



Media Advisory  
September 27, 2016

### **UNESCO Mission to Investigate Dangers to Wood Buffalo National Park To Hear from Environmental Groups**

EDMONTON—UNESCO’s ten-day mission to Wood Buffalo National Park’s will hear from concerned environmental groups on October 3, 2016.

The Mikisew Cree First Nation is asking UNESCO to place Wood Buffalo National Park on its List of World Heritage in Danger due to growing threats from hydro-electric developments, and oil and gas activities upstream from the park. Sierra Club BC, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS), Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative (Y2Y), Keepers of the Water and other concerned groups are supporting the petition.

In July, 2015, UNESCO noted with concern the environmental impacts on the Peace-Athabasca Delta in the Park from hydro-electric dams along the Peace River in British Columbia and Alberta, and oil sands development and proposed open-pit mining in Alberta.

**What:** A press conference with the Mikisew Cree First Nation and concerned environmental groups, the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS), the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative (Y2Y), Sierra Club BC, and Keepers of the Water.

**When:** Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9:30 am

**Where:** 9804 Jasper Avenue (the CKUA Radio building), Edmonton, Alberta

**Why:** Mikisew Cree First Nation is asking UNESCO to add Wood Buffalo National Park to the List of World Heritage in Danger.

UNESCO’s List of World Heritage in Danger alerts the international community to conditions that threaten the characteristics of a site that justified its placement on the World Heritage List, and is designed to encourage corrective action.

The UNESCO Mission is visiting the park and speaking to environmental groups to determine whether further action needs to be taken to ensure the Park receives adequate protection and management from the Government of Canada. Visit [mikisewgir.com](http://mikisewgir.com) for more about the ten-day mission and follow @MikisewCreeGIR.

#### **For further information, please contact:**

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