



*Canadian*  
**WILDERNESS**

A publication of CPAWS • Fall 2014 / Winter 2015

Canada's  
**parks** on the  
world stage



**CPAWS**  
CANADIAN PARKS AND WILDERNESS SOCIETY

Display until APR 2015

Publication Mail Agreement 40033545



## Conservation in the courts

OLIVER KENT

CPAWS doesn't usually go to court to press its case for protected areas. We prefer to work quietly with governments, industry, aboriginal groups and other local residents to build consensus, or rally support from the broader public through education. Sometimes, however, every other alternative is exhausted. Conserving the Yukon's vast Peel River watershed and the St. Lawrence' rich marine waters around Cacouna, just east of Rivière-du-Loup, Quebec, are two such examples.

I paddled the Snake, one of the main tributaries of the Peel, with my daughter Robin in 1996. That part of the Yukon is so remote that we saw no one outside our own group for two weeks. At that time, mining claims were being staked and CPAWS, in collaboration with the local First Nations, was mobilizing to protect the watershed. After many years, we're in court, fighting for protection.

My visit to Cacouna was much more recent. In May, CPAWS' national board of trustees met in Rivière-du-Loup, and took a short field trip to a proposed marine protected area on the south side of the St. Lawrence. We had hoped to spot beluga whales from a lookout atop a steep hill, but no such luck. It wasn't until our afternoon boat trip that we saw unmistakable white flashes in the water as the belugas surfaced to catch their breath.

Unfortunately for the belugas, the small port near our hiking spot may be expanded dramatically to export bitumen from the oil sands. CPAWS and its allies were able to stop preparatory work during this spring's calving season through legal action. However, the marine protected area that would have protected critical beluga habitat has disappeared from the federal government's plans for marine protection. The Peel watershed may be remote, but hopefully more Canadians will have the chance to visit the St. Lawrence estuary and see for themselves why we're willing to go to court to fight for its protection.

*Oliver Kent is CPAWS' National Board President.*



Oliver Kent, back row, 5th from left, and CPAWS board and staff members in Cacouna, Quebec, May 2014.  
Photo: Ray Plourde



CPAWS is Canada's voice for wilderness. Since 1963, we've played a lead role in creating over two-thirds of Canada's protected areas.

#### NATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Oliver Kent, President  
Cathy Wilkinson, Vice President (ON)  
Alex Abboud, Chair, Engagement Committee (AB)  
Philippa Lawson, Chair,  
Governance Committee (YT)  
Marie-Eve Marchand, Chair, Conservation  
Committee (AB)  
Michael Robinson, Treasurer (BC)  
Vincent Castellucci (QC)  
Laura Colella (ON)  
Nika Collision (BC)  
Amber Nicol (BC)  
Lavinia Mohr (ON)  
Bob Halfyard (NL)  
Nikita Lopoukhine (ON)  
Elmer Ghostkeeper (AB)  
Amy Roberts (BC)  
Andre Vallillee (ON)

#### TRUSTEES EMERITUS

Stephanie Cairns  
Phil Dearden  
Gordon Nelson  
Al Davidson  
Bob Peart  
Sherri Watson

#### EDITORIAL TEAM

Éric Hébert-Daly: National Executive Director  
Ellen Adelberg: Director of Communications  
Karen Turner: National Communications Manager  
Janice McLean: Design

#### EDITORIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Alex Abboud  
Rick Boychuk  
Laura Colella  
Bob Halfyard  
Patrick Nadeau  
Cathy Wilkinson

ISSN 1717-8894. Postmaster:  
send Canadian address changes  
to CPAWS, 506-250 City Centre Ave,  
Ottawa, ON K1R 6K7.

Canadian Wilderness is published  
twice per year (Spring, Fall) by  
Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society  
(charity #10686 5272 RR0001).

© 2014 Canadian Parks  
and Wilderness Society.  
No part of this publication  
may be reproduced without express  
permission in writing from CPAWS.



