This year is a special one for Canada’s national parks and especially for Banff – the birthplace of this magnificent country-wide system of places of beauty and meaning.

It has been 100 years of learning, growth and experience. The goals of the national parks system have evolved from an idea based solely on tourism to a much broader concept of preservation and conservation for future generations.

In 1885, Canada’s national parks system was Banff, or more precisely, the Hot Springs Reserve — 26 square kilometres surrounding the Cave and Basin Hot Springs. The park was created with the aim of attracting tourist dollars to help pay for the cost of completing Canada’s national dream — a transcontinental railroad.

The Cave and Basin attracted visitors from all over the world who came to see the mountain scenery and bathe in the (yet to be proven) health-giving hot mineral waters of Sulphur Mountain.

This is a free publication

Aussi disponible en français
Banff quickly became a playground for the rich. Advertising promised "an enclave of refined civilization, deep within the Canadian wilderness."

Resource preservation was unheard of in those early years as Canada's vast wilderness seemed inexhaustible but by the early 1900s a new concept of the purpose of national parks had formed. Parks were set aside for recreation but also for the protection of the land and wildlife. Hunting, mining and lumbering were phased out and tourism grew.

Banff moved into a golden age of guiding and packing and became a staging area for explorations by horseback and for climbing expeditions. Swiss guides escorted Philadelphia's debutantes to the glaciers above Lake Louise. Outfitters guided geologists, botanists, photographers and painters into remote valleys. The grand hotels in Banff and Lake Louise became places to socialize between explorations. The resort in a wilderness setting was replaced as the chief attraction by the wilderness as the experience itself.

By 1930, public attitudes about the national parks were solidified. A new parliamentary act dedicated parks "to the people of Canada for their benefit, education and enjoyment." Parks were also to be "maintained so as to leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

Until about 15 years ago, however, the interpretation of the National Parks Act focused mainly on the recreation aspect and not so much on preservation. Growing numbers of visitors and uncontrolled development threatened to impair the future of the national parks. The environmental movement of the last decade rapidly increased public awareness of these environmental concerns. Visitors demanded new experiences, activities that did not threaten the natural environment and they sought to understand more about the natural world.

The goal now is to find the balance between recreation and conservation. Ideas about Banff have changed a great deal in the last 100 years and the park's future is being carefully examined. The aim is to meet the needs of the visitors seeking an escape from the rush of modern life while preserving the park as a living museum of natural and cultural heritage.

Each national park is part of a larger system. Parks Canada recognizes 48 ecologically distinct regions throughout Canada. One goal is to establish a national park within each of these natural regions.

Less than half of the regions are now represented. Completing the system is becoming increasingly difficult as potential national parks become affected by complex claims on the land and development plans. Completing the system ultimately depends upon public support of the national parks system.

The centennial is a celebration of wisdom gained in the first 100 years and it is a commitment to the future.

To learn more about the centennial, attend a free 20 minute audio-visual presentation at the Information Centre Theatre and Photo Gallery. A free centennial calendar of community events is also available at the Information Centre.
Adventures in outdoors await strollers and trail hikers

One of the best ways to enjoy Banff National Park is on foot – either a leisurely stroll around town or a more ambitious trip into the park’s backcountry.

With more than 1,300 kilometres of trails in the park, the hardest task could be choosing a trail to follow. Trails in valley floors are usually clear of snow from April to November, so Banff’s hiking season is quite long. Some of Banff’s shorter trails are described below. A list of self-guiding trails is given on page 9 and trails in the Lake Louise area are highlighted on page 14.

For more information on Banff’s trail system, visit one of the park information centres. While there, pick up a Centennial Passport to Adventure and take part in some of the 15 outdoor adventures described in this souvenir booklet.

Trail descriptions: (distances given for one way)

Tunnel Mountain: This short but somewhat steep 2.5 km trail leads to the top of a mountain. Superb views of the town of Banff and the expansive Bow Valley are the reward. Trailheads are on St. Julien Road on the way to the Banff Centre and on Tunnel Mountain Drive.

C Level Cirque: This moderately strenuous four kilometre hike climbs past the remains of an old coal mining area. Begin at the Upper Bankhead picnic area on the Lake Minnewanka Road.

Consolation Lake: This 2.9 km walk leads through a quiet evergreen forest to a sparkling glacier-fed lake. Begin at the Moraine Lake parking area.

Bow Glacier Falls: Hike to the headwaters of the Bow River. A 4.3 km trail travels beyond Bow Lake to the base of these thundering falls. Park at the parking lot at the upper entrance to Num-Ti-Jah Lodge at Bow Lake, 36.2 km north of the Trans-Canada Highway on the Icefields Parkway.

The Canadian Rockies Trail Guide – A Hiker’s Manual to the National Parks is a good source of hiking information for all the mountain parks.

Banff offers beautiful drives

Banff National Park has 350 km of public roads that offer superb views of mountain lakes, rivers and forests. In the townsites of Banff, it’s possible to drive around the golf course below the Banff Springs Hotel, up to Mount Norquay, along Vermilion Lakes Drive or the Lake Minnewanka Road. A quieter, more leisurely route to Lake Louise is the Bow Valley Parkway. When at the lake, it’s possible to take a side trip to Moraine Lake or to cross the Continental Divide on Highway 1A into British Columbia and Yoho National Park. Highway 93 north, the Icefields Parkway, goes to Jasper through some of the most scenic areas in North America.

The best time to see wildlife from a car window is early morning or towards sunset. Motorists are asked to drive carefully, obey all traffic signs and use proper pullouts when stopping to take photographs.

