

# FAQ Re-opening of William Watson Lodge

## When will William Watson Lodge Re-Open?

William Watson Lodge is scheduled to reopen to the public on Monday, June 6, 2022. This will include the new Main Lodge, campground, comfort camping, Cabins A-D, and our day use amenities.

The Lodge is a Special Facility in Peter Lougheed Provincial Park, providing overnight accommodations and outdoor nature-based adaptive recreation opportunities for persons with disabilities and Albertan seniors over 65 years of age.

## When can I reserve my cabin or campsite?

Reservations for cabins and campsites are scheduled to open on Monday, May 2, 2022, using our new online reservation system. Visit our website ([www.albertaparks.ca/wwl](http://www.albertaparks.ca/wwl)) for more information about how to book your stay.

Reservations are scheduled to be taken for dates starting Monday, June 6, 2022 onward. Persons with disabilities can book up to 120 days in advance of their stay, and Albertans over 65 year of age can book up to 60 days in advance.

## How has the reservation system changed? How will it effect me?

Guests will be able to reserve their cabin or campsite using online booking direct from the William Watson Lodge website ([www.albertaparks.ca/wwl](http://www.albertaparks.ca/wwl)) . For those requiring a little more help, the Call Centre 1-877-537-2757 is available to answer questions and support phone-based bookings. For groups or more complex reservation needs, please contact our Visitor Experience Team at 403-591-7227. Please note that all reservations are made using the same booking system, on a first-come, first-served basis. Calling will not guarantee a booking or change eligibility. Phone-based and online reservations will include a \$12 reservation fee.

Previously, reservations were only accepted by telephone, starting on the first working Monday of the month. An application for eligibility was required prior to making a reservation, and the wait list was often filled to capacity.

This new reservation system will provide more ways to make your reservation, and will support online payment options.

## What is the cost to stay in a cabin or campsite?

Cost per night for 3 bedroom cabins: \$40.00 (plus \$12.00 reservation fee for all bookings)

Cost per night for campsites: \$16.00 (plus \$12.00 reservation fee for all bookings)

At this time 1 and 2 bedroom cabins are still closed for construction, only 3 bedroom cabins will be able to be reserved at the start of reopening.

If you require a Kananaskis Conservation Pass, these can be purchased for \$15.00 + GST per day (or \$90 + GST for an annual pass).

### **Do I need a Kananaskis Conservation Pass for my stay at William Watson Lodge? Am I eligible for a Low Income Albertan exemption?**

Yes, a vehicle parking at William Watson Lodge will require a Kananaskis Conservation Pass. Passes can be purchased in advance of your stay at [www.alberta.ca/yourpass](http://www.alberta.ca/yourpass).

Albertans on Assured Income for Severely Handicapped (AISH) and Alberta Income Support (AIS) may be eligible for a Kananaskis Conservation Pass exemption. Proof of coverage is required to be shown at the time of applying for exemption at one of our Visitor Information Centres, or at William Watson Lodge during check in.

### **How do I reserve William Watson Lodge for my group?**

William Watson Lodge is only available for reservations for eligible guests; persons with disabilities, Albertans over 65 years of age, and their families. If you are a coordinator for a group that is looking for a more complex reservation, please call the main lodge at 403-591-7227 to speak with a member of our Visitor Experience Team. Groups supporting persons with disabilities are able to confirm bookings within 120 days of their call, and those supporting seniors up to 60 days in advance.

### **Where is William Watson Lodge?**

William Watson Lodge is located in Peter Lougheed Provincial Park, approximately 1 hour drive from Canmore and over an hour's drive from Cochrane or Calgary. It is near the Peter Lougheed Discovery Centre, and the Elkwood Campground & Amphitheatre. This is a remote location with limited to no cell service or wireless internet access.

The Lodge is located on Lower Kananaskis Lake, viewing Mount Indefatigable from the back deck. The site includes a Main Lodge, cabins, a campground, and a number of day use amenities such as picnic tables, playground, and covered fire pit.

### **What can I do at William Watson Lodge?**

Basing your overnight accommodations at William Watson Lodge allows access to the main lodge, including the library for enjoying books by the fireplace or access to board games. For those who want to explore the local area, there is an accessible/paved trail network to access the fire pit and playground, Lower Kananaskis Lake, Elkwood Amphitheatre for interpretive programs, Peter Lougheed Discovery Centre and more. If you need help with information and accessing the area, our staff are happy to provide recommendations on recreation, tour and programming opportunities. Rocky Mountain Adaptive is available to support adaptive outdoor recreation, as well, we have some equipment available onsite for rent courtesy of the William Watson Lodge Society. For more information go to [www.albertaparks.ca/wwl](http://www.albertaparks.ca/wwl)

### **I want to be a Campground Host, how can I apply?**

William Watson Lodge is proud to support Campground Hosts. To be eligible to volunteer, you will have previously stayed at the Lodge, or have experience as a Campground Host at William Watson Lodge. Preference is given for seniors and persons with disabilities for volunteer host placements. For more information please call the Main Lodge at 403-591-7227.