

# park builder

## Hal Eidsvik b. 1932

Before ecological significance gained the high priority it has today for park planners, Hal was one of the great minds envisioning a system to protect areas in every biogeographic zone in Canada. His forestry and park management background in BC launched a career of national and global contributions, including a zoning system for National Parks, a Parks Canada Policy and the review of many existing and potential park systems worldwide. During his time as Chief of Planning with Parks Canada, ten new National Parks were created, including Pacific Rim on Vancouver Island. Hal's talents have led him far from his birthplace of Prince Rupert, but his ingenuity has helped preserve natural areas in BC as it has in Canada and abroad.



### Affiliations:

UBC - B.S.Forestry 1957  
U of Michigan – Masters Forestry 1964  
BC Parks – Summer work 1955 - 1957,  
Technical Officer 1957 - 1958  
BC Parks Regional Director, Northern  
Region 1958  
Parks Canada, Park planner 1959 – 1966,  
Assistant Chief of Planning 1967,  
Assistant Regional Director of National  
and Historic Parks 1967 - 1968, Chief  
of Planning 1968 – 1975, Director of  
Policy and International Affairs 1975 -  
1992  
World Conservation Union (IUCN)  
Commission on National Parks and  
Protected Areas - Member 1972,  
Executive Officer 1977 - 1980, Chair  
1983 - 1990  
UBC Forestry Adjunct Professor - 1992  
U of Michigan Adjunct Professor 1983 -  
1990  
UNESCO World Heritage Centre – Senior  
Programme Officer (Natural Heritage)  
of the World Heritage Convention  
1992 - 1996  
PARCS International (Protected Areas  
Consulting Services)

### Awards:

IUCN Fred M. Packard Award - 1990  
Certificate of Merit, National and  
Provincial Parks Directors of Canada -  
1992  
Royal Canadian Geographical Society  
Gold Medal - 1995

### Parks:

Pacific Rim National Park Reserve  
National Parks in Canada and abroad

*Above:*  
(Photo courtesy Hal Eidsvik)

*Background image:* Pacific Rim National Park Reserve.  
(Photo: Wikitravel User: Dbaer, Wikimedia Commons)

*Top right:* Hal admiring cacti in Grasslands National Park  
(Photo courtesy of Hal Eidsvik)