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Items for Follow Up

Officials' Appearance

Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development

February 27, 2020

Item	Overview of Question	Requested By	Response
Provide a status of rehabilitation work on the Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue Canal National Historic Site	Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue Canal National Historic Site Flooding that took place in 2017 Rehabilitation that was to be done in 2018 Has the work started? Including repair of a jetty	Mr. Francis Scarpaleggia, Lac-Saint-Louis	PCA will provide info – the construction contract was awarded for the rehabilitation on March 6, 2020 Involves repairs to jetty, light fixtures, pathways. City of Montreal will also be investing in project
Provide a list of investments being made in Saskatchewan to integrate Indigenous peoples views and histories (Call to Action #79)	Government of Canada is investing in integrating Indigenous peoples' views and histories in parks -\$23 million What is the breakdown of investments for the six sites in Saskatchewan?	Mr. Brad Redekopp, Saskatoon West	
Provide the studies undertaken by Parks Canada that show the contribution of Parks Canada places to climate goals	Work on ecosystem value of parks – flood mitigation, species protection, climate reduction, etc Preliminary numbers Request to share the studies with Committee	Mr. Yvan Baker, Etobicoke Centre	Parks Canada will provide a series of 8 regional climate change reports and its climate change adaptation framework
Provide the wood fuel removal management plan developed (in response to mountain pine beetle infestation in the Mountain Parks)	Damage done by the pine beetle, especially in Jasper National Parks Canada Agency Have management plans been implemented to address dead trees and fuel load?	Mr. Dan Mazier, Dauphin – Swan River – Neepawa	Parks Canada provide its 2016 Mountain Pine Beetle Management Plan for Jasper National Park
Provide the protection projections for terrestrial and marine areas by 2025 and 2030	Provide information on marine and terrestrial protected areas, how much to be protected by 2025 and then by 203	Ms. Laurel Collins, Victoria	Parks Canada will provide information on its projected protection of marine and terrestrial areas by 2020 and 2025

**FOLLOW-UP ON THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, FEBRUARY 27, 2020**

ISSUE

- Mr. Brad Redekopp asked this question: “All right. Also, in Saskatchewan we've got a couple of national parks and I think we have four historic sites. I was reading through your departmental plan and in there you talked about—you said, “The Government of Canada is investing \$23.9 million over five years through budget 2018 to integrate indigenous peoples' views and histories to reflect indigenous cultures and parks.” Can you provide a breakdown for the six sites in Saskatchewan how much of that \$23 million is or was spent on those parks?”
- Mrs. Catherine Blanchard (Vice-President, Finance Directorate, Parks Canada Agency) answered that details will be provided as a follow-up.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- ◁ The total amount for Call to Action was \$23.9 million including existing resources. Of the new funding we received \$4.4 million is dedicated to integrating indigenous views and perspectives at National Historic Sites, National Parks and National Marine Conservation Areas managed by Parks Canada. The \$4.4 million is broken down into two streams 1) Capacity assistance which is funding directly to Indigenous partners to help create the capacity required to work with Parks Canada and co-develop new ways of understanding the history and cultural significance of these places 2) funding to implement, through new programming and experiences, new ways of experiencing and understanding Canada's national treasures.

Over the lifespan of the SofC Program (3 years) for Saskatchewan:

Place	\$ in Capacity	\$ PCA Funding	Including (Specific project)
Prince Albert National Park	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$15,000 (to start an oral history project)
Fort Battleford National Historic Site	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$83,750 for interpretive panels, Indigenous flag poles and flags and raising ceremony, and Visitor Experience Strategy.
Motherwell Homestead National Historic Site	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$50,000 for an oral history project
Total	\$225,000	\$325,000	

Minister of Environment and Climate Change Mandate Letter

December 13, 2019

Office of the
Prime Minister



Cabinet du
Premier ministre

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0A2

Dear Mr. Wilkinson:

Thank you for agreeing to serve Canadians as Minister of Environment and Climate Change.

On Election Day, Canadians chose to continue moving forward. From coast to coast to coast, people chose to invest in their families and communities, create good middle class jobs and fight climate change while keeping our economy strong and growing. Canadians sent the message that they want us to work together to make progress on the issues that matter most, from making their lives more affordable and strengthening the healthcare system, to protecting the environment, keeping our communities safe and moving forward on reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. People expect Parliamentarians to work together to deliver these results, and that's exactly what this team will do.

It is more important than ever for Canadians to unite and build a stronger, more inclusive and more resilient country. The Government of Canada is the central institution to promote that unity of purpose and, as a Minister in that Government, you have a personal duty and responsibility to fulfill that objective.

That starts with a commitment to govern in a positive, open and collaborative way. Our platform, *Forward: A Real Plan for the Middle Class*, is the starting point for our Government. I expect us to work with Parliament to deliver on our commitments. Other issues and ideas will arise or will come from Canadians, Parliament, stakeholders and the public service. It is my expectation that you will engage constructively and thoughtfully and add priorities to the Government's agenda when appropriate. Where legislation is required, you will need to work with the Leader of the Government in the House of Commons and the Cabinet Committee on Operations to prioritize within the minority Parliament.

We will continue to deliver real results and effective government to Canadians. This includes: tracking and publicly reporting on the progress of our commitments; assessing the effectiveness of our work; aligning our resources with priorities; and adapting to events as they unfold, in order to get the results Canadians rightly demand of us.

Many of our most important commitments require partnership with provincial, territorial and municipal governments and Indigenous partners, communities and governments. Even where disagreements may occur, we will remember that our mandate comes from citizens who are served by all orders of government and it is in everyone's interest that we work together to find common ground. The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs is the Government-wide lead on all relations with the provinces and territories.

There remains no more important relationship to me and to Canada than the one with Indigenous Peoples. We made significant progress in our last mandate on supporting self-determination, improving service delivery and advancing reconciliation. I am directing every single Minister to determine what they can do in their specific portfolio to accelerate and build on the progress we have made with First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples.

I also expect us to continue to raise the bar on openness, effectiveness and transparency in government. This means a government that is open by default. It means better digital capacity and services for Canadians. It means a strong and resilient public service. It also means humility and continuing to acknowledge mistakes when we make them. Canadians do not expect us to be perfect; they expect us to be diligent, honest, open and sincere in our efforts to serve the public interest.

As Minister, you are accountable for your style of leadership and your ability to work constructively in Parliament. I expect that you will collaborate closely with your Cabinet and Caucus colleagues. You will also meaningfully engage with the Government Caucus and Opposition Members of Parliament, the increasingly non-partisan Senate, and Parliamentary Committees.

It is also your responsibility to substantively engage with Canadians, civil society and stakeholders, including businesses of all sizes, organized labour, the broader public sector and the not-for-profit and charitable sectors. You must be proactive in ensuring that a broad array of voices provides you with advice, in both official languages, from every region of the country.

We are committed to evidence-based decision-making that takes into consideration the impacts of policies on all Canadians and fully defends the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. You will apply Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA+) in the decisions that you make.

Canada's media and your engagement with them in a professional and timely manner are essential. The Parliamentary Press Gallery, indeed all journalists in Canada and abroad, ask necessary questions and contribute in an important way to the democratic process.

You will do your part to continue our Government's commitment to transparent, merit-based appointments, to help ensure that people of all gender identities, Indigenous Peoples, racialized people, persons with disabilities and minority groups are reflected in positions of leadership.

As Minister of Environment and Climate Change, you will lead in implementing the whole-of-government plan for climate action, a cleaner environment and a sustainable economy. This includes exceeding current 2030 targets and developing a plan to achieve a net-zero emissions economy by 2050.

I will expect you to work with your colleagues and through established legislative, regulatory and Cabinet processes to deliver on your top priorities. In particular, you will:

- Implement the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change, while strengthening existing and introducing new greenhouse gas reducing measures to exceed Canada's 2030 emissions reduction goal and beginning work so that Canada can achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.
- Lead government-wide efforts to develop a plan to set Canada on a path to achieve a prosperous net-zero emissions future by 2050. This includes:

- Setting legally-binding, five-year emissions-reduction milestones based on the advice of experts and consultations with Canadians; and
 - Working with the Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry and the Minister of Natural Resources to position Canada as a global leader in clean technology.
- Work with the Minister of Natural Resources and provinces and territories to complete all flood maps in Canada.
- Support the Minister of Natural Resources to operationalize the plan to plant two billion incremental trees over the next 10 years, as part of a broader commitment to nature-based climate solutions that also encompasses wetlands and urban forests.
- Work with the Minister of Natural Resources to help cities expand and diversify their urban forests. You will both also invest in protecting trees from infestations and, when ecologically appropriate, help rebuild our forests after a wildfire.
- Expand the Learn-to-Camp program to meet the target that 400,000 kids each year learn basic camping skills.
- Provide a bursary for children and their families who live in poverty or underprivileged circumstances that create significant barriers to visiting national or provincial parks.
- Advance Parks Canada's efforts to play a leadership role in natural and cultural heritage conservation and promotion, and work to ensure that Canada's national parks and national historic sites are a source of national pride and enjoyment today and for future generations.
- Work with the Minister of Canadian Heritage to provide clearer direction on how national heritage places should be designated and preserved, and to develop comprehensive legislation on federally owned heritage places.
- Work with the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard to introduce a new ambitious plan to conserve 25% of Canada's land and 25% of Canada's oceans by 2025, working toward 30% of each by 2030. This plan should be grounded in science, Indigenous knowledge and local perspectives. Advocate at international gatherings that countries around the world set a 30% conservation goal for 2030 as well.
- Implement our plan to ban harmful single-use plastic products and take steps toward eliminating plastic pollution in Canada. This includes working with provinces and territories to develop national targets, standards and regulations that will make companies that manufacture plastic products or sell items with plastic packaging responsible for collecting and recycling them.
- Work with the Minister of Health to better protect people and the environment from toxins and other pollution, including by strengthening the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*.
- With the support of the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, create a new Canada Water Agency to work together with the provinces, territories, Indigenous communities,

local authorities, scientists and others to find the best ways to keep our water safe, clean and well-managed.

- Develop further protections and take active steps to clean up the Great Lakes, Lake Winnipeg, Lake Simcoe and other large lakes.
- Continue to work to protect biodiversity and species at risk, while engaging with provinces, territories, Indigenous communities, scientists, industry and other stakeholders to evaluate the effectiveness of the existing *Species at Risk Act* and assess the need for modernization.
- Support the Minister of Transport and the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard in implementing the Oceans Protection Plan.
- Work with the Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, the Minister of Transport and the Minister of Natural Resources to advance toward our zero-emission vehicle targets of 10% of light-duty vehicles sales per year by 2025, 30% by 2030 and 100% by 2040.

These priorities draw heavily from our election platform commitments. As mentioned, you are encouraged to seek opportunities to work across Parliament in the fulfillment of these commitments and to identify additional priorities.

I expect you to work closely with your Deputy Minister and their senior officials to ensure that the ongoing work of your department is undertaken in a professional manner and that decisions are made in the public interest. Your Deputy Minister will brief you on the many daily decisions necessary to ensure the achievement of your priorities, the effective running of the government and better services for Canadians. It is my expectation that you will apply our values and principles to these decisions so that they are dealt with in a timely and responsible manner and in a way that is consistent with the overall direction of our Government.

Our ability, as a government, to implement our priorities depends on consideration of the professional, non-partisan advice of public servants. Each and every time a government employee comes to work, they do so in service to Canada, with a goal of improving our country and the lives of all Canadians. I expect you to establish a collaborative working relationship with your Deputy Minister, whose role, and the role of public servants under their direction, is to support you in the performance of your responsibilities.

We have committed to an open, honest government that is accountable to Canadians, lives up to the highest ethical standards and applies the utmost care and prudence in the handling of public funds. I expect you to embody these values in your work and observe the highest ethical standards in everything you do. I want Canadians to look on their own government with pride and trust.

As Minister, you must ensure that you are aware of and fully compliant with the *Conflict of Interest Act* and Treasury Board policies and guidelines. You will be provided with a copy of *Open and Accountable Government* to assist you as you undertake your responsibilities. I ask that you carefully read it, including elements that have been added to strengthen it, and ensure that your staff does so as well. I expect that in staffing your offices you will hire people who reflect the diversity of Canada, and that you will uphold principles of gender equality, disability equality, pay equity and inclusion.

Give particular attention to the Ethical Guidelines set out in Annex A of that document, which apply to you and your staff. As noted in the Guidelines, you must uphold the highest standards of honesty and impartiality, and both the performance of your official duties and the arrangement of your private affairs should bear the closest public scrutiny. This is an obligation that is not fully discharged by simply acting within the law.

I will note that you are responsible for ensuring that your Minister's Office meets the highest standards of professionalism and that it is a safe, respectful, rewarding and welcoming place for your staff to work.

I know I can count on you to fulfill the important responsibilities entrusted in you. It is incumbent on you to turn to me and the Deputy Prime Minister early and often to support you in your role as Minister.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Justin Trudeau', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rt. Hon. Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada



OPENING STATEMENT FOR PARKS CANADA AGENCY

APPEARANCE AT THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: PORTFOLIO 101

FEBRUARY 27, 2020

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT ANDREW CAMPBELL – OPS

Good morning. I would like to begin by both acknowledging that we are the un-ceded lands of the Algonquin, Anishinabek people and expressing our thanks to the Chair and to the members of the Committee for inviting the Parks Canada Agency here today.

My name is Andrew Campbell and I am the Vice-President of Operations at Parks Canada. I am joined by my colleagues Darlene Upton, Vice-President of Protected Areas and Conservation; Christine Loth-Bown, newly appointed Vice-President of Indigenous Affairs and Cultural Heritage; Stephen Van Dine, Vice-President of Strategic Policy and Investment; Catherine Blanchard, Vice President of Finance and Michael Nadler, Vice-President of External Relations and Visitor Experience.

It is a privilege to appear before the Committee and we are grateful for the opportunity to discuss the Agency's mandate, priorities and some recent accomplishments.

In terms of some brief housekeeping, I would like to outline what we have provided members with, in preparation for today's appearance. First, we have slide presentation on our Agency. Second, we have provided the Clerk with a USB stick with a video for each of you, outlining our mandate and highlighting some of the things the Agency does to keep Canadians safe that are less well known. And finally, I believe my remarks have been provided to facilitate simultaneous translation.

Now, I will quickly walk the committee through the Mandate and overarching scope of Parks Canada, followed by Darlene, Christine and Michael who will highlight some of the main mandate areas of Parks Canada.

So let us begin, the Parks Canada Agency is responsible for protecting nationally significant examples of Canada's natural and cultural heritage and sharing the stories of these treasured places with Canadians. In doing so, the Agency fosters public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment in ways that ensure the ecological and commemorative integrity of these places for present and future generations.

The Parks Canada team is over 5000 strong and are proud to be entrusted with the stewardship of Canada's national treasured places. A stewardship we share in many places with Indigenous



Peoples. As Canadians we depend on the well-being of our natural and cultural places to support places rich in biodiversity, our cultural stories, healthy lifestyles and the economy. They are an integral part of our national identity.

The Agency manages one of the finest and most extensive systems of natural and cultural heritage places in the world, which includes 47 national parks, 171 national historic sites (including 9 heritage canals), five national marine conservation areas and one national urban park.

Protected areas help restore the health of ecosystems, build their resilience, and contribute to the recovery of species at risk – not only protecting biodiversity, but also helping mitigate the impact of climate change.

National historic sites, whether they are sacred spaces, archeological sites, battlefields, heritage houses or historic districts, allow Canadians to learn more about Canadian history, including the diverse cultural communities who make up Canada and the history and culture of Indigenous peoples.

Furthermore, Parks Canada places are an important part of local economies, helping welcome over 25 million visitors to Canada's treasures; helping to generate billions of dollars annually and employing tens of thousands of people – in urban settings, in rural communities and in Northern Canada.

I would like to quickly present an overview of the Agency's priorities, which help to guide our everyday work in meeting our important mandate.

First and foremost, Parks Canada places tell the stories of who we are, including the history, cultures and contributions of Indigenous peoples. Together, through a collective commitment to heritage we are renewing the way these stories are brought to Canadians

Through natural conservation, we are working with other federal departments, provincial and territorial governments and Indigenous partners, as both a leader and trusted partner in advancing the conservation goals of our country.

We are making impactful infrastructure investments, Parks Canada is protecting and conserving our national treasures, while supporting local economies, employment of Canadians across the country and contributing to growth in the tourism sector. Investments in heritage, visitor, waterway, and highway infrastructure ensure safe, high-quality and meaningful experiences for visitors, enabling Canadians to discover nature and connect with history. Importantly, Parks Canada, in many communities, is one of the key anchors of economic sustainability as the iconic places provide both economic opportunity and community spirit.

In terms of an overview of our financial situation, Parks Canada's budget is around \$1.7 billion in 2019-20. Of this amount approximately \$600 million is on-going permanent funding, of which 75% comes from funds appropriated by Parliament and 25% from revenues generated by the Agency. The main sources of revenue are from admission fees, accommodations (i.e. camping) and land rent and commercial operations. The remaining, time limited budget,



primarily relates to capital funding in the amount of \$900 million. This capital portion is part of the \$3.6 billion that the government has provided over the past six years to Parks Canada to improve the condition of its large, diverse and unique asset base. The ultimate goal of these capital investments is to ensure that Canada's national parks and national historic sites are a source of pride and enjoyment today and for future generations.

