



# History of Transportation Corridor in Glacier National Park



# Canada is a big place!

- 9,984,670 km<sup>2</sup>

## Trans-Canada Highway

- Victoria, British Columbia to St. John's, Newfoundland:
  - 7,120.7 km
  - ~78 hrs driving



Source: [www.tc.canada.ca](http://www.tc.canada.ca)

# A Brief History (TCH corridor)

Indigenous peoples have lived here since before recorded history

- Rogers Pass – spans the overlapping and unceded territories of many culturally diverse Indigenous groups.
- We work with the Ktunaxa, Secwepemc, Sinixt and syilx/Okanagan

## Secwépemc



Skwlāx te  
Secwepemcúłecw



Splatsin



Adams Lake



Neskonlith



Shuswap



Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc

## Ktunaxa



Yaqit ʔa-knuq̓i 'it  
Tobacco Plains



ʔaq'am  
St. Mary's



Yaqan Nukiy  
Lower Kootenay



Akisq'nuk

## Syilx



Okanagan IB



Westbank FN

## Sinixt

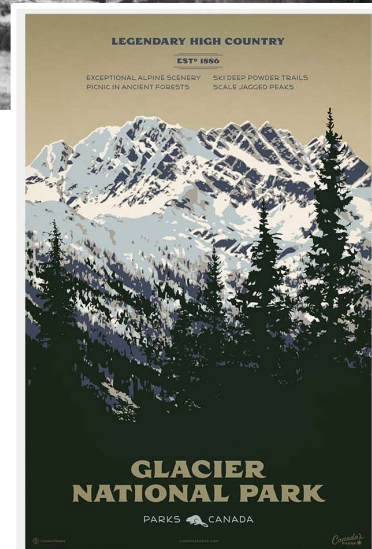


Offices in Nelson  
Based in Inchelium,  
Washington (USA)

# Canada: East meets West

In subsequent colonial history:

- In 1860s, Canada as a young nation, promises to connect west with east if BC will join Confederation
- Biggest challenge: building a transcontinental railway
- Canadian Pacific Railway completes the “all-Canadian railway” on November 7, 1885
- Glacier National Park established in 1886



