

# THE RESORT LIFE



**MOST PEOPLE VIEW HANGING AT A RESORT AS A GOOD WAY TO SPEND A VACATION, BUT HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF YOU DID IT FOR OVER 40 YEARS? IN THE CASE OF JAY PEAK'S OWN WALTER ELANDER, THE EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN NOTHING SHORT OF SPECTACULAR.**

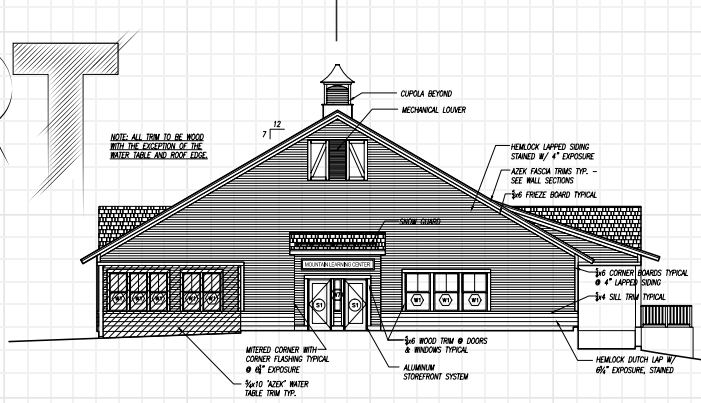
As Jay's Director of Mountain Planning and Development, Elander is in charge of all the land planning, permitting and development. In short, he's the man that helps Jay grow—and do it in a responsible, sustainable direction. Of course, it's a job he's been cut out for. As a young student at the University of Ottawa, Elander chased his Masters of Engineering while skiing nearby Camp Fortune. "I was always a skier." Says Elander, in his office at Jay "But the real turning point was when I was teaching skiing in grad school, and became a director of a big ski school in Quebec."

From there, Walter moved his way up the ranks, eventually landing as a general manager at the ski resort. It was the first of many positions he'd hold where he was responsible for the well-being of resort development, from ski to golf to civil engineering; Elander spent his life making sure things went smoothly. And it sure took him places.

As a partner at the resort planning group Sno-Engineering, Elander spent 17 years working on projects all over the world, from small ski resorts in Newfoundland and Quebec to exotic resorts in China, Turkey and Slovakia. So how did he end up in the Northeast Kingdom again? "It was a combination of factors." Says Elander, "I felt this job was the perfect equation. It combined my Masters of Engineering, my experience running a ski resort, my love of skiing, and the fact that I wanted to quit consulting and work with one operator. The icing on the cake is that Jay Peak is doing more development than anyone else in North America. How could I say no?"

**IN SHORT, HE IS THE MAN THAT HELPS JAY GROW**

**FUTURE DEVELOPMENT SITE (STATESIDE)**



Lately, Elander has been juggling Jay's short-term design projects, focusing on Stateside, and long term planning with a focus on the long awaited West Bowl. "It's been promised for a long time." He says, "It's a really cool plan. Lots of new glade skiing, some open terrain, a new base facility, some real estate."

When asked what he noticed most about the many skiers he's met over his career, he replies "There's this camaraderie and culture that people in the ski industry have, and not just here but all over the world." Says Elander, "Whether they are in Europe or China, wherever you go to, the mountains and the fact we're all thinking about mountains brings us together. There's this commonality that skiers share."



**WALTER ELANDER**