Now, I would like to turn to my colleagues to highlight key directions and few accomplishments of Parks Canada over the past fiscal year with regards to protecting and managing our treasured natural and cultural heritage. The Agency has much to be proud of.

VICE PRESIDENT DARLENE UPTON - PAEC

The Agency will actively assist in meeting the goal of protecting biodiversity and conserving 25% of Canada's land and 25% of Canada's oceans by 2025, in collaboration with Indigenous partners, stakeholders and other levels of government. We are currently working on 2 new national park reserves, 5 marine conservation areas, and exploring new opportunities.

In addition to this goal the Agency is a recognized international leader in the effective management of protected areas. We ensure a complete understanding of the biodiversity and ecosystem processes in our places, we monitor for their ecological integrity, and we take management action to restore ecosystems and recover species. In fact, we are the only national park system in the world that has fully implemented a system wide ecological integrity monitoring program, consisting of more than 700 independent scientific measures that inform park specific priorities and guide investments in conservation.

Parks Canada is one of three competent departments under the *Species at Risk Act*, with over 200 species on Parks Canada managed lands. We are a partner in the implementation of the Pan Canadian Approach to Transforming Species at Risk Conservation with a focus on priority species, places and sectors.

Given the potential magnitude and diversity of climate change impacts on Parks Canada's heritage places across the country, the Agency is continuing its work to improve understanding of current and future climate change impacts, and to enhance its ability to adapt, through a variety of initiatives. This has included conducting a risk assessment, developing a carbon atlas, an adaptation framework, regional climate assessments, and hosting regional workshops to explore site specific risks, mitigations and adaptations.

VICE PRESIDENT CHRISTINE LOTH-BOWN - IACH

It is a pleasure to be here. Today is day 4 for me at Parks Canada and I am truly energized to be part of such a dynamic team delivering on tremendous mandate.

In addition to Parks Canada's well-known role with National Parks, we are responsible for 171 national historic sites across the country. These varied places tell many chapters in the story of



Canada from time immemorial until the 20th century. Parks Canada also acts as the Secretariat for the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, which advises the Minister for Parks Canada on the designation of persons, places and events of national historic significance. We administer a number of programs including heritage railway stations, heritage lighthouses, and federal heritage buildings. The Agency is Canada's representative to the World Heritage Committee and oversees the program for World Heritage Sites.

While I am new to my position, I would like to share with you a few of the recent accomplishments that demonstrate Parks Canada's important role in the conservation of our country's cultural heritage.

The *Framework for History and Commemoration* (2019) is our new system plan for National Historic Sites. The Framework sets priorities for new designations and for the renewal of the way history is told at our heritage places. The Framework also provides guidance on dealing with conflict a controversy in the way our history is remembered. The Framework provides a foundation for how we work with others – including, importantly, Indigenous peoples – to identify, recount and mark our common past.

Our achievements include the discovery and exploration of the HMS Erebus and HMS Terror, which have been collectively designated as a national historic site. The 2019 archaeological research season was one of the best ever and the Parks Canada Underwater Archaeology Team's findings contribute to a better understanding of historical and Inuit accounts of the Franklin Expedition, and in particular will help establish a clearer picture of the storied ships and their crew.

In 2019, the World Heritage Committee supported the inscription of Writing-On-Stone / Áísínai'pi as Canada's most recent World Heritage Site. This landscape in Southern Alberta is characterized by hoodoos and rock art. Some of the *in situ* archaeological remains date back to approximately 3000 years Before Present. This landscape is considered sacred to the Blackfoot people, and their centuries-old traditions are perpetuated through ceremonies and in enduring respect for the place.

Your committee did us the great honour of studying the state of built heritage in Canada in the last session in Parliament, resulting in the report *Preserving Canada's Heritage: The Foundation for Tomorrow* (2017). This report made 17 recommendations, many of them relating to the need for legislation to protect federal heritage. As a result of this mandate being given to our Minister, we are working to develop new legislation for the effective protection of federally owned heritage places, ensuring these cultural crown jewels are sustained for future generations.

Although I have only been with Parks Canada for a few days, it has become very clear that Parks Canada is well positioned to, and very committed to supporting reconciliation. One of the most effective ways to achieve concrete results in advancing reconciliation is through negotiated agreements and increased roles for Indigenous peoples in decision making. Parks Canada works with approximately 300 Indigenous communities, and over 30 places are currently managed through collaborative structures with Indigenous peoples.



Parks
Canada

Parcs
Canada



Parks Canada is engaged in 40 modern treaty negotiation tables and over 30 Rights Recognition Negotiation Tables. A significant achievement in negotiations over the past year includes signing of the Agreement in Principle with Ditidaht Pacheedaht First Nations, which commits to a transfer of lands within Pacific Rim National Park Reserve and maintenance of the West Coast trail hiking experience through cooperative arrangements. Innovative arrangements such as this one help to maintain Indigenous connections with traditional territories while meeting conservation goals.

In 2019, Parks Canada published a work plan to address barriers to its work with Indigenous peoples. This document, entitled “Mapping Change: Fostering a Culture of Reconciliation within Parks Canada, sets out commitments to be achieved within a 5-year timeline. Commitments include work to support inclusion of Indigenous languages in heritage places and collaborative development of messaging regarding the ongoing roles and responsibilities of Indigenous peoples as stewards of their traditional territories.

VICE PRESIDENT MICHAEL NADLER - ERVE

A core element of Parks Canada’s mandate is to present and share Canada’s national parks, national historic sites, and national marine conservation areas with visitors from across Canada and around the world. In fulfilling this mandate, Parks Canada facilitates not only the enjoyment of our country’s national heritage places, but also contributes to communities and to Canada’s growing tourism industry.

Each year, Parks Canada receives approximately 25 million visitors across the 222 protected places administered by the Agency. Some 80% of these visitors are Canadian with the remaining 20% coming largely from Europe and Asia. The scale of Parks Canada’s operations makes the Agency Canada’s largest provider of natural and cultural tourism. Visitorsto Parks Canada places contribute an estimated \$4 billion to the Canadian economy through theirspending in communities neighbouring Parks Canada places and with operators deliveringexperiences within Parks Canada places.

While contributing to Canada’s tourism economy is very important, Parks Canada focus is facilitating the enjoyment of national heritage places by Canadians now and in the future. This work forms part of the foundation legislation for Canada’s system of national parks and means that the Agency works hard to share national parks, historic sites, and marine conservation areas with Canadians when they come to visit, and also in their communities and through digital media.

Each year, Parks Canada delivers a huge variety of experiences to visitors in our places. At the same time, we also deliver urban engagement programming with partners in Montreal, Toronto, and Vancouver and also Learn to Camp programming in a number of urban and rural communities from six regional hubs across the country (Vancouver, Edmonton, Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal, Halifax). Combined, these outreach programs reached 110,000 Canadians in 2019. On our digital channels, Parks Canada reaches still more Canadians, receiving some 18 million



Parks
Canada

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unique visitors per year on our Website and enjoying a social media following of nearly 2 million. Parks Canada places area also important settings for communities to gather. In 2019, Parks Canada hosted two dozen citizenship ceremonies, welcoming some of our newest citizens to the Canadian family in some of the most iconic settings in the country. We also hosted over 100 local events and celebrations in collaboration with local community interests and other partners.

Further, our settings are places where Canadians can gain a deeper appreciation of our country, including Indigenous cultures. Parks Canada works with Indigenous communities across the country to deliver authentic Indigenous experiences in national parks and historic sites. These experiences help to foster greater understanding by non-Indigenous Canadians of the cultures, history, and traditions of our country's Indigenous Peoples.

Parks Canada is committed to providing Canadians and visitors from around the world with meaningful opportunities to experience our country's diverse natural and cultural heritage. We are guardians of these treasured places, but we are also guides, partners and storytellers and we strive to build appreciation and understanding of Canada's national heritage places. Moreover, we are committed to sharing the stories of these places from multiple perspectives, reflecting the diversity of Canada and also respecting the cultures and perspectives of Canada's Indigenous Peoples.

We will build connections to nature through expanding the Learn-to Camp program to introduce more children and families to a lifetime of outdoor and cultural activities, and foster an appreciation for Canada's natural and cultural treasures.



Parks
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Introducing the Parks Canada Agency

January 23, 2020



Parks Canada is about...

Ecological integrity



contributing directly to Canada's climate change goals: Parks' team of conservation scientists protects Canada's unique natural regions.

Parks Canada protects **more than 450 000 km²**, 8 times the size of Nova Scotia.

Reconciliation



working with **more than 300 Indigenous partners and communities** to protect Canada's places, share in traditional knowledge, and guide the management of its programs.

75% of Parks' lands are managed through an **Indigenous advisory relationship**.

Heritage Conservation



conserving Canada's **cultural identity** for the future through **171 national historic sites** and provides cost-shared support to many other sites.

Presentation



providing the places where Parks Canada visitors **create their memories**.

In 2018, Parks welcomed **more than 25 million visitors**.

Regional economic opportunity



creating **employment opportunities** and **economic growth** into local markets in more than 600 communities.

Parks' operations and visitors added **\$4.0B in 2017-18 to Canada's GDP** and almost **\$532M in tax revenues annually**.

Parks Canada's Mandate

- On behalf of the people of Canada, we protect and present nationally significant examples of Canada's natural and cultural heritage, and foster public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment in ways that ensure the ecological and commemorative integrity of these places for present and future generations.

DEPARTMENTAL RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Core Responsibility	Protecting and Presenting Canada's Natural and Cultural Heritage		
Core Responsibility Description	Establish national parks and national marine conservation areas; designate places, persons and events of national historic significance; protect and conserve natural and cultural heritage guided by science and Indigenous knowledge; provide opportunities to visit, experience and enjoy Canada's natural and cultural heritage; work with the public, other federal departments, provinces, territories, Indigenous Peoples, and stakeholders to carry out these responsibilities.		
Departmental Results	Canada's natural heritage is protected for future generations	Canada's cultural heritage is protected for future generations	People connect to and experience Canada's natural and cultural heritage in ways that are meaningful to them

- Parks Canada is part of the Environment portfolio with Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, which coordinate approaches and advice.



Roles and Responsibilities – Minister

Roles:

- The Minister is responsible for exercising the powers, duties and functions under the *Parks Canada Agency Act*:
 - Areas of natural or historical significance to the nation, including national parks, national marine conservation areas, national historic sites, historic canals, historic museums established under the *Historic Sites and Monuments Act*, Saguenay–St. Lawrence Marine Park and Rouge National Urban Park.
 - Heritage railway stations, heritage lighthouses, federal heritage buildings, historic places in Canada, federal archaeology and Canadian heritage rivers.
 - The design and implementation of programs that relate primarily to built heritage.



Roles and Responsibilities – Minister

Responsibilities:

- The Minister is accountable to Parliament through the Departmental Plan, Departmental Result Report and other reports required by policy and legislation.
- The *Parks Canada Agency Act* requires enhanced accountability to Parliament:
 - State of Canada's Natural and Cultural Places Report to be tabled by the Minister at least every five years.
 - Management Plans for all heritage places to be reviewed every ten years with amendments tabled in Parliament.
- This Act requires the Minister to convene a Minister's Round Table every two years:
 - Meeting with stakeholders and the public with 180 days to reply to recommendations.
 - Last Minister's Round Table was held in 2017 with the report released in 2018.



Roles and Responsibilities – President & Chief Executive Officer

- “The Chief Executive, under the direction of the Minister, has the control and management of the Agency and all matters connected with it.”*
- The President & Chief Executive Officer has the rank and all the powers of a deputy head of a department in addition to the following powers under the Act:
 - Designation of Park Wardens to enforce and administer acts and regulations related to the Agency.
 - Establishment of a charter for the Agency that sets out its values and governing principles.

*As per Section 12(1) of the Act



Roles and Responsibilities – President & Chief Executive Officer

- The President & Chief Executive Officer also has exclusive authorities for Human Resources:
 - Authority to appoint, lay-off or terminate the employment of employees of the Agency and to establish standards, procedures and processes governing staffing (separate employer).
 - Determine the organization and classify positions in the Agency, including setting terms and conditions of employment.
 - Enter into collective bargaining in accordance to a negotiating mandate approved by the President of the Treasury Board.



Current Financial Authorities



Voted Authorities

- Authorities include program expenditures and payments to the New Parks and Historic Sites Account.
- Provided through appropriation acts, for two fiscal years.
- Program expenditures will move to a one-year appropriation by April 1, 2021.



Statutory Authorities

- Expenditure authorities approved by Parliament through legislation (other than appropriations acts).
- Parks Canada's statutory authorities include expenditures equivalent to revenue received pursuant to section 20 of the *Parks Canada Agency Act* and contributions to employee benefit plans.

Authority type	Total Authorities 2019-2020
Program expenditures	\$1,422,876,481
New Parks and Historic Sites Account	\$26,323,000
Total Statutory	\$229,288,808
Total	\$1,678,488,289

- The current financial authorities of the Agency take into consideration an approved reprofile to 2020-2021 and 2021-2022.
- The Agency's permanent budget is approximately \$600 million (A-Base), of which approximately 75% comes from appropriated funds voted by Parliament and 25% from revenues generated by the Agency.



Forecasted Authorities

- Short-term investments of approximately \$3.6B in national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas to rehabilitate a significant portion of its built asset inventory were anticipated to end in 2019-20, thus the planned decrease starting in 2020-21.

Financial Resources

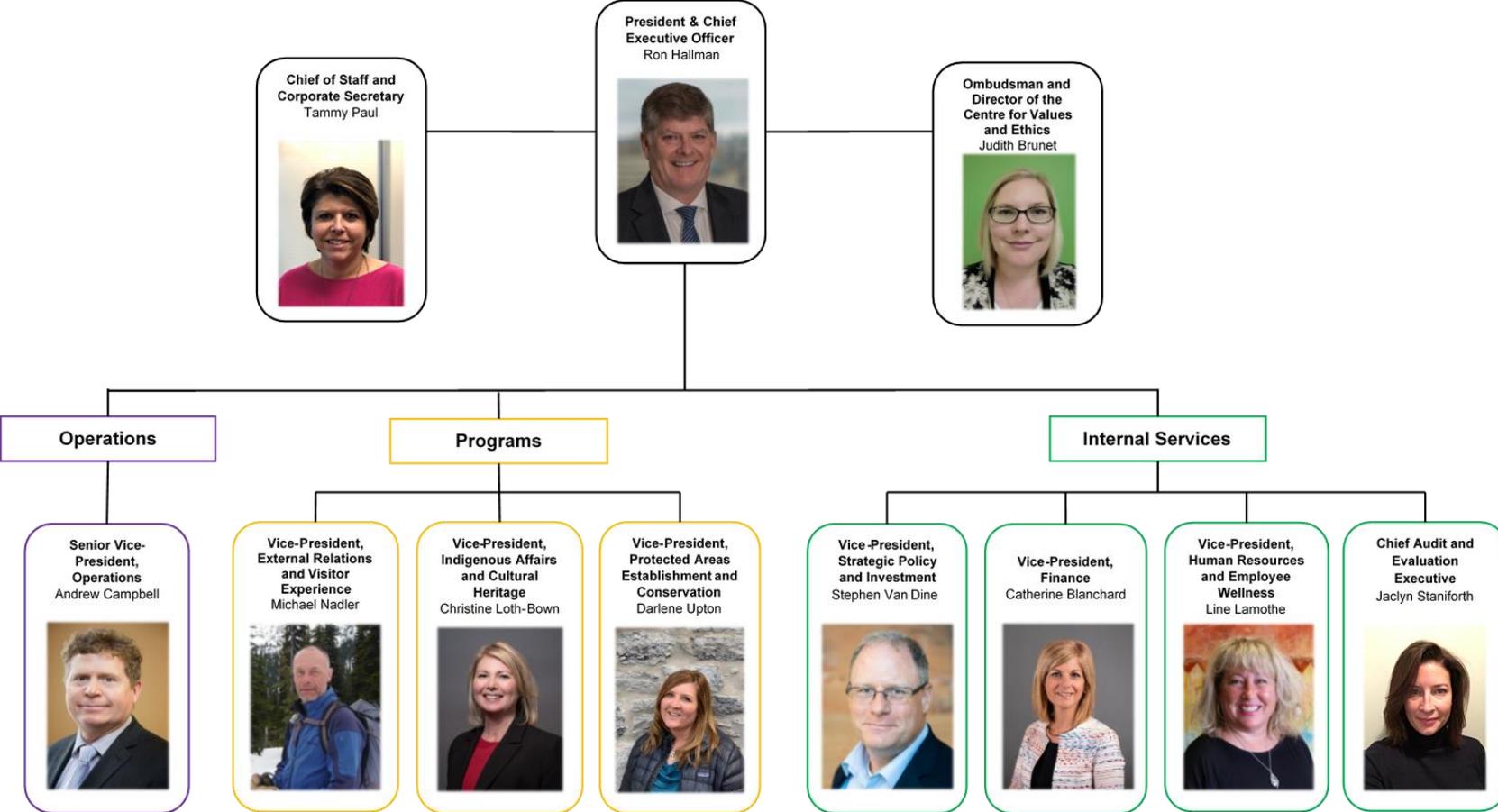
	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Approved Forecasted Authorities	\$1,107,531,851	\$883,101,382	\$717,504,977
Budget 2019 Infrastructure	\$143,398,528	\$224,400,000	-
Total Future Years Authorities	\$1,250,930,379	\$1,107,520,934	\$717,504,977

Human Resources (full-time equivalents - FTEs)

2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Planned Full-time equivalents	Planned Full-time equivalents*	Planned Full-time equivalents*
5,179	5,056	5,001

* Planned FTEs starting in 2020-21 will increase subject to confirmation of above anticipated adjustment to the financials.

