MINUTES OF THE 44th MEETING OF THE
KANANASKIS COUNTRY INTERDEPARTMENTAL
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 14, 2013, at 9:30 a.m.
Main Floor Boardroom
Canmore Provincial Building
800 Railway Avenue, Canmore, AB

Present:

Co-Chairs: Mark Storie Tourism, Parks & Recreation
Ross Spence Environment & Sustainable Resource Development

Recorder: Laurie Christiansen Tourism, Parks & Recreation

Members/: Dave Hanna Tourism, Parks & Recreation
Alternates Shawn Polley CAO, Kananaskis Improvement District
Ross Dickson Transportation – Alternate for Fred Lee
Laura Lee Billings Environment & Sustainable Resource Development
Loren Winnick Tourism, Parks & Recreation (via telephone)
Joey Young Tourism, Parks & Recreation

Absent: Param Sekhon Infrastructure
Rob Simic eritsch Environment & Sustainable Resource Development
Fred Lee Transportation

Guests:
1) **Review of the Agenda** (All)  
   - The Agenda was accepted as drafted

2) **Review of Minutes** (All)  
   - The March 12, 2013, minutes were approved as written.

3) **Recreational Corridor Planning Process** (J. Young)  
   - This process was initiated to address:  
     - the proliferation of trails in the valley  
     - Wildlife/user conflicts  
     - Erosion, safety, liability issues  
     - Lack of consistency and collaboration between Ministries and jurisdictions  
     - Disjointed processes between jurisdictions  
     - Establish planning standards of maintenance, stewardship, and usage  
     - Work towards a sustainable trail system  
     - Have the correct people involved - planners, trail maintenance staff from ESRD and TPR
   - The Recreational Corridors Planning process has worked to establishing a step-by-step means of assessing trails projects for review/approval.
   - There are over 3,000 km of trails in the area
   - Process developed a trail inventory and classification system based on a provincial matrix  
     - Trails vary from 4 m wide paved trails to game trails  
     - Connect to "Alberta Trail Standards"  
     - Useful process for both Alberta Parks and ESRD  
     - If feasible in Kananaskis Country it is feasible province-wide
   - The local Trails Advisory Group supports the classification system
   - There is a classification range (A to F) for front country trails and then back-country trails are a different classification. Backcountry trails will have safety markers but will not be signed  
     - Looking at trail design as well as inventory in relation to liability  
     - Trails coded A - C: not considered a liability risk  
     - Trails coded D - F: inventory of rustic trails, with potentially increased liability; people expect certain trail standards
   - Differentiation between ‘recognized’ trails (on the landscape but not necessarily tied to Legislation) and ‘designated’ trails (tied to Legislation)
   - The trail planning process will apply to:  
     - New pathway or trail  
     - Trail improvement/corrective action for a trail problem  
     - Immediate issue/emergency response, i.e. blow down
   - Stage 1 – Initial Proposal Screening Checklist  
     - The checklist responses will be: yes/no. with an area for details and notes
M. Storie stated that First Nations Consultation, which is separate from the “Public Consultation” question, needs to be added on a form to be addressed at the initial proposal stage.

- Stage 2 – Conceptual Plan Consent Checklist
  - Again, this is a checklist with yes/no, plus space for details and notes
- Stage 3 – Detailed Design Approval Checklist
  - Addresses the issue of sustainability
  - If approved, new proposals will receive sign-off by land manager

- Process makes it possible to track where the proposal is in the review
- Land management agency takes on ‘ownership’ of the process
- ESRD does not use the same process but the goal is to develop a generic process that could be adopted by other departments and in other areas of the province.
- The process aligns with the “Trails Act”, designated trail authority
- There is stakeholder ‘buy-in’ and communications are on-going with ESRD to keep the momentum strong to implement this process
- Buy-in has helped with trail users where there are trail issues or trail decommissioning is planned
- ESRD has developed a “Code of Practice” and it is moving up the line for approval
- What is the role of KC ICC in this process?
  - KC ICC endorsement of the process is sought
  - KC ICC will review future proposals that are multi-jurisdictional or have an impact on Transportation, i.e. trail requires development trail head pull off
  - Recommend that twice a year the group reports to KC ICC on completed and pending trail proposals under review

- Process being used in the development of the TransCanada Trail through the Spray Valley. Aboriginal consultation pending as is confirmation of funding and then construction.
- **Decision:** KC ICC endorses the process.
- J. Young to forward attachments to all, including maps.

