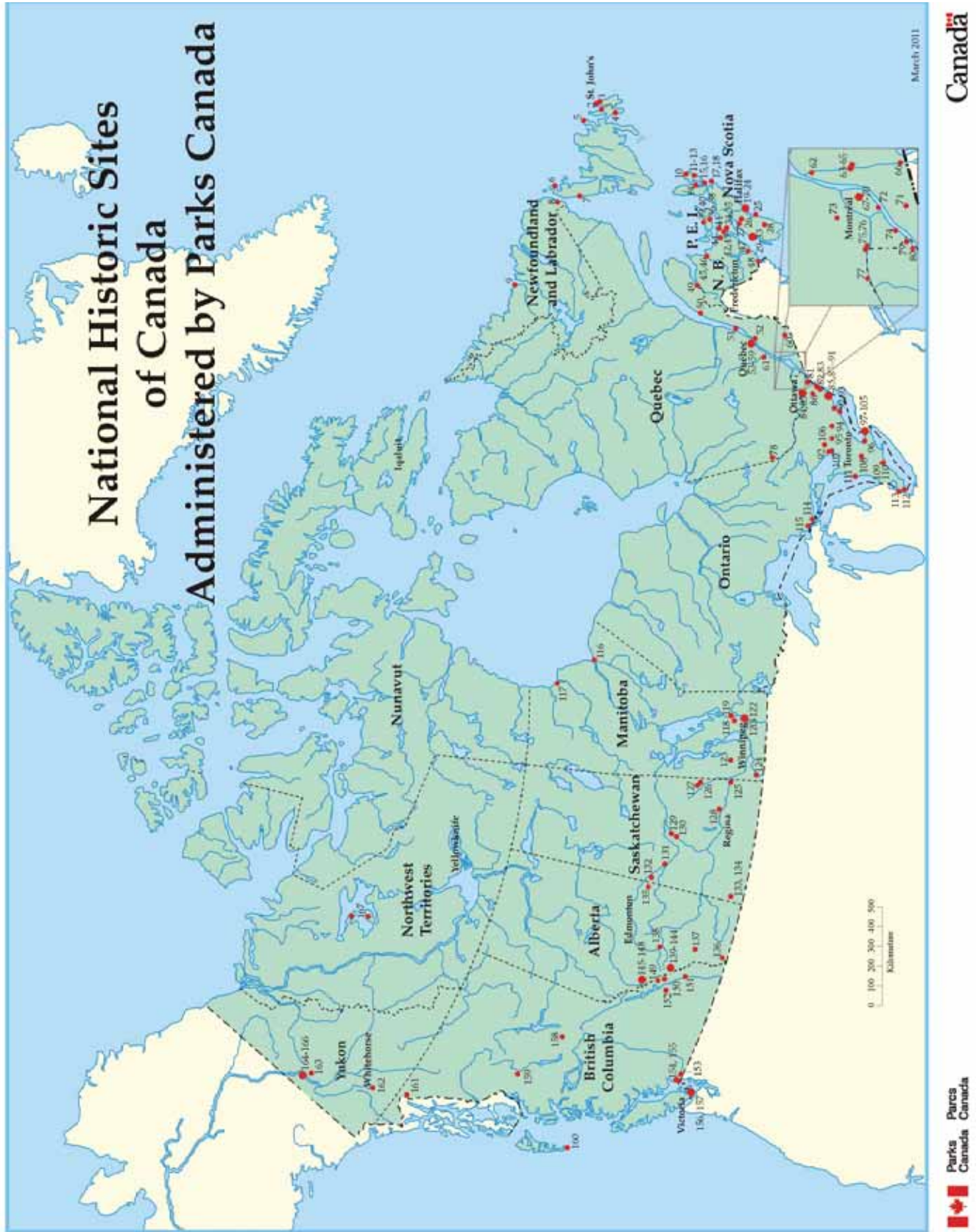
Over the last decade, Parks Canada has made a significant investment in resources to work with communities across the country in generating new nominations for designations related to the under-represented themes. As this targeted investment recently came to completion, the Agency will evaluate the impact of these consultations by tracking future new nominations in support of these priority areas.

### Commemorations

There are a significant number of designations that have yet to be commemorated by means of a bronze plaque.



Figure 6: National Historic Sites of Canada Administered by Parks Canada



## 167 National Historic Sites of Canada - Administered by Parks Canada

**Newfoundland and Labrador**

1. Cape Spear Lighthouse
2. Signal Hill
3. Hawthorne Cottage
4. Castle Hill
5. Ryan Premises
6. L'Anse aux Meadows
7. Fort au Choix
8. Red Bay
9. Hopedale Mission

**Nova Scotia**

10. Marconi
11. Fortress of Louisbourg
12. Wolfe's Landing
13. Royal Battery
14. Alexander Graham Bell
15. St. Peters Canal
16. St. Peters
17. Grassy Island Fort
18. Canso Islands
19. Fort McNab
20. Georges Island
21. Halifax Citadel
22. Prince of Wales Tower
23. York Redoubt
24. D'Anville's Encampment
25. Fort Sainte Marie de Grace
26. Fort Edward
27. Grand-Pré
28. Kejimikujik
29. Fort Anne
30. Charles Fort
31. Fort-Royal
32. Melanson Settlement
33. Bloody Creek
34. Fort Lawrence
35. Beaubassin

**Prince Edward Island**

36. Port-la-Joye-Fort Amherst
37. Ardgowan
38. Province House
39. Dalway-by-the-Sea
40. L.M. Montgomery's Cavendish

**New Brunswick**

41. Fort Gaspareaux
42. Fort Beauséjour – Fort Cumberland
43. La Coupe Dry Dock
44. Monument-Lefebvre
45. Boishébert
46. Beaubears Island Shipbuilding
47. Carleton Martello Tower
48. St. Andrews Blockhouse

**Quebec**

49. Battle of the Restigouche
50. Pointe-au-Père Lighthouse
51. Grosse Ile and the Irish Memorial
52. Lévis Forts
53. 57-63 St. Louis Street
54. Saint-Louis Forts and Châteaux
55. Cartier-Brebeuf

**Quebec, continued**

56. Fortifications of Quebec
57. Maillou House
58. Quebec Garrison Club
59. Montmorency Park
60. Louis S. St. Laurent
61. Forges du Saint-Maurice
62. Saint-Ours Canal
63. Chambly Canal
64. Fort Chambly
65. Fort Ste. Thérèse
66. Fort Lennox
67. The Fur Trade at Lachine
68. Lachine Canal
69. Louis-Joseph Papineau
70. Sir George-Etienne Cartier
71. Battle of the Châteauguay
72. Sainte-Anne-de-Bellefleur Canal
73. Sir Wilfrid Laurier
74. Coteau-du-Lac
75. Carillon Barracks
76. Carillon Canal
77. Manoir Papineau
78. Fort Temiscamingue

**Ontario**

79. Glengarry Cairn
80. Sir John Johnson House
81. Inverarden House
82. Battle of the Windmill
83. Fort Wellington
84. Laurier House
85. Rideau Canal
86. Merrickville Blockhouse
87. Bellevue House
88. Murney Tower
89. Kingston Fortifications
90. Shoal Tower
91. Fort Henry
92. Trent-Severn Waterway
93. Carrying Place of the Bay of Quinte
94. Peterborough Lift Lock
95. Mnjikaning Fish Weirs
96. HMCS *Haida*
97. Navy Island
98. Queenston Heights
99. Butler's Barracks
100. Fort George
101. Fort Mississauga
102. Mississauga Point Lighthouse
103. Battlefield of Fort George
104. Battle of Cook's Mills
105. Ridgeway Battlefield
106. Bechene Memorial House
107. Saint-Louis Mission
108. Woodside
109. Battle Hill
110. Southold Earthworks
111. Point Clark Lighthouse
112. Fort Malden
113. Bois Blanc Island Lighthouse and Blockhouse
114. Fort St. Joseph
115. Sault Ste. Marie Canal

**Manitoba**

116. York Factory
117. Prince of Wales Fort
118. Lower Fort Garry
119. St. Andrew's Rectory
120. The Forks
121. Riel House
122. Forts Rouges, Garry and Gibraltar
123. Riding Mountain Park East Gate Registration Complex
124. Linear Mounds

**Saskatchewan**

125. Fort Espérance
126. Fort Pelly
127. Fort Livingstone
128. Motherwell Homestead
129. Batoche
130. Battle of Tourond's Coulee / Fish Creek
131. Fort Battleford
132. Frenchman Butte
133. Fort Walsh
134. Cypress Hills Massacre

**Alberta**

135. Frog Lake
136. First Oil Well in Western Canada
137. Bar U Ranch
138. Rocky Mountain House
139. Skoki Ski Lodge
140. Cave and Basin
141. Hovse Pass
142. Banff Park Museum
143. Abbot Pass Refuge Cabin
144. Sulphur Mountain Cosmic Ray Station
145. Jasper Park Information Centre
146. Athabasca Pass
147. Yellowhead Pass
148. Jasper House

**British Columbia**

149. Twin Falls Tea House
150. Kicking Horse Pass
151. Koetanae House
152. Rogers Pass
153. Fort Langley
154. Stanley Park
155. Gulf of Georgia Cannery
156. Fisgard Lighthouse
157. Fort Rock Hill
158. Fort St. James
159. Gitw'angak Battle Hill
160. Nan Sdins
161. Chilkoot Trail

**Yukon Territory**

162. S.S. *Kiondike*
163. Dredge No. 4
164. Dawson Historical Complex
165. S.S. *Keno*
166. Former Territorial Court House

**Northwest Territories**

167. Saoyu-7ehdacho

March 2011





# Other Heritage Programs

Parliament Buildings (ON), ©Parks Canada, Photo: A. Guindon

## Context

In addition to the system of national historic sites, national parks and NMCAs, Parks Canada is responsible for a number of other heritage protection programs. These programs support and enhance the protection of a range of important historical and natural heritage resources.

## State of Other Heritage Programs

### Canadian Heritage Rivers

The Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) is Canada's national river conservation program – a cooperative federal-provincial-territorial program led by Parks Canada to recognize, protect and manage rivers having outstanding natural, cultural and recreational values. Parks Canada's leadership for this program is identified in the *Parks Canada Agency Act*.

The CHRS is the world's largest river conservation program. Forty-one rivers have been nominated to the program, totalling almost 11,000 kilometres. Thirty-seven of these have been designated, meaning that management plans have been completed that detail how their heritage values will be conserved and presented.

Over the past two years, the Minister of the Environment has approved the nominations of the Ottawa River (Ontario)

and the Saint John River (New Brunswick) as candidate Canadian Heritage Rivers. During this time, Parks Canada completed ten-year monitoring reports for three designated Canadian Heritage Rivers: the Athabasca River in Jasper National Park, the North Saskatchewan River in Banff National Park, and the Kicking Horse River in Yoho National Park. In all three cases, it was determined that the heritage values for which these rivers were originally nominated have been maintained.

