

CANADA'S MOUNTAIN SYSTEMS



Mountain systems provide essential benefits to Canadians from coast to coast to coast. These may include drinking water, wildlife habitat, a foundation for diverse economies, or spiritual connection.

Mountain systems are sentinels of change. Rapid and disruptive changes to mountain systems foreshadow impacts to the broader landscape. Studying these changes can help us anticipate and mitigate these impacts and take advantage of opportunities.

MOUNTAIN SYSTEM
= RUGGED TERRAIN



25% OF CANADA'S LANDMASS
(7X THE AREA OF THE EUROPEAN ALPS)

KEY DRIVERS
OF CHANGE:



CLIMATE
CHANGE



LAND USE
CHANGE



POLICY AND
MARKETS



RECONCILIATION

Canada's diverse mountain systems feature varying geographies, ecologies and societies.

MACKENZIE MOUNTAINS

Mountains have rich stories to tell. Ice patches in the Mackenzie mountains preserve ancient hunting artifacts of the Dené people.



TORNGAT MOUNTAINS

Mountains allow communities to access key resources. River valleys act as ongoing travel routes for Inuit.



LAURENTIAN MOUNTAINS

Mountains support local economies by attracting tourists. Visitors to the Laurentians spend around \$1 billion each year.

COAST MOUNTAINS

Mountains are a key source of water. Rainfall and snowmelt provide drinking water for 2.5 million Metro Vancouver residents.



ROCKY MOUNTAINS

Mountains are home to iconic national parks. In 2018, 9.2 million people visited Parks Canada's mountain parks, including Banff and Jasper.



The Canadian Mountain Network

supports the resilience and health of Canada's mountain peoples and places through research partnerships based on Indigenous and Western ways of knowing that inform decision-making and action.



CMN RESEARCH PRIORITY AREAS

1. Exploring how Indigenous Peoples apply Indigenous culture and knowledge to decision making.
2. Understanding the impacts of climate change and human activities.
3. Identifying innovative planning, risk, and governance models.
4. Supporting land-based livelihoods that respect mountain systems.

