For generations, Canadians have defined themselves by their relationship with the outdoors. Our parks and open spaces have been part of who we are – our history, identity, and pride. Canada's demographic and social changes are fundamentally altering our relationship with nature, with profound personal and societal impacts. We have increasingly become an urban nation. Moreover, Canada's natural environment is facing equally complex challenges. The health of many Canadian ecosystems is trending downwards, and wildlife species are increasingly at risk. To ensure parks continue to deliver benefits to our ever-changing nation, we need to act now.

Canada's 150th birthday year marks an opportunity for Canadians to re-imagine our relationship with the natural world. We recognize and respect the culture and values of Canada's Indigenous people, who are inseparable from the natural landscapes of this country. In Banff, where Canada took its first steps toward a national vision of parks for all, the 2017 Canadian Parks Conference will inspire and challenge contemporary thinking about parks, protected areas, open spaces and public places.

Building on the strategic directions and priorities of the 2016 Canadian Parks Summit, this opportunity for professional development, networking and storytelling recognizes the need for practical solutions in the midst of increasing complexity. The Parks for All- A Shared Vision for Canada's Parks Community document will guide our conference and thrive to continue conversations with workshops on where parks are going.

The Conference will include six keynote presentations and over 45 breakout sessions, along with pre-conference workshops and tours. There will also be a corporate tradeshow, opportunities for celebration, outdoor activity sessions and fun socials.

French simultaneous translation services will be provided for the main plenary room and select sessions.

Registration will be capped at 400 delegates.
Greetings

Message from the Honourable Catherine McKenna

On behalf of the Government of Canada, it gives me great pleasure to welcome participants to the 2017 Canadian Parks Conference being held in Banff National Park. I look forward to continuing the productive conversations that began last year at the first ever Canadian Parks Summit in Canmore.

As the Minister of Environment and Climate Change and Minister responsible for Parks Canada, I understand the essential role protected areas play in conserving nature and in helping to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change. Conserving healthy and resilient ecosystems contributes to everyone’s well-being and will help us all to respond to the many challenges that arise from a changing climate.

The Government of Canada is committed to protecting the ecological integrity of our national parks and to expanding our national parks system. We are equally committed to working across all jurisdictions, with our partners, and with Indigenous peoples to strengthen Canada’s system of protected areas and to deliver on our country’s promise to the world to protect at least 17 percent of Canada’s lands and 10 percent of Canada’s waters by 2020. With science and Indigenous knowledge as our guide, these targets will be just the beginning of an ongoing shared effort to promote conservation and biodiversity in Canada.

Parks and protected areas are gateways to discovering and appreciating Canada’s amazing natural and cultural heritage. The enjoyment of these protected places should be accessible to everyone. By drawing new visitors, such as youth and newcomers, and building connections to nature, we are working to create the next generation of stewards — people who know and care about conserving these special places and our country’s natural environment.

Over the coming days, your findings and insights into the challenges and opportunities on the landscape for parks and protected areas across the country will help to guide our shared path forward and contribute to a better Canada for us all and for future generations.

The Honourable Catherine McKenna
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
and Minister responsible for Parks Canada
Greetings

Message from the Honourable Shannon Phillips

On behalf of the Government of Alberta and Alberta Environment and Parks, I am pleased to welcome you to the 2017 Canadian Parks Conference. To all conference participants visiting from other provinces, welcome to Alberta, home of the world-renowned Rocky Mountains. I would also like to acknowledge that Banff National Park is in the traditional territory of the peoples of Treaty 6, Treaty 7 and Treaty 8.

The Canadian Parks Conference presents all of us with a unique opportunity to collaborate across governments, with Indigenous peoples and new and long-term partners. As attendees, you will have exciting opportunities to network, share best practices, and discuss challenges and ways to move forward with a nationwide intent to conserve and enjoy Canada’s natural landscapes.

I would also like to thank all of the countless delegates who answered the call to organize this event, and to those who provided their invaluable input and ideas toward the “Parks for All” framework. The Canadian Parks Conference maintains the Canadian Parks Summit's themes of: Connect, Conserve and Collaborate, as well as Leadership and Sustainability.

This year’s program offers us innovative ways to hear new ideas, connect with partners and collaborate on finding solutions that will help Canada lead the way in the protection and management of our natural landscapes and open spaces. Our nation’s 150th birthday is a key opportunity to highlight the vital role that parks, protected areas, open spaces and public places have in all of our daily lives. It also represents an opportunity for us to shed further light on providing valuable areas for the protection of biodiversity, rejuvenation of physical health and mental well-being, and opportunities for sustainable recreation and tourism.

Thank you all for continuing to inspire, create and envision a diversely beautiful parks system here in Canada.

Sincerely,

Shannon Phillips
Minister of Environment and Parks
Greetings

Message from the Mayor of Banff

Welcome back to Banff!

On behalf of Council and the Town of Banff, it is with great pleasure to welcome the “Canadian Parks Conference hosted by the Alberta Recreation and Parks Association” to our beautiful town. Events such as this play a very important role in our Community and we are delighted that you have chosen Banff as the destination to host your Conference.

An outstanding setting is only a part of what Banff has to offer visitors. It has a rich history, character and quality of life found nowhere else in the country. From outdoors to opera, there truly is something for everyone. And to top it off, Banff still has the relaxed friendliness distinctive to small towns. I hope that during your time here you will take some time to experience some of the features that make Banff such a special place! Best wishes for a successful Canadian Parks Conference and an enjoyable stay in our town.

Yours truly,

Karen Sorensen
Mayor
Greetings

Message from the Planning Committee

On behalf of the Conference Committee, we are excited to welcome all dignitaries, speakers, and delegates to Banff for the first ever Canadian Parks Conference: Parks, Protected Areas, Open Spaces and Public Places!

This conference will build on the strategic directions and priorities of the 2016 Canadian Parks Summit, as reflected in the Parks for All framework document. With 2017 marking Canada’s 150th birthday, we see this as a chance to re-imagine our relationship with the natural world and an opportunity to create practical solutions for our parks in a time of increasing challenge and complexity.

The Conference Committee has worked hard to develop well-rounded and inclusive educational, social and networking programs. We are confident this will be an amazing event in this unforgettable location. We would like to thank our volunteer Committee members, as well as ARPA support staff, for their time, enthusiasm, dedication, and hard work. Without you, this event would not be possible.

We extend our warmest welcomes to all those participating in the 2017 Canadian Parks Conference, and look forward to the memorable conversations, thought-provoking sessions, strengthening of skills and knowledge, and the new relationships that will advance the goals of the Parks for All framework from coast to coast to coast!

Sincerely,

NANCY MCMINN,  
Conference Co-Chair  
Parks Superintendent,  
City of Charlottetown

MICHAEL NADLER,  
Conference Co-Chair  
Vice-President, External Relations and Visitor Experience  
Parks Canada Agency
**Wednesday, March 8**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>PC1</th>
<th>PC2</th>
<th>PC3</th>
<th>PC4</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3:30 – 5:30 pm</td>
<td>Reaching Conservation Targets 2020 and Beyond - A Canadian Workshop</td>
<td>Strengthening the Social Sustainability Role of Parks and Protected Areas</td>
<td>City of Calgary Urban Parks Tour</td>
<td>Healthy Parks/Healthy People Workshop Half-Day (1-4 PM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 – 9:45 am</td>
<td>Treaty 7 Indigenous Celebration</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Keynote: Chief Dave Courchene – Spiritual Connection to Land and Reconciliation</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45 – 11:00 am</td>
<td>Pre-Conference Workshops</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 – 11:00 am</td>
<td>A1: Conservation 2020: Pathway to Target 1</td>
<td>A2: The Spiritual Outcomes of Park Visitation: What Recent Empirical Research Tells Us (A)</td>
<td>A3: Linking urban and wilderness parks agendas for mutual benefit</td>
<td>A4: Building a Shared Vision for Canada's Parks</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Scott Jones &amp; Nadine Crookes</td>
<td>Paul Heitnzman -- State of Knowledge on Nature Connectedness (B)</td>
<td>Alain Branchaud</td>
<td>Heather Stewart &amp; Ian MacRae</td>
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<td>Pamela Wright</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 – 11:30 am</td>
<td>Transistion Break</td>
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**Thursday, March 9**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Breakfast</th>
<th>Park for All Process Plenary Presentation – Dawn Carr / Murray Kopp</th>
<th>Keynote: Governance Paradigm Shift – Mike Walton &amp; Miles Richardson</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 – 8:30 am</td>
<td>Parks for All Process Plenary Presentation – Dawn Carr / Murray Kopp</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 – 9:45 am</td>
<td>Keynote: Governance Paradigm Shift – Mike Walton &amp; Miles Richardson</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45 – 10:00 am</td>
<td>Refreshment Break</td>
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**8:30 am – 5:30 pm**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00 – 11:00 am</td>
<td>Scott Jones &amp; Nadine Crookes</td>
<td>Paul Heitnzman -- State of Knowledge on Nature Connectedness (B)</td>
<td>Alain Branchaud</td>
<td>Heather Stewart &amp; Ian MacRae</td>
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<td>Pamela Wright</td>
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**11:00 – 11:30 am**

| Time          | Transition Break                                                         |                                                                                           |                                                                     |                                                                     |

