

Plan for Parks Engagement

Building a Strategic Vision for Alberta's Parks

What is the Plan for Parks?

The [Plan for Parks](#) was first introduced in 2009 as a 10-year strategic plan to establish the vision, guiding principles and strategic priorities for Alberta's parks and protected areas.

The new, modernized Plan for Parks will provide direction for 305 sites administered under the *Provincial Parks Act*. This includes 78 provincial parks, 34 wildland provincial parks, and 193 provincial recreation areas.

What is the engagement about?

Plan for Parks engagement explores how we can expand access while maintaining the natural and cultural heritage of Alberta's parks. It will do this by exploring and seeking input on an updated Vision statement, and on the following guiding principles:

- Accountability
- Equitable Access
- Reconciliation
- Sustainability

Once drafted, the new plan will identify options to manage growing recreation demand in parks. This could include direction for increasingly popular recreation activities such as electric-powered recreational equipment (e.g., hoverboards, e-scooters) and comfort camping.

The new Plan for Parks will not alter management intent or change permitted activities or land uses for any park designation (for example, provincial parks or provincial recreation areas). It will not change currently allowed exercise of Treaty Rights and recognized Métis harvesting in Alberta's parks.

Alberta's *Provincial Parks Act* is one of the oldest pieces of parks legislation in Canada, first established in 1930 and most recently amended in 2000. The Plan for Parks will explore how parks legislation can meet new challenges to provincial parks from increasing pressures and growing demand for existing and new activities.

How can I participate in the engagement?

An online survey, engagement guide and supporting information materials are available throughout the 60-day engagement period at [Alberta.ca/PlanforParks](https://alberta.ca/PlanforParks).

What happens after engagement closes?

All input will be reviewed and analyzed once the engagement period closes. Public input, along with subject matter expertise and government priorities, will be used together to inform development of the draft Plan for Parks.

A draft Plan for Parks will be brought back to Albertans. This will allow government to test and refine the plan to ensure it reflects the input and perspectives of Albertans, is operationally feasible, and aligns with government policy, prior to its approval and release.

Connection to other work

The Plan for Parks will consider and align with other priority government work to ensure sustainable management of Alberta's landscapes.

It aligns with the Crown Land Vision which guides a common-sense approach to land management that balances conservation, recreation and economic use.

What about other parks and protected areas?

Protected areas managed under other legislation such as the *Wilmore Wilderness Park Act*, and the *Wilderness Areas, Ecological Reserves, Natural Areas and Heritage Rangelands Act* are not the focus of this plan or engagement.

These important sites have a management intent focused on conservation and the maintenance of ecological processes and typically do not have the same recreational uses and competing pressures. These sites will remain protected areas under legislation, and they will continue to be managed to meet their legislative outcomes. You can find out more about the parks system [here](#).

How can I find out more?

You can find more information on the Plan for Parks engagement at [Alberta.ca/PlanforParks](https://alberta.ca/PlanforParks).