# IN THIS ISSUE

## Canada's Parks on the World Stage

### FEATURE

#### Canada's Parks on the World Stage • 6

An interview with Alison Woodley, National Director of CPAWS' Parks Program, about Canada's place at the World Parks Congress

by Karen Turner

### DEPARTMENTS

#### 2 • PRESIDENT'S DESK

Conservation in the courts

#### 4 • CONSERVATION WATCH

#### 9 • TRACKS ACROSS CANADA

Conservation updates from across the country

#### 13 • CPAWS PEOPLE

Nature's biggest advocates

*COVER: Light illuminates Cougar Canyon in Kananaskis Country, Alberta  
Photo: Ryan Peruniak*

*ABOVE: Elk gaze upon visitors in Waterton Lakes National Park  
Photo: Ryan Peruniak*





Paddling the Rouge  
Photo: Jennifer Berney/Wildlands League

## Getting Rouge park right

The proposed Rouge National Urban Park in the Greater Toronto Area is home to over 1,000 species of plants and animals, including 23 species at risk, and is one of Ontario's best remaining examples of Carolinian forest and the last intact watersheds in the area. The Park provides an opportunity to protect and restore an important ecosystem in Canada's largest urban centre, and provide millions of Canadians with the chance to experience nature without leaving the city.

A year after Ontario and Canada announced a boundary for the proposed Park, in June 2014, the federal government tabled legislation in Parliament and released a draft management plan for public review. While the introduction of these documents was an important next step in creating the park, they fell short in prioritizing nature conservation, leaving it vulnerable to being "loved to death" over time. Also, it is critically important that federally owned "Pickering Lands" that lie adjacent to the park and within Ontario's Greenbelt and Oak Ridges Moraine remain protected to ensure wildlife can move from the Rouge National Urban Park north into the Oak Ridge's Moraine lands to the northeast. These lands are currently being considered for development by the federal government.

Because of these serious concerns about the future of the Rouge, CPAWS welcomed the Ontario government's announcement in September that they'll withhold transferring lands for the national urban park to the federal government until the legislation for the new park is strengthened.

## CPAWS and local Jasper group launch legal challenge against Parks Canada

Enough is Enough. CPAWS and the Jasper Environmental Association (JEA) are so concerned over incremental commercial development in Canada's national parks that we're taking Parks Canada to court over it. CPAWS and the JEA have launched a legal challenge in Federal Court questioning Parks Canada's ability to approve overnight commercial accommodations at iconic Maligne Lake in Jasper National Park.

In July 2014, Parks Canada announced that it had accepted the proposal by Maligne Tours Ltd., a private corporation, for development of overnight commercial accommodations at Maligne Lake. This proposal blatantly contradicts Parks Canada's own management plan for the park, which specifically





Gros Morne National Park coastline  
Photo: Alison Woodley

## Protecting Gros Morne gains international support

In June 2014, CPAWS and local concerned citizens and tourism operators welcomed the UNESCO World Heritage Committee’s formal recommendation that Canada create a permanent protective buffer zone around Gros Morne National Park and World Heritage Site to protect it from industrial threats like oil drilling and hydraulic fracturing or “fracking.”

This is the latest progress in our campaign to protect Gros Morne from oil exploration and development adjacent to the park. In 2013, CPAWS joined with local concerned citizens to oppose a proposal to drill and frack for oil metres from the boundary of Gros Morne National Park in order to protect its outstanding universal values.

Last fall, in response to public and tourism industry outcry against fracking, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador announced a province-wide moratorium on hydraulic fracturing to allow for more study and public debate. Then in December, the federal-provincial offshore petroleum regulatory board refused to extend the proponent’s petroleum exploration license along the coast of Gros Morne and the Great Northern Peninsula. CPAWS and our local partners welcomed these positive steps, but noted that they would not prevent future harmful industrial development proposals, and proposed that a permanent buffer zone be established around the park.

CPAWS is encouraging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and the federal government to implement the World Heritage Committee’s buffer zone recommendation in the coming year.

*For more information, visit [www.savegrosmorne.ca](http://www.savegrosmorne.ca)*

states that overnight commercial accommodations outside the town of Jasper are prohibited.

CPAWS and the JEA are concerned that commercial pressures are influencing the management decisions of Parks Canada and opening up park management plans for amendment without the proper procedural steps being followed. Approving overnight commercial accommodations in Jasper will open the door to increasing commercial development in all of Canada’s national parks.

If successful, our legal challenge could reverse Parks Canada’s decision and will send a message that due process must be followed. Ecological integrity must be the number one priority for the parks – not commercial interests!

