

July 28 - Aug 1, 2026

Join the Alpine Club of Canada for 4 nights, 5 days at Lake O'Hara in Yoho National Park.

After Steffany arranged for an invitation to the Westman Wilderness Club members to join the Alpine Club of Canada (Manitoba section) on a trip to Lake O'Hara three Westman Wilderness Club members accepted the offer. The 3 of us survived some trials and tribulations on the trip out to catch the Parks Canada bus for the 12 km ride to the ACC Elizabeth Parker and Wiwaxy huts.

The hiking was fantastic. We managed to squeeze in 5 hikes.

- On day one we did the hike to [Lake McArthur and Big Larches Loop Trail](#) and later that evening the [Lake O'Hara Shoreline Trail](#).
- Day two was the most challenging hike. We hiked [Wiwaxy Alpine Route and Opabin Lakes](#) which was an elevation gain of 650 meters in the first two kilometers of the hike. The rest of this hike took us around the rim above Lake O'Hara and then back down to the lake and the huts.
 - The evening of day two brought us a special treat. We were able to have an up-close viewing of a mother grizzly and her two cubs. They were grazing along the creek that runs past the two huts. We gathered as a group to watch, and as I measured later, we were 32 meters from the grizzlies. This offered everyone a good viewing of the three grizzlies, and an opportunity for me to take some photos. While we were all standing there watching the grizzlies I asked the group if anyone had a bear spray. Surprisingly, everyone said no.
- The third day was only slightly less challenging. We hiked up to Lake McArthur again, then on the return trip we did the [All Souls Prospect](#) traverse around the rim from the other direction. Then once again it was back down to Lake O'Hara and to the huts.
- On day 4 the two of us decided we would stay at a lower altitude. We did a hike up the valley to [Linda Lake Loop](#) around the lake and back to the huts. This hike took us through meadows of beautiful wildflowers.
- Day five was an early departure with a 12 km bus ride back out to the parking lot.



After all the old stories we have heard from members who visited Lake O'Hara years ago we were very happy that we took advantage of this wonderful opportunity.

[Click here for some photos.](#)

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/UAVEDLnunTPEjuME9>

James & Olwen

<https://www.westmanwildernessclub.ca/>