

# Canada Weekly

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## Land transfer ensures key element of international park

The Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, Jean Chrétien, and British Columbia's Minister of Recreation and Conservation, Jack Radford, announced recently that they had reached an agreement for the transfer of lands to the custody of the National and Historical Parks Service — a measure that will make possible the inclusion of the Chilkoot Trail in the Klondike Gold-rush International Historic Park.

Mr. Chrétien also announced the acquisition of additional historic buildings in Dawson City and details of the marking and maintenance of the Chilkoot Trail.

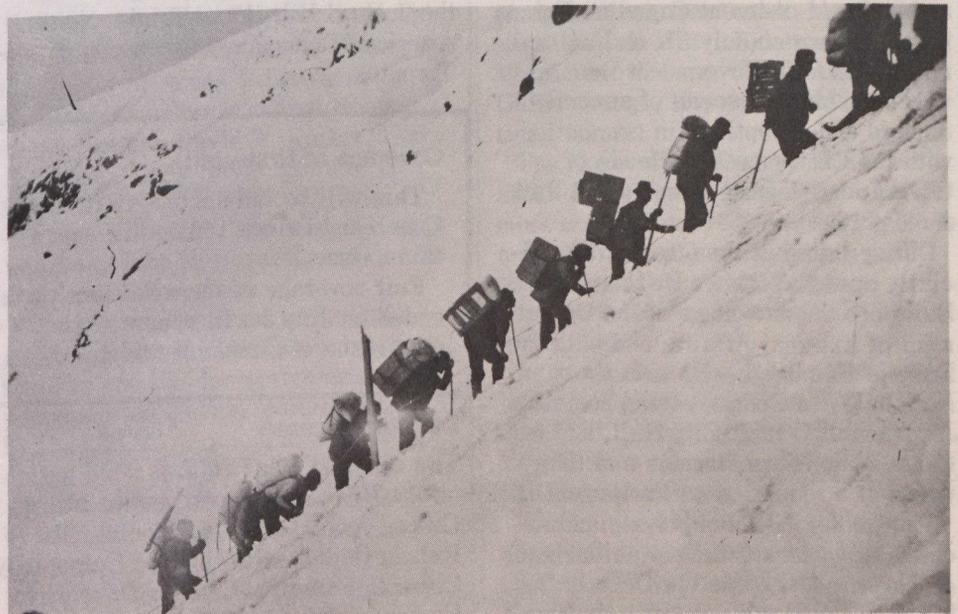
In Dawson to attend celebrations of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Yukon Territory, Mr. Chrétien said that the agreement in principle to transfer 80 square miles of land in a corridor from the American border to Lake Bennett, including the Chilkoot Trail, was the result of negotiations between the federal and provincial governments over a consider-

able period. The agreement calls for a provincial right-of-way across the corridor to permit possible future access to the portion of northwestern British Columbia that would otherwise be isolated.

### The formidable Pass

It was along the Chilkoot Trail and over the formidable Chilkoot Pass that most of the Goldrush "Stampeders" made their way to the Klondike. The Canadian Government, fearing starvation for the thousands of eager prospectors entering the area, insisted that each man haul up over the Pass a year's supply of food — calculated at 1,150 pounds — in addition to his clothing, shelter and equipment.

The famous trail will be marked by interpretive signs in both English and French on both sides of the international border and where necessary, by directional markers, along the route. In addition, the entire 37 miles from



*Prospectors of '98 pack a year's supply of food — totalling about 1,150 pounds for each man — to the summit of the*

*Chilkoot Pass on their way to the Klondike goldfields.*