*Help us Keep Jasper Wild!  
Learn more and sign the petition at [www.cpaws.org](http://www.cpaws.org)*



Iconic Spirit Island in Jasper National Park's Maligne Lake  
Photo: Christian Abend



# CANADA'S PARKS on the



Reflecting on Keji  
Photo: Sean Kelly



# WORLD STAGE

I sat down with Alison Woodley, the National Director of our Parks Program, to talk about the World Parks Congress and Canada's place on the world stage. BY KAREN TURNER

## What is the World Parks Congress?

The World Parks Congress is organized once a decade by the IUCN, a global conservation organization that brings together country members like Canada, and NGO members like CPAWS. In November 2014, experts from around the world are gathering in Sydney, Australia, to assess progress, share ideas and set the direction for parks and protected areas for the next decade.

## What outcomes are you hoping will come out of the Congress?

The Congress is a great opportunity to learn what others are doing and to bring ideas home to Canada. It's also rewarding to share the innovative approaches and projects that we're working on. CPAWS staff and volunteers will be giving seven presentations. We'll be featuring our work with First Nations communities to protect large areas of the boreal forest, and our work on ocean conservation and connecting Canadians to nature.

A big focus for the Congress this year will be on assessing how each country is doing in reaching their international conservation commitments. Canada has the opportunity to show leadership, but is currently lagging behind much of the world. We hope the Congress encourages Canada to step up its efforts.

## What are Canada's conservation commitments?

Canada is a signatory to the International Convention on Biological Diversity — the main global treaty focused on conserving nature — the life support system of the planet. In 2010, we committed to a 10-year global plan to stop the current rapid loss of biodiversity. The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity includes a target committing each country to protect at least 17% of their land and 10% of their oceans by 2020. This target is explicit that we need to protect areas that are important for biodiversity, and ensure they are well managed and connected so wildlife can move freely through the land and seascape.

## Where is Canada at with its targets?

Currently, Canada has only protected 10% of its land and 1% of its oceans. We are almost halfway to 2020 and there is still no plan in place to achieve our targets. But, we have one of the best opportunities in the world to get there. We are a wealthy country, with deep scientific expertise on conservation, and a vast land and seascape, much of which is still undeveloped. If poorer countries





The view from a canoe on beautiful Little Limestone Lake. Photo: Roger Turenne

with more highly populated and intensively used landscapes can achieve their targets, Canada should be able to go even further and exceed them.

It's worth recognizing that these targets are a step forward, but not enough to safeguard healthy ecosystems in the long run. That's why CPAWS' vision is to protect at least half of Canada's public land and water. This idea that "Nature Needs Half" is gaining global momentum, and will be the focus of an event we're hosting with The Wild Foundation in Sydney.

**What does Canada need to do to reach these commitments?**

Canadian governments need to re-affirm their commitment to meet or exceed these targets and work together on a plan to get there. Since conservation is a shared responsibility in Canada, it requires a joint effort by the federal, provincial and territorial governments, indigenous peoples and society in general. The federal government has an important role in leading the effort, and making sure jurisdictions work together. We also need to make sure the plan is based on science and indigenous knowledge so that the most important ecological areas are protected.

More broadly, we need to recognize the true value of parks and protected areas. Parks are too often seen as hindering economic development because resource extraction is not allowed within them. But really they are huge contributors to the economy. A recent Canadian Parks Council study showed that our federal, provincial and territorial parks support more than 64,000 full-time jobs across Canada, and return six dollars to the economy for every dollar invested. Parks are really an investment in our environment, our economy, and the future health and well-being of Canadians.

**What can the public do to help move this along?**

Unlike many other countries, 90 percent of Canada's lands and all of its waters are "public," meaning they're managed by governments on behalf of Canadians. So in most of Canada, creating and managing parks and protected areas is largely a public responsibility. That's why CPAWS puts so much effort into encouraging Canadians to get involved in government decisions. We live in a democracy and the will of the people is critical in determining the future of our land and water. It's important



Top: Tipi at Desnedhe Che; Middle: Sydney hosts the 2014 World Parks Congress; Bottom: Alex Mowat, interpretive guide for CPAWS Southern Alberta chapter, delivers hands-on lessons to potential next-generation wilderness defenders from Annie Foote School in Calgary. Photos, from top to bottom: Bob Wilson, Claire Sakowski, Alexey © Flickr

to let our elected officials know that conserving Canada's wilderness and wildlife, and fulfilling our international commitments are important.

