The Association for Mountain Parks Protection & Enjoyment
protecting parks * protecting tourism

AMPPE's Monthly Membership Newsletter

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

Dear Members,
The results of the recent provincial election will undoubtedly change the political climate in Alberta, and will likely afford new opportunities to create awareness around the value of the National Parks, their ecosystems, vibrant economies and visitor experiences. AMPPE has sent letters of welcome to our new representatives in the NDP and will be working to share and engage with them on behalf of our Members. If there is key messaging that you would like me to put forward in upcoming meetings please feel free to contact our office anytime. Sincerely, *Casey Peirce, Executive Director*

AMPPE Advocacy in Action — Trail Planning

AMPPE has played a strong role in the creation & maintenance of summer biking and winter skiing trails in the mountain parks. We are continuing our work with key partners in Kananaskis and Banff to support flood restoration and connectivity of trail networks throughout the Bow Valley. We recently participated in the Trails Fest tradeshow to foster closer relationships with like-minded organizations to further these goals. On June 2nd the new Canmore Trails Plan will be up for approval in Council.

Link to the Canmore Open Space & Trails Plan Here

Lake Louise Ski Area Site Guidelines - Online for Public Comment

The draft Lake Louise Ski Area Site Guidelines for Development and Use have been released by Parks Canada, developed in collaboration with the Lake Louise Ski Area. The outcomes associated will positively affect the future of wildlife conservation in the region, as well as an improved skiing and snowboarding experience, outstanding educational gains, and an enhanced year-round visitor offering in Banff NP, with substantial economic benefit for Alberta & Canada. Parks Canada will be hosting Open Houses from 6-8:30 pm on June 10 (Calgary), June 11 (Banff) and June 12 (Lake Louise). The Plan is open to public feedback until June 21st.

More Details

Effects of fish on Harlequin Duck breeding behaviour

New science may explain the decline of the Harlequin Duck populations in Western Canada, thanks to a PhD candidate at Simon Fraser University. Emily McAuley is developing a scientific study on the effect of introduced fish on harlequin duck breeding behaviour and success. Harlequin ducks have been experiencing a slow but steady decline for decades with the Eastern Harlequin population now listed as Special Concern with COSEWIC and the western harlequin duck classified as Sensitive in the current General Status of Alberta Wild Species report.

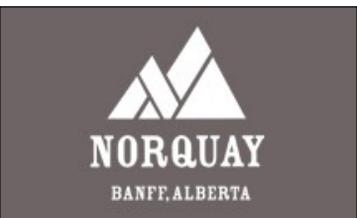**Visit Our Website for More Details**

Paragliders launch inaugural flight in Jasper National Park

Until recently, a paraglider had never before launched or landed in a Canadian national park. It was nine years ago that the Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association of Canada (HPAC) first approached Parks Canada, asking that it consider paragliding and hang gliding in National Parks as new recreational activities. Parks approved the guidelines and has started a two-year pilot project for paragliding and hang gliding in Jasper NP. Within the guidelines, Parks has provided direction as to where pilots are prohibited from taking off, flying and landing, including environmentally sensitive sites.

More Details

#AlignedWithAMPPE Member Feature — Banff Mount Norquay

AMPPE is proud to align with Banff Mount Norquay, home to Banff National Park's only Via Ferrata. Italian for 'Iron Road,' climbers are guided by ACMG certified guides as they climb a series of cables, fixed anchors, ladders and cross a 30-m suspension bridge. New this summer is the 'Mountaineer' route, which traverses an alpine ridge to the East Summit (2450 m) of Mt. Norquay. Installed in May 2015, this route includes an additional new 3-wire suspension bridge over an impressive chasm and beautiful 360-degree views. Also on offer are the popular 'Explorer' and 'Ridgewalker' Routes.

Visit Their Website for More Details