Organizational Structure





Looking Ahead

- Natural Heritage Protection
- Cultural Heritage Protection
- Connecting to Canadians
- Asset Sustainability
- Business Modernization



Parks Canada Across the Country

ANNEX A



47 National Parks



171 National Historic Sites
including 9 historic canals



5 National Marine Conservation Areas



1 National Urban Park

Natural Heritage Protection

- These parks and marine conservation areas contribute to the development of an ecologically connected and representative network of protected areas
- National parks and marine conservation areas contribute to achieving international conservation targets
- Ecological integrity is the first priority in all decision making in national parks

ANNEX B



Saguenay–St. Lawrence Marine Park



Mount Revelstoke National Park



Rouge National Urban Park

Cultural Heritage Protection

- Parks Canada is the lead federal organization for built heritage conservation:
 - Supports the designation and commemoration of people, places and events of national historic significance
 - Manages the Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office
 - Provides expert advice and support services to departments and agencies:
 - Archaeology on federal lands and waters
 - National historic sites owned by third parties
 - Canada's historic places
- Parks Canada is a partner that contributes to the protection of non-federally owned heritage places:
 - Heritage railway stations
 - Heritage lighthouses
 - Heritage rivers
 - Grave sites of Prime Ministers

ANNEX B



Rideau Canal NHS & World Heritage Site



L'Anse aux Meadows NHS
& World Heritage Site



Grosse Île and the Irish Memorial NHS

Connecting to Canadians

ANNEX B

- The Agency encourages Canadians to experience Parks Canada places and to learn more about the environment and Canada's cultural heritage through
 - Learn-to-Camp program
 - Diversified accommodations and interpretive offer
 - Multiple digital offerings
 - Leveraging Government of Canada milestone anniversaries



Interpretation at Cave and Basin National Historic Site



Learn to Camp at Prince Edward Island National Park



Parks Canada On YouTube



PARKS CANADA'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS **2019-2020**

NATURE CONSERVATION

- Establishment of Thaidene Nene National Park Reserve
- Signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the provincial government and the Okanagan Nation for the establishment of the national park reserve in the South Okanagan-Similkameen
- Signing of Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement for Tallurutiup Imanga National Marine Conservation Area and interim protection of Tuvaijuittuq Marine Protected Area
- Signing of MOU with the Cree Nation Government to launch a feasibility assessment for a National Marine Conservation Area in Eastern James Bay
- Launch of a joint feasibility assessment with the PEI Mi'kmaq First Nations for a national marine conservation area in the Hog Island Sandhills
- Launch of a joint feasibility study with the provincial government to evaluate the potential for a Marine Protected Area in the Îles de la Madeleine
- Rouge National Urban Park (RNUP) nearly 95% complete following a land transfer from Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, tabling of the first-ever management plan for RNUP, and announcement of the location of the future Welcome and Education Centre

HERITAGE CONSERVATION

- New Framework for History and Commemoration: National Historic Sites System Plan 2019
- Announcement of funding to complete Province House landmark conservation project
- Inscription of Canada's 20th World Heritage Site: Writing-on-Stone / Áísínai'pi
- Completion of a multi-jurisdiction Action Plan to protect Wood Buffalo National Park and World Heritage Site
- Release of never-before-seen images and footage of the wreck of HMS *Terror* and recovery of 350 artifacts from HMS *Erebus*

CONNECTING CANADIANS AND VISITOR EXPERIENCE

- Continue to offer free Admission for Youth to all national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas.
- Visitation Numbers (estimated 25.1 million for 2019-2020)
- Mobile Application (292,500 downloads since 2017)

INDIGENOUS

- Finalized Land-Sea-People Management Plan for Gwaii Haanas, developed collaboratively with Haida Nation
- Signing of an agreement between the Government of Canada and the Timiskaming First Nation, to establish a trust to co-manage the Obadjiwan-Fort Témiscamingue National Historic Site



Parks Canada Parcs Canada



- MOU with the Inuit Heritage Trust to jointly own artifacts from HMS *Erebus* and HMS *Terror*
- Ongoing Inuit Guardian Programs to monitor the wrecks of HMS *Erebus* and HMS *Terror* and Tallurutiup Imanga National Marine Conservation Area



INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS/GREENING GOVERNMENT

Funding has been provided to both ECCC and Parks Canada to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in their operations. Programs such as the Innovative Solutions Canada aim to decrease emissions from government while also testing innovative climate solutions. Through procurement, the government can drive clean growth by stimulating or leading markets where government demand is significant. Put together, Parks Canada and Environment and Climate Change account for 93% of government property by area (38 million hectares) and 12% of government buildings (4677 buildings). With so many physical assets, your department has a tremendous opportunity to validate new technologies and to spur investment and clean growth. How do you evaluate the innovative solutions adopted by the department?

- The Agency annually reports to Treasury Board Secretariat on its progress in meeting federal Green House Gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets. GHG reductions resulting from the adoption of innovative solutions by the Agency are accounted for in the annual emissions information as submitted to TBS.

How do you ensure that there is uptake outside of government, that the technology is commercially competitive?

- Parks Canada has participated in the testing of 20 technologies through the Innovative Solutions Canada program (previously Build in Canada Innovation Program). Greening innovations included, for example, the Green Cube, a hybrid renewable energy system developed by Audace Technologies Ltd (Rimouski, QC), and a river turbine developed by Idénergie Inc. (Montreal QC).

Can you give a specific example of how Environment and Climate Change Canada or Parks Canada have reduced emissions from their operations?

- Over the past few years, Parks Canada has taken important steps towards the Government of Canada's goal of reducing GHG emissions from federal facilities and fleets by 80% below 2005 levels by 2050 with an aspiration to be carbon neutral by 2050. Examples include:
 - The Yukon Field Unit, recently completed a roof-mounted solar array and heat conversion system for its trades building in Haines Junction;
 - 73 EV charging Stations are currently installed (in 17 Parks Canada Places) and another 280 units are in the process of being installed for the start of the 2020 operating season, bringing EV charging to a total of 43 Parks Canada Places.



- The application of fleet telematics (to collect and analyze vehicle usage data) to support decision making in the replacement of certain vehicles by zero-emission vehicles or hybrids; 11 zero-emission light-duty administrative vehicles have recently been acquired as a result of this work;
 - Parks Canada recently submitted 8 greening proposals to the Government of Canada's Greening Government Fund and include a diverse array of energy solutions including geothermal heating, solar, passive house and hydrokinetic; and,
 - The Northern Ontario field unit is ensuring that design criteria for the new Lake Superior National Marine Conservation Area Administration Building and Discovery Centre includes rigorous criteria related to resiliency and net zero energy performance.
- Parks Canada is currently developing Asset Sustainability and Resiliency Standards that will provide Parks Canada staff with the necessary guidance to make a significant contribution to the Government of Canada's greening government aspiration of becoming carbon neutral by 2050.

Question from Briefing Note and Suggested Questions from the Library of Parliament.

Parks Canada is requesting \$175,000 through the Supplementary Estimates (B), 2019–20 for “innovative approaches to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in government operations”. What is the objective of this request?

- This transfer to Parks Canada of \$175,000 in 2019-20 is to support innovative approaches in reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in government operations. The Greening Government Fund was established to provide funding on a competitive basis for departments to explore and share innovative approaches to reducing GHG emissions in government operations. This funding was provided for a project in Kluane National Park to add a roof-mounted solar array and heat conversion system to establish an energy-efficient trades building.
- Completion of this project will significantly help facilitate the transition of the facility away from diesel heating fuel towards 100% electric. Conversion to electricity is expected to net annual savings of \$6000-10,000.
- Installation of the roof mounted solar array and heat conversion system is complete.

Please could you describe some of the innovative approaches that Parks Canada plans to implement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions?



- Over the past few years, Parks Canada has taken important steps towards the Government of Canada's goal of reducing GHG emissions from federal facilities and fleets by 80% below 2005 levels by 2050 with an aspiration to be carbon neutral by 2050. Examples include:
 - The Yukon Field Unit, recently completed a roof-mounted solar array and heat conversion system for its trades building in Haines Junction;
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 - The application of fleet telematics (to collect and analyze vehicle usage data) to support decision making in the replacement of certain vehicles by zero-emission vehicles or hybrids; 11 zero-emission light-duty administrative vehicles have recently been acquired as a result of this work;
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 - The Northern Ontario field unit is ensuring that design criteria for the new Lake Superior National Marine Conservation Area Administration Building and Discovery Centre includes rigorous criteria related to resiliency and net zero energy performance.
- Parks Canada is currently developing Asset Sustainability and Resiliency Standards that will provide Parks Canada staff with the necessary guidance to make a significant contribution to the Government of Canada's greening government aspiration of becoming carbon neutral by 2050.

How does this expenditure fit within broader plans for Parks Canada to “green” its operations?

- Parks Canada continues align its greening objectives with the Government of Canada's Federal Sustainable Development Strategy through the triennial updating of its Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy.
- The Agency continues to participate and apply to the Greening Government Fund to trial innovative approaches to reduce GHG emissions in its operations.



PARKS CANADA AGENCY **NEW PARKS AND HISTORIC SITES ACCOUNT**

WHAT IT IS

- The New Parks and Historic Sites Account is a special purpose account that provides the Agency with the ability to set aside capital funds for new parks and historic sites. Funds are deposited into the New Parks and Historic Sites Account in order to protect the capital funding required and honor the Agency's commitment for the establishment, enlargement or designation of national parks, national historic sites, national marine conservation areas or other protected heritage areas.
- The Account is funded from Parks Canada appropriations, the disposition of the Agency's real property or federal immovables, and from gifts, bequests and donations. Amounts are paid out of the account primarily for the following purposes:
 - to acquire any real property or immovables; and
 - to develop or maintain any national park, national historic site, national marine conservation area or other protected heritage area that is being established, enlarged or designated, and to make any related contribution or other payment.

HOW IT WORKS

- Each Treasury Board submission seeking funding for new parks was made using a Treasury Board Secretariat approved costing model (northern park model, southern park model and national marine conservation areas model).
- These models include funding for the establishment phase as well as the ongoing phase. The costs related to the establishment phase are to be captured in the New Parks Fund (operating – Vote 1) and the New Parks and Sites Account (capital – special purpose account). Once the park is operational, funding for the ongoing portion is to be transferred into the A-Base of the Business Unit for them to manage as part of their day to day business.
- The deposit of moneys (through appropriations) must follow the Parliamentary process (vote transfer via Main Estimates & Supplementary Estimates processes) which is restrictive.

CURRENT STATUS

Funds currently available in the Account are for the following parks (\$77 million):

- Rouge (\$40 million)
- Lake Superior (\$12 million)
- Qausuittuq, Ukkusiksalik, Talluruptiup Imanga, HMS Erebus & Terror (\$10 million)
- Naats'ihch'oh, Nahanni, Thaidene Nënë (\$10 million)
- Gwaii Haanas (\$1 million)
- Gulf Islands (\$3 million)
- Mealy Mountain (\$1 million)



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BRIEFING NOTE AND SUGGESTED QUESTIONS

**PREPARED FOR THE HOUSE OF COMMONS STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Subject: *SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES (B), 2019–20*

Meeting(s): Thursday, 12 March 2020 – Notice of Meeting
Public

Overview: The Minister of the Environment and officials from the Department of the Environment will be present to answer questions about the supplementary estimates (B) for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2020.

Alison Clegg
Sarah Yakobowski
Environment, Fisheries and Agriculture Section
Parliamentary Information and Research Service

6 March 2020

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES (B), 2019–20

The [Supplementary Estimates \(B\), 2019–20](#) were tabled in the House of Commons on 18 February 2020. The estimates for the following organizations were referred to the Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development (ENVI or the committee):

- Impact Assessment Agency of Canada;
- Department of the Environment; and
- Parks Canada Agency.

Detailed voted authorities sought through the estimates for each of these organizations are attached to this briefing note.

The Office of the Parliamentary Budget Officer published a summary and analysis of these estimates on 26 February 2020, also entitled [Supplementary Estimates \(B\) 2019–20](#).

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES (B) WITHIN THE PARLIAMENTARY FINANCIAL CYCLE

Supplementary estimates detail government spending requirements that were either not sufficiently developed in time to be included in the main estimates, or that have subsequently been refined to account for developments in particular programs and services.

The supplementary estimates (B) have been referred to various standing committees of the House of Commons. The Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development was referred Votes 1b (operating expenditures) and 10b (grants and contributions) on Department of Environment, and Vote 1b (operating expenditures) on Parks Canada Agency. In addition to the voted authorities, statutory authorities are also detailed in the supplementary estimates (B). These expenditures are required for the federal government to fulfill its responsibilities as set out in the Statutes of Canada, and are not voted on by Members of Parliament.

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS

A. ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE CANADA

1. The *Supplementary Estimates (B), 2019–20* sought an additional \$4.37 million in grants and contributions, bringing the total proposed authorities to date for grants and contributions administered by Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) to \$791.6 million for fiscal year 2019–2020.
 - Can you provide examples of the groups and individuals that will have received this \$791.6 million and the types of initiatives they have undertaken with these funds?
 - How is Environment and Climate Change Canada ensuring oversight of the way that these grants and contributions funds are spent? Does Environment and Climate Change Canada have the capacity to oversee these grants and contributions?
 - How is Environment and Climate Change Canada ensuring and measuring desired environmental outcomes from the use of these funds?

2. Approximately \$109.15 million in funding was sought as a statutory expense to cover the cost of Climate Action Support Payments under the Climate Action Incentive Fund. According to Environment and Climate Change Canada,
 - the [Climate Action Incentive Fund](#) (CAIF) is a new Environment and Climate Change Canada program, delivering up to \$218M in its first year (2019–2020), funded from the proceeds of the federal carbon pollution pricing system. Programming would be available in Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, and New Brunswick, where provinces have not committed to their own carbon pollution pricing systems. Eligible recipients would benefit from funding for projects to decrease energy usage, save money, and reduce carbon pollution.
 - Please could you explain the difference between the estimated “up to \$218 million” noted above and the \$109.15 million that was sought through *Supplementary Estimates (B), 2019–20*?
 - Over what time period will the \$109.15 million be spent, and what projects will it be spent on?
 - What proportion of the proceeds of the federal carbon pollution pricing system does this amount of \$109.15 million represent?
 - Please could you explain more about the flow of funds through various Canadian government entities during the administration of this Fund?

3. Approximately \$9.46 million in funding was requested through *Supplementary Estimates (B), 2019–20* to administer the Climate Action Incentive Fund.
 - How long will this funding last at current costs for administering the Climate Action Incentive Fund?

4. Through *Supplementary Estimates (B), 2019–20*, Environment and Climate Change Canada sought to transfer \$4.9 million in grants and contributions to the Department of Natural Resources for the “50 Million Tree Program under the Low Carbon Economy Fund.” Although the committee recognizes that Natural Resources Canada is the lead on forestry initiatives, could Environment and Climate Change Canada provide information on the following:
 - Will trees planted under this program count towards the 2 billion referred to in the Minister’s mandate letter, or will this program remain entirely separate?
 - Will the species selection, sapling acquisition and planting of the 50 million trees be coordinated with that of the 2 billion trees to achieve greater economies of scale?
 - Will some of the proposed \$4.9 million will be paid to individuals to plant these trees? If so, is there an opportunity to direct tree planting employment opportunities to local demographic groups that are currently underemployed?

5. Through *Supplementary Estimates (B), 2019–20*, Environment and Climate Change Canada sought a total of \$5.92 million in grants and contributions and operating expenditures to “strengthen environmental protections and address concerns raised by Indigenous groups regarding the Trans Mountain Expansion Project.”
 - Which “environmental protections” will be strengthened?
 - Would these funds have been required even if the project had not been purchased by the Government of Canada (for example, as part of Crown consultation obligations)? Or are some or all of these funds now required because the Government of Canada is acting as the proponent of the project?

6. A total of \$11.35 million is being transferred to the Department of the Environment for the Youth Employment and Skills Strategy.
 - How will these funds contribute to the Department’s objectives?

B. PARKS CANADA AGENCY

7. Parks Canada Agency requested \$2.58 million through the *Supplementary Estimates (B), 2019–20* to commemorate Indian Residential School sites.
 - Which sites are being commemorated?
 - How was Indigenous input incorporated into Parks Canada’s plans?
8. Parks Canada is requesting \$175,000 through the *Supplementary Estimates (B), 2019–20* for “innovative approaches to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in government operations”?
 - Please could you describe some of the innovative approaches that Parks Canada plans to implement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions?
 - How does this expenditure fit within broader plans for Parks Canada to “green” its operations?

C. IMPACT ASSESSMENT AGENCY OF CANADA

9. Through the *Supplementary Estimates (B), 2019–20*, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada sought authority to transfer \$2 million to the Department of the Environment to offset that department’s “operating pressures.”
 - For what purpose was that \$2 million originally intended at the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada?
 - Was the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada able to achieve its desired results without this expenditure, or will progress in this area be deferred to fiscal year 2020–2021?