The symbol ♻ spotted along park roadsides refers to roadside interpretive exhibits that will help visitors understand and enjoy what is seen along the way.

Pink blossoms follow fires

These fiery pink flowers are found ablaze alongside the highway, up fire-scarred slopes and in open meadows. Fireweed (Epilobium angustifolium) will invade disturbed areas such as roadcuts and vacant lots and is known to be one of the first plants to inhabit a burned over area.

Many years will pass before a forest can regain its past stature. Until then, the fireweed, true to its name, transforms those past blazes of destruction into blazes of life and color.

Answers from puzzle on p. 12

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Each park celebrates in own way

This year is a special year for Banff National Park. Celebrations surrounding the park’s 100th birthday are being held throughout the year which also marks the 100th birthday of the entire national parks system in Canada. Each park has planned its own way to celebrate.

On June 30, Kootenay National Park on Banff’s southwest boundary, will commemorate the original opening in 1923 of the Banff-Windermere Highway. The re-dedication ceremony will take place at Kootenay Crossing where a motorcade of antique cars and a train of packhorses will add historical authenticity to this event.

The cars will retrace the route followed by a similar motorcade held for the original highway opening. As in 1923, cars leaving from Banff and Windermere will meet at Kootenay Crossing for the re-dedication ceremony before completing their drive along the highway.

The packtrain will commemorate the last horse trip to take place in Kootenay and will also follow the highway from Radium Hot Springs to Marble Canyon. It will stop during the five to six day ride at campgrounds and picnic sites along the route and at Kootenay Crossing for the highway re-dedication.

Re-dedicating a highway may seem like a strange way for Kootenay to celebrate the national parks centennial, but both the highway and the park result from an agreement between the federal government and the Province of British Columbia. The Canadian government built the highway. In exchange the province donated 8.5 kilometres of land on either side for the park which was established in 1920.

Jasper National Park will use Canada Day as a focus for centennial celebrations this summer. July 1 will be packed with activities beginning in the late morning with a parade. A baseball tournament and an outdoor crafts fair will follow.

July 1 will also be an important day for Rocky Mountain House National Historic Park. Participants in a canoe trip will then begin their 2,250 km journey retracing the traditional fur brigade route to Lower Fort Garry near Winnipeg.

Pageants, breakfasts and festivals are planned in communities all along the route the canoes will take. A packtrain will leave from Elk Island National Park July 5 to eventually meet up with the canoes. The packtrain will be composed of riders from the park along with members of local riding clubs in the Edmonton area.

The annual Eva Lake pilgrimage to see the wildflowers will be a special one in Mount Revelstoke National Park this summer. Hikers will be able to choose to go all the way to Eva Lake or opt for some shorter historical hikes on August 5.

Other events ranging from a theatre festival in Elk Island National Park to two special hikes in Waterton Lakes National Park will salute the centennial. Photo contests, art shows, films, books, parades and exhibits are also planned for many parks.

For additional information on these and other events which pay tribute to 100 years of heritage conservation in Canada, contact the Centennial Co-ordinator, Room 586, 220 - 4th Ave. S.E., Calgary, Alberta T2P 3H8 (403) 231-5100.

Banff’s special summer events

Everyone is invited to attend the special activities planned in the park in honor of the centennial of the national park system. The following is a brief list of some of the highlights taking place in the park.

June 15 Gala Opening Ceremony for the Cave and Basin Centennial Centre.

June 21 Centennial Sanson Sulphur Mountain Hike on the first day of summer. Check at the Banff Information Centre (224 Banff Ave.) for details.

July 14 Lake Louise Open House for the completion of several large projects in this community.

July 20 Re-dedication of Banff National Park Museum in Central Park, Banff townsite.

August 20 Plaque unveiling, Four Mountain Park World Heritage Site at Lake Louise.

Sept. 4-8 Heritage for Tommorrow: Canadian Assembly on National Parks and Protected Areas — international heritage conservation conference, Banff Centre.

To find out more about other activities happening in Banff in 1985, pick up a free Centennial Calendar of Events — available at park information centres.

Take home a centennial memory

Centennial souvenirs are available at the Banff Information Centre, 224 Banff Avenue. Items for sale include printed T-shirts, hats, pins, desk calendars and posters. A poster by well-known Canadian artist, Robert Bateman is also available.

Centennial souvenir price list

Agenda book ...................................................... $ 9.95
Centennial pin .................................................... $ 4.95
Golf shirt ............................................................ $17.95
Baseball T-shirt .................................................. $ 7.95-$ 8.95
(youth, child, adult sizes)
Golf hat ............................................................... $ 6.95-$ 7.95
(men’s and women’s sizes)
Baseball cap ....................................................... $ 4.95-$ 8.95
(children and adult sizes)
Children’s activity book ...................................... $ 2.50
Bateman poster .................................................... $15.00
Centennial showplace commemorates park’s origins

Canada’s national parks system started here, in Banff, 100 years ago.

Sir John A. Macdonald’s government reserved 26 sq. km of land in 1885, noting in the legislation, “there have been discovered several hot springs which promise to be of great sanitary advantages to the public”. The Cave and Basin hot springs were in wide public use until the site closed in 1976 because of structural damage to the outdoor pool and building which date back to 1914.

On June 15, 1985, the site re-opened as the Cave and Basin Centennial Centre. The pool and buildings have been restored to their original splendor. Now the centre features attractions for all ages, exhibits, slide shows, nature trails and the hot springs themselves. To get there, drive straight down Banff Avenue, across the Bow River bridge, turn right and continue for a kilometre and a half until arriving at the parking lot. From here a short footpath leads to the restored site.

