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Parks Canada's Protected Area Management Approaches that Prevent or Minimise Human Wildlife Conflicts

2014 World Parks
Congress
Sydney, Australia



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Parks Canada Agency - Responsible for Managing Park

NPs have existed in Canada
Since 1885

Parks Canada administers
306,357 km² in 44 NPs
14,816 km² in 4 NMCAs



By law, they are protected for public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment, while being maintained in an unimpaired state for future generations.



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Human Wildlife Conflict in National Parks

Strategies for Prevention

1. Working with Canadians
2. Creating space for wildlife
3. Take decisive action when wildlife or park values are threatened
4. Enhanced focus on relevance
5. A strong enabling legislation



Canadians Love for Nature

A Tradition Rooted in History and Heritage and shared by all, regardless of social and economic status

2012: Canadians spent \$41.3 billion in nature related activities



A society that is connected to nature is more likely to adopt strategies favourable to wildlife and protected areas

Jurisdictional Responsibilities for Managing Wildlife in Canada

- Jurisdictional legislation over wildlife – based on land ownership
- Land ownership in Canada (41% Federal; 48% Provincial ; 11% Private)



Parks are under different jurisdictions

National Parks – Parks Canada

**National Wildlife Areas – Environment
Canada**

Provincial Parks – Provinces

Territorial Parks - Territories



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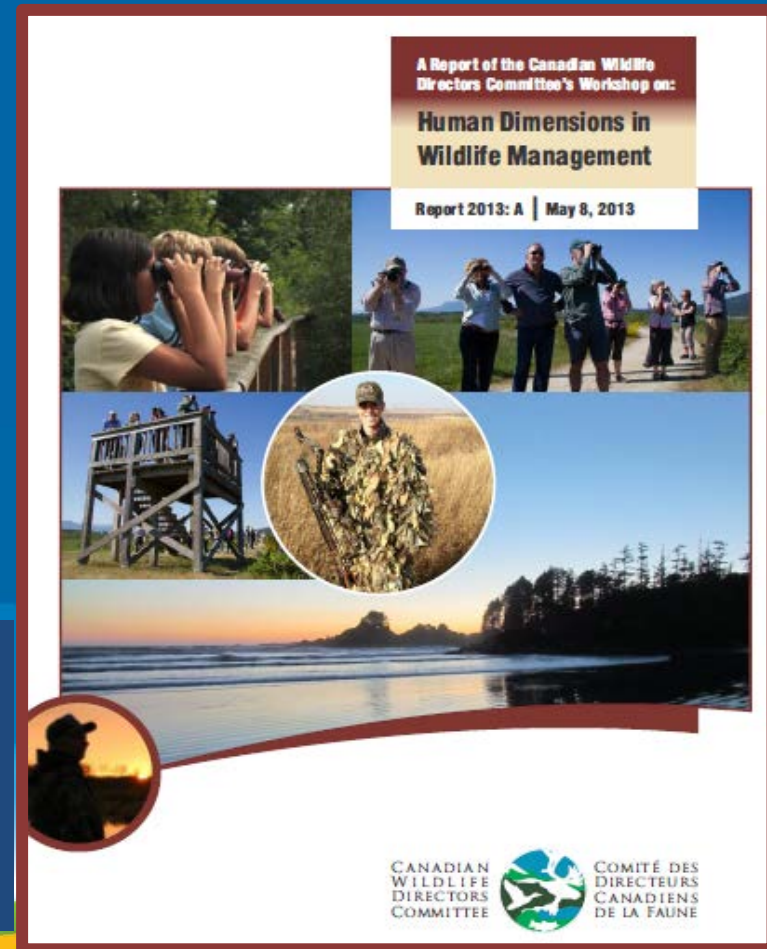
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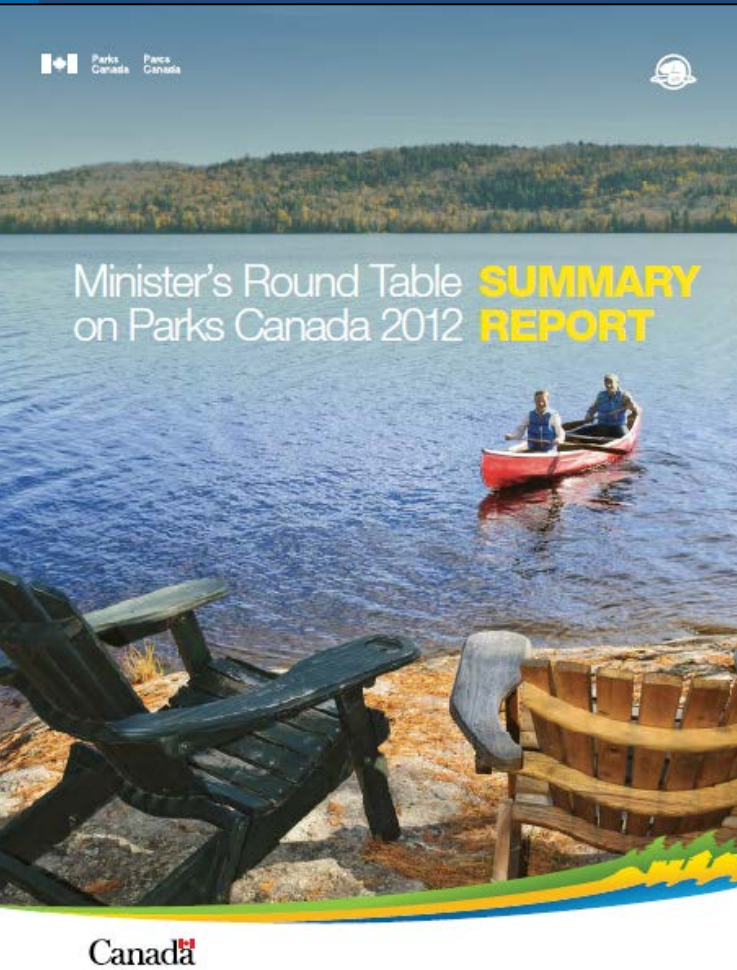
Collaboration with Other Parks Agencies