CURRENT FINANCIAL AUTHORITIES **2019-2020**

ISSUE

- Parks Canada's total Current Authorities for 2019-2020 is \$2.2 billion and consists of the following (including Supplementary Estimates B):
 - \$1.9 billion in Vote 1: Program Expenditures
 - \$26.3 million in Vote 5: New Parks and Historical Sites Account
 - \$229.3 million in Statutory Authorities (\$150 million in revenue and \$79.3 million for Employee Benefit Plan)
- The Agency has received authority to re-profile \$502.6 million from 2019-2020 into 2020-2021 (\$362.6 million) and 2021-2022 (\$140.0 million). This has not been reflected as a reduction to 2019 - 2020 authorities.
- Factoring in this re-profile, the Agency has total available authorities of \$1.7 billion in 2019-2020.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- The Agency's permanent budget is approximately \$600 million (A-Base), of which approximately 75% comes from appropriated funds voted by Parliament and 25% from revenues generated by the Agency.
- In addition, Parks Canada receives time-limited funding (B-Base) for initiatives such as investments in infrastructure and conservation.
- Section 20 of the *Parks Canada Agency Act* authorizes the Agency to spend amounts equal to revenues. This is a significant source of funding to support the delivery of Parks Canada programs, including park and site operations and the provision of services to visitor.
- Three main sources account for close to 85% of Parks Canada's revenues:
 - Fees for admission into national parks, national urban park, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas;
 - Fees for accommodation (camping) in national parks; and
 - Fees from land rent and concessions primarily in respect of commercial business operations in national parks.
- The Agency's voted appropriations are approved for two year cycles. The Agency will be moving to a one-year appropriation by April 1, 2021.



FUTURE YEARS' AUTHORITIES

ISSUE

The following are the Agency's future years' authorities:

Parks Canada's Future Years' Authorities		
2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
\$1,107,531,851	\$883,101,382	\$717,504,977

Parks Canada's Full-Time Equivalents		
2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
5,179	5,056	5,001

POINTS TO REGISTER

The following is Parks Canada's future years' authorities as per 2020-2021 Estimates:

Funding Type	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Operating	588,065,350	581,826,647	579,696,334
Capital	487,613,658	263,064,214	110,672,214
Grants & Contributions	31,852,843	38,210,521	27,136,429
Approved Forecasted Authorities	\$1,107,531,851	\$883,101,382	\$717,504,977

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- The decrease in approved forecasted authorities is primarily due to the sunsetting of funding for Parks Canada's infrastructure initiatives to rehabilitate a significant portion of its heritage, visitor, highway and waterway built asset inventory in national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas.
- The Agency is developing a long-term capital plan and a strategy for Parks Canada assets.



BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- Supplementary Estimates (B) include funding to commemorate Indian Residential School sites (\$2.7 million), and transfers from other government departments (0.8 million).



PARKS CANADA'S REVENUES

ISSUE

The following is the Agency's historical trend for revenues:

Service Fees Revenue	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
Admission *	64,338,395	10,507,612	74,119,090
Accommodation	38,225,552	38,197,523	38,441,235
Lockage *	1,307,057	319,525	1,586,710
Value Added Products and Services	6,374,598	6,886,983	7,260,266
Retail Products	1,239,570	1,944,461	2,472,529
Permits	5,125,695	4,414,577	5,356,053
Municipal Services	3,913,501	3,428,371	3,292,548
Leases/Licenses of Occupation	25,248,208	28,230,660	32,647,445
Miscellaneous	4,984,862	9,244,344	9,271,919
Total	\$ 150,757,439	\$ 103,174,059	\$ 174,447,795

* Revenue collected in 2017-2018 for the categories Admission and Lockage was lower due to the Canada 150 celebrations, when entry to national parks, national marine conservation areas and national historic sites, including lockage fees at heritage canals was free.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Historically, the categories of Admission, Accommodation and Leases/Licences of Occupation make up approximately 85% of total revenue.
- 2017-2018 revenue collection was lower due to the Canada 150 celebrations, when entry to national parks, national marine conservation areas and national historic sites, including lockage fees at heritage canals was free.
- Parks Canada revenues were at an all-time high of \$174.4 million in 2018-2019. Projected revenues as of 2019-2020 and further years are about the same level.
- Increase is mainly related to admissions and leases/licenses of occupancy.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- Revenue forms an important part of the Agency's spending authorities and is treated as permanent budget with the Agency.



HISTORICAL TREND - EXPENDITURES

ISSUE

Expenditures Type	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
Operating	537,714	537,552	586,357	616,112	698,828
Capital	172,054	483,489	589,541	682,193	738,408
Grants and Contributions	12,033	15,089	15,795	18,727	23,088
Total	\$ 721,800	\$ 1,036,130	\$ 1,191,693	\$ 1,317,033	\$ 1,460,324

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Parks Canada's expenditures have increased by \$738 million during the last 5 years.
- This increase is primarily related to temporary funding the Agency has received to rehabilitate a significant portion of its heritage, visitor, highway and waterway build asset inventory in national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- This time-limited infrastructure funding gradually decreases starting in 2020-21. The Agency is developing a long-term capital plan and strategy for predictable long-term funding for its asset base.



2019-2020 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES (B) – OVERVIEW

ISSUE

- Parks Canada is seeking to increase its voted authorities by \$3,494,091 through the 2019-20 Supplementary Estimates (B).

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Supplementary Estimates are part of the normal parliamentary approval process to ensure that previously planned government initiatives receive the necessary funding to move them forward, therefore meeting the needs of Canadians. They present information to Parliament on the Government of Canada's spending requirements that were not sufficiently developed in time for inclusion in the Main Estimates. Supplementary Estimates directly support an appropriation act.
- The Supplementary Estimates (B) was the second and final opportunity for Parks Canada to make adjustments to its 2019-20 reference levels.
- This Supplementary Estimates bring the Agency's total authorities to \$2.2 billion for 2019 - 2020.
- It is also important to note that these Supplementary Estimates include a re-profile of \$502.6 million from 2019 -2020 into 2020-2021 (\$362.6 million) and 2021 - 2022 (\$140.0 million). Factoring in this re-profile, the Agency has total available authorities of \$1.7 billion in 2019-2020.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- See Page Proofs attached.



2019-2020 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES (B) – DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS

ISSUE

- The following provides additional information in regards to each item included in 2019-2020 Supplementary Estimates (B).

POINTS TO REGISTER

- **New Funding:**

- **The Parks Canada Agency is seeking funding of \$ \$2,734,503 to commemorate Indian Residential School sites.**

This funding is for the implementation of activities in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action 79. Activities include working with Indigenous organizations, cultural heritage experts, and residential school Survivors to develop a reconciliation framework for Canadian heritage and commemoration while also integrating Indigenous views, history and heritage into the heritage places managed by Parks Canada.

- **Transfers:**

- **Transfer from the Department of Public Works and Government Services to Parks Canada Agency related to Federal Sciences and Technology Infrastructure Initiative: \$404,800.**

This transfer to Parks Canada is related to the implementation and support of a cluster management office as part of the Laboratories Canada Initiative.

This is part of a 25-year plan to rebuild federal laboratories and bring federal scientists and science facilities across the Government together to advance interdisciplinary research.

The Culture Heritage Science Cluster (CHSC) is one of the five Phase 1 clusters of this initiative. As part of this cluster, Parks Canada's conservation services, the Canadian Conservation Institute and the Canadian Heritage Information Network will co-locate in a single, collaborative science facility.

Activities include support for the planning and implementation of the project, as well as shared support for governance, culture change and internal communications.



- o **Transfer from the Treasury Board Secretariat for the Greening Government Fund: \$175,000.**

This funding was provided for a project in Kluane National Park to add a roof-mounted solar array and heat conversion system to establish an energy-efficient trades building. The completion of this project will significantly help facilitate the transition of the facility away from diesel heating fuel towards 100% electric.

- o **Transfer from the Department of Transport to Parks Canada Agency to undertake a climate risk assessment: \$125,000.**

This transfer is related to the Identifying Climate Change-Related Risks to Highway 93S Infrastructure in Kootenay National Park. Activities include data gathering and gap analysis, modelling, broad model assessment and identify/advance site specific interests, and report completion to Transport Canada.

- o **Transfer from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) in support of activities to respond to Indigenous concerns regarding cumulative impacts on the Salish Sea: \$94,788.**

This transfer is related to one of the initiatives under the Trans Mountain Expansion project. The Salish Sea initiative has the purpose of responding to Indigenous concerns regarding cumulative impacts on the Salish Sea. Specifically, Parks Canada will participate in a DFO-led Secretariat with the objective to guide and support identification of general environmental element of an ecosystem, and support guidance for identification of immediate projects and capacity needs for Indigenous groups.

- o **Transfer to the Department of the Environment to support a project for the Elders Council under the Assembly of First Nations: (-\$40,000).**

This transfer is to inform the development of improved local and national approaches to Indigenous knowledge systems to enhance protection and conservation while also supporting reconciliation. This is an opportunity to engage with the Assembly of First Nations and the Elders Council.

- **Adjustment:**

- o **Internal Vote transfer to the New Parks and Historic Sites Account: \$12,900,000 (No change to reference levels).**



The New Parks and Historic Sites Account is a special purpose account that provides the Agency with the ability to set aside funds for new parks and historic sites. This account provides protection to the funding until it is required for the establishment, enlargement or designation of national parks, national historic sites, national marine conservation areas or other protected heritage areas.

This adjustment represents the amount transferred from the Agency's appropriations to this special purpose account for the following sites:

- Naats'ihch'oh
- Thaidene Nëné
- Lake Superior
- Qausuittuq
- Tallurutiup Imanga
- HSM Erebus & Terror
- Mealy Mountain



2019-2020 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES (B) – FROZEN ALLOTMENTS

IN VOTED AUTHORITY

- Parks Canada has \$505,132,560 in frozen allotments within its total authorities to date.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- A frozen allotment was used to constrain Parks Canada's appropriated authorities to help implement the following initiative:

- **Re-profile of Budget 2015 Federal Infrastructure Investment (FII) \$502,632,560:**

Parks Canada has received approval to re-profile \$502.6 million from 2019-20 into 2020-21 (\$362.6 million) and 2021-22 (\$140.0 million) in order to align the remaining authorities with the multi-year forecasts and delivery schedules of the remaining projects within the program of work. While under its current two-year appropriation, the Agency could extend the funds received in 2019-20 into 2020-21, projections for the FII program of work show that some projects will extend into 2021-22 and as such, will fall under the new one-year appropriation regime, announced in Budget 2019. To ensure availability of resources to complete the critical projects, a re-profiling of funds across multiple years is necessary.

- **Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement \$2,500,000**

This frozen allotment is related to the named grant payment entitled "*Benefits Stemming from the Establishment, Development and Operation of the Thaidene Nëné National Park Reserve*" of \$2,500,000 to the Northwest Territory Métis Nation for the activities associated with the establishment and operation of Thaidene Nëné National Park Reserve. Temporary access to Treasury Board Vote 5 – Government Contingencies was granted in advance of Supplementary Estimates (B) in order for payment to be made in a timely manner (Agency could not wait for Supplementary Estimates (B)). As the funding for this grant comes from the Agency's existing reference levels, the reimbursement of the Treasury Board Vote 5 is shown as a frozen allotment.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- During the fiscal year, the government can take decisions to adjust priorities or the implementation of individual initiatives. Because these decisions cannot reduce a Parliamentary authority, frozen allotments are used to constrain appropriated authorities where necessary. At the end of the fiscal year, they are included in the lapse shown in Public Accounts.



2019-2020 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES (B) – STANDARD OBJECT

ISSUE

- Parks Canada has included the breakdown by standard object in its 2019-2020 Supplementary Estimates (B).

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Personnel (\$999,028)- employee salaries includes (\$152,040) -the government's contribution to employee benefit plan.
- Transportation and Communications (\$451,763) - business travel, telecommunications, telephones and other communications devices.
- Professional and Special Services (\$874,300) -includes engineering and architectural services purchased from PSPC, professional services contracts and construction contracts.
- Rentals (\$42,500) - equipment and vehicle rentals for periodic operational requirements.
- Utilities, materials and supplies (\$42,500) -commodities required for operations such as fuel, road salt, electricity, building materials and office supplies.
- Acquisition of land, buildings and works (\$200,500) - major planned capital expenditures related to land purchases and the recapitalization of existing facilities in national parks and national historic sites.
- Transfer Payment (\$883,500)- grants and contributions.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- The Standard Objects show authorities by the types of goods or services they are to be used for, or the transfer payments to be made.



2020-2021 MAIN ESTIMATES – OVERVIEW

ISSUE

- The Agency's reference levels for the 2020-21 Main Estimates are presented at \$1,107.5 million, which represents a decrease of \$543.0 million or 33% when compared to the 2019-20 Main Estimates.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- \$1,107.5 million in total funding is being sought through the 2020-21 Main Estimates (\$908.6 million in voted appropriations and \$198.9 million in statutory).
- This excludes funding approved after Main Estimates deadline, such as Budget 2019 for infrastructure initiatives, and any funding that may be announced in Budget 2020.
- With the funding received in Main Estimates, the Parks Canada Agency will continue to protect, present and manage Canada's national urban park, national parks, national historic sites, heritage canals and national marine conservation areas for the benefit and enjoyment of Canadians.
- The decrease of \$543.0 million or 33% in total funding from the 2019-20 Main Estimates is primarily attributable to the sunseting of funding for Parks Canada's infrastructure initiatives to rehabilitate a significant portion of its built asset inventory.
- The Agency's reference levels were increased in 2020-21 and future years for the following initiatives:
 - Qikiqtani Inuit Association Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement and National Marine Conservation Area in High Arctic;
 - Reconciliation on Aboriginal and Treaty Rights Issues – Part 2;
 - Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan (FCSAP) – Phase IV;
 - Funding to commemorate Indian Residential School Sites; and
 - Southern Resident Killer Whale.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- See Page Proofs attached.



2020-2021 MAIN ESTIMATES – INTERIM SUPPLY

ISSUE

- Parks Canada Agency's 2020-2021 Interim Supply are presented at \$227,161,130 which represents the anticipated financial requirements during the first three months of the new fiscal year.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- The Agency's Interim Supply of \$227.2 million represents three-twelfths of total anticipated voted appropriations of \$908.6 million.
- Subsequent to a cash flow analysis, it was determined that the Agency's standard three twelfths would be sufficient to cover the requirements for the first three months of the fiscal year.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- Parliamentary Supply procedures call for the introduction of an Interim Supply bill in March presenting Parliament with the anticipated financial requirements of organizations during the first three months of the new fiscal year until full supply can be obtained in June.
- Organizations are encouraged to assess their actual requirements for the first three months of the year and round up to the nearest twelfth. If required, there is an opportunity for organizations to seek additional twelfths for Interim Supply.



2020-2021 MAIN ESTIMATES – GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

ISSUE

- Parks Canada Agency's 2020-21 Main Estimates include a total of \$31,852,843 in transfer payments for Grants and Contributions.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Parks Canada's 2020-21 Main Estimates include transfer payments for the following items:
 - Grants for the Implementation of Rights and Reconciliation Agreements in Atlantic Canada (\$4,094,700): This grant will support the Rights and Reconciliation Agreements signed by Parks Canada and the Indigenous Nations included in the Historic Peace and Friendship Treaties in Atlantic Canada (the Mi'kmaq, Maliseet and Peskotomuhkati Nations), build capacity in Indigenous communities to participate with Parks Canada as co-managers of National Parks and National Historic Sites, foster re-connection with the lands through traditional stewardship practices and protect Mi'kmaq, Maliseet and Peskotomuhkati culture and heritage.
 - Grant for the Tallurutiup Imanga Inuit Stewardship Program Seed Fund (\$2,400,000): This grant provides funding for the start-up, management and operation costs for an Inuit Stewardship program in the five communities associated with Tallurutiup Imanga National Marine Conservation Area (TINMCA). The grant will cover the operation and management costs that are not directly related to the operation and management of TINMCA.
 - Grant for the Inuit Research Fund (\$1,000,000): This grant will provide funding for Inuit-led research and monitoring in Tallurutiup Imanga National Marine Conservation Area, including the development of an Inuit Research and Monitoring Plan.
 - Grant to the International Peace Garden (\$22,700): The International Peace Garden commemorates the peaceful co-existence of Canada and the United States. The Garden straddles the Manitoba/North Dakota Border and is run by a non-profit organization which receives funding from the State of North Dakota, the Province of Manitoba as well as the American and Canadian Federal Governments.
 - Contributions in Support of Activities or Projects Related to National Parks, National Marine Conservation Areas, National Historic Sites and Historic Canals (\$15,835,443): These are contributions through the Parks Canada's General Class Contribution Program to assist recipients in conducting



activities and delivering projects that will support the Parks Canada Agency in fulfilling its mandate. It includes, for example, a contribution of \$6,016,889 that is part of the funding that will be used to implement obligations under an Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement for Tallurutiup Imanga National Marine Conservation Area with the Qikiqtani Inuit Association for the implementation of a consensus-based cooperative management board, Inuit stewardship program, and Inuit Research Fund; and a contribution of \$1,123,500 that is part of the funding to develop and implement a national heritage plan and strategy for commemorating residential school sites, the history and legacy of residential schools, and the contributions of Aboriginal peoples to Canada's history.

