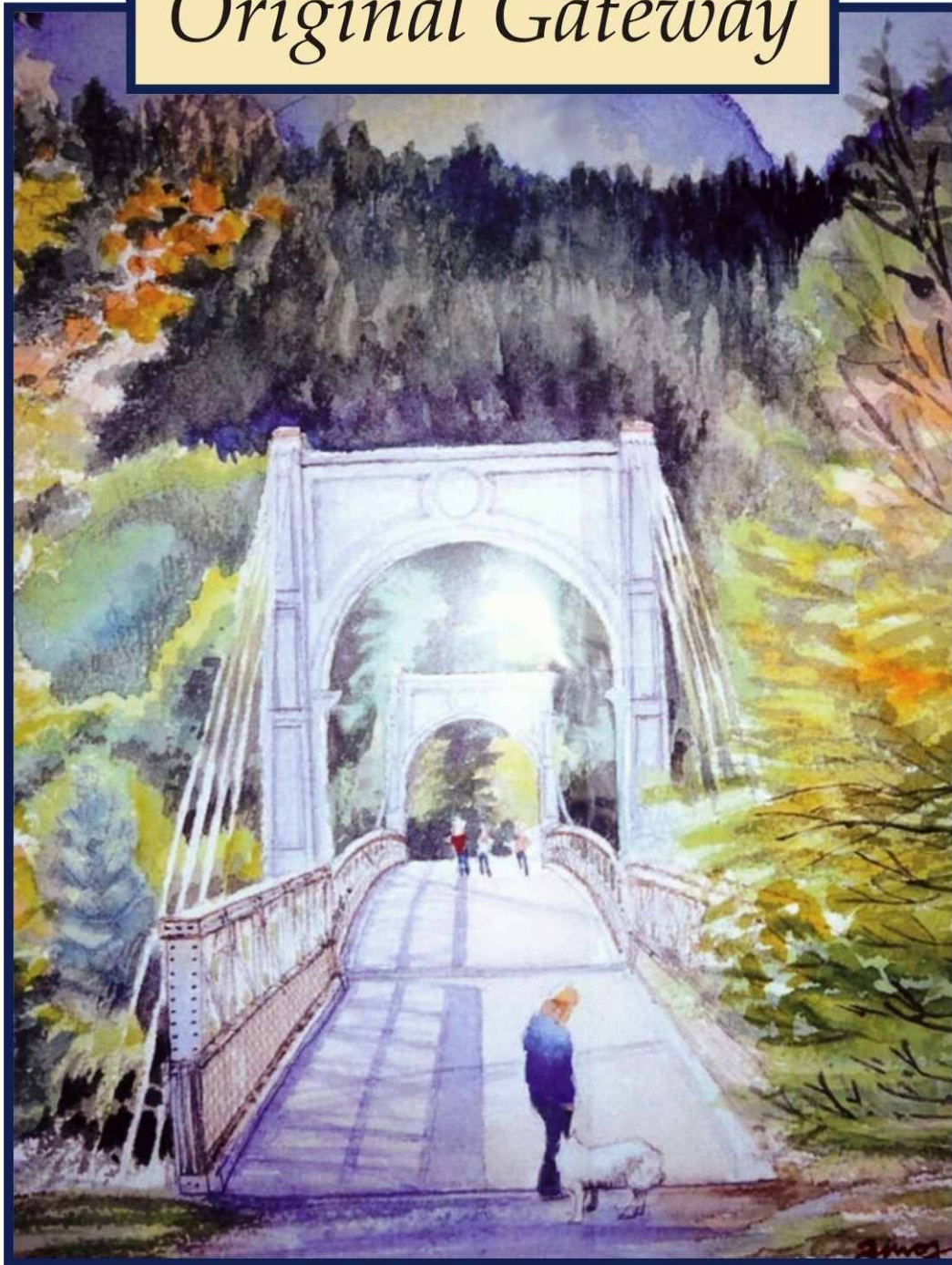


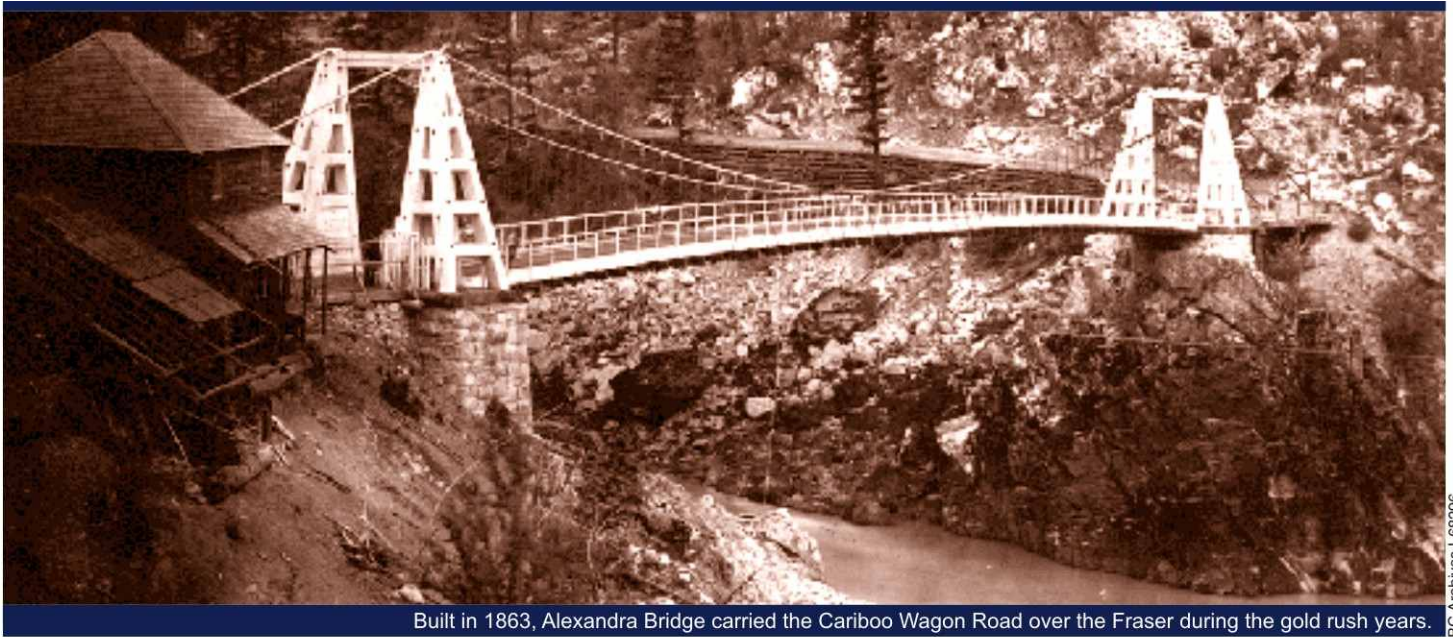
THE ALEXANDRA BRIDGE PROJECT:

Reopening BC's Original Gateway



Painting by: Robert Amos, RCA, 2010

**THIS IS A SPECIAL PLACE. FOR TEN THOUSAND YEARS, IT'S BEEN THE GATEWAY
TO BRITISH COLUMBIA. IT'S A FOUNDATION PILLAR OF THE MODERN PROVINCE.
AN ICON TO OUR TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURAL HISTORY.
AND IT NEEDS YOUR HELP...**



Built in 1863, Alexandra Bridge carried the Cariboo Wagon Road over the Fraser during the gold rush years.

