



**ALPINE CLUB  
OF CANADA**

**CLUB ALPIN  
DU CANADA**


# **MOUNT ROBSON**

## **THE SPIRAL ROAD CAMPAIGN**

Build a legacy for outdoor adventure in one of  
Canada's most majestic wilderness spaces.

Credit: Peter Hoang



A high-altitude mountain landscape with a climber in the foreground. The climber is wearing a red jacket and a backpack, and is using ice axes to ascend a steep, snow-covered slope. In the background, there are jagged mountain peaks and a small, turquoise-colored lake or pond. The sky is dark and overcast.

*A slate sky darkens  
to charcoal.  
Robson is getting into a  
mood: a storm is coming.  
Soon the winds will be  
raking streamers of mist.  
Rime crystal by rime crystal,  
the gargoyles gain in mass.*

- Barry Blanchard  
Mountain guide, writer,  
filmmaker, speaker

## BUILD A LEGACY FOR OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

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Towering at 3,954 meters (12,972 feet), Yexyexéscen (Mount Robson) is the highest peak in the Canadian Rockies, a powerful symbol of natural beauty, resilience, and cultural significance. Known as “The Mountain of the Spiral Road” to the Secwépemc, this mountain has been revered by Indigenous Peoples for generations as a sacred place, deeply woven into their histories, traditions, and way of life. Long before it became a sought-after destination for alpinists and outdoor enthusiasts drawn to its rugged terrain, pristine wilderness, and iconic summit, it held profound spiritual and cultural meaning for those who have called this land home.

The Alpine Club of Canada’s new hut at Mount Robson Provincial Park will serve as a gateway to this remarkable backcountry experience. Affordable, accessible, and comfortable, the hut will provide a welcoming space for visitors to prepare a hot meal and share stories with new and old friends.

Through The Spiral Road Campaign, The Alpine Club of Canada seeks to raise **\$1.2 million** to build a new hut at Robson Pass, ensuring future generations can access and appreciate one of Canada’s most majestic wilderness spaces.