A national CHRS systems study was completed in 2010. This study defines the gaps to complete a comprehensive and representative system of heritage rivers by 2018; one of the major goals outlined in the CHRS Strategic Plan, approved by federal, provincial and territorial parks ministers in September, 2007. The report identified 16 potential priority rivers for designation to complete the system.

### Federal Heritage Buildings

In 1982, the Federal Heritage Buildings Policy came into force as a result of growing concern regarding the state of built heritage in Canada. The goal of the policy is to identify, protect and maintain the heritage character of federal buildings.

Federal heritage buildings are located in every province and territory of the country. They represent some of the most significant historic places in Canada, including the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa, the Cabot Tower in St. John's, the Lighthouse at Peggy's Cove, the

Federal Building in Winnipeg and Hatley Castle in Victoria. Currently, 1,337 buildings have been designated by the Minister of the Environment, including 270 classified (highest level) and 1,067 recognized federal heritage buildings. These buildings are administered by 22 different departments.

Since 1982, Parks Canada has played the lead role in the implementation of the policy. The Agency maintains the Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office (FHBRO), which provides heritage advice to departments. FHBRO manages the heritage evaluation process, reviews proposed interventions to classified federal heritage buildings, and reviews proposed disposals of designated buildings. The office also maintains a register of designated buildings and develops heritage character statements to assist custodians in the management of their heritage buildings.

In addition to providing FHBRO services to departments, Parks Canada is also the largest custodian of federal heritage buildings; it manages 130 classified and 384 recognized federal heritage buildings.

## Heritage Lighthouses

The *Heritage Lighthouse Protection Act* came into force on May 29, 2010. The *Act* is designed to identify federally-owned heritage lighthouses and to protect and conserve their heritage character. Residents of Canada may nominate lighthouses for designation during a two-year nomination period, ending May 29, 2012, and the Minister responsible for Parks Canada must consider these nominations on or before May 29, 2015. The *Act* establishes conservation and maintenance standards for federal custodians of heritage lighthouses and requires that their heritage character be protected upon sale or transfer out of the federal portfolio.

As of March 31, 2011, Parks Canada had received 48 nominations. Most of the nominations are for lighthouses that are surplus to federal operational requirements. Under the *Act*, surplus lighthouses can only be designated if a person or body submits a written

commitment to buy or otherwise acquire the lighthouse and to protect its heritage character. These commitments must be negotiated with the relevant federal custodian, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and in most cases will take the form of a signed purchase and sale agreement.

## Heritage Railway Stations

The *Heritage Railway Stations Protection Act (HRSPA)* outlines the procedures by which stations are designated as heritage railway stations and provides a clear process through which a proposed sale or changes to designated stations must be reviewed and approved. On the recommendation of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC), the Minister of the Environment designates stations as heritage railway stations. Proposed sale of, and alteration to, designated stations must be recommended by the Minister to the Governor-in-Council for approval.

One hundred and sixty-six heritage railway stations were initially designated following the establishment of the *HRSPA* in 1990; today there are 78 that remain under the protection of the *Act*, including such notable stations as the Canadian Pacific Railway (CP) Station in Banff, the Via Rail Station in Ottawa, and the Via Rail Station in Halifax.

Over the last two years, four heritage railway stations have been sold – the Canadian National Railway (CN) station in Prescott, ON, and the CP stations in Owen Sound, ON, Nelson, BC, and Brandon, MB – and authorization was given to carry out alterations at the Vancouver VIA Rail station and the Fredericton Railway Company station. Moving forward, Parks Canada will continue to work closely with heritage railway station owners and communities to promote effective conservation and protection of these resources.



## National Historic Sites Cost-Sharing Program

Launched in March 2009, Parks Canada's Cost-Sharing Program is a contribution program that provides financial assistance to ensure the commemorative integrity of non-federally owned or administered national historic sites. The program supports the Agency's mandate of protecting and presenting nationally significant examples of Canada's cultural and natural heritage. The terms and conditions of the program were approved by Treasury Board in 2008 for a five-year period.

The program's initial budget was \$12 million, however this amount was augmented by \$8 million through funds received from Canada's Economic Action Plan and has proven to be highly successful. Eligible recipients include other levels of government and not-for-profit organizations. Through financial contributions of up to \$425,000, Parks Canada shares the costs of work needed to maintain the physical integrity of sites for the enjoyment and appreciation of Canadians.

In 2009–10 and 2010–11, the program received 203 applications requesting over \$54 million in funding assistance. A total of 81 cost-sharing projects were approved for a commitment of \$14.3 million. As of March 31, 2011, sixty-nine projects have been completed and most of the remaining projects will be completed in 2011–12. The investment made by Parks Canada in these projects and the additional \$79 million invested by the owners of the sites constitute the largest investment in heritage conservation in the non-profit sector in Canada over the last decade and contribute directly to the conservation of significant national treasures.

## National Program for the Grave Sites of Canadian Prime Ministers

This program was created in 1999 to ensure that the gravesites of prime ministers are conserved and recognized in a respectful and dignified manner. Objectives include the preparation of conservation plans for each of the gravesites, the installation of a Canadian flag, and an information panel on the life and accomplishments of the prime minister, as well as the organization of a commemoration ceremony in their honour.

To date, the gravesites of 15 prime ministers have been commemorated through the program. Over the last two years, a significant investment was made into necessary conservation work at The Hon. Alexander Mackenzie gravesite (Sarnia, ON), a commemoration ceremony was held for The Rt. Hon. Louis Stephen St. Laurent (Compton, QC), and a new brochure highlighting the program was published. The current priority of the program is to undertake a formal inspection of each gravesite by conservation specialists. The last formal inspection took place in 2005. The objective of the inspection is to evaluate the condition of each gravesite and identify priority interventions to conserve the site.

## World Heritage Sites

Parks Canada plays the lead role in Canada's implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*, including representing Canada internationally regarding matters related to World Heritage. Parks Canada also provides support and guidance to World Heritage site managers within Canada and to project teams working on nominations for World Heritage inscription, and communicates with the Canadian public and interested stakeholders on world heritage issues.

As of 2011, there are 15 World Heritage sites in Canada, including most recently, the Rideau Canal (inscribed 2007) and Joggins Fossil Cliffs (2008). Future nominations are drawn from Canada's Tentative List, which was last revised in 2004. Of the original 11 sites on the 2004 Tentative List, the nomination of the *Landscape of Grand Pré* has been submitted to the World Heritage Committee for review in 2012. Additional nominations are currently in progress.

In the past two years, a great deal of focus has been on the development of the nominations mentioned above, each of which is the culmination of years of work by the

project team with guidance from Parks Canada. The Agency has also laid the groundwork for a number of significant projects within Canada, including work on the Second Periodic Reporting cycle for North America's World Heritage and plans to revise Canada's Tentative List in the next few years. Internationally, Parks Canada has contributed to work in world heritage policy concerning the nomination process, branding and logo use, and committee decision-making processes.



*L'Anse aux Meadows (NL), ©Parks Canada, Photo: D. Wilson*



# Cultural Resources



Fisgard Lighthouse National Historic Site (BC), ©Parks Canada, Photo: C. Cheadle



## Context

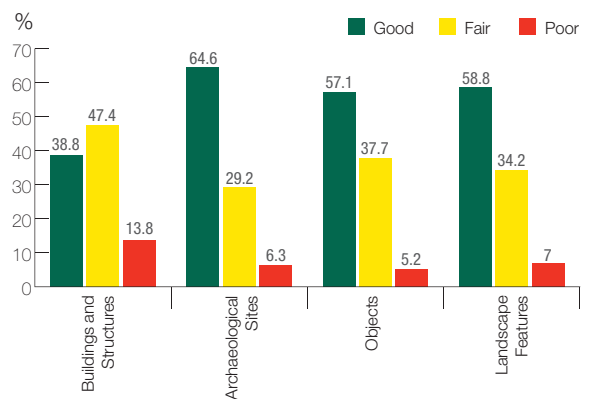
As steward of Canada's treasured natural and historic places, Parks Canada is responsible to protect and conserve cultural resources so that they can be appreciated by current and future generations. The 167 national historic sites administered by Parks Canada represent a significant inventory of the nation's historic buildings and structures, archaeological sites, objects, and landscape features. Parks Canada further categorizes cultural resources in terms of whether they have national historic significance (Level I) or other heritage values (Level II). In this way, the heritage values ascribed to a cultural resource guide conservation efforts and investments.

In managing cultural resources at historic sites, Parks Canada aims to facilitate an experience that strengthens and deepens the connection Canadians have to the essence of Canada. Evaluating the state of cultural resources is a critical step in ensuring this goal is realized for each site. Parks Canada works to both improve the condition of cultural resources rated in poor condition, and to monitor situations where natural processes have accelerated the decline of a cultural resource. At this time, the condition of cultural resources at 133 of 167 national historic sites administered by Parks Canada has been evaluated and is reported here and in more detail in Annex 1.

## State of Cultural Resources

The majority of Parks Canada's cultural resources are in good or fair condition (Figure 8). This also holds true within each of the four major resource categories noted above, i.e. buildings and structures, archaeological sites, objects and landscape features.

Figure 8: Cultural Resource Condition at National Historic Sites



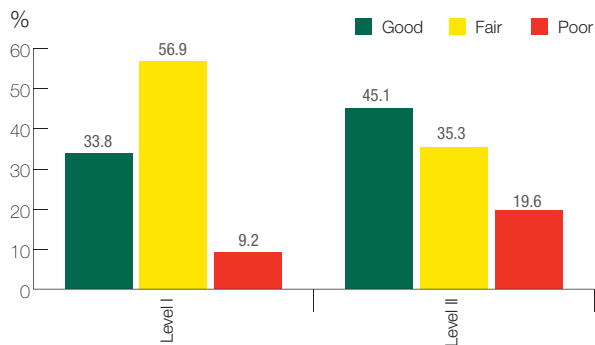
Over 90% of Parks Canada's archaeological sites, objects and landscape features are in good or fair condition with more than half considered to be in good condition. Buildings and structures pose a greater conservation challenge due to their size and complexity, and exposure to the Canadian climate and occasional events such as windstorms, fire, and ice storms. Nonetheless, approximately 86% of Parks Canada's heritage buildings and structures are in good (39%) or fair (47%) condition. The relatively high number of



buildings and structures in fair condition indicates an ongoing need to monitor these to ensure their condition remains stable or improves.

As seen in Figure 9, a relatively high proportion (57%) of Level I buildings and structures are in fair condition, as opposed to 35% of Level II buildings and structures.

