

park pioneer

Bob Ahrens b. 1926

Advocates for nature conservation must deftly navigate both physical and political landscapes. Bob's tireless advocacy for Provincial Parks stemmed from a great knowledge of the province and its people, and a desire to help the public enjoy the remarkable nature of BC. With involvement in more successful park proposals than can be listed here, Bob brought a profound integrity to his public sector role, counting as a victory every park established or protected from degradation. He helped found the Ecological Reserves Program of BC, he was an ally to Outdoor Recreation Clubs, a faithful supporter of nature interpretation programs, and one of the original policy-makers working to keep BC Parks as natural as possible and in public control.



Career:

UBC - B.A.Sc. Forest Engineering.
BC Forest Service, Parks Division -
Chief of Reconnaissance and
Inventory.

BC Ministry of Recreation and
Conservation, Provincial Parks
Branch - Chief of Planning,
Director.

BC Ministry of Recreation and
Conservation - Associate Deputy
Minister, Acting Deputy Minister
Deputy Minister

BC Ministry of Lands, Parks and
Housing, Assistant Deputy Minister

Awards:

Meritorious Service Award, Federal
Provincial Park Conference

Parks:

Involved in nearly every park added
to the Provincial Park System

Top (right): Bob at the summit of
Mt. Copley (*bottom*) - Bob on general
reconnaissance

Above:
Bob in 1989.

Background:
Kokanee Creek Provincial Park

Elders Council for Parks