

park builder

Ian Leman b. 1931

For Ian, the joy on children's faces after a day in a Provincial Park has been one of the rewards for his career as a District Park Manager. With deep respect for the people and places of BC, Ian devoted decades to improving the facilities at parks to protect them from damage while allowing greater accessibility to the public. He will be remembered as an outstanding mentor and collaborator, treating employees and park patrons with caring loyalty, and working alongside his staff to build and maintain campgrounds, trails and shelters across the province. From his early days as an enthusiastic park ranger at Garibaldi, Ian's hard work has helped thousands share his love of the scenic outdoors.



Affiliations:

Lakelse Lake Region - District Park
Manager 1960 - 1964

Garibaldi Provincial Park - District Park
Manager 1964 - 1966

BC Provincial Parks Northern Region -
District Park Manager 1966 - 1970

BC Parks Lower Mainland Regional
Manager 1970 - 1981

Parks maintained, managed and improved:

Garibaldi Provincial Park

E.C. Manning Provincial Park

Bowron Lake Provincial Park

Cypress Provincial Park

Lakelse Provincial Park

Alaska Highway Campgrounds

Sasquatch Provincial Park

Mt. Seymour Provincial Park

Above: Ian outside the Lower Mainland Parks office in 1979. Potluck lunches, games of horseshoes, and parties made the office a happy workplace for Lower Mainland Park staff.

Top right: Ian as a park ranger at Garibaldi in 1957.

Background image: Garibaldi Provincial Park.

The trail that Ian helped build as a park ranger in 1957 was a factor in the leap in popularity of Garibaldi Park in the 1960s. These well-built trails continue to help contain damage from foot-traffic to small areas. (Photo: Gail Ross, BC Parks)

Centre: Ian in the Lower Mainland Parks office circa 1980.

Bottom: Ian (centre) and colleagues at the opening of Porteau Cove Provincial Park. A steam train was rented and 1000 tickets given away to take people to this huge park opening. (Photos courtesy of Ian Leman)