Figure 9: Condition of Buildings and Structures



The overall condition of cultural resources is also evaluated at each national historic site, as seen in Annex 1. The cultural resources of 53 sites (40%) are considered to be in good condition, 72 sites (54%) in fair condition and eight sites (6%) in poor condition.

At 24 of these sites, Parks Canada has updated the initial condition rating of cultural resources through a reassessment (noted in Annex 1, indicated by arrows). For the majority, there was a net improvement. Improvements in the condition of cultural resources have been documented at 14 of the 24 sites and no significant change in overall condition was seen at seven. The remaining three showed a decline, signalling the need for further conservation work.

## Actions

To date, Parks Canada has focussed its conservation efforts on those cultural resources rated in poor condition and has been successful in improving the condition of these resources in the majority of instances. Examples include the situation at Fort McNab National Historic Site (Nova Scotia) where Canada's Economic Action Plan funding permitted an extensive stabilization project to be conducted between February 2010 and March 2011. This project involved roof repair, significant concrete repair and painting on all major structures.

At Queenston Heights National Historic Site (Ontario), site of an important War of 1812 battle, Parks Canada completed major renovations to Brock's Monument leading to the site's cultural resources being rated in good condition in 2010–11 from the earlier poor rating in 2005–06.

In summary, Parks Canada continues to improve the condition of cultural resources at national historic sites, particularly in situations where they had previously been rated in poor condition. By making significant conservation investments, some accelerated by additional federal funding under Canada's Economic Action Plan, places like Dredge No. 4 National Historic Site (Yukon) and Grosse Île and the Irish Memorial National Historic Site (Quebec) have benefitted from important conservation work. The impact of this work on overall site condition will be re-evaluated in the future. At others, such as Figgard Lighthouse National Historic Site (British Columbia) and Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site (Nova Scotia), Parks Canada has already evaluated the results of its conservation initiatives showing an improvement in the overall state of the national historic site.

## Key Issues

### Erosion

At national historic sites located at or near shorelines, notably York Factory National Historic Site (Manitoba), Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Site (Nova Scotia), and Navy Island National Historic Site (Ontario), erosion continues to threaten cultural resources. This has worsened over time due to climate-related effects such as melting permafrost and stronger than usual storm surges.

### Built Heritage Condition

Some of Parks Canada's heritage buildings and structures are at an age when materials, such as concrete and steel, would normally be considered to be at the end of their life cycle. While regular and ongoing maintenance substantially slows environmental effects, over time, larger-scale conservation may be necessary. To assist in addressing these pressures, Parks Canada adopted the recently completed second edition of the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*, providing improved conservation guidance on engineering works and sustainability-related interventions.



# Ecological Integrity

*Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site (NS), ©Parks Canada, Photo: J. Pleau*



## Context

As steward of Canada's national parks, Parks Canada has a legal obligation to maintain or improve ecological integrity (EI) while providing benefit and enjoyment for present and future generations of Canadians. A national park has ecological integrity when it supports healthy populations of those plants and animals that are representative of the unique natural region that the park was established to protect. It is also important that the natural processes that support park ecosystems be in place and functioning normally (e.g. fire cycle). Parks Canada regularly monitors the state of EI, and publishes the results for each national park every five years. The most current information for each of the 42 national parks is summarized in Annex 2.

Parks Canada uses indicators to summarize and assess the ecological condition of the various major park ecosystems in each national park, e.g. forests, tundra, wetlands, or freshwater.

## State of Ecological Integrity

Of the 102 park ecosystems that have been assessed, 92% are reported to be in either good or fair condition. For the ecosystems in good condition, almost all had a stable trend, indicating no observed change in their condition since their last evaluation. For those ecosystems assessed to be in fair condition, 43% are showing a declining trend, which is cause for concern. Eight (8%) ecosystems are assessed as being in poor condition.

There is currently insufficient monitoring information to be able to assess the condition of 73 (42%) ecosystem indicators, and their condition is shown as being 'not rated'. It will take several years for these assessments to be completed.

Although the 42 national parks are situated in a wide variety of unique ecological settings, there are some common trends in park conditions across the country. Almost half of the park ecosystems considered to be in poor and fair-declining condition are in park forests, and this is due mainly to some common challenges such as land use on neighbouring lands, overabundant deer and moose populations, plant diseases, and invasive plants.

The remaining park ecosystems considered to be in poor or fair-declining condition are varied. Freshwater and wetland ecosystems are generally in good condition – the notable exception being Wood Buffalo National Park.

Water quality and beach stability are affected by regional impacts on coastal and wetland ecosystems at Point Pelee National Park. In Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site, a combination of invasive species, such as the European green crab, and concern for species at risk indicate poor condition of the park's coastal ecosystem. Similarly, coastal ecosystems at Gwaii Hanaas National Park Reserve and Pacific Rim National Park Reserve are also in poor condition, due to a range of factors including declining populations of herring and seabirds. In every instance, Parks Canada works with its neighbours to try to reduce the impact of stressors that affect the health of the parks.

## Actions

Parks Canada is working to improve the condition of park ecosystems, using new knowledge and monitoring information to determine where restoration efforts will be most effective. Through dedicated funding for ecological restoration, targeted parks are implementing a variety of projects that will contribute to maintaining and improving ecological integrity, including:

- restoring streams and riparian areas;
- reintroducing native species lost from the park;
- restoring aquatic connections (e.g. culvert replacement);
- controlling invasive species;
- restoring historical fire regimes; and
- reducing populations of overabundant species such as moose, white-tailed deer, and double-crested cormorants.

## Key Issues

### Hyperabundant Species

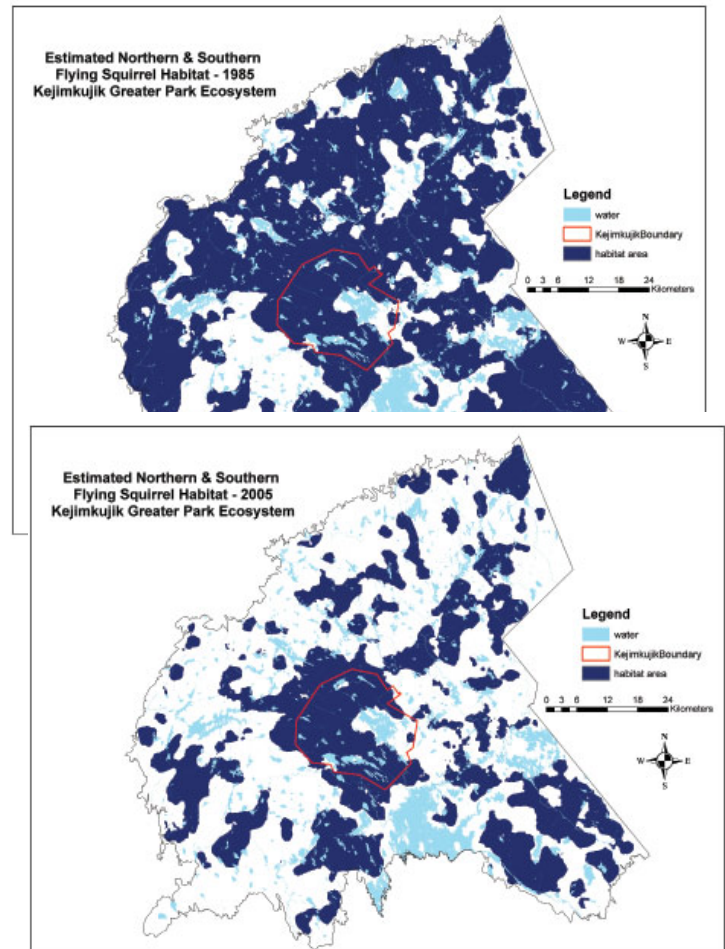
In a number of national parks, deer and moose are so plentiful that their feeding patterns are damaging forest health and preventing tree regrowth. This has a significant impact on the diversity of forest flora and fauna, and on the process by which forests regenerate following major events like fire or insect outbreaks. In all cases this overabundance is due to a lack of predators (e.g. wolves), and several parks are working with local communities to reduce overabundant populations to allow forests to recover.

### Adjacent Land Use

Industrial forestry operations and other land developments adjacent to national parks may directly affect the health of a park's flora and fauna. This is especially true for animal species that regularly move beyond park boundaries to meet their basic needs (e.g. breeding, rearing young, feeding requirements), or to ensure sufficient opportunities to diversify the gene pool by breeding with other populations. When adjacent land

use is incompatible with conservation, parks become isolated from the landscape, reducing their effectiveness. Parks Canada is working with neighbours to develop cooperative land use plans that alleviate these effects (Figure 10).

Figure 10: Reduction of Flying Squirrel Habitat around Kejimikujik — 1985–2005



### Long Range External Stressors

In addition to local and regional effects, there are more global stressors affecting national parks that are beyond the influence of park managers (e.g. climate change). Arctic national parks are already changing in response to a warming climate, (e.g. more shrubs), and national parks in Southern Canada are experiencing changes such as insect epidemics.



# Focus: Species at Risk

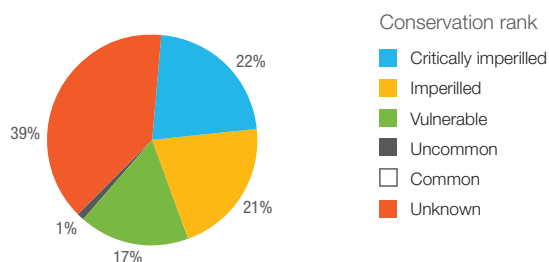
## Context

Parks Canada is committed to maintaining and, when possible, improving the conservation status of species at risk. Nearly half of the species at risk in Canada can be found occasionally or regularly within Parks Canada lands and waters. The first step in preventing the loss of biodiversity is to understand which species occur in heritage places, and how they are doing. This information is used to determine the conservation status of the species, and to determine the risk of the loss of the species from the heritage place. This, in turn, guides decision-making on species at risk recovery actions, and provides a framework for monitoring, evaluating and reporting progress to Canadians.

## State of Species at Risk

There are 166 species at risk that live, breed and feed throughout the network of Parks Canada heritage places. Parks Canada conducted assessments in 14 heritage places, to rank the conservation status of 89 of these species at risk (Figure 11). The rest of the species are currently being evaluated. The conservation status of the ranked species range from *critically imperilled* (22%) to *uncommon* (1%). Species that are *critically imperilled* are extremely rare and especially vulnerable to disappearing from the heritage place. Species that are ranked as *uncommon* are apparently secure in the heritage place but remain a possible cause for long term concern.

Figure 11: Conservation Status of Species at Risk in Parks Canada's Heritage Places



A population may be critically imperilled for several reasons. For example, many species at risk are naturally rare, or have been reduced to small populations, or have been isolated from their main population, like the

endangered Blanding's turtle in Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site. Other species, such as the queensnake, are critically imperilled and at very high risk of disappearing from the heritage place because they have declined significantly in recent years throughout their range. In most cases, species are affected by threats acting from outside the park, with only a portion of the Canadian population being protected within.