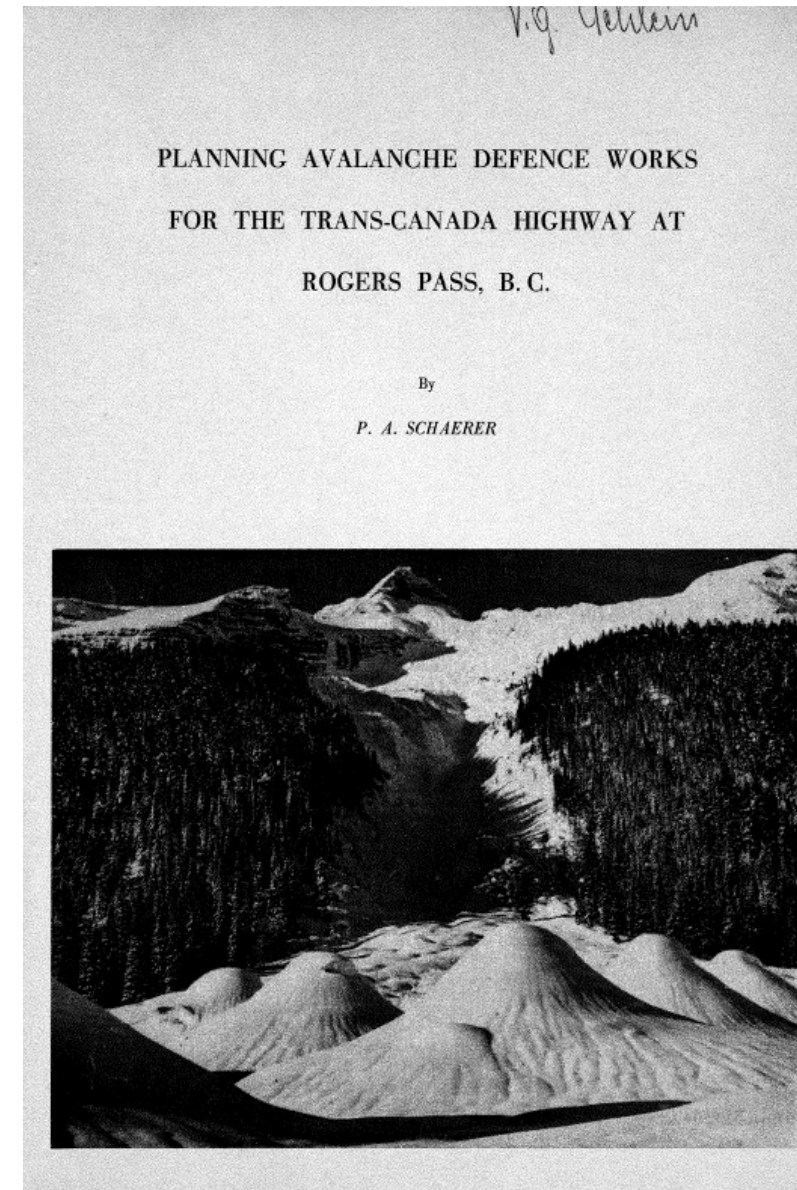
# History- Canadian Pacific Railway

- 1885-1911 over 200 fatalities resulting from avalanches on CP rail line
  - March 4, 1910 avalanche killed 58 men
  - Still Canada's worst avalanche disaster
- Only mitigation available to them was route selection and static defenses
- CP acknowledged risk and began building tunnels under Rogers Pass, abandoning riskiest sections



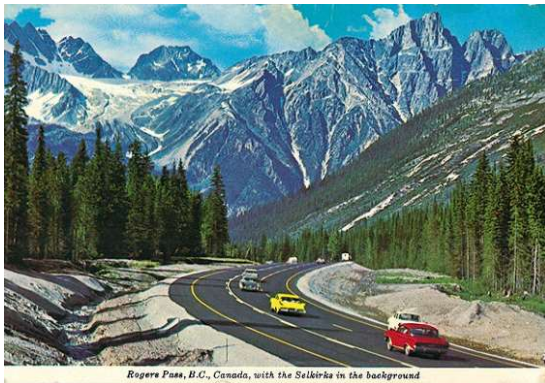
# History-TCH

- Post-WWII boom in automotive use
- Late 1940's construction of TCH approved with route through Rogers Pass selected
  - Road alignment often following former railway line
- 1952 avalanche and snow studies began
  - Collected data and developed the avalanche warning system
  - Very innovative and progressive for its time and many mitigations are still effective today!



# History-TCH

- 1961 partnership with Department of National Defence commenced and continues to this day
  - Tested various tools and the 105mm howitzer was found to be most effective
- 1962- final section through Rogers Pass is completed officially opening the TCH



# Rogers Pass National Historic Site

Rogers Pass designated a National Historic Site in 1971 to commemorate:

- the early route- finding, building and operation of the Canadian Pacific Railway's main line between 1881 and 1917
- the construction of the Trans-Canada Highway
- the pass' pivotal role in connecting Canada as a nation.





# TCH still a part of the Canadian Identity

- Globe and Mail, 7-part series, final article July 26, 2023



## 'A part of Canada':

Reflections from the Trans-Canada Highway – the drive that binds

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### Trans-Canada Highway to close at Kicking Horse Canyon for five weeks this spring

Work to widen the Trans-Canada Highway will require a month-long closure of the highway east of Golden.

Nathan Griffiths

Published Jan 16, 2021 • 1 minute read

Calgary

### Trans-Canada Highway reopens between Golden and Revelstoke following 'vehicle incident'

Cars lined up going both east and west for hours Saturday after traffic incident in Glacier National Park

CBC News - Posted: Aug 05, 2023 5:46 PM PDT | Last Updated: August 5, 2023



Travellers got out of their cars as traffic came to a standstill Saturday afternoon along the Trans-Canada Highway between Golden and Revelstoke, B.C. (Submitted by Richard Kim)

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### Two vehicle accident closed Trans Canada Highway yesterday

A semi rolled on its side yesterday, obstructing both lanes of traffic 38 kilometres west of Revelstoke on the Trans-Canada Highway.

Black Press Media  
Aug 22, 2018 11:25 AM

