

STRATHCONA PARK FACTS

Cream Silver

882034

- 1903 - First record of claims staked by Messrs. J.A. Drinkwater and Frederick Nichol on Big Interior Mountain. One report indicates that the Big Interior claim group was located in 1899.
- 1906 - First recorded production within Strathcona Park Boundaries as they existed prior to their 1987 rationalization.
Della Property - 5 tons to produce 1,337 g of gold
- 1911 - On March 1, 1911 Strathcona Park was created
- 1918 - On April 15 the Park was opened up to prospecting and claims at Myra Creek were staked.
- 1942 - Sherwood Mine produced 1,866 g gold; 3,110 g silver; 391 kg Pb and 50 kg Cu from 20 tons.
- 1953 - B.C. Power Commission given permission to build dam and raise the water level of Buttle Lake.
- 1957 - On April 5 Strathcona Park Act was repealed and Strathcona became a Class A Provincial Park.
- 1965 - On May 13 Strathcona Park was reclassified from Class A to Class B except for three nature conservancy areas.
- Cream Silver Mines Ltd. acquires Buttle Lake property.
- 1966 - Western Mines brought into production the Myra and Lynx Mines at 750 tons/day at a cost of \$11 million.
- 1973 - On March 1 a moratorium was placed on exploration and staking in all provincial parks, Western Mines, now Westmin Resources, was allowed to continue production.
- 1980 - Westmin Resources discovers the HW orebody.
- 1985 - Westmin Resources expands its Buttle Lake Mine to 3,000 tons per day at a cost of \$250 million now being expanded to 4,400 tons per day.
- Jim Mitchell Lake dammed to provide additional power to the mine.
 - Tener Case (Supreme Court of Canada) disallows government practice of totally restricting the exploration of legally acquired mineral rights in parks, deeming it expropriation without compensation.

1986 - In March "The Report of the Wilderness Advisory Committee" recommended in essence that the current boundaries of Strathcona Park be rationalized by the Parks Division, a master plan be developed and the proposed changes and master plan be subject to a public review. The committee concluded that it had sufficient information to make the following specific suggestions:

- A. The following areas should be added to the park:
 - Elk Mountain and frontage on the west and east side of Buttle Lake.
 - Alderman Lake on Forbidden Plateau.
 - Paradise Meadows extension.
 - Della Falls and access corridor from Great Central Lake.
 - Kumlun Lake and the corridor to Donner Lake.
- B. Mineral claims at Faith and Gem Lakes should be acquired by the Crown to avoid conflict within areas high scenic qualities.
- C. The mineralized belt, including the Westmin Mine and Cream Lake should be designated a Recreation Area, wherein mining would be permitted subject to approval by the Parks Division.

1987 - On January 29 a press release by the Ministry of Environment and Parks announced the resolution of park boundaries for six provincial parks in accordance with the Wilderness Advisory Committees recommendations.

- The rationalization of Strathcona Park boundaries followed almost exactly the suggestions give in the Wilderness Report.
- In May, the Ministry of Environment and Parks carried out Phase 1 of the Strathcona Management Plan and announced in a 12 page newspaper dealing solely with Strathcona Park that the Plan is in Phase 2 of the planning process. During Phase 1 the Ministry reported that over 650 people attended a series of public meetings and over 70 written submissions were received. Phase 2 meetings were held in October in Campbell River, Vancouver, Gold River, Courtenay, Port Alberni, Victoria and Nanaimo.

1988 - On January 13, Cream Silver Mines was granted a Park Use Permit to drill 5 diamond drill holes in a low priority geophysical anomaly located at the north end of the property.