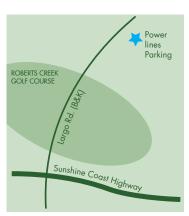


Beyond the Mt. Elphinstone Park: A Hike above Park #2

Experience the rich, natural forests that provide key connectivity for an expanded Mt. Elphinstone protected area. Stand beside massive Wildlife Trees and hike along an interconnected trail system that includes the Health, Wagon and Shaker trails, leading to a little known Old Growth Management Area (OGMA) tucked alongside xwesam Creek. Your guide will help you identify tree and plant species.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2021 9:30AM - 1:30PM

Meet at the powerlines on the B&K (Largo Rd), rain or shine. Bring a friend, water, snacks, and questions. Wear good hiking shoes. Level of difficulty is moderateincline with some steeper sections. Participation is at your own risk and by donation if desired. All ages are welcome.



We acknowledge that this forest is within the traditional territories of the shíshálh (Sechelt) Nation and subject to aboriginal rights and title.

WHY THIS FOREST MATTERS

OGMAs are semi-protected areas that are supposed to secure forest biodiversity. They're hidden away with no public direction. The shishálh Nation and BC government are negotiating a land use plan for the shishálh's swiya (traditional lands). Both parties are aware of the community's desire to have more of the Elphinstone forests protected which should include this OGMA as a connector between two of the three small Mt. Elphinstone park parcels.

If there is no wider protection of the Elphinstone forests, future logging plans could include cutblocks around this important OGMA, creating additional fragmentation of the landscape and worsening impacts on the little that remains of the Sunshine Coast's natural forests.

About the Summer Hiking Program

Produced in collaboration with and guided by **Elphinstone Logging Focus**, and generously sponsored by **Empowered Healers Academy**, the program connects you with the lower Sunshine Coast's threatened natural forests and explains why their protection is so critical at this time of climate and biodiversity crises and what can be done to conserve them.



loggingfocus.org

Visit www.livingforestinstitute.ca for details on the upcoming Sunday, September 5 hike and other events.