**11:30 am – 12:30 pm**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:30 am – 12:30 pm</td>
<td>Chris Manderson &amp; Travis Shaw AND</td>
<td>Chuk Odenigbo</td>
<td>Chelsea Parent</td>
<td>Marie-Sophie Desaulniers</td>
<td>Fabulous Fifty- Celebration of a Milestone</td>
<td>Candace Ng</td>
<td>Scott Slocombe &amp; Shailyn Druks</td>
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</table>
### Thursday, March 9 (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:00 – 2:00 PM</td>
<td>THE RON GORGICHUCK MEMORIAL LUNCHEON</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Trans Canada Trail – Deborah Apps</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 – 3:00 PM</td>
<td>Keynote: Clara Hughes – The Benefits of Nature and Engaging Non-Traditional Parks Visitors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 – 3:30 PM</td>
<td>REFRESHMENT BREAK</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 3:30 – 5:00 PM   | C1: Conservation Begins with Connection: Linking Downtown Toronto to Rouge National Urban Park (A)  
|                  |　Arlen Leeming – Near wilderness-regional parks as a forefront to connect people to nature (B)  
|                  |　Mike Walton & Brett Hudson                                               |
|                  | C2: How “Learn to Camp” became a tool for creating community, building capacity for new and existing Canadians and how to make the perfect s’more  
|                  |　A for Adventure                                                         |
|                  | C3: Collecting information from people on the go: A creative approach to gathering research data in parks (A)  
|                  |　Caroline Depatie – Visitor Use Monitoring in Metro Vancouver Regional Parks (B)  
|                  |　David Adamski                                                           |
|                  | C4: Municipal Parks Workshop – Planning for the Future  
|                  |　Panel of Municipal Park Leaders                                        |
|                  | C5: Australia Indigenous Rangers Program & Canadian Guardians Initiative  
|                  |　Panel                                                                   |
|                  | C6: Kick Your Park Assets Into the 21st Century (A)                      |
|                  |　Todd Reichardt & Troy Sykes                                            
|                  | C7: Management in Calgary Parks Using Emerging Technologies (B)          |
|                  |　Jamie Razema-Stinson & Stacey Warren                                    |
| 6:00 – 9:00 PM   | Trade Show Reception - Drinks and Appetizers                             |
| 9:00 PM          | Social                                                                  |
### Friday, March 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Break</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Speaker/Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 – 8:30 AM</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Keynote: Jeff Wells and Stephen Woodley – The State of Biodiversity in Canada and Reimagining Nature Conservation in Canada</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 – 9:30 AM</td>
<td>Refreshment Break</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 – 10:00 AM</td>
<td>D1</td>
<td>Science-based Guidance for Reporting Aichi Target 11 “Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures”</td>
<td>Heather Lazaruk &amp; Jessica Elliot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 – 10:00 AM</td>
<td>D2</td>
<td>Nature Teaches Us to Grieve: The place of parks and nature at end of life</td>
<td>Sonya Jakube &amp; Don Carruthers Den Hoed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 – 10:00 AM</td>
<td>D3</td>
<td>Canceled</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 – 10:00 AM</td>
<td>D4</td>
<td>Recovering from natural disaster: How to rebuild the urban forest and community resilience</td>
<td>Tammy Robinson &amp; Amelia Needoba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 – 10:00 AM</td>
<td>D5</td>
<td>National Trails Celebration</td>
<td>Patrick O’Connor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 – 10:00 AM</td>
<td>D6</td>
<td>The Elephant in the Room</td>
<td>Indigenous Leaders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 – 10:00 AM</td>
<td>D7</td>
<td>Weaving the Web of Youth Leadership Opportunities Within Parks</td>
<td>Shailyn Druikis, Caroline Merner, Elise Pullar &amp; Samantha McBeth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 – 11:00 AM</td>
<td>Transition Break</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 – 11:30 AM</td>
<td>E1</td>
<td>Managing for Ecological Integrity</td>
<td>Pamela Wright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 – 11:30 AM</td>
<td>E2</td>
<td>Mood Walks for Youth in Transition</td>
<td>Jasmine Ferreira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 – 11:30 AM</td>
<td>E3</td>
<td>Monitoring Human Use around Wildlife Movement in Corridors in the Rocky Mountains</td>
<td>Melanie Percy &amp; John Paczkowski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 – 11:30 AM</td>
<td>E4</td>
<td>Unprecedented investments in Canada’s national parks; catching up with the past while getting ready for the future, Ed Jager</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 – 11:30 AM</td>
<td>E5</td>
<td>Trails – Standardized Classifications</td>
<td>Mark Schmidt</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 – 11:30 AM</td>
<td>E6</td>
<td>The Elephant in the Room cont.</td>
<td>Indigenous Leaders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 – 11:30 AM</td>
<td>E7</td>
<td>What do Canadians want? A summary of polling on parks and protected areas</td>
<td>Alison Woodley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 – 2:00 PM</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Non Classroom Outdoor and Activity Sessions</td>
<td>The Honourable Minister Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Government of Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 – 7:30 PM</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
<td>Banff Film Festival Screening</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 – 9:00 PM</td>
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**Note:**
- The Banff Gondola Tour event is moved to B1.
- The Triviography event is canceled.
- The National Trails Celebration event is moved to B1.
## Saturday, March 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker/Panel</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 – 8:30 AM</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 – 9:30 AM</td>
<td>Keynote: Ray Sauvajot – Natural Solutions - Managing Amid Continuous Change and Embracing Collaborative Conservation at the Landscape Scale - perspectives from the U.S. National Park Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 – 10:00 AM</td>
<td>Refreshment Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 – 11:00 AM</td>
<td>G1 Youth Engagement for Parks Conservation</td>
<td>Erinn Drage</td>
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<td>G2 Can you say “No” to visitor services? Moving toward an inclusive, collaborative model of public engagement in the Kananaskis Region</td>
<td>Don Carruthers Den Hoed</td>
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<td>G3 “Science? Who needs it?” How Alberta Parks is engaging with science.</td>
<td>Elizabeth Halpenny</td>
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<td>G4 Parks and Protected Areas Governance – Sharing Power and Decision Making (Part One)</td>
<td>Panel</td>
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<td>G5 The Halifax Common: 250+ Years of Community Use and Debate (cows, cricket, circuses, Catholics, The Stones and The Friends)</td>
<td>Susan Markham-Starr</td>
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<td>G6 Stony Nakoda History and its Relationship with Parks</td>
<td>Alice Kaquitts &amp; Thomas Snow</td>
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<td>G7 Marine Protected Areas</td>
<td>Sabine Jessen</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 – 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Transition Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 AM – 12:00 PM</td>
<td>H1 Climate and Conservation: the role of parks in large landscape and seascape science, planning, and action</td>
<td>Jodi Hilty, Louise Graton, Hubert Pelletier, Ray Sauvajot</td>
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<tr>
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<td>H2 The Nature Playbook: Take action to connect a new generation with Nature</td>
<td>Chloe Dragon Smith</td>
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<td>H3 Breathe: Edmonton's Green Network Strategy</td>
<td>Geoff Smith &amp; Doug Olson</td>
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<td></td>
<td>H4 Parks and Protected Areas Governance – Sharing Power and Decision Making (Part Two)</td>
<td>Panel</td>
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<tr>
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<td>H5 Value of Ecosystem Services – Natural Green Infrastructure</td>
<td>Paul Ronan</td>
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<td>H6 Building a Shared Vision for Canada’s Parks</td>
<td>Heather Stewart &amp; Ian MacRae</td>
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<td>H7 Mobile Adventure Playgrounds - Getting back to the basics of play in urban parks</td>
<td>Heather Cowie &amp; Julie Guimmond</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 – 2:00 PM</td>
<td>Keynote: Mark Tremblay – Parks for Health: Nature and the Outdoors as an Antidote for Modern Living</td>
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<td>Closing Keynote Luncheon</td>
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Did you know attending the Canadian Parks Conference can be counted as learning credits for earning recertification in the CPRA PDC program?

[Click here](#) to learn more about learning credits.
Pre-Conference Workshops

Wednesday, March 8th
Full-Day

PC1 - Reaching Conservation Targets
2020 and Beyond – A Canadian Workshop

8:30 AM – 5:30 PM
Cost: $49

See detailed agenda and presenters here.

This session will be a full day workshop will bring together a range of stakeholder interests who are involved with ensuring Canada successfully meets its land and sea conservation targets, including the 2020 targets (Aichi 11 and Canada Target 11) and beyond. The session would begin with an assessment of the problem and the current state of solving that problem. It would then move on to a discussion from Federal and Provincial Governments, First Nations, scientists and civil society on specific pathways to achieve the targets. There will be panel discussions on Canadian challenges and opportunities. The results of the workshop will be reported at the plenary of the Canadian Parks Congress. Participants will be asked to look for linked solutions. For example where does Canada action on climate change link to the broader conservation agenda. What is needed to enable and support indigenous conserved area? How do civil society, academia and industry engage in and support national conservation networks?

PC2 - Strengthening the Social Sustainability role of Parks and Protected Areas

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Cost: $99
Presenters: Panel

We agree that responsible management of parks and other communal lands requires balancing the three pillars of sustainability: environmental, economic and social. We observe that the interests of the environment and the economy are powerfully argued for while advocacy for social sustainability is highly fragmented, and often contradictory. Canada has changed considerably in the past decades and so has the way we use parks and protected spaces. From cultural difference to technological advances our spaces are being used in ever more complicated ways. The goal of the session is to develop a collective understanding and statement about how our use (recreation, active transport, communal events, etc.) has and continues to impact our ability to manage park objectives.
PC3: City of Calgary Urban Parks Tour and Workshops

7:30 AM pick-up at The Banff Centre
9:15 AM pick-up at the Hotel Arts (Calgary)
5:45 PM drop off at The Banff Centre

Cost: $199 (includes transportation, tours, workshops and lunch)

See detailed itinerary & workshop descriptions here

Join this day-long tour that will include stops and tours at two of Calgary’s more unique parks – the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary and Ralph Klein Park.

INGLEWOOD BIRD SANCTUARY

The Inglewood Bird Sanctuary and Nature Centre have been providing migratory birds with a place to rest their wings since 1929. That’s more than 80 years of conservation! To date, 270 species of birds, 21 species of mammals and 347 species of plants have been recorded at the Sanctuary and Nature Centre by members of the public, volunteers and staff.

RALPH KLEIN PARK

Ralph Klein Park is the first park to be named for a former mayor during his lifetime. Ralph Klein, a visionary and tireless advocate on behalf of Calgary and Alberta, served as Calgary’s 32nd Mayor and Alberta’s 12th Premier.

The Environmental Education Centre features an indoor classroom, resource library, art studio, interpretive signage, meeting space and composting/low flush toilets. The entire Centre can be booked for special events or each room individually.

The man-made wetland was constructed specifically to improve stormwater quality before it enters the Bow River system. The grounds themselves have a picnic area and a community orchard that boasts five varieties of pear trees and eight varieties of apple trees.

In addition to tours of both of these locations the day will include classroom presentations on topic described in the link above.

We will have bus pick-up locations in Banff and downtown Calgary and the bus will end up at The Banff Centre prior to the start of the program on Wednesday night.
Pre-Conference Workshops

Wednesday, March 8th
Half-Day

PC4: Healthy Parks / Healthy People Workshop

1:00 – 4:00 PM
Cost: $49

Presenter: Suzanne Tugman

Building on the work initiated at Healthy-Parks-Healthy-People meetings in Canada and elsewhere over the past several years, this pre-conference workshop will bring together a small group of parks and health managers, practitioners, researchers and activists with a special interest in inter-sectoral policy and practice. Goals of the workshop will be practical in nature - to advance healthy parks practices currently in place and to explore ways of working collaboratively across Canada.

This workshop will be facilitated by a healthy parks leader who will highlight key practice-research-policy examples and support dialogue and learning towards planning and action at individual, municipal, provincial and national levels. Some of the key questions to be explored in this workshop are:

• How can we influence a cultural shift to value parks for health?
• What can community leaders and managers learn from experts and visionaries to make this a sustainable idea that affects behavior at its core?
• What are some of the lessons and best practice examples to draw from?
• How can Parks Canada, provincial and municipal parks combine forces with business innovators, healthcare leaders, scientists, and advocacy organizations to promote wellness and move the culture forward?
Keynote Speakers

Chief Dave Courchene - Spiritual Connection to Land and Reconciliation

Wednesday, March 8th
6:00 to 7:00 PM

Dave Courchene—Nii Gaani Aki Inini (Leading Earth Man)—is the founder of the Turtle Lodge. The lodge is located on the Sagkeeng First Nation in Manitoba and provides a place for sharing the ancient knowledge of the Original Peoples. It was built to fulfill a vision Courchene received many years ago.

Courchene was honoured by leaders and elders of the Original Peoples at the 2010 International Indigenous Leadership Gathering; with a National Aboriginal Achievement (INDSPIRE) Award in Culture, Heritage & Spirituality; and the Volunteer Manitoba Award for Outstanding Community Leadership in 2012, for the work associated with his message and vision, including the work he has done to inspire young people.

Courchene’s recent work has involved initiating International Roundtables Supporting Ancient Indigenous Knowledge at the Turtle Lodge and the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington, DC, which have been co-led by former U.S. Congressman Dennis Kucinich. He delivered the opening keynote and conducted the opening ceremonies at the 2010 G8 Summit on World Religions. Courchene is the Lead Elder of the Elders Circle Seven, who co-created Mikinak-Keya—the Spirit Tour, the signature tour of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.
Banff 2017 offers an opportunity to re-imagine how we might, in the next decades, share power and decision-making about Parks and Protected Areas with people who have lived in and around them for generations, whether Indigenous or non-Indigenous, and how governance re-thought, from coast to coast to coast, offers the opportunity to create more, large and connected PA’s faster. These keynote addresses current governance arrangements within the Canadian context, inviting new approaches to governance of protected areas within imperatives for reconciliation with Indigenous peoples and global biodiversity loss.

Dr. Mike Walton is the Senior Manager responsible for the Capital Regional District’s (Southern Vancouver Island, B.C.) Regional Park System. Over the last 30 years Mike has contributed to protected areas conservation and management in Canada through his work as a Park Warden, Assistant Parks Superintendent and Visitor Services Manager with Ontario Parks and Resource Conservation Manager, Superintendent and Field Unit Superintendent with Parks Canada. Mike completed his PhD at the University of Victoria in 2016 researching governance of protected areas. Mike also holds a M.Sc. in Parks and Recreation Resources Management, from Slippery Rock University, Pennsylvania, a Diploma in Economic Development from the University of Waterloo and an Honours Bachelor of outdoor Recreation from Lakehead University.

