



## **ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION ARRANGEMENT**

Between the Province of British Columbia and the State of Montana

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia and the State of Montana are committed to ensuring a consistent and high level of environmental quality for their citizens; and

WHEREAS the State of Montana and the Province of British Columbia share spectacular and priceless regional ecosystems which transcend the international boundary between them; and

WHEREAS both governments recognize that environmental concerns and impacts respect neither geographical nor political boundaries, and that there is significant benefit in cooperation and collaboration on mutual environmental interests; and

WHEREAS the Ministries of the Province and the Executive Departments of the State wish to share information and are prepared to work together with regard to their respective responsibilities, and may wish to enter into specific cooperation arrangements; and

WHEREAS the increased complexity of environmental issues, particularly their inter-jurisdictional impacts, requires coordinated responses from both governments;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Province of British Columbia and the State of Montana undertake to establish the **British Columbia/Montana Environmental Cooperation Initiative** to identify, coordinate and promote mutual efforts to ensure the protection, conservation and enhancement of our shared environment for the benefit of current and future generations.

ACCORDINGLY, the parties will develop an action plan within one year of signing this arrangement which will form part of these efforts, reflecting mutual priorities. The Parties may also enter into specific arrangements necessary to effectively address shared environmental goals.

DATED at		
This day of	, 2003	
Gordon Campbe	ll, Premier	Judy Martz, Governor
Province of Briti	sh Columbia	State of Montana