- create a common national vision for preventing HWC,
- harmonize mitigation measures and response strategies,
- share out responsibilities for preventing HWC,
- broaden capacity for action and resources for preventing HWC



Engaging Canadians through Minister's Roundtable



MRT takes place every 2 years

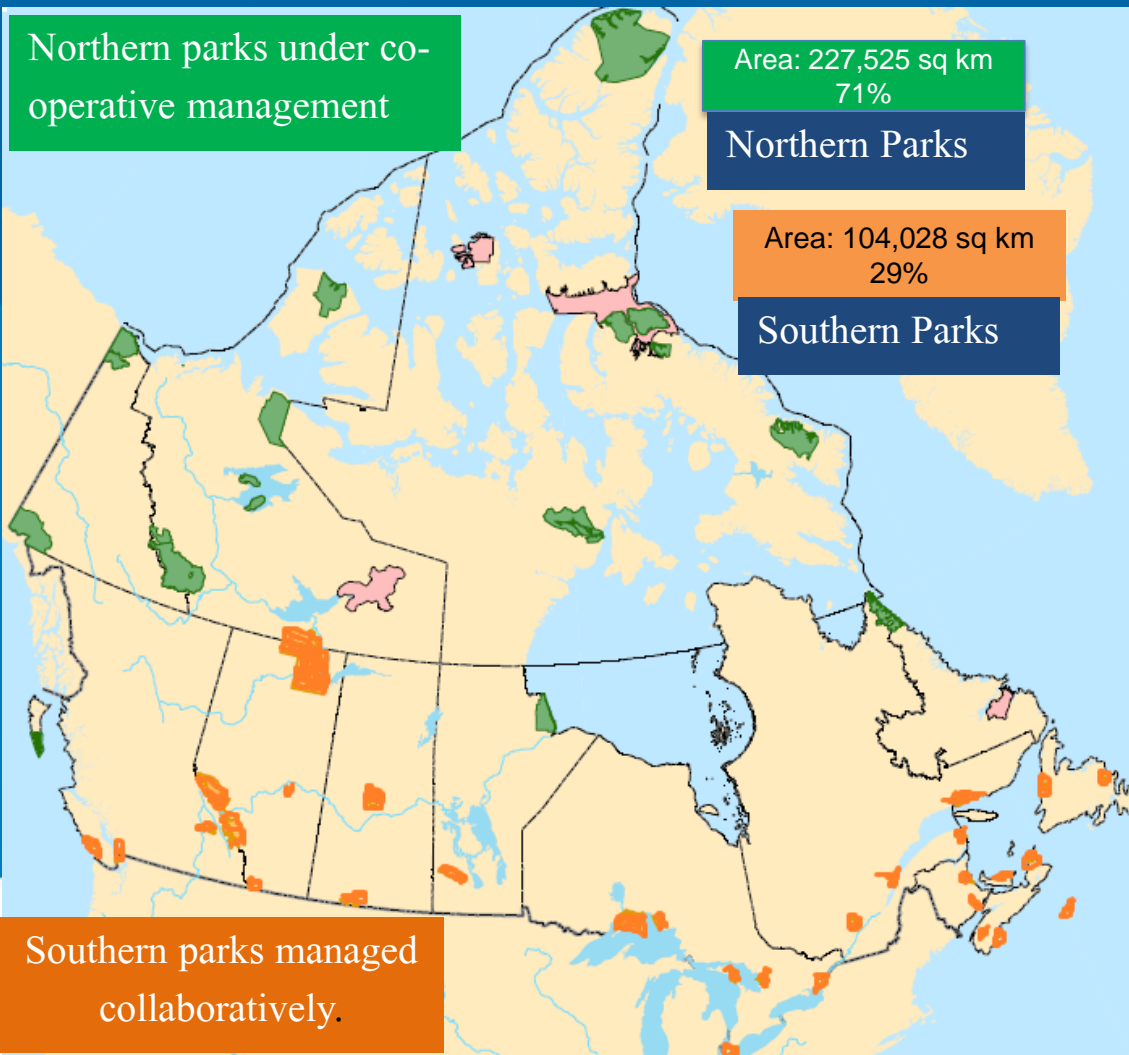
Meeting convened by Minister in charge of
Parks Canada