Miles G. Richardson is a citizen of the Haida Nation and Canada. He received a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of Victoria in 1979. From 1984 to 1996, he served as President of the Haida Nation. In 2007, he was named an Officer of the Order of Canada. Currently, Richardson owns and operates his own business providing strategic advice on relationship building and business development between First Nations, other governments and the private sector; First Nations governance development; and sustainability policy and business development. Richardson is also the Executive Director for the National Consortium for Indigenous Economic Development at the University of Victoria.
Clara Hughes - The Benefits of Nature and Engaging Non-Traditional Parks Visitors

Thursday, March 9th
2:00 to 3:00 PM

Six-Time Olympic Medalist | Mental Health Advocate

“Being a champion is not just about winning,” says six-time Olympic medalist Clara Hughes. Believing that actions off the track define us as much as those on it, Hughes inspires people toward success in all areas of their lives. Her candid, personal talks range from how she believes sports can change lives to her struggle with depression—fully embodying the idea that each of us can overcome challenges to become the champions we’re meant to be.

Clara is the only athlete in history to win multiple medals in both summer and winter Olympic Games. A six-time Olympian, Hughes has won a Olympic medals representing Canada in both speed skating and cycling. In addition, she served as the flag-bearer for Team Canada in the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Games opening ceremony.

In 2011, Clara figured prominently in the eyes of Canadians as the national spokesperson for Bell Let’s Talk, a campaign designed to end the stigma attached to mental illness. In 2014, undertaking “Clara’s Big Ride,” she completed a 110-day national bicycle tour through every province and territory in Canada. As part of the ride, she covered more than 11,000 kilometres, visited 105 communities and did over 235 events raising awareness for mental health. She is also the author of the bestselling, acclaimed memoir, Open Heart, Open Mind.

Over the course of her distinguished career, Clara has won countless awards and accolades. She received the International Olympic Committee’s Sport and Community Trophy; she was honoured with a star on Canada’s Walk of Fame; she was inducted into Canada’s Sports Hall of Fame; and she is a member of the Order of Manitoba and an Officer of the Order of Canada.

Clara sits on the International Board of Directors for Right To Play, a global organization that uses the transformative power of play to educate and empower children facing adversity, and is also an Honourary Witness for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which is part of a national, comprehensive response to the Indian Residential School legacy.
Keynote Speakers

Jeff Wells & Stephen Woodley - The State of Biodiversity in Canada and Reimagining Nature Conservation in Canada

Friday, March 10th
8:30 to 9:30 AM

This presentation will begin by providing the latest assessment of the statement of biodiversity in Canada and will draw from recent reports and research. It is critical to understand the scope of the challenge before discussing required solutions. The second part of this presentation will focus on solutions for Reaching the CBD's Aichi Target 11 – A Canadian Workshop Report. A report back from the results on a multi-stakeholder workshop held the day before the Conference will be included in the overall presentation. The workshop aims to find collective and creative solutions to meeting Aichi Target 11 (Canada Target1).

Dr. Wells is the Science and Policy Director for the Boreal Songbird Initiative and a science advisor to The Pew Charitable Trusts. Jeff has previously worked Cornell University and the National Audubon Society. Dr. Wells has earned a reputation as one of the nation's leading bird experts and conservation biologists.

Stephen Woodley is an ecologist who was formerly Chief Scientist with Parks Canada and is now Vice-Chair for Science of IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas. He is an IUCNs Target 11 champion seeking to see it achieved globally.
Deborah Apps is a charitable sector leader with more than 25 years’ experience in government, health care, education, and the arts. Deborah joined the Trans Canada Trail as President & CEO in September 2008. Before assuming the role of CEO, Deborah served on the Board of Directors for three years. Deborah brings a strong record of accomplishment in organizational leadership, strategic planning and change management to the Trans Canada Trail.

Prior to joining TCT, Deborah was the Senior Vice President of Communications and Community Relations for the Calgary Health Region, overseeing strategic communications, community outreach and philanthropy. During her time at the Calgary Health Region, she was responsible for regional communications, the Health Region’s rebranding, as well as providing executive leadership to the launch and successful completion of Reach!, a $300-million fundraising initiative between the Calgary Health Region and the University of Calgary.

Previously, Deborah served as the President & Chief Executive Officer of the Alberta Children’s Hospital Foundation. Under her leadership, the Foundation completed the most successful fundraising campaign for pediatric health care in Calgary, raising more than $55 million in support of the new Alberta Children’s Hospital and its programs.

Through her active engagement as a volunteer and professional leader in the communities where she has lived, Deborah has developed an international network of senior corporate and government leaders, local and national philanthropic organizations, and community philanthropists that speak to her reputation as a collaborator and her ability to bring people together in support of organizational vision.
Ray Sauvajot, the Associate Director of Natural Resources Science and Stewardship for the US National Parks Service (NPS), has recently set forth the NPS Natural Resources Conservation Framework. These include 4 priorities: 1) Holding the Line; 2) Managing Amid Continuous Change 3) Leveraging for Conservation at Scale 4) Enhancing Science and Stewardship Engagement and Literacy and can share ideas and lessons from across the border.

Dr. Ray Sauvajot serves as Associate Director for Natural Resource Stewardship Science for the U.S. National Park Service (NPS), where he provides leadership and direction for natural resource management and science programs of the NPS. Dr. Sauvajot oversees national-level programs in biology, air and water resources, geology, natural sounds and night skies, environmental quality and compliance, ecological inventory and monitoring, climate change response, and science communication. He is responsible for an annual budget in excess of $100 million and employs several hundred scientists, policy experts, planners, program managers, and administrators at offices in Washington, D.C., Colorado, and other field units across the United States. Dr. Sauvajot’s expertise and interests include landscape-scale conservation, wildlife ecology, climate change adaptation, science communication, and the interface between science, policy, and conservation decision making. In addition to other positions with the NPS, he has held adjunct faculty appointments in biology, ecology, and environmental science at UC Berkeley, UC Los Angeles, and California State University Northridge.
Mark Tremblay - Parks for Health: Nature and the Outdoors as an Antidote for Modern Living

Saturday, March 11th
12:30 to 2:00 PM

This session will provide new and compelling evidence supporting the positioning of Parks as a public health intervention to help address physical inactivity, sedentarism, obesity, mental health and other contemporary public health issues. Positioning Parks (in the broadest sense) as an important component of a comprehensive wellness strategy holds untapped potential for synergy to help promote Parks and health. The 2015 "Position Statement on Active Outdoor Play" set the stage for nature and the outdoors to be better exploited for the health and wellness of Canadian children and youth. An update on the impact of the Position Statement, subsequent initiatives building on the outdoors - play - health triad, and new research from the Canadian Health Measures Survey will provide compelling, triangulated evidence supporting Parks for health.

Professor Mark Tremblay has a Bachelor of Commerce degree in Sports Administration and a Bachelor of Physical and Health Education degree from Laurentian University. His graduate training was from the University of Toronto where he obtained his M.Sc. and Ph.D. from the Department of Community Health with a specialty in Exercise Science. Dr. Tremblay is the Director of Healthy Active Living and Obesity Research (HALO) at the Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario Research Institute and Professor of Pediatrics in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa. He is a Fellow of the American College of Sports Medicine, Chair of the Active Healthy Kids Global Alliance, Chair of the Canadian Physical Activity Guidelines Committee, Founder of the Sedentary Behaviour Research Network, and former Dean of Kinesiology at the University of Saskatchewan. Dr. Tremblay has published more than 330 scientific papers and book chapters in the areas of childhood obesity, physical activity measurement, exercise physiology, sedentary physiology and health surveillance. His h-index is 48 and his published research has been cited >10,000 times according to Scopus. He has delivered over 700 scholarly conference presentations, including more than 140 invited and keynote addresses, in 20 different countries. Dr. Tremblay received an honorary doctorate from Nipissing University, the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, and the Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology Honour Award for his leadership contributions to healthy active living in Canada. Dr. Tremblay’s most productive work has resulted from his 28-year marriage to his wife Helen, yielding four wonderful children.
A1: Conservation 2020: Pathway to Canada Target 1

Scott Jones; Executive Director with the Government of Alberta’s Ministry of Environment & Parks.

Nadine Crookes; Director for Natural Resource Conservation

In advance of the Parks Summit in April 2016, federal, provincial, and territorial Deputy Ministers responsible for parks tasked the Governments of Alberta and Canada to co-lead national efforts facilitated by the Canadian Parks Council to develop a Call to Action inviting broad participation across all levels of governments, conservation organizations, and private land owners to collaborate and contribute to conserving 17% of Canada’s terrestrial and inland water areas in a network of protected and conserved areas by 2020, as specified in Canada Target 1. The objectives of this initiative, known as “Pathway to Canada Target 1”, are:

- To encourage efforts among governing bodies and land management partners to conserve at least 17% of terrestrial areas and inland waters of Canada by 2020 through networks of protected areas, Indigenous conservation areas, and other effective area based conservation measures; and
- To develop implementation guidance for a coordinated terrestrial network of protected areas and other conservation areas and measures across Canada that are effectively and equitably managed, well connected and integrated into the wider landscape, include areas of importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, and that together achieve ecological representation; and
- To facilitate annual updates on progress towards achieving the national target and implementing the guidance.

Achieving Canada Target 1 will be through collaboration and collective action. Many governmental departments/ministries, Indigenous groups, communities, and organizations across Canada have a significant interest and stake. Developing a Call to Action and implementation guidance will require advice from individuals representing a broad spectrum of perspectives, approval from appropriate government departments/ministries, and evidence grounded in science and traditional knowledge. “Pathway to Canada Target 1” seeks to coordinate with other initiatives already underway, and to work collaboratively across jurisdictions, to work towards achieving Canada Target 1.

A2: The Spiritual Outcomes of Park Visitation: What Recent Empirical Research Tells Us (Part A)

Paul Heitnzman; Associate Professor of Leisure Studies and affiliated Professor in the M.Sc. in Environmental Sustainability program at the University of Ottawa.

This presentation summarizes and synthesizes recent empirical research on park visitation and spirituality using the behavioural model of outdoor recreation as a framework that allows for the inclusion of many factors involved in this relationship. Antecedent conditions include personal history and current circumstances, attitude and motivation, socio-demographic characteristics, and spiritual tradition. Setting components include being in nature, being away to a different environment, and place processes such as place attachment and place meanings. Recreation components include activity, free time, solitude, and group experiences. Conditions and components may lead to outcomes of spiritual experiences, spiritual well-being, and leisure-spiritual coping. The model presented takes into account the complexity of the park experience and spirituality relationship. Implications for park managers will be discussed.
A2: State of Knowledge on Nature Connectedness (Part B)

Pamela Wright; Professor in Ecosystem Science and Management at the University of Northern BC

Park agencies are pursuing greater visitation to parks as a way of building support for parks and protected areas in the future. However, there is a lack of strong evidence to guide park managers and policy makers on what kinds of activities/experiences best connect people to nature in a way that will increase support for conservation initiatives over time. We developed a State of Knowledge report to respond to this information gap by identifying assumptions in the literature and in practice related to the linkage between visitor experience in parks and support for conservation; by reviewing and summarizing the literature on what kinds/elements of activities/experience in nature are correlated with increased support for conservation; by identifying research gaps in the area; and by outlining an evidence-based research agenda to fill these gaps. This session will focus on highlighting what we do know about connecting people to conservation and how we can put that knowledge into action.

A3: Linking urban and wilderness parks agendas for mutual benefit

Alain Branchaud; Executive Director of SNAP QC (CPAWS QC Chapter)

The Canadian Parks Summit highlighted the emerging opportunity to better link wilderness parks and municipal parks agendas, to support large-scale conservation and “connecting to nature” goals. This session will explore how to build stronger connections from downtown to the wilderness. Through a series of presentations and case studies, and a follow-up round table discussion, the session will develop recommendations on how to advance this area of interest in ways that will maximize the mutual benefits. Alain Branchaud, ED, SNAP Quebec: Case study: A program to “twin” municipal and wilderness parks Major city representative (eg. City of Toronto or Victoria Parks): How urban parks can create nature stewards and help support large-landscape scale conservation Indigenous representative (TBD) Youth representative (TBD).