- Contribution to Support the Trans Canada Trail to enhance and maintain The Great Trail (\$7,500,000): This contribution will be used to provide a contribution to the Trans Canada Trail, a registered not-for-profit charitable organization, to enhance and maintain "The Great Trail", a national network of multi-use recreational trails that links 15,000 communities and spans 24,400 kilometers.
- Contributions in Support of the National Cost-Sharing Program for Heritage Places (\$1,000,000): This program assists recipients in conducting activities aimed at ensuring the commemorative integrity of non-federally owned or administered national historic sites and, thereby, to support Parks Canada Agency in fulfilling its mandate to protect and present nationally significant examples of Canada's natural and cultural heritage.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- Grants and contributions are part of the category of expenditures known as transfer payments. These are transfers of money from the federal government to individuals and to organizations of various types, including businesses and other levels of government.



2020-2021 MAIN ESTIMATES – REVENUES

ISSUE

- Parks Canada's 2020-21 authorities for statutory revenues are \$150 million, which remain unchanged from the previous fiscal year.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Section 20 of the *Parks Canada Agency Act* grants appropriations to the Agency in amounts equal to the amount of revenues from operations deposited in the Consolidated Revenue Fund. This appropriation is statutory in nature and is not constrained by a one-year time limit as the appropriation authority is automatically carried forward to the next fiscal year.
- The Parks Canada Agency Act authorizes the retention of revenues such that they can be spent on park and site operations and primarily on the provision of services to visitors.
- Revenue collections for Parks Canada have seen an increasing trend over the past five years, with the exception of 2017, which was the sesquicentennial year celebrating Canada's 150th anniversary. Entry to national parks, national marine conservation areas and national historic sites, including lockage fees at heritage canals, was free to all visitors.
- For fiscal year 2020-21 and future years, revenues are conservatively estimated at \$150 million per year. Based on the recent historical trend of revenues, \$150 million is a conservative projection and the Agency will revisit this estimate to determine the need for an adjustment.
- Three main sources account for close to 85% of Parks Canada's revenues:
 - Fees for admission into national parks, national urban park, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas;
 - Fees for accommodation (camping) in national parks; and
 - Fees from land rent and concessions primarily in respect of commercial business operations in national parks.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- Parks Canada's Agency generally provides a conservative projection of revenues to be included in the Main Estimates and makes an upward adjustment at the end of the year to reflect actual revenues collected.
- Every year, the Agency has the opportunity to adjust its estimated statutory revenues authority through the Annual Reference Level Update (ARLU) exercise.



2020-2021 MAIN ESTIMATES – VOTED VS STATUTORY

ISSUE

- Parks Canada Agency is requesting spending authority of \$1,107,531,851 which contains voted authorities authorized via an appropriation act and statutory authorities which are authorized through other legislations.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Parks Canada's spending authority consists of a voted amount of \$908,644,518 (82%) to be approved by Parliament and is composed of:
 - \$389,178,017 in salaries and goods and services for day to day operations;
 - \$487,613,658 in capital for new facility development, recapitalization of existing facilities and to address backlog of deferred work to heritage, visitor experience, waterway and highway assets located within national historic sites, national parks & national marine conservation areas across Canada;
 - \$31,852,843 in grants and contributions.
- The remaining amount consists of a statutory amount of \$198,887,333 (18%). This amount is authorized through other legislations and are included in the Estimates for information purposes to provide a more complete picture of total estimated expenditures. Statutory authorities include:
 - Employee Benefit Plan \$48,887,333: the Government's contribution to employee benefit plan; and
 - Expenditures equivalent to revenues \$150,000,000: Section 20 of the *Parks Canada Agency Act* authorizes the Agency to spend amounts equal to revenues. This is a significant source of funding to support the delivery of Parks Canada programs, including park and site operations and the provision of services to visitor.
- The Agency's voted appropriations are approved for two year cycles. The Agency will be moving to a one-year appropriation by April 1, 2021.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- The Agency's enabling legislation provides it with the authority to have its program expenditures funded through a single vote in the Parliamentary appropriations. This represents an exemption from the standard vote structure requiring a separate capital expenditure vote when the aggregate of capital expenditures equal or exceed \$5 million and the necessity to have a grant and contributions vote when grants and/or contributions expenditures equal or exceed \$5 million.



2020-2021 MAIN ESTIMATES – STANDARD OBJECT

ISSUE

- Parks Canada has included the breakdown by standard object in its 2020-2021 Main Estimates.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Personnel (\$379,207,149) - employee salaries and the government's contribution to employee benefit plans.
- Transportation and Communications (\$23,234,635) - business travel, telecommunications, telephones and other communications devices.
- Information (\$9,966,807) - advertising, visitor information publications and corporate publications.
- Professional and Special Services (\$172,725,106) - includes engineering and architectural services purchased from Public Services and Procurement Canada, professional services contracts and construction contracts.
- Rentals (\$29,941,238) - equipment and vehicle rentals for periodic operational requirements.
- Repair and Maintenance (\$27,585,118) - contracts for routine maintenance and repair of operational facilities and fleet.
- Utilities, Materials and Supplies (\$55,960,049) - commodities required for operations such as fuel, road salt, electricity, building materials and office supplies.
- Acquisition of Land, Buildings and Works (\$319,757,245) - major planned capital expenditures related to land purchases and the recapitalization of existing facilities in national parks and national historic sites. For the Agency, this standard object primarily consists of the acquisition of works related to the capital infrastructure investments program.
- Acquisition of Machinery and Equipment (\$27,088,841) - purchases in the case of frequent and recurring requirements for vehicles, vessels and other operating equipment.
- Transfer Payment (\$31,852,843) - grants and contributions.
- Other Subsidies and Payments (\$30,212,820) - mostly for payments in lieu of taxes.



BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- The Standard Objects show authorities by the types of goods or services they are to be used for, or the transfer payments to be made.



WOOD BISON CONSERVATION IN WOOD BUFFALO NATIONAL PARK

ISSUE

- On December 19, 2019, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change formed the opinion that Wood Bison are facing imminent threats to their recovery. The imminent threat assessment focused on the Ronald Lake and Wabasca herds in northeastern Alberta.
- Several Wood Bison herds occur in Wood Buffalo National Park. The Ronald Lake herd range includes lands in the southern area of Wood Buffalo National Park.
- The imminent threats to the Ronald Lake Herd are the risk of contracting two bovine diseases from diseased bison in Wood Buffalo National Park, as well as range loss from proposed industrial activities. With fewer than 20 individuals in the Wabasca herd, the imminent threat is unregulated harvest.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Parks Canada continues to work towards the conservation and recovery of this species, to support the goals and objectives of the federal Wood Bison Recovery Strategy. In particular, Parks Canada is identifying and evaluating options for addressing the risk of disease transmission from Wood Buffalo herds to disease-free herds
- Parks Canada will continue to work in collaboration with federal, provincial, territorial, Indigenous and community partners to develop and implement Wood Bison conservation measures.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- The Minister responsible for Parks Canada is a competent Minister for Wood Bison under the Species at Risk Act (SARA) where the species occurs on Parks Canada lands. The Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) is the competent Minister for the species outside of Parks Canada lands and is leading the development of Wood Bison recovery.
- Wood Bison was also identified as one of six “priority species” under the *Pan-Canadian Approach to Transforming Species at Risk Conservation in Canada*, which was approved by federal/provincial/territorial ministers in 2018. This approach aims to focus collaborative action on shared priorities to maximize conservation benefits through the identification of priority sectors, places and species.
- Parks Canada’s 2010 management plan for Wood Buffalo National Park also committed to minimize the risk of transmission of bovine diseases to adjacent disease-free Wood Bison.



SPECIES AT RISK CONSERVATION AT PARKS CANADA

ISSUE

- Parks Canada is responsible for the protection of species at risk, their residences, and their critical habitat on Parks Canada lands and waters. This includes the development and implementation of recovery strategies and action plans.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Parks Canada continues to make on-the-ground conservation gains using multi-species, ecosystem-based, and threat-based approaches, as well as by engaging with Indigenous peoples, partners, and stakeholders.
- Parks Canada has developed 21 site-based, multi-species action plans that identify recovery actions for over 220 species of conservation concern (including over 170 SARA-listed species), in 42 Parks Canada places.
- Parks Canada allocated approximately \$4.5 million in 2018-19 and 2019-20 to over 100 projects that will implement actions identified in SARA action plans.
- Parks Canada is undertaking broader conservation projects for several species at risk, including caribou and bison. For example, Parks Canada is working with 5 Indigenous groups to recover and manage imperiled caribou populations in three National Parks in Newfoundland & Labrador through cooperative management, Indigenous Knowledge, and western science.
- Parks Canada is an active partner in implementing the *Pan-Canadian Approach to Transforming Species at Risk Conservation*.
 - Parks Canada has active conservation programs for several *Priority Species* (Boreal caribou, Southern Mountain caribou, Greater sage grouse, and Wood bison).
 - There are National Parks in or near several identified *Priority Places*.
 - Parks Canada has expertise, resources and relationships that will be key to success in many areas. It is important to coordinate efforts to achieve the greatest conservation success.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- The purpose of the *Species at Risk Act* is to prevent wildlife species from becoming extirpated or extinct, to provide for the recovery of endangered and threatened species, and to prevent other species from becoming endangered or threatened.
- Parks Canada lands and waters support 40% of Canada's 622 SARA-listed Species at Risk, despite accounting for less than 5% of the total area of Canada.



ENVI REPORT AND AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT ON CONSERVING FEDERAL HERITAGE PROPERTIES

ISSUE

- The Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development (ENVI) in 2017 and the Auditor General in 2018 both pointed out that the Government of Canada is not adequately protecting and conserving its historic places.
- Historic places are important to Canada's national identity, and to fostering a sense of connection between Canadians by telling our diverse stories. These places play significant economic, socio-cultural and environmental roles in Canada, including in urban, rural, remote and Indigenous communities. The attachment of Canadians to their cultural heritage is undeniable.
- Current gaps in the protective regime of the Government of Canada's historic places mean that Canada's most significant historic places cannot be adequately protected.
- On December 13, 2019, the Prime Minister mandated the Minister responsible for the Parks Canada Agency to "work with the Minister of Canadian Heritage to provide clearer direction on how national historic places should be designated and preserved, and to develop comprehensive legislation on federally-owned heritage places."

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Parks Canada is the lead organization for heritage railway stations, heritage lighthouses, federal heritage buildings, federal archaeology and programs that relate primarily to build heritage.
- Parks Canada has already undertaken steps to address the concerns raised by the ENVI Committee in 2017 and the Auditor General in 2018.
- Parks Canada has been mandated to develop a comprehensive legislation to protect and conserve federally owned historic places to ensure that they continue to benefit present and future generations of Canadians, connecting them with their history and fostering pride.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- In fall 2017, the ENVI Committee tabled its report, *Preserving Canada's Heritage: The Foundation for Tomorrow*. The report's 17 recommendations go beyond the protection and preservation of heritage places administered by the Government of Canada.
- In November 2018, the Auditor General of Canada tabled in Parliament the report, *Conserving Federal Heritage Properties*. The findings of the report are that Parks Canada does not have a full picture of the number and condition of the heritage buildings under its responsibility, cannot conserve all of its designated heritage



properties and sets priorities based on available resources to determine which properties will be maintained conserved and monitored regularly. The Agency accepted the recommendations.

- As mandated, Parks Canada is working on the development of legislation to protect and conserve federally owned historic places. Under the current legislative regime, designation does not equal protection nor conservation, even for federally-owned historic places. Federal designations include:
 - National Historic Sites, including Historic Canals
 - Federal Heritage Buildings
 - Heritage Lighthouses
 - Heritage Railway Stations; and
 - World Heritage Sites.

- A comprehensive stand-alone legislation would bring Canada on par with other G7 countries. At this time, Canada is the only G7 country still relying on policies to protect historic places, instead of a comprehensive legislative regime supported by regulations, policies and programs.

- The Agency is also working with other departments to strengthen protection and conservation of federally owned historic places. For example, as the federal lead for built heritage and archaeology, Parks Canada is contributing to the review of the Treasury Board Secretariat's *Policy on the Management of Real Property*.



PROTECTED AREAS ESTABLISHMENT

ISSUE

- Parks Canada has a key role to play in developing and delivering the Government of Canada's plan to conserve 25 per cent of Canada's land and 25 per cent of Canada's oceans by 2025, working toward 30 per cent of each by 2030.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Parks Canada's 47 national parks, freshwater national marine conservation areas, and other protected sites contribute 3.53 percent, or more than a quarter of Canada's 12.1 percent total terrestrial protected areas. Parks Canada's national marine conservation areas and coastal national parks contribute 2.1 percent of Canada's 13.81 percent total marine and coastal protected areas.

Please note a correction to the numbers provided in the final sentence of the bullet point above: Parks Canada's national marine conservation areas and coastal national parks currently contribute 6.16 percent of Canada's 13.81 percent total marine and coastal protected areas. This total includes an area in the High Arctic Basin known as Tuvaijuittuq, which is currently undergoing a marine protected areas feasibility assessment and received interim protection in August 2019.

- Parks Canada's approach to creating new protected areas is grounded in science and Indigenous knowledge and founded upon collaboration with provincial and territorial governments, and with Indigenous governments and communities.
- Parks Canada works closely with approximately 300 Indigenous communities and has over 30 formal collaborative arrangements with Indigenous partners in a range of formal structures, including cooperative management boards.

BACKGROUND

- Parks Canada's work to establish new protected areas is guided by the National Parks System Plan and the National Marine Conservation Areas (NMCAs) System Plan. The goal of these plans is to achieve representation of each of Canada's 39 terrestrial natural regions and 29 marine natural regions through the creation of new national parks and NMCAs, thereby contributing to domestic and international biodiversity targets. The 47 national parks currently represent 31 of Canada's 39 terrestrial natural regions, while the five established NMCAs represent six of 29 marine regions.
- Parks Canada is currently working closely with British Columbia and the Syilx / Okanagan Nation on a project to establish a national park reserve in the South Okanagan–Similkameen, and with the Government of Prince Edward Island and the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI to assess the feasibility of a new national park reserve in the Hog Island Sandhills chain in northwestern Prince Edward Island.



Parks
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- Parks Canada is working collaboratively with provincial, territorial and Indigenous governments on feasibility assessments for national marine conservation areas in Eastern James Bay, in the Southern Strait of Georgia in British Columbia, in the Iles de la Madeleine in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, in Canada's High Arctic Basin, and off the coast of Torngat Mountains National Park in northern Labrador.



PARKS CANADA OUTREACH AND MARKETING

ISSUE

- Parks Canada is committed to providing Canadians with opportunities for meaningful experiences to connect with their natural and cultural treasures. Parks Canada also undertakes outreach, engagement and promotional programming to share Canada's national heritage places with millions of Canadians and grow and diversify awareness, support and visitation.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Promotion of Parks Canada places and experiences helps to increase awareness of Canada's national protected places and foster a greater awareness and sense of community in Canada. It also supports tourism in some 400 communities across Canada located adjacent to Parks Canada places, contributing some \$4 billion to Canada's GDP.
- Parks Canada's outreach, community engagement, and promotions efforts have yielded positive results in terms of increasing awareness and support and reversing more than a decade of declining visitation.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- Parks Canada reaches families, new Canadians and youth using outreach, engagement and promotional programming that bring together social media, proactive relations with travel media and travel trade, promotions, a strong digital presence, partner engagement, and community-based outreach activities.
- Since 2017, multi-channel outreach and promotional activities have resulted in increased participation and engagement of Canadians, a growing digital and social media following. Programs like Learn to Camp and Parks Canada's community engagement programming has surpassed 600,000 outreach contacts per year, over 15 million web visitors per year, and a promotional newsletter reaching 2.4 million people.
- The 2018 and 2019 advertising campaign "*450 000 km² of memories*" reached an estimated 26 million people and led to record awareness levels (90%) and increased support of the work of Parks Canada (currently 84%) based on quarterly national surveys.
- To encourage more Canadians to experience the outdoors and learn about Canada's history, Parks Canada continues to innovate, expand and diversify the range of programs and experiences available at its heritage places. These include popular programs such as Learn to Camp, Club Parka, Xplorers, Youth Ambassadors, Cultural Access Pass and Campus Clubs.



Parks
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- A variety of targeted outreach and engagement activities are also leveraged to help influence visitor behavior by promoting less-frequented destinations and to better distribute visitation across the Parks Canada network.



PARKS CANADA FEES

ISSUE

- In January 2020, as part of the Agency's implementation of the 2017 *Service Fees Act*, Parks Canada adjusted its fees for the first time since 2008.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- The 2017 *Service Fees Act* provides for increased transparency in the setting of fees and the reporting of revenue across all Government of Canada organizations. It also requires that departments and agencies improve cost-recovery, particularly for services that largely bring a private benefit to individuals and businesses.
- In January 2020, as part of the Agency's implementation of the 2017 *Service Fees Act*, Parks Canada introduced a 2.2% increase on most fees. The Agency also updated admission fees at 21 sites to better reflect the enhanced level of service now offered at these locations. This was the first increase in fees at Parks Canada since 2008.
- Parks Canada is a special operating agency and retains the revenues earned from service fees. These revenues are reinvested in service delivery and help Parks Canada provide greater opportunities for visitors across the country.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- The 2017 *Service Fees Act* requires regular adjustments to service fees to reflect inflation, regular reporting to Parliament on service fees, and improvements in cost-recovery for fees that provide a private benefit to individuals or businesses.
- Parks Canada administers more than 3,500 individual fees, ranging from admission to accommodation, to lockage, as well as municipal services, business licenses and various permits. All of these fees fall under the scope of the 2017 *Service Fees Act*. Parks Canada fees had not been increased since 2008.
- Parks Canada's admission fee structure is based on the level of service offered at each location. These service levels are based on the number of hours a visitor would typically spend on-site, as well as the variety of programs, services, and facilities available to visitors. The Agency recently assessed the service offer at each location, and reclassified 21 sites to better reflect their current level of service.
- Parks Canada retains the revenues earned from fees it administers. The Agency depends significantly on these revenues which represent approximately 20% of its operating budget.



FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

ISSUE

- The Government is committed to investing in Canada's national parks, national historic sites, and national marine conservation areas.
- Budget 2019 provided \$368 million in funding over two years for capital projects. Beginning in 2020-21, Parks Canada will begin delivering important high priority projects across the country using these new funds.
- Budget 2019 served as an extension of the commitment that the Government has made to Parks Canada's places since 2015. Since then – including through Budget 2019 – almost \$4 billion has been provided to the Agency to support the delivery of almost 1,000 high - priority projects to protect and restore capital assets in national parks and national historic sites.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Parks Canada is the largest federal land owner and has one of the largest asset portfolios in the federal government (nearly 17,000 assets, with a current replacement value of over \$25 billion).
- The Government has requested that Parks Canada develop a long-term plan to ensure effective management and ongoing sustainability of its wide-ranging and diverse portfolio. Parks Canada is engaging other departments with large asset portfolios on best practices for sustainable asset management.
- Through infrastructure investments, Parks Canada is protecting and conserving our national treasures, while supporting local economies, and contributing to growth in the tourism sector.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- Over the past four decades, Parks Canada has been challenged to maintain the condition of its asset portfolio. The majority of Parks Canada's assets are aging and require significant ongoing investments in lifecycle maintenance and recapitalization.
- In 2017, the Agency engaged Opus International Consultants (Canada) Ltd. to assist in planning and implementing a national review of its built asset portfolio. This review validated the overall condition of the Agency's asset portfolio and the ongoing financial requirements to sustain it.
- A shift to an accrual budgeting regime is not just about financial management and investment planning. It is expected to transform and further improve the manner in which the Agency plans, prioritizes, manages and reports on its capital assets within its portfolio.



ROUGE NATIONAL URBAN PARK

ISSUE

- Rouge National Urban Park's first ever management plan was tabled in Parliament in January 2019 and the park's land assembly is now substantially (nearly 95%) complete. In August 2019, Minister McKenna and Toronto Mayor John Tory announced the location of the park's future visitor centre on lands the Toronto Zoo has agreed to relinquish to Parks Canada. Parks Canada is working closely with Indigenous partners, Friends of Rouge National Urban Park and other stakeholders on design options for the visitor centre. With the park's land assembly substantially completed, a Minister-appointed park advisory committee is expected to be named in the coming mandate.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- The first of its kind in Canada, Rouge National Urban Park protects Canada's natural, cultural and agricultural heritage and is situated within one hour's drive of 20% of Canada's population. Once fully established, the park will be 23 times larger than Central Park in New York and one of the largest urban protected areas in the world.
- If struck by the Minister, the park's advisory committee would be comprised of local municipalities and Ontario, as well as representatives from the RNUP First Nations Advisory Circle. Appointment of members from various stakeholder sectors would be made through an open public nomination process.
- Since 2012, Parks Canada has worked closely with the RNUP First Nations Advisory Circle on all aspects of the park's establishment and programming, including co-designing park trails and infrastructure, and working together on park restoration, archaeology and educational programming.
- Parks Canada is working closely with key stakeholders and Indigenous partners in designing the park's flagship learning, visitor and community centre in the Toronto area of the park, with public engagement on the centre's concept expected to take place in late 2020, and a targeted opening date of fall 2023.
- Over the next three years, a significant amount of new trails, visitor amenities and conservation projects are expected to open or be completed, including the addition of approximately 40 kilometres of new trails and planting of over 100,000 trees and shrubs.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- The establishment of RNUP is now at an advanced stage, with the park's first new trails and day use areas opening in 2019, and Parks Canada now manages 94.7% of lands identified for Rouge National Urban Park.



- In 2017 the *Rouge National Urban Park Act* was amended by the Government of Canada to ensure that ecological integrity is first priority when managing the park, and also to provide greater certainty for farmers.
- To this end, Canada's Minister responsible for Parks Canada committed to providing park farmers with leases of up to 30 years to provide them with long-term stability. Longer term leases give farmers an opportunity to make investments in sustainable agricultural practices and continue providing an important source of locally-grown food to the Greater Toronto Area.
- Parks Canada will continue working collaboratively with farmers to encourage the development and implementation of best farming practices, which will assist in achieving desired ecological conditions across the landscape.
- The RNUP Management Plan was tabled January 16, 2019. In completing the plan, Parks Canada engaged with over 20,000 Canadians and worked closely with Indigenous Peoples, all levels of government, conservationists, farmers, residents, and volunteers in one of the Agency's most significant and largest ever public engagement processes.
- On August 27, 2019, the Government of Canada, Parks Canada and the Toronto Zoo announced an agreement regarding the location of the future RNUP visitor centre, which will be built on the lands formerly part of the Toronto's Zoo's naturalized overflow parking. The facility will be a learning, orientation and community centre where students, visitors and residents learn about the Rouge's as well as about Parks Canada's places across the country.
- On September 23, 2019, the first Parks Canada-built trail and day-use areas in RNUP opened to the public. The 5 km multi-use trail weaves through fields of crops, marshland and shaded woodlots where visitors can observe farming in action, from planting to harvest. The new trail connects the two newly built and opened welcome areas in the Markham area of the park.
- With ecological integrity enshrined as RNUP's first priority, Parks Canada has put into place a very ambitious ecological restoration and species-at-risk recovery program. To this end, since 2014, Parks Canada, the Toronto Zoo and other partners have reintroduced 339 threatened Blanding's turtles into the park.
- As described in the *Rouge National Urban Park Act*, an advisory committee for the Park may be appointed by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change. During Minister McKenna's mandate, she committed to establishing the advisory committee once the park's land assembly was substantially complete and the management plan released.



VISITATION AND VISITOR EXPERIENCES

ISSUE

- To highlight visitation patterns to heritage places.

POINTS TO REGISTER

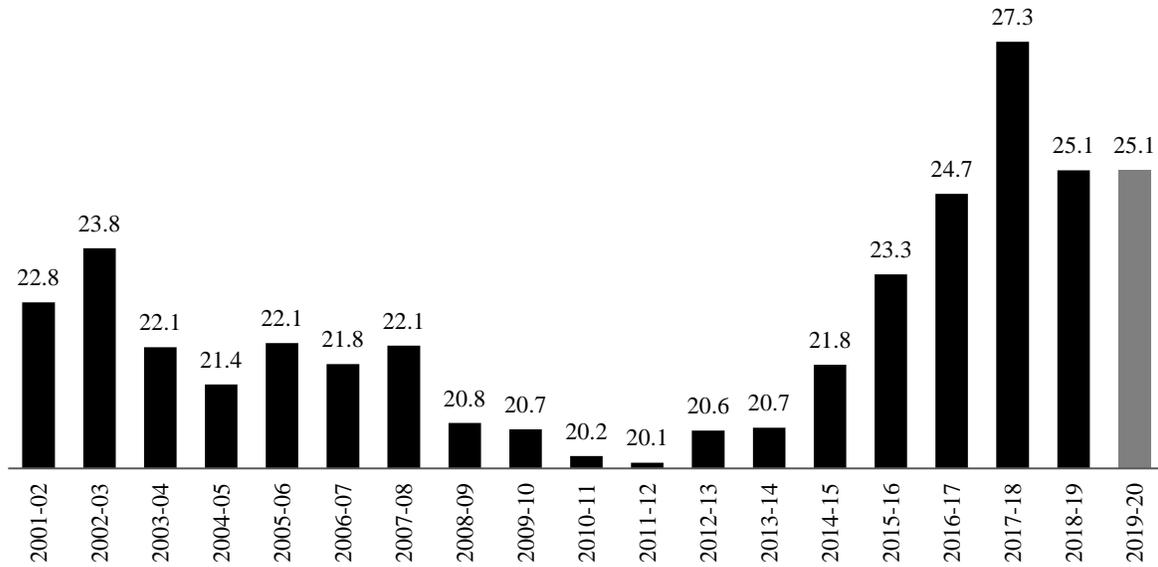
- Heritage places attract millions of visitors annually and are important economic engines in communities across Canada.
- Visitation in 2018-19, the most recent figures available, was 25.1 million. National parks received 15.9 million visitors, while visitation to national historic sites (including canals) was 9.2 million.
- Visitation in 2018-19 was the second highest in almost two decades, second only to 2017 which had free admission as part of Canada 150 celebrations.
- Visitation in 2018-19 was on par (1% higher) with 2016-17. Parks Canada maintained previous gains in visitation achieved prior to free admission, providing continued economic benefits to local communities and businesses.
- Visitation in 2019-20 is projected to be approximately 25 million, on par with last year (2018-19). Final figures are not yet available.
- When people visit heritage places, they experience a stronger connection to Canada's nature and history.
- Maintaining ecological and commemorative integrity is a prerequisite to all programs and activities supporting the enjoyment of heritage places.
- Visitor programming helps bring Canadians closer together. Citizenship ceremonies held at Parks Canada places celebrate Canada's diversity as does the Agency's program for free admission for one year for all new citizens. Parks Canada's Learn to Camp program introduces families to outdoor recreation who may not have previously experienced camping or had opportunities to enjoy the outdoors.
- Families can enjoy heritage places more cost effectively. Youth aged 17 and under can experience heritage places for free.
- Parks Canada is committed to protecting the ecological and commemorative integrity of the heritage places administered by the Agency and implements a variety of tools to limit development and manage visitation. These tools are rooted in public consultation and engagement and include tools like management plans, zoning, environmental assessment, and demand management.



- Parks Canada delivers meaningful experiences to 25 million visitors each year while also ensuring that the enjoyment of heritage places does not negatively impact their ecological or commemorative integrity.

BACKGROUND

Parks Canada annual visitation (million)





WOOD BUFFALO NATIONAL PARK WORLD HERITAGE SITE ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

ISSUE

- In 2017, the UNESCO's World Heritage Committee requested that Canada develop an Action Plan for the Wood Buffalo National Park World Heritage Site to address threats to the site's Outstanding Universal Value as a result of climate change and pressures from the increasing pace and scale of development (hydro-electric and oil sands) outside its boundaries.
- The Action Plan was submitted to the World Heritage Committee on February 1, 2019 and tabled in Parliament in March 2019.
- The Action Plan is a comprehensive response to the World Heritage Committee concerns and includes 142 actions that are focused on:
 - strengthening park management in collaboration with Indigenous partners
 - enhancing research, monitoring and management of the Peace-Athabasca Delta using science and Indigenous knowledge
 - establishing new mechanisms to support improved water management in the Peace Athabasca Delta
 - increasing the protection and connectivity of ecosystems within and adjacent to WBNP
 - implementing recovery actions for Whooping Crane and Wood Bison
- In July 2019, the World Heritage Committee welcomed the Action Plan and urged Canada to make additional investments in support of the Plan's implementation due to the complexity of the conservation challenges the park is facing.
- Canada will submit a report on progress with the Action Plan's implementation to the World Heritage Committee by December 1, 2020.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- The Government of Canada recognizes the Outstanding Universal Value of Canada's UNESCO World Heritage sites and is committed to their ongoing protection.
- Through Budget 2018, the Government of Canada has demonstrated its commitment to the protection of the Wood Buffalo National Park World Heritage Site by investing \$27.5 million to support the development of the Action Plan and its early implementation.



- Through the measures outlined in the Action Plan, through ongoing collaboration with partners, and by making use of the best available science and Indigenous knowledge, the Outstanding Universal Value of Wood Buffalo National Park will be preserved and the important issues identified by the World Heritage Committee will be addressed.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- Canada is leading the implementation of the Action Plan in collaboration with the Government of Alberta, Government of British Columbia, Government of Northwest Territories, Indigenous partners of Wood Buffalo National Park and stakeholders.
- Under Budget 2018, Parks Canada Agency received \$27.5 million to develop the Action Plan and support implementation of limited early actions.



VISITOR ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION

ISSUE

- Parks Canada places belong to all Canadians and the Agency is committed to providing an inclusive and engaging network of national heritage places accessible to everyone.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Parks Canada places belong to all Canadians. Parks Canada is actively working to ensure that national parks, national historic sites, and national marine conservation areas are accessible to everyone, no matter their ability, age, sex, gender identity or expression, ethnic or cultural background, faith or any other social identity.
- Some of the heritage places administered by Parks Canada are inherently inaccessible due to their ruggedness and remoteness. It is part of Parks Canada's mandate to create experiential opportunities by making these places as accessible and welcoming as possible.
- Parks Canada's standards for service and programs to visitors are focused on acknowledging each visitor's unique needs and providing experiences that match their needs and expectations.
- Parks Canada is constantly improving its capacity and expertise, to serve all Canadians and is working diligently to meet the objectives of the Accessible Canada Act, in order to continue responding to a broad spectrum of visitor needs.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- Parks Canada's visitor programming, outreach and promotions are inclusive by design and are intended to welcome everyone to Parks Canada places, regardless of their ability, age, sex, gender identity or expression, ethnic or cultural background, faith or any other social identity.
- The Accessible Canada Act was passed in 2019, enabling the creation of new processes and entities to better support the removal of barriers to inclusion as it pertains to people's ability (or disability).
- GBA+, championed by the Treasury Board Secretariat, received a renewed commitment by being referenced in every Ministers' Mandate Letter, in support of the Canadian Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms.



TOURISM AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS

ISSUE

- To highlight importance of heritage places to Canada’s economy.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Heritage places are cornerstones for Canada’s tourism industry. Banff National Park and Lake Louise, the West Coast Trail (in Pacific Rim National Park), the Cabot Trail (in Cape Breton Highlands National Park), and the Fortifications of Quebec are some of the most iconic tourism destinations in Canada.
- Heritage places attract millions of visitors annually and are important economic engines in communities across Canada. Heritage places support job creation, help generate income for local businesses in hundreds of communities across Canada and generate tax revenues for governments.
- In 2017-18, heritage areas administered by Parks Canada generated \$4 billion in gross domestic product and supported approximately 40,000 jobs across the country (most recent data available). This is a contribution to towns and cities across Canada of \$11 million dollars a day to Canada’s economy in 2017-18.
- Spending by visitors supports local businesses. Of the \$4 billion in gross domestic product generated by Parks Canada places, visitor spending in communities comprises 65% of the total contribution and 70% of 40,000 jobs created.
- The next economic impact analysis will be conducted in summer 2020 once the Agency’s financial books are closed on the 2019-20 operating year.

BACKGROUND

- Parks Canada’s organizational spending (\$1.25 billion) combined with spending by visitors (\$3.52 billion) totalled \$4.77 billion in 2017-2018. The overall national impacts derived from this total spending is:
 - a \$4-billion contribution to Canada’s gross domestic product (GDP);
 - \$2.5 billion in labour income;
 - \$532 million in tax revenues for governments (fed, prov/terr and municipal);
 - supported approximately 40,000 full-time equivalent jobs across the country.

Parks Canada Operational Spending Only				Visitor Spending Only			
GDP	Labour Income	Jobs (FTEs)	Tax Revenue	GDP	Labour Income	Jobs (FTEs)	Tax Revenue
\$1.4 billion	\$995 million	11,879	\$83 million	\$2.6 billion	\$1.5 billion	27,824	\$449 million
Total impact (direct, indirect, and induced)							



PROMOTION OF SCIENCE AND CONSERVATION

ISSUE

- Beginning in 2017 Parks Canada undertook a multi-channel communications and promotion initiative to tell Canadians about the Agency's work in science and conservation.
- For Canada 150, Parks Canada invited Canadians and people around the world to come and experience the beauty of their national heritage places, to immerse themselves in history and nature and to engage in the many activities Parks Canada offer. Parks Canada wanted to build on that success and take visitors deeper into our places with a few main objectives:
 - create awareness and understanding of the work the Agency is doing in conservation, science and climate change;
 - highlight the importance of Indigenous knowledge and partnerships to conserving heritage places; and
 - engage and encourage active participation and citizen science.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- There is strong public support and awareness for the protection and conservation of Canada's natural places. Parks Canada's 2018-19 public awareness tracking indicates that 9 in 10 Canadians support the Agency's mandate to protect and present Canada's heritage and that 5 in 10 Canadians are interested in learning more about the science and conservation work of Parks Canada.
- Parks Canada is committed to sharing the stories of conservation and science at national parks, national historic sites, and national marine conservation areas with Canadians and has been delivering a multi-channel communications and promotion initiative focused on science and conservation since 2017.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- As a recognized leader in conservation, it is important for Parks Canada to communicate about the Agency's important role in helping to mitigate the impacts of climate change by protecting and restoring healthy, resilient ecosystems and contributing to the recovery of species at risk.
- The *Nature Legacy for Canada* initiative announced in Budget 2018 represents a historic investment in conservation in Canada, and will enhance the Agency's ability to achieve its mandate in the protection of natural heritage in the context of climate change.