Forum seeks Canadians' views on priorities
for park management

Issues identified are prioritised for action

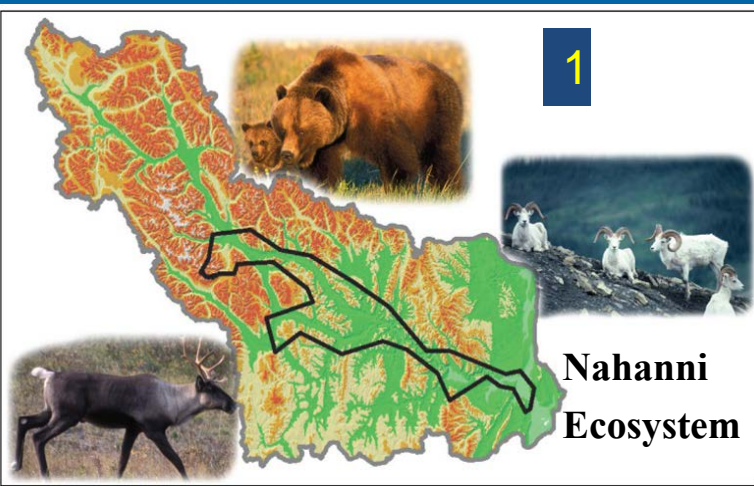
Sharing Leadership: Cooperative & Collaborative Management

