

ALBERTA - BRITISH COLUMBIA MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING REGARDING DECLARATION OF INTERPROVINCIAL PARKS

BETWEEN:

BRITISH COLUMBIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
as represented by the Minister of Environment

and

ALBERTA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
as represented by the Minister of Community Development

WHEREAS:

A. Alberta and British Columbia, referred to jointly as the Provinces, have common landscape, heritage and resource values;

B. The Provinces have each independently established parks immediately adjacent to their common border;

C. Natural ecosystems, recreational landscapes and park visitors traverse the border between the Provinces;

D. The Provinces, park lands and park visitors will benefit from increased cooperation between the Provinces with respect to the planning, administration, and management of those provincial parks that are immediately adjacent to the border between the Provinces; and

E. The Provinces entered into the Protocol of Cooperation dated October 8th 2003 to develop cooperative measures and agreements and demonstrate leadership through actions such as pursuing joint initiatives to promote greater government efficiencies and sharing expertise in program development and service delivery.

THEREFORE THE PROVINCES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Where they consider it appropriate the Provinces will work cooperatively towards formally declaring as “interprovincial parks” those parks established in British Columbia and Alberta that are immediately adjacent to the Provinces’ common boundary.

2. Declaring adjacent parks as an ‘interprovincial park’ commemorates the significance of the parks and formally recognizes the benefit of cooperation between the Provinces in managing such parks as a legacy for future generations. Only legally designated parks or protected areas

will be declared to be interprovincial parks and each Province will remain responsible for the management and protection of park lands within their respective borders.

3. The Provinces will maintain schedules to this memorandum setting out the parks which they have mutually agreed to declare to be interprovincial parks.
4. The Provinces will work cooperatively to protect the natural resources of their respective park lands in an interprovincial park.
5. The Provinces may agree to work jointly in the areas of: data and information sharing, resource protection, planning and management, marketing and promotion, visitor services, facilities and programs, user fees and permits, operations (e.g. personnel exchanges, joint meetings and joint training opportunities) and compliance, as well as other areas as may be mutually agreed to from time to time with respect to the area within an interprovincial park.
6. Since parks impact on and are impacted by their surrounding communities and regions, the Provinces will cooperate with local municipalities, First Nations and the Government of Canada in encouraging compatible regional tourism and recreation development.
7. The Provinces may by mutual agreement, establish a committee on interprovincial parks or other committees as required to administer this agreement.
8. This memorandum sets out general principles with respect to the intentions of the Provinces regarding interprovincial parks. It does not create any legally binding obligations on the part of the Provinces, nor does anything in this memorandum preclude the Provinces from consulting with First Nations or other aboriginal organizations respecting the management of parks.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Provinces have executed this memorandum on the 28th day of April, 2006.

SIGNED on behalf of Alberta
by the Minister of Community Development

SIGNED on behalf of British Columbia
by the Minister of Environment

Honourable Denis Ducharme

Honourable Barry Penner

