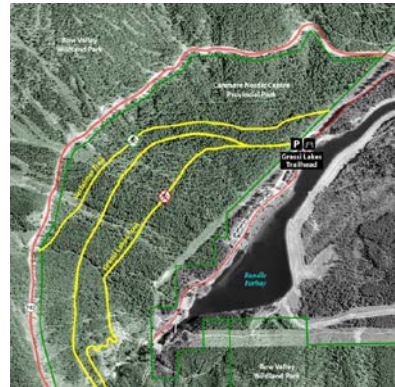


Kananaskis Trails Committee (KTC)

Terms of Reference – Updated 2017



Alberta Environment and Parks

1.0 Background:

In 2010, Alberta Parks Kananaskis Region, senior management recognized a need and opportunity for a consistent and coordinated approach to trail planning and maintenance within the Kananaskis Region. A standing Kananaskis Trails Committee (KTC) consisting of Government of Alberta representatives was created. The Committee provides direction to trail related decision making within the Kananaskis Region (See Appendix A). The benefits of such a strategy include: an enhanced visitor experience, improved resource efficiencies, a sharing of expertise across districts and a consistent look and feel to trails and associated infrastructure within the Kananaskis Region.

2.0 Purpose:

The purpose of the Kananaskis Trails Committee is to provide Kananaskis senior management with prioritized recommendations related to trail planning, building, standards, refurbishment, usage, decommissioning, management and stewardship within the Kananaskis Region and communicate such information to internal and external trail stakeholders. The Committee provides leadership and serves as the connectivity and communication link for local trails volunteers and stakeholders within the Kananaskis Region.

Ultimately, the Kananaskis Trails Committee seeks to ensure safe, secure, sufficient and sustainable trails within the Kananaskis Region while honouring a commitment to ecological health. As such, the KTC's purpose is consistent with the vision of Alberta Parks; to inspire people to discover, value, protect and enjoy the natural world and the benefits it provides for current and future generations.

3.0 Objectives:

Within the overarching goal of creating and maintaining an environmentally and socially sustainable trail system, the Kananaskis Trails Committee is expected to accomplish the following management objectives:

- Objective 1:** Improve use of internal and external financial, equipment and human resources related to trail management in the Kananaskis Region.
- Objective 2:** Enhance Kananaskis trails management by sharing expertise and taking a regional approach to trail planning, prioritizing and maintenance.
- Objective 3:** Formalize trail standards and signage that will provide a consistent look and feel across the Kananaskis Region and that will align where possible with provincial standards and policy.
- Objective 4:** Develop a clear and ongoing communication strategy with external trail stakeholders to improve dialogue between Parks and trail groups.

4.0 Responsibilities & Functions:

- 4.1 Trail Planning:** The Committee will work with relevant internal and external stakeholders, park planners, ecologists and trail experts to assess need for trails, review and refine existing trail plans and design new trail linkages and networks if required. It will also make recommendations on decommissioning existing trails or trail networks.
- 4.2 Trail Standards:** The Committee will establish, review, update and recommend standards for trail design, maintenance, signage and associated infrastructure to be implemented within the Kananaskis Region.
- 4.3 Trail Refurbishment:** The Committee will establish trail refurbishment priorities based on demand and available resources and assign responsibility for repairs to trail crews in consultation with managers and supervisors.
- 4.4 Trail Usage:** The Committee will make recommendations to senior management on trail usage, monitoring, designation and jurisdiction considering (but not limited to) environmental, human demand and resource factors. This could include: developing a trails code of conduct; investigating user conflicts, researching current and future summer and winter recreation trends; addressing trail enforcement issues and proposing solutions to trail challenges associated with backcountry campgrounds.
- 4.5 Trail Stewardship:** The Committee will facilitate volunteer leadership through trails stewardship programs development in association with local trail stakeholder groups.
- 4.6 Trail Communication:** The Committee will work closely with stakeholder agencies and pursue MOUs and agreements with other jurisdictions where appropriate. It will also liaise with internal staff on public trail usage and messaging as well as external stakeholder groups.