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- The communications and promotion efforts over the last three years brought increased awareness and understanding amongst Canadians of the role Parks Canada plays in the protection and conservation of our heritage places. Parks Canada reached millions of Canadians through its online channels, and engaged with the public through outreach events and on-site, in person learning activities.



COLLECTIONS CONSOLIDATION

ISSUE

- The Government of Canada will invest \$66 million to build a special-purpose collection facility and consolidate the national collection of artifacts under Parks Canada's care into the new facility.
- The consolidated approach ensures the sustainable long-term care and management and conservation of the collection. The collection will be safeguarded in a Class A environment, systematically organized, managed and monitored by a national team of collection, curatorial and conservation specialists. Consolidation will eliminate redundant facility, equipment and maintenance costs.

BACKGROUND AND CURRENT STATUS

- In 2012, the Government of Canada decided to consolidate the existing facilities into one, newly constructed, special-purpose collection facility in Gatineau, Quebec.
- This facility is the most sustainable long-term way to secure, conserve and manage the collection, which was confirmed as the best value for money by Public Services and Procurement Canada's 2015 Investment Analysis Report and reaffirmed in 2019. The new facility will also allow Canadians, including Indigenous and community groups from across the country, to have better access to the collection for research, ceremonial and educational purposes.
- Five of the facilities, due to age, require significant investment to bring them to the required conservation and security standards. It is estimated that 60% of the collection is under threat from inappropriate environmental storage conditions and lack of appropriate security.
- Land in Gatineau was acquired from Library and Archives Canada in January 2018 at a cost of \$405k. Design consultants Moriyama and Teshima Architects + NFOE were hired in January 2018 to complete the design phase of the new facility at a contract cost of \$2.54 million. Design work was completed in fall 2019. Currently, specifications and plans for construction are complete, and tendering for construction services expected in spring 2020. Construction is expected to start in June 2020. Subject to the construction schedule, it is anticipated the collection will be moved by 2023-24.
- Indigenous communities have expressed concerns regarding moving Indigenous artifacts from current regional locations to the consolidated facility. To date, Parks Canada has engaged with 43 interested Indigenous communities in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan and contacted over 100. Parks Canada's engagement, which is focused on enhancing access to the collection and informing its care and handling, is continuing with communities further west and north. Parks Canada has and will meet with other interested groups regarding increased access to the collection.



CONTROVERSIAL HISTORIC SITES AND MONUMENTS BOARD OF CANADA DESIGNATIONS

ISSUE

- Parks Canada will be appearing before the Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development and may be asked to provide an update on work with the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC) on addressing controversial designations.
- Canada's National Program of Historical Commemoration is administered by Parks Canada and supports the work of the HSMBC in recommending to the Minister the designation of persons, places and events of national historic significance. These designations reflect the depth and breadth of Canadian history including darker chapters from our history.
- In response to several controversies on historical figures such as Hector-Louis Langevin, Sir John A. Macdonald and Lord Jeffrey Amherst, the Minister mandated the HSMBC to develop a set of principles to guide how the government should address controversial designations. Principles for the Careful Review of Existing Designations are included in Parks Canada's *Framework for Historic and Commemoration: National Historic Sites System Plan* (2019) and provide an approach to reviewing controversial designations.
- Following the establishment of these principles within the new Framework, the Minister further mandated the HSMBC to examining under what conditions an existing designation should be revoked. This work is ongoing.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- The principles and approach outlined in the Careful Review of Existing Designations in the *Framework for History and Commemoration: National Historic Sites of System Plan* (2019) provides the HSMBC and government with a consistent approach to reviewing controversial designations.
- Parks Canada is undertaking a review of all existing national designations (2200+) with a view to identifying those that require immediate revision based on the principles set out in the Framework.
- Parks Canada and the HSMBC continue to work on developing guidance on when an existing designation should be revoked.



BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- Over the years, there has been an enormous shift in historical understandings and perspectives on the past and an acknowledgment that for the most part, Canada's history has largely been viewed through a colonial lens. This has resulted in significant controversies around historical figures and events with calls to have names removed from buildings, designations revoked or updated to reflect a more balanced perspective on the past, particularly as it relates to Indigenous history and perspectives on people, places and events.
- The *Framework for History and Commemoration: National Historic Sites System Plan* was approved by the Minister in June 2019 and provides principles and an approach to reviewing controversial designations. This new Framework was reviewed by scholars and cultural experts from across Canada and underwent public consultation prior to ministerial approval.
- The key principles for addressing controversial designations are:
 - Historical interpretations of the past are constantly evolving, and should reflect changes in society and our knowledge of the past.
 - Historical interpretations should emphasize a full range of voices and experiences, and the work of the HSMBC must be inclusive and involve members of the public.
 - History is written from a world view. Earlier designations reflect the time and context when they were designated and should not be erased. How we interpret significance today needs to evolve.
- The work being done by Parks Canada and the HSMBC to examine under what conditions a designation may be revoked is complex and requires further analysis. Parks Canada has undertaken a preliminary assessment of all 2200+ designations with the goal of prioritizing which designations require immediate review to inform potential revisions of plaque texts and statements of significance.
- Preliminary conclusions indicate that there are more than 200 designations requiring review, including some Parks Canada administered sites and persons and events associated with those national historic designations. For example, the designation of Fort Battleford National Historic Site, which emphasizes the story of the North West Mounted Police, has come under public scrutiny and needs to be revised to take into account Indigenous perspectives on this place. The designation of Sir John A. Macdonald, who is interpreted at Bellevue House National Historic Site, needs to be revised with attention given to the substantial scholarship which has expanded knowledge about his role in the treatment of Indigenous Peoples. The work done revising these designations will support stronger public interpretation and more relevant visitor experiences at these significant historic places.



CALL TO ACTION 79 – TRANSFORMING THE HISTORICAL NARRATIVE AT PARKS CANADA PLACES (INDIGENOUS COMMEMORATION)

ISSUE

- Parks Canada will be appearing before the Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development and may be asked to provide an update on the \$23.9 million received through Budget 2018 to implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action 79. \$15.2 million is new funding with the remaining coming from existing resources.
- A key element of the funding received through Budget 2018 is to ensure indigenous views, history and heritage are fully integrated into the national historic sites, parks and marine conservation areas managed by Parks Canada. This involves transforming the historical narrative at 15-25 heritage places by working in partnership with Indigenous peoples to co-develop a new way of understanding and experiencing these places.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Parks Canada is committed to implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action 79.
- As part of the funding received through Budget 2018, Parks Canada and Indigenous partners will transform the historical narrative at select places administered by Parks Canada by co-developing new ways of understanding and experiencing these places and ensuring Indigenous perspectives are fully present and acknowledged.
- With the funding received, Parks Canada has selected 25 projects from across the country to begin this important work. Engagement with Indigenous partners is critical to successful co-development and understating the objectives of our partners during these early stages is key.
- A significant portion of the funding received from Budget 2018 is for capacity assistance so Indigenous partners have the capacity and resources they require to work collaboratively with Parks Canada. This work is currently underway.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- Call to Action 79 calls upon the federal government, in collaboration with Survivors, Aboriginal organizations, and the arts community, to develop a reconciliation framework for Canadian heritage and commemoration. This would include, but not be limited to:



- i. Amending the Historic Sites and Monuments Act to include First Nations, Inuit, and Métis representation on the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada and its Secretariat.
 - ii. Revising the policies, criteria, and practices of the National Program of Historical Commemoration to integrate Indigenous history, heritage values, and memory practices into Canada's national heritage and history.
 - iii. Developing and implementing a national heritage plan and strategy for commemorating residential school sites, the history and legacy of residential schools, and the contributions of Aboriginal peoples to Canada's history
- There has been an enormous shift in historical understandings and perspectives on the past over the years and an acknowledgment that for the most part, Canada's history has largely been viewed through a colonial lens. The *Framework for History and Commemoration: National Historic Sites System Plan*, approved in June 2019, provides principles, strategic priorities and key practices that will help Parks Canada transform how it presents the country's history to Canadians.
 - The history of Indigenous Peoples is identified as a priority in the Framework and is supported by key practices that have been adopted by Parks Canada, including seeking opportunities for Indigenous peoples to share and communicate their history on their own terms. The Framework is the foundation for transforming the historical narrative at Parks Canada's heritage places and Budget 2018 will accelerate this work with respect to the incorporation of Indigenous voices, values and perspectives.
 - Parks Canada places with project funding include Jasper NP (AB), Cave and Basin NHS (AB), Fort Langley NHS (BC), Kluane NP, Vuntut NP, Klondike NHS, Chilkoot NHS, S.S. Klondike NHS (YK), Fort Battleford (SK), Rouge NUP (ON), Fort Chambly NHS (QC), Torngat and Mealy NPs (NL) and Skmaq -Port La Joye- Fort Amherst NHS (PEI).
 - Of the \$15.2 million in new funding received to implement CTA79, \$4.4 million is dedicated to transforming the historical narrative at select PCA sites across the country. Over half of this funding is targeted for capacity assistance directly to Indigenous partners.



PROVINCE HOUSE NHS CONSERVATION PROJECT

ISSUE

- The Province House National Historic Site Conservation project is a comprehensive and total conservation of the 172-year-old building known as the birthplace of Confederation and the site of the Prince Edward Island Provincial Legislature.
- A news release issued on February 5, 2020, announced \$30.7 million in funding for completion of the project, bringing the total to \$91.8 million. An Access to Information request was subsequently received requesting information related to budget overages.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Due to the size and complexity of this project, funding has been allocated incrementally. This has ensured a better understanding of the scope of the project as the layers of the building have been uncovered. This incremental budgeting approach has been well publicized to stakeholders and the media.
- Work is progressing well and the building is expected to be open to the public again in 2022.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- Province House National Historic Site, the seat of the PEI Legislative Assembly, is owned by the Province of PEI and operated and maintained by the Federal Government via Parks Canada Agency, through a 1974 MOA.
- The Government of Canada is investing in the conservation of this historic structure through Parks Canada's Federal Infrastructure Investment and Capital Asset Investment programs, and Budget 2017 funding. The conservation project is being managed by Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) on behalf of Parks Canada.
- The Province House NHS conservation project began in 2015 and is scheduled to be completed in Spring 2022. Recent funding will be used to complete the final phases of the project, refitting the building for occupation and public access and developing new ways to share the story of Confederation to visitors. Work will also include reinstallation of the building's electrical and mechanical systems, interior finishes, fire code compliance, and universal accessibility upgrades. The fourth and final phase of the project will centre on the design, development and installation of new



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interpretive media. A visitor experience plan for the site will be developed in consultation with stakeholders in early 2020.



LIRICON GONDOLA PROPOSAL IN BANFF NATIONAL PARK

ISSUE

- On December 19, 2019, Parks Canada communicated to Liricon Capital Limited that their proposal for redevelopment of the Mount Norquay ski area into a year-round attraction via development of a gondola would not be considered further based on its lack of conformance with key policy and its adverse impacts on a public access road. Subsequently, the owners of the company have publicly stated that they intend to submit a revised proposal.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Parks Canada is committed to protecting the environment and to providing exceptional visitor experiences. Carefully planned and managed ski areas can provide meaningful national park visits and learning experiences while complementing the conservation and restoration objectives of Parks Canada.
- Canadians have high expectations for the protection of their national parks and they have clearly supported policies limiting commercial development and growth as a cornerstone to that protection.
- After careful review and consideration, the proposal was declined because it did not conform with key policies concerning limits to growth and development at ski areas, and would have adverse impacts on public access to the area. The environmental benefits that may have been wrought through a gondola can be achieved through other means.

BACKGROUND/CURRENT STATUS

- On June 1, 2018, Liricon Capital Limited tabled a feasibility study (proposal) for a 4.4 km long gondola connecting the town of Banff with the Mt Norquay Ski Area, then extending further outside the ski area to the summit of Mt. Norquay. The proposal also included construction of: a main lodge; a 39,000 ft² pavilion and boardwalks on the Mt. Norquay summit; parking for up to 3000 cars on CP land in the townsite; and closure of the public Norquay Access Road.
- The proposal concept also included significant re-development of the train station into inside the town of Banff, and reinstating passenger rail to Banff from Calgary. In November 2019, Liricon verbally advised Parks Canada officials that the passenger rail was no longer a component of their project and, while it may or may not happen in future, Liricon would not be the proponent.
- The majority of the proposal development was located on undeveloped lands outside the ski area lease.



- Liricon framed their proposal as an environmentally friendly public transit initiative aiming to: reduce vehicle congestion in Banff; augment parking in the townsite at no cost to residents; and reduce the impacts of human use activity in the Cascade wildlife corridor.
- Extensive review of the proposal was undertaken according to the criteria specified in the Terms of Reference provided to the proponent, the first component of which is an analysis for conformity with applicable policy and statutes. A number of these policies pertain to managing limits to development in Banff National Park. Parks Canada has, over the past 30 years, established limits to growth based upon science and public engagement. These limits to development are generally accepted by the public, tourism and environmental interests.
- While the Superintendent's decision did not provide for further consideration of the proposal, it did indicate that those components of the proposal that were located within the lease boundary and which were consistent with the lease, park management plan, site guidelines and other applicable policy could be resubmitted for Parks Canada's review as a new or amended Long Range Plan.
- The proponent has indicated to the local media that they will resubmit a proposal that "addresses Parks Canada's concerns". It is highly likely that this will include a gondola between the ski area and the town of Banff.



SNOW REMOVAL ON THE PATHWAY OF THE LACHINE CANAL HISTORIC SITE

ISSUE

- A multi-purpose pathway borders the Lachine Canal National Historic Site; it is one of the most used pathways in Montreal.
- Parks Canada maintains the pathway from April 15 to November 15.
- For several years, city officials and interest groups have been pressuring Parks Canada to have the snow removed from the pathway in order to turn it into a year-round active transportation corridor.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT SITUATION

- From 2016 to 2019, at the request of la Ville de Montréal, Parks Canada contributed (\$25,000) for the conduct of a feasibility study as part of a pilot project on snow removal on an approximately 500m- to 1km-section of the pathway on the north side of the canal between Richmond Street and the Smith Promenade.
- The preliminary findings of the feasibility study were shared with Parks Canada on February 17, 2019, and presented by la Ville de Montréal officials to stakeholders on February 15, 2019. The study shows that the current characteristics of the pathway are not suitable for snow removal and that it must therefore be rebuilt: poor structural capacity, inadequate thickness, high susceptibility to ground frost, poor soil drainage, loss of the snow's insulating capacity and acceleration of the degradation, dangers such as stagnant puddles of water and soil heaving caused by roots, etc.
- A subsequent analysis of other factors to take into account when rebuilding the pathway (such as the very high cost of disposing of contaminated soil, the presence of barriers along the pathway to retain the waters of the adjacent urban environment, adaptations of bridges, tunnels and walkways that are not suited for snow removal, the costs associated with archaeological monitoring and environmental studies, alterations of the appearance and accessibility of the site, etc) were also considered.
- During the public consultation on the Lachine Canal Master Plan in 2017, requests for a winter recreational offer were often expressed and they included snowshoeing, winter walking, fat-tire biking, skating and also winter cycling (requiring that the pathway be cleared of snow).

POINTS TO BE CONSIDERED

- Parks Canada is continuing to evaluate the options regarding snow removal on the pathway so that it can be used by winter cyclists and they will communicate their decision shortly.
- Parks Canada is working with partners on the implementation of an agreeable solution.
- At present, Parks Canada is already collaborating with la Ville de Montréal which is maintaining a separate 2km-portion of the pathway to allow for the practice of winter activities such as snowshoeing, winter walking and fat-tire biking.



MANITOBA 150 CELEBRATIONS

ISSUE

- The Province of Manitoba is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2020 and is planning a number of activities to take place on various dates throughout the year. The year 2020 also marks the 150th Anniversary of the Métis Nation in Canada.
- Both the Forks NHS and Lower Fort Garry NHS have links to 150th Anniversary of the Métis Nation in 2020, and the 150th Anniversary of Treaty No. 1 in 2021.
- In addition, the 350th Anniversary of Hudson Bay Company takes place in 2020, which implicates multiple sites in Manitoba, primarily Lower Fort Garry and York Factory NHS.
- The Province of Manitoba is the lead for celebrations. Parks Canada is not playing a lead role, however is participating in celebrations where possible.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Parks Canada is excited to support Manitoba 150 celebrations where possible, and has a number of activities planned to support this important anniversary.
- The Province of Manitoba is the lead for celebrations.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- Parks Canada is in regular contact with Manitoba 150 planners who are still determining the full scope of Manitoba 150 events; the list continues to evolve. Current activities in which Parks Canada is participating includes:
 - The Manitoba 150 skating trails at The Forks have been extended onto Parks Canada property at The Forks NHS
 - Canada Day Métis Friendship Celebration (July 1) – annual partnered event between PCA and the Manitoba Métis Federation at Lower Fort Garry NHS (this year's event will coincide with Métis 150!)
 - PCA-led York Boat Exhibit in Celebration of Manitoba 150 and HBC 350 -- This exhibit will be celebrated on National Historic Places Day (July 4, 2020) and feature interpretation and activities
 - Friends of Lower Fort Garry - HBC 350 Coin -- A heritage chocolate grant from Mars has been awarded to the Friends of Lower Fort Garry for a project to create HBC 350 commemorative coins
 - Supporting third-party led events that will be held at or near PCA places;
 - The [2020 Métis ox cart expedition](#) (which departed February 17) will likely stop at Riel House NHS and end near The Forks NHS;
 - **Manitoba Day:** Parks Canada Outreach presence at this event on May 12, 2020 at The Forks and/or the Legislative Grounds (led by [Manitoba 150](#));
 - Unite 150 event: Parks Canada Outreach presence at this event on June 27, 2020 at The Forks and/or the Legislative Grounds (led by [Manitoba 150](#)).