Fifty-two species are at low risk of disappearing from heritage places, either because they are more abundant, or because they face less imminent threats, or both. For example, in Wood Buffalo National Park, the endangered whooping crane has access to large areas of suitable protected habitat and the population is increasing.

## Actions

Parks Canada supports activities for the protection and recovery of species at risk. Most projects are conducted in partnership with non-government organizations (NGOs), private citizens, or Aboriginal communities, under Parks Canada's leadership. In Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site in 2010, over 10,000 hours of volunteer work were dedicated to several projects contributing to recovery objectives for species at risk. Other activities across Canada included the reintroduction of the black-footed ferret into Grasslands National Park in Saskatchewan after a 75-year absence, the restoration of habitat in Garry Oak ecosystems in British Columbia, and the continuation of the species at risk inventory and habitat assessment along the Trent-Severn Waterway National Historic Site in Ontario.

## Key Issues

### Habitat loss

Although some species are on the path to recovery, many more continue to face threats. Habitat loss is a notable threat that affects species within heritage places by decreasing ecological connectivity, which impedes movement of species within a park and between the park and its greater ecosystem, and by reducing seasonal habitat for migrating species. Invasive species and climate change are other key issues for species at risk and biodiversity on Parks Canada lands and waters.



# National Marine Conservation Area Health

*Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park (QC), ©Parks Canada, Photo: D. Danvoye*



## Context

Parks Canada is entrusted to conserve marine habitats and biological diversity while providing for ecologically sustainable use within its growing system of national marine conservation areas (NMCAs).

The four existing NMCAs encompass a variety of marine ecosystems: from intertidal areas to abyssal depths; from coastal wetlands and estuaries to eelgrass and kelp beds; from banks, shoals and islands to deep water channels and troughs. This ecological diversity supports a wide range of uses, including activities such as recreation, tourism, shipping and transport, and commercial and sport fishing.

National marine conservation areas are fundamentally different from terrestrial parks. With species movements that encompass large expanses, this fluid three-dimensional environment tends to have a broader range of uses and stakeholders. Jurisdictional and legislative complexities are also considerable. These differences strongly affect how national marine conservation areas are managed and operated, with protection and ecologically sustainable use being equally important elements. As a result, a high degree of collaboration with other government departments, partners and users is required in the overall management of these protected areas.



*Fathom Five National Marine Park (ON), ©Parks Canada, Photo: E. Meleg*

## State of NMCA Health

At the international and national levels, initiatives are underway to identify monitoring and reporting standards for marine protected areas. Informed by these initiatives and the monitoring and reporting experience gained in Fathom Five Marine Park and Saguenay–St. Lawrence Marine Park, Parks Canada will be developing a national set of indicators and a monitoring framework for the health of national marine conservation areas. In recognition of the unique challenges of managing national marine conservation areas, this set of indicators will need to integrate the health of marine ecosystems, the ecologically sustainable use of marine resources and the effectiveness of governance practices.

## Actions

Over the past two years, initiatives have been undertaken to support improvements to the state of national marine conservation areas. For example:

- The 2009 Zoning Plan for the Saguenay–St. Lawrence Marine Park represents a key achievement for Parks Canada. This zoning plan is the first in Canada to be developed for a marine protected area and is the result of close collaboration with partners and stakeholders involved in the management of the marine park. The implementation of the zoning plan supports the protection of ecosystems, habitats and species, and fosters the ecologically sustainable use of marine resources and the facilitation of meaningful visitor experience.
- A major collaborative research program in Fathom Five Marine Park using leading edge technologies has produced high resolution maps of the lakebed, and allowed science and traditional knowledge to complement each other in gaining a greater understanding of submerged features and changes in water levels over time. These maps are being used for research, ecological modelling, decision-making, public outreach, and monitoring purposes.

## Key Issues

### National Monitoring Framework

As Parks Canada moves forward with the establishment of new national marine conservation areas, there is a need to track and report on their health, which will require the development of a national set of indicators and monitoring framework.



*Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area Reserve and Haida Heritage Site (BC), ©Parks Canada, Photo: Clint Johnson Kendrick*



# Assets



Rideau Canal National Historic Site (ON), ©Parks Canada. Photo: M. Trepanier



## Context

Parks Canada manages a large number of complex real property assets valued at more than \$11 billion. Parks Canada’s asset portfolio includes bridges, dams, roadways, canals, potable water systems, wastewater systems, fortifications, contemporary and historic buildings as well as other holdings. These assets support Parks Canada in the delivery of its mandate and serve the more than 20 million visitors to Parks Canada facilities each year. Certain assets, such as through-highways and through-waterways, also serve as vital links for Canadian communities.

There are several challenges inherent in managing these assets. Many are located in remote areas across the country, including northern climates, adding to the cost and complexity of operating and maintaining these assets. Parks Canada is also the custodian of many assets of historical significance which require specialized maintenance and management to ensure their protection and preservation. Of the contemporary assets, the majority are aging and require significant ongoing investments.

## State of Assets

Parks Canada is developing a suite of national indicators and evaluation tools that will provide a consistent picture of the state of all of the Agency’s assets. Currently, information on the state of three asset categories is available: buildings, dams and bridges related to waterways.

## Buildings

Parks Canada manages a diverse portfolio of buildings across the country ranging from public use buildings (e.g. visitor centres, washroom and shower facilities) to administration buildings. The distribution of condition ratings by building type is presented in Figure 12. Of the 4,298 buildings managed by Parks Canada currently in the Directory of Federal Real Property (DFRP), 3,432 (80%) have been determined to be in good or fair condition, 691 (16%) in poor condition and 175 (4%) are closed.

Figure 12: Condition of Parks Canada Buildings

Building Type	Condition Rating				
	Total	Good	Fair	Poor	Closure
Public Use Buildings	1,927	36%	47%	13%	3%
Operation Building	1,064	37%	43%	17%	3%
Administration Buildings	235	38%	54%	8%	0%
Staff Housing	739	24%	55%	19%	2%
Other Buildings (e.g. sheds, barns and garages)	333	19%	33%	28%	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,298</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>4%</b>

Buildings currently in the Directory of Federal Real Property (March 31, 2011)



## Dams Related to Waterways

Parks Canada manages 204 dams related to waterways located along the Trent-Severn Waterway, the Rideau Canal and within four navigation canals around the Montreal area: Carillon, Chambly, Lachine and Saint-Ours. The condition of 59% of these dams is either good or fair (Figure 13). Each of these dams requires a dam safety review, performed by a team of specialized engineers. To this end, Parks Canada initiated five dam safety reviews on high-risk dams in 2010–11, in addition to the eight already completed in previous years, and progress will continue in line with the availability of resources and expertise.

Figure 13: Condition of Parks Canada Dams Related to Waterways

Condition Assessment 2010–11					
	Good	Fair	Poor	Closed	Not Rated
Number of Dams	32	88	82	2	0
Percentage	16%	43%	40%	1%	0%

Source: Dam safety project files

## Bridges Related to Waterways

Parks Canada manages 115 bridges related to waterways. They are located along the Trent-Severn Waterway, Rideau, Carillon, Chambly, Lachine and Saint-Ours canals. The condition of 82% of these bridges has been assessed over the past five years and their respective condition ratings are listed in Figure 14.

Figure 14: Condition of Parks Canada Bridges Related to Waterways

Condition Assessment 2010–11					
	Good	Fair	Poor	Closed	Not Rated
Number of Bridges	23	45	21	5	21
Percentage	20%	39%	18.5%	4%	18.5%

Source: Bridge safety project files

## Actions

Between April 2009 and March 2011, efforts related to asset management were focused primarily on delivering projects associated with Canada's Economic Action Plan. Parks Canada received \$213 million in federal funding under the *Improving Parks Canada's National Historic Sites and Visitor Facilities Program*. From this funding, \$57 million was invested in projects substantially related to the rehabilitation and upgrade of Parks Canada buildings including public use and heritage buildings. Other projects were aimed at the recapitalization and stabilization of fortifications, highways, bridges and municipal infrastructure.

Parks Canada is developing a path forward for more effective asset management across the Agency. As well, the Agency will continue to respond to recommendations of the *Evaluation of Parks Canada's Asset Management Program*.

## Key Issues

### Aging Infrastructure

Over the past decade, investment in recapitalization and maintenance has not been proportionate to the rate of deterioration of assets resulting in the closure of certain facilities due to a potential structural failure. Increasing deterioration of assets could potentially have negative impacts on public safety, as well as on the functionality and operability of assets, which in turn may hinder the level of service provided to the users (service disruption, traffic delay or congestion, etc.).

Parks Canada remains focussed on its higher risk assets such as bridges, dams and roadways. These assets are highly complex and require professional expertise to manage them effectively along with regular inspections performed by specialized engineers.

### Information Management

Accurate real-time information on asset inventory, condition and status is crucial for the efficient and effective management of assets. Nationally consistent indicators as well as a reliable asset information system are needed to ensure that Parks Canada makes informed investment decisions.



# Visitor Experience



Forillon (QC), ©Parks Canada, Photo: E. Le Bel



## Context

“Visitor experience” refers to a visitor’s interactions with Parks Canada in the context of their visit to a national park, national historic site, or national marine conservation area. It covers the whole visitor cycle from the initial inspiration to visit, to the planning of the trip, to arrival and experiences during the visit, to departure and fond reflection on the people met and the experience itself.

Relevant and memorable visitor experiences based on quality services, activities, and programs, in conjunction with passionate and knowledgeable staff, help foster the desirability of heritage places as travel destinations for Canadian and international visitors. These aspects also facilitate a diverse range of opportunities for visitors to learn about, experience, and enjoy the spirit, wonder, and awe of Canada’s network of heritage places. These opportunities, in turn, help inspire and nurture a sense of personal connection among Canadians and ensure the continued relevance of Canada’s heritage places for the country as a whole.

Parks Canada uses four indicators to measure the state of visitor experience: 1) visitor satisfaction, 2) visitor enjoyment, 3) visitor learning, and 4) visitation.

## State of Visitor Experience

More than 20 million people visit Canada’s network of heritage places annually. People visit and connect with heritage places for a variety of reasons. For some visitors, it is about spending time with family and friends, learning about their ancestors’ lives or experiencing the power and mystery of nature or a past culture for the first time. For others, recreational activities – a familiar activity or something new – attract them. Indulging a curiosity is the attraction for others.

Visitor enjoyment, visitor satisfaction, and visitor learning are interrelated and all contribute to influencing the connection people have with heritage places, yet each measures a different aspect of a visitor’s experience. Enjoyment is associated with whether an individual feels they benefited (i.e. spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally) from their experiences, while satisfaction is a subjective measure based on an individual’s personal assessment of how well their overall visit met their own pre-determined expectations. Learning is associated with whether an individual feels they gained knowledge about the place they visited.