5.0 Membership:

The Kananaskis Trails Committee will comprise of Parks representatives from the various geographic areas of the Kananaskis Region. As well, representatives from Alberta Environment & Parks, Operations and Strategy Divisions and the Friends of Kananaskis will also be included. The following list of representatives is proposed:

Program Represented	Suggested Individual (s)	Role
Trails East Kananaskis Sheep / Elbow	Kyle Jacobson	Elbow / Sheep Trails Supervisor
Trails Peter Lougheed / Spray	James Cieslak	Peter Lougheed Trail Supervisor
Trails Bow Valley / Sibbald	Jeff Eamon	Bow Valley PP Trail Supervisor
Kananaskis District	Arian Spiteri	District Conservation Officer
Bow District	Andrew Rees	District Conservation Officer
Elbow / Sheep District	Nathan Brown	District Conservation Officer
Glenbow / Ghost District	Randy Ramsden	District Conservation Officer
Kananaskis Conservation Officers	Murray Ingstrup	Regional CO Coordinator
Kananaskis Conservation Ecology	Melanie Percy	Team Lead
Kananaskis Region	Maria Lynn	Senior Parks Planner
Kananaskis Communications	Vacant	Regional Communications Officer
Kananaskis Infrastructure - SSRP	Rich Johnson	Flood Recovery Team Leader
Kananaskis Infrastructure - CMR	Lindsay Collins	Project Manager
Kananaskis Trails Flood Recovery	Julia Millen	Volunteer Coordinator
AE&P Operations Division	Brad Jones	Acting Resource Manager
AE&P Strategy Division	Jane Price	Community Engagement Officer
AE&P Operations Division	Brian Allen	Lands Officer
AE&P Operations Division	Vacant	Land Use Planning Officer
Kananaskis West Area	Debbie Mucha	Area Manager
KR Specialized Facilities & Trails	Michael Roycroft	Area Manager, Management Sponsor
Kananaskis Public Engagement	Duane Fizer	Information Services, KTC Chair
	Christine Brehaut	Administration

6.0 Terms of Office

Service on the Kananaskis Trails Committee is confirmed as needed. Appointment to the Committee will be by consensus of current Committee members and senior management of member agencies.

7.0 Meetings / Processes

The Kananaskis Trails Committee will meet the second Tuesday of every month or as agreed to by Committee members. The Committee may nominate a Chair and Co-Chair to set the meeting agenda, facilitate meetings, and appoint project leaders. The Chair and Co-Chair roles may rotate on a two year cycle with the Co-Chair moving into the Chair role and another Committee member filling the Co-Chair role as agreed to by committee members. The Committee may pursue and organize special project sub groups for

purposes of more in depth trail plan review, standards development or any other trail related issue that needs specific focus. Project sub group members are not required to be Committee members.

While primary direction and decision making at the Kananaskis Trails Committee will be in the form of recommendations to management, if the appropriate land manager is present, decision making and direction can occur at Committee meetings. Such decisions will be tracked on Project Approval Templates or the Committee meeting minutes (depending on the type of decision) which can be found on the KTC SharePoint Site at: <https://ext.esrd.alberta.ca/Parks/KTC/SitePages/Home.aspx>

9.0 Information Flow

The Kananaskis Trails Committee will liaise with local trail stakeholder groups and individuals either formally through group membership or informally through direct communication in order to share information both to and from the Committee. The Committee will report regularly to the Kananaskis Managers Meetings, Bow Valley Trails Advisory Group, Kananaskis Trails Advisory Group and the Kananaskis Country Interdepartmental Consultative Committee (KCICC) (if required) through the Committee Chair, KTC Management Sponsor or the Kananaskis West Area Manager.

Appendix A: Kananaskis Region