Several displays are encountered when entering the Centennial Centre. A geological model demonstrates how the hot springs are created. Overhanging clouds dump rain which seeps down towards the earth’s molten core. It is heated and works its way back up through the Sulphur Mountain fault to the surface, gathering minerals as it travels through the porous rocks.

From these displays a few steps lead to the Cave hot springs. The Cave passageway is accessible to wheelchairs, as are most of the centre’s facilities. The short, winding tunnel leads to an eerie cavern reeking of sulphur. A waist-level retaining wall around the hot springs allows visitors to test the warmth of the water.

Overhead, light filters in through the original entrance, a hole in the roof from which the discoverers descended in 1883. The tunnel was blasted in 1886, causing a loud protest among those who preferred the idea of a spiral staircase descending from the roof.

On the second floor of the Centennial Centre, Canada’s first prime minister, Sir John A. Macdonald and his wife are found sitting on the cowcatcher of a locomotive, similar to the one they rode through the Rockies in 1886. Other exhibits include murals of the history of Canada’s national parks, holograms (three dimensional images produced by lasers), and a computer game that encourages participation in planning future national parks.

The Basin hot spring, like that at the Cave, is for viewing only. Years ago the water from these springs was bottled and sold by a Dr. Brett who peddled it as a cure-all. He called it Lithia Water.

The replica of the 1887 bathhouse stands at the end of the swimming pool. The original was the first building erected by the government after the area became a national park reserve. The parlor area inside is redone in period furnishings. A short slide show can be viewed in the adjacent theatre. In the tea-house, next door, staff are dressed in historical costumes.

During the summer, 1914-style bathing suits can be rented for use in the outdoor pool, which is filled with mineral springs water. Lifeguards also wear period uniforms.

Two self-guiding trails portray the history of the area and changes in the local environment caused by the hot water. Along the trails there are more hot springs, a scratch and sniff boulder, telescopes, tropical fish and more.

While in Banff this summer and fall it will be possible to have a mini-tour of many of Canada’s other special places. A national parks centennial exhibit will be on display in the townsite this year at the following locations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>July 1-30</td>
<td>Sally Borden recreation complex on Banff Centre campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 3-24</td>
<td>New Brewster bus terminal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 2-Sept. 3</td>
<td>Banff Centre, Eric Harvie Theatre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 4</td>
<td>Banff Centre, Eric Harvie Theatre, foyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 12-Nov. 17</td>
<td>Cave and Basin Centennial Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 23-30</td>
<td>Cave and Basin Centennial Centre</td>
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In 1911, park warden Scotty Wright built a backcountry warden patrol cabin, later to be known as Windy, in the Panther River district 41 km north of Banff. The log cabin was moved from its district in 1977 and placed in Banff townsite, on the grounds of the Whyte Foundation. In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the national parks, the Banff warden service has begun restoration of Windy cabin.

The warden service had been in operation for about 10 years and with poaching on the rise, fire hazards and increasing numbers of visitors to the park in the early 1920s, backcountry supervision was deemed essential.

The completion of the Cascade Fire Road in the early 1950s meant greater demands on Windy cabin and it soon became evident that a bigger cabin was necessary. A larger Panther River cabin was built to act as a new residence and office. Meanwhile, Windy, over the years, had begun to show more than just wrinkles, and by the 1970s weathered as it was, had earned itself a prestigious reputation as the sole existing relic of the original warden cabins.

Cyril Fuller was the Panther district warden from 1927 to 1946 and lived in Windy cabin during these years. “Panther country has always been my favourite,” Cyril told reporters in an interview in 1970, three years before his death. Referring to the warden cabins Cyril helped build during this time, he said:

“They’ve pulled them all down now, don’t want them anymore, it’s a mistake to pull them down, they’re part of the scenery, part of the old stuff we see . . . they don’t look at this . . . I think they’re fools.”

The same year that Cyril became the Panther district warden, Henry Ness, a present day Banff resident, was part of the telephone crew that built the line through as far as Windy. He last returned to the district in 1977, just before the cabin was moved. It was on this visit that Henry found the original cabin door of 1911 lying in the grass near the cabin. According to Henry, everybody that had been to the district had signed the door, but unfortunately the door had been exposed to the elements long enough for the autographs representing the early, unwritten history of Rocky Mountains park to have worn away. Although stripped of her “literature,” Windy’s original door is back in the swing of things, thanks to Henry.

**Simple guidelines will preserve park’s beauty**

Banff National Park is a trekker’s delight. Trails in the park range from pleasant half-hour strolls to full-scale outings in the back-country. To ensure these trails will be beautiful and interesting for years to come, hikers and walkers are asked to respect these guidelines:

- Do not feed the wildlife. It is hazardous to their health and to your safety.
- Preserve plantlife and artifacts found in the park by leaving them in their natural setting for others to discover and enjoy.
- Carry out all litter.
- Bringing dogs along on the trails is discouraged and they must be kept on a leash at all times.

For backcountry hikers, a few additional reminders:

- Stay on the established trails and avoid taking shortcuts on switchbacks; too many feet can permanently scar the landscape and cause serious erosion.
- Backcountry water should be boiled; suggested boiling time is five minutes.
- Avoid unnecessary scarring of campsites by using the designated fire pits where provided.
- Practise good backcountry latrine hygiene — well off the trail and away from water sources. Please bury waste to help to speed up the biological decomposition process.

Ed Carlton became park warden in charge of Stoney Creek and Windy districts in 1949. Ed and his wife Dorothy’s fondest memory of backcountry living was the strong family fellowship shared with other backcountry wardens and their wives. At this time, Windy was used as a stopover cabin for the warden wranglers who herded the horses into Banff in the spring and upon their return to the Ya Ha Tinda Ranch in the fall.