Visitors to heritage places leave with a smile on their face and fond memories to share with friends and family. On average, ratings of enjoyment have been above 92% since measurement began in 2008, and learning has been at least 80% on average during the same period. The percentage of visitors that consider they learned something tends to be higher at national historic sites where the offer and opportunities tend to

be more learning-oriented. Interaction with Parks Canada staff is cited among the top reasons people enjoy their visit and learn. At national parks, opportunities to relax and stimulate the senses with beautiful scenery, along with recreation are often cited as reasons for enjoyment. Visitor satisfaction was 96% and 95% in 2009–10 and 2010–11 respectively, and has remained high over the last decade.

Visitors to Canada's heritage places enjoy themselves and are satisfied with their visits, yet the challenge Parks Canada faces is that fewer people are visiting. Visitation in 2010–11 was 20.2 million, the lowest in a decade. Over the last five years, visitation has declined 7%. Since 2000, the rate of decline is 10%. Most of the decline since 2000 has occurred at national historic sites (down 24%).

## Actions

Parks Canada undertook a number of targeted initiatives to create interest in visiting heritage places and to nurture a sense of personal connection in people that do visit. To raise awareness and inspire visitation, Parks Canada launched two national television campaigns (2009, 2010), enhanced its presence in travel media with feature stories in magazines (e.g. VIA Rail's *Destinations*, WestJet's *up!*) and newspapers (e.g. *The Globe and Mail*), and held special events nationally to celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of national parks in Canada and the centennial celebrations of Parks Canada.

To be competitive and relevant, Parks Canada further integrated its brand identity and attributes into all aspects of its visitor-related operations (including a refreshed look, service standards), thus creating a renewed energy. Parks Canada also employs market research to understand the needs of different visitors, which helps to promote opportunities for Canadians to experience nature and history in ways that meet their needs.

Admission fees remained frozen at 2008 levels, thus providing another incentive to visit. The Agency also began diversifying accommodation offers to include yurts, teepees, and cottage tents, introducing new recreational activities (e.g. traction kiting, rock bouldering), and expanding the use of technology in interpretation activities (e.g. GPS-oriented tours, apps).

Parks Canada launched initiatives to connect with specific segments of the population. It introduced a youth entry pass (My Parks Pass), which provides free access for Grade 8 students to heritage places, and an onsite explorers (Xplorers) program for youth and their families. "Learn-to" programs, such as learn to camp are designed to introduce urban youth, families and new Canadians to camping in a safe and friendly environment.

With the assistance of Canada's Economic Action Plan, a number of visitor-related assets were upgraded or built (e.g. visitor centres, trails, boardwalks, highways) to respond to changing visitor needs.

## Key Issues

### Relevance and Changing Society

Canadian society is changing – (e.g. demographics, social values, urbanization, technology, leisure). Awareness, access to, interest in, and experiences with nature, history, or heritage places, are variable in the Canadian population. Parks Canada must engage Canadians, particularly certain segments of the population (e.g. urban youth, new Canadians), in different and meaningful ways to ensure heritage places remain relevant for future generations.

### Competitive Position

Parks Canada is one of many organizations offering places of natural and historical interest. It risks becoming less competitive than other parks, historical attractions, and leisure activities, which could result in fewer Canadians choosing to visit and connect with the heritage places administered by Parks Canada. To keep heritage places in the hearts and minds of Canadians also means raising awareness about them and reminding Canadians about the opportunities they offer.

### External Factors

External factors such as economic conditions, fuel prices, new regulations, pandemics, and terrorism can influence visitation. Parks Canada needs the flexibility to adapt and react to these factors to encourage visitation to heritage places.



# Aboriginal Relationships

Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site (NS), ©Parks Canada, Photo: D. Wilson



## Context

To effectively manage its heritage places, Parks Canada counts on the support and collaboration of over 300 Aboriginal communities across Canada. New natural heritage places can be established only with the support, collaboration, and involvement of Aboriginal peoples. Over the years, cooperative management with Aboriginal partners has taken many different forms and has become a common practice within Parks Canada. The members of these cooperative committees work jointly with Parks Canada in the planning and operations of heritage places.

## State of Aboriginal Relationships

Parks Canada defines the state of the Agency's relationships with Aboriginal communities by the following five areas:

### Building Meaningful Relationships with Aboriginal Peoples

Approximately 68% of federal Crown lands are managed through a cooperative relationship between Aboriginal peoples and Parks Canada. At a national level, Parks Canada receives the support and collaboration of an Aboriginal Consultative Committee (ACC) composed of 12 members who meet three times a year to provide ongoing advice and guidance to the Agency. Parks Canada is also an active participant at land claim tables across Canada.

### Creating Economic Partnerships

Parks Canada actively supports the Government of Canada Strategic Partnership Initiative (SPI) and has signed a memorandum of agreement with Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada to develop authentic Aboriginal cultural tourism projects. Over the past four years, more than 50 contribution agreements were signed with Aboriginal communities. The Agency has contracted with over 251 Aboriginal businesses in 2010 to procure goods and services, an increase from 206 in 2009, through competitive and non-competitive processes. Over 500 contracts were awarded for a total estimated value of \$2.1 million.

### Increasing Programming at Parks and Sites

Through the system of sites and parks, Parks Canada works with Aboriginal communities to present authentic Aboriginal interpretations. In St. Lawrence Island National Park, the community of Akwesasne has been working with the Agency to create *Voices of Akwesasne and Words Before All Else* aimed at helping visitors to better understand Haudenosaunee culture. Programs such as the Healing Broken Connections Project in Kluane National Park Reserve helped local First Nations reconnect to traditionally used lands through the participation of elders and youth in culture and science camps. The yearly Treaty Payments and Education Program at The Forks National Historic Site provides Parks Canada with the opportunity to welcome First Nations and Métis on the site and to educate people about the importance of the treaties. These initiatives

also helped Parks Canada better understand the importance of conveying Aboriginal cultures and their inherent place in Canada's system of heritage places.

## Enhancing Employment Opportunities

Parks Canada is one of the lead employers of Aboriginal peoples in the federal government (8.4% of staff is Aboriginal). In Nunavut for example, 63% of staff is Inuit. To support Aboriginal staff, Parks Canada developed, in partnership with Yukon College, the four-year Aboriginal Leadership Development Program. It focuses on Aboriginal employees' skills and leadership attributes. The program started in 2000 and 78 participants have graduated since then. Another 132 participants are currently in the program. Parks Canada also actively supports the Aboriginal Working Group, an Employment Equity and Diversity Advisory Group.

## Commemorating Aboriginal Themes

The total number of national historic designations that commemorate Aboriginal history is 224. Of that total, there are 115 national historic sites that commemorate Aboriginal themes, 47 Aboriginal persons who have been designated as national historic persons, and 46 Aboriginal events that have been designated of national historic importance. In the past five years, 13 out of the 161 new designations (or 8%) commemorate Aboriginal history.

## Actions

Over the past decades, Parks Canada has come to recognize that effectively managing heritage places means working in cooperation with Aboriginal peoples. Here are some examples of projects that were undertaken over the past couple of years:

- Saoyú-Pehdacho National Historic Site, is the largest Aboriginal cultural landscape in the world to be designated, as a result of consultations with the Sahtu Dene and the Métis nations.
- In partnership with the Haida Nation, Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area Reserve and Haida Heritage Site became the first site in the world to be protected from mountaintop to the depths of the ocean.
- Nahanni National Park Reserve was expanded to six times its original size with the direct involvement of the Dehcho First Nations.
- 95% of the economic benefits from the Stokes Point Decontamination Project, funded under Canada's Economic Action Plan, went to Inuvialuit companies and workforce through a competitive national tendering process.
- In Kluane, Mingan Archipelago, and Pacific Rim National Park Reserves, Parks Canada is working with local Aboriginal communities to build interpretation and visitors centres to help reconnect and welcome people.
- Funds from Canada's Economic Action Plan were used to develop a *Landscape Visitor Experience Plan* in Port au Choix National Historic Site with the collaboration of Aboriginal groups to help visitors appreciate and understand the rich Aboriginal heritage of the site.

## Key Issues

### Governance

There is a need for a variety of mechanisms to allow for the engagement of Aboriginal peoples in the management of Parks Canada heritage places. Flexibility is required to account for the diverse contexts of the relationships that Parks Canada has with Aboriginal peoples.

### Aboriginal Engagement

Establishing new places and managing existing ones require the collaboration of and partnerships with Aboriginal people. Developing and maintaining respectful relationships are essential to ensuring meaningful engagement, requiring dedicated capacity from all parties.



# Public Appreciation and Support



Parks Day in Vancouver, ©Parks Canada, Photo: T. Le



## Context

To foster a sense of connection to Canada's national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas, it is important that Canadians have opportunities to be exposed to and interact with these heritage places, even if they never have the opportunity to visit them. Through media, outreach, and other public engagement activities, Parks Canada reaches out and brings the spirit, wonder, and awe of heritage places to Canadians – to where they live, work, learn, and play. In turn, Canadians develop an appreciation for the heritage places administered by Parks Canada, and will increasingly take pride in and support their protection, ensuring their continued relevance in Canadian society.

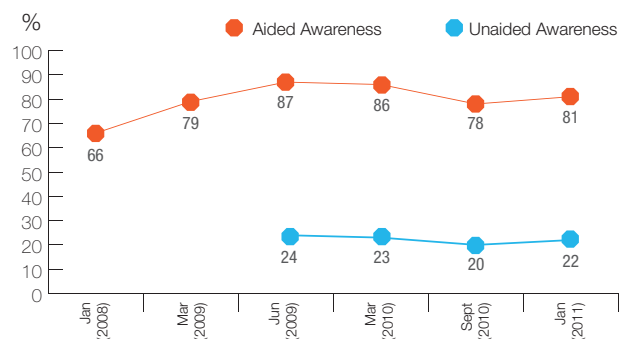
Success in ensuring that Canadians are connected to heritage places is very much dependent upon the health of working relationships Parks Canada has with its stakeholders and partners. Engaging stakeholders and partners in meaningful opportunities to connect Canadians with nature and history helps foster a constituency for the continued role of heritage places in Canada.

Parks Canada uses four indicators to measure the state of public engagement: 1) awareness, 2) public appreciation, 3) public support, and 4) stakeholder/partner support.

## State of Public Appreciation and Support

Parks Canada protects and presents Canada's heritage places on behalf of all Canadians. To engage Canadians in discovering, appreciating and supporting these heritage places, Parks Canada and the heritage places it administers need to be known and understood by Canadians. Generally a large proportion of Canadians have heard of Parks Canada. When asked to name the organization responsible for heritage places, about one in five Canadians is able to say "Parks Canada" (Figure 15). When aided, awareness has increased from a low of 66 percent in 2008 to the mid 80s' in 2009–10 following the launch of two national television campaigns. Awareness (aided and unaided) levels have remained high in 2011, due in part to an enhanced multi-media presence and reach into Canada's largest cities through centennial celebration activities (Figure 15).