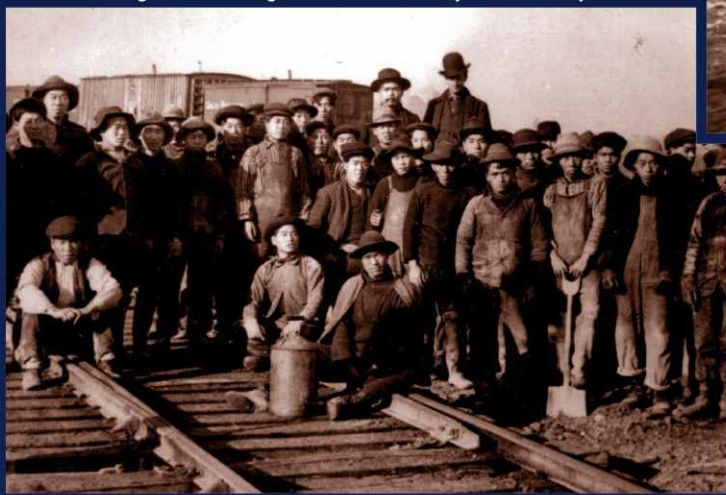
BC Archives I-68296

ALEXANDRA BRIDGE PROVINCIAL PARK contains BC's original Gateway project — this rocky narrows in the Fraser Canyon has been a transportation hub for over 10,000 years. It contains a wealth of heritage assets, including the Alexandra Bridge (an icon of BC transportation history) and exciting human stories that span First Nations, Gold Rush, and Chinese history. Two great national railways embrace the park from either side of a scenic canyon.

A PRECIOUS ASSET

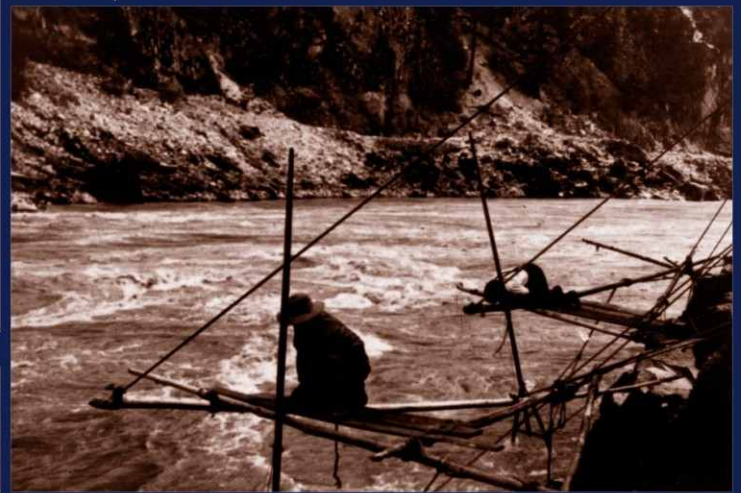
These multiple layers of history are found in one spectacular setting, and they comprise a heritage tourism and educational asset unparalleled in the province. Alexandra Bridge Park has seen it all. But it's seen better days...

Chinese immigrants mined gold and built railways in this canyon.



BC Archives # D-07548

The Nlaka'pamux First Nation has lived and fished here for millennia.



Royal BC Museum # Pn6252

THE CHALLENGE

Park facilities at Alexandra Bridge are showing their age and urgently require restoration. If we work together, we can make this heritage treasure a shining gem in the BC Parks system.

A RESTORATION PLAN — 3 PRIORITIES

A coalition of First Nations, NGO's, provincial agencies, businesses, and citizens are working together to raise funds and restore this jewel in the canyon. The project will move forward with three main priorities....

1. ALEXANDRA BRIDGE

This elegant span across the Fraser is the centrepiece of the project and the heart of the park. Built for automobiles in 1926, it replaced the original wagon bridge of 1863. BC's Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MTI) has determined the structure is safe for pedestrian traffic for another 15 years. Beyond that, work will need to be done to ensure its long-term survival. We want to work with the ministry and other partners to restore and upgrade this original link in the Trans-Canada Highway so it can continue to be enjoyed by future generations.



2. HERITAGE TRAILS


As a transportation hub, the site has a wealth of historically-significant trails, including First Nations routes, the original Cariboo Wagon Road, the 1926 Trans-Canada Highway, and two national railways (CPR, 1885 and CNR, 1915). Trail restoration and educational signs will bring this history alive. A top priority is to work with CN Rail to build a safe pedestrian crossing where their rail line crosses the 1926 Highway. The rail crossing is critical to ensuring safe public access to Alexandra Bridge.