Bill Vroom is the warden in charge of the restoration of Windy, and with the help of the other wardens, has managed to dig up pots, pans, fire fighting pack boxes, a crosscut saw, a table and benches, and a unique chimney oven, all common in a warden’s cabin of the 30s and 40s. These items have been collected from some of the older existing warden cabins - Barrier, Johnston Creek, Spray 16, Egypt Lake, Palliser and Cuthead.

Bill has done a great job building two framed-up cots from lodgepole pine spars webbed with a lattice of old grey fire hose. Bill says he received his finest compliment on the cots when Henry Ness looked at them knowingly and said that “they’re just like Cyril would’ve made them.”

The building and its contents provide a fine example of an old warden’s cabin. Windy cabin is now located on the grounds of the Whyte Foundation at 111 Bear Avenue, Banff.
Ancient campsite uncovered

Long before the voyageurs ever dipped a paddle or the explorers forged their way through the Rockies, prehistoric man gathered around a campfire near Banff.

Remains of the 10 or 11,000 year-old campfire and the activity that surrounded it have been painstakingly revealed and studied by a team from Parks Canada.

For the past two summers, a crew of archaeologists has excavated alongside the Trans-Canada Highway, west of the Norquay Interchange. The project was carried out in conjunction with the twinning of the highway from the East Gate to the Sunshine Interchange. Before construction could begin on each section of the highway, an assessment of all natural and cultural features was made in order to minimize possible damage.

During a routine survey near the west end of the Third Vermilion Lake, archaeologists uncovered prehistoric remains including stone tools, animal bones and hearths. The earliest layer of the excavation with signs of occupation has been dated to approximately 11,000 years ago. The site is one of the oldest known in Canada.

These findings suggest that people camped at the edge of Vermilion Lake when its shoreline was higher than today, not long after ice from the last period of glaciation had retreated from the Bow Valley. The landscape was certainly different than today’s. Little is known about the climate and vegetation in this area 11,000 years ago, but studies of nearby lake sediments are beginning to fill in the picture.

Although some of the modern fauna was present, woolly mammoths, camels and large forms of sheep and bison may have also roamed the valley.

An exhibit, explaining the project and its findings will be on view this summer at the Banff Library. The excavations themselves have been filled in as highway construction has proceeded farther west.

Archaeological sites should not be disturbed. If objects are found that may be of significance, note the location and inform a park interpreter or park warden.

A brochure on Parks Canada’s archaeology program is available at information centres in the park.

Park museum is Western Canada showpiece

The Banff Park Museum, located by the bridge on Banff Avenue, is Western Canada’s first natural history museum. Built in 1903, the building reflects the pagoda-style of railway stations at the turn of the century. In celebration of the national parks’ 100th birthday, the museum is being re-furbished and spruced up.

From 1895 to 1903, the first museum building was located on the present site of Phil’s Steaks and Pancakes, on the south side of the Bow River. In a short time the collection outgrew those walls and a more spacious location was needed.

The Dominion Government’s interest was to generate money within the park to help pay the debt for the Canadian Pacific Railway’s transcontinental railway. It was decided that a museum would help attract more tourists to the west, encourage Banff’s development and help Canada’s economy. The museum’s graceful design and elaborate Douglas fir interior are testimony to the government’s desire to create an atmosphere of luxury.

Norman Bethune Sanson, curator of the museum from 1896 to 1932, loved to collect and felt obliged to display the many donations he received. Upon visiting Sanson and the museum, a local consultant said: “I presume if Professor Mulvaney had presented his prize pickled tapeworm it would have been given a place of honor.” It was Sanson’s enthusiasm for natural history and his “cabinets of curiosities” that gave the museum its charm.

The museum is much the same as it was in Sanson’s day. Most of the specimens are from the original collection – the oldest, a merganser (a diving bird) dates back to 1860.

In celebration of the national park’s 100th anniversary, displays have been designed to shed light on the museum’s intriguing history. Included in the restoration is the re-establishment of the museum’s reading room, a much-loved feature in earlier days. The reading room, which will be open to the public, will provide reference books relating to the contents of the museum including the Brewster book and map collection and also will feature wildlife prints donated by Robert Bateman.

Rehabilitation work on the museum will take place during June but closures will be kept to a minimum. The opening party to be held on July 20 at the museum in Central Park is open to all-comers.
BANFF NATIONAL PARK
INTERPRETIVE SERVICE

The many questions evoked by the Rockies, the wildlife, glaciers, rivers, flowers and many other aspects of the park can be answered by specialists in Banff—the park interpreters.

To help visitors learn more about and better enjoy the natural and cultural heritage of Banff National Park, Parks Canada offers a variety of interpretive events including campfire talks, roadside exhibits and theatre shows.

Daily Events

Every day during the summer, park interpreters present free programs on Banff’s natural and cultural history. This year, special programs to help visitors celebrate the national parks centennial will be offered. Join the interpreters at one of the evening programs or special events in and around Banff townsite, in the Lake Louise area, and along the Icefields Parkway.

(Banff Townsite—June 17—Sept. 2)
(Saturday evening programs at Tunnel Mountain (hooksups) campground theatre start May 18.)

