

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

**Tuesday, July 12, 2005, at 9:30 a.m.  
Main Floor Boardroom  
Canmore Provincial Building  
800 Railway Avenue, Canmore, AB**

**Present:**

Co-chair: Dave Nielsen          Community Development

Secretary: Laurie Christiansen      Community Development

Members: Bruce Atwell          Infrastructure & Transportation  
Ray Andrews          Community Development  
Mike Benny          Community Development  
Eldon Bruns          Sustainable Resource Development  
Kevin Crockett          Economic Development  
Roy Campbell          Sustainable Resource Development  
Jean Lussier          Sustainable Resource Development (R. Blackwood)

Absent: Rick Blackwood          Sustainable Resource Development  
Sandy Fisher          Infrastructure & Transportation  
Heather Sinton          Environment

Guests: Don Cockerton          Community Development  
Anthony Brook & Todd Nunn – Zip Link Proposal – Item #4  
Doug Olson & Jason Jones – KC Facilities – Item #8

- 1) Review Minutes of March 8, 2005, Meeting (All)
  - Minutes approved as written.
- 2) Review of the Agenda (All)
  - Approved as written.
- 3) SuperNet Tower at Fortress Mountain (J. Lussier)
  - Currently waiting for consent from Resorts of the Canadian Rockies and the mortgage holder. This will likely take a couple of weeks.
  - Construction should begin in early August 2005.
  - This infrastructure will serve government offices only, not ratepayers, residents, and businesses within KID.
  - **Decision:** Item received as information.
- 4) Zip Link Development Proposal (10:00) (A. Brook & T. Nunn)
  - Proposal prepared by the owners/operators of Canadian Rockies Hiking and Canadian Rockies Rafting.
  - A detailed PowerPoint presentation was viewed. A hardcopy of the presentation is on file.
  - This development is being proposed for the Canmore Nordic Centre (CNC). The proponents envision using the varied terrain to construct a Zip Link adventure product. Similar venues exist at Whistler, BC and in Ontario. This type of activity is done in protected areas around the world.
  - The proponents view this as a tool for adventure tourism, education, and environmental awareness targeting school groups, corporate team-building, and individuals.
  - The venue would accommodate groups of up to 10 people per trip, taking about 90 seconds to harness up at each tower and a few seconds between towers.
  - The vision includes 12 towers with a zip link ride between each (six lines). There would be a short walk between towers which would enable staff to provide interpretation and education regarding the terrain, the CNC Olympic legacy, Kananaskis Country, and more.
  - The towers and other set up could be done at the end of current CNC facility upgrades.
  - This would be a year-round venture employing between 10 and 20 staff. Peak season would be May through September, with a break in October/November and then operating again December through March.
  - After the presentation committee members asked questions and then directed they would continue their discussion in-camera. The proponents were advised that they would soon receive a letter outlining the committee's decision.

- **Decision:** Following discussion it was determined the committee is not in favour of this activity at the Canmore Nordic Centre facility. D. Nielsen to send a letter as Chair of KCICC to inform of this decision.

## **PUBLIC MEETING:**

- 5) FIRESMART in Kananaskis Country (R. Campbell)
  - The goal is to develop an overall strategy for Kananaskis Country to address many issues/concerns such as: fuel reduction, mitigate major fire runs, reduce wildfire threats, address urban-interface issues, address issues at facilities (WWL, Lower Kananaskis Lake cottage area, Boundary Ranch), and address concerns regarding ecological integrity.
  - Detailed plans will be developed after all the areas of concern have been identified and a strategy developed.
  - FireSmart Terms of Reference will be developed. The team working on this include representatives from Community Development (CD), Sustainable Resource Development (SRD), KID Council, and industry. The first meeting of this team will take place on July 14, 2005. Once developed, the TOR will be presented to KCICC for review and comment. Once approved by KCICC, the TOR will be forwarded for Ministerial approval by both CD and SRD.
  - In addition, a proposed air tanker base servicing Kananaskis Country and Southern Alberta is being established at Springbank airport. Discussions are moving along well and this will likely be set up soon.
  - **Decision:** Item received as information.
- 6) Ministerial Order: KID Land Use Order Amendment (M. Benny)
  - The amended KID Land Use Order has been signed off. This new Order acknowledges the Evan Thomas PRA Management Plan. Copies of the new Land Use Order and maps are available for distribution.
  - **Decision:** Item received as information.
- 7) YMCA Street Name Change Request (M. Benny)
  - A request has been received from the Rocky Mountain YMCA to change the road formerly known as “Ranch Road West” to “YMCA Road”. The YMCA has followed the process for requesting a name change, referrals were sent out and no objections have been received.
  - This item was reviewed by KID Council on July 5, 2005, and Council approved the requested name change.
  - KCICC endorsement of the name change request is required.
  - **Decision:** KICCC endorsed the name change request and forwarded this item for review by the Kananaskis Improvement District Subdivision & Development Authority (KID – SDA).

