



2014 Alberta Winter Games



Volume 3, Issue 01 Jan 2014

AMPPE's Monthly Membership Newsletter

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

Dear Members,
All of us here at AMPPE hope you have had an excellent 2013 and are geared up for an even better 2014!

As a reminder we have started our 2014 membership drive, we would love to have your opinion on any ongoing or new advocacy projects which we support and welcome you to contact our office.



Parks Canada plagued by massive repair backlog

Parks Canada is struggling under a multi-billion-dollar backlog of planned work for the country's most beloved locations, with some sites putting off hundreds of millions of dollars in needed repairs. And the agency's bureaucrats warn that if action isn't taken soon, the backlog will present a serious risk to preserving Canada's historic sites and national parks. A Star analysis of Parks Canada's 2012 National Asset Review shows a total of \$2.77 billion in deferred work — repair and replacement work identified as required but pushed back. The delayed repairs range from \$1,000 for smaller, newer monuments to \$676.9 million required for the Trent-Severn Waterway. They include everything from highways to historic buildings, canals to bridges.

[More Details](#)

Outdoor skating rink at historic site set to open on Valentine's Day

It's a date night straight out of a romantic comedy: Skating under the stars, surrounded by mountains, with old-time music playing and a fire crackling in the background. The scene could become reality for some this Valentine's Day as Parks Canada opens a skating rink on the former pool deck at the Cave and Basin National Historic Site in Banff National Park. The synthetic ice surface, which is already installed and being tested, will open to the public for the first time from 8 p.m. until 10 p.m. on Feb. 14. It will then be open until April during the Cave and Basin's regular hours and from noon until 10 p.m. on Saturdays.

[More Details](#)

Special events a concern at Parks Canada planning forum

The issue of large scale events and the increasing number of them being held in Banff National Park came up at Parks Canada's recent planning forum earlier this month. Banff field unit Superintendent Dave McDonough said the issue is not a new one, and recognized it is a contentious one in the community. "This is not a new debate in terms of how do you find that balance where you can provide people new opportunities to come to the park and experience things and particularly activities that are appropriate like cycling or running," McDonough said. "They are healthy ways to enjoy the park and certainly active ways for people to come to Banff."

[More Details](#)

Banff wants provincial help with projects

The Town of Banff wants to build several multi-million tourism-related projects – but it can't afford to. An \$18.4 million intercept parkade, a \$3.8 million redevelopment of Bear Street into a pedestrian and cycling friendly commercial district and a \$3.6 million pedestrian bridge from Central Park to the Banff rec grounds have been pitched as part of the 2014-2023 capital plan. Banff politicians this week turned down the big budget projects for now as they, along with the resort towns of Canmore and Jasper, continue lobbying the Alberta government for sustainable funding sources and recognition as unique tourism communities.

[More Details](#)



To remove your name from our mailing list, please [Click here](#). Questions or comments? Email Carly O'Neill at admin@amppe.org or 403-762-3800.