



BOX 1677, BANFF,
ALBERTA, CANADA,
TOL 0C0

NEWSLETTER - APRIL 1987

Dear Member:

BUSFARE SURCHARGE TO ENHANCE TRAIL FUND

Lake O'Hara Lodge has received approval to increase the one way bus fare into O'Hara by one dollar. The full amount of this increase will be applied to the Trails Club Trail Fund to be used to maintain and improve the trail system in the area. It is hoped that an additional \$8000.00 will be generated annually for the fund through this increase. To date, the revenue generated in 1986 by the Trails Club has not been allocated to specific trail work. It is likely that the 1986 and 1987 funds will be pooled together to finance replacement of some bridges and to continue trail improvement on the Opabin Plateau.

INFORMATION PACKAGE ON TRAIL IMPROVEMENT

The trail work on Opabin Plateau last summer brought mixed reaction from regular visitors to O'Hara. A good deal of confusion resulted from visitors not understanding the decision making process that led up to the work concerned. While most people appreciated a new tread that would provide a solid dry surface to hike on for years to come, some felt that the new trail was overbuilt and unnecessarily imposing in the visual sense. In most cases once visitors were made aware of the reasoning behind "turnpiking", the style of trail building using wooden stringers or retainers and gravel tread, they agreed that it probably was the most practical long-term solution. This year the Trails Club will allocate some funding to the preparation of an information package to help visitors understand the Park's approach to trail work in the area.

PLAQUE FOR ADELINE LINK CIRCUIT TRAIL

The trail around Lake O'Hara, once known as the ADELINE LINK CIRCUIT and more recently known as the LAKE O'HARA CIRCUIT will once again be identified by its original name thanks to the efforts of Jon Whyte of Banff. Permission has been received from Ian Church, Superintendent of Yoho Park, to erect a bilingual plaque identifying the trail.

VOLUNTEER GRAVEL BAG PROGRAM

The Back Country Maintenance Co-ordinator for Yoho Park, Brian Hall has indicated that he would like to see the volunteer effort to move gravel for trail work continued on the ADELINE LINK CIRCUIT. He feels that this trail still requires material in a number of sections to raise it above lake level enough to keep it dry during periods of high water. The canvas bags will once again be available on the front porch of the lodge for those who wish to offer assistance by carrying them to the drop sites.

AMALGAMATION

The documentation on the proposal to amalgamate the Trails Club and the Lake O'Hara Co-operating Association is still being finalized by Parks Canada. This process has been delayed somewhat by the absence of Glenn Webber, Chief of Visitor Services for Yoho Park, who is on leave to work on projects at the regional office in Calgary. We hope to complete the amalgamation this year.

YOH0 CORE CONCEPT

The Four Mountain Parks planning process has continued and this winter the Yoho Core Concept was released to the public. It is a positive step in that it outlines what we can expect in the next five to ten years in Yoho. There are no huge surprises; horses will no longer be permitted on the O'Hara Fireroad, an effort will be made to improve day use facilities, there will be further examination of the quota system at Lake O'Hara, and annual trail work will continue. Copies of this document may be obtained by writing to Syd Moore, Public Consultation Coordinator, 520-220 4th Ave. SE, Calgary, AB, T2P 3H8.

ELSIE SNELL

At the Trails Club meeting last summer, we expressed concern for Elsie Snell, our Membership Secretary, who was entering hospital for surgery. Elsie died November 1 at Foothills Hospital. She was a regular visitor to O'Hara and donated a good deal of time to keeping all the Club's membership records in order as well as helping with the mailing of the newsletter. She will be missed by all her friends at O'Hara.

NEXT ANNUAL MEETING

The 1987 Annual Meeting of the Lake O'Hara Trails Club will be held at 9:00 PM, Thursday, July 23rd at Lake O'Hara Lodge.

HAPPY HIKING!