**Please donate today.**

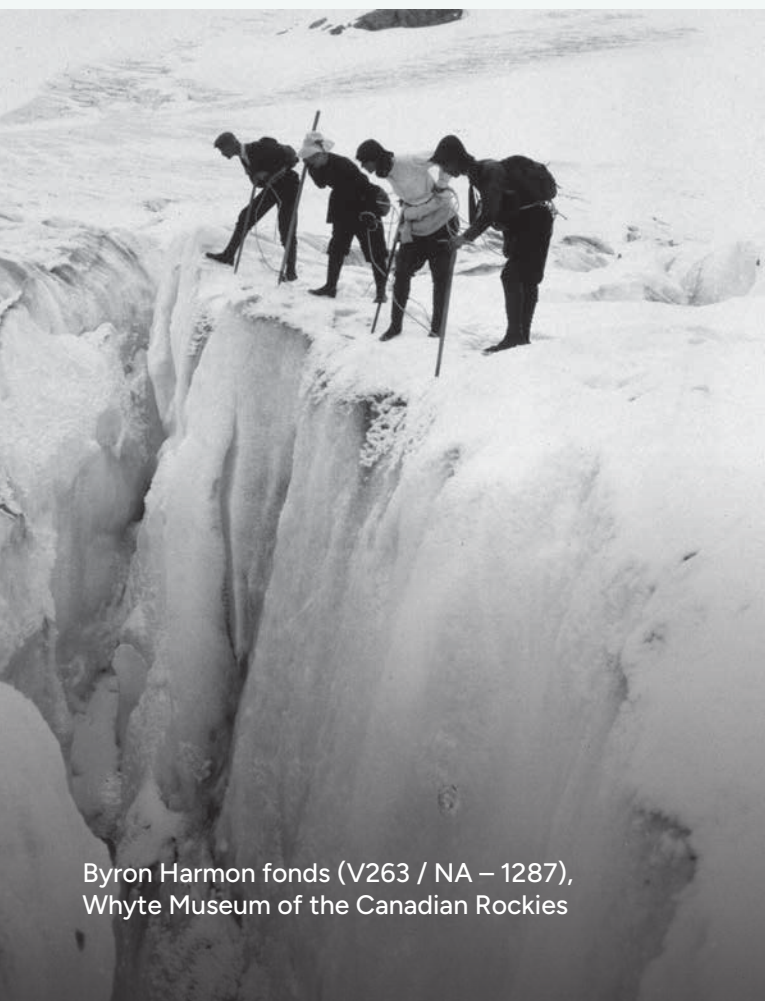


## ABOUT MOUNT ROBSON PROVINCIAL PARK

- + For the Texqa'kallt (that belong to the Secwépemc -Shuswap - nation) Mount Robson is known as **Yexyexéscen** (Yuh-hai-has-kun) which translates to '**The Mountain of the Spiral Road**'.
- + **Home to 42 species of mammals** including grizzly bears, wolverines, mountain goats, and moose.
- + **Home to 182 species of birds** including eagles, hawks, grouse, owls, and woodpeckers.
- + British Columbia's **second oldest** provincial park.
- + **UNESCO** World Heritage Site.
- + **A glacial wonder** - home to Berg Glacier and Mist Glacier, feeding the turquoise waters of Berg Lake.
- + **Wild & rugged** - 98% of the park is protected wilderness with no road access.
- + Mount Robson is the highest point in the Canadian Rockies **3,954 m (12,972 ft)**.
- + First recorded ascent of Mount Robson: **July 31<sup>st</sup> 1913** by ACC members.

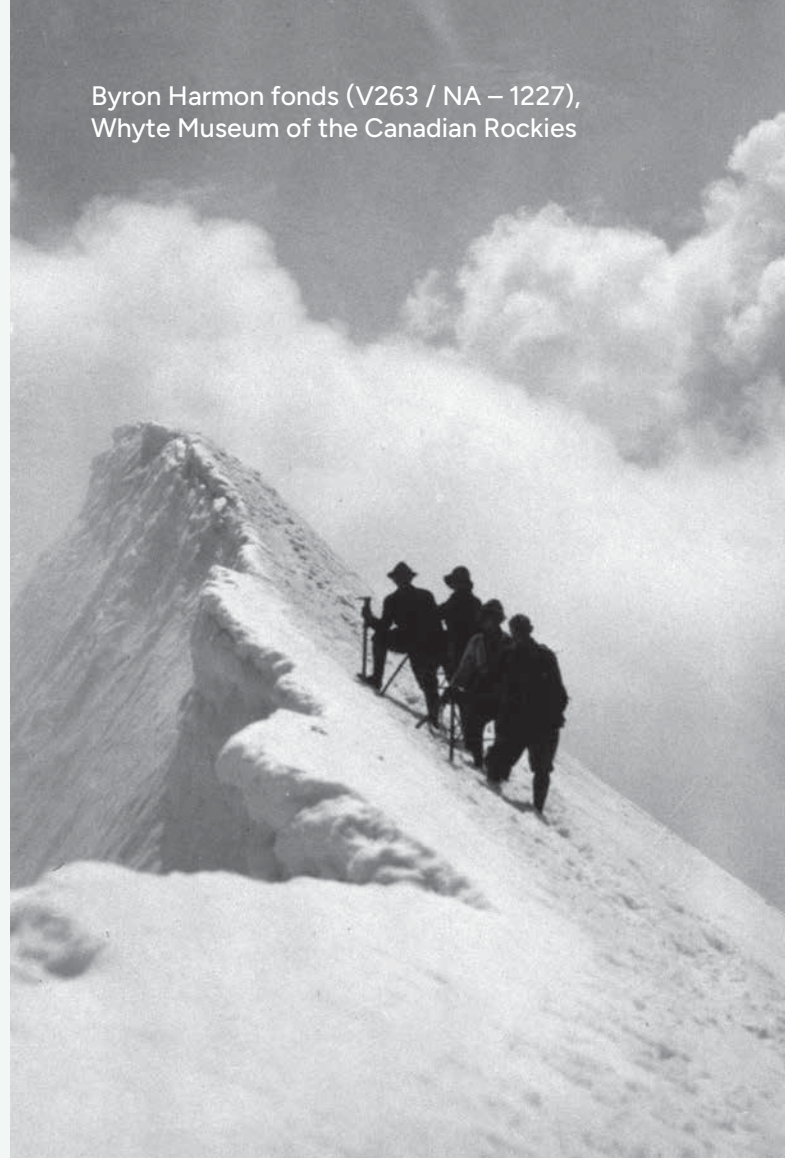
# ACC'S ROOTS INEXTRICABLY TIED TO YEXYEXÉSCEN

In 1913, William 'Billy' Foster, Albert 'Mack' MacCarthy, and legendary mountain guide Conrad Kain made the first recorded ascent of Mount Robson from an Alpine Club of Canada camp in Robson Pass, very near the building site of the new ACC hut.



