

Parks Summary

Investing in our National Parks

Please find below a secondary summary of the Federal Budget which includes the investment made for national parks in Canada, through Parks Canada Agency and Natural Resources Canada. While money was not allocated to municipal parks, there are several national parks and trails within them that will receive investment. CPRA continues to nurture its relationship with key Parks Canada officials and the Canadian Parks Council.

Canada's national parks belong to all Canadians. The Government is committed to preserving and expanding our national parks, national marine conservation areas and historic sites and to making them more accessible to Canadians. To achieve this, Budget 2016 provides significant new investments, including:

- \$42.4 million to the Parks Canada Agency and Natural Resources Canada to continue work on developing new national parks and national marine conservation areas, including the Lancaster Sound National Marine Conservation Area, Nunavut and Thaidene Nene National Park, Northwest Territories;
- Up to \$83.3 million to the Parks Canada Agency to provide free admission for all visitors to national parks, national marine conservation areas and national historic sites operated by the Agency in 2017, the 150th anniversary of Confederation, and to provide free admission for all children under 18 years of age, beginning in 2018; and
- \$16.6 million to the Parks Canada Agency to expand the Learn to Camp program, develop new programming to tell Canada's stories, and encourage Indigenous story-telling and eco-tourism opportunities.

As part of the federal infrastructure initiative in Chapter 2-Growth for the Middle Class, Budget 2016 proposes to provide up to \$191 million over two years, starting in 2016-17 on a cash basis, to the Parks Canada Agency to improve tourism and highway assets, including:

- \$85.9 million to twin part of the Trans-Canada Highway through Yoho National Park in British Columbia;
- \$21.6 million to pave highways through Wood Buffalo National Park in the Northwest Territories;
- \$65.9 million for a new biking and walking trail in Jasper National Park in Alberta; and
- \$17.7 million to build a new biking and walking trail in Pacific Rim National Park Reserve in British Columbia.

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