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## **AMPPE's Monthly Membership Newsletter**

*Your source for up-to-date information in the Mountain Parks*



The 2013 AMPPE gala will take place Nov. 8 at The Fairmont Banff Springs and this year's theme is "Mountain Mardi Gras." Think New Orleans style fun, mountain formal dress code and masques optional! We are actively seeking sponsors for this year's event so please contact me if you are interested in receiving a detailed package.

*Sincerely, Monica Andreeff, Executive Director*

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## **A compromise is found in Jasper regarding backcountry closures**



Parks Canada's decision on backcountry closures strikes a fine balance between caribou conservation and winter recreation. "Conservation doesn't have to happen at the expense of recreational opportunities in national parks," said Monica Andreeff, Executive Director for the Association for Mountain Parks Protection & Enjoyment (AMPPE). "AMPPE plans to ensure Parks Canada fulfills its commitment to establishing new winter recreation areas in conjunction with seasonal activity restrictions."

[More Details](#)

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## **Banff National Park: Where the citizens fight, but don't hold a grudge**



Globe & Mail columnist Ian Brown examines what is at the heart of Banff's often-divided opinions on conservation and tourism and interviewed AMPPE for the lengthy feature. "Ms. Andreeff isn't shy about her affection for what she calls "a balanced approach" to development. I was barely in my seat when she told me that 97 per cent of Banff National Park is protected wilderness, and only 3 per cent is railway lines, highways and townsite: "So when the environmentalists jump up and down and say the sky is falling, it can't fall," she smiled."

[More Details](#)

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## **New study shows grizzly bear population in SW Alberta is booming**



The number of grizzlies once thought to live in southwestern Alberta bears little resemblance to a new study showing them more than twice as numerous. A provincial grizzly tracking program sniffing out bear numbers by their hair samples counted 122 of the bruins in the region in 2012 — well up from the 51 cited in a 2007 study, said the effort's coordinator, Andrea Morehouse.

[More Details](#)

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## **Grizzlies adapting to crossing structures**



A significant portion of Banff's grizzly bear population is using wildlife crossing structures to safely get across the busy Trans-Canada Highway and access important habitat, according to a new landmark study. The study identified 15 individual grizzly bears and 17 individual black bears that used the highway crossings over a three-year period — close to 20 per cent of the estimated population.

[More Details](#)

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