*For updates about what CPAWS delegates are learning at the World Parks Congress and how the world is reacting to the opportunities in Canada, visit our World Parks Congress community site at: [cpaws.org/campaigns/world-parks-congress-2014](http://cpaws.org/campaigns/world-parks-congress-2014)*

*Karen Turner is CPAWS' National Communications Manager*



## THE BIGHORN: Calling for Long-Promised Conservation in Alberta

The Bighorn Backcountry, located just east of Banff and Jasper National Parks, is a large area that's home to diverse wildlife, including mountain goats, grizzly bears, peregrine falcons, and bull trout. The Bighorn is one of the most visited areas in the region, with many recreational opportunities in its forests and rocky slopes.

Although designated as a recreational area in 1986, formal, legislated protection has never been granted. The development of the North Saskatchewan Regional Plan (NSRP) is a chance for the government to fulfill its promise to protect the Bighorn by legislating it as a Wildland Provincial Park. In July, CPAWS Northern Alberta requested the Wildland Provincial Park designation as part of its comments for the NSRP's phase I consultation.

Designating the Bighorn as a Wildland Provincial Park would ensure protection of its natural heritage, provide more quality backcountry recreational opportunities, and end industrial development in the region.



Bighorn vista  
Photo: Cassidy van Rensen

To learn about the other areas in the NSRP that CPAWS is fighting for, visit: [www.cpawsnab.org](http://www.cpawsnab.org)

- Alison Ronson, CPAWS Northern Alberta



Herbert Lake  
Photo: Murray Robertson

## Alberta's Castle still at risk

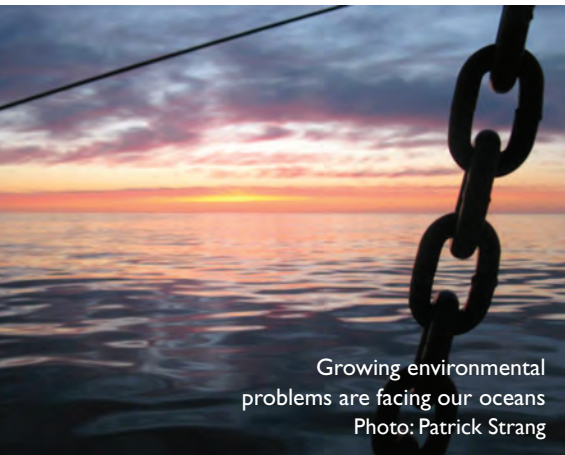
From the native prairie to the jagged peaks of Kananaskis and the Castle Special Place, southern Alberta is a treasured land for people across Canada. The South Saskatchewan River Basin contains a diversity of ecosystems, including grasslands, foothills and mountains that support the way of life in Alberta and beyond.

In July 2014, the Government of Alberta released the final South Saskatchewan Regional Plan, which sets the direction for conservation and development of southern Alberta for the next 50 years. Thanks to the support of our members and concerned citizens, small gains were made; however, overall the plan failed to make the necessary tradeoffs to create appropriate protected areas and care for our valuable headwaters.

One of the major disappointments was the lack of protection for the entire Castle wilderness. Although the plan added the highest elevations above the tree line of the Castle to the protected areas system, approximately half of the area, including the most species-rich areas in the province, has been left unprotected.

- Kate Morrison, CPAWS Southern Alberta





Growing environmental problems are facing our oceans  
Photo: Patrick Strang

## Newfoundland & Labrador lags behind in marine protected areas

In 2009, CPAWS NL created the “Special Marine Areas Guide for Newfoundland and Labrador,” which highlighted 73 areas of interest based on information provided by a number of stakeholders. Despite the guide being used by varying levels of government and stakeholders, the province continues to lag in creating marine protected areas (MPA).

While the federal government is moving ahead with establishing the Laurentian Channel MPA, this step forward doesn’t protect the wide range of coastal habitats in Newfoundland and Labrador. The mounting environmental problems facing our oceans, including overfishing, habitat destruction, a loss of biodiversity, coastal development, and pollution, continue to highlight our need to find the balance between using and sustaining this valuable resource.

Moving forward, the province needs to release a natural areas system plan that identifies candidate areas in need of protection, put more effort into provincially designated coastal MPAs, and encourage individual communities to identify marine areas they’d like to see protected

-Tanya Edwards, CPAWS Newfoundland & Labrador

## Advocating for Thaidene Nene and the South Nahanni Watershed

CPAWS NWT continues to work with the Lutsel K’e Dene First Nation to increase awareness and support for the establishment of Thaidene Nene: the Land of the Ancestors, a proposed protected area around and beyond the shores of the East Arm of Great Slave Lake. Late in 2013, the First Nation initialed a draft Establishment Agreement with Parks Canada, signaling real progress in their negotiations to partner on the creation and operation of Thaidene Nene.

