

**FINAL MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE
KANANASKIS COUNTRY INTERDEPARTMENTAL
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, January 14, 2003, at 9:30 a.m.
Main Floor, Canmore Provincial Building
800 Railway Avenue, Canmore, AB**

Present:

Co-chair:	Dave Nielsen	Community Development
Co-chair:	Rick Blackwood	Sustainable Resource Development
Secretary:	Laurie Christiansen	Community Development
Members:	Ray Andrews	Community Development
	Bruce Atwell	Transportation
	Mike Benny	Kananaskis Improvement District
	Eldon Bruns	Sustainable Resource Development
	Kevin Crockett	Economic Development
	Sandy Fisher	Infrastructure
	Ted Flanders	Environment
Guests:	Don Cockerton	Community Development

- 1) Review Minutes of November 12, 2002, Meeting (All)
 - The KCICC organizational chart will be included in the binder for information. The Kananaskis Country web site will post the same information as that included in the binder at KVIC.
 - Revisions to the minutes to be done by R. Blackwood for brevity and appropriateness when dealing with In-Camera issues.
 - Approval of the Minutes of the November 12, 2002, meeting is deferred until the March 11, 2003, meeting, pending revision.

- 2) Membership on KCICC (D. Nielsen/R. Blackwood)
 - Eldon Bruns is the Sustainable Resource Development (SRD) Fish and Wildlife representative, with Russ Stashko confirmed as the alternate representative.
 - Telephone numbers and e-mail addresses will be added to the Organizational Chart for the Committee.
 - M. Benny noted that Darren Robinson, from the Kananaskis Golf Course has been appointed to KID Council Representing Large Business.

- 3) Terms of Reference/Operating Procedures for KCICC (D. Nielsen/R. Blackwood)
 - R. Blackwood will revise the Terms of Reference to indicate what information is to be available in the binder at the KVIC.
 - Once the revisions have been made the Revised Terms of Reference will be e-mailed to the membership for review. D. Nielsen requested that each member ensure the document is discussed in each respective department.
 - Decision: Endorsement of the Terms of Reference deferred until the March 11, 2003, meeting, pending revisions.

- 4) Spray Lake Sawmills Forest Management Agreement Planning Process (R. Blackwood)
 - Spray Lake Sawmills submitted a preliminary Forest Management Plan September 4, 2002. A meeting will take place between SRD and Spray Lake Sawmills representatives on January 24, 2003, to review the deficiencies of the preliminary plan.
 - D. Nielsen asked about the process for such a review. R. Blackwood explained that SRD has 90 days to review any such plan and the ultimate decision rests with the Director, Forest Management Division.

The meeting opened to the public at 10:30 a.m. with one person in the gallery, C. Reid, KID Council Chair.

- 5) Peter Lougheed/Spray Management Plan Terms of Reference (D. Cockerton)
- Open houses were held late in October 2002 in both Calgary and Canmore with approximately 150 people attending. Draft terms of reference were available for review and comment, with 86 sets of comments returned to date. There has been good publicity via web sites, the Peter Lougheed Visitor Centre distributed the draft terms of reference in the fall, a letter was mailed out to 590 people who have participated in previous planning processes inviting them to participate and it is expected that about 300 packages will be reviewed as a result.
 - Generally there is support for the terms of reference at this stage, with preservation being the focus. Hunters want to ensure there are opportunities available in the area.
 - R. Andrews urged that exact wording from Acts and Legislation be used when defining hunting areas/opportunities.
 - T. Flanders stressed the need to specifically identify TransAlta Utilities in the management plan as an integral part of both Peter Lougheed and Spray Valley Provincial Parks; this in terms of recreation, power generation, the economy of the area, water supply, etc.
 - T. Flanders requested that an Environment representative added to the Planning Team. This to be coordinated with D. Cockerton.
 - Decision: Draft terms of reference approved by KCICC subject to the changes noted in the discussion being made.
- 6) Special Events Permitting (J. Dennis)
- J. Dennis submitted the “Proposed Amendments to Special Events Guidelines for Parks and Protected Areas in Kananaskis Country” document for discussion and approval.
 - The trend is for large-scale adventure events in the backcountry, which are not addressed in the previous Guidelines. The new guidelines seek to address specifications, definitions, and numbers of participants at large events.
 - Concerns/impacts are: wildlife displacement, social impact on residents and visitors, and managing such large events.
 - An example of a large event is the Banded Peaks Challenge, which hopes for up to 500 participants in the coming year.

