

lease with the Canadian Parks Service. The result could be a National Provincial Park. This could eliminate the need for much of the transfer costs and facilitate pristine areas system completion.

iii) **Acquisition of Required Rights Only:** One way to diminish acquisition costs, particularly if private interests are involved, is to acquire only those use rights necessary to safeguard preservation values. This may mean, for example that certain non-extractive rights deemed to be compatible with preservation on particular sites (e.g. limited rights of access or grazing) may not be acquired, or may be leased to the vendor by government.

## 2) Increasing the Resources Available for Acquisition

Higher priority must be placed on the acquisition of pristine areas now while the chance to do so remains. This means significantly more resources for acquisition must be made available.

The resources required to acquire intact areas of nature are not limited to cash funds. Governments have a broad range of assets available to trade for wild landscapes: e.g.

- Given their extensive land ownership, they can engage in land swaps. Such trades do not have to be limited to similar types of land. For example, the real estate value and appeal of urban parcels may be an appealing compensation to a resource company.
- They can trade in non-land attributes: for example in exchange for donation of key lands or resource rights (e.g. timber), government might offer discounts on the price of services used by the donor e.g. reduced power rates.
- They can offer tax reductions/write-offs in exchange for land/resource rights.

Especially in this era of tighter budgets, it is essential that governments utilize the broadest range of tools in the acquisition of pristine areas and associated rights. This implies that a wider range of agencies must be involved in supporting the pristine areas agenda rather than just the traditional parks and wildlife departments (e.g. Ministries responsible for taxation, general Crown land administration, utilities, etc.) This is surely appropriate since retention of biodiversity and other preservation values essential to future societal health should be viewed as a responsibility of government as a whole.