A4: Parks for All Engagement Facilitated Workshop

Heather Stewart and Ian MacRae

Help build the Parks for All strategic plan by contributing your views and insights at this workshop. At the 2017 Parks Conference we seek to engage diverse participants in the development of a shared vision, and the creation of strategic directions and priorities which can be effectively implemented by Canada’s parks community. This workshop is part of the stakeholder engagement process, which began at the 2016 Canadian Parks Summit. The Canadian Parks Council and Canadian Parks and Recreation Association will begin seeking endorsement for Parks for All in the fall of 2017. Now is your chance to have a say!
A5: The Next 50 years – Building Resiliency in Metro Vancouver’s Regional Parks

Jeffrey Fitzpatrick; Senior Manager with Metro Vancouver Regional Parks
Jamie Vala; Division Manager- Central Area Regional Parks at Metro Vancouver (formally GVRD)
Councillor Heather Dale

Canadians are living in increasingly urban, dense and multicultural cities. Shifts in demographics, transportation, time and financial resources are changing how Canadians experience nature. Nature parks in urban regions provide primary, and often the only, nature access for many people. Metro Vancouver’s Regional Park system protects important ecosystems and connects people to nature in one of Canada’s fastest growing and most diverse regions – the system will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2017. This presentation looks ahead to the next 50 years exploring emerging trends, challenges and strategic initiatives underway to ensure the regional park system is resilient for generations to come. Highlights: • Carrying capacity: finite parks, infinite demand • Parkland acquisition – strategies for growth • ‘New to nature’ interpretation • Inclusive stewardship strategies • Science-based ecosystem planning tools

A6: National Healing Forest

Charlene Bearhead; Education Lead for the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation

This session will provide participants with some background on the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, how the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation provides information and supports to learn more about residential schools and reconciliation and how important the healing properties of the forest provide a beautiful, natural and peaceful setting in which healing and reconciliation can occur. As the National Healing Forest will be comprised of many sections of forests and stands of tress in rural area, parks and cities participants will then be engaged in envisioning what the healing forest might look like in their own communities. This is a call to action for people from every corner of Canada from sea to sea to sea.

A7: The Critical Importance of Private Land in Achieving Canada’s Conservation Goals”

Kim Good, Justin Thompson and Pam Wright

Nature and ecosystem services don’t pay any attention to our jurisdictional boundaries. In order to ensure conservation work is effective in maintaining wildlife, clean water, clean air, human health, and other critical benefits, many conservation tools need to be supported and available to apply, even on private land. Land Trusts across Canada work with private landowners to facilitate the landowners’ voluntary conservation actions. Land Trusts can work proactively, approaching landowners with properties which are significant for their own environmental value, or to create buffers or corridors to larger protected areas. They can also partner with governments and other agencies to achieve joint goals. Come learn about land trusts and the approaches we use.
B1: Planning the Ecological Network: lessons learned in local area conservation policy (Part 1)

Chris Manderson & Travis Shaw

The City of Calgary requires the identification and protection of environmentally significant areas in new communities. These places contribute to clean air and water, biodiversity, pest control, habitat connectivity and community identity. Calgary Parks has established objectives and a process to inventory and analyze greenfield areas to identify environmentally significant areas and determine which are of conservation value for protection and integration into development. Environmentally significant areas are intended to be components of Calgary’s connected open space network. The presentation will outline the opportunities, challenges and next steps in Calgary’s conservation policy development and implementation.

B1: What do Canadians want? A summary of polling on parks and protected areas (Part 2)

Alison Woodley; Director of CPAWS’ Parks Program

There has been significant public opinion polling conducted in Canada, nationally and regionally, to determine Canadians perspectives on parks and protected areas. Results indicate that Canadians place high value on parks for their unspoiled natural beauty and wildlife, and support the protection of much more of Canada. This presentation will summarize what we can learn from this polling related to park management and the creation of new parks that could support the efforts of decision-makers as they implement the 2020 targets and work to develop post-2020 targets for protecting nature in Canada.

B2: A Healthy Parks Tool to Assess and Monitor the Health Benefits of a Park

Chuk Odenigbo

A healthy park is a space that sustains life; contributes to people’s physical, mental, and spiritual health; and promotes and fosters social, economic, and environmental wellbeing. In 2016, the Pan-American Organization in collaboration with an expert working group developed The Healthy Park Healthy People Tool to address barriers and facilitators to park access; to increase awareness on the connection between nature and health for both park authorities and park visitors, as well as health systems; to promote the park visitation experience for health benefits and social cohesion within the context of conservation and sustainability; and to facilitate park authorities in making their parks healthier by modelling best practices and supporting excellence. This workshop will guide park administrators with the use of this self-assessment tool to assess the Healthy parks categories and the people and the park health dimensions.

B3: Healthy Land, Healthy People: Empowering Indigenous Leadership in Northern Conservation Network Planning

Facilitated by Tłı̨cho Government, Dehcho First Nations, Tsá Túé Biosphere Reserve & Government of NWT

A conservation network includes protected areas and conservation areas at various scales, contributing in a more effective way to the maintenance of ecosystem integrity and biodiversity. The vision is that if managed collectively, a conservation network will contribute to the ecological, economic and social stability of a region more effectively than individual sites could alone.
B3: Healthy Land, Healthy People (Cont)

Complementing the objectives of connectivity and effective protected area management is that of equitability. Increasing attention is being placed on the importance of protected area governance, and the extent to which these governance structures are equitable. In the NWT we are striving for the meaningful involvement of Indigenous People in the identification, protection and management of parks and protected areas strengthens the conservation network overall.

Bringing together the topic of biodiversity and cultural landscape conservation with protected area governance, this discussion will include community based perspectives on the ways in which effectiveness and equitability can be realized in a meaningful way.

B4: Xplorers - Success story with programming for children

Marie-Sophie Desaulniers; Manager of Visitor Experience Planning and Product development with Parks Canada

This session will look at the Parks Canada Xplorers program, a tailor-made activity-booklet based program for children 6-12. The Xplorers programs, available at both National Historic Sites and National Parks of Canada, proposes interactive activities that enable children and their families to discover the place they are visiting by experiencing it first-hand. The choice of activities varies from place to place to reflect what's unique and special about each location. This session will cover how the program was developed, the program's goals, how it was implanted in over 100 sites over four years, as well as how we measure success.

B5: Fabulous Fifty– Celebration of a Milestone

Candace Ng; Park Programs and Outreach Coordinator for Metro Vancouver Regional Parks

Commemorative occasions are ripe opportunities for engaging partners, reaching new audiences, and increasing profile. Metro Vancouver Regional Parks will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2017. In this session, we will share a little about our story and provide information about our exciting program elements that will leverage this important milestone: a passport to regional parks, an on-line photo contest, an ambitious event calendar, a community storytelling project, and the campaign and branding that will tie it all together. All program elements support our objective to provide opportunities for Metro Vancouver's growing and diverse population to connect with, enjoy, and be active within the region's important natural areas. Got a significant parks related milestone on your horizon? Plan to join us for this session.

B6: Stakeholder perceptions of hunting in national parks: A case study of Elk Island National Park

Chelsea Parent; Master's Student at the University of Alberta

The session will consist of description of the study, results, and recommendations for management based on the results. The presentation will present the results from the inquiry of perceptions of Indigenous Peoples and stakeholders of hunting in a protected area and what are the associated issues? The session will break down and present how various stakeholders and Indigenous Peoples differ in their perspectives regarding methods of managing hyperabundant ungulates in Elk Island National Park, with a focus on the lethal method - hunting.

This study was co-authored by Chelsea Parent and Howie Harshaw, Assistant Professor at University of Alberta, Faculty of Physical Education & Recreation.
B6: Parks dealing with controversy through ‘hot interpretation’: Lessons from Batoche National Historic Site, Saskatchewan, Canada

Glen Hvenegaard; Professor of Environmental Science at the University of Alberta’s Augustana Campus

Parks can facilitate public interaction with controversial topics through ‘hot interpretation’. Hot interpretation promotes affective responses of the human aspects of the events, people, places, and artifacts that shape protected areas. This presentation will critically analyze the evolution of interpretive messaging of the armed resistance of 1885 at Batoche National Historic Site, Saskatchewan. Collaborative management has fostered changes in interpretation from the one-truth style, to parallel narratives, and finally to the ‘many voices’ approach within the hot interpretation framework. This review outlines how progressive interpretation strategies can heal past hurts, validate historical depictions, promote democratic discourse about contested issues, and support resilient communities. The presentation concludes with suggestions for possible use of hot interpretation for other topics and sites across Canada. Co-Authors Heather Marshall, and Harvey Lemelin.

B7: Challenges and opportunities in monitoring and research for northern/mountain protected areas

Scott Slocombe; Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON
Shailyn Drukis; Outreach Coordinator at Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society Yukon (CPAWS)

Protected areas require, among other things, good information on biodiversity and ecosystems in and around them. It is basic to system planning, wildlife conservation, visitor management, and effectiveness evaluation, among other core activities. They are central to national and international efforts such as the CBD’s Aichi targets and the Protected Planet reports. Obtaining information can be especially important, and challenging, in dynamic, less well known environments such as northern regions and mountains. Based on a review of the experience of biodiversity and ecosystem monitoring in northern and mountainous regions, and a case-study of the Yukon’s Kluane National Park and Reserve region, we explore the history, challenges, and opportunities in developing and maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem monitoring and data programs. Challenges such as capacity and cost, seasonality, reactive data gathering, and sensitive data are discussed. Possible approaches include short and long-term monitoring programs, participatory approaches such as wildlife cameras and citizen science, collaboration with research institutes, and international networks. Data and monitoring not only can facilitate conserving nature and resources, but also can facilitate connecting to people and collaborating with partners at a range of scales.
C1: Protected Areas as Natural Solutions to Climate Change: Integrating conservation and climate mitigation goals

Florence Daviet; Director of CPAWS Forest Program
Jeff Wells; Science and Policy Director for the Boreal Songbird Initiative and a science advisor to The Pew Charitable Trusts

Parks and protected areas are recognized around the world as natural solutions to a range of societal challenges, including mitigating and adapting to climate change. The Aichi targets specify that protected areas should focus on areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services. The Paris climate agreement also reinforces the importance of ecosystem integrity in achieving climate goals. Canada has enormous carbon stocks stored in ecosystems like the boreal forest. Incorporating these values into planning for protected areas could help to achieve both biodiversity conservation and climate mitigation goals. Protected areas can help prevent stored carbon from being emitted as a result of industrial disturbances, and support carbon sequestration through ecological restoration activities. This workshop will explore what’s needed to embrace this opportunity. The workshop will include a series of presentations followed by a round table discussion on how to better integrate protected areas and climate change mitigation policy and strategies. Speakers: Dr. Jeff Wells, Boreal Songbird Initiative: Maintaining boreal landscapes to safeguard carbon and caribou Florence Daviet, CPAWS: Integrating climate and protected areas policy – recommendations for a path forward Indigenous perspective (TBD) Pan Canadian Climate Plan (TBD)

C2: Conservation Begins with Connection: Linking Downtown Toronto to Rouge National Urban Park (A)

Arlen Leeming; Conservation and Engagement Expert

Imagine being able to walk, run, or bike from downtown Toronto to Rouge National Urban Park while surrounded by the natural environment. Travelling through the Don River watershed and onward to Rouge National Urban Park will be a reality, and this initiative represents an opportunity to revolutionize how we establish natural connections across Canada. The goal of this project is to revitalize a massive energy transmission corridor between the Don River and Rouge National Urban Park. This is being achieved by converting ecologically barren mown grass to a natural meadow that complements a multiuse trail system within the corridor for park users. In addition, the project is building transformative community engagement and educational opportunities that are creating an increased sense of community pride and ownership of this important natural connection. Connecting Canada’s largest urban region with the world’s largest national urban park is an incredible city building project for Toronto and Canada. Encompassing over 350 acres and spanning 16 kilometers, connecting the Don River Ravine to Rouge National Urban Park will transform the relationship between the urban structure and the environment, and will revitalize the connections that both of these components share with the residents that call this area home.
C2: Near wilderness- regional parks as a forefront to connect people to nature (B)

Mike Walton & Brett Hudson

Near wilderness areas allow urban populations to connect with nature and escape from urban pressures. Victoria, B.C.’s Capital Regional District regional parks and trails provide easy access to wilder natural areas close to home. Balancing nature conservation and outdoor recreation is challenging as people with diverse interests visit these close-by regional parks. To understand the role played by near wilderness areas within a broader urbanized environment, I discuss how the CRD’s Regional Parks integrates planning, conservation, interpretation and social science approaches in park system management. This discussion allows practical examples of how to conserve near wilderness.