Figure 15: Public Awareness of Parks Canada



Public appreciation and support are assessed through indices that are comprised of knowledge, behaviour and value components. When measured in 2009, it was determined that 53% of Canadians appreciate the significance of heritage places and that 67% of Canadians support protecting and presenting them. The results suggest that while Canadians generally support the concept of heritage places, they have a somewhat lesser understanding of the significance of the broader network of heritage places. With targeted initiatives to reach Canadians where they live, work and play over the coming years, there is room for these results to improve.

Stakeholder and partner support is based on the rationale that stakeholders and partners respect the breadth of Parks Canada's mandate (protection, learning, and enjoyment) although their relationship with the Agency may focus in one area. Currently, a preliminary baseline measurement suggests that 82% of stakeholders and partners support the protection and presentation of heritage places administered by Parks Canada.

## Actions

The stories Parks Canada tells about heritage places, and the opportunities it creates to discover them, helps shape national pride and Canadian identity. Heritage places administered by Parks Canada are a treasured network that provide opportunities to foster an appreciation and connection to Canada through nature and history.

Parks Canada enhanced its presence in the day-to-day lives of Canadians by increasing its prominence in different media platforms. It improved its presence in television, including documentaries (e.g. *A Park for All Seasons* – Oasis HD, *National Parks Project* – Discovery World), serial shows (e.g. *Rick Mercer Report* – CBC), and news programs (e.g. *Canada AM* – CTV). Feature stories in magazines (e.g. *Canadian Geographic*, *Canada's History*, *Maclean's*) and national newspapers (e.g. *National Post*, *The Globe and Mail*), and a commemorative book (*Canada's National Parks – A Celebration*) brought heritage places to Canadians in print format. Parks Canada went mainstream by launching Twitter and Facebook accounts and a YouTube page, providing social media channels for Canadians to stay in touch with the Agency and its activities.

Over the last two years, Parks Canada undertook a concerted effort to expose Canadians to Canada's natural and historic places and the Agency responsible for them. Parks Canada also launched two national television campaigns (2009, 2010) – one being aired during the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics. The Olympic Torch Relay travelled through 34 heritage places administered by Parks Canada, highlighting an underlying Olympic theme: connectedness.

Parks Canada recognizes the valuable contribution that its stakeholders and partners make toward achieving its mandate. Since 2008, the Agency has developed a policy and guidelines for partnering with the private sector, and engaged stakeholders and partners in a dialogue about taking part in opportunities to help connect Canadians with nature and history.

## Key Issues

### Awareness and Reach

Many things compete for the time and attention of Canadians. To engage them in appreciating and supporting heritage places, the Agency has to be proactive and present in a sustained manner. It has to reach specific population segments. It is the cumulative long-term impact of this presence that will influence Canadians' appreciation and support.

### Relevance and Changing Society

Canadian society is changing (e.g. demographics, social values, urbanization, technology, leisure). Awareness of Parks Canada and experiences with nature and history vary among Canadians. Parks Canada must engage Canadians, particularly certain segments of the population (e.g. urban youth, new Canadians), in meaningful ways to ensure heritage places remain relevant for future generations.

### Partners

Parks Canada recognizes that to extend its reach through media and outreach endeavours, especially in Canada's largest urban areas, it needs to work with partners. To do so, Parks Canada needs a foundation and flexibility (e.g. tools, policies and authorities) to facilitate and nurture these opportunities.



# Focus: Youth Engagement

## Context

### Changing Society

Canada is an urban country, with approximately seven in ten Canadians living in Canada's 33 largest urban areas. Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal, Ottawa-Gatineau, Calgary and Edmonton are now home to more than one million residents each, and almost 35% of Canadians live in one of the country's three largest cities – Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal. In addition, 20% of the residents of Canada's cities are now foreign-born with especially high proportions for Toronto (almost 50%) and Vancouver (40%). These two cities have the highest concentrations of foreign-born residents in Canada and tend to receive the largest proportion of new immigrants coming to Canada annually.

In Canada, 12-to 17-year-olds make up 8.6% of the total population, with higher representation in some ethnic and Aboriginal populations. According to research, Canadian youth rarely read newspapers and magazines, but when they do, they tend to focus on entertainment, fashion and sports content – in line with their travel and leisure habits of higher attendance at sporting events and activities than other age groups. According to surveys, only about 6% have traveled to a national or provincial park in the last year. They are experiencing the world on the Internet far more than most other age groups.

## State of Youth Engagement

### Awareness

Awareness of Parks Canada is notably low in Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver, and among younger Canadians and immigrants.

### Visitation

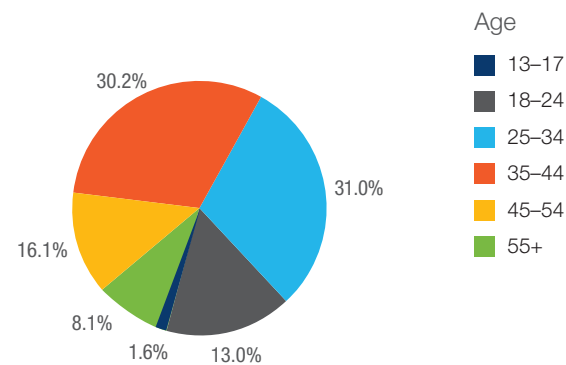
Despite variability in year-to-year attendance, national parks and national historic sites have been experiencing an overall downward trend in visitation. In addition, the visitor base is slanted to the older age bracket. The average age of visitors to Canada's heritage places is over 50. On average, about one-third of visitors are over 55, and

one-half to two-thirds are over 45; nationally, only 20% of visitor groups tend to be families. Overall, visitors tend to be middle to upper class, older, suburban Caucasian adults and families, and older adults in rural communities.

## Social Media

Parks Canada has established a presence on such social media platforms as Twitter, YouTube, Flickr, iTunes and Facebook. The Parks Canada Facebook page was created in August 2010, and over 4,500 people already "like" Parks Canada. Approximately 16.6 million Canadians are on Facebook, and of these 12% are 13-to 17-year-olds. Of these approximately two million Canadian youth on Facebook, only 1.6% of our "likes" (smallest segment) are from this demographic (Figure 16).

Figure 16: Parks Canada Facebook "Likes" by Age



## Actions

Due to the ever-changing demographics of our country, there is a need to ensure that our national treasures maintain relevance to a variety of populations. Trends such as urbanization, increasing diversity through immigration and the youth "nature and history deficit" are driving forces for our new and renewed directions.

Parks Canada is home to several great onsite youth engagement and learning programs including, but not limited to, the Palisades Stewardship Education Centre, the Georgian Bay Islands camps and the Wapusk Leadership Camp. These programs have captured some early attention nationally and internationally.



Parks Canada has also recently developed some national programs, in collaboration with other organizations, that target varying age groups. These include:



#### **Parks Canada Explorers**

(ages 6–11) – This program is designed to engage children visiting with their family in fun age-appropriate activities that allow them to discover

the significance of Canada's natural and historic treasures. It provides participants with the flexibility to discover and interact with natural and cultural resources at their own pace and within the time limits of their visit. The visit experience can include interpretation programs, recreational activities, exhibits, trails, geocaching, Explora, talking to an interpreter and more.



#### **My Parks Pass** (ages 13–14)–

This is a Canada-wide program that provides all grade 8 (2<sup>e</sup> secondaire in Quebec) students free access (for one year) to any national park, national historic site or national

marine conservation area administered by Parks Canada. Additionally, all grade 8 classrooms, including split classes, will receive free admission to these parks and sites as part of a classroom field trip, organized by the school.



#### **Canada's Greatest Summer Job** (ages

18–24) – In the program's first year, 32 young Canadians had the opportunity of a lifetime – to be handed a video

camera and sent out to produce videos on Canada's national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas. By way of their own unique creative approach, students introduced viewers to Parks Canada's people, places and visitors. Building on this success, Parks Canada launched Canada's Greatest Summer Job – Season II as a broadcast initiative entitled Operation Unplugged.



*Centennial celebration in Toronto,*  
©Parks Canada

## Key Issues

### Low Visitation

Youth and families make up a minority of Parks Canada visitors. Moreover, youth are found in greatest numbers in Canada's urban centres, which are not in proximity to most Parks Canada places. Research has shown that Canadians who have visited a national park or national historic site are significantly more likely to feel a sense of connection with these places (90%) than those that have never visited (20%), so it is imperative that opportunities for immersion in Canada's natural landscapes and historical places become more accessible to Canadian youth.

### Relevance

Over the years, Parks Canada has developed a variety of learning programs and tools that bring our treasured places to life. While these have been valuable, Canadian society is changing and Parks Canada must engage young Canadians in meaningful ways to ensure heritage places remain relevant for future generations. Expanding our reach to Canadian youth through innovative and engaging programs, and by working with like-minded organizations and strategic partners will be critical to connecting young hearts and minds to their national treasures.

# The Next Century of Canada's Natural and Historic Places

Ukkusiksalik National Park (NU), ©Parks Canada, Photo: L. Narraway

Canada's system of 213 heritage places is a symbol of the pride and commitment Canadians have to nature and to their history. This treasured system began with a single act – the creation of Banff National Park (1885) – that spawned a legacy for generations of Canadians. Today, 126 years after Banff was established, Parks Canada faces new challenges and opportunities in ensuring continued relevance to Canadians.

## Current and future challenges

It is well documented that Canadian society is changing, as are travel and leisure patterns. Declining visitation to heritage places and low awareness of Parks Canada in part reflect these broader social changes. For Canada's system of heritage places to be relevant to future generations, it must align with the values of Canadians. Parks Canada must be present and able to connect in meaningful ways with Canadians, where they live, work and play.

Parks Canada is the steward of a large asset base, which is aging and in need of repair or upgrading to meet the changing needs of Canadians. Without sustained investment, the functionality and operability of some assets may be at risk; in some cases, components of Canada's historic fabric may be permanently lost.

Climate change is an issue that poses challenges to heritage places. Some natural environments known and cherished by Canadians are and will continue to undergo changes, including potential loss of iconic features, shifts in ecosystems, and the introduction or loss of particular flora or fauna. Storm surges associated with higher water levels and extreme events are threatening some of Canada's cultural heritage, notably those along shorelines.

## Opportunities

Canadians place value in the idea of a system of heritage places. The majority of Canadians consider it important that heritage places exist, even if they never visit them. Over the coming years, Parks Canada plans to build on its successes and accomplishments, and seize exciting new opportunities to connect with Canadians, and adapt to a changing and complex environment.

