

Karelian Bear Dogs - Update

All we want for Christmas is to change section 78 of the BC Wildlife Act!

Our on-going petition to amend section 78 was presented by MLA Norm MacDonald to the Government of BC when in session this past November. Though the petition was read, the session was only seated for a short period, and the focus was on the economic plan. So... yet again no change has been made to the Wildlife Act. We are not discouraged however, as another session is scheduled for February 2009, and Northern Lights Wildlife is continuing to push for this exemption.

Now, more than ever, is the time for supporters of this program, like you, to raise your voice. Write letters to the government, to your local newspaper, and talk to people in your area, like neighbours, mayors or town officials - encouraging them to write letters as well. Letters to the editor can be very powerful, as the Government always has an eye on the media, therefore the more media attention we can get the better. Now is the time for action, we must let the Government of BC know this matter is not going away.

A big thank you to our local business support: The Mad Trapper Pub, Jita's Cafe, and MacLeod's True Value. These businesses have been hosting the petition in the local community of Golden for us.

Alberta Has Called Off the Wolf Cull!

Why? Is it because of economic reasons, like the recession (technical, or real) - or do they really care

about the wolf?

We would like to believe that it was because of the pressure they felt from the public, but we really think that it was stopped because it was costing the government some cash. Money talks louder than people, in most cases.

Are recessions good for our wildlife? Maybe because during a recession, governments don't encourage foolish studies that cost thousands of dollars, to arrive at same answers received from the last study two years prior.

Recessions also slow down some of the negative impact on habitat that goes with an economic boom - as in the havoc being wreaked by the gas and oil industry, and by bad forestry practices throughout our provinces.

Maybe our wildlife will get a break, with the economic down turn. Or, maybe, the down turn will wreak more havoc on our wildlife? Unfortunately this may happen: when times get tough, companies cut corners, and don't always follow environmental regulations.

All we can do is hope for the best - and remind our leaders that the environment is a top priority for the voting public! In the meantime, the good news is that there is some breathing space for the wolf in Alberta. If you want to know our reasons for believing we should protect wolves...

Visit Our New BLOG:

<http://northernlightswolf.wordpress.com/>

Our latest rant on the Blog is the argument for wolf protection - even though they are not listed as a "species at risk" here in Canada.

Join the Canadian Wolf Coalition

www.canadianwolfcoalition.com

Become A Sponsor

Help us help wolves! Your generosity helps us with everything we do here. Our goals are to promote wolf awareness, educate people, and change legislation to protect our wilderness.

If you are already a sponsor, please consider renewing!

Adopt A Wolf \$ 75

Pack Membership

\$250 = Wolf Pack

\$100 = Alpha Member

\$ 50 = Beta Member

\$ 20 = Puppy Member

WE ACCEPT MEAT DONATIONS!



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The Alpha's Howl

Wow! Another year has gone by so quickly. Casey and I would like to thank all our supporters and staff for another great year! The wolves are all doing well, and are enjoying the cool weather. Our fall renovations have not yet put Mo and Keehta in the public eye, but we promise that you will get to see them by this spring.

We want everyone to know that the wolf centre would not be so successful if we didn't have such a dedicated staff - present and past. We have some big projects on the go, like the Wolf Coalition and the Bear Dog petition. These projects would not be going forward without our hardworking staff. Thanks girls!

We are entering our seventh year of operation! For years, we worked hard at spreading our message and finally we feel that people are taking notice of our existence. With word of month and some great articles written about us (check out 'Our Canada' at www.ourcanada.ca and 'BC magazine' at www.bcmag.ca.) We appreciate all the work people do. It is a big job we have taken on...

We are glad people want to help - but we are very concerned that organizations like ours, and other conservation initiatives, are going to have a lack of support in this political climate.

We ask that you spread the word about the wolf centre, sign petitions, and write letters to your government about the decisions they are making on behalf of Mother Nature. Our wildlife, and our planet, still need help... so if you don't have cash donations, don't let that stop you. You can do it with your heart and muscle power. Donating your time is just as important as donating cash!

Have a merry Christmas and we wish all of you all the best in the New Year! All we can do is to work as a pack to get our voices heard!

Shelley Black, Alpha Female



Have you signed our petitions yet?

Please help us to change legislation to protect Canadian wildlife.

To encourage BC to use Karelian Bear Dogs as a wildlife management tool, sign the petition at www.thepetitionsite.com/1/legalize-bear-shepherding-in-bc.

To encourage Canada to implement buffer zones around Parks to protect wolves and other species, sign the petition at www.thepetitionsite.com/1/Wolf-Buffer-Zones.

What Your Interpreter is Doing Now

The summer of 2008 had a full pack of seven interpreters that dedicated their time to educating visitors on the importance of wolves and wildlife conservation. Though our summer pack has dispersed, we still keep in touch on where they are and what they've been doing.

Sara Stewart

Has picked up and left the continent! She is volunteering at a wildlife rehabilitation centre in South America, and travelling to many of its countries using the ever-popular Lonely Planet as her guide. She has taken many gorgeous photos and is keeping us up to date on her amazing adventure.

Katrina Demers

Drove all the way back to Ontario for some much needed family time, but Ontario won't be able to keep her much longer. Having recently graduated, she is packing up and seeing what else Canada and the mountains have to offer.

Crystal Leonard

Took a contract job with Parks Canada in Vancouver, educating the public on wildlife and conservation... but instead of wolves, she focuses on night animals and insects. This winter, she will be moving to Invermere to be a snowshoe tour guide in the area around Panorama resort.

Sadie Parr

Will be returning to the Wolf Centre by mid-December 2008 after a short break, and will continue to spearhead the Wolf Coalition – the goal being to give wolf conservationists one powerful voice to ensure that Canada is proactive, not reactive, in wolf and wildlife conservation.

Ivanka Cankovic, Alannah Duffy, and Jax Hoggard, have all stuck around this fall, continuing to educate our visitors about wolves and wildlife... as well as scooping poop, raking leaves (thankfully that's over!), shovelling snow (if it's not one thing...!), writing letters and blogs, and hanging with the wolves and dogs.



Crystal



Sara



Katrina



(L to R) Jax, Shelley, Ivanka, Casey, MP Jim Abbott, Sadie, and Alannah... getting political