

Little Smoky

Some progress has been made in Little Smoky, Alberta. As of March of this year, the Alberta Sustainable Resource Development (ASRD) will no longer poison wolves using strychnine. The wolf cull in Little Smoky began in 2005 and may last for 8 years. The purpose is to increase the caribou population in the area. As we've mentioned in past newsletters this is not effective management. Wolves are being used as a scapegoat for the habitat loss due to human activity. Sadly, big industries are not being blamed. This year the ASRD also permitted almost 400 new well sites for petroleum in the area.

The provincial government killed 89 wolves in the winter of 2005-06, 66 in 2006-07, and 62 more wolves this past winter using aerial gunning and poison. Strychnine may take over 2 hours to claim its victim. It causes muscles to have severe, painful spasms until they are exhausted and breathing stops. Up to 80% of the animals poisoned may not be the target species: such as cougar, wolverine, coyote, and eagle. The poison is also a threat to humans. Sustainable Resources Development minister Ted Morton called for a review of strychnine as a method of wolf control. However, the poison can still be used to kill wolves and coyotes that prey on livestock. Hopefully the review will lead to permanent policy changes.

Health Canada wanted to ban it nationally but Alberta and Saskatchewan were granted permits, and are currently the only 2 provinces using this poison. They expire at the end of July and they will need to apply for another one-year permit. Voice your opinion!

They have not suspended killing wolves in Little Smoky. Outcry from the public and environmental groups led to the suspension of strychnine. To stop the unjust killing of wolves in Alberta and BC, keep making your voice heard! Write letters, make phone calls, tell your friends! Sample letters and government contact information can be found on our website.

Relay for Life

Wolf conservation and awareness is the focus of our centre - but we are concerned about many different environmental issues. This year our staff participated in the Cancer Society's "Relay for Life". The Relay began at 8:00 pm and teams walked all night long until 8:00 am. We walked in honour of Linda, Shelley's mother who passed last year.

We feel that many forms of cancer and disease are a result of the environment we have created. Here in Golden we have some of the worst air quality in the province due to the two major railroads, major highway and the paper mill in the town. As a result, the disease has affected everyone living here. Conserving our environment will not only help our wilderness but will keep us healthy as well!

Edu-Kit

Thanks to all of our sponsors we were able to travel far and wide with our message of conservation. Our Edu-kit was put together through donations and is a great learning tool. We traveled to many schools and many came to our centre on field trips to learn about wolves. A special thank you to:

Alexander Park - Golden
Elizabeth Barrett - Cochrane
Kerrywood Nature Centre - Calgary
Marysville Elementary - Kimberly
Rundle Academy - Calgary



Become A Sponsor

Help us help wolves! You can adopt a wolf individual from our pack, and receive updates about your wolf... or you can become a pack member and receive general updates about the pack and the wolf centre.

Your generosity helps with the huge responsibility of feeding and caring for our wolf pack, putting together our Edu-kits, as well as helping us to reach our goals to promote wolf awareness, help to educate people, and help change legislation to protect our wilderness.

Adopt A Wolf \$ 75

Pack Membership

\$250 = Wolf Pack
\$100 = Alpha Member
\$ 50 = Beta Member
\$ 20 = Puppy Member

Check out our website www.northernlightswildlife.com for pictures and info about the individual wolves.

WE ACCEPT MEAT DONATIONS!

Petition On-line

thepetitionsite.com/1/legalize-bear-shepherding-in-bc

Follow the link above, or on the home page of our website to add your signature to our petition to allow the use of Karelian Bear Dogs to teach wildlife - especially bears - how to recognize and avoid human territory, such as towns, campgrounds, and garbage dumps. We are asking the BC government to amend the Wildlife Act, and this is the first year in the past decade that there are any changes to be made, so we have to keep the pressure on!



Northern Lights Wildlife
WOLF CENTRE

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Summer Time!

Hey kids – it’s now summer! The sun is shining, the flowers are blooming, and there’s NO SCHOOL!! So this newsletter is for you!

We would like to thank all of the fantastic kids who have adopted a wolf or joined our pack! You are a great role model and an example of how environmental and aware small people can be! Specifically we would like to recognize some inspiring kids who accepted donations for the wolf centre instead of birthday presents or raise money in their class and scout groups. Your generation is truly touching. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts and the wolves thank you from the bottom of their stomachs!

Bailey S.	Logan
Lucy E.	Kevin B.G.
Mitch	Ingrid U
Madison	Hannah W
Sheehan G.	Bruce B.

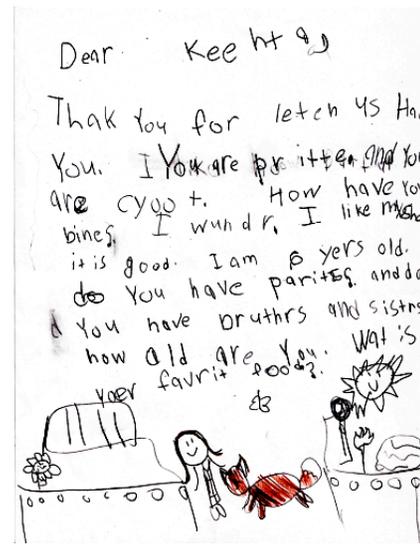
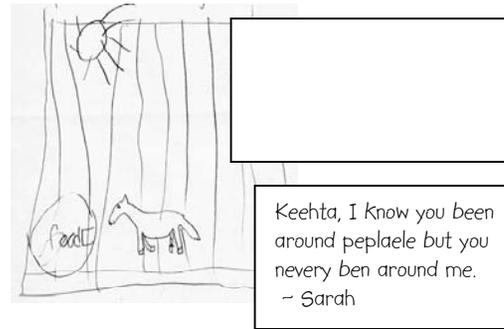
1st Bragg Creek Cubs
 108th St. Bernadette Wolf Cub Pack
 151 Springbank Cubs
 Good Shepherd School – Grade One Class
 People to People - Iowa
 West Point Grey Academy
 (Gabrielle, Avah & Cameron)

Quotes!

The Good Shepherd School of Fort McMurray, Alberta were generous enough to sponsor Keehta and Tuk as part of the Wolf Unit. Here are some quotes from the great letters they sent and some of their beautiful drawings.

TUK 

Tuk you are nas. Tuk
 I love you. Tuk you
 are good. Tuk I em
 nus. Tuk Im good
 -Kyle



Open House

We had another successful Open House! Locals and tourists alike came out to help us celebrate our 6th anniversary. A big thanks to the local businesses that contributed to our success by donating door prizes, supplies for our craft table and food for our barbeque.

their link with diseases. The local Bear Aware representative had a booth teaching people how to prevent “Problem” bears. In addition to this, we had a presentation by our staff about the use of Karelian Bear Dogs in bear management.

Overall the day was a success filled with sunshine, food, fun and awareness!



Featured Artists Enid & John

John Howlett has been out “walking with the wolves” of our Northern Lights pack. Like many artists, some of his work has featured these beautiful creatures. We were fortunate enough to host John at our Open House this year, and wish him continued success with his paintings.



Stevie with John’s art



Enid Petherick is a long-time resident of the Blaeberry Valley, and recently has been inspired by wolves. Her unique interpretation of the energy in a howl is haunting.