

# Bill 29: Alberta's Proposed Provincial Parks Act

## Information Session And Discussion

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## Bill 29 - What is it?

- A new provincial parks act that was introduced in legislature on November 4, 2010.
- The bill passed first reading and went to second reading.
- Due to significant public pressure, the bill was suspended before passing second reading.
- The bill was scheduled to come back in the spring legislature of 2011, but was further suspended in order to further consult with Albertans.

# Why a new parks bill?

Portions of our current legislation need to be strengthened to better define and protect some of our parks and protected areas.

**BUT**

The proposed bill did not address these concerns and instead proposed to weaken protection of many of our most precious parks, including Kananaskis.

# Bill 29 Concerns

**Issue** The purpose is to balance environmental protection with tourism and recreation opportunities.

**Reasoning** The protection of ecological integrity needs to be the priority.





# Bill 29 Concerns



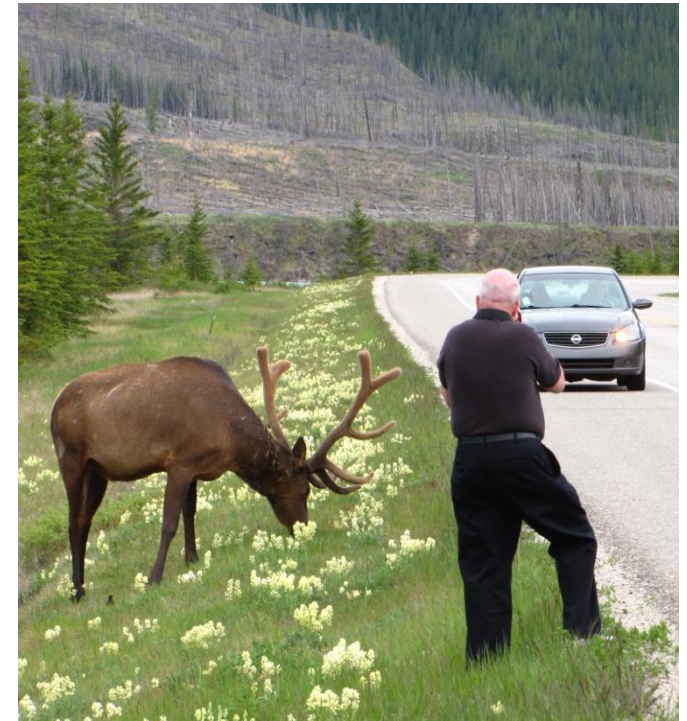
# Bill 29 Concerns

## Issue

Delegated authorities open the door towards privatizing the Parks system.

## Reasoning

Lawmaking powers need to reside with the government alone.





# Bill 29 Concerns

## Issue

Reclassify all of Alberta's parks into two categories. Levels of protection would be defined by "zones."

## Reasoning

This would weaken legislated protection and move it to regulation, which is easier to change.



# Bill 29 Concerns

## Issue

Ministerial discretion: zoning, delegated authorities, regulations can be changed by Minister without public debate or consultation.

## Reasoning

These are Alberta's parks, they belong to the people. No one Minister should be able to make decisions at this level without consultation.



# Bill 29 -The Solution

- This bill is fundamentally flawed and needs to be withdrawn.
- It's more important for the Minister to focus on what Albertans have said is their priority for Parks: **TO MAKE NEW ONES.**
- It is essential the government be reminded of this priority and withdraw the bill.

# Taking Action - What you can do!

- Express your views for what you want of Alberta's park system.
- Go to our facebook page: Save Alberta Parks NOW!
- Go to [www.cpaws.org](http://www.cpaws.org) and sign up for our action alerts.
- The Alberta Government must understand how the Alberta public feels about this, so tell them.