Meeting mutual goals of protecting wildlife and keeping ecosystems healthy

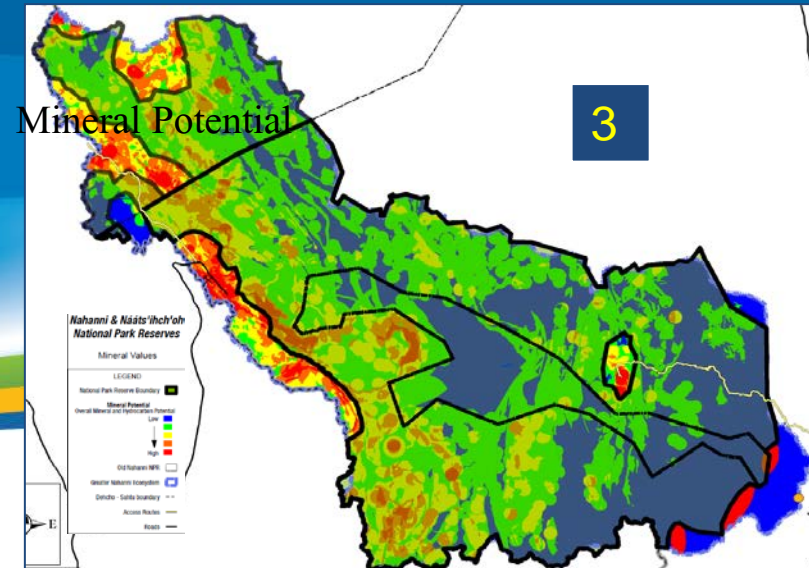
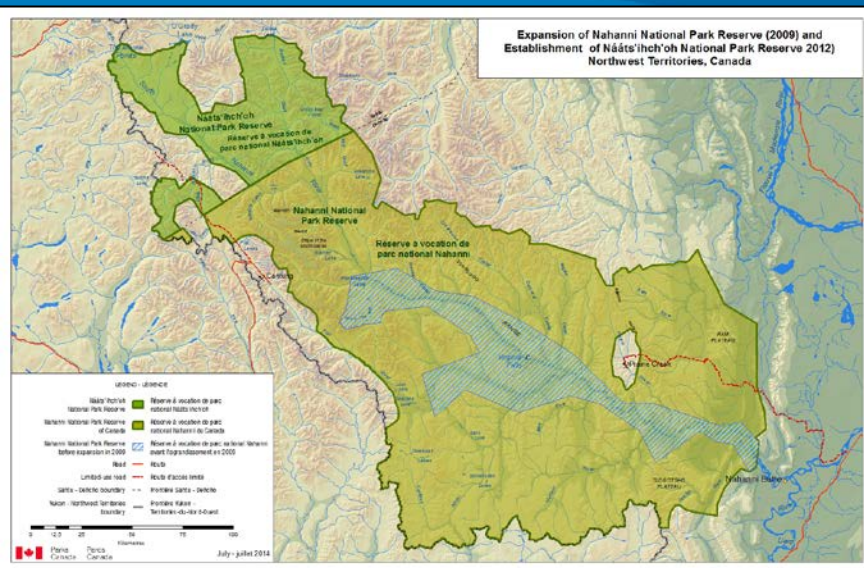
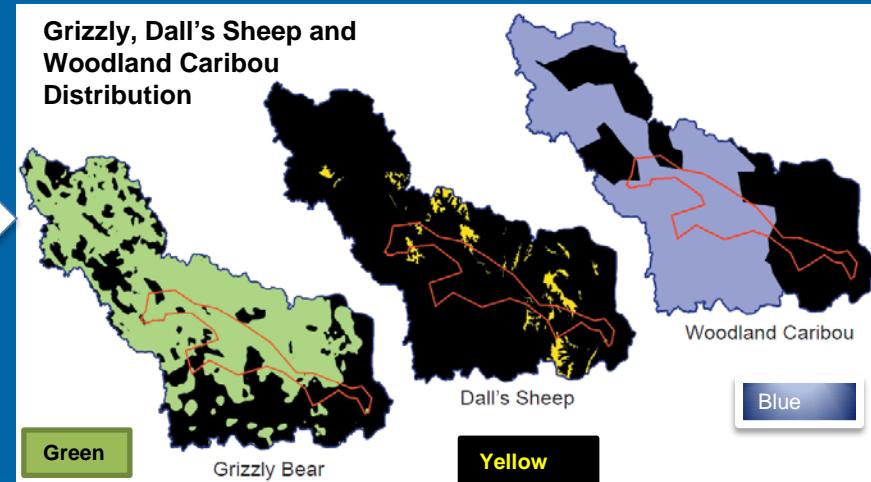


Embracing the Ecosystem Based Management

Creating space for wildlife



Studies





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Establishing New Parks and Expanding Existing Ones

58% increase in areas under protection since Durban (2003)

Conservation Gains:

