

# The Wolf Print

NORTHERN LIGHTS WILDLIFE WOLF CENTRE  
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## GET TO KNOW WOLVES!

We want to put wolves in the spotlight. Their stunning beauty. Their social hierarchy and relationships. Their role as a keystone species in the ecosystem. And the fact that they're not protected in Canada. Help raise WOLF AWARENESS by purchasing and wearing a Robert Bateman "Get To Know" Grey Wolf t-shirt. Your neighbours will ask about your fashion statement, and when they do...tell them the truth. These shirts are 100% organic cotton and made in North America.

## A Howling Thanks To Outstanding Supporters...



- Estelle Phillips has continued to supply us with her unique and beautiful creations in jewelry that help us raise money to advance our educational efforts.
- Sjenta from Kelowna is an 80 year old woman filled with a zest for life and a passion for wildlife. She contacted us about putting together a presentation for her peers about wolves – and has done an outstanding job. Go Sjenta!
- All A-Board Games (Kamloops) for donating an educational wolf "dice game" to our giftshop, with all proceeds going towards caring for our wolf pack.



## Annual OPEN HOUSE Reminder

Come one, come all! Celebrate with us as we enter our 7th year. The Open House is June 21, (Father's Day) and admission will be free between 12:00 (noon) and 4:00 pm. Tradition continues as we fire up the barbeque, listen to local musicians, admire wildlife artwork and chat with the artists, work on kids' crafts, and learn how we can ALL help wolves and the wildlife in our own backyard. Don't forget to bring your Dad! An event for the whole family...or just a nice way to spend an afternoon yourself.

## What have we been up to?

### NEW PROGRAMS & NEW FUNDING

Shelley has been busily developing new programs: now, in addition to our wolf program, we offer bear and water ecology workshops. Through funding from the Columbia Basin Environmental Education Network (CBEEN), we are able to deliver them into new school districts. CBEEN helps to connect all environmental educators and resources in the Columbia Basin - promoting environmental education, stewardship, and sustainability, and providing support to educators.

### MONTANE ECOSYSTEM WORKSHOP

Sadie attended this two-day workshop to learn about current conservation challenges in the montane ecosystem region of Banff and surrounding National Parks, including the Golden area. The meeting was an attempt to bring together First Nations, Parks Canada, PhD students, interpreters,

and various stakeholders to focus on important issues and establish plans that will accommodate all user-groups while preserving the ecological integrity of the Parks. Can it be done? A few highlights from the workshop include:

- Continued translocation of elk from Banff, and planned culling
- Possible reintroduction of bison to Banff
- Removal of exclusion fencing from the 1930's has encouraged natural wildlife movements, in particular the wolf
- Combining more First Nations knowledge and practices into management decisions in Banff

Sadly, on the first day of the workshop, another wolf was killed on the Trans Canada Highway just outside of Lake Louise. This was the 3rd wolf killed on that highway within 7 months.

## What's Next?

### STREAMKEEPERS COURSE

Casey and Sadie will be taking part in a Streamkeeper's course put on by Wildsight-Golden at the end of April. The two are excited to learn and participate in local water management projects, and will act as volunteers to monitor water quality in the Blaeberry Valley and Columbia Valley Wetlands.

### WILDSIGHT PRESENTATION

On May 14th, Sadie will be presenting the Canadian Wolf Coalition at the next Wildsight-Golden meeting. This presentation is open to the public, and we encourage you to come and discuss the issues wolves are facing at a local level and across the country. The presentation will focus on why it imperative to practice responsible wildlife management in areas adjacent to National Parks.

## Buffer Zones

We have tallied and submitted an environmental petition to establish Buffer Zones to protect wolves and other wildlife around the 7 National Parks in the Central Rockies. Over 3,000 signatures were collected in total, about half Canadian residents and half international visitors, who want to see wolves remain free and wild in our country. Thank you to all of you who added your name and comments during the collection process. We will keep you informed about the response we get from the government, and are committed to pursuing the campaign if needed.

You can still support this initiative by writing a letter to Jim Prentice, Minister of the Environment and letting him know you support Buffer Zones for wolves and other wildlife. For sample letters and background information, go to our website: [www.northernlightswildlife.com](http://www.northernlightswildlife.com)

## Karelian Bear Dogs

Our petition to legalize bear-shepherding has been stopped due to the upcoming provincial election. Please show your support for the use of non-lethal bear management by voting for the party or individual who will see this accomplished. If you live in BC...**VOTE!!!** All other provinces are encouraged to write to the BC Premier and BC Minister of Water Land & Air Protection. And, of course, vote for the environment when it's your chance.

Canada is rich in wolf diversity.... LET'S KEEP IN THAT WAY!



