

Southern Alberta Chapter
2013 Annual General Meeting
September 10, 2013
6:30 – 8:30 pm

*Kahanoff Conference Centre
Suite 200, 1202 Centre Street SE
Calgary, Alberta*



AGENDA

- Review and approval 2012 AGM minutes
- Review and approval of 2013 audited financial statements
- Re-appointment of auditors for 2014 fiscal period
- Election of the Board of Directors
- Overview, highlights and a review of the draft 5-year Conservation Strategy

****Presentation****

Door prize draw and reception



CPAWS PEOPLE

The combined efforts & contributions of all people: Members, Volunteers, Donors, Partners and Staff are critical to our mandate!



Anne-Marie Syslak,
Executive Director



Katie Morrison,
*Conservation Campaign
Director*



Kate Semrau,
Communications Coordinator



Claire Sakowski,
*Operations Manager and Education
Programmer*



Jenn Casciani,
Education Coordinator



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Edita Sakarova,
Bookkeeper



Alex Mowat,
Lead Hiking Guide



Julie Walker,
Hiking Guide



Hilary Young,
Forest Management Consultant



Jill Rajewicz
Summer Outreach Coordinator



Moving On – Thank You!

The combined efforts & contributions of these people over the years have helped to make CPAWS the organization it is today.



Sarah Elmeligi



Kelsey Envik



Dave Sauchyn



Laura Kiff

FINANCES





Financial Overview

- Revenues exceeded expenses by \$745 for FY2013.
- Net asset position of \$133,590 provides the organization with a financial safety net.
- Auditors delivered the standard audit opinion for a not-for-profit organization for fiscal 2013.
- Have loss of \$8K for the first quarter of 2014 fiscal period.



Financial Outlook

- Continuing cautiousness over donor funding base erosion in current economic climate
- Cautious outlook for FY2014; projecting net income of \$2,500
- Fund development continues to remain priority to proactively manage shifts in funder base
- Recent anonymous bequest of over \$35,000 in July
- Reappointment of Buchanan Barry LLP as auditors for 2014 fiscal year



Volunteer Board Candidates



Gord James



David McIntyre



Susan Eaton



Daryl Beatty



Liana McCreddie



Doug Firby



Phil Nykyforuk



Carey Booth



Volunteer Board Candidates



Joe Vipond



James Early

Overview and Highlights





50 Years

of wilderness protection!

- CPAWS is a nation wide organization that has been Canada's voice for wilderness for over 50 years.
- The history of CPAWS as a national organization is directly linked with the history of the wilderness protection movement in Canada.
- Since 1963 CPAWS has been a leader in creating over two-thirds of Canada's protected areas.
- That amounts to about half a million square kilometers – an area bigger than the entire Yukon Territory!
- Working towards protecting over half of Canada's public lands and waters

CPAWS Nationwide - 13 Chapters





Highlights Across the Nation

- Sable Island National Park Reserve
- New protected areas for Nova Scotia
- Quebec creates largest provincial park
- CPAWS responds to federal caribou strategy

CPAWS Southern Alberta Chapter

- Established in 1967, CPAWS SAB was one of the first regional chapters in the country.
- A volunteer-driven grassroots organization, CPAWS SAB began its work in response to commercial development pressures in Banff National Park.
- Some examples of CPAWS SAB's successes include the wildlife over and underpasses on the TransCanada Highway in Banff National Park and the establishment of the Elbow-Sheep and Bow Valley protected areas.
- The SAB Chapter prides itself in being a leader in landscape-scale wilderness conservation, national and provincial park management, parks establishment and protection, and environmental education.





CPAWS SAB Highlights 2012-2013

- New office space at Canada Olympic Park, renovations donated by DIRT
- New Conservation Director, Katie Morrison
- Co-taught Conservation Biology Course at St. Mary's University College
- Another successful year of education and community engagement
- Input into the South Saskatchewan Regional Plan
- Further logging in the Castle on hold
- Looking for solutions to current forest practices along the Eastern Slopes



CPAWS SAB Highlights 2012-2013

- Bison re-introduction moving forward in Banff
- Mt. Norquay Long Range Plan permits summer use
- Fundraising for Parks Education Program
- Produced two promotional videos for CPAWS SAB
- Seeing shift in fund priorities from some foundations, AB budget cuts affect funding
- Developed a new conservation strategy for the chapter

CPAWS SAB Draft Conservation Strategy 2013- 2018

CONTEXT:

Large landscape conservation, headwaters protection and land-use planning are imperative for ensuring that natural areas and natural systems in Alberta persist and are resilient in the face of continued or increased land and resource use, water shortages and a changing climate.





CPAWS SAB Draft Conservation Strategy 2013- 2018

DRAFT VISION:

- Southern Alberta will become a new and inspiring standard for the conservation of nature. We will protect the tapestry of life in the Southern Alberta landscape and waterscape and establish a new global standard for protecting the integrity of wilderness areas.
- Southern Alberta is home to a world renowned network of parks and wilderness areas where best practices prioritize environmental and human health. Albertans understand, use and respect these areas for their inherent ecological values and their contribution to a high quality of life.