PAs Established in the Last 10 Years

Created Gulf Islands NP	(36 Km ²)	2003
Created Ukkusiksalik NP	(20,558 Km ²)	2003
Created Torngat Mountains NP	(9,700 Km ²)	2005
Expanded Tuktoo Nogait NP	(1,841 Km ²)	2005
Created Lake Superior NMCA	(10,000 Km ²)	2007
Expanded Nahanni NP	(25,320 Km ²)	2009
Created Gwaii Haanas NMCA	(3,500 Km ²)	2010
Created Nááts'ihch'oh	(4850 Km ²)	2012
Created Sable Island NP	(34 Km ²)	2013

Under negotiation

Thaidene Nene	(33,000 Km ²)
Mealy Mountains	(10,700 Km ²)
Bathurst Island	(11,800 Km ²)
Rouge Urban NP	(56 Km ²)



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Addressing the Underlying Causes of Conflict

Example from Banff NP

Action: Built 44 wildlife crossing structures and 82 kilometres of highway

Results: Wildlife-vehicle collisions reduced by up to 96%

Action: Several dams, buildings (including a hotel) and campsites removed; some roads and an airstrip closed; human use restricted in certain areas

Results: Ecological impacts associated with landscape fragmentation substantially lessened for many previously affected species .





Enhanced Focus on Relevance

- Relevance is linked to long term sustainability
- Relevance creates support and interest in NPs and wildlife
- Relevance creates passion for protecting wildlife and preventing threats such as HWC

Sustainability

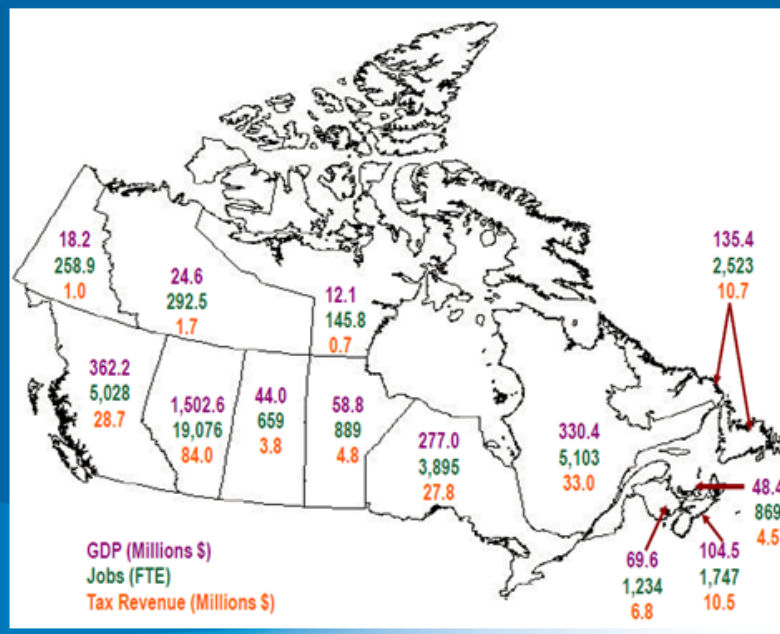
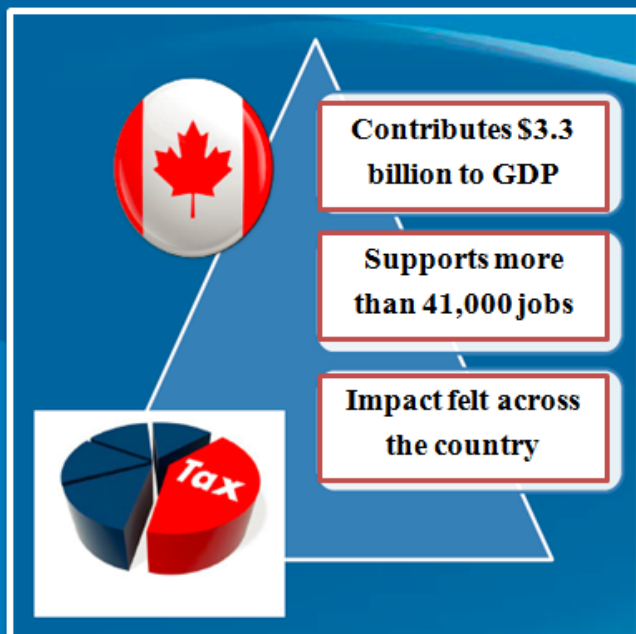
- Ecological
- Economic

