

Commercial Recreation Dispositions in Alberta Parks

Alberta Environment and Parks

Disposition Agreements

Alberta's provincial parks and protected areas protect our province's rich natural and cultural heritage and include some of the most beautiful landscapes in Canada. They also provide the perfect setting for a variety of nature-based tourism and recreational businesses. Examples include fishing lodges, guest ranches, golf courses and ski facilities.

A disposition agreement is a legal tool or contract between the Government of Alberta and a leaseholder. It outlines the terms associated with the use of land and facilities by a leaseholder within Alberta Parks. Specifically, **Commercial Recreation Dispositions** lay out the terms and conditions for the holder to build and maintain facilities and to operate a business or conduct a non-profit activity in a provincial park or provincial recreation area. Typically, dispositions are used for long-term activities that provide a service that benefits park visitors, promotes tourism, or provides economic opportunities to nearby communities. For administrative purposes, the tool used to establish a Commercial Recreation Disposition is called a Parks Miscellaneous Lease. The specific agreement varies based on the type of activity proposed. The length of the term of a Commercial Recreation Disposition varies based on the opportunity and operator experience including financial liquidity, liability coverage and capacity to meet safety requirements.

How to Apply

When Alberta Parks identifies a commercial recreation opportunity, a proponent is selected through a competitive application process. There are two main phases in the application: the Competitive Selection Process and the Disposition Development Process.

Competitive Selection Process

When an opportunity becomes available, a **Request for Qualifications (RFQ)** will be advertised on Alberta Purchasing Connection (<http://www.purchasingconnection.ca/>) and AlbertaParks.ca.

The first step in the process is to respond to the RFQ. The RFQ contains details about the opportunity and outlines the information required from the respondent. An information session may be hosted during the RFQ submission period to provide additional information and guidance. After the submission period ends, submissions are evaluated according to criteria specified in the RFQ. Successful respondents are invited to move to the next stage and respond to the **Request for Proposal (RFP)**.

At the RFP stage, proponents must provide a detailed proposal (e.g. site development plans, business plans, organization charts). An information session may also be held at this stage. Proposals are then evaluated individually against a set of criteria specific to the project. The successful proponent will move to the Disposition Development Process.

Disposition Development Process

At this point the successful proponent must submit an application package. Parks Operations Division staff coordinate the development of the disposition agreement and can assist in navigating the process and preparing the application package. Once the Province and the proponent sign the disposition, the new operator can start operations as outlined in the agreement.

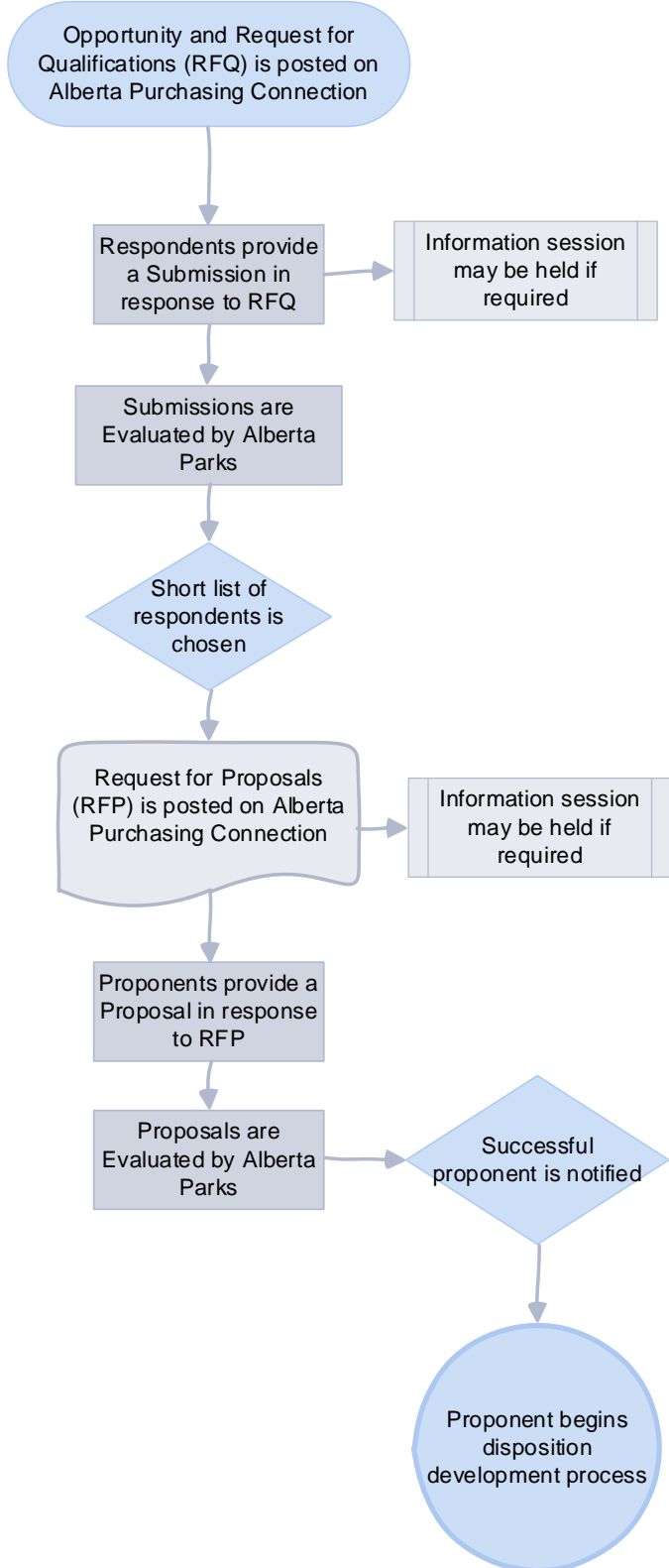
The application package includes:

- [Application form](#)
- [Environmental Field Report \(EFR\)](#)
- [Fees and Security Deposits](#)

Timelines to process the application may vary depending on the complexity of the project. See the following flowcharts for a summary of the process. Have more questions on Commercial Recreation Dispositions in Parks? Email us at AEP.ParksPartnerships@gov.ab.ca.

Disposition Development Process Flowchart

Competitive Selection Process



Disposition Development Process