C3: How “Learn to Camp” became a tool for creating community, building capacity for new and existing Canadians and how to make the perfect S’more.

Jan Sebastian LaPierre, CEO of Adventure and Chris Surette, COO of Adventure with A for Adventure

Lighting the Spark: Connecting children to nature to inspire environmental stewardship and conservation

Strengthening Families: Building closer, stronger family relationships through time in nature

Connecting Communities: Exploring nature’s role in community building and healing, justice and equity

Present how Learn-to Camp is connecting Canadians to nature and building a community of stewards for the future.

C4: Collecting information from people on the go: A creative approach to gathering research data in parks (A)

Caroline Depatie; PhD Candidate at Lincoln University and Faculty member at Capilano University (BC)

Collecting data about park users can be a challenging task considering the range of recreation modes and other various factors that characterize users of large open spaces. This presentation outlines the methodological approach used to collect information for a study of outdoor recreationists’ use and experience of electronic technologies in peri-urban settings. The project used a mix-methods approach of quantitative and qualitative data collection, including a survey accessible via a tablet or an online link and QR code. This presentation discusses the merits and limitations of novel data collection techniques, and will be of interest to park planners, managers and promoters conducting research involving park users on the go!

C4: Visitor Use Monitoring in Metro Vancouver Regional Parks (B)

David Adamoski; Research Officer for Metro Vancouver Regional Parks

Metro Vancouver’s Regional Parks has been estimating use on their sites for over twenty-five years. With over two hundred counters distributed throughout twenty-six sites, Regional Parks is recognized as one of North America’s lead agencies in gathering visitor use data. Figures from this program assist in gauging public connection to our parks, and inform planning, engineering and operational decisions. This presentation will widen the lens on the practice of estimating use, and provide interested professionals with an understanding of the working details and factors which should be considered when implementing a ‘Visitor Use Monitoring System’. Technology, budgets, training, metrics development and reporting will be discussed. Join us in discovering how to initiate a new program or improve your current visitor monitoring system.
C5: Municipal Parks Workshop - Planning for the Future

Panel of Municipal Parks Leaders

This workshop is designed to be interactive with each participant helping to shape issues and measures that matter in municipal parks operation and administration. This workshop will seek your input into framing how municipal challenges and demands will influence Parks over the next 10 years. The gathering of draft key performance measures, benchmarking and best practices will be designed in a way that can be updated each year to reflect legislative and sector changes. This discussion will be framed by the National Recreation Framework, provincial standards and recent hot park issues and trends you are being faced with. Join us and help parks professionals across the country make their case within municipal strategic plans and budgets. Here’s your chance to impact the future of municipal parks! This session will be of interest to Parks and Recreation supervisors, senior managers and directors as well as landscape architects, facility operators and designers as well as asset and risk managers or anyone delivering parks services and programming.

The Australian Indigenous Ranger Programs draw upon their knowledge and connection to protect and manage land and sea across Australia. Managing fire, controlling feral animals and tackling invasive weeds they perform a critical role in keeping Australia’s environments healthy. With over 100 separate Indigenous Ranger groups in Australia, this session will share stories and knowledge of some of the great work they are doing.

Canadian Guardians Initiative

In a forward thinking model based on equality, trust, and reconciliation, the Canadian Guardians Initiative strives to empower Canada’s indigenous people to manage their own lands in ways that combine the best of modern science with the wisest of traditional indigenous practice. The program works to embrace the power of Indigenous wisdom, spiritual connections, and culture to the lands that allows young generations to become the next leaders, strengthening their own communities.

This federally funded national networked initiative builds on the work of more than 30 existing Indigenous Guardian programs across Canada. Guardians act as stewards on the land, researching wildlife, tracking the impacts of climate change, patrolling protected areas and monitoring development projects. It is indigenous-envisioned and led, created through research and consultation, and supported by indigenous and non-indigenous groups alike that builds a nation-to-nation relationship with Indigenous People toward reconciliation.

C6: Australia Indigenous Rangers Program and the Canadian Guardians Initiative

Panel

From the woodlands of the south, the arid deserts of the center, to the plentiful waters of the north, many people have been managing the landscape of Australia. Over thousands of years, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have developed and harnessed knowledge that strengthens environment sustainability and fosters cultural well-being.
C7: Kick Your Park Assets Into the 21st Century (A)

Todd Reichardt; As the Manager, Calgary Parks - Centre City Region and Business & Asset Strategies
Troy Sykes; City of Calgary Parks Superintendent

Sustainable park infrastructure is the keystone to long term customer service. The principles of asset management applied to parks operations & capital development will improve your organization’s effectiveness and street credibility with your citizens. Shrinking budgets, rising customer expectations, ageing infrastructure - this session will highlight the strategies developed to manage a diverse inventory from cradle to grave using a holistic Parks asset management system. But wait…are you moving in the right direction? It takes a village to raise a child but takes the world to develop a mature asset management system. Agencies involved in benchmarking exercises often focus on comparing results without considering context; what’s your ideal result? We’ll show you how to avoid these pitfalls and how to improve your agency’s sustainability.

C7: Asset Management in Calgary Parks Using Emerging Technologies (B)

Jamie Rozema-Stinson; Business & Asset Strategies Lead for Parks
Stacey Warren; Asset Systems Coordinator for the Business and Asset Strategies (BAS) group within Parks, at the City of Calgary.

In 2009, Calgary Parks implemented an Asset Management based system, moving away from an activity based tracking system. This new system is a combination of a GIS based asset registry and a work order tracking system. This new system required a significant cultural shift moving from tracking work to tracking assets and the work done to them. The key component to asset management best practices is ensuring that the asset base is up to date at all times. It became apparent almost immediately that a mobile solution was required to capture asset changes as they occurred in the field. Since 2009, several different technologies and methodologies have been used to update the data with varying degrees of success. This presentation will discuss the evolution of efforts and technologies used in Calgary Parks to capture changes and update the asset registry, while contributing to ongoing asset management best practices. The presentation will touch on lessons learned, change management and best practices that participants can take away and apply to their own asset management experiences.
D1: Science-Based Guidance for Reporting Aichi Target 11 “Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures”

Heather Lazaruk & Jessica Elliot

Aichi Target 11 sets goals for global terrestrial and marine protection levels of 17% and 10%, respectively, by 2020 through protected areas and “other effective area-based conservation measures”. This session will describe and provide opportunities for discussion of the Canadian Council on Ecological Areas’ work to define OEABCMs in a Canadian context, and will update on the work of IUCN’s Global Task Force to help define these measures at a global level.

D2: Nature Teaches Us to Grieve: The place of parks and nature at end of life

Sonya Jakubec; Community Mental Health Nurse-Researcher
Don Carruthers Den Hoed; Alberta Parks East Kananaskis Area Manager

We all feel it, whether looking outside, at a beach, or on a mountain – nature gives us perspective about life and death. These lessons were uncovered in a recent study on the place of parks and nature at end of life. The lead researchers bridge their work in nursing care and parks management in order to understand the role of parks in community health. This presentation will highlight: 1. Results from their research on the place of parks and nature at end of life. 2. Examples of programs, training and interventions that incorporate the experience of nature into end-of-life care. 3. Next steps and ways to engage in their initiatives to integrate access to parks and nature into palliative and end-of-life care.

D3: Designing parks to better connect people with nature

Rick Rollins; Professor Emeritus at Vancouver Island University and co-editor of “Parks and Protected Areas in Canada: Planning and Management”

Parks are important for protecting biodiversity and for connecting people with nature. However, we are concerned about diminishing visitation to many parks, and how this might impact on support for conservation. Are parks still relevant to Canadians? Are new approaches required, and will these approaches compromise the conservation agenda? One thing we know is that there is a diversity of ways that people choose to engage with nature, and a variety of types of natural settings sought, but park agencies are challenged to respond to this diverse demand. This session will build on the paper “Nature’s Continuum”, prepared for the 2016 summit, and workshop how the continuum concept can be implemented in the real world.

D4: Recovering from natural disaster: How to rebuild the urban forest and community resilience

Tammy Robinson; City of Calgary Project Manager Amelia Needoba; Urban Forestry Consultant at Diamondhead Consulting

In September 2014 the City of Calgary received its heaviest pre-equinox snowfall in over 100 years. Heavy, wet snow built up on branches with tree canopies still in leaf and caused limb failures and damage to an estimated 2 million publicly and privately owned trees. Learn how the City responded to this unprecedented degree of damage to its urban forest through the initial clean-up and then engagement of more than 75 communities. The program, dubbed ‘ReTree YYC’ involves the City working with the community to build leadership and community ownership of the urban forest, and to develop community landscape visions for City trees that will leave a more resilient urban forest legacy for the future.
D5: National Trail Celebration

Patrick O’Connor; Executive Director, Ontario Trails Council

There are more trails than you know, with more new activities occurring on them every day. This session will explore an aggressive agenda that would see our development of a National Celebration of Trails, An Accounting of Trail Use; plus the rationalization of existing resources so that shifts can occur from program to program depending on public demand and managed system changes; and finally, Federal Level Trails Legislation and Policy - Going Forward. What this session will do is lay out a 4 point program that sees trail and parks flourish with a demand for rational strategic resourcing so existing trail dollars stay in the sector, while securing increased health promotion through beneficial accounting resourcing, seek CPRA Member Participation in a national trails charter, and the creation of A National Trails Count Program.

D6: The Elephant in the Room

Chloe Dragon Smith; Youth Co-Chair, Canadian Parks Council
Steven Nitah; Chief Negotiator for the Lutsel K’e Dene First Nation for Thaidene Nene

Imagine if we used natural spaces for cultural exchange and understanding. Across Canada, we are seeing a surge in awareness of Indigenous people as the original custodians of our land. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission has paved the way for solutions in our country and it is clear that collective efforts are needed to renew the relationship between Indigenous peoples and Canadian society. By taking the time to understand the Indigenous world view, we deepen our understanding of natural spaces in Canada. We have a huge opportunity before us - any conversation about the culture of Canada will always include Nature. By acknowledging our history, the elephant in the room, we can create the space to have this conversation.

D7: Weaving the Web of Youth Leadership Opportunities Within Parks

Shailyn Drukis; Outreach Coordinator at Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society Yukon (CPAWS)
Caroline Merner
Elise Pullar
Samantha McBeth

How do we get young people involved with parks? What opportunities are out there in Canada? With growing recognition that young people bring valuable ideas, enthusiasm, and first-hand experience connecting youth to nature and parks, there has been increasing opportunities for them to be involved with the projects and processes of various organizations and institutions. For this workshop, youth from the Canadian Committee for IUCN (Youth Ambassadors and Board of Directors) will facilitate an open discussion where participants can highlight the work that they are involved with, and can share opportunities that they are aware of for engaging young people in these projects and programs. Having these types of dialogues (as proven successful at the recent World Conservation Congress), will allow a web to be weaved for collaboration of youth leadership and parks.
E1: Managing for Ecological Integrity

Pamela Wright; Professor in Ecosystem Science and Management at the University of Northern BC

This workshop focuses on park and protected areas management for ecological integrity. It will combine at least two presentations with a workshop/roundtable working session. One presentation will focus on managing for ecological integrity and what makes protected areas work (Stephen Woodley presenter) and the second presentation will focus on the Protected Areas Management Effectiveness pilot project undertaken by UNBC and Alberta Parks (Pamela Wright/UNBC and Heather Lazaruk/AB Parks presenters). The working session will engage the audience in examining the tools and techniques of management effectiveness evaluation and ecological integrity management.

