



Kluane National Park Management Board
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Meeting Minutes
Tuesday October 21, 2025 at 6:00pm

1. Call to Order

In attendance: Robin Chambers, Grace Southwick, Todd Chambers, Elsabe Kloppers, Ellen Bielawski (online), Craig Mckinnon, Aynsle Ogden. Regrets: Tom Buzzell

2. Introductions

2.1. YukonU Student Observer – Jenna Henderson, attending to meet requirement for Introduction to Indigenous Governance class at Yukon University.

2.2. Delegation – Office of the Auditor General of Canada, Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development (CESD). Jerry De Marco, Commissioner, Carrie Agnew, Audit Engagement Leader, Stephanie Moores, Director of Performance Audit Practice.

- Conducting audit of federally co-managed protected areas.
- Auditing the federal government's support and role in co-managed protected areas (Parks Canada, DFO), within the last five years (not the co-management boards themselves).

3. Review Draft Agenda 10-25

Motion 01 10-25 Elsabe motions to approve agenda, Grace seconds, approved unanimously

4. Review Minutes 08-25

Motion 02 10-25 Elsabe motions to approve the August 21, 2025 minutes as amended, Grace seconded, approved unanimously.

5. Presentations & New Business

5.1. Delegation - Discussion with CESD

- How would you describe the evolution of cooperative management for KNPR over the years?
 - Healing Broken Connections was a major turning point.
- What have been the greatest successes over time stemming from the cooperative management approach? What were the reasons??
 - Emphasis on reintroducing First Nations to the park to re-engage and re-invigorate traditional practices (e.g. trapping) that were lost during the exclusion years
 - More First Nations staff now than in the past.
 - More engagement with Elders (e.g. in the prescribed burn project).
 - Culture camps have been the most successful effort to engage youth.
 - Incorporation of southern Tutchone language and place names in management plan and signage within the Park.
 - CAFN and KFN have a strong, cooperative relationship.
 - Management planning is a strongly cooperative process. The Board is responsible for carrying out public consultation and established the goals and vision of the plan.

Parks staff assist with technical work. The Minister and Chiefs approve the plan following a recommendation from the Board.

- And on the other side, the greatest challenges? What were the reasons and how did you navigate a path forward?
 - Current issue - planned land treatment facility, just outside park boundaries, does not sit well with some residents. The old Parks Canada farm site is a known contaminated site, and the public has concerns that the new treatment facility will be treating contaminated soils originating from Parks Canada.
 - FIDDIPI calculations – not written into original agreements; was part of most recent agreement, but no details of how this will be applied. Have not received guidance from federal government.
 - Would like to see more youth engagement in the park.
 - Annual funding cycle with limited carry-forward. On agenda this evening to discuss other funding models e.g. flexible contribution agreement. Would like flexibility to have multi-year projects and spend less in one year to be able to fund a larger project the next year.
 - There is a third First Nation with territory that overlaps the park that does not have a final agreement and are not involved with the Park Board.
- Where do you see cooperative management for KNPR in 5 years, 10? Beyond? Will it be within a cooperative management framework? Do you see it as something else?
 - Interest in engaging with other cooperatively managed parks to learn more about how their co-management process works.
 - Strategic plan just completed to guide work over the next 3 years.
 - Would like to see a youth voice in cooperative management.
- What advice would you have for other First Nations considering cooperative management approaches for protected areas, or embarking on cooperative management for the first time?
 - Every context is different.
 - If KFN brings something to the table for management recommendation, the agreement requires the recommendation to be formed by KFN and the Government of Canada representatives. Similar for CAFN.
 - Strong and organized administrative support is a must for a functioning Board.
 - Working knowledge of Final Agreements within Federal and territorial staff is finally at the point where work can be done.
 - Building capacity to ensure continuity in co-management is important.
- OAG offered to present audit findings once released.

5.2. Next UFA B&C Gathering

- Next gathering January 14&15 in Whitehorse
- Requested information on who will be able to participate, if joining by zoom or in person, and what the estimated travel expenses and honoraria costs.
- Ellen may be available to attend as will be in Whitehorse.
- Todd may be able to attend part of meeting by Zoom.

Action 01 10-25: Aynslie to request draft agenda to help support Board's decision on how many members will attend.

5.3. Christmas Open House

- Date: December 11, 2025 4-6pm, Convention Centre
 - Alternate catering bill, KNPMB paid last year, ARRC's turn to pay this year.
 - Have not got a response yet from ARRC.
 - YESAB can organize the catering but need to know who to send invoice to.
- Action 02 10-25: Elsabe to drop by ARRC to see if able to cover catering costs.

5.4. Funding Opportunity – ISPAR/HSP

- Suggestion made to apply for funding to support KNPMB participation on SWMG Sheep Working Group
 - Could proposal be submitted by the SWMG Sheep Working Group?
 - Note: Sheep