Monday
7 p.m. Cave and Basin Centennial Centre theatre
8 p.m. Tunnel Mountain (hooksups) campground theatre
8 p.m. Information Centre theatre

Tuesday
10:30 a.m. Cave and Basin special event
8 p.m. Tunnel Mountain (hooksups) campground theatre
8 p.m. Johnston Canyon campground theatre
* Tunnel Mountain (no hooksups) campground theatre

Wednesday
8 p.m. Cave and Basin Centennial Centre theatre
8 p.m. Tunnel Mountain (hooksups) campground theatre
8 p.m. Information Centre theatre
* Tunnel Mountain (no hooksups) campground theatre

Thursday
3 p.m. Cave and Basin special event
8 p.m. Tunnel Mountain (hooksups) campground theatre
8 p.m. Johnston Canyon campground theatre
* Two Jack Main campground theatre

Friday
2 p.m. Cave and Basin special event
6 p.m. Cave and Basin Centennial Centre theatre
8 p.m. Tunnel Mountain (hooksups) campground theatre
8 p.m. Information Centre theatre

Saturday
Saturday special event
3 p.m. Cave and Basin special event
7 p.m. Cave and Basin Centennial Centre theatre
8 p.m. Tunnel Mountain (hooksups) campground theatre
8 p.m. Information Centre theatre
8 p.m. Johnston Canyon campground theatre
* Rampart Creek campground fire circle

Sunday
2 p.m. Cave and Basin special event
8 p.m. Cave and Basin Centennial Centre theatre
8 p.m. Tunnel Mountain (hooksups) campground theatre
* Tunnel Mountain (no hooksups) campground theatre
10 p.m. June 17—August 4
9 p.m. Aug. 5—Sept. 2

Lake Louise (June 24—Sept. 2)

Monday
** Lake Louise campground theatre

Tuesday
8 p.m. Johnston Canyon campground theatre

Wednesday
** Lake Louise campground theatre

Thursday
** Lake Louise campground theatre

Friday
** Lake Louise campground theatre

Saturday
8 p.m. Protection Mountain campground fire circle
8 p.m. Johnston Canyon campground theatre
** Lake Louise campground theatre

Sunday
** Lake Louise campground theatre
*** 10 p.m. June 24—Aug. 4
9 p.m. Aug. 5—Sept. 2

Icefields Parkway (June 24—Sept. 2)

Monday
*** Rampart Creek campground fire circle

Tuesday
8 p.m. Waterfowl campground theatre

Wednesday
Special event
*** Rampart Creek campground fire circle

Thursday
8 p.m. Waterfowl campground theatre

Friday
*** Rampart Creek campground fire circle

Saturday
8 p.m. Waterfowl campground theatre

Sunday
8 p.m. Waterfowl campground theatre
*** 9 p.m. June 24—Aug. 4
8:30 p.m. Aug. 15—Sept. 2

Evening programs

In outdoor or indoor theatres in campgrounds throughout the park and in the information centre in Banff townsite, park interpreters present evening slide talks, films and dramatic vignettes. At campground fire circles, technology is left behind as interpreters tell stories of life in the park. Visitors can bring teacups for a taste of the interpreter’s special brew!

Check at information centres, campground kiosks, or theatre notice boards for details of the programs.

Special events

Be a guest of the park. Come out and take part in a special event. It could range from a star-gazing session or a candlelight tour of the Cave, to a guest speaker or special film screening. Check at information centres or notice boards, or call 762-3229 (Banff) or 522-3577 (Lake Louise) for details of the week’s special events. Cave and Basin specials and those presented in Banff townsite are also advertised on Cable T.V., Channel 13.

Roving interpreters

From time to time park interpreters rove at various points of interest in the park. They are very approachable and pleased to answer questions. When driving the Icefields Parkway, watch for the roving exhibit trailer. A bright red sign with the bighorn ram’s head symbol indicates that an interpreter with displays is at the next roadside viewpoint.

Interpretive trails

A good way to explore and learn is to walk one of Banff’s self-guiding interpretive trails. Pamphlets, available at some trailheads, and signs along the trails explain the areas’ natural or historical significance.

Cave and Basin trails—Two short boardwalk trails start at the Cave and Basin Centennial Centre. The Discovery Trail highlights the history and geology of the hot springs, while the Marsh Trail looks at plant and animal life associated with the warm sulphur water.

Fenland Trail—Early evening is a good time to look for beaver along this 2 km loop trail through wetlands and spruce forest. The trailhead, located across the railway tracks on Norquay Road, is within walking distance of Banff townsite.

Bankhead Trail—Explore the ruins of Bankhead, a turn-of-the-century coal mining town in Banff National Park. This 1.1 km loop trail starts from the Lake Minnewanka road, 9.5 km from Banff townsite.

Rock Isle Lake Trail—Stroll through rolling meadows rimmed by mountain peaks to a rocky alpine lake. Allow a leisurely two hours for the 3.5 km round trip. The trail begins at the top of the Sunshine gondola.

Johnston Canyon Trail—Waterfalls, rapids and glistening rock walls. A suspended walkway allows you to explore this canyon from the inside. Distance to the lower falls: 1.1 km, or to the upper falls: 2.7 km. Johnston Canyon is located on the Bow Valley Parkway, 25 km west of Banff townsite or 35 km east of Lake Louise.

Bow Summit Trail—Walk through color-filled firmerle meadows and take in the dramatic view of Peyto Lake. This 2 km trail begins at the Bow Summit parking lot, 40 km north of Lake Louise on the Icefields Parkway.

Interpretive Parkways

Visitors who prefer to discover the park on wheels, will enjoy a drive along one of Banff’s scenic parkways. Stop at interpretive exhibits located at various points along the route to learn about the local mountains, wildlife and history.

Bow Valley Parkway—This quiet, leisurely route between Banff and Lake Louise follows the meandering course of the Bow River. It’s a good area to look for elk, particularly in the early morning or towards evening. Watch for highway construction on the parkway between Castle Junction and Lake Louise.