Parks Canada plans to tap into the power of social media and other new technologies to engage Canadians in new ways, and to bring the spirit, wonder, and awe of these places to a new generation. Parks Canada also recognizes that to extend its reach, especially in Canada's largest cities, through media and outreach, it needs to work with partners. It will work with new and non-traditional partners to reach Canadians where they are.

Parks Canada will continue to grow the family of heritage places so that they are reflective of a changing Canada. Rouge Valley, situated in Canada's largest city (Toronto) is in the process of being transferred to Parks Canada's network as a national urban park.

Parks Canada will continue to maintain the high quality of its protected heritage places that Canadians expect. This attention to quality and integrity will ensure that these places will remain a national and international benchmark in conservation and visitor experience, valued both at home and abroad.

## Entering the second century

Many other external factors influence Parks Canada's heritage places and the level of visitation – everything from economic cycles to climate change. We will adapt to those circumstances, and continue to address the issues that we can influence. To that end, Parks Canada will maintain our heritage places and inspire Canadians to learn about and appreciate, explore and support the legacy we protect and build upon.



*Nahanni National Park Reserve (NWT), ©Parks Canada, Photo: D. Harvey*

## Annexes



# ANNEX 1: State of National Historic Sites

Prov.	National Historic Site	Cultural Resources Indicators			Visitor Experience Indicators				
		Cultural Resources (Level I)	Cultural Resources (Level II)	Overall	Visitation (2010–11)	Visitor Satisfaction		Visitor Learning	Visitor Enjoyment
						Satisfied	Very Satisfied		
NL	Cape Spear	●	▼	↑	10,366 ↑	94%	63%	92%	93%
	Castle Hill	●	●	●	11,480 ↑	95%	64%	95%	94%
	Hawthorne Cottage	●	●	●	4,840 ↑				
	Hopedale Mission	▼	●	▼					
	L'Anse aux Meadows	●	●	●	30,113 ↑	96%	79%	96%	98%
	Port au Choix	●	▼	▼	8,786 ↑	95%	67%	94%	91%
	Red Bay	●	●	●	8,417 ↑	100%	84%	97%	97%
	Ryan Premises	▼	●	▼	6,555 ↓	98%	80%	100%	99%
	Signal Hill	▼	●	▼	8,267 ↑	98%	64%	39%	N/R
PEI	Ardgowan	●	●	●					
	Dalvay-by-the-Sea	▼	●	▼					
	L.M. Montgomery's Cavendish (Green Gables House)	N/R	N/R	N/R	128,806 ↓	92%	61%	90%	90%
	Port-la-Joye–Fort Amherst	●	●	↑	4,889 ↑	81%	36%	66%	N/R
	Province House	▼	●	▼	60,666 ↓	95%	65%	91%	93%
NS	Alexander Graham Bell	●	▼	↑	67,081 ↓	94%	67%	94%	94%
	Canso Islands	●	●	●	2,310 ↓	98%	87%	93%	98%
	(Canso Is.) Grassy Island Fort	●	●	●					
	Charles Fort	●	●	●					
	Fort Anne	▼	▼	▼	29,393 ↓	97%	72%	77%	N/R
	Fort Edward	●	●	●	908 ↓	97%	74%	71%	N/R
	Fort McNab	●	▼	↑					
	Fortress of Louisbourg	■	●	↔	86,687 ↓	95%	77%	96%	95%
	Georges Island	▼	N/R	▼					
	Grand-Pré	●	●	▼	26,189 ↓	98%	78%	80%	N/R
	Halifax Citadel	●	●	●	528,851 ↓	98%	66%	95%	95%
	Kejimikujik	N/R	N/R	N/R	Included in Kejimikujik National Park information in Annex 2				
	Marconi	●	●	●	2,681 ↓	94%	62%	95%	94%
	Melanson Settlement	●	●	●					
	Port-Royal	●	▼	●	22,796 ↔	97%	67%	84%	N/R
	Prince of Wales Tower	▼	●	▼	7,255 ↑				
	St. Peters	●	●	●					
St. Peters Canal	●	▼	▼	11,961	100%	87%	74%	N/R	
York Redoubt	▼	●	▼	60,866 ↑	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	
NB	Beaubears Island Shipbuilding	●	●	●		N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
	Boishébert	▼	▼	▼		N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
	Carleton Martello Tower	■	▼	↓	13,660 ↑	98%	78%	97%	97%
	Fort Beauséjour - Fort Cumberland	N/R	N/R	N/R	15,304 ↓	98%	74%	72%	N/R
	Fort Gaspereaux	▼	▼	▼					
	Monument Lefebvre	●	●	●	5,784 ↑	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
St. Andrews Blockhouse	▼	●	▼	12,807 ↑					

# Administered by Parks Canada

Prov.	National Historic Site	Cultural Resources Indicators			Visitor Experience Indicators				
		Cultural Resources (Level I)	Cultural Resources (Level II)	Overall	Visitation (2010-11)	Visitor Satisfaction		Visitor Learning	Visitor Enjoyment
						Satisfied	Very Satisfied		
QC	Battle of the Châteauguay	●	●	●	3,874 ↓	100%	81%	92%	N/R
	Battle of the Restigouche	N/R	N/R	N/R	11,974 ↑	95%	69%	82%	N/R
	Carillon Canal	▼	■	↔	28,266 ↑	95%	71%	55%	92%
	Cartier-Brébeuf	●	▼	●	56,485 ↑	94%	73%	25%	N/R
	Chambly Canal	▼	▼	▼	216,802 ↓	98%	52%	56%	N/R
	Coteau-du-Lac	▼	▼	▼	29,131 ↑	98%	80%	83%	N/R
	Forges du Saint-Maurice	▼	●	▼	14,230 ↑	95%	74%	98%	95%
	Fort Chambly	▼	●	↔	144,646 ↑	96%	72%	42%	96%
	Fort Lennox	▼	●	↔	34,339 ↓	97%	75%	69%	N/R
	Fort Témiscamingue	N/R	N/R	N/R	7,109 ↓	98%	79%	97%	97%
	Fortifications of Québec	N/R	N/R	N/R	1,207,396 ↓	93%	60%	60%	N/R
	Grosse Île and the Irish Memorial	■	▼	■	22,563 ↑	93%	60%	97%	96%
	Lachine Canal	▼	▼	▼	767,027 ↓	96%	62%	40%	97%
	Lévis Forts	■	■	↔	10,152 ↓	99%	76%	96%	N/R
	Louis S. St. Laurent	▼		▼	11,227 ↑	99%	88%	94%	99%
	Louis-Joseph Papineau	●	●	●					
	Maillou House	▼		▼					
	Manoir Papineau	▼	●	▼	16,715 ↑	96%	74%	73%	95%
	Montmorency Park	▼	▼	▼					
	Pointe-au-Père Lighthouse	▼	▼	▼	19,686 ↓	96%	77%	42%	N/R
	Québec Garrison Club	●		●					
	Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue Canal	▼	▼	▼	117,177 ↓	97%	71%	43%	N/R
	Saint-Louis Forts and Château	▼	▼	▼					
Saint-Ours Canal	▼	▼	▼	31,398 ↓	96%	72%	55%	91%	
Sir George-Étienne Cartier	●	●	●	13,182 ↓	97%	77%	76%	N/R	
Sir Wilfrid Laurier	●	●	●	2,628 ↓	96%	77%	90%	N/R	
The Fur Trade at Lachine	●	▼	▼	12,943 ↓	98%	81%	94%	98%	
ON	Battle of the Windmill	▼	●	↑	2,254 ↑				
	Battlefield of Fort George	▼	N/R	▼					
	Bellevue House	●	●	●	11,813 ↑	97%	73%	94%	95%
	Bethune Memorial House	●	●	●	11,537 ↑	95%	68%	96%	N/R
	Butler's Barracks	▼	▼	▼					
	Fort George	▼	▼	▼	63,192 ↑	96%	61%	71%	N/R
	Fort Henry	▼	▼	↑					
	Fort Malden	▼	▼	▼	48,378 ↑	97%	77%	95%	95%
	Fort Mississauga	▼	▼	▼					
	Fort St. Joseph	▼	▼	▼	4,102 ↓	97%	79%	88%	N/R
	Fort Wellington	▼	▼	▼	11,489 ↓	98%	80%	84%	N/R
	HMCS <i>Haida</i>	▼	▼	↑	15,093 ↑	99%	76%	76%	N/R
	Inverarden House	▼	▼	▼					

# ANNEX 1: State of National Historic Sites

Prov.	National Historic Site	Cultural Resources Indicators			Visitor Experience Indicators				
		Cultural Resources (Level I)	Cultural Resources (Level II)	Overall	Visitation (2010–11)	Visitor Satisfaction		Visitor Learning	Visitor Enjoyment
						Satisfied	Very Satisfied		
ON	Kingston Fortifications	▼	●	⬆️					
	Laurier House	●	▼	●	5,326 ↑	99%	86%	98%	100%
	Merrickville Blockhouse	●	●	●					
	Murney Tower			●		94%	59%	92%	90%
	Navy Island	■	■	↔️					
	Peterborough Lift Lock	▼	●	▼					
	Point Clark Lighthouse	●	●	●					
	Queenston Heights	●	●	⬆️	15,571				
	Rideau Canal	▼	▼	▼	876,653 ↓	98%	71%	87%	98%
	Sault Ste. Marie Canal	▼	■	▼	157,706 ↓	93%	64%	25%	N/R
	Shoal Tower			●					
	Sir John Johnson House	●	●	●					
	Trent–Severn Waterway	▼	■	▼	1,098,241 ↑	98%	67%	65%	N/R
	Woodside	●	●	●	19,543 ↑	100%	91%	98%	100%
MB	Lower Fort Garry	■	▼	▼	39,322 ↑	95%	74%	90%	94%
	Prince of Wales Fort	▼	●	▼	11,720 ↓	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
	Riding Mountain Park East Gate Registration Complex	▼	N/R	▼					
	Riel House	●	▼	●	3,909 ↓	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
	St. Andrew's Rectory	●	▼	●	1,975 ↓				
	York Factory	▼	■	▼	325 ↑				
SK	Batoche	●	●	●	17,918 ↑	98%	74%	94%	N/R
	Battle of Tourond's Coulee / Fish Creek	●	●	●					
	Fort Battleford	▼	▼	▼	7,109 ↑	97%	78%	79%	N/R
	Fort Espérance	▼	N/R	▼					
	Fort Livingstone	▼	●	▼					
	Fort Pelly	▼	●	▼					
	Fort Walsh	●	▼	▼	12,233 ↓	99%	85%	95%	N/R
	Frenchman Butte	●		●					
Motherwell Homestead	●	●	●	8,217 ↑	90%	62%	66%	N/R	
AB	Abbot Pass Refuge Cabin	▼		▼					
	Athabasca Pass	●	●	●		N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
	Banff Park Museum	▼	●	▼	33,394 ↑	96%	75%	90%	93%
	Bar U Ranch	▼	▼	⬆️	12,865 ↑	97%	84%	96%	97%
	Cave and Basin	▼	▼	▼	17,503 ↓	89%	56%	92%	88%
	First Oil Well in Western Canada	●	■	▼					
	Frog Lake	▼	●	▼					