8) KC Facilities – Site Assessments & Conceptual/Functional Plans (D. Olson & J. Jones)

- As a result of the multi-day tour of the Director, Managers, CO's and Facility Operators, priority sites for refurbishment were identified. Some amenities can be upgraded/refinished while it makes more sense to replace others. There are several options for each site. The priority sites are: Bow River Campground, Heart Creek Trailhead, Wind Valley Trailhead, Mt. Lorrette Ponds Day Use, Allen Bill Pond Day Use, and Elbow Falls Day Use.
- Following the planning for these priority sites, plans will be developed for the upgrade of other facilities.
- Site inventories and GPS mapping of the areas has taken place. The design team is looking at upgrades that will serve the areas in the long-term. Goals are to improve/enhance the overall site, enhance the visual appeal of the area, increase the circulation/movement in/out of the facility, and to develop a common visual identity which says "Kananaskis Country" at these sites.
- A detailed review was done of the options for each site and copies are on file for reference. Each committee member received a copy.
- E. Bruns stressed that J. Jorgenson should be contacted regarding wildlife issues and to identify any concerns.
- M. Benny requested any comments be submitted to him or AJ Evenson by July 19, 2005.
- A request for a one-page summary for future site plans was made for ease of review, including the existing site layout, upgrade plan, numbers, and why this is proposed.
- Some site details to keep in mind: standard designs, meet the Architectural Motif, remove shepherdia at all sites.
- Design team from 02 Planning & Design Inc. will return to KCICC September 13, 2005, with plans for other sites.
- These draft plans are internal documents at this time and not available for public review.
- **Decision:** Submit comments/concerns to M. Benny or AJ Evenson by July 19, 2005.

9) Sheep/Bluerock Management Plan – Final Terms of Reference (D. Cockerton)

- The Sheep/Bluerock Management Plan was announced in February 2005. Since then an Open House was held to review the Draft Terms of Reference (TOR). Following, 28 sets of written comments were received.
- The Planning Team met early May 2005, and proposed changes to the Draft TOR addressed concerns identified in the comments received. Approval of the Final TOR is required.

- **Decision:** Comments regarding the Final TOR are to be submitted to D. Cockerton by July 15, 2005.

10) Roundtable (All)

R. Andrews

- Ministerial Order regarding wildlife corridors will limit human use to designated trails only. This fits with the October 2002 Bow Valley Protected Areas Management Plan.

K. Crockett

- Terms of Reference are being worked on between Parks and Protected Areas, provincial Heritage Sites and federal Heritage Sites to develop opportunities for learning enrichment. These areas are collaborating on site assessments to promote opportunities which would also generate revenue for the identified sites.

B. Atwell

- Recent rains have resulting in many road wash-outs. Most problems have already been repaired. The Powerface Trail is still closed.

J. Lussier

- A trail inventory in the Ghost/Waiparous area is underway. The goal is to establish base-line data. SRD will reconvene with the seven trail user groups in the fall and continue working on mapping.

E. Bruns

- Bear activity continues to be front and centre.
- After 33 years, Eldon is retiring this summer. Next meeting Russ Stashko will be attending.

D. Nielsen

- A BearSmart initiative is underway with representatives from SRD Fish & Wildlife, CD, Town of Canmore, and developers to address bear issues in Canmore. There is a great deal of work ahead.

Minutes approved by:

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Dave Nielsen, Co-Chair, KCICC

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Rick Blackwood, Co-Chair, KCICC

**Next Meeting**  
**Tuesday, September 13, 2005, at 9:30 a.m.**  
**Canmore Provincial Building**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Floor Boardroom**