Relevance

- Visitors
- Supporters



Demonstrating Economic Value of Canada's National Parks



The Economic Impact of Canada's National, Provincial & Territorial Parks in 2009



Grand Beach Provincial Park, Manitoba

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CONSEIL CANADIEN DES PARCS

- ✓ Demonstrating the economic value of NPs to the nation, region, and local communities helps to build public and political support for their conservation.
- ✓ Public becomes more willing to address threats to NPs, including HWC



Enabling Legislation

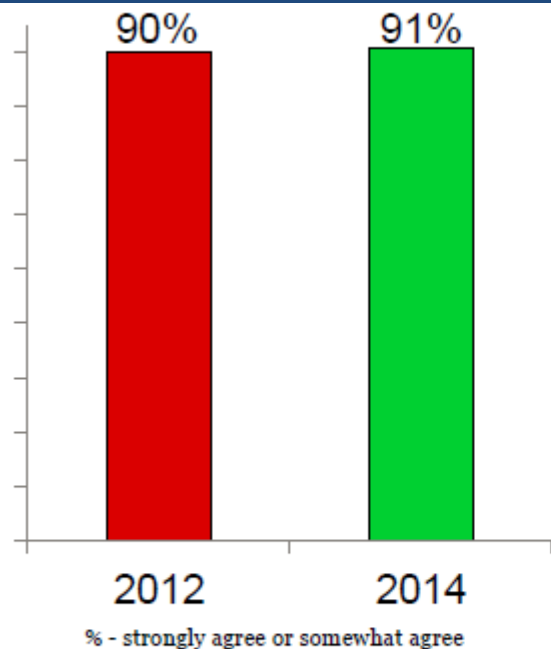
- ✓ Strong and clear mandate
- ✓ Clearly defined purpose of national parks
- ✓ Clearly defined priority for park management
- ✓ Clearly defined endpoint for park management (Ecological Integrity)

Legislation requires action to be taken when park values are under threat

Public Education to Enhance Support for National Parks

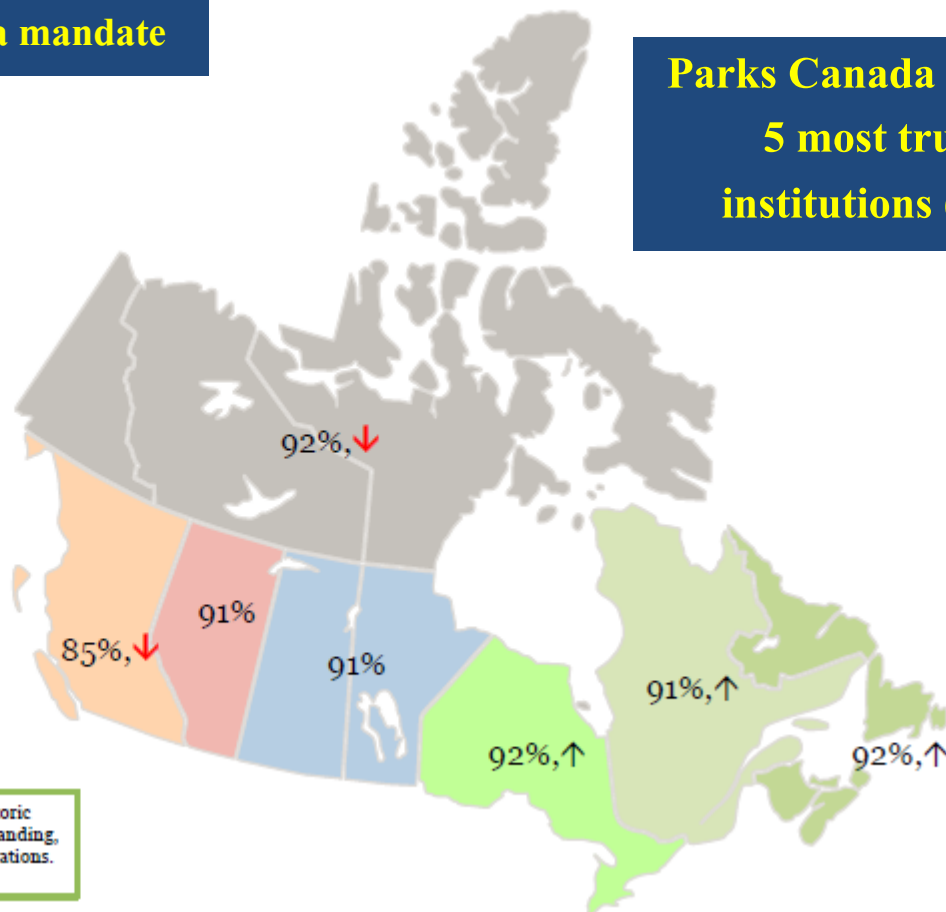
98% want PAs to be protected for future generations (2014 Survey)