Icefields Parkway—This world-renowned high mountain road follows the Great Divide between Lake Louise and Jasper. Some of the park’s most dramatic peaks and glaciers may be viewed along this route.

Looking ahead...

The centennial year is a time to reflect on the past and plan for the future of the national parks. Visitors with any thoughts on the interpretive program, or suggestions for the future of these programs are welcome to write to:

Chief Park Interpreter
Banff National Park
Box 900
Banff, Alberta
T1L 0C0
This summer, this symbol will become a familiar sight to visitors in Banff National Park. Posted on garbage containers throughout the park, this decal asks visitors to keep campgrounds and picnic areas “bear proof”. New signs have been posted on toilet buildings with the following reminders:

Do not leave food accessible to wildlife.
Dispose of all garbage in the containers provided.

The signs and decals are part of a bear awareness campaign launched this year in Banff National Park.

**Why the program?**

Black and grizzly bears have been living in these mountains for centuries. For the most part, they are content to keep to themselves, but sometimes, their keen sense of smell and taste will lead them to the garbage bins and picnic tables. Some bears develop a dependence on food humans eat. Because they are unpredictable and potentially dangerous, bears that keep returning to sites frequented by people are usually tranquillized and relocated to backcountry areas. But many will return and eventually have to be destroyed.

This bear problem has wildlife biologists and park wardens worried. They are concerned that man’s increasing presence in the bears’ territory could threaten their survival in the national parks. The safety of visitors is also a primary concern.

**What can visitors do to help?**

Visitors are asked to heed the signs and take extra care with food and garbage. If the bears’ access to unnatural food could be eliminated they would eventually learn that a visit to a campground or picnic site will not reward them with a free meal, and they would not return.

For more detailed information on bears and what to do in bear country, the brochure *You Are in Bear Country*, is available at all park information centres.

**Redevelopment going full tilt at Lake Louise**

Visitors to the Lake Louise area will no doubt notice construction, road and trail work. The work is being done to make Lake Louise a more attractive and functional area for both visitors and residents. Parks Canada apologizes for any inconvenience.

Q. What is going on?
A. Parks Canada is re-developing the Lake Louise area. Services and facilities are being upgraded to meet the needs of the 1.6 million visitors and the 1,200 residents of the area.

Q. What has already been done?
A. Sewage and water treatment have been improved. New parking lots at Moraine Lake and Lake Louise have greatly reduced traffic problems. Several horse and hiking trails have been built or repaired. Private businesses and Parks Canada have provided new staff housing. In the valley, two new gas stations offer meals, groceries, and mechanical services. Several disturbed sites have been rehabilitated. Some street lights were installed where necessary. A community recreation area is almost complete.

Q. What is happening this year?
A. Work will continue on the Whitehorn Interchange and on the twinning of the Trans-Canada Highway in the Lake Louise area. In the fall, construction will begin on the upgrading of Lake Louise Drive, from the valley to Lake Louise. Interpretive exhibits will be installed at Lake Louise and Moraine Lake. The landscaping of the lakeside area at Lake Louise will be completed. Extensive trailwork will be underway in the areas of Little Beehive, Plain-of-Six-Glaciers, lakeside promenade, Larch Valley and Eiffel Lake. Rehabilitation of unsightly areas will continue. Work will start on the campgrounds, including construction of new toilet buildings and improvements to existing facilities, as well as rehabilitation of the tent campground.

Q. What remains to be done?
A. A visitor centre and small shopping mall will be built in the future. More staff housing will be added. Campground rehabilitation, roadwork and landscaping will be finished. The campground interpretive theatre will be replaced. A few more trails will be rebuilt; some will have interpretive panels.

For more information contact the Lake Louise Development Program at 522-3763.

**What is the Continental Divide?**

The Continental Divide is the height of land separating the Pacific drainage from the Atlantic and Arctic watersheds. The Divide also forms part of the Alberta/B.C. boundary of Banff National Park. It is sometimes referred to as the Great Divide.
From crevasse to moraine — ABC’s of “glacierese”

To become a glacier buff it’s necessary to learn “glacierese.” There is more to a glacier than ice, snow and water and a special vocabulary helps to nail down some of its unique aspects.

Glacier: a large, long-lasting mass of ice can be several hundred metres thick. Glaciers are sometimes called “rivers of ice” because they flow slowly down mountainsides. Velocity varies within the glacier—the central portions move faster than the sides and the surface moves faster than the base. Some glaciers, such as the Saskatchewan Glacier, flow down valleys. Others are referred to as “hanging glaciers”. They are cradled in the end or snout of a glacier; the area where the glacier toe: concealed by a covering of snow.

Crevasse: a deep crack in the brittle surface ice of a glacier; usually where there is a change in slope or movement. Crevasses are a danger to mountaineers, especially when these gaps are concealed by a covering of snow.

Outwash: an accumulation of water-deposited rocks and gravel lying beyond the terminus of a glacier.

Toe: the end or snout of a glacier; the area where the glacier melts back in the summertime.

Father of national parks was study in contrasts

James B. Harkin was a study in contrasts. Called “Bunny” by his friends, he was a modest man who became known as the father of national parks in Canada.

“I know nothing about the parks,” he said when appointed commissioner of the newly created Dominion Parks Branch in 1911. “All the better,” said the Minister of the Interior, “you won’t be hampered by preconceived ideas and you can find out.”

Find out he did. Harkin was an elegant and effective parks promoter for the next 25 years. When he retired in 1935 there were more than three times as many parks as when he started and vastly improved facilities in the original parks. He sold the practical parliamentarians on park development by emphasizing the money that could be brought in by tourism.