- Highlights:
 - Large events are defined as those with 50 plus participants.
 - Established events will not be affected by the new guidelines
 - Timing – event organizers will be encouraged to host events during low use periods
 - Future management plans will address size, timing, frequency, etc. for sensitive areas.
- Concerns regarding amendments:
 - Use of “50” as determining number. This should be flexible depending on the activity. Groups larger than 50 should be directed to other areas, where their activity may be permitted.
 - Must look at cumulative effects – especially regarding impacts on wildlife. Rewording of the discussion on cumulative effects is necessary.
 - Frequency and duration of events at a particular location should be monitored.
- R. Andrews stated that dispersed recreation is the intent and is planned for in wildland parks and the backcountry, whereas large-scale events are not. In other areas of the province special events are not permitted in wildland parks.
- J. Dennis will make suggested revisions and e-mail to Committee members for review.

7) Trail Sports (John Gallagher)

- J. Gallagher began with history of Trail Sports from a trailer set up in 1991, moved to the Bill Warren Training Centre in 1995, through to today when further expansion is necessary.
- From the current location Trail Sports provides equipment rental and lessons for cross-country skiers in winter and mountain bikers in summer. Other services are: sales, equipment repairs, support for elite athletes, and support to the Canmore Nordic Centre with brochures, concession fee to the government, and promoting the facility to school groups for weekday use.
- Trail Sports employs nine staff and can have as many as seven present at one time on a weekend day. The facility is open 364 days/year.
- Proposal:
 - To locate a three-piece modular trailer unit onto the space across from the Day Lodge. The building will be upgraded with a hip roof and vertical siding. Fencing and/or landscaping will be done to improve the view from the parking lot, if necessary.

Utility hookups are available at the proposed site and system demands will not change.

- Decision: The proposed development is endorsed by KCICC, pending approval of all required permits. R. Andrews to prepare a letter to Trail Sports indicating this support.

8) Annual Public Forum (All)

- D. Nielsen suggested that the week be set for this Forum, and suggested the week of April 28, 2003, or May 5, 2003. Two sessions are proposed, one in Calgary and a second one in Canmore.
- Suggestions:
 - Open the Forum to other interests than just CD
 - R. Andrews suggested a series of information “stations”
 - K. Crockett suggested options for providing input – comment box, exit survey
 - KID Council would like to participate
 - Possible topics:
 - a) Mountain Pine Beetle
 - b) Underpass/crossing structures
 - c) Elbow River Watershed Working Group
 - d) Spray Lakes Sawmills
 - e) Eastern Slopes Grizzly Bear Project
- Decision: Members to come prepared at the next meeting with relevant topics they wish to have presented at the Forum, and how they envision doing that.

9) Roundtable (All)

Ray Andrews

- A joint open house between SRD-LFS and CD will be held on January 30, 2003, to inform people about the Mountain Pine Beetle infestation and management plan. The action plan is to cut infested trees and burn them.
- R. Blackwood added that a crew of 27 staff have been surveying the area and are preparing to begin the control program. An estimated 3,000 trees are affected outside of Banff National Park.

Bruce Atwell

- The expenditure statement from Alberta Transportation has been sent to M. Benny, KID CAO, and the cost is substantially higher than previous, due to heavy/late snow and the G8 Summit (\$700,000+).