2014: 91% aware of Parks Canada mandate



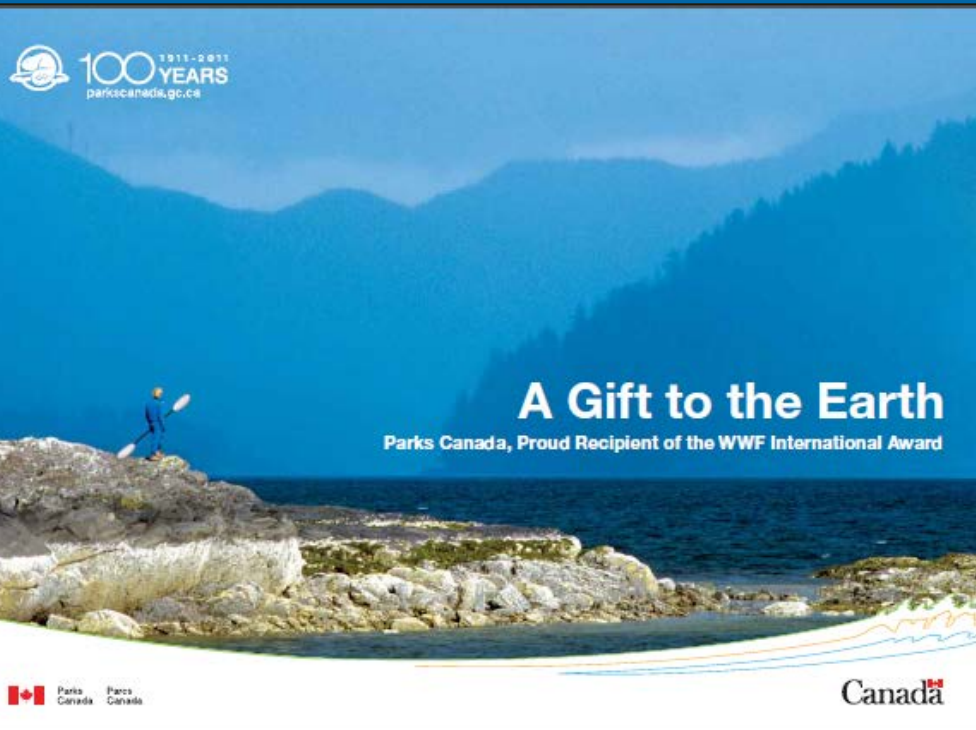
Parks Canada aims to protect and present Canada's National Parks, Historic Sites and marine conservation areas and also to promote public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of these places for present and future generations. To what extent do you agree that this work is done for all Canadians?

Parks Canada rated among top 5 most trusted public institutions (2012 Survey)



Parks Canada Management Approaches Recognized Nationally and Internationally

Winner of the “**Gift to the Earth Award**” – WWF
International’s highest accolade for conservation
work of global merit



**The Royal Canadian Geographical
Society Gold Medal**

Canadian Tourism Award

Turning Round the Clock:

Wildlife Re-introduction in Parks Where Previously Eliminated due to Land Use Conflicts





