

For Immediate Release – April 14, 2011

A Retrospective of Canadian Rockies' Trail Guides at Whyte Museum **April 23 – May 30, 2011**

Banff, Alberta – The **Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies** is pleased to present an exhibition that celebrates 40 years of a rich publishing history in hiking guidebooks.

Hiking guidebooks are treasured companions for most outdoor enthusiasts, and over the last four decades those exploring the wilderness of the Canadian Rockies have been blessed with a variety of choices.

This exhibit celebrates the genre – from the earliest self-published books with hand-drawn maps, to the current crop of professionally designed tomes.

Authored by Brian Patton and Bart Robinson, the *Canadian Rockies Trail Guide* was the first hiking guidebook dedicated to the region. It was published in 1971 by Summerthought Ltd. and is now in its 9th edition.

In 1979, two years after the establishment of Kananaskis Country, Tony and Gillean Daffern published the *Kananaskis Country Trail Guide* under the Rocky Mountain Books imprint. This book is now in its 4th edition.

Starting in 1981 with *The Magic of Lake O'Hara*, Don Beers has self-published a number of very detailed and beautifully photographed books to specific regions of the Canadian Rockies, including *The World of Lake Louise in 1991*.

Vicky Spring, the daughter of famed conservationist Ira Spring, authored *95 Hikes in the Canadian Rockies*. It was published by Seattle-based The Mountaineers in 1982.

Currently in its 6th edition, *Don't Waste Your Time in the Canadian Rockies* by Kathy and Craig Copeland is known as the opinionated guidebook. The 1st edition was self-published in 1993.

Known for its colour photos and detailed interpretive information, *Classic Hikes in the Canadian Rockies* was first published in 1994 by Altitude Publishing. The author was Graeme Pole.

EXHIBITION-RELATED EVENTS

Official Exhibition Opening and book launch for the 9th Edition, *Canadian Rockies Trail Guide* Saturday, April 30, 7 to 9 PM

Join authors Brian Patton and Bart Robinson at the Whyte Museum to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the *Canadian Rockies Trail Guide*. This opportunity to talk with the authors and revive old friendships coincides with the release of the 9th edition of Canada's original hiking guidebook and the official opening of the exhibit *A Retrospective of Canadian Rockies' Trail Guides*.

Affectionately known as “the Bible” by outdoor enthusiasts, the *Canadian Rockies Trail Guide*, by Brian Patton and Bart Robinson, published by Summerthought Ltd., was the first guidebook with accurate distances and detailed descriptions to the trails of the Canadian Rockies. This new 9th edition maintains its reputation as the most comprehensive and well-known guidebook to hiking in the region.

About the Authors

For the past 40 years, Brian Patton has interpreted the natural and human history of the Canadian Rockies in books, on film, and through presentations. He has authored numerous Canadian Rockies' books and continues to work on a variety of projects from his home in Invermere, BC.

Bart Robinson has authored several books on the Canadian Rockies and enjoys a long career as a journalist, editor, and conservationist. He lives in Canmore, AB.

About the Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies

The Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies welcomes those who are drawn to the power and inspiration of these mountains. We are the gateway for experiencing and enjoying its art, culture and history in order to inspire and cultivate knowledge and the exchange of ideas. Visitors from near and far experience the Museum's galleries, programs, archives and library, heritage homes, museum shop, guided walks, tours, and special events.

- 30 -

For more information about the Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies, contact:

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