

Sale of Camp Kwomais for a Park

September 10, 2007

Camp Kwomais has been sold to the City of Surrey for use as a city park.

The sale of the camp for \$20,000,000 is part BC Conference's Camp Future Project which calls for a multi-million dollar investment in church camping in the Conference. Major capital improvements will be made at several other camps throughout the Conference. In addition, an endowment fund will provide significant annual income to subsidize camp leadership, provide good governance, assist campers to attend distant camps, and support other camping ventures.

Monies not needed for camping ministries will be invested to provide regular income for other church mission work.

The camp at Ocean Park was originally bought by the Methodist Church as a vacation and retirement site for church members before becoming a camp in 1910. It was one of the oldest children's camps in Canada, operating until 2004.

In its decision to sell Camp Kwomais, the BC Conference Executive stipulated that it be sold balancing the need for income, the desire to preserve the environmental qualities of the property, and maintaining public access. All three of these objectives were met by selling to Surrey, which sees the property as a major element of its plan for a "green" city.

Although the sale was completed last Friday, the announcement of the sale was made public Monday morning.