



c/o Heritage Centre, 1620 Mt Seymour Rd
North Vancouver, BC V7G 2R9
Tel 604.985.3057 Fax 604.985.3059
www.bcnature.ca manager@bcnature.ca

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Honourable Barry Penner
Minister of Environment
Rm 112, Parliament Bldgs
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Penner:

Re: Provincial Park Interpretation and corporate sponsorship

BC Nature will not seek corporate sponsorship on behalf of the provincial government for interpretation programs in BC's Provincial Parks. Our executive firmly believes that the responsibility for funding interpretation in Provincial Parks rests with the provincial government because interpretation is so closely tied with the conservation of BC Parks. Educating park visitors about the ecological values of our parks, and how to behave respectfully while visiting them, contributes immensely to maintaining their natural attributes, as well as to public appreciation of BC's world class provincial park system.

Feedback we have received indicates that interpretation programs BC Nature has coordinated over the past six years have been appreciated by the park visitors and we have been pleased to create jobs for youth. BC Nature has in turn appreciated efforts from BC Parks to assist with training, with grants and with Conservation Corps positions through the Ministry.

In 2010 BC Nature will discuss assisting summer student positions with Park Facility Operators where they are able to provide the support, including basic training.

BC Nature looks forward to working with BC Parks to deliver interpretation programs when government funding is provided.

Your truly

Bev Ramey
President, BC Nature