



## SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY

The Canadian government is considering making truly draconian cuts to the archeological and heritage staff of Parks Canada. On behalf of our more than 300 Canadian members and in response to a request from Bill Ross, president of Canadian Archaeological Association (CAA), the SAA has sent a letter ([http://www.saa.org/Portals/0/SAA/GovernmentAffairs/PARKS\\_CANADA.pdf](http://www.saa.org/Portals/0/SAA/GovernmentAffairs/PARKS_CANADA.pdf)) to Canadian political leaders strongly urging them NOT to make these cuts. Such cuts would be “penny wise, pound foolish.” Unfortunately there is, as best as we can determine, no official statement describing the specifics of the cuts. Using a variety of sources, an unofficial list of job cuts and infrastructure closures has been put together (see below). You can visit the CAA web site for more details and updated information: <http://canadianarchaeology.com/caa/draconian-cuts-parks-canada>. We encourage you to post comments and copies of any actions you may undertake on the CAA Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/2237126840/>) in order to show support to our Canadian colleagues.

All archaeologists across the Americas should be very concerned about these. We would urge you to contact the following Canadian leaders with your concerns.

- Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada, [pm@pm.gc.ca](mailto:pm@pm.gc.ca)
- Peter Kent, Minister of the Environment, [minister@ec.gc.ca](mailto:minister@ec.gc.ca)
- [<mailto:minister@ec.gc.ca>](mailto:minister@ec.gc.ca)  
James Moore, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages
- Alan Latourelle, Chief Executive Officer, Parks Canada  
Agency [alan.latourelle@pc.gc.ca](mailto:alan.latourelle@pc.gc.ca)
- [<mailto:alan.latourelle@pc.gc.ca>](mailto:alan.latourelle@pc.gc.ca)

### Unofficial list of proposed reductions

#### British Columbia:

- *Work Force Adjustment summary: 1 of 2 archaeologists lost.*
- The remaining position will be lost in September, leaving 0 archaeologists on the Pacific Coast.

#### Calgary, Alberta:

- Lab Closing, artifacts going to Ottawa
- 10 of 14 cultural heritage positions affected or lost
- 2 Archaeologists left in Western Region

- *Work Force Adjustment summary: 6 of 7 archaeologists lost, 1 assistant archaeologist remains*

Winnipeg, Manitoba:

- Lab Closing, artifacts going to Ottawa
- *Work Force Adjustment summary: 3 archaeology positions left in Western and Northern regions; down from 10*

Cornwall, Ontario:

- Lab Closing, artifacts going to Ottawa
- 1 Archaeologist left (reduced to seasonal); down from 9 employed before April 1, 2012.
- Material Culture Researchers; 3 retired, 3 'affected', 1 reduced to seasonal
- Collections Managers; 1 fired, 2 retained
- *Work Force Adjustment summary: 6 of 7 archaeology positions lost, 1 junior part time archaeologist left*

Ottawa, Ontario:

- *Work Force Adjustment summary:*
  - *Underwater Archaeology Section; untouched.*
  - *Material Culture Section; all 5 researchers gone.*

Quebec City, Quebec:

- Lab Closing, Quebec artifacts going to Ottawa
- 1 Archaeologist left; down from 27 people who worked at Gare Maritime Champlain last year.
- 1 collections Manager; job relocated to Ottawa
- 3 conservators; all relocated to Ottawa
- *Work Force Adjustment summary: 10 of 12 archaeology positions lost, 1 archaeologist and 1 curator of collections to remain*

Halifax, Nova Scotia:

- Lab Closing (Dartmouth), Atlantic artifacts going to Ottawa
- 2 Archaeologists left; down from 3 Archaeologists, 3 Material Culture Researchers, and 1 admin assistant at its peak
- 1 Collections Manager
- Louisbourg has 1 Archaeologist and 1 Collections Manager (reduced to seasonal)
- *Work Force Adjustment summary: 8 of 12 archaeologists lost*

Arctic Canada:

- *Work Force Adjustment summary: 1 archaeologist to cover all of the Arctic.*

**National Programming Cuts:**

- Parks Canada conservators reduced from 33 to 8
- Education Outreach Program has been scrapped
- GIS staff eliminated from Service Centres and Field Units.
- Interpretive staff being replaced by self-guided tours at 27 National Historic Sites across Canada. (Port au Choix, Castle Hill, and Ryan Premises on the list for Newfoundland and Labrador)