

**IBA 2020 Elections
Candidate for Councillor
Mark Edwards**

Affiliation: Royal Alberta Museum/University of Albert

Country: Canada

Email: mark.edwards@bearbiology.org

My passion for bears took root during my PhD at the University of Alberta studying barren-ground grizzly bears in Canada's Arctic. Today, I am Curator of Mammals at the Royal Alberta Museum in Edmonton, Alberta, and Adjunct Professor at the University of Alberta. My research is applied and focuses on species' spatial and temporal distribution, resource use, behavior and interactions. My research has branched into other taxa, but my passion still lies with bears. Most recently I have been examining the interaction of black bears and grizzly bears using museum skeletal specimens.

I have been a member of the IBA since 2003. I am currently the Managing Editor of International Bear News, the Co-Editor of the IBA Species Accounts, and have been actively contributing to the IBA Transition from the early development stages to today. In these many roles, I have had the pleasure of seeing the contributions our members make globally. Through my own work, I am also aware of the ecological, conservation and management issues facing bears locally. I believe the balance of these perspectives, provide me with a very grounded understanding of the complex conservation and management topics facing our membership and enable me to contribute to a strong future for IBA.

The IBA Transition marks a new chapter for our Association and members, where we will increase our global leadership in the science-based management and conservation of bears. This new chapter will also see IBA enhance its ability to offer more resources, networking, and capacity building for members working in areas where bear conservation is in need of major and immediate action. The membership is at the heart of the IBA and with your support, I hope to continue to serve as a member of Council.

