



REPORT

To: Regional Parks Committee

Report Number: CS-RPC-014

From: Trish Morgan, General Manager of Community Services

Date: April 26, 2021

Subject: **Park Reservation Policy**

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Regional Parks Committee recommend that the Regional Board adopt the Park Reservation Policy, which defines mandatory requirements for application and approval of a camp site reservation at a Peace River Regional District Regional Park.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The Park Reservation Policy outlines the conditions under which a person can reserve a campsite in a Regional District Regional Park. Reservations are currently available only at Blackfoot Regional Park.

The proposed policy dictates that up to 50% of campsites may be reserved, and that 50% of campsites remain as a 'first-come-first-serve' which is best practice at other campsites in the province. Further, the policy confirms that a campsite may only be booked for 14 nights consecutively, that reservations are non-transferrable, that the camping permit holder must be 19 years of age or older, and that no more than 8 people are permitted to camp at a designated campsite. The proposed policy also states that if a reservation holder does not arrive to the park prior to 10:00PM on the first night of the reservation that the site will become first-come-first-serve and reservation will be cancelled.

In addition, the also policy outlines the timeframe in which reservations may be made; starting as early as April 1st of each season for up to 30 days in advance of arrival date. For example, on April 23, you can make a reservation starting on May 23.

At this time, reservations from outside of the Northern and Interior Health regions will not be accepted until Public Health Orders no longer restrict travel within health authorities.

Other local government operated campsites in the Region and Province charge fees for reservation services and for camping. Until an online reservation system can be developed a reservation fee will not be charged.

In 2021, if approved, reservations will be accepted by phone or in person with the park caretaker at Blackfoot Regional Park, and fees will be paid with cash at the time of check-in. Internet service could not be established to Blackfoot Regional Park in 2021, but may be available through Starlink in 2022. Internet service at the park could allow an online reservation system to be set up.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Regional Parks Committee provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

- ☒ Organizational Effectiveness
- ☒ Comprehensive Policy Review

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

This policy will be referenced in any communications for Blackfoot Regional Park Reservation System.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.

Attachments:

Park Reservation Policy (DRAFT)