The Chapter is also engaged in an Environmental Assessment for Canadian Zinc Corporation’s proposed all season road and airstrip on the Ram Plateau—nearly half of the road is within Nahanni National Park Reserve (NNPR). In June, Bill S-5 was introduced in Parliament to create Nááts’ihch’oh National Park Reserve. The proposed park boundary falls short of securing protection of the headwaters of the watershed as it leaves out key wildlife habitat and upstream tributaries of the South Nahanni River.

Read more at: [www.cpawsnwt.org](http://www.cpawsnwt.org)

- Erica Janes, CPAWS Northwest Territories



Pearson Channel,  
East Arm Great Slave Lake  
Photo: Erica Janes



Right Whale in the Bay of Fundy  
Photo: Andrew Chow



## Nova Scotia's "ocean playground" needs protection

Nova Scotia is sometimes referred to as "Canada's Ocean Playground," and for good reason. With more than 7,500 km of coastline and 3,800 coastal islands packed into Canada's second smallest province, Nova Scotia contains a wealth of coastal and marine biodiversity. Yet, very little protections are in place to conserve these important coastal areas.

Places like the Bay of Fundy are facing increasing industrial pressures from mega-project proposals, yet lack the marine protections that are needed to protect its globally significant marine ecosystems, and the whale and porpoise populations and migratory shorebirds that call it home.

CPAWS is working to raise awareness about the importance of protecting the Bay of Fundy and establishing a network of marine protected areas. The time has long since come for Nova Scotia to take marine conservation seriously, and to prioritize conservation planning over industrialization.

- Chris Miller, CPAWS Nova Scotia

## Worrying times for New Brunswick forests

In early July, the New Brunswick government announced an additional 115,000 hectares of Protected Natural Areas. Normally, CPAWS would be delighted about such an announcement, especially since several large wild areas in the Restigouche wilderness will now be protected, thanks to nationwide vocal support for our Keep the Restigouche Wild campaign. However, CPAWS believes this one step forward for protected areas is overshadowed by the two steps backward we are taking with the recently announced Crown forestry strategy.

The forestry strategy will see NB lose twice as much old forest to clear-cutting as is being added to the protected areas system. If the plan is not changed, we will have a hard time finding natural forests that are large enough, or undisturbed enough, to add as protected areas in the future. CPAWS is engaging in rallies, community meetings and media interviews to raise awareness about the shortfalls of the strategy and its repercussions to the future of protected areas in New Brunswick.

*For information on how you can get involved, please visit [www.cpawsnb.org](http://www.cpawsnb.org).*

- Roberta Clowater, CPAWS New Brunswick

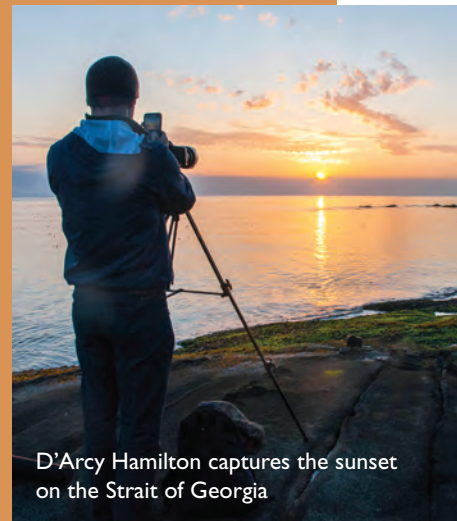
## Lights, Camera, Conservation in BC

This August, CPAWS BC staff and filmmaker D'Arcy Hamilton have been hard at work in the Southern Strait of Georgia National Marine Conservation Area, capturing the incredible wildlife and natural beauty for a short film to be released this winter. The film will tell the story of some of the most precious and vulnerable places within the region, through the eyes of those who know the area best.

The region is home to more than 3,000 wildlife species, including the world's largest octopus, 100-year-old rockfish and ancient glass sponge reefs, and is critical habitat for the iconic southern resident killer whales. Jacques Cousteau recommended that the area should be protected as a 'marine park' back in the 1960s. Unfortunately, progress has been frightfully slow in the face of rapidly increasing industrial and commercial use.