The legally placed trap-lines at the boundaries of our National Parks are a leading cause of wolf mortality. Non-target wildlife and pets are often caught and suffer as well. We are grateful to George Clements, Director of Fur Bearers Defenders, for providing the following insight into the cruelty of the fairly common trapping trade.



Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has. ~Margaret Mead

## Eastern Wolf Update What Can the West Learn from Ontario?

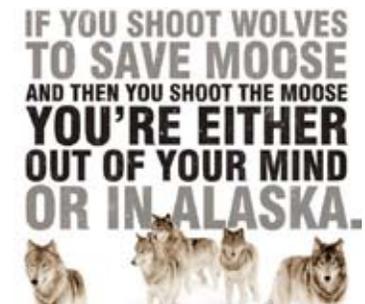
There are buffer zones around Algonquin Provincial Park in Ontario protecting the Eastern wolf, which is recognized as a species of special concern. Although this was a landmark success due to a small but determined and hardworking group, they are still waiting for the federal Ministry of Environment to provide a management plan for the Eastern wolf, and for the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources to live up to its promised commitment to establish a wolf advisory committee.

zones for wolves and other wildlife in the Central Rockies. When resources are limited, as they often are among non-governmental and grass-roots organizations, it is imperative that we work together. Although the CPAWS-OV wolf committee is focused on the Eastern Wolf, we are both committed to raising awareness countrywide. We are pleased that they are willing to share their knowledge with us, so that we, too, may eventually succeed in creating buffer zones around our National Parks here in the Rockies.

The Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society – Ottawa Valley Chapter (CPAWS-OV) [www.cpaaws-ov-vo.org/eastern\\_wolf\\_e.html](http://www.cpaaws-ov-vo.org/eastern_wolf_e.html), is acting as a leader in Eastern wolf conservation, with a focus on preserving habitat that links protected areas from Algonquin to the Adirondacks (A2A) in the U.S.A. This is similar in nature to the Yellowstone to Yukon Initiative (Y2Y), an area in which we are trying to establish buffer

The Canadian Wolf Coalition was included in the wide-reaching CPAWS-OV newsletter, as well as our efforts regarding Buffer Zones. We are happy to see that our message is reaching across the country. Thank you CPAWS-OV, for your support and work to protect the Eastern Wolf.

## Death from the Sky: Help Stop the Slaughter of Wolves in Alaska



In face of strong opposition, Alaska Governor Sarah Palin continues to allow aerial gunning of wolves from helicopters and planes. Over the past 6 years, almost 1,000 Alaskan wolves have died this way. This year, 66 wolves have been gunned down by the Alaska department of Fish and Game staff near the

Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve. Those could be Yukon wolves!  
It gets worse. The Palin administration has just authorized gassing wolf pups in their dens and setting up snares around den-sites.  
Canada needs to speak out against this brutal slaughter on our neighbouring wildlife. To learn more about how you can help, visit the website [www.eyeonpalin.org](http://www.eyeonpalin.org), supplied by [Defenders of Wildlife](http://Defenders of Wildlife). Defenders is currently working in state court to stop aerial

assault, as well as creating awareness of these barbaric acts. Defenders of Wildlife tells us the following about Sarah Palin:  
• Proposed paying a \$150 bounty for the left foreleg of each dead wolf.

- Approved a \$400,000 state-funded propaganda campaign to promote aerial hunting.
- Introduced legislation to make it even easier to use aircraft to hunt wolves and bears.

**GET POLITICAL CANADA!**  
You can change things! VOTE for politicians whose top priorities include wildlife preservation, habitat protection, and biological diversity for now and future generations.

companion dog, had her hind legs crushed while caught in such a manner, near Creston last year. The wildlife biologist authorized such a set and used a retired, or ex-Conservation Officer to set the traps. And presumably is continuing.

I became proficient in setting this huge wolf trap and demonstrated its use in many cities across Europe, including the House of Commons in England. People could hardly believe we could use such a device legally. I am pleased that many more people in the western world have learned about the treatment of our precious wolves and the sale of wolf pelts is decreasing.  
I was, and am, so pleased to know of the wonderful work of the Northern Lights Wildlife Wolf Centre. The wolf needs and deserves all the help you can give.

Sincerely,  
George V. Clements, Director  
Fur-Bearer Defenders  
225 East 17th Avenue, Suite 101  
Vancouver, B.C., Canada V5V 1A6  
Phone: 604-435-1850  
Fax: 604-435-1840  
[www.BanLegholdTraps.com](http://www.BanLegholdTraps.com)

Fur-Bearer Defenders is a well-established Canadian non-profit society working to stop trapping cruelty and protect fur-bearing animals. We are managed by a dedicated, volunteer Board of Directors, and our work is entirely supported by donations and memberships of individuals.  
**Join us!**