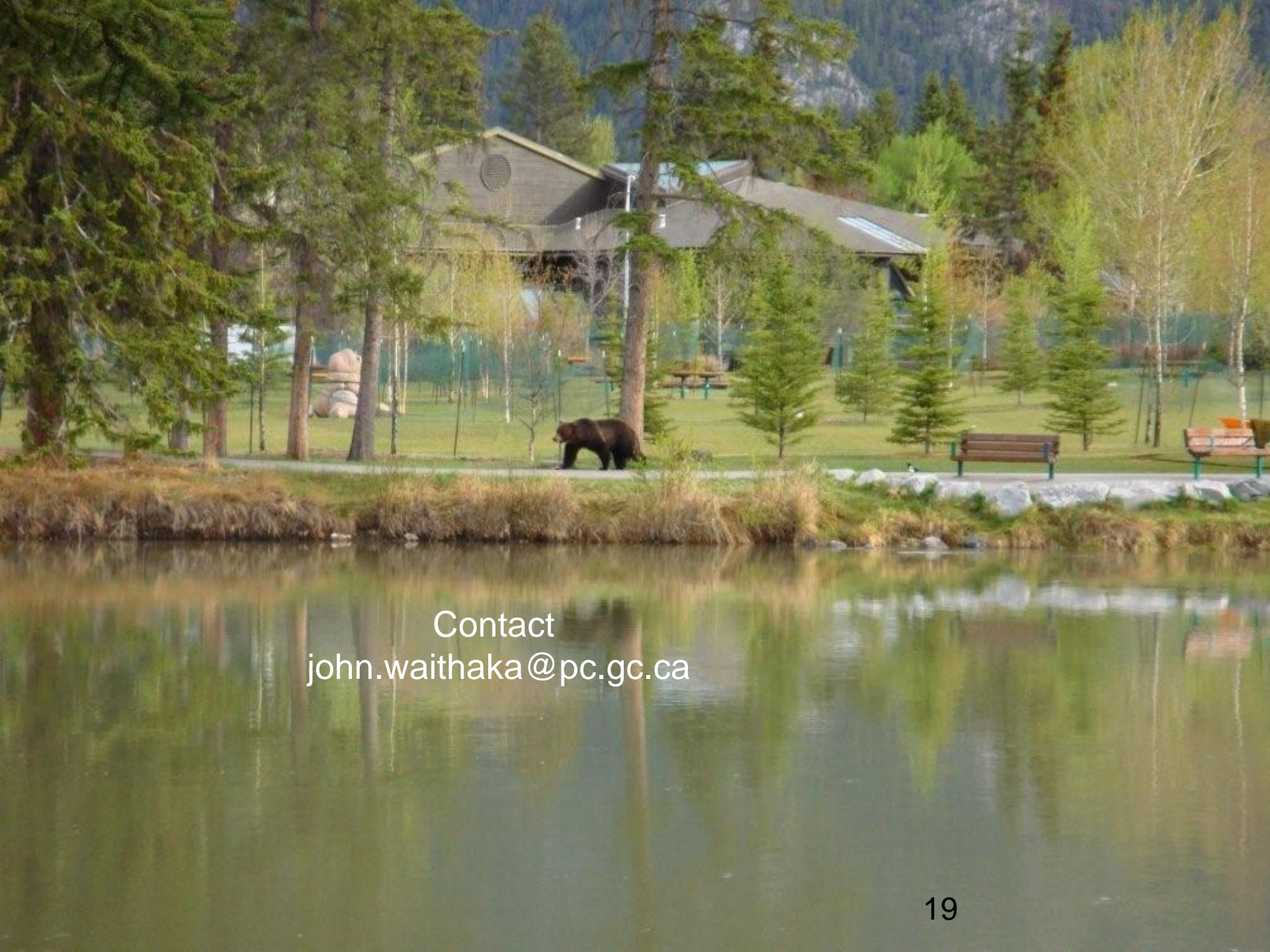
Recommendations

Legislation, policies, strategies and interventions for preventing human wildlife conflicts should be developed in consultation with all partners and stakeholders and must involve creating adequate space for wildlife

Protected areas and wildlife should be promoted as valuable national resources that provide a multitude of demonstrable social and economic benefits at national and local levels

Human wildlife conflict management intervention strategies should be based on sound ecosystem science, social science and traditional knowledge to avoid trade-offs that compromise long-term conservation goals

Protected areas and wildlife management goals and programs should be supported by clear legislation that recognizes the ecological needs of wildlife and the aspirations of the people



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