The Canadian Pacific Railway estimated that visitors brought $50 million to the Rocky Mountains in 1913. Harkin quoted this figure in his annual report, along with impressive revenue figures from tourism in Switzerland, France and other international destinations. His report was sent to all members of the House of Commons and Senate and was quoted by Arthur Meighen, a future prime minister.

Wilderness awed the pragmatic commissioner. “Nature has created these landscapes in accordance with some divine law of harmony of her own,” he wrote. “Will we ever be able to educate the man in the street to realize that it is as much a desecration to mar the harmony as to draw a razor across the Mona Lisa!” Yet, he was responsible for the improved roads that increased motor traffic through his beloved parks.

Harkin believed the parks belonged to all of the people of Canada and not just “wealthy tourists who make the parks a stopping place . . . on a transcontinental tour.” He opened the parks to motor vehicles because they had become a popular, democratic method of travel. However, he maintained a strong belief in the sanctity of nature and restricted road development to main routes because, he said, “it is only from the trails that one can get into real intimacy with the peaks.”

The National Parks Act of 1930, which resulted from Harkin’s foresight, best sums up his spirit in the prelude: “The parks are hereby dedicated to the people of Canada for their benefit, education and enjoyment . . . and such parks shall be maintained and made use of so as to leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”

What gives the mountain lakes their beautiful colors?

The key to the lakes’ colors is the amount of rock flour suspended in the water. In their slow descent down the mountains, glaciers grind the rocks underneath them into a fine powder called rock flour. In summer, the rock flour is carried by streams from the glaciers to the lakes. Suspended in the water, this fine material changes the way light is reflected from the lakes, which in turn alters the color. The more rock flour in the water the greener it will appear. Many rivers flowing out of the mountains are also fed by these waters, so they too share the unusual colors.
This puzzle is for the birds

Birds are frequently spotted in Banff National Park — more than 230 species have been recorded. The majority of the park’s birds, whether residents or just visitors, can be found in the lower Bow Valley. Mountain species can be found at higher elevations away from the Trans-Canada Highway. Clues are given below to help identify six birds commonly found in Banff National Park.

Answers are on page 16.

Match the correct bird with the following:

(1) Bobs up and down in icy streams looking for food — even in winter!
(2) A member of the crow family, this prairie native followed man’s settlement into the mountains.
(3) Its curved black bill cracks open seeds and cones. This noisy bird has an excellent memory for food caches.
(5) Found above tree line year round. In winter it turns white and develops feather “snowshoes” to walk on top of the snow.
(6) “Galump, galump” — sound heard at the Cave and Basin marsh, is made by this shy, summer resident.

A checklist and Birder’s Guide to Banff and Jasper National Parks are available at the Banff Information Centre.

What are the differences between horns and antlers?

Horns, like those of bighorn sheep and mountain goats, grow throughout their bearer’s lifetime — they do not fall off. Horns are carried by both sexes, but it is only the bighorn rams that have the large curled horns. Antlers are carried by male elk, deer and moose and by both male and female caribou. Antlers are shed in late winter and grown again in the spring.

Why do trembling aspen trees have black scars on their bark?

It is commonly thought that elk eat aspen bark only in lean winters. Not so. In fact they will eat the bark regardless of other food supplies. Elk are not the only animals to scar these trees; bears often claw the bark.

Test knowledge of Canada’s parks

There are 31 national parks and national park reserves in Canada; at least one in every province and territory. This game is a test of park knowledge. Match each park with its province. The first one has been done as an example.

Princeton Island National Park — New Brunswick
Terra Nova National Park — Newfoundland
Kjeimkujik National Park — Prince Edward Island
Forillon National Park — Quebec
Waterton Lakes National Park — Alberta
Prince Albert National Park — Saskatchewan
Glacier National Park — Montana
Kluane National Park — Yukon Territories
Riding Mountain National Park — Manitoba
Kouchibouguac National Park — New Brunswick
Auyuittuq National Park — Nunavut
Point Pelee National Park — Ontario

Answers on p. 14
Calling all artists – color Boomer the beaver

Meet Boomer, Parks Canada’s mascot for the national parks’ 100th birthday celebrations. Boomer will be seen across the country in parades, at festivals or wherever people are celebrating this important year. Why not color Boomer? You can show your finished picture to one of the attendants at the Banff or Lake Louise information centres and receive a centennial button.

Contributors to the centennial edition of The Mountain Guide: Heather Dempsey, Daryl Fedje, Duncan McDonnel, Jim Martin, John Pitcher, Jim Robertson, Don Sears. Photographs and illustrations: Joe Benge, Heather Dempsey, Ed Duchoslav, Wendy Seager, Lloyd Webster, Al Williams. Editing (French and English) and design: Regional Information Advisor’s staff, Parks Canada, Calgary.
Louise – lake of many names

When Tom Wilson became the first white man to see what is now known as Lake Louise on August 24, 1882, the Indian who had guided him there identified it as The Lake of Little Fishes. Wilson later called it Emerald Lake, because of its late-summer color.

In 1884, Sir Richard Temple (Mt. Temple) led a group from the British Association for the Advancement of Science to the lake. Wilson renamed his “Emerald” Lake Louise to honor Temple’s daughter.

Shortly thereafter, it was officially titled Lake Louise in honor of Princess Louise Caroline Alberta (Province of Alberta), fourth daughter of Queen Victoria (Mt. Victoria) and wife of then Governor General of Canada, the Marquis of Lorne.

What are hoodoos and how are they formed?