CPAWS SAB Draft Conservation Strategy 2013- 2018

DRAFT MISSION:

CPAWS envisages a healthy ecosphere where people experience and respect natural ecosystems. CPAWS Southern Alberta chapter is a respected leader in the conservation and stewardship of the Southern Albertan landscape. We strive to educate, collaborate, engage and empower Albertans in developing solutions that safeguard, connect and expand parks and wilderness areas.



CPAWS SAB Guiding Principles

- We believe nature, wilderness and wild places have intrinsic value unto themselves.
- We base our decisions and opinions on science-based research and citizen involvement, guided by the precautionary principle.
- We believe that healthy ecosystems have a significant positive impact on human health.
- We believe that healthy, functioning and diverse ecosystems are more resilient to climate change and thus more opportunity for nearby human communities to adapt as well.
- We believe that people are an integral part of the ecosystem and we encourage and empower people through education and awareness to share in the responsibility of stewardship of the ecosystem.
- We promote collaboration and cooperation with industry, governments, Aboriginal peoples, private citizens, educators and other stakeholders for conserving and managing the wise use of the landscape for our children and great-grandchildren.
- We respect other perspectives and interests.
- We believe that an informed and engaged citizenry is important to public debate and solving environmental and wilderness issues.
- We are politically non-partisan. We support principles and policies, not individuals or parties.
- We proactively develop solutions based in our approach to conservation.
- Our direct success is measured by engagement with Albertans, on-the-ground protection and management and stewardship of parks wilderness areas.



CPAWS SAB Draft Conservation Strategy 2013- 2018

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

1. Strengthen the network of interconnected protected, wilderness and natural areas throughout Southern Alberta;
2. Ensure the effective stewardship of Alberta's national and provincial parks and wilderness areas;
3. Ensure Albertan's value and respect our parks and wilderness areas through education, appreciation, engagement and experience.



CPAWS SAB Draft Conservation Strategy 2013- 2018

REGIONAL FOCUS AREAS:

1. Alberta's Southern Eastern Slopes
2. Canada's Rocky Mountain Parks
3. Grasslands



CPAWS SAB Draft Conservation Strategy 2013- 2018

1. Alberta's Southern Eastern Slopes Draft Conservation Objectives:

- Ensure that established protected areas are managed to prioritize ecological integrity.
- Identify priority conservation areas on the Southern Eastern Slopes, expanding the current system of protected areas and ensuring connectivity between areas. A key initiative in this objective is achieving full legal protection of the Castle Special Place as a Wildland Provincial Park.
- Decrease disturbances and linear access in the Southern Eastern Slopes to below grizzly bear and cutthroat trout density thresholds.
- Ensure adaptive management is used to prioritize ecological and social objectives and outcomes on Alberta's Southern Eastern Slopes.
- Conservation and protected areas are well-represented in land use planning in Alberta, ensuring connectivity and the maintenance of natural systems and habitats and protection of headwaters.
- Build constituency of support and stewardship for conservation of Alberta's Southern Eastern Slopes.



CPAWS SAB Draft Conservation Strategy 2013- 2018

2. Canada's Rocky Mountain Parks Draft Conservation Objectives:

- Ensure Canada's Rocky Mountain Parks are managed to prioritize ecological integrity and to provide people with sustainable recreational opportunities.
- Build constituency of support and stewardship for Canada's parks among the public and decision-makers.



CPAWS SAB Draft Conservation Strategy 2013- 2018

3. Grasslands Draft Conservation Objectives:

- Explore opportunities for a coordinated CPAWS National grasslands conservation campaign that would complement on-going work by other organizations.
- Build constituency of support and stewardship for conservation of Southern Alberta's native grasslands.



Looking Forward

- The SSRP (South Saskatchewan Regional Plan)
*full protection of the Castle Special Place
- Continue working on forest management along the Eastern Slopes
- Developing a communications plan and working on messaging
- Developing a map to showcase regional focus areas
- Implementing the new conservation strategy
- Hoping to develop a Parks Education Program
- Pilot of an e-newsletter
- Increasing engagement via social media
- Diversifying funding base

Thank-You!

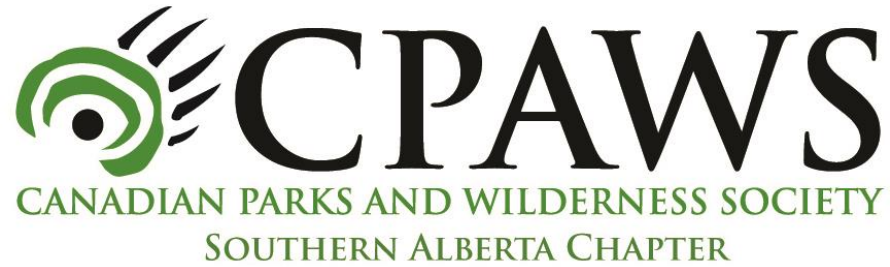


A special thanks to all of our supporters – our members, funders and the many dedicated and passionate volunteers who give their time, resources and energy towards helping CPAWS Southern Alberta champion the protection of the wild places and animals of this region!

Guest Presenter: Dr. Dave Sauchyn



David's main research interests are the climate and hydrology of the past millennium in Canada's western interior and how knowledge of the past can inform scenarios of future climate and water supplies.



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Southern Alberta Chapter

Thank You

www.cpaws-southernalberta.org