Booking Your Wedding in Grande Prairie District Provincial Parks

To have your wedding ceremony in a northwestern Alberta provincial park, you need to apply for a Special Events Permit from the park. You will need to complete a Special Event Permit Application
Form and submit it to the park you would like to have your wedding in. Applications are accepted beginning in January of the year the wedding is to take place, and should be submitted no later than 30 days prior to the event (90 days during summer months). Applications are reviewed and approved on a case by case basis.

We recommend that you visit the park venues prior to applying for your Special Event Permit to see which would best fit your wedding ceremony.

We have two options for potential wedding venues in Grande Prairie District Provincial Parks: Non-reservable Day Use Areas, and Reservable Group Use Campgrounds.

Rules that apply to both options:

- Parking is permitted in designated parking areas only and is limited at all park venues; call the
 district office to find out how many vehicles and people can be accommodated at each site you
 are considering for your event.
- Be aware of the natural hazards in Alberta provincial parks, which are natural parks with few manicured grass areas. Cutting, picking, defacing, or removing any living or non-living material including deadfall is prohibited.
- Fires are allowed in designated fire pits only. Firewood may not be supplied by the park call to ask. Do not pick deadfall for firewood or green branches for roasting sticks. Ensure that the fire is completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- Use of real flower petals, confetti, or rice is not permitted.
- Any music and/or microphone with speakers that is brought into a park or played during the
 ceremony <u>must</u> have the volume kept <u>low</u> so as not to disturb the quiet enjoyment of the park
 by other park users.
- You must remove any decorations and other items that were brought in once the ceremony is
 over (i. e. seat covers, runners, chairs, tables, etc.). All materials and/or supplies, litter, garbage,
 etc. associated with this event must be cleared from the area at the conclusion of the event and
 disposed of properly.
- Extra tables for your event will not be provided by the park. All picnic tables that you move for your event must be replaced to their original positions before you leave.

Other rules may apply for the specific option you are considering.

Submit Applications to:

Grande Prairie District Office

Room 1301, Provincial Building, 10320-99 Street, Grande Prairie, Alberta, T8V 6J4

Phone: 780-538-5350

Fax: 780-538-5617

Email: andrew.goldberg@gov.ab.ca

OPTION 1: Non-reservable Day Use Areas

The following non-reservable Day Use Areas are approved for weddings:

O'Brien Provincial Park

O'Brien Day Use Area

Other non-reservable Day use areas within Grande Prairie area Parks areas may be considered, but will be reviewed and approved on a case by case basis. Please contact the Grande Prairie Office for more details.

What you need to consider:

- This Special Events Permit **does not** give your group exclusive use of any area or facility. Public access must be maintained at all times.
- Alcohol is <u>prohibited</u> in publically accessible areas of our northwestern Alberta provincial parks, which includes all Non-reservable Day Use Areas.

The cost to have your wedding ceremony in a non-reservable Day Use Area in a park is based on a number of factors, with the total number of people in attendance being a key component. This Special Events Permit fee is non-refundable.

OPTION 2: Reservable Group Use Campgrounds

The following reservable Group Use Campgrounds are approved for weddings:

Saskatoon Island Provincial Park

Saskatoon Island Group Use Campground Musreau Lake Provincial Recreation Area

Musreau Lake Group Use Campground

Young's Point Provincial Recreation Area

- Young's Point Group Use Campground
 Waskahigan Provincial Park
 - Waskahigan Group Use Campground

What you need to consider:

Before applying for a Special Events Permit, you will need to book the date(s) that you need for your ceremony to take place in a Group Use Campground. You can book online at Reserve.AlbertaParks.ca or by calling 1-877-537-2757; reservations are taken for the whole season beginning in February each year (exact date varies from year to year). You will be charged a Group Use Campground fee. Group Use Campgrounds are in high demand and book up very quickly, so you will want to reserve your site as soon as possible once RAP is open for Group Use reservations.

- This Special Events Permit will allow you to hold your wedding in a reservable Group Use Campground. For the duration of your reservation, you will have exclusive use of these sites.
- Responsible alcohol consumption is <u>permitted</u> in reservable Group Use Campgrounds in our northwestern Alberta provincial parks.

Camping fees for reservable Group Use Campgrounds vary by site; check albertaparks.ca for details. In addition to a nightly camping fee, you will be charged a \$12.00 reservation fee. The online reservation refund policy applies.

Special Events Permit fees are normally waived for this option because you are already paying a camping fee. You will have to pay a Special Events Permit fee if you choose to use multiple locations, for example, a non-reservable Day Use Area for your ceremony and a Group Use Camping area for your reception. Cost of this permit is based on a number of factors, with the total number of people in attendance being a key component.

CANCELLATION POLICY

The prepaid reservation fee of *\$12.00* is non-refundable regardless of when a reservation is cancelled. The camping fees paid at the time the reservation was confirmed, will be refunded provided the reservation is cancelled at least 10 days before 2:00 pm on the date of the reservation. We DO NOT refund for inclement weather on the day of your event.