

**MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH MEETING OF THE
KANANASKIS COUNTRY INTERDEPARTMENTAL
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, January 15, 2008, at 9:30 a.m.
Squirrel Room
Radisson Hotel & Conference Centre
511 Bow Valley Trail, Canmore, AB**

Present:

Co-chair: Dave Nielsen Tourism, Parks, Recreation & Culture

Secretary: Laurie Christiansen Tourism, Parks, Recreation & Culture

Members: Ray Andrews Tourism, Parks, Recreation & Culture
Mike Benny Tourism, Parks, Recreation & Culture
Rick Blackwood Sustainable Resource Development
Tas Kollias Infrastructure & Transportation
Param Sekhon Infrastructure & Transportation
Kevin Wilkinson Environment

Absent: Kevin Crockett Tourism, Parks, Recreation & Culture

Guests: Don Cockerton Tourism, Parks, Recreation & Culture – Item #3
Hugh Hamilton Item #6

- 1) Review of the Agenda (All)
 - Item added as 5.(a) – Petro Canada Savanna Creek Project – R. Blackwood

- 2) Review Minutes of November 13, 2007, Meeting (All)
 - Minutes were approved as written.
 - Item updates:
 1. Evan Thomas Water Treatment & Waste Water Treatment Plant Upgrades – P. Sekhon
 - The consultant's report has been finalized. The planning team meets again on February 5/08 with the goal of endorsing the report, then the project will move forward.
 2. Elbow River Water Management Plan – M. Benny
 - After clarifying with AENV, the intent of this report is for information purposes. This will not lead to mandated requirements and will not go forward for Cabinet approval.
 3. KID Council Representation on KCICC/KID Working Group – M. Benny
 - Jamie Tiessen will replace Linda McNeely as the second person on the KCICC/KID Working Group with Dan DeSantis.
 4. Mountain Pine Beetle – R. Blackwood
 - Fact sheets regarding MPB and the work Spray Lakes Sawmills is doing in the area of Highways 68 and 40 were delivered to Barrier VIC for use in explaining the work to visitors.

- 3) Final Terms of Reference: Kananaskis Country Provincial Recreation Areas Management Plan (D. Cockerton)
 - Two Open Houses were held, one in Calgary, one in Bragg Creek, to introduce the public to the process and the Draft Terms of Reference for comment, with January 15/08 the deadline for comments.
 - Twenty-five sets of comments have since been received and forwarded to the planning team. Seven of the 25 were part of a coordinated effort.
 - Comments primarily concern anti-logging and no more fixed roof accommodation.
 - All comments, where appropriate, have been addressed.
 - The area of the MP has expanded to include Ghost/Waiparous PRAs along the trunk road to Burnt Timber, increasing the number of PRAs to 49.
 - D. Nielsen stressed that this is the time to ensure any PRA realignments necessary to accommodate upgrades to Hwy 940 are incorporated into planning. Likewise if there are any beneficial boundary adjustments, this is the time to address those issues.

- Examples raised include Camp Horizon which is on Public Land and may benefit from capital water/sewer upgrades in East Kananaskis if it could be incorporated into Parks planning. Fallen Timber campground is currently at maximum capacity but there is Public Land nearby which could be utilized for campground development. Also raised is the issue of Elbow Falls and OHV use across the falls on Public Land. R. Blackwood concurred that the McLean Creek FLUZ needs to be part of the discussion. A separate meeting needs to happen to address these issues.
 - **Decision: Comments on the Final Terms of Reference to D. Cockerton by January 27, 2008. The Planning Team meets January 29, 2008, for final review. The Final Terms of Reference will then be distributed to KCICC.**
- 4) West Bragg Creek Trails: Proposed Redesignation from Winter-only Use (D. Nielsen)
- This item is on the agenda in response to a November 16, 2007, letter received from Greater Bragg Creek Trails Association, Eric Lloyd, requesting that the ski trails in West Bragg Creek be changed from winter-only use to year round use.
 - D. Cockerton offered that the ski trails are managed by volunteer ski/trail groups. The users hope to see year round use approved and that the trails will become part of the larger Kananaskis Country designated trail network with maintenance taken over by TPRC/KC. The trails are fine for winter use, but the area would require substantial work (reroutes and reconstruction) to utilize in the summer. The areas are wet in summer.
 - This request would require a significant investment for reconstruction and then would significantly impact the budget to maintain.
 - **Decision: KCICC declines the proposal to redesignate winter trails for year round use due to operational and budgetary concerns. Representatives from SRD and TPRC will meet with the Greater Bragg Creek Trails Association to discuss options.**
- 5) Fortress Update (R. Blackwood)
- The Office of the Ombudsman is looking into KID's handling of the issues with Fortress Mountain (Banff Rail Co. Ltd.).
 - Civil actions have been filed by Banff Rail Co. Ltd. against SRD, with January 28, 2008, being the first hearing.
 - Due to both winter weather and the condition of the bridge, SRD has extended the date for removal of improvements to June 30, 2008.
 - **Decision: Update provided for information.**