Byron Harmon fonds (V263 / NA – 1287),  
Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies

Byron Harmon fonds (V263 / NA – 1227),  
Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies



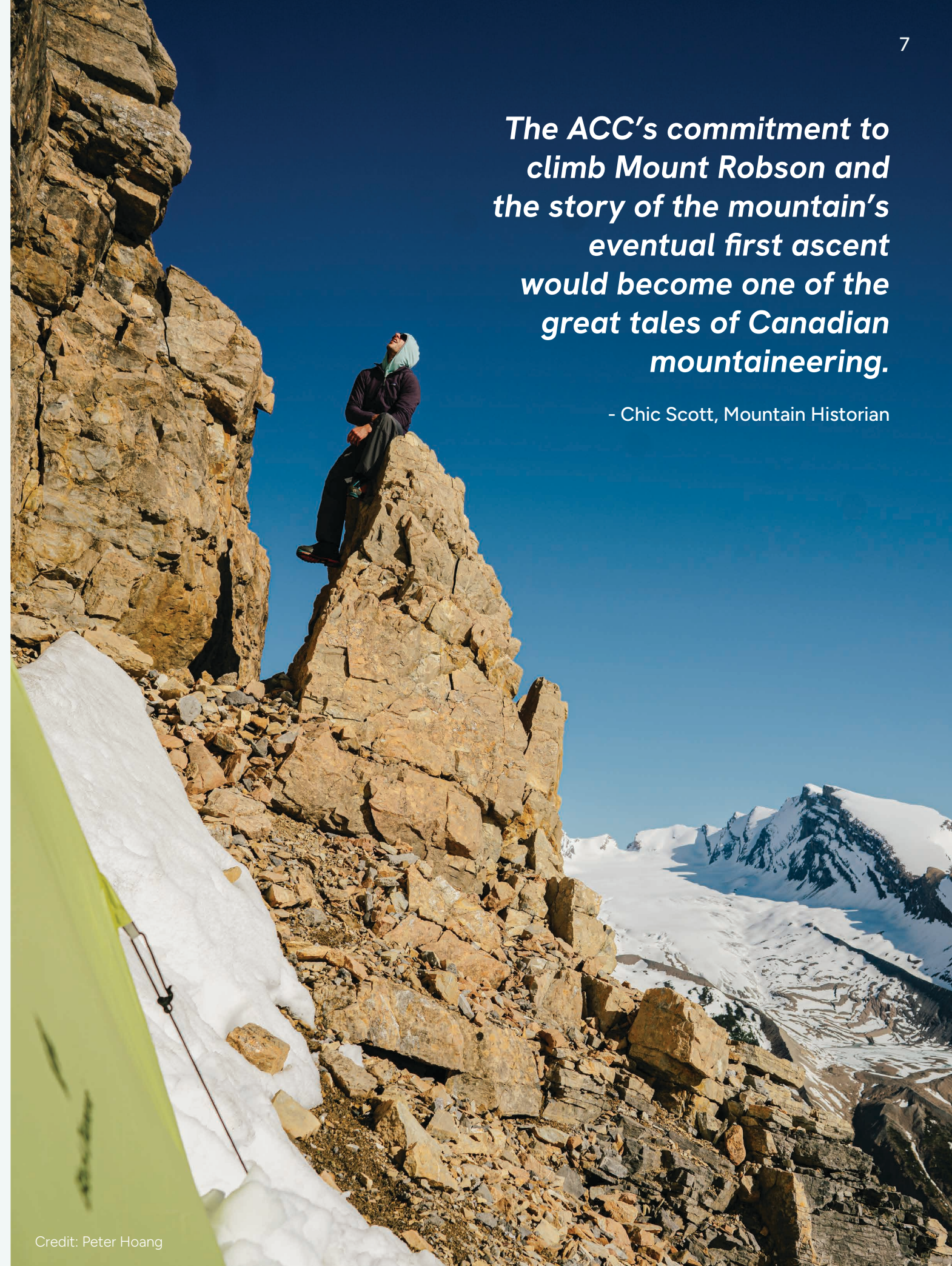
Their daring 17-hour climb - which required the cutting of over 600 steps in the snow and ice of the mountain's Kain Face - epitomized teamwork, determination, and respect for the alpine environment; values that continue to define the ACC today.

## The GMC at Mount Robson

Mount Robson has been a key venue for ACC's General Mountaineering Camps through the years, consistently challenging climbers and strengthening our community. In 1924, the camp was located at the northwest end of Kinney Lake and the mountain saw four ascents that year from a high camp on the south side, all guided by Conrad Kain. Three subsequent GMCs were held at Berg Lake in 1955, 1974, and the 75th anniversary camp in 1988.