*For more information about the Southern Strait of Georgia, visit [www.cpawsbc.org](http://www.cpawsbc.org)*

- Alexandra Barron, CPAWS British Columbia



D'Arcy Hamilton captures the sunset on the Strait of Georgia





Ron Thiessen, Bill Blaikie and Chief David Crate  
Photo: Chandra Hunnie

## CPAWS Manitoba finds its place on the world stage

CPAWS Manitoba's Executive Director, Ron Thiessen, will be heading to the World Parks Congress in Australia this November. Ron will take on the role of international delegate for the Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement (CBFA), highlighting it as a successful model for inclusive, consensus-based conservation outcomes. He will also be conducting a joint presentation with Chief David Crate of Fisher River Cree Nation (FRCN) on the history and role of the CPAWS/FRCN partnership in the establishment of Fisher Bay park, and their ongoing quest to enlarge its boundaries based on ecological, cultural, and economic studies.

CPAWS Manitoba is presently in promising dialogue with the provincial government about potential conservation announcements that would bolster Manitoba's role as a conservation leader on the world stage.

-Ron Thiessen, CPAWS Manitoba

## CPAWS Quebec is inspired by Nunavik

Last spring, CPAWS Quebec launched an amazing contest entitled "Le Nord m'inspire." Participants were invited to enter by writing a short text describing their interest in Nunavik and the conservation of its ecosystems. The grand prize was a trip to the fabulous Pingualuit National Park.

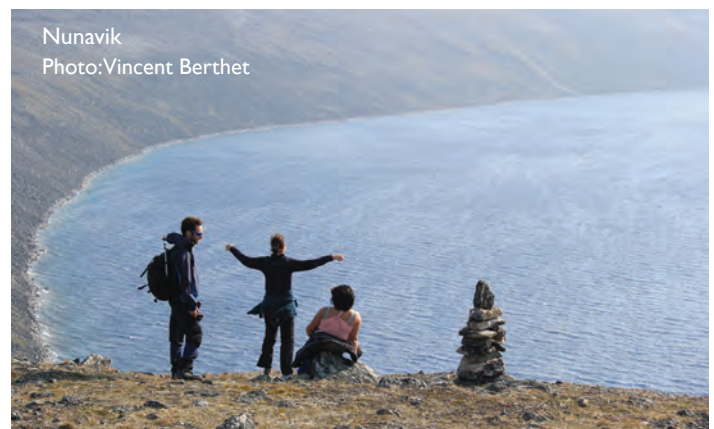
The prize, a trip into the heart of the park and round-trip airfare from Montreal to Kuujuaq, was generously donated by Parcs Nunavik and First Air.

And the winner was... Vincent Berthet, a Quebec resident, who wrote the best submission and was flown with his partner to Nunavik in August.

CPAWS Quebec chapter executive director Patrick Nadeau was lucky enough to accompany them. He describes it as an unforgettable experience. "If you must do a big trip this year, without doubt, choose Nunavik," is his advice.

*View the trip photos on SNAP Quebec's Facebook page.*

- Murielle Renard, CPAWS Quebec



Nunavik  
Photo: Vincent Berthet



Roads threaten connectivity and wildlife  
Photo: Elena Kreuzberg

## CPAWS OV launches a new road ecology program

All across Canada, roads and other linear fragments are a major threat to ecological connectivity. This is especially true in large cities like the Ottawa Valley, where the construction of new roads and expansion and improvements to existing roads have a major impact on numerous species of wildlife. Aside from the direct mortality caused by road traffic, roads connecting small towns and the cities of Ottawa and Gatineau break up the landscape into smaller fragments of habitat that are less resilient and suitable to the species that call it home.

In response to this threat, CPAWS OV has partnered with other organizations to launch a program to ensure that new and rehabilitated roads are designed to reduce the impact on animal mortality and maintain connectivity across the landscape. We have already commented on several road projects, and are developing a new guide to help citizens and decision-makers understand the threats and opportunities associated with road design and connectivity.

- John McDonnell, CPAWS Ottawa Valley



## Thomas Berger advocates for the Peel

Choosing indigenous rights over retirement, Thomas Berger, 81, is fighting to protect the Yukon's Peel River Watershed – North America's largest intact wilderness ecosystem. In January 2014, despite seven years of land-use planning mandated under land claims agreements and a recommendation of 80% protection, the territorial government announced its own unilaterally-developed plan to open more than 70% of the Peel to mining, oil and gas. Berger is not only defending First Nations and environmental values in Yukon – including those of CPAWS – but also upholding principles entrenched in the Constitution.