- 5a) Savanna Multi-Well Battery and Well Site Equipment Upgrade (R. Blackwood)
- Petro-Canada is proposing to add production to an existing site and re-licensing the single well battery as a Multi-Well Battery > 1 tonne/day sulphur inlet, complete with equipment upgrade.
 - The proposed pipeline routing (541 to 532 to the existing compressor station) is controversial.
 - Opponents want the pipeline to follow the roadway along Highway 940.
 - **Decision: KCICC is not in favour of the pipeline following Highway 940.**
- 6) Kananaskis Country: Acknowledging & Recognizing the Principles & Founders (D. Nielsen & Hugh Hamilton)
- In December 2006 H. Hamilton wrote to former Premier P. Lougheed to launch an initiative to recognize Clarence Copithorne, Bill Milne, and Peter Lougheed on their vision and direction in developing what is now Kananaskis Country.
 - Following initial correspondence a meeting was held with H. Hamilton, R. Blackwood, and R. Andrews to discuss what form the recognition would take.
 - Following that meeting a proposal was sent to D. Nielsen, which is being addressed today by seeking KCICC endorsement of this proposal.
 - The proposal includes acknowledgement of C. Copithorne in the form of plaque at the Jumpingpound Interpretive Centre as well as recognition of the three Principles at both the North and South entrances to Kananaskis Country.
 - Also suggested is the renaming of the Jumpingpound Interpretive Centre the “Clarence Copithorne Interpretive Centre”.
 - Cost sharing with the province is sought for funding this project, although the proponents are prepared to fund through private donations if cost sharing is unsuccessful.
 - Department staff will work with H. Hamilton and D. Copithorne on wording, profiles, and locations of the plaques.
 - September 22, 2008, is the 30th anniversary of Kananaskis Country and dedications are proposed to take place during the anniversary celebrations.
 - **Decision: KCICC supports the installation of the proposed plaques. SRD to investigate the option of renaming the Jumpingpound Interpretive Centre the “Clarence Copithorne Interpretive Centre”. TPRC to work with H. Hamilton and D. Copithorne on wording and development of the plaques: R. Andrews will be the liaison during this process; M. Benny to coordinate installation of the plaques with AIT.**

- 7) Poll of MD's and Counties: Sunday Hunting (D. Nielsen)
- When revising hunting regulations SRD asks for comments on the regulation via a survey to municipal representatives. One question related to Sunday hunting in KID. A member of KID Council responded that Sunday hunting in KID would be a worthy revision to the existing regulations.
 - D. Nielsen indicated that Sunday hunting is not a tradition in KID and that recreational users are well aware that there isn't Sunday hunting in KID. Considerations are noise, public safety, and backcountry interference for recreational users.
 - R. Andrews stated that recreational users need to be consulted prior to such a change.
 - **Decision: Consensus that there needs to be one weekend day per week without hunting to accommodate recreational users. Such a significant change to the hunting regulations requires adequate consultation with recreational users prior to being implemented.**

8) Roundtable (All)

D. Nielsen

- The World Cup at the Canmore Nordic Centre will start January 22, 2008. The Premier will be present at 10:00 a.m. to sign the Accord between GOA and the VANOC 2010 committee, as well as for the formal opening of the World Cup events.
- The CNC day lodge will be ready.
- There will also be a Minister's reception on January 23, 2008, at 8:00 p.m. to rededicate the Canmore Nordic Centre. Associate Minister Ady will host the event.

R. Blackwood

- Spray Lake Sawmills (SLS) harvesting plan will end at Tim Horton Children's Ranch and the Mt. Baldy area around the end of January. Hauling only may continue past the end of January.
- There has been some controversy over the logging and some pictures have been posted on the internet. SLS must reclaim the area to its prior or better condition once the harvest is complete.
- Interpretive signage will be posted in the open areas.

T. Kollias

- A film crew is seeking access to closed Kananaskis Country roadways.
- J. Dennis and J. Jorgenson are looking into this request.
- Access will not be granted to the closed portion of Highway 40 but access to other roadways is being looked at.

M. Benny

- Re-establishment of a FireSmart Committee is underway. Terms of Reference have been developed. The next meeting is January 31, 2008 at the Kananaskis Village, starting at 9:30 a.m.
- K. Wilkinson requested that J. Litke be approached to ensure consistency with ENVs approach.

R. Andrews

- Survey work for Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB) is underway and there is an increase in affected trees in Kananaskis Country.
- Spray Valley Provincial Park is seeing greater incidence of MPB.
- MPB is also now established in the Kananaskis Valley and the Evan Thomas PRA.
- It is important that the Mount Nestor burn proceed this year.

P. Sekhon

- A windfall at the Canmore Nordic Centre has exposed an area in the Biathlon area. Any insight/comments?
- R. Andrews offered that the magnitude and scale of high wind occurrences is increasing at CNC.
- R. Blackwood added there have been three major wind events at CNC since November 2005. The outcome of these events is unpredictable.
- P. Sekhon inquired about whether there are planting/replanting plans in place. R. Andrews responded that further clearing may occur to meet FireSmart goals as well as to enhance wildlife habitat.

9) Next Meeting: March 11, 2008

**Next Meeting
Tuesday, March 11, 2008, at 9:30 a.m.
Boardroom 'B'
Canmore Nordic Centre
1988 Olympic Way, Canmore, Alberta**

Minutes approved by:

Dave Nielsen, Co-Chair, KCICC

Rick Blackwood, Co-Chair, KCICC