3. HIGHWAY REST STOP

The "gateway to the gateway", the rest stop needs a new information kiosk and picnic facilities to attract public interest and draw people toward the bridge site. It also requires increased maintenance to keep facilities open year-round. In partnership with BC Parks and local First Nations, governments, and businesses, we can reach tens of thousands of travelers each year, promoting the entire canyon corridor. Work is being planned for 2012, to improve picnic facilities and make the park more attractive to highway travelers.





Alexandra Bridge Provincial Park offers the public a rare opportunity to access the Fraser and learn its history.

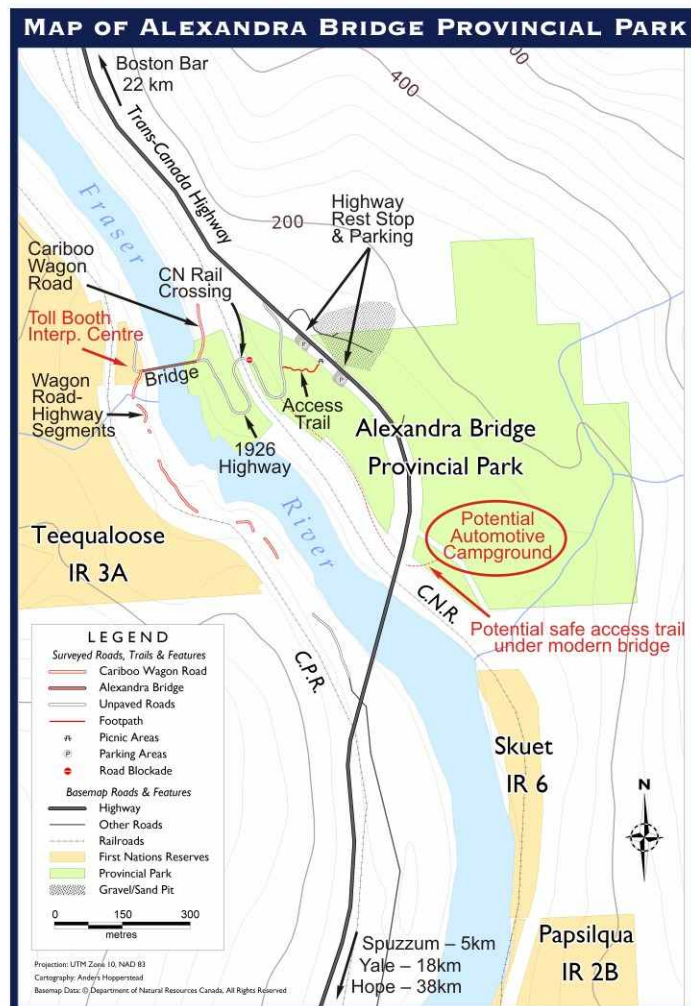
THERE'S SO MUCH MORE WE COULD DO!

INTERPRETIVE CENTRE

Such a historically-significant site and heritage tourism attraction would benefit from an interpretive centre where visitors could experience some of the site's many stories, complementing the "hands-on, on the ground" experience on the trails and bridge. There are several options for the location of this centre, including on the west side of the park, on the site of the old toll house. This is a longer-term goal of the project.

CAMPSITE FACILITY

The eastern half of the park has ample room for overnight automotive camping facilities, which would enhance the visitor experience at the site and promote longer stays in the canyon. This is a longer-term goal of the project, consistent with the parks' original "Master Plan" written in 1985. A new campground would also support BC Parks' objective to increase camping facilities over the next five years.



JOIN US!

Help us make Alexandra Bridge Provincial Park a world-class heritage tourism asset for all of BC!

You can:

- Contact your MLA and tell him/her you support the restoration of Alexandra Bridge.
- Contact the Hope Mountain Centre
– info@hopemountain.org
- Contact the New Pathways to Gold Society
– ddclauka@shaw.ca

PROJECT PARTNERS



Spuzzum
First Nation



BC Parks



New Pathways to Gold



Ministry of
Transportation
and Infrastructure



HOPE MOUNTAIN CENTRE
for outdoor learning