The former MP, MLA, Supreme Court Justice and professor helped kibosh the McKenzie Valley pipeline, successfully halted environmental and socially questionable dam projects in India, and championed indigenous rights in Chile and Nunavut. But, Berger's most famous for the 1973 Calder case, when Canada's Supreme Court recognized the place of aboriginal title for the first time, paving the way for land claims settlements across the country.



Photo: Jannick Schou



Photo: Erica James

## Gloria Enzoe champions her northern native land

The youngest of 12 children, Gloria Enzoe was born and raised in Lutsel K'e, Northwest Territories, where she grew up close to the land and traditional Denesoline culture. Her love of the land and her peoples' traditional way of life, and her accountability to her community and three sons have shaped her commitment to establishing Thaidene Nene, the Land of the Ancestors.

Gloria has been the cornerstone of the community's Thaidene Nene development program for eight years, doing everything from public speaking to balancing books, coordinating logistics and welcoming visitors from CPAWS among many other groups. If you ask her, the most important aspect of her work is the Ni Hat'ni Dene (Watchers of the Land) Program. Thanks to this annual summer program, Lutsel K'e crews are out patrolling and sampling the fish and water of the East Arm of Great Slave Lake, keeping their Denesoline culture and traditions strong while living out on the land and preparing for the establishment of an incredible new protected area.



Photo: Jamie Rae

## Get Outside program moves young conservationist to action

When Jaime Rae applied for CPAWS Wildlands League's 2013 *Get Outside Ontario* program, she didn't know that spending a week in the Greater Toronto Area's Rouge Park urban wilderness would light a fire within her. Her time at Get Outside deepened her already strong interest in environmental activism and fostered an even clearer commitment to understanding the challenges facing our planet and doing something about it. With the support of her family, Whitby Youth Environmental Alliance and the local community, Jaime produced an impressive video on plastics pollution, offering simple actions we can take in our daily lives to help curb this problem. WAY TO GO JAIME!

View the video on YouTube by searching "Ocean Plastic + Jaime Rae."



## Thank you KEEN Canada Outdoor

This spring, KEEN Canada Outdoor partnered with CPAWS to support Canada's parks and protected areas through a give-with-purchase program. Over 20 KEEN retailers across Canada took part in the program, matching donations for every pair of KEEN CNX shoes sold and helping to generate a \$20,000 KEEN donation for wilderness conservation.

"We believe in the power of a brand to inspire others to create positive change in the world in which we live. Supporting organizations such as CPAWS is our way of caring for the world around us and connecting others to the cause along the way," says Heather Taylor, Marketing Director. Visit [www.keenfootwear.com](http://www.keenfootwear.com) to learn more about how KEEN makes a difference.





Photo: Sebastien Gerphagnon

## Sylvain Archambault loves the St. Lawrence unconditionally

It's not by accident that Sylvain Archambault has become known as one of Quebec's leading experts on the challenges posed by oil and gas development to the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

A biologist by training, Sylvain has been a consultant for more than 20 years for environmental organizations and government agencies on issues including protected areas, land use planning and natural resources. But he's always been fascinated by the St. Lawrence region. That's why he didn't hesitate four years ago when asked to be CPAWS Quebec's representative on the Coalition Saint-Laurent.

The coalition's mandate – to convince governments to impose a moratorium on oil and gas development in the entire Gulf of St. Lawrence – lined up perfectly with his convictions. As a coalition member, Sylvain has been giving media interviews and speaking at conferences about the issues confronting the Gulf's future. He is also co-author of the 78-page report released in June called *Gulf 101, Oil in the Gulf of St. Lawrence: Facts, Myths and Future Outlook*, available online at [www.coalitionsaintlaurent.ca](http://www.coalitionsaintlaurent.ca).

## Doreen Olson defends the South Okanagan

A tireless advocate for one of Canada's most fragile and threatened landscapes, Doreen Olson has been working with CPAWS BC as the coordinator of the South Okanagan-Similkameen National Park Network (SOSNPN) since 2005. Her appreciation of the area began after retirement, when she was drawn to horseback riding in its natural setting.