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- Explore 150 -- Riel House NHS and Lower Fort Garry NHS are included on the Explore 150 app that inspires you to visit 150 key destinations in Manitoba.



BATOCHÉ NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

ISSUE

- The Métis Nation - Saskatchewan has long expressed its interest to the Government of Canada in the return of Batoche to the Métis and in having a greater say in the day-to-day management of the site.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Reconciliation and improved relationships with all Indigenous peoples, including the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan, is a priority of the Government of Canada.
- Parks Canada is committed to a system of national heritage places that commemorates the contributions of Indigenous peoples, their histories and cultures, as well as the special relationship Indigenous peoples have with traditional lands and waters.
- The Agency is committed to strengthening cooperative management structures to enhance Indigenous Peoples' voice in management decisions.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- Located an hour northeast of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Batoche NHS commemorates the armed conflict between the Métis Provisional Government and the Canadian Government in 1885, the Métis community at Batoche and the Métis river lot land use patterns. The site attracts approximately 14,000 visitors a year and is an important economic and heritage resource for the region.
- Parks Canada is open to considering a number of different options for Batoche NHS with the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan, and is working with the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan to further explore the mutual interest in these options.
- In 1998, Parks Canada and Métis Nation - Saskatchewan signed an interest-based "Batoche National Historic Site Management Agreement" which provides for a co-operative, shared management board for the site. Métis Nation - Saskatchewan did not have a functioning executive from 2014 until an election was held in May 2017; as a result, the Shared Management Board became inactive in 2014, and has not been reconvened since installation of the new executive.
- Preliminary discussions have begun between the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan and Parks Canada on an 'Open Doors' agreement. Parks Canada is discussing free admission to Batoche, and possibly other sites in Saskatchewan for Métis Nation – Saskatchewan citizens.
- The Government of Canada and Métis Nation - Saskatchewan have entered into negotiations under the Recognition of Indigenous Rights and Self-Determination (RIRSD) process, and signed a *Framework Agreement for Advancing Reconciliation* on July 21, 2018.



SIGNAL HILL FENCE PROJECT

ISSUE

- In July 2019, a wooden fence along a portion of the performance field at Signal Hill National Historic Site replaced the temporary fencing (camouflage netting) that had been in place during Tattoo performances since 2015. The wooden fence was intended to improve the visitor experience and address safety concerns during the Signal Hill Tattoo and other performances, which occur close to a busy road.
- Construction of the fence resulted in a significant negative reaction from media and the public, who raised concerns about the appearance of the fence and impacts on the view. Parks Canada heard the public's concerns and removed the wooden fence within a week after it was erected. The fence cost \$65,000 to construct. The materials will be used in other Parks Canada projects.
- Going forward, Parks Canada will continue to explore other options that will address public safety concerns and improve the visitor experience, while not obstructing the view from that area of Signal Hill National Historic Site.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Signal Hill National Historic Site is an iconic Canadian location – and a special place for Newfoundlanders and Labradorians.
- Parks Canada clearly heard the public's concerns and removed the wooden fence along a portion of the performance field at Signal Hill. The materials will be used for other Parks Canada projects.
- Parks Canada will continue to review a range of options including modified security measures, modified programming and temporary barriers to achieve the objectives of improved visitor experience and public safety during performances in a way that does not block the incredible view from Signal Hill.
- No permanent fence will be in place for 2020.
- Parks Canada places belong to all Canadians and we appreciate the community's engagement on this issue and their passion for Signal Hill.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- As part of a larger infrastructure enhancement project to improve the Signal Hill NHS performance field, a wooden fence was installed in July 2019 between the



performance field, and the section of Signal Hill road directly adjacent to the visitor centre.

- Although it replaced temporary fencing that had been in place during Tattoo performances over the past number of years, this section of permanent fencing generated critical reactions on social media and regular media by the general public and community leaders. The majority, if not all comments on the issue, were negative.
- In light of public reaction, Parks Canada removed the fence and is exploring options for a more permanent solution that meets operational needs and is acceptable to the public.
- A statement to this effect was sent to media contacts on the evening of July 17. Follow up media occurred for approximately one week, with a number of ATIP requests received. One additional story was carried on CBC in January 2020.
- All revenues from fees collected at national parks, historic sites and marine conservation areas are re-invested in the same places where they are collected to support visitor programs, services, and facilities. Visitor fees never exceed the costs of delivering the service to visitors. Visitor fees only ever recover costs of delivering services to visitors, keeping visitor experiences affordable.
- When a visitor purchases an entry ticket for a Signal Hill Tattoo performance, a portion of the ticket cost equal to the standard site entry fee is directed to Parks Canada with the remainder of the ticket cost directed to The Signal Hill Tattoo Association, a not-for-profit organization that depends upon this revenue to support its operations.



RIDEAU CANAL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE AND WORLD HERITAGE SITE **STATE OF CONSERVATION**

ISSUE

- Parks Canada received correspondence from the UNESCO World Heritage Centre on November 4, 2019 regarding the state of conservation of the Rideau Canal National Historic Site and World Heritage Site.
- The correspondence included a Technical Review undertaken by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) which suggested that two proposed developments – the addition to the Château Laurier Hotel in Ottawa and the Rideau Marina Residential Development in Kingston – could have a significantly negative impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the Rideau Canal and should not proceed until their full impacts have been assessed.
- The former Vice President of Indigenous Affairs and Cultural Heritage sent a response to the World Heritage Centre. Concurrently, letters were sent to the Mayor, City of Ottawa; Mayor, City of Kingston; CEO, National Capital Commission; and the proponents of the proposed developments (Larco Investments and Homestead Land Holdings Ltd.). All correspondence was sent on February 7, 2020.
- Media requests have since been addressed, and media coverage appeared in both Ottawa and Kingston during the week of February 10 - 16, 2020. No further media requests have been received at this time.
- The correspondence and media lines were developed in consultation with the offices of the Executive Director and Director for the Ontario Waterways Field Unit and the Parks Canada Corporate Communications team.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- The Château Laurier Hotel and Rideau Marina in Kingston are privately-owned properties. The authority to approve any application to alter the Château Laurier property rests with the City of Ottawa. The authority over the Rideau Marina project rests with the City of Kingston.
- Parks Canada has played a role in helping assess and address any potential visual impacts that the proposed developments would have on the Rideau Canal and visual linkages with surrounding landscapes.
- At this time, both proposed developments are subject to appeals at the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT). No timeline has been established for the LPAT to provide decisions on the current appeals. No work can proceed on either of the proposed developments while the respective appeals are pending.



- Parks Canada continues to encourage the private owners of the Château Laurier Hotel and the Rideau Marina to manage the properties in accordance with the *Standards & Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*. Parks Canada has also offered the assistance of the Agency's heritage conservation specialists to explore potential options to ensure the heritage value of the properties are maintained.
- Parks Canada's Ontario Waterways Field Unit will continue to work with partners and stakeholders to ensure the ongoing protection of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Rideau Canal National Historic Site and World Heritage Site.
- Should concerns regarding the Outstanding Universal Value of the property arise in the future, Parks Canada will consider the feasibility of conducting an additional heritage impact assessment, as recommended by ICOMOS in their Technical Review.



GEORGES ISLAND PROJECT

ISSUE

- In 2020, Parks Canada will begin offering new opportunities for visitor experiences on Georges Island National Historic Site, located in the Halifax harbour.
- Parks Canada is working in collaboration with Develop NS, a provincial crown corporation, who received \$1.035 million in funding through Infrastructure Canada's *Investing in Canada* infrastructure plan, which they matched with \$1.035 in funding (through Develop Nova Scotia and Nova Scotia Tourism) for a total of \$2.07 million. In addition, Parks Canada is investing \$1.6 million to develop interpretive elements and visitor programming as well as amenities such as picnic tables and benches.
- The aim is to begin offering public visitation in July 2020.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- As a significant positive addition to Nova Scotia's tourism offer on the Halifax Waterfront, Parks Canada is pleased to work with the province, through Develop Nova Scotia and Nova Scotia Tourism, and Infrastructure Canada through their *Investing in Canada* infrastructure plan, to ensure that Georges Island National Historic Site can be enjoyed by all Canadians.
- With an investment of \$3.7 million from the federal and provincial governments, work is currently underway to put the necessary infrastructure in place to ensure safe access for the public, including a wharf, visitor programming, and amenities such as picnic tables, benches, interpretive signage and pathways. Planning is underway to begin offering visitor experiences in July.
- Stories will be shared in a way that respects and reflects the diverse groups that are connected with Georges Island, including the Acadian and Mi'kmaq people of Nova Scotia
- The specific details of this visitor experience such as transportation, frequency, and fees will be determined in the near future in conjunction with our partners.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- The Halifax Waterfront is the busiest tourism destination in Atlantic Canada with approximately 3 million visitors each year, including 320,000 cruise ship passengers. Georges Island is an important place for local Nova Scotians and visitors alike, and regular access will build upon and enhance the entire Halifax Waterfront experience.



- While there has been no regular access to Georges Island in the past, Parks Canada has worked with partners since the 1990s to provide access through special events such as the 2017 sold out “Tall Ship” event, and also facilitated private tours.
- Parks Canada has always recognized the ongoing public interest in Georges Island National Historic Site as a tourism attraction in Halifax.
- In August 2019, a total of \$3.7 million in funding was announced:
 - \$1.035 from Infrastructure Canada (Investing in Canada plan) matched with
 - \$1.035 in Provincial support (through Develop NS and Tourism Nova Scotia) for a total of \$2.07 million
 - \$1.6 million from Parks Canada to develop new visitor experienceTotal \$3.7 million
- Parks Canada and Develop Nova Scotia will be testing the market and assessing feasibility over the first two years of regular visitation to Georges Island.
- Regarding visitor fees, the details of the visitor experience have yet to be determined so it is too early to determine what the fee would be.



TRANS-CANADA HIGHWAY

ISSUE

- To provide a status update for the Agency's twinning of the Trans-Canada Highway (TCH) in its National Parks (NPs) located in Alberta and British Columbia (BC).

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Since the creation of the Park Canada Agency in 1998, \$353.5 million in supplementary funding has been provided for TCH twinning in NPs enabling the twinning of 82 km in Banff NP and 6 km in Yoho NP.
- Ninety-seven kilometers of TCH remains untwinned in NPs located in British Columbia.
- Parks Canada continues to seek opportunities to extend TCH twinning in its NPs located in BC.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- Three hundred and twenty kilometres of the TCH from the AB/BC border to Vancouver remain untwinned. Parks Canada is the custodian of 97 km of the untwinned sections of the TCH (40 km Yoho NP, 44 km Glacier NP, 13 km Revelstoke NP). PCA untwinned sections of the TCH are the least reliable and in the most challenging terrain making them the most susceptible to closures and delays. Many incidents would be eliminated entirely by safety improvements inherent in upgrading to a twinned highway.
- PCA previously submitted applications in 2017 and 2019 to Transport Canada's National Trade Corridors Fund (NTCF) program seeking funding to continue twinning the TCH in BC. These applications were unsuccessful noting that very little of the NTCF funding was provided to highway projects.
- The funding estimate to complete TCH twinning in NPs located in BC is in the range of \$1.5 billion (Yoho NP \$370 million; Mount Revelstoke NP \$140 million and over \$1 billion for Glacier NP). Preparatory work (i.e. detailed impact assessment, design) for twinning the remaining 40 km in Yoho is nearing completion; therefore, ready for twinning construction.
- Total planned investment for TCH for twinning and rehabilitation under BC jurisdiction over the next several years is approximately \$1.7 Billion.



PARKS CANADA NATIONAL FIRE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

ISSUE

- Under the *Canada National Parks Act*, Parks Canada is responsible for wildland fire management on federal lands under its jurisdiction. The Agency fulfills this responsibility through its National Fire Management Program.
- Parks Canada is the only federal organization with operational wildfire management resources. As a steward of federal Crown lands in Canada, Parks Canada has an obligation to prepare for and respond to wildfires and wildfire risks.
- Parks Canada regularly contributes fire management resources to assist provinces, territories and international governments through the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre (CIFFC), most recently deploying personnel to support Australia.

POINTS TO REGISTER

- Parks Canada is proud to have sent members of its fire management team to Australia during their devastating wildfire season. As part of the Canadian response, Parks Canada has deployed 13 team members to Australia since the beginning of December 2019, including the only female in the first Canadian deployment.
- Parks Canada is working in collaboration with other government departments to advance sustainable fire management and to improve our ability to understand and manage fire on the landscape in the context of climate change.

BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

- Parks Canada's fire management program has four objectives: (1) to mitigate wildfire risks, and control and manage wildfires to protect "values at risk"; (2) to maintain the role of fire as a natural ecological process; (3) to maintain readiness to respond to wildfires; and (4) to maintain Parks Canada's obligations to partner agencies.
- Parks Canada collaborates with federal, provincial, territorial, and international governments as well as the academic, non-profit, and private sectors to prepare for and respond to wildfires. Parks Canada is a member of CIFFC, which coordinates the sharing of resources for wildfire response across Canada and internationally.
- Wildfires in Canada and internationally have become more intense, faster moving, and longer lasting, creating increased risk to the safety and security of Canadians, to economic activity, and to critical infrastructure. All climate change scenarios indicate that this trend is highly likely to continue. Canada, including Parks Canada, is facing wildfire resource and capacity challenges as the frequency and damages resulting from wildfires are increasing.



FIRE STATISTICS

- Between 2014 and 2018 there was an average of **118 wildfires/year** on Parks Canada administered lands. Year over year:
 - 2014: 83
 - 2015: 122
 - 2016: 70
 - 2017: 167
 - 2018: 146

- Between 2015 and 2019 there was an average of **18 prescribed fires/year completed** on Parks Canada administered lands. An average of **39 prescribed fires were planned/year**.

YEAR	No of Prescribed Fires	
	Planned	Completed
2015	46	18
2016	44	20
2017	36	20
2018	38	18
2019	31	13

- The Agency budgets **\$7.3 million/year** for:
 - Prevention
 - Mitigation and reduction
 - Wildfire response

In addition, the average amount spent on prescribed fires for habitat restoration over the course of 2014-2017 was approximately **\$1.5 million/year**.

- Capacity
 - ~65 FTE employed year round focused on fire
- - ~ 68 seasonal staff (4 person crews)
 - The use of other staff that are trained to support fire management activities



COVID-19

WHAT IS PARKS CANADA DOING TO RESPOND TO COVID-19?

Parks Canada is committed to providing a safe and healthy work environment for employees. With the possible onset of Coronavirus disease, Parks Canada has made it a priority to provide managers and employees with updated and readily accessible information in order to better support all employees and to maintain a safe and healthy work environment.

1. Communications to Staff

As of March 10, 2020, Parks Canada has issued two all-staff emails regarding the coronavirus and has a dedicated page on its intranet site that includes links to Health Canada and Public Health Agency of Canada information resources. This information has also been shared with Parks Canada's national union representatives.

Employees who do not have access to the Internet may also call the Agency's Information line at 1-833-784-4397 toll-free, or talk to their doctor.

2. Occupational Health and Safety

Parks Canada's advice to staff regarding personal protective measures is fully aligned with that being provided by the Public Health Agency of Canada to the general population.

Health Canada's Public Service Occupational Health Program is responsible for issuing specific occupational health advice on personal protective measures for public service employees, including health care workers.

At this time, no specific advice specifically targets Parks Canada's occupational groups or requires individualized measures to be taken.

When questions arise, Parks Canada's network of national and regional occupational health and safety coordinators are available to provide advice that is tailored to unique circumstances. In addition, a dedicated Employee and Family Assistance hotline is available to all Parks Canada employees.

3. Alternate Work Arrangements

Parks Canada employees can be authorized, subject to management approval, to perform the duties of their position that are ordinarily performed at the workplace at an alternative location. Most Agency employees whose regular duties can be reasonably performed via an alternate work arrangement have the tools and technology already in place to do so effectively.

Alternately, many Agency employees have duties that cannot be performed outside their regular workplace. This is why an employee's manager will review and approve any requests to telework or other flexible work arrangements.



4. Whole-of-Government response

Parks Canada is actively involved in the Whole-of-Government response being coordinated by the Government Operations Centre and which complements and aligns to the federal Emergency Response Plan.

This involvement will continue to include capacity, capability and risk assessment, communications and coordination, and training and exercising. Through this horizontal engagement, Parks Canada is ensuring a cohesive and consistent response to that being undertaken by our counterparts in the broader federal family.

5. Governance

To ensure coordination, clarity of information and decision-making, Parks Canada has established an issue-specific internal governance structure. This includes oversight and priority-setting from a Deputy Head chaired COVID-19 Committee as well as an executive-led, whole-of-Agency Task Team that will ensure long-term business continuity for the Agency's critical services.