# Administered by Parks Canada

Prov.	National Historic Site	Cultural Resources Indicators			Visitor Experience Indicators				
		Cultural Resources (Level I)	Cultural Resources (Level II)	Overall	Visitation (2010-11)	Visitor Satisfaction		Visitor Learning	Visitor Enjoyment
						Satisfied	Very Satisfied		
AB	Howse Pass	●	●	●					
	Jasper House	●	●	●					
	Jasper Park Information Centre	●	●	↑	125,327 ↑				
	Rocky Mountain House	●	●	●	9,789 ↓	95%	74%	93%	93%
	Skoki Ski Lodge	▼	●	▼					
	Sulphur Mountain Cosmic Ray Station	▼	●	▼	271,257 ↔				
	Yellowhead Pass	▼	●	▼					
BC	Chilkoot Trail	▼	▼	▼	2,272 ↓	99%	80%	93%	N/R
	Fort Langley	●	●	↑	70,965 ↓	95%	59%	65%	N/R
	Fort Rodd Hill	■	●	↓	58,198 ↑	98%	67%	85%	N/R
	(Fort Rodd Hill and) Fisgard Lighthouse	●	●	↑					
	Fort St. James	▼	●	↓	11,503 ↑	97%	76%	97%	99%
	Gitwagak Battle Hill	▼	N/R	↔		N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
	Gulf of Georgia Cannery	▼	N/R	▼	51,041 ↑	99%	83%	66%	N/R
	Kicking Horse Pass	▼	●	▼					
	Kootenae House	●	●	●					
	Rogers Pass	▼	▼	▼	413,930 ↔	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
	Twin Falls Tea House	●	●	↑					
	YK	Dawson Historical Complex	▼	■	▼	19,844 ↑	98%	75%	96%
Dredge No. 4		■	●	■	99%		89%	97%	99%
Former Territorial Court House		▼	▼	▼					
S.S. <i>Keno</i>		●	●	●					
S.S. <i>Klondike</i>		●	▼	●	15,415 ↑	95%	74%	N/R	N/R

## Legend

### Indicator State

●	Good
▼	Fair
■	Poor
N/R	Not Rated

### Indicator Trend

↑	Improving
↔	Stable/ No Change
↓	Declining
□	Not Rated/ Not Applicable

Note: National historic sites without resource evaluation and visitor experience information have been omitted from the table. These sites include: 57-63 St. Louis Street (QC), Battle Hill (ON), Battle of Cook's Mills (ON), Beaubassin (NS), Bloody Creek (NS); Bois Blanc Island Lighthouse and Blockhouse (ON), Carillon Barracks (QC), Carrying Place of the Bay of Quinte (ON), Cypress Hills Massacre (SK), D'Anville's Encampment (NS), Fort Lawrence (NS), Fort Sainte Marie de Grace (NS), Fort Ste. Thérèse (QC), Forts Rouge, Garry and Gibraltar (MB), Glengarry Cairn (ON), La Coupe Dry Dock (NB), Linear Mounds (MB), Mississauga Point Lighthouse (ON), Mnjikaning Fish Weirs (ON), Nan Sdins (BC), Ridgeway Battlefield (ON), Royal Battery (NS), Saint-Louis Mission (ON), Saoyú-Pehdacho (NWT), Southwold Earthworks (ON), Stanley Park (BC), the Forks (MB), and Wolfe's Landing (NS).

# ANNEX 2: State of National Parks

Prov.	National Park	Ecological Integrity Indicators							
		Forests	Freshwater		Wetlands	Tundra/ Barrens	Coastal	Glaciers	Grasslands
			Lakes	Streams/ Rivers					
NL	Gros Morne	↓		↔	↓	↓	↑		
	Terra Nova	↑		↑	N/R	N/R	↔		
	Torngat Mountains			●		●	↓	N/R	
PEI	Prince Edward Island	↓		↔	↓		↓		
NS	Cape Breton Highlands	↓		↓	N/R	N/R	↔		
	Kejimikujik	●		●	N/R		■		
NB	Fundy	↔		↔	↔		↔		
	Kouchibouguac	N/R		↔	↔		↔		
QC	Forillon	↓		↔			↓		
	La Mauricie	↓		↓	↓				
	Mingan Archipelago (Reserve)	↔			N/R	N/R	N/R		
ON	Bruce Peninsula	↔	N/R	↓	●				
	Georgian Bay Islands	●	N/R		N/R		●		
	Point Pelee	↔			↓		↓		
	Pukaskwa	●	N/R	N/R			↓		
	St. Lawrence Islands	↔		●	↓				
MB	Riding Mountain	↔	↔	↔	↔				↓
	Wapusk	N/R	N/R		N/R	N/R	N/R		
SK	Grasslands	N/R		↔	N/R				↔
	Prince Albert	●	●		N/R				N/R
AB	Banff	↓		↔					
	Elk Island	↔	↓		N/R				N/R
	Jasper	↔		↑					
	Waterton Lakes	↓		↓					
BC	Gulf Islands (Reserve)	N/R	↓	N/R			N/R		
	Gwaii Haanas (Reserve and Haida Heritage Site)	↓	N/R	●			↔		
	Kootenay	↓		↔					
	Mount Revelstoke	↓		↓					
	(Mount Revelstoke &) Glacier								
	Pacific Rim (Reserve)	↔		↔			↔		
Yoho	↓		↑						
YK	Ivvavik	N/R	N/R		N/R	N/R	N/R		
	Kluane (and Reserve)	↓		N/R	N/R	↓		↓	
	Vuntut	N/R			↔	N/R			
NWT	Aulavik		N/R			↓	N/R		
	Nahanni (Reserve)	↔	↔		N/R	↓		↓	
	Tuktut Nogait		N/R			N/R			
	Wood Buffalo	↔	N/R	↓	N/R				N/R
NU	Auyuittuq		N/R			N/R	N/R	N/R	
	Quttinirpaaq		N/R			N/R	N/R	N/R	
	Sirmilik		N/R		N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	
	Ukkusiksalik		N/R			N/R	N/R		



			Visitor Experience Indicators				
Marine/ Subtidal	Other	Visitation (2010/11)	Visitor Satisfaction		Visitor Learning	Visitor Enjoyment	
			Satisfied	Very Satisfied			
		186,798 ↑	97%	66%	84%	N/R	
		259,079 ↔	80%	40%	66%	85%	
		457,948 ↑	88%	48%	52%	90%	
		193,000 ↑	95%	65%	60%	N/R	
		39,755 ↓	97%	64%	52%	N/R	
		285,572 ↑	90%	63%	61%	93%	
		162,804 ↑	95%	60%	74%	95%	
	↓	141,575 ↑	94%	78%	32%	N/R	
		160,179 ↑	94%	55%	45%	95%	
	N/R Islets	35,024 ↑	96%	64%	N/R	N/R	
	N/R N.F.	224,149 ↑	95%	67%	80%	N/R	
		36,424 ↓	85%	46%	58%	94%	
	↓ N.F.	237,494 ↑	91%	59%	71%	N/R	
		7,099 ↑	96%	64%	65%	N/R	
		40,801 ↓	56%	93%	38%	N/R	
		295,612 ↑	89%	52%	40%	91%	
N/R		135 ↓	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	
	N/R BaSh	9,551 ↑	91%	60%	77%	93%	
		250,272 ↑	94%	60%	28%	N/R	
	↔ N.B.	3,151,751 ↑	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	
		217,789 ↑	85%	46%	56%	88%	
	↔ N.B.	1,916,677 ↑	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	
	↔ N.B.	396,995 ↑	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	
●	N/R IsInN.F.						
↔	N/R In/N.F.	1,721 ↓	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	
	↔ N.B.	429,365 ↑	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	
	↔ N.B.	634,827 ↑	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	
↓	↔ In	797,441 ↑	94%	57%	57%	N/R	
	↓ N.B.	547,436 ↑	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	
		142 ↑					
		47,323 ↑	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	
		12 ↓					
		775 ↓					
		2 ↓					
	↓ Delta	1,599 ↑	92%	65%	87%	92%	
		396 ↓					
		252 ↑					
		21 ↓					

## Legend

### Indicator State

●	Good
▼	Fair
■	Poor
N/R	Not Rated

### Indicator Trend

↑	Improving
↔	Stable/ No Change
↓	Declining
□	Not Rated/ Not Applicable

### Other

N.F.	Non-Forest
Ba	Badlands
Sh	Shrublands
N.B.	Native Biodiveristy
Is	Islets
In	Intertidal

## ANNEX 3: Glossary – Indicators

**Awareness:** percent of Canadians that can do the following: a) name Parks Canada as the organization responsible for heritage places (unaided awareness); b) indicate that they have heard of Parks Canada (aided awareness).

**Cultural Resource:** a human work, or a place which gives evidence of human activity or has spiritual or cultural meaning and which, in either case, has been determined to have historic value. There are two categories of resources: Level I and II.

- **Level I:** resources directly related to the reasons for designation as a national historic site.
- **Level II:** a resource not related to the reasons for national significance.

**Ecological Integrity:** a nationally consistent summary statement that provides a clear assessment of the condition of an important element of a national park's ecological integrity (i.e. a major park ecosystem), and it is based on a combination of ecological integrity measures. In this report these ecosystems include forests, freshwater, wetlands, tundra, coastal, glaciers, grasslands, marine and others.

**Enjoyment:** percent of visitors that enjoyed their visit to a heritage place administered by Parks Canada.

**Learning:** percent of visitors that considered they gained knowledge about the natural or cultural components of a place administered by Parks Canada.

**Public Appreciation:** percent of Canadians that appreciate the significance of the heritage places administered by Parks Canada.

**Public Support:** percent of Canadians that support the protection and presentation of heritage places administered by Parks Canada.

**Stakeholder/Partner Support:** percent of Parks Canada's stakeholders and partners that support the protection and presentation of heritage places administered by Parks Canada.

**Satisfaction:** percent of visitors that were satisfied with their overall visit to a heritage place administered by Parks Canada.

**Visitation:** number of people who visit a heritage place administered by Parks Canada in a given year. For this report visitation numbers are from April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011. The trends are based on comparing 2010–11 visitation numbers to 2008–09.

**Note:** The indicators for Aboriginal relationships, assets and national marine conservation area health are still in development or have yet to be defined.

*Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site (YK), ©Parks Canada, Photo: W. Lynch*

