

# park builder

## Richard Hankin B. 1939

In his first job as a regional planner, Richard helped propose 40 new parks in the 1966 Lower Mainland Regional Parks Plan. He implemented this plan for the next 365 days, creating 25 new parks and greenways in the Greater Vancouver Regional District. His ingenuity and skillful negotiations helped build a world-class system of parks that enrich the Vancouver Area with outdoor recreation, wildlife habitat, cultural heritage and interpretation programs.

Balancing vision with pragmatism, Richard established the Park Partnership Program to ensure citizen involvement in regional park decisions and opportunities for community action. Under his direction, the role of regional parks shifted toward ecological site protection and greenways.



*Above: Richard relaxing at home  
(Photo: Ali Lake)*

*Background image: Lynn Valley Headwaters  
(Photo by: Wikimedia Commons Philippe Giabbanelli)*

### **Career:**

**UBC** - MA Community Regional Planning

**GVRD Parks** - Manager

**The Land Conservancy** - Director

**Pacific Parkland Foundaton** - Director

### **Awards + Recognitions**

BC Society of Landscape Architects - Public Servant Award

Bill Mitchell Award - Institute of Public Administration

BC Nature - Community Service Award

### **Parks**

Thwaites Landing

Crippen

Capilano River

Lynn Headwaters

Pacific Spirit

Burnaby Lake

Colony Farm

Belcarra

Minnekhada

Widgeon Marsh

Grant Narrows

Codd Wetlands

Blaney Bog

Kanaka Creek

Matsqui Trail

Glen Valley

Brae Island

Derby Reach

Deas Island

Campbell Valley

Surrey Bend

Douglas Island

### **Greenways:**

Brunette-Fraser

Pitt River