Hoodos are strangely shaped pillars of consolidated sand, gravel, loose rock and soil and are formed by erosion. If there are areas in a riverbank that are more consolidated or better cemented together than the surrounding materials, the less consolidated sediments will erode away first, leaving ‘pillars’ of the harder material. Hoodoos are found along the Bow River near Tunnel Mountain Drive.

What do bears eat?

Bears are omnivorous — they eat both plant and animal matter. A bear’s diet will vary with the season. In Spring and throughout summer bears dig for roots and eat tender greens and flowers. Berries are favourites in Autumn. Bears are not known to be great hunters, but they do sometimes kill a moose or elk calf. They also dig up marmots, ground squirrels and other rodents in the fall and early spring when plants and bulbs are rare.

Where did the name Banff come from?

Canada’s first national park and the townsite within it are named after Banffshire, Scotland – birthplace of the first president of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The townsite was named first. It wasn’t until 1930 that Rocky Mountains Park officially became Banff National Park.

Explore lake on foot, boat, horse

When standing facing Lake Louise try, for a moment to block out the crowds and travel back to a misty day in late August, 1882. Edwin Hunter, a Stoney Indian guide, has just led a young Canadian Pacific Railway packer up to the lakeshore. “As God is my judge”, Tom Wilson later said, “I never, in all my explorations, . . . . saw such a matchless scene”.

That “matchless scene” with its emerald-green water and the glacier-clad backdrop of Mount Victoria remains the same today. There are many ways to enjoy the lake that so inspired that railway worker decades ago.

WALK: • the easy shoreline trail past the hotel to the far end of the lake. Time: 30 minutes, one way.
• the short, steep trail to Fairview Lookout. Start at the trailhead near the boathouse. Time: half an hour and up.
• the tramline trail down to the village in the valley. Arrange for a ride back up, or return by the Louise Creek trail. Start at the lower public parking lot, (parking lot 1C), across from Deer Lodge. Time: one hour, one way.
• the riverside trail in lower Lake Louise. This follows the Bow River from the campground toward the train station. Time: half an hour, one way.

Contact the Information Centre staff for more details.

HIKE: • to the Plain-of-Six-Glaciers, beyond the end of Lake Louise. There and back: full day hike. Steep and rough sections. Tea-house open near the end of the trail during summer and fall.
• to Lake Agnes. Start at the lakeshore at the far end of the Chateau Lake Louise’s property. There and back: half day. Steep sections. Tea-house open beside the lake during the summer and fall.
• Big and/or Little Beehives: extend the Lake Agnes hike to a full day outing by continuing on to either or both of these viewpoints.
• to the Saddleback, to see the best view of the north face of Mount Temple. Steep, half to full day.
• to Paradise Valley. Drive to the trailhead on the Moraine Lake road, or those without transportation can start at the Fairview Lookout/Saddleback trailhead. Full day.

Contact the Information Centre staff for more details.

HORSEBACK RIDE: • to most of the above. One hour, half-day, full-day and longer trips are available. Contact the local stables for details.

CANOE: • on Lake Louise. Provide a canoe, or contact the boathouse concession.

Answer from page 12: BEAVER

The beaver is the symbol for Canada’s national parks. This animal is found in wetlands across the country.
Camping guide to Banff park

Where to Camp

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campground</th>
<th>Fees (site/night)</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tunnel Mountain</td>
<td>$10.25</td>
<td>No charge for winter camping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Louise</td>
<td>$10.75</td>
<td>(portions will be closed for construction)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mosquito Creek</td>
<td>$7.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterfowl</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castle Mountain, Two Jack Campgrounds</td>
<td>$7.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnston Canyon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castle Meadows (group camping)</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eisenhower (Castle Mountain)</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection Mountain</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Louise</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cirrus Mountain</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Campground fees (site/night):

unserviced sites:

- Cirrus Mountain, Rampart Creek, Mosquito Creek Campgrounds: $5
- Waterfowl, Protection Mountain, Lake Louise, Castle Mountain, Two Jack Campgrounds: $7.50
- Tunnel Mountain – Village I, Johnston Canyon Campgrounds: $8

serviced sites:

- Lake Louise Trailer Court: $10.25
- Tunnel Mountain – Village II Campground: $10.75
- Tunnel Mountain Trailer Court: $12

(Prices may change)

Backcountry camping:

Banff’s backcountry camping area contains more than 50 primitive campgrounds connected by a system of 1,300 km of trails. A permit, free-of-charge, is required for overnight stays in the backcountry. Permits are available at information centres and park warden offices.

Poaching

Wildlife poaching has recently become a serious problem in Banff and other national parks. Trophy-sized animals are the prime targets. Special restrictions regarding the possession of firearms apply within the national parks. In the townsite or on public highways firearms must be transported unloaded and either dismantled or securely wrapped.

If you have any questions about these restrictions or happen to see anyone with a firearm or involved in any suspicious activity, please call the park wardens immediately at 762-4506.
Please turn to page 15 for distance chart.

Answers to bird puzzle on p. 12
(1) dipper (2) magpie (3) Clark’s nutcracker
(4) osprey (5) ptarmigan (6) bittern

Extra! Extra!
This tenth edition of The Mountain Guide has been created to help visitors plan activities and enjoy a stay in Banff National Park. Do you have any comments, suggestions or criticisms of the newspaper? We would appreciate hearing from you. Please send your ideas to the Chief Park Interpreter, Banff National Park, Box 900, Banff, Alberta T0L 0C0.

24 HOUR PARK INFORMATION ON TV
Tune in to Banff Cablevision, (Channel 13) any hour of the day, for the latest park and weather information as well as for films about the natural and cultural history of Banff National Park.

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