E2: Mood Walks for Youth in Transition

Jasmine Ferreira; Project Manager, Mood Walks, Hiker & Conservationist, Social Worker, MSW, RSW, Child & Youth Counsellor, CYC

Mood Walks is a provincial program that provides training and support for community mental health organizations across the province of Ontario to launch educational walking programs for people who experience mental health issues. Mood Walks promotes both physical and mental health by reducing barriers and creating new opportunities for people to be physically active in nature. The current project cycle, Mood Walks for Youth in Transition (2015-2017) is focused on building capacity among 40+ community organizations to support youth who are at risk of, or experiencing, mental health issues. All participants receive Safe Hiker training from Hike Ontario and participate in group walks on local hiking trails in partnership with parks, Conservation Areas and Authorities wherever possible. Mood Walks is an initiative of the Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario, in partnership with Hike Ontario and Conservation Ontario, with funding from the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport. My proposed session would share outcomes from the project, resources, barriers and successes - as well as next steps and best practices.

E3: Monitoring Human Use around Wildlife Movement in Corridors in the Rocky Mountains

Melanie Percy; Senior Park Ecologist at Government of Alberta Parks
John Paczkowski; Park Ecologist at Government of Alberta Parks

The Canadian Rocky Mountains are home to a diversity of large, terrestrial mammals including carnivores (wolf, cougar, grizzly bear, black bear, lynx, coyote, red fox and wolverine), and herbivores (elk, deer, moose, bighorn sheep and mountain goats). As human use of the Rocky Mountain landscape increases in both space and intensity, the effects of natural topographic fragmentation are exacerbated by human infrastructure, compromising wildlife movement and habitat use. While formal protection of these landscapes may exclude industrial disturbance, impacts from recreation and related infrastructure (trails, campgrounds, picnic sites, day-use facilities) may still represent a significant challenge to wildlife, particularly more wary species.

In May 2015, the Town of Canmore and Alberta Environment and Parks, Parks Division, embarked on a two-year collaborative study to better understand both wildlife and human use of the valley, particularly within wildlife corridors. The overall goal of our study is to determine how wildlife and humans use the greater Canmore/Bow Valley landscape so both provincial and municipal land managers can develop effective strategies to increase the sustainability of the area for wildlife. As the study is ongoing until May 2017, this presentation will share preliminary results.
Imagine if we used natural spaces for cultural exchange and understanding. Across Canada, we are seeing a surge in awareness of Indigenous people as the original custodians of our land. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission has paved the way for solutions in our country and it is clear that collective efforts are needed to renew the relationship between Indigenous peoples and Canadian society. By taking the time to understand the Indigenous world view, we deepen our understanding of natural spaces in Canada. We have a huge opportunity before us - any conversation about the culture of Canada will always include Nature. By acknowledging our history, the elephant in the room, we can create the space to have this conversation.

Ed Jager; Director of Visitor Experience for Parks Canada

In 2014, the Government of Canada announced the injection of nearly $3 Billion into Canada’s national park and national historic site infrastructures over 5 years. This unprecedented investment was in response to significant accumulation of deferred maintenance on various types of assets including roads, bridges, canals, buildings, trails, campgrounds, etc. But how do you address issues of the past while making sure you respond to the needs of the future? Our mission was set forth! Parks Canada embarked in the ambitious adventure of renewing itself in a sustainable way that met the needs of its visitors.

E5: Making the Case for Trails

Mark Schmidt; Trails Analyst, Parks Canada

Parks Canada manages a large network of trails across the country. These trails range from high alpine routes to urban paved trails and include a variety of uses including hiking, mountain biking, horses and more. Mark Schmidt will share new approaches being used to ensure that trails we use today will be around for future generations, how these trails are managed and how Parks Canada is moving from good trails to great trails. This session will focus on the Parks Canada’s trail classification system and how it is used to guide decisions around planning, signage, construction and management.
F1: Banff Gondola Tour

Cost: $80/person

Soar to the top of Sulphur Mountain to experience a stunning bird's-eye view of six incredible mountain ranges. With breathtaking vistas in every direction, you'll understand why this is a Canadian Rockies must-see destination.

The mountaintop experience has been completely rebuilt, redesigned and reimagined, creating a world-class indoor experience that equals the awe-inspiring ridgetop boardwalk 2900 ft. above Banff. From new restaurants and interactive exhibits to a multisensory theatre and a breathtaking 360-degree rooftop observation deck, the all-new Banff Gondola experience heightens every sense.

Several scenic hiking trails lead away from the summit complex. One of the most popular is the self-guided interpretive Sulphur Mountain Boardwalk to Sanson's Peak on which you can follow in the footsteps of Norman Sanson, who walked to the top of the mountain about every week for 30 years to check the weather. At the peak, step back in time and experience the Sulphur Mountain Cosmic Ray Station – a National Historic Site of Canada.

F2: Triviography

Triviography is a great new event that combines the best elements of our Explorer Scavenger Hunt with a treasure quest and a trivia game, and puts them together in an easy to play form on a tablet computer! Instead of a traditional paper question sheet that a team must use to find clues and solve problems, now they’ll have a tablet computer to use that shows their location and the location of all other teams on a Google map screen and the locations of the questions and clues. Best of all, the game tracks each team’s actual location in real time. The game is on now to get to the question locations ahead of other teams and earn more points by answering first. There’s strategy involved as teams watch everyone’s progress and try to determine where their best chances lie. Making the game even more fun is that teams can send each other text messages either congratulating themselves on their skill, teasing other teams, or possibly collaborating with other teams!

F3: Adaptive Recreation Tour: The Park Explorer in Action

Join this active hike tour to get a hands-on experience with the Parks Explorer designed by Christian Bagg. The Parks Explorer is a one-of-a-kind vehicle empowering individuals with limited mobility to independently navigate off-road hiking trails. Learn more about the Park Explorer here.
F6: Traditional Games Workshop

Jason Plain Eagle currently facilitates Traditional Games throughout Southern Alberta. He also has experience in the Blackfoot/Piikani culture. Jason facilitates various groups throughout Southern Alberta in Sacred Site tours, to educate them in his Traditional Territory. He specializes in helping his community to retain his culture and traditions. Jason’s passion is to teach young people about the joys of his heritage. Jason says: “All my teachings came from my spiritual elders. I was always told: “Teach whoever has a good heart. Teach whoever wants to learn. It’s important we carry on the traditions, no matter who it is. Teach them”.

The Blackfoot Buffalo Runners series is based on the Nitsitapii (First People’s) approach to traditional games. This was a way of life for children to build their skills in hunting/gathering and warfare and it was taught to all younger generations. Adults had their own games as well, although they were mainly used for gambling and socializing. These games brought joy and laughter into communities.

Program content will be based on Traditional Games introduction and play. As the facilitator, Jason will introduce each game as well as the purpose of the game. Participants will build their knowledge and skill level. All games and activities are age and gender specific but can be modified to fit any group. Having taught throughout Alberta, Jason’s credentials range from facilitating, instruction, to actual traditional hunting. He teaches about traditional tools made from the lands and about the tools that were used from animals to better the lives of the Blackfoot people.

F4: Canmore Nordic Centre Cross Country Skiing

Experience cross country skiing in Canmore! A shuttle will be provided from the Banff Centre to the Canmore Nordic Centre and back. The Nordic Centre provides ski rentals for everyone and numerous cross country trails for you to explore during this outdoor activity session. This activity is subject to cancel if registration numbers are too small.

F5: Bird Watching Hike

Join local leaders for a bird watching hike in the Canmore area.

F6: Mt Norquay – Learn to Ski / Snowboard (extra fee required)

Enjoy downhill skiing or snowboarding at one of the oldest ski resorts in the Canadian Rockies and take in the Bow Valley views on the chair lift! A shuttle will be provided from the Banff Centre to the Mt. Norquay and back. Afternoon lift tickets are available as well as ski and snowboard rentals.
G1: Youth Engagement for Parks Conservation

Erinn Drage; Student at Queen’s University in her final year of a Honours BSc in Environmental Studies

A brainstorming/breakout session about youth engagement in the protection of parks. As the next generation of leaders, youth need to be involved in ongoing conversations about the creation, management, and future decisions of parks across Canada. This workshop will emphasize the importance of social media engagement, highlight some of the pre-existing youth opportunities for involvement, and brainstorm possible future initiatives for youth to raise their voices on parks. Ultimately, the session will be lead as a discussion on the importance of tangible park experiences for youth, and the importance of immersion in nature. The session will conclude with an important and relevant lecture on how stakeholders and leaders can allow for the involvement of youth with in their respective organizations.

G2: Can you say “No” to visitor services? Moving toward an inclusive, collaborative model of public engagement in the Kananskis Region

Don Carruthers Den Hoed; Alberta Parks East Kananaskis Area Manager

For over forty years, the Kananaskis Region of Alberta Parks has been a destination of choice for millions of Alberta visitors, and has served these clients through award-winning interpretive, educational, and information services in urban and wilderness parks in the Calgary area. In recent years, inspired by the sense of collaboration that underpinned the Alberta Parks Inclusion Plan: Everyone Belongs Outside, and motivated by increased usage pressures, complex recreation desires, and (very) active community partners, the Visitor Services program was reformed into a Public Engagement program that put the priority on removing barriers to participation in park education to foster transformative experiences, empower leaders and partners, and plan for different levels of public engagement, all while still meeting the core needs of millions of visitors each year. This workshop will explore the lenses required to help accomplish this culture shift, and tell the story of a successful park program that learned to say NO to things “we always just did that way” so we could focus on the things we needed to do now.
G3: “Science? Who needs it?” How Alberta Parks is engaging with science.

Elizabeth Halpenny; Associate Professor at University of Alberta

At this workshop attendees will be asked to discuss the challenges associated with and best practice approaches for incorporating science and traditional forms of knowledge into park planning, management and policy. To inspire conversation, we will describe Alberta Parks’ four years of effort to identify its knowledge needs, potential partners whom the agency can work with to produce relevant science, and understand the agency’s own capacity to produce and incorporate science into decision making. The formation of the Alberta Parks Social Science Working Group and recently approved Parks and Protected Areas Social Science Framework will be highlighted as tools for advancing an evidence-based management agenda.

G4: Parks and Protected Areas Governance - Shared Power and Decision Making (Part One)

Panel of Presenters

Panelists will examine the current state of governance in Canada drawing from recent research on the subject and with participants' assistance, workshop the barriers to Parks and PAs establishment that current governance approaches bring. Participants will have the opportunity to explore how good governance might achieve increases in the number of Parks and PAs faster in Canada. Looking forward, participants will have the opportunity to contribute to the identification of approaches to set aside current governance structures and / or influence changes to existing governance arrangements.

G5: The Halifax Common: 250+ Years of Community Use and Debate (cows, cricket, circuses, Catholics, The Stones and The Friends)

Susan Markham-Starr; Professor Emerita at Acadia University

In 1763, 240 acres were “laid out and registered for a Common for the inhabitants of the town of Halifax forever.” In 2007, the Friends of the Halifax Common organization emerged. In the intervening 244 years the Common diminished from 240 acres to about 70 acres of publically accessible open space through encroachments that serve the medical, social service, educational, administrative needs of the citizens. Each encroachment was justified by the decision makers of the day, but can be criticized in hindsight. This presentation includes: the concept of Common Lands; the beginning of the Halifax Common; “improving” the Common, recreation on the Common, 250+ years of controversy over community uses, and the current situation with the Friends of the Halifax Common. The focus of the presentation is on the controversies about the use of this public space.

G6: Stoney Nakoda History and its Relationship to Parks

Alice Kaquitts & Thomas Snow

This session will focus on the Stoney Nakoda history and its relationship to parks in the Treaty 7 area. The two speakers will share historically significant cultural stories as well as touch on the Buffalo-related work that has recently been happening with the Stoney Nation and Parks Canada.

G7: Gap – Marine Protected Areas

Sabine Jessen; National Director of the Oceans Program for the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
H1: Climate and Conservation: the role of parks in large landscape and seascape science, planning, and action

Jodi Hilty; President and Chief Scientist of the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative

This section will initiate with 4 brief presentations that examine discuss climate change and conservation and the role of parks in large landscape and seascape science, planning and action. These will include a presentation on case studies around the world, the Yellowstone to Yukon, Two Countries One Forest in the North Appalachians, and the U.S. National Park Service efforts. These presentations will be followed by a brief question and answer period. Breakout tables will then have facilitated discussions to discuss the existing levers and brainstorm any new levers needed to ensure that parks across Canada can engage in climate change and conservation at a landscape scale.