Doreen's concern with the region's rapid loss of habitat and species prompted her to join the local naturalist club. She's since become a strong positive force for conserving the South Okanagan through her work with the Meadowlark Nature Festival, the South Okanagan Conservation Strategy, the Okanagan-Similkameen Conservation Alliance, and Parks Canada's feasibility study for a national park. She continues to work steadily to move the national park concept forward, securing support from local politicians and business associations.

See a related CPAWS BC short video at [www.cpawsbc.org](http://www.cpawsbc.org)



## Meet CPAWS' Newest Team Member

CPAWS' humpback whale mascot joined us in May, and was quickly the most popular whale on the block. Her busy schedule saw her travel across Canada, making appearances in support of protecting our oceans and communicating the importance of marine protected areas. The whale has delighted audience members of all ages in Quebec, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador,



Ontario, and British Columbia. Her itinerary has included stops at the Petty Harbour Aquarium, an oceans day event on Parliament Hill, a visit to a county jail, and the Victoria Big Wild Challenge—just to name a few!

In June/July, a contest was held to choose a suitable name for our newest team member. After many submissions and online voting, Baleen (Fanon in French) was christened. Baleen is looking forward to continuing her cross-Canada travels and creating a wave of support for humpback whales and the myriad of other creatures that call the ocean home.

Photo: Roberta Cowater



It's amazing what  
a monthly donation  
can do



 **CPAWS**  
CANADIAN PARKS AND WILDERNESS SOCIETY

\$10/month connects  
a youth to nature

\$15/month saves  
a boreal woodland  
caribou

\$20/month nurtures  
Canada's parks

\$50/month protects  
our oceans

Join CPAWS' Wilderness Protection club with a monthly gift. It's the best way to ensure that CPAWS is always ready to respond to new threats—and capitalize on emerging opportunities—as we strive towards our goal of protecting half of our public lands and waters.

Become a  
monthly donor today!

Visit [cpaws.org](http://cpaws.org)  
or email [wpc@cpaws.org](mailto:wpc@cpaws.org)

Photo: Terry Shaddick

## CONTACT US

CPAWS National Office  
506-250 City Centre Avenue  
Ottawa, ON K1R 6K7  
613-569-7226 or 1-800-333-WILD  
[info@cpaws.org](mailto:info@cpaws.org)  
[www.cpaws.org](http://www.cpaws.org)

CPAWS British Columbia  
604-685-7445  
[www.cpawsbc.org](http://www.cpawsbc.org)

CPAWS Southern Alberta  
403-232-6686  
[www.cpaws-southernalberta.org](http://www.cpaws-southernalberta.org)

CPAWS Northern Alberta  
780-424-5128  
[www.cpawsnab.org](http://www.cpawsnab.org)

CPAWS Saskatchewan  
306-469-7876  
[www.cpaws-sask.org](http://www.cpaws-sask.org)

CPAWS Manitoba  
204-949-0782  
[www.cpawsmb.org](http://www.cpawsmb.org)

CPAWS Ottawa Valley  
613-232-7297  
[www.cpaws-ov-vo.org](http://www.cpaws-ov-vo.org)

CPAWS Wildlands League  
416-971-9453 or 1-866-510-WILD  
[www.wildlandsleague.org](http://www.wildlandsleague.org)

SNAP (CPAWS) Québec  
514-278-7627  
[www.snapqc.org](http://www.snapqc.org)

CPAWS New Brunswick  
506-452-9902  
[www.cpawsnb.org](http://www.cpawsnb.org)

CPAWS Nova Scotia  
902-446-4155  
[www.cpawsns.org](http://www.cpawsns.org)

CPAWS Newfoundland  
709-726-5800  
[www.cpawsnl.org](http://www.cpawsnl.org)

CPAWS Yukon  
867-393-8080  
[www.cpawsyukon.org](http://www.cpawsyukon.org)

CPAWS Northwest Territories  
867-873-9893  
[www.cpawsnwt.org](http://www.cpawsnwt.org)





Thanks for running wild.

Photographer

Rich Wheeler

# MEC **BIG WILD** CHALLENGE

**More than \$80,000 raised for wilderness conservation**

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the 2014 MEC Big Wild Challenge and CPAWS. There were awesome teams, creative adventures, 135 paddlers, 350 trail runners (including one in antlers), and over 1200 generous donors. See you next year!

[www.bigwildchallenge.org](http://www.bigwildchallenge.org)