

Mt. Cheam Musings

On those lazy end-of-summer summer evenings, I like nothing more than to sit on the back deck, daydreaming about the carefree days of summer and wishing the fall and school would wait just a little bit longer. A cool, light breeze hints at the rapidly approaching school year. At eye level, in front of the trees, the meadow which is lush with succulent strawberries in June was becoming a colourful blanket of fall wild flowers. Rising above this and past the large, prickly cedars that border the edge of my yard like turrets on a fortress, a pyramid shaped mountain rises up in the distance. The peak, according to First Nations stories, is a mother overlooking her children in the valley, bringing a sense of calm to those of us under her watch. The first snow has settled on her peaks as fall approaches. The evening air smells fresh; I can feel the sweet breath of autumn as the wind of change whispers that it is almost time to return to routines. The sunset that fills the western sky with a deep red flame, setting the clouds ablaze, is reflected in the pinkness of the mountain top. As summer whittles away and time marches onward, I sadly realize that this wonderful wish will not come true.

Mt. Cheam Facts:

Elevation: 2104 metres

Mountain Range: North Cascades

Province; BC

First recorded climbers:
Ebe B. Knight and A.O.
Campbell in 1888

Hike: 9.5 km round trip, 4
hours, elevation gain 700
m