H2: The Nature Playbook: Take action to connect a new generation with Nature

Chloe Dragon Smith; Youth Co-Chair, Canadian Parks Council

The Nature Playbook: Take Action to Connect a New Generation of Canadians with Nature is a project that was initiated in April 2015 by the Canadian Parks Council (CPC). The CPC created Connecting a New Generation with Nature (CNGN), an intergenerational citizen working group from across the country, and tasked it with developing an action oriented, follow-up document to Connecting Canadians with Nature - a previous CPC publication outlining the benefits of connecting with the outdoors. In this workshop, led by the co-chair and members of the CNGN working group, we will discover together how we can all use The Nature Playbook to reach sectors and organizations outside of our ordinary and expand our collective reach - for the benefit of parks and people.

H3: Breathe: Edmonton’s Green Network Strategy

Geoff Smith; Senior Planner, Parkland Policy at City of Edmonton

Doug Olson; As President and CEO of O2 Planning + Design

Parks and open spaces are vital to a community’s health, providing places for people to play, gather, grow food, learn about nature and celebrate. Because Edmonton Metro is projected to nearly double in population from 1.2 to 2.1 million people by mid-century, Edmonton is planning the green network to meet the needs of growing communities. Breathe: Edmonton’s Green Network Strategy, examines how open space functions as an integrated network of public spaces that provide real, measurable value to Edmontonians. Open spaces contribute to human health and wellness, improve the ecological quality of the urban environment, and provide places for people to come together. These contributions are the central themes of the Green Network Strategy, and provide the organizing framework for assessing open space.

H4: Parks and Protected Areas Governance - Shared Power and Decision Making (Part Two)

Panel of Presenters

Panelists will examine the current state of governance in Canada drawing from recent research on the subject and with participants’ assistance, workshop the barriers to Parks and PAs establishment that current governance approaches bring. Participants will have the opportunity to explore how good governance might achieve increases in the number of Parks and PAs faster in Canada. Looking forward, participants will have the opportunity to contribute to the identification of approaches to set aside current governance structures and / or influence changes to existing governance arrangements.
H5: Parks as Green Infrastructure

Paul Ronan; Executive Director of the Ontario Parks Association

A healthy green infrastructure network provides many benefits to both citizens and biodiversity. This interconnected web of forests, streams, rivers, wetlands, and other naturalized systems exists across our country and is woven into every community. Parks at all scales are a fundamental component of this network. This session will explore how we can all benefit from framing parks as valuable infrastructure assets. Looking at conservation practices and the integration of parks in urban design we will explore the concept of “triple bottom line”, where parks simultaneously produce economic, environmental, and social benefits. Learn about how these benefits extend well beyond habitat and wildlife preservation to a wide array of ecosystem services, including: climate change resilience, climate change mitigation (carbon sequestration), public health, clean water, oxygen production, clean air, and stormwater management.

H6: Parks for All Engagement Facilitated Workshop

Heather Stewart and Ian MacRae

Help build the Parks for All strategic plan by contributing your views and insights at this workshop. At the 2017 Parks Conference we seek to engage diverse participants in the development of a shared vision, and the creation of strategic directions and priorities which can be effectively implemented by Canada’s parks community.

This workshop is part of the stakeholder engagement process, which began at the 2016 Canadian Parks Summit. The Canadian Parks Council and Canadian Parks and Recreation Association will begin seeking endorsement for Parks for All in the fall of 2017. Now is your chance to have a say!

H7: Mobile Adventure Playgrounds

Getting back to the basics of play in urban parks

Heather Cowie; Recreation Manager City of Calgary
Julie Guimmond; lead for Environmental Education Programs and Services with Calgary parks

See how the City of Calgary put the adventure back into playgrounds Adventure playgrounds are dynamic spaces where children can explore, create, imagine and learn in their own way. They contain a variety of materials and loose parts such as boards, tires, tape and cardboard that children are free to use to build, demolish, assemble and change their environments as they desire. Adventure playgrounds are unlike the traditional playgrounds commonly found in City parks. Traditional playgrounds are outdoor play areas usually equipped with standardized play equipment such as swings, slides, monkey bars and the like. They are typically placed in the center of a large, defined, flat area filled with approved safety surfacing such as pea gravel or pour-in-place rubber. Most traditional playgrounds encourage active, structured play that exercises the body through physical activity. Although important, active play is not the only type of play children need. Play spaces that meet the needs of creative, imaginative, nature-based and self-directed play are also vital to children’s cognitive, emotional and social development. Adventure playgrounds provide children with opportunities to grow and learn in these areas of development.
David Adamoski
David Adamoski serves as a Research Officer for Metro Vancouver Regional Parks. During his twenty-five year tenure he has lead the development of monitoring and associated tracking systems, providing administrators with measurements and analyses of Park services and resources. David’s expertise focusses on data collection, structuring and management.

Gina Bahya
Coordinator of the Tsá Túé Biosphere Reserve, based in Dénê, Northwest Territories.

Charlene Bearhead
Charlene Bearhead is the Education Lead for the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation. She previously worked for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, and National Day of Healing and Reconciliation. Ms. Bearhead is an educator and educational events coordinator with 30 years of regional, national and international experience.

Alain Branchaud
Alain Branchaud is Executive Director of SNAP QC (CPAWS QC Chapter). Prior to joining SNAP he worked for 12 years for Environment Canada developing the species at risk program. He also co-founded “Projet Rescousse” in Quebec, to build public awareness and raise funds to support species at risk.

Lillith Brook
Lillith Brook has been facilitating collaborative, multi-stakeholder conservation planning initiatives in the NWT for the past 16 years. As manager of Conservation Planning for the Territorial Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Lillith plays a leadership role in advancing the GNWT’s vision for building a conservation network in the NWT.

Windekind Buteau-Dutschaever
Dr. Windekind Buteau-Duitschaever holds a PhD in geography with a specific focus on institutional arrangements and governance related to power relationships to regional approaches for protected area planning and integration within large land use planning activities.

Guylaine Chabot
Guylaine Chabot is a professor in Community Health at UQO in Québec. Her research is dedicated to engage the new generation with nature. She collaborated with the PanAmerican Health Organization to develop the Healthy Parks Tool, also co-authoring the National Position Statement on children outdoor play and the Nature Playbook.

Heather Cowie
Heather Cowie is a Recreation Manager City of Calgary and is responsible for bid that will see her City host the International Play Association Conference in September 2017.

Florence Daviet
Florence Daviet has been Director of CPAWS Forest Program since 2014. She focuses on caribou, climate change and forest management standards. She has a Masters from John Hopkins School of International Relations and has worked on international and national forest and climate policy since 2006.

Councillor Heather Deal
Councilor Heather Deal is the Deputy Mayor of Vancouver, Director on the Metro Vancouver Board and Chair of the Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Committee. Councilor Deal has a passion for arts and culture, animated public spaces, active transportation, and heritage issues. At the local and regional level she works to advance livability and environmental issues.

Councilor Deal is a biologist with a long history of working on ecosystem and habitat issues. She received her BA in biology from Oberlin College (Ohio) and a M.Sc. from the University of British Columbia in microbiology/immunology. Before entering local government Councilor Deal developed science programs for UBC Continuing Studies, taught fish habitat restoration courses, and worked on marine habitat issues with the David Suzuki Foundation. Councilor Deal is an avid cyclist, camper, hiker, and reader, and enjoys gardening on her Kitsilano balcony.
Don Carruthers Den Hoed
Don Carruthers Den Hoed, is the Alberta Parks East Kananaskis Area Manager. In his previous role as the Head of Inclusion and Public Engagement (Kananaskis), he led the change management process for a Visitor Services program facing resource pressure, retirements, and a new landscape of public engagement.

Caroline Dépatie
Caroline Dépatie is a PhD Candidate at Lincoln University (South Island of New Zealand). Her area of research relates to the impact of digital technology use on the outdoor recreation experience. Caroline is also a Faculty member at Capilano University (BC) in the Outdoor Recreation Department.

Erinn Drage
Erinn Drage is a student at Queen's University in her final year of a Honours BSc in Environmental Studies. A passionate and driven young environmentalist, Erinn has been extremely active in the conservation community, working for organizations including Parks Canada and the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society during her summer months.

Chloe Dragon Smith
Chloe Dragon Smith is a young Chipewyan-European-Metis woman from Yellowknife Northwest Territories; her northern upbringing shaped her values. She has a B.Sc in Earth Science from the University of Victoria. Chloe cares about nature, culture, society, and how they all fit together in our modern world.

Shailyn Drukis
Shailyn Drukis lives in the Yukon and is on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Committee for IUCN. She is passionate about intergenerational conservation policy, and is a founder of the Global Youth Biodiversity Network. Shailyn is also part of the National Advisory Committee for ‘Parks for All’.

Jasmine Ferreira
Jasmine Ferreira has worked in non-profit settings for more than 9 years. Her work experience includes outreach, program delivery, counselling, communications, health care policy, employment and crisis intervention. Jasmine has a Master of Social Work, is a Registered Social Worker in Ontario and has her Child and Youth Counsellor designation.

Jeffrey Fitzpatrick
Jeffrey is a landscape architect and professional planner with practice, research and teaching experience in North America and abroad. He holds a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture from the University of Guelph and a Masters of Landscape Architecture from Pennsylvania State University. Jeff's experience in the planning, design and construction of public space spans the neighborhood to inter-regional scale. Always inspired by the natural systems that sustain us – his focus is on accessible nature, large parks, greenways and ecological design. Jeff works as a manager with Metro Vancouver Regional Parks. At UBC he teaches ecosystem services as an adjunct professor.

Julie Guimmond
Julie Guimond is the lead for Environmental Education Programs and Services with Calgary parks, together changing the face of Play.

Elizabeth Halpenny
An Associate Professor at Canada’s University of Alberta, Elizabeth Halpenny teaches and conducts research in the areas of tourism, marketing, environmental psychology and protected areas management. Elizabeth’s research focuses on individual’s interactions with nature environments, tourism experience, and environmental stewardship. Current research projects include: (a) the affect of mobile digital technologies on visitors’ experiences; (b) the impact of World Heritage designation and other park-related brands on travel decision making; (c) individuals’ attitudes towards and stewardship of natural areas; and (d) children, health and nature.
Conference Speakers

Paul Heintzman
Paul Heintzman, an associate professor of Leisure Studies and affiliated professor in the M.Sc. in Environmental Sustainability program at the University of Ottawa. He teaches courses, and publishes research, on parks and outdoor recreation management. He is a member of the Friends of Gatineau Park program committee.

Jodi Hilty
An expert on wildlife corridors, Dr. Jodi Hilty, the President and Chief Scientist of the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative, has worked for 20 years in the application of science in conservation, co-editing the book Climate and Conservation: Landscape and Seascape Science, Planning, and Action.

Brett Hudson
Brett Hudson has worked in protected areas field since 2004. Brett is relatively new to the role of Manager of Planning, Resource Management and Development with CRD Regional Parks, having been in the position for just over a year. Prior to coming to the CRD, Brett worked for B.C’s provincial park system for over a decade as a Senior Planner, mostly working on policy and legislative initiatives. Before moving to Vancouver Island and getting into the parks business, Brett worked for the government of the Northwest Territories in Yellowknife, coordinating input into environmental assessments for oil and gas, mining and forestry projects. Brett has also worked as a consultant in the natural resource management field, and in a variety of other public sector agencies. Brett holds a Master degree in Natural Resource Management from the University of Winnipeg, where he grew up.

Glen Hvenegaard
Glen Hvenegaard is Professor of Environmental Science at the University of Alberta’s Augustana Campus. He is a member of the World Commission on Protected Areas (and its Tourism Specialist Group) and a fellow with LEAD International (Leadership for Environment and Development).

Ed Jager
Ed is the Director of Visitor Experience for Parks Canada. He holds a Masters in International Affairs from Carleton University and a B.A. in Economics and Anthropology from the University of Alberta. Ed has almost 20 years experience in park management and the tourism sector and he has had the opportunity to work on a wide variety of visitor experience projects across Canada through his career.

