

October 26, 2018

Attn: Phil Zacharatos Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board

Sent electronically: mkmasupport@telus.net

Dear Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board members:

<u>Re: Draft Management Plans – Redfern Keily Park & Northern Rocky Mountains</u> <u>Park and Protected Area</u>

BC Parks, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, has developed a draft management plans for Redfern-Keily Park and Northern Rocky Mountains Park and Protected Area. At this time, we are seeking input from the Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board. The draft management plan has recently been updated and edited in preparation for review by the Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board. Currently, the plans are in the First Nations consultation stage (since July 2018) but it has been determined that the review by the Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board members can occur during this stage, as any significant changes from either review will be shared with those interested First Nations or the board members, as appropriate.

Redfern-Keily Park was established in 1999 as a result of the final recommendations of the Fort St. John Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP). Northern Rocky Mountains Park and Northern Rocky Mountains Protected Area were established as a result of the final recommendations of the Fort Nelson LRMP. The *Muskwa-Kechika Management Area Act* specified the creation of local strategic plans such as these park specific management plans. As per the BC Parks Strategic Management Planning Policy, management plans will be completed for all protected areas. Management plans are a tool used by BC Parks to provide long-term direction for the operations and management of parks and protected areas. They include direction on acceptable uses and threshold of uses, zoning, and other strategies to minimize conflicts and to help ensure the protected areas objectives and strategies identified in land-use plans, in this case, the Fort St. John and Fort Nelson LRMPs and the Muskwa-Kechika Wildlife Management Plan.

This draft management plan has been in development over many years. However, the plan has not progressed substantially at our end so I am working on moving the plan through the

Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Northern Region BC Parks and Conservation Officer Service Division Peace/Omineca Mailing Address: Bag 5000 3726 Alfred Avenue Smithers BC V0J 2N0 Telephone: 250 847-7741 Facsimile: 250 847-7728 Website: <u>www.gov.bc.ca/env</u> planning process, including getting First Nations, stakeholder and public input and review. At this stage in the process, BC Parks is interested in seeking input from the Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board members prior to posting it for the public review period.

I am the lead for this management planning project on behalf of BC Parks. Please provide your review of this plan by **November 30th**, **2018**. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, or if you would like to arrange a call with me regarding this plan.

Sincerely,

anna Mahada

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Attachments: Redfern-Keily Park Draft Management Plan Northern Rocky Mountains Park and Northern Rocky Mountains Protected Area Draft Management Plan