4) **KID FireSmart Tree Flagging Process – KC ICC Decision** (S. Polley)

- ESRD is the lead agency.
- Expected to be 160 – 200 cyclists plus support and media.
- Projects geared to residential areas.
- 2008 KID FireSmart funding of $2 million completed 275 hectares of FireSmart work around kids’ camps and facility nodes.
- F. Kerr and R Gow presented to KID Council which subsequently approved the next phase. Recommendations here to KC ICC.
- Approved provider is Montane Forest Management Ltd., Stew Walkinshaw.
- Application has been prepared and forwarded to both TPR and ESRD for approval and processed. Flagging has been done.
- KID Council is seeking KCICC endorsement of the process.
- **Decision**: KCICC endorses the process put forth for FireSmart work.

**PUBLIC SESSION:** Start at 10:30 a.m.

5) **Status of Widowmaker and Canoe Meadows (D. Hanna)**
   - The agreement for operation of these sites with the Alberta Whitewater Association has not yet been signed.
   - Expectation is early June for the Facility Operating Agreement to be in place and signed.
   - **Decision**: Update for information.

6) **Paving of Kananaskis Lakes Trail (D. Hanna/Transportation)**
   - Transportation has been able to incorporate this project into a larger paving project between the Banff Park Gate and Kananaskis River.
   - The KLT will have 12.5 km of new overlay.
   - Anticipated timelines – Highway 1 work will begin June 15 with paving underway July 15th, KLT work will be done after Labour Day weekend and is anticipated to take five days.
   - **Decision**: Update for information.

7) **Black Prince (D. Hanna)**
   - This area is still under a closure due to sow with cubs denning in the area.
   - This will be the end of the skiing for this season.
   - **Decision**: Update for information.

8) **Alberta Parks Capital List for Kananaskis Country (D. Hanna)**
   - Elbow Sewage Dump Station – planned for this year
   - William Watson Lodge water treatment plant requires major upgrade; septic field
   - Canmore Nordic Centre – compressor replacement
   - Boulton Creek Campground – water plant
   - Mount Lady MacDonald tea house – reclamation planned
   - Kananaskis Village Centre – interior renovations
   - Bow Valley sewage dump station – upgrade
   - Sheep Ranger Station – corrals – to be installed
   - **Decision**: Update for information.
9) **Bow Valley Diner – Request for Proposal Update** (D. Hanna)
   - The selection of the group has been completed
   - Goal is to sign-off the agreement by May 31/13
   - Official event hoped for Parks Day (July 21/13) with the Minister announcing
   - Similar to “Palisades” in Jasper: environmental education, outreach, and leadership
   - **Decision:** Update for information.

10) **Roundtable (All)**

    o **R. Spence**
      - 2013 enforcement strategy
        - ESRD funding one seasonal to be supervised by TPR, who will focus on enforcement on weekends
        - Will import four seasonal staff for May long weekend to focus on Ghost/West Bragg Creek/McLean Creek
      - ESRD to Single regulator
        - Moving forward
        - ERCB taking over upstream oil/gas
        - CEO in place
        - Will follow up with KCICC regarding authorities
        - November ’13 people on the ground
      - **Reorganization**
        - Regional Director interviews last week – soon someone in position
      - West Bragg Creek
        - Lands – work on reroute
        - Forestry – M. Kerr contact – continuation of clean up; Station Flats – approval going out for work there; WBC debris burn late fall
      - Spray Lakes Sawmills
        - Additional blocks have been identified but require additional consultation

    o **M. Storie**
      - South Saskatchewan Regional Plan – work being done on conservation areas
      - Regional plan – ADMs group reviewing draft and will be releasing Phase 2 for public input – no decisions made on drafting phase 1 & 2 of process
○ **S. Polley**
  - Fortress Mountain -- no development permit application received yet
  - KID – enhanced policing
  - Council – renaming of “Small Business” to “Not for Profit” representative
  - Fall ’13 municipal elections
  - Bear Aversion Program – letter from KID Council to Ministers of TPR/ESRD and Banff Cochrane MLA indicating strong support/value for program

○ **L. Winnick**
  - Legacy Trail announcement was very successful
  - Canmore VIC redesign will start after Labour Day

○ **J. Young**
  - Provincial Planning Team – link regional needs to provincial plans
    – management plans, provincial processes, and approvals

○ **D. Hanna**
  - New water signage – to be placed on all hand pumps in all campgrounds and recreation areas – rather than “boil water” it will read “do not drink”
  - Direction from Alberta Health Services in response to new regulations leading to a provincial-wide directive – local Health Unit is not voicing the same message
    ➢ Ensure messaging is posted on the RAP and AlbertaParks.ca websites

Meeting adjourned at 12:07 pm.

11) **Next Meeting:** July 16, 2013. July 9, 2013. 9:30 start
Main Floor Boardroom
Canmore Provincial Building
800 Railway Avenue
Canmore, AB
Minutes approved by:  

Mark Stone, Co-Chair, KCICC

Ross Spence, Co-Chair, KCICC