Mike Benny

- A meeting was held December 11, 2002, between the KID Council and the Minister of Community Development, Gene Zwozdesky, regarding Council's wish to have a member sit on KCICC. The Minister's decision was that there is adequate representation for KID on KCICC, with membership of the KID CAO. KID Council also holds membership on the Kananaskis Country Subdivision and Development Authority.
- A letter from the KID Council Chair will be sent to the Minister requesting a review of the role of Alberta Community Development staff in the administration of KID.
- The KID Annual General Meeting will be held February 4, 2003, at 7:00 p.m. in the Charlie Biel Room at the Kananaskis Village Centre.

Rick Blackwood

- R. Blackwood asked about Trans Canada Trail markers on trails in the West Bragg Creek area.
- D. Cockerton responded that he received an e-mail inquiry that the Trans Canada Trail people were requesting to have their markers placed along existing trails from West Bragg Creek to Deadman's Flat. The request was reviewed and as there were no changes required or new trails requested, it was agreed to let TCT markers be posted along these trails.
- R. Andrews added that a similar request to place markers along trails in the Smith Dorrien/Spray Valley to Elk Pass and the Lower Lake Day Use Area would be addressed in the Spray Valley and Peter Lougheed Provincial Park Management Planning process.
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Eldon Bruns

- There is growing public concern for the Bow Valley wolf population. Wolves are protected inside the National Parks, but if they wander outside the park boundary, they can be legally hunted. Recently three wolves from the Banff National Park (BNP) were killed on the British Columbia side of the park boundary. Environmentalists want a "buffer zone" around the park boundary perimeter that protects wolves that wander outside of the National Parks.
- A number of options are under review by Alberta Sustainable Resource Development.

Kevin Crockett

- The role of Alberta's Strategic Tourism Marketing Council is being expanded to include provision of direction on tourism development as well as tourism marketing topics. The goal is to achieve better integration and development of the tourism product in Alberta and better marketing of what is available to travelers in Alberta.

Sandy Fisher

- Commented that while recently visiting Mt. Kidd RV Park, he noticed that the interpretive trail signage is in very poor condition. Some of the signage has been vandalized and some is missing entirely. It is disappointing to see it in such a state.

Ted Flanders

- Fortress Mountain has completed the sewage system and water treatment plant upgrades and is completely operational. The water quality is acceptable. The amendment to the existing Nakiska EPEA water works approval is signed and the project completed.
- A replacement is still being sought for P. Watson. J. Litke will continue as Acting Director, Southern Region, in the interim.

Dave Nielsen

- The proposed Deadman's Flats Wildlife Crossing Structure is likely to go ahead as a G8 Legacy Project. The Federal Government has set aside \$3 million for this project, Site D is the likely choice for the Rundle Forebay crossing structure as it is less costly than other locations and is located on provincial Crown land, eliminating the need for an MOU with TransAlta. An aggressive construction schedule is proposed with work commencing spring/summer 2003 on both structures.
- D. Nielsen requested that a representative from each department be identified to work with the Federal government representatives to coordinate this project. Identified staff are: Greg McAndrews, Public Lands; Nino DeLaurentiis, Transportation; Jon Jorgenson, Sustainable Resource Development; Jennifer Steeber, Alberta Energy; Bruce Atwell, Alberta Infrastructure and Dave Nielsen, Community Development.
- R. Andrews asked if the community of Deadman's Flats will be "in" or "out" of the fenced area – likely out of the fence.
- The Reorganization Secretariat, effective December 1, 2002, approved the Parks Division reorganization.
- BCEAG is completing work on recreational trail in the Bow Corridor: which trails should remain open, which, if any, should be closed.

- D. Nielsen acknowledged a January 5, 2003, letter from A. Machowski outlining concerns regarding facilities and future development in Kananaskis Country. D. Nielsen to prepare a response.

Additional Items

- February 11, 2003, will be the next meeting of the KID Subdivision and Development Authority.

Minutes approved by:

Dave Nielsen, Co-Chair, KCICC

Rick Blackwood, Co-Chair, KCICC

**Next Meeting Scheduled for
Tuesday, March 11, 2003 at 9:30 a.m.
Canmore Provincial Building
1st Floor Boardroom**