*The ACC's commitment to climb Mount Robson and the story of the mountain's eventual first ascent would become one of the great tales of Canadian mountaineering.*

- Chic Scott, Mountain Historian



Credit: Peter Hoang



**Site of ACC Hut**

**1913 ACC Camp**

**Lynx Mountain**

**Resplendent Mountain**

**Mount Robson**

**1955, 1974, 1988 GMCs**

**Berg Lake Campsite**

**Berg Lake**

**Marmot Campsite**

**1924 High Camp**

**Emperor Falls Campsite**

**Emperor Falls**

**1924 GMC**

**Whitehorn Mountain**

**Cinnamon peak**

**Mount Robson Visitor Centre**

The new hut will be a base for countless future gatherings of the ACC, as well as a refuge for backpackers, ski-mountaineers and climbers tackling the legendary peak.

- Berg Lake Trail
- Highway 16

To Jasper 86 km

To Valemount 37 km



## A VISION YEARS IN THE MAKING

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Planning for this hut began in 2006 as an Alpine Club Centennial project and was revived in 2012. After a pause in 2022 due to flood damage and the pandemic, the project is back on track!

We are excited to move forward and bring this long-awaited vision to life.

# ABOUT THE HUT

The new hut will be a safe, warm shelter in the remote wilderness of Mount Robson Park, welcoming adventurers in all seasons.

## Facilities

- + Bunks for up to 12 people
- + Propane heating and cooking
- + Electric lighting, ventilation and device charging powered by renewable solar energy

## Access

- + 24 km hike from Mount Robson Information Centre via well-maintained trails with several campgrounds en route. You can bike as far as Kinney Lake Campground (13.4 km).
- + Optional helicopter access in both summer and winter

## Recreation

- + A base for climbers attempting Mt. Robson and other peaks in the area
- + Proximity to world-renowned backcountry trails, including:
  - Berg Lake Trail
  - Kinney Lake
  - Moose Pass
  - Snowbird Pass
- + Exceptional backcountry ski terrain at:
  - Mumm Peak
  - Hargreaves Lake
  - Toboggan Falls
  - Robson Pass



Credit: Peter Hoang





## Progress Milestones

- + Site survey: **COMPLETED**
- + Level 2 environmental assessment: **COMPLETED**
- + Geotechnical assessment: **COMPLETED**
- + Archaeological impact assessment: **COMPLETED**
- + First Nations consultations: **IN PROGRESS**
- + Design plans: **COMPLETED**
- + Construction to begin: **SUMMER 2025**
- + First visitors welcomed: **SUMMER 2026**

## Project Cost & Campaign Goal: \$1.2 Million

The Spiral Road Campaign aims to raise a total of \$1.2 million to fund the design, construction, and completion of this essential facility. This comprehensive goal covers not only the direct building costs but also the necessary expenses for project logistics, contingencies, and community engagement. **Thanks to the generosity of our first supporters, over \$400,000 has already been committed.** These early contributions signal strong momentum and a shared belief in the vision for the Byron Caldwell Hut.

## How the funds Will Be Allocated:

- + **Design, materials, and construction: \$1,065,000** to cover all phases of the hut’s construction, including site preparation, materials, transportation, and installation.
- + **Campaign costs and contingencies: \$110,000** for essential fundraising efforts, community outreach, and a contingency fund to ensure smooth project completion despite the challenges of working in a remote, rugged environment.
- + **Legacy and acknowledgements: \$25,000** to support Indigenous consultations, community engagement, and the creation of meaningful donor recognition opportunities.



**Why Your Support Matters**

This project is more than just a construction effort—it’s a **legacy**. The new hut will honour those who have been drawn to the mountain’s majesty while providing a vital safe haven for climbers and adventurers. Every dollar raised will bring us closer to realizing this vision and preserving Mount Robson’s spirit for **generations to come**.

Credit: Jon Walsh



## STORIES OF LEGACY HUT NAMED IN BYRON CALDWELL'S MEMORY



**During the ACC's General Mountaineering Camp in 1988, Byron Caldwell, Scott Sarjeant, and their party, guided by Don Vockeroth, summited Mount Robson.**

Byron and Scott's climb marked a lifelong bond between the two climbers, forged through their shared passion for adventure. Mount Robson became a place of profound meaning for both men, representing resilience, courage, and the unyielding spirit of exploration.

Byron Caldwell tragically fell to his death while climbing in July 2018, a loss that deeply impacted those who knew and loved him.

**In his will, Byron expressed a desire to leave a lasting legacy at Mount Robson.**

Honouring his wishes, his wife, Mary Caldwell, made a leadership gift to establish the Byron Caldwell Hut at Mount Robson.