Sonya Jakubec
Dr. Sonya L. Jakubec is a community mental health nurse-researcher who examines broad social and environmental determinants of health. Her research has explored mental wellbeing impacts of parks inclusion for adults with disabilities, recreation for adults with mental illness, neighbourhoods and seniors’ belonging, and the role of parks at end-of-life.

Sabine Jessen
Sabine Jessen is the National Director of the Oceans Program for the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society. She also serves as the Marine Conservation Director for the British Columbia Chapter of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society. Sabine has been involved with CPAWS since 1991 when she began four years of volunteer work, prior to becoming the first Executive Director of the BC chapter. Sabine is passionate about protecting ocean ecosystems.
**Scott Jones**

Scott Jones, is an Executive Director with the Government of Alberta’s Ministry of Environment & Parks and is responsible for overseeing coordination of provincial programs delivered by Alberta Parks. He is Alberta’s representative on the Canadian Parks Council, and is co-chair of the national steering committee for the “Pathway to Canada Target 1” initiative. He has an educational background in both ecology and urban planning.

**Jan-Sebastian LaPierre**

Jan grew up a stone’s throw from the Atlantic ocean, in beautiful Herring Cove, Nova Scotia. From his earliest memories onward, Jan has always been captivated by the world. He was always the kid that asked ‘why’ about everything, and little has changed. Jan discovered early on that spending time in nature could be life changing and life saving, he has dedicated his career to connecting as many people as possible to nature. Jan has specialized in working with youth in the outdoors. Most recently, Jan worked clinically at the IWK in Halifax in Mental Health and Addictions, tasked with working with clients who had been exposed to some of most difficult and challenging circumstances that life can throw at you. It was during this time that he was inspired to write ‘A is for Adventure’ in an effort to give kids, parents, and support workers a imaginative guide to adventure.

**Arlen Leeming**

Arlen Leeming is a conservation and engagement expert with a focus on the Toronto Region. With experience managing environmental initiatives at a regional, national, and international level; his projects focus on the implementation of initiatives that maintain a strong emphasis on stakeholder engagement, strategic planning, and community connections.

**Chris Manderson**

Chris joined Calgary Parks in 1998. He is currently leading the Urban Conservation group in Calgary Parks, which is responsible for urban ecosystem management, including environmental planning and biodiversity policy, natural area management, integrated pest management and habitat restoration. Chris has a degree in Botany from the University of Alberta. Prior to joining the City of Calgary, Chris worked for over 10 years in environmental consulting as an ecologist, with a particular interest in wetlands and plant community ecology.

**Giselle Marion**

Giselle is the Implementation Facilitator, Communication and Special Projects for the Tłįcho Government, in the Northwest Territories. Currently Giselle is a key team member working collaboratively with the GNWT to advance the Dinàgà Wek’èhodi Protected Area, a northern area of the north arm of Great Slave Lake which was identified for protection by the Tłįcho Government and the Dinàgà Wek’èhodi Working Group.

**Susan Markham-Starr**

Susan Markham-Starr Professor Emerita at Acadia University. She has also been a park planner in Saskatchewan and Alberta; recreation planner for Halifax; and a faculty member at Dalhousie University and The University of Alberta. Susan is one of the few scholars conducting historic research on parks in Canada.

**Paul McNair**

Paul McNair is Executive Director of LTABC since 2010, 2006 Outstanding Fundraising Professional, Bachelor of Public Relations, Masters in Philanthropy & Development and has been on more than 30 charitable Boards and has passionate interest in the arts and travel.
Elise Pullar
Elise Pullar is a student at the University of Victoria. She is working for Parks Canada on Northern Engagement and took part in a Students on Ice expedition to the Arctic through this role. Elise represented Canadian youth at the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress as a CC-IUCN Youth Ambassador. She is passionate about re-connecting youth to nature through outdoor education programs and she can’t wait to collaborate with Canadian Parks Conference participants on this!

Todd Reichardt
Todd Reichardt has been involved in various elements of park management including park infrastructure, performance improvement & operations. As the Manager, Calgary Parks - Centre City Region and Business & Asset Strategies, he is keenly interested in combining innovative technologies with asset management principles to improve park operations.

Rick Rollins
Rick Rollins is a professor Emeritus at Vancouver Island University and co-editor of “Parks and Protected Areas in Canada: Planning and Management”.

Paul Ronan
Paul Ronan loves the outdoors and sports, and has served the parks sector for over 30 years. Through his twenty-eight years with the City of Toronto, rising through the ranks to Parks Director, Paul has gained a wealth of knowledge and experience in how parks, forestry and recreation programs are delivered.

Currently the Executive Director of the Ontario Parks Association (OPA), Paul provides province-wide leadership in advocating OPA’s mandate of “Protecting Tomorrow Today”, as well as all aspects of parks training, strategic planning and sector best practices.
Conference Speakers

Jamie Rozema-Stinson
Jamie Rozema-Stinson is the Business & Asset Strategies Lead for Parks. She has been with Parks for over 12 years and has held many roles from project consultant to Tangible Capital Asset lead to her current role as the lead of an asset based portfolio including GIS and work management systems.

Mark Schmidt
Mark is the Trails Analyst for Parks Canada with over 15 years of professional trails experience including design/planning, construction, management, assessment and restoration. He joined Parks Canada in 2010 and is responsible for the creation of trail guidelines, trail resources and providing support for Parks Canada’s field units. In the last 6 years Mark has worked in over 30 Parks Canada sites.

Travis Shaw
Travis has worked as a planner with the City of Calgary for over 10 years, the last four of those years with Calgary Parks. He currently supervises the Parks Planning group at the City of Calgary, helping plan open space networks in new communities and implementing high-level policy plans at the development level. Outside of work, he can often be found with his wife chasing their four children through the woods of Banff and Kananaskis.

Scott Slocombe
Scott Slocombe is Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON. His research has focused on different aspects of the management of large complex regions for almost thirty years, with a particular interest in northern Canada, the Yukon, and other remote and/or mountainous regions.

Geoff Smith
Geoff Smith is Senior Planner, Parkland Policy at City of Edmonton

Chris Surette
Chris was raised in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. He is a kid at heart and is most alive when he’s outdoors exploring. His real passion is helping people and especially kids, experience the joy of adventure and the difference being outside in the natural world can make in our lives. His number one inspiration comes from his 11-year-old daughter Hannah, who is always up for an adventure. More than ever, he sees the need for kids and families to get outside and learn more about the world we live in. Chris has worked in marketing, advertising and media for the past 10 years. He met Jan in 2013, when they teamed up for a fundraising initiative for kids struggling with mental health issues. With Chris’s social media, marketing and business skills, they raised over $35,000. After completion of that journey, A for Adventure was born. The goal? To inspire people of all ages to explore the joy of adventure.

Dahi Tsetso
Dahi Tsetso is the Resource Management Coordinator for the Dehcho First Nations.

Troy Sykes
Troy Sykes is City of Calgary Parks Superintendent.

Suzanne Tugman
Suzanne Tugman, is the Director of Communications and Outreach for the Kaniksu Land Trust located in Sandpoint Idaho. Dedicated to comprehensive environmental and individual health for rural and urban communities, Suzanne uses multi-level methodologies that pinpoint disparities. Her work helps to identify where communities can improve social support, civic investment and build sustainability through innovative green space policy and programming.

Suzanne’s work is characterized by a flexible, integrative, and data-informed approach, and has advanced through her work in communities across the nation. Her focus uses a sweeping inclusive tactic to join all principals within a community to foster “upstream” agendas that will result in an increase in livable for a communities most vulnerable members.

She is the founder of Tugman Advisory Group, a nonprofit advising alliance that provides “behavioral pharmacy” templates designed to support experiential interactive health and wellness strategies through the use of nature submersion.
Jamie Vala
Jamie is a registered landscape architect with experience in both the private and public sectors as a planner, landscape architect, and biologist. Her focus is protecting and enhancing the ecological integrity of parks and open space in the near urban setting while providing opportunities for people to connect with nature close to home. Jamie currently works as a manager with Metro Vancouver Regional Parks and holds a Bachelor of Science and Masters of Landscape Architecture from the University of British Columbia.

Sjoerd van der Wielen
Sjoerd van der Wielen has worked as the Lands Manager for the past three years within the Tłı̨chǫ Government - a First Nation Government with surface and sub-surface rights to over 39,000 square kilometers of land. He has been working with First Nations in the North for the past 10 years in a variety of capacities and communities. When he is not working, he enjoys spending time on the land with his wife and two sons, both with and without motorized vehicles and hot tubs.

Valerie Veenstra
Valerie Veenstra is the Environmental Planning Supervisor at The City of Calgary.

Stacey Warren
Stacey is the Asset Systems Coordinator for Parks for 6 years. His background and expertise is GIS as he has been a GIS Specialist in Asset Management for over 10 years with the City of Calgary in both Parks and Roads.

Alison Woodley
Alison is the Director of CPAWS’ Parks Program. She authored a 2015 status report on protected areas in Canada, sits on the federal Species at Risk Advisory Committee, has acted as advisor to the federal auditor general’s office on national parks, and is on the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas.

Pamela Wright
Pamela Wright is a professor in Ecosystem Science and Management at the University of Northern BC. She studies and teaches on parks conservation on topics ranging from management for ecological integrity to connecting people to nature. She was the Vice-Chair of the federal Panel on the EI of Canada’s National Parks.
Guest & Delegate Experience

Banff has a lot to offer for Guest and Delegate Experiences. As Banff is walking distance from the conference location, there are many places to explore. Additionally, guest and delegates will have full access to the Sally Borden Centre, which has many classes and offerings. All guests are also welcome to attend the Friday afternoon outdoor activities! Please stay tuned for more programming closer to the Conference.

Evening Socials

**Wednesday, March 8: 900 – 11:00 PM**

As part of the Canadian Parks Conference, we will be hosting a celebration of Indigenous culture with a focus on Treaty 7.

**Thursday, March 9: 6:00 – 9:00PM**

Trade Show Reception and Local Artisan Pop-Up Market – Drink and Appetizers Included

**Friday, March 10: 7:00 – 9:00 PM**

Banff Mountain Film and Book Festival and Student Poster Presentations – Come join us for an evening of top films from the Banff Film Festival. https://www.banffcentre.ca/banff-mountain-film-and-book-festival
Accommodations & Registration

Venue & Accommodations

**Accommodations at The Banff Centre:**

- Superior bedrooms: $145.00 per night based on single or double occupancy.
- Standard bedrooms: $125.00 per night based on single or double occupancy.

Call 403.762.6100 to make reservations or book online.

Accommodation will include use of Sally Borden Recreation Centre and Aquatics, wireless internet access; Walter Philips Gallery access; complimentary access to select arts and culture events; housekeeping service fee; all North American phone calls; parking and library access with borrowing privileges.

**Additional Accommodations:**

- Banff Caribou Lodge & Spa: Standard Room $150.00, Superior Room $165.00
- Inns of Banff: Superior Limited View $125.00, Superior Mountain View $140.00

To make a reservation, please follow steps below:

1. Visit the website www.bestofbanff.com
2. Under Reservations click BOOK NOW
3. Pick the Destination of your Choice or keep All Properties selected
4. Select your reservation details (Dates, # Rooms / # People)
5. Additional Search - Ensure Room Rates is chosen
6. Enter the Promo/Corp Code: ARPA2017
7. Search Now

A shuttle will be available to and from the Banff Centre to Banff Caribou Lodge and Spa as well as Inns of Banff.

Registration Fees

Please note that prices include all education sessions, socials, and scheduled meals. Pre-Conference sessions are not included in these fees.

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<tr>
<th>Rates*</th>
<th>Delegate</th>
<th>Student</th>
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<tr>
<td>Early Bird - Until January 31</td>
<td>$650</td>
<td>$300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular - Feb 1 to Feb 28</td>
<td>$750</td>
<td>$350</td>
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<tr>
<td>On-Site - March 1 to March 8</td>
<td>$850</td>
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*Rates do not include GST

Pre-Conference Workshop Fees

Prices vary dependent on workshop or tour.

Register Now