



AMPPE's Monthly Membership Newsletter

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

Dear Members,

AMPPE continues to focus on seemingly stalled processes at the field unit level, aligning advocacy efforts and networking with government officials to enhance visitor experience in mountain parks. We will keep you up-dated on these issues and more!

Sincerely, *David Bayne, Chairman, Board of Directors*



Spreading Creek wildfire under control on Icefields Parkway

A wildfire straddling the eastern boundary of Banff National Park has been brought under control and is being held in place as of July 17. A lightning strike ignited the Spreading Creek wildfire in early July. The fire became "very active" but Parks Canada fire crews had the fire in a bounded containment zone bounded by the North Saskatchewan River and a two-kilometre section of Highway 93 North. "Given current weather conditions, we don't anticipate this fire to grow beyond our pre-determined boundaries," says Joesph Gorzeman, Alberta wildfire information officer.

[More Details](#)



Kananaskis Golf Course to be restored by Government of Alberta

The Government of Alberta announced an \$18-million commitment to rebuild the Kananaskis Golf Course, which has been closed since the devastating floods in 2013. The timeline for the restoration of the Mount Kidd and Mount Lorette layouts is pegged at two to three years. This comes as great news for golf fanatics and tourists alike but is also a boon for other businesses in K-Country, where the government-owned golf courses have been counted on as an anchor to attract visitors from around the globe.

[More Details](#)



No plans to improve Trans-Canada Highway fencing near Banff

Parks Canada has no immediate plans to replace and upgrade aging wildlife exclusion fence along the Trans-Canada Highway between the Banff townsite and the east gate of Banff National Park. Several black bears have made it onto the stretch of highway this spring and summer. Officials acknowledge the fence is not up to the same standard as fencing in newer phases of highway twinning projects through the park, which have buried aprons to prevent animals from digging underneath.

[More Details](#)



Proposed tent cabins at Maligne Lake approved by Parks Canada

Parks Canada has denied approval of a 66-suite lodge at Jasper National Park's Maligne Lake, the central project in a redevelopment concept proposed in 2013. The government announced July 25 that it has approved 13 of 14 elements, including tent cabins, additional boat and canoe tours, food and tourist shops and a thatched-walled exploratory maze. If impact assessments move quickly through public feedback, construction could theoretically begin in spring 2015.

[More Details](#)



Parks Canada visitor services hit hard by budget cuts

Budget cuts at Parks Canada have resulted in shorter seasons and fewer guided tours, according to internal documents. Parks is on pace to cut more than \$27 million from its budget, saving \$5 million by limiting operating seasons at national parks and historic sites to "peak visitation periods." Moving away from guided tours to "self-guided visitor activities" is projected to save another \$2 million. "These are cuts to direct services," said Megan Leslie, Halifax MP and New Democratic environment critic. "This is actually going to prevent people from being able to access our parks."

[More Details](#)

