



## Updates from the Rouge National Urban Park team

With Parks Canada proudly working towards becoming the stewards of Rouge National Urban Park, we have embraced the important role of involving and listening to Canadians, while encouraging them to help shape Canada's first national urban park. This is an exciting new concept that will celebrate and protect, for current and future generations, a diverse landscape in Canada's largest metropolitan area. We are pleased to share some updates on this exciting initiative!



Cedar trees in the snow. Courtesy: Rouge Park.

## A Successful Public Engagement Program

Last summer, Parks Canada led a public engagement program, filled with many outreach events and information sessions, where our staff members were on hand to discuss the Rouge National Urban Park concept.

By the end of the engagement program in October 2012, Parks Canada had received thousands of comments from Canadians, near and far, expressing a diversity of perspectives. Since then, we have been reviewing and analyzing the comments received. A summary report is now available and shared on our public website at [www.parksCanada.gc.ca/rouge](http://www.parksCanada.gc.ca/rouge). For years to come, those of you who provided input can proudly state you helped shape Canada's first national urban park. Thank-You!



Parks Canada staff meeting with the public. Courtesy: Parks Canada.





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## Next Steps in the Establishment Process

The input received on the Rouge National Urban Park concept, during the summer/fall 2012 engagement program, will help shape the development of the strategic management plan. This plan will provide the overarching guidance for the management of Canada's first national urban park. Premised on accountability, inclusiveness and collaboration, the strategic management plan will outline for Rouge National Urban Park the integrated delivery of Parks Canada's mandate for protection, education, and visitor experience. Once in draft form, the strategic management plan will be shared for public comment later in 2013.

In parallel to this planning process, we continue working closely with the public landholders towards a Land Assembly Agreement for the lands included in the proposed study area. In addition, the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority continues as the managing authority for the existing Rouge Park, working closely with Parks Canada and local municipalities as the establishment process continues. The TRCA keeps Parks Canada abreast of all discussions and decisions regarding the current park, while regularly seeking our input to ensure decisions are made in the best interest of the future Rouge National Urban Park.

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## Our New Home

We are pleased to have found a place we can call 'home' for our team members. As its temporary office, Parks Canada is leasing the historic Cornell Campbell House from the City of Toronto. Our team has been busy getting the office set up these past months and it is proving to be a great location, given the proximity to the park. The Rouge National Urban Park office is located at 3620 Kingston Road in Scarborough.

Here are our full contact details:  
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### Did you know....?

The Rouge River and Little Rouge Creek made up the eastern branch of the 'Carrying Place Trail' for First Nations and European explorers.

### For more information:

To find out more or to be added to our mailing list for future newsletters, please contact [rouge@pc.gc.ca](mailto:rouge@pc.gc.ca)

[www.parks canada.gc.ca/rouge](http://www.parks canada.gc.ca/rouge)

