

# 2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT

# 50 YEARS OF CONSERVATION

# From the desk of the National Executive Director

50 years. It's a long time and yet it's only the blink of an eye. Since 1963, CPAWS has lead in the protection of half a million square kilometres—a track record that we don't highlight nearly enough.

That's 125 million acres—an area bigger than the entire Yukon Territory! If you look at what we've spent to protect that amount of wilderness, it comes to less than a dollar an acre. Your conservation dollars are certainly efficient when you invest them with us—and we use every penny with care.

In 2013, we celebrated how far we've come since 1963. Then we took sober stock of the incredible amount of work that lies ahead to achieve our goal of conserving at least half of Canada's wilderness.

We also found ourselves spending a growing amount of time in many parts of Canada, from British Columbia clear to Newfoundland, fighting to ensure that our most precious parks stay protected.

It's only due to the generosity of our supporters that we can make conservation happen. With your help, our ambitious goals don't feel so difficult to achieve. Thank you for helping us—year after year—to make gains for nature.

Yours in conservation,

Zin Obul - Hal

Éric Hébert–Daly National Executive Director Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society



Photo: Jennifer Berney



### CELEBRATING THE BIG 50!

October 2013 kicked off a very special 12-month period for CPAWS. We began celebrating 50 years of being at the forefront of protecting Canada's public lands and waters. Among the birthday events, a fun reception at Ottawa's Museum of Nature. Photo: Martin Lipman

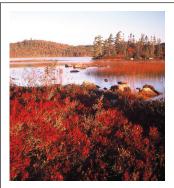
### KEEPING GROS MORNE SAFE

CPAWS and local community partners in the campaign to protect spectacular Gros Morne National Park from adjacent industrial development rejoiced when the province placed a moratorium on fracking, and the adjacent oil exploration license was not renewed in 2013. Now we're focused on gaining a permanent buffer zone around the park to prevent similar proposals from threatening this World Heritage Site in future. Photo: Alison Woodley



# MAKING PARK GAINS IN MANITOBA

CPAWS was pleased to see its advice reflected in the Manitoba government's 2013 Green Plan, which includes a goal of creating up to 15 new protected areas by 2020. The plan also commits the government to consider expanding Little Limestone Lake and Fisher Bay Provincial Parks—two of CPAWS' top parks conservation priorities in Manitoba.



#### CELEBRATING NOVA SCOTIA'S PROTECTED AREAS PLAN

After years of work, CPAWS' Nova Scotia chapter and local partners welcomed the release of a final protected areas plan in 2013 that will protect an additional guarter million hectares of wilderness in the province, including some of the most ecologically significant areas. This will bring Nova Scotia's percentage of land legally protected to 13% initially, and then to 14% over the next few years, one of the highest in Canada. Impressive, considering Nova Scotia is a highly settled landscape with a big human footprint. Photo: Irwin Barrett

#### **CONNECTING** CANADIANS TO NATURE

CPAWS chapters introduced Get Outside programs to high school and university-aged youth in New Brunswick and the Greater Toronto Area in 2013, giving them new opportunities to connect and develop nature leadership skills, modeled on the innovative program pioneered by CPAWS and partners in British Columbia. In the Ottawa Valley, CPAWS launched a great new program of guided nature hikes for school-age <u>children. Photo: Jennifer Berney</u>



### TURNING TO THE LAW TO PROTECT YUKON'S PEEL RIVER WATERSHED

In January 2014, CPAWS, local First Nations and the Yukon Conservation Society launched a legal challenge to force the Yukon Government to implement a land use plan that would protect 54,000 square kilometres of wilderness in northern Yukon's Peel River Watershed against mining and other industrial development. Well-known lawyer Thomas R. Berger O.C., Q.C. is representing CPAWS and our partners in this case.

# BETTER PARK RULES FOR NEW BRUNSWICK

CPAWS welcomed revisions to New Brunswick's Parks Act in early 2014 to strengthen the conservation mandate for provincial parks. Unfortunately, at the same time the province released a new forest strategy that will put wildlife at greater risk and make it harder to expand the province's protected areas system. CPAWS joined with scientists to raise public awareness about the problems with this new strategy.

# HIGHLIGHTS

# BRINGING THE NORTH SOUTH

As part of our ongoing campaign to create a huge national park reserve at the East Arm of Great Slave Lake, Northwest Territories, CPAWS organized public events in Ottawa and Calgary where members of the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation shared their vision for Thaidene Nene, meaning "land of the ancestors." Photo: Jim Ferguson





## **ON GUARD FOR** CANADA'S CARIBOU

To help spur action by provinces and territories, CPAWS and the David Suzuki Foundation released an assessment of progress to date in protecting Boreal woodland caribou as required under the federal Species at Risk Act. The report gained extensive media attention and led to productive dialogue between CPAWS and decision-makers in many jurisdictions. Photo: Ted Simonett

# PROTECTING THE SANCTITY OF OUR PARKS

It was another challenging year for national parks, with budget cuts limiting park conservation and education programs, and commercial development pressures continuing to build in the Rocky Mountain parks. CPAWS worked hard to raise public awareness about the challenges our treasured parks face. Our fifth annual report on the state of Canada's parks, both good and bad, gained extensive media coverage across the country. And 10,000 people joined our "I Love Parks" campaign—a growing movement of people supporting the creation of new parks in Canada, and better protection for the ones we already have.

### DIVING DEEP TO PROMOTE **MARINE PROTECTION**

CPAWS organized a series of deep sea dives in the Strait of Georgia's Howe Sound to examine the state of ancient and mysterious glass sponge reefs, helping to put the media spotlight on these amazing ecological treasures and keep the pressure on for permanent protection. Photo: Bruce Kirkby



### LEADING THE CHARGE FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA'S PARKS

CPAWS and other groups launched a public campaign to overturn January 2014 amendments to the BC Park Act that will facilitate boundary adjustments for industrial activities, undermining the fundamental principle that parks are to be protected in perpetuity. More than 167,000 people have voiced their opposition so far, and over 5,000 people have written personal letters.

# **STATEMENT** OF FINANCIAL POSITION\*

ASSETS Current Cash and Cash Equivalents		2013
Cash and Cash Equivalents		
	1,908,491	1,680,325
Accounts Receivable	186,362	166,401
Prepaid Supplies, expenses and deposits	56,573	42,666
	2,151,426	1,889,392
Capital assets	164,683	190,272
Subtotal	2,316,109	2,079,664
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	82,384	83,469
Deferred contributions	392,487	804,835
Transfers payable to regional chapters	514,930	253,867
Transfers payable to the controlled Founda		34,271
Subtotal	989,801	1,176,442
Deferred lease incentives	6,600	12,258
NET ASSETS		
Invested in capital assets	479,182	178,014
Reserve fund	158,083	320,982
Unrestricted net assets	382,443	391,968
Endowment—Now & Forever Wild Fund	300,000	-
Subtotal	1,319,708	890,964
Total	2,316,109	2,079,664
*For the year ended March 31, 2014		
Government: 3	% Other: 1%	
Corporate: 5%		
How CPAWS		
How CPAWS is funded		ividual:
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is funded INCOME: \$4,908,222 Found	ation:	
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# 2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT

# **HONOURING OUR DONORS** Thank you to those individuals, foundations, businesses, and organizations that demonstrated their leadership in our 2013-2014 fiscal year with gifts of \$1,000 or more to CPAWS.

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