This hut will provide a safe and comfortable base for future climbers and skiers in the area while celebrating the adventurous spirit that Byron embodied.

Mary's generosity, alongside the contributions from the Sarjeant family and other friends of Byron, ensure that the Mount Robson area will continue to inspire generations of climbers and adventurers. Their gifts honour not only Byron's memory but also his enduring connection to Mount Robson and the community of adventurers who revere it.

***Climbing Mount Robson was one of the most challenging yet rewarding experiences of my life. The technical terrain and sheer beauty of the mountain made it unforgettable, and having Byron by my side made it even more special. Mount Robson will always hold a unique place in my heart.***

- Scott Sarjeant

Photos credited to Scott Sarjeant. Clockwise from top left:  
1. Byron and Scott on the summit of Mt. Resplendent with Mt. Robson in the background; 2. Byron and Mt. Robson; 3. Summit party at the top of the Kain Face; 4. On the summit of Mt. Robson.

# STORIES OF LEGACY

## FAMILY'S LOVE FOR MOUNT ROBSON

### Margaret Gmoser grew up close to the mountains - and she's never left them.

Her father was a member of The Alpine Club of Canada in Calgary, AB, and over the years, she's camped and backpacked her way around the world.

Her late husband Hans ran ski touring camps and guided at many General Mountaineering Camps for the ACC, including the Yukon Alpine Centennial Expedition in 1967. In 1986 Hans was made an honorary member of the club, and in 2003 he was the Patron of the club's Mountain Guides Ball along with the other founders of the Association of Canadian Mountain Guides.

Margaret and Hans' love of the mountains was passed on to their two sons, Conrad and Robson, the latter named for Mount Robson, which Hans was climbing near the time of his birth. Robson became a passionate ski guide, deeply connected to the wilderness, but was tragically killed in an avalanche near Glacier National Park at the age of 45.

To honour Robson's memory and their family's deep connection to the outdoors, Margaret, Conrad, and Robson's wife, Olivia, have contributed to the construction of the Byron Caldwell Hut, a project that will provide climbers and adventurers with a safe and welcoming space on the mountain.

***I like that it is designed for families. We need to get the younger generation into the outdoors. The area is one of the most beautiful places I know.***

- Margaret Gmoser



Clockwise from top:  
1. Olivia, Max, and Robson;  
2. Robson and Conrad;  
3. Margaret and her sons Robson and Conrad.





# MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY

Mount Robson is calling - and you have the opportunity to be part of its legacy. The Byron Caldwell Hut will provide a warm, safe haven for climbers, trekkers, and adventurers exploring one of Canada's most awe-inspiring wilderness areas.

Your support will help bring this project to life, ensuring future generations can experience the magic of Yexyexéscen—'The Mountain of the Spiral Road'.

## Giving & Recognition

We offer a range of 'giving levels' designed to honour your contribution in a meaningful way.

- + Mount Robson Legacy Partners (\$250,000+)
- + Visionaries Circle (\$150,000–\$249,999)
- + Summit Leaders (\$50,000–\$149,999)
- + Trailblazers (\$10,000–\$49,999)
- + Pathfinders (\$5,000–\$9,999)
- + Basecamp Builders (Up to \$5,000)

We'd be delighted to discuss personalised recognition and naming opportunities tailored to your philanthropic goals.

## Secure your legacy.

Contact us to learn  
more about how we  
can honour your  
donation.



Credit: Peter Hoang

## Ways to Give

- + Email: [fundev@alpineclubofcanada.ca](mailto:fundev@alpineclubofcanada.ca) (or refer to direct contacts on the back cover)
- + Call: 403-678-3200 ext. 222.
- + Make a gift of securities; this is a tax-effective option to support the project.
- + Honour someone special; make an 'in-memory of' or tribute gift.
- + U.S. residents; eligible for a charitable tax receipt through our U.S. ACC Foundation.

## Recognition for Supporters

- + Recognition in the ACC's Annual Report.
- + Major donors featured in ACC publications and social media.
- + Select donors included in media releases.
- + Key supporters will be invited to the official opening of the Byron Caldwell Hut, celebrating its legacy in Mount Robson Provincial Park.



Credit: Peter Hoang



**With your help, we can break ground in 2025  
and welcome adventurers by 2026.**

Credit: Peter Hoang

Credit: Dave Snell



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## **DONATE TODAY**

**403-678-3200 ext. 222**

**[fundev@alpineclubofcanada.ca](mailto:fundev@alpineclubofcanada.ca)**

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