

# ROCKY MOUNTAIN OUTLOOK

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## SWEET DREAMS, SMOKEY

Canmore firefighters, Alberta Fish and Wildlife officers and an Alberta Parks employee help safely carry a tranquilized black bear out of a property in downtown Canmore on Monday (Aug. 29).

JUNGMIN HAM RMO PHOTO

## Banff, Canmore call on Sunshine ski hill to address housing concerns

CATHY ELLIS

BANFF – The municipalities of Banff and Canmore are calling on Sunshine Village to address employee housing concerns associated with future development of the ski hill given the housing crisis facing Bow Valley communities.

Concerned the ski hill is downloading housing onto neighbouring communities already facing a dire housing crunch, the Town of Banff has specifically asked Sunshine to build staff accommodation at the ski hill or in Banff, as other employers in the townsites are required to do when proposing commercial expansion or intensification.

In neighbouring Canmore, Mayor Sean Krausert said he hopes the municipality's concerns over where new employees will live can be addressed in Sunshine's long-range plan, which details the ski area's development plans for a period of five years.

"Development within Banff National Park, unless said development provides housing for its employees, naturally has an impact on housing in the Town of Canmore," wrote Mayor Krausert in a July 15 letter to Sunshine.

"For that reason, I would ask that your plan address how and where your employees will be accommodated. If the Town of Canmore is to be impacted, I would welcome a conversation about Banff Sunshine's plans for

providing additional housing within the municipality."

At full build-out, Sunshine Village projects that 885 employees will be required in the busy winter, which is approximately a 10 per cent increase from existing staffing levels, and much fewer during the summer months.

"With the inventory of housing at the upper Village, combined with housing in Banff, Canmore and Calgary, workforce housing will be sufficient to handle the current and additional staff needs," states the draft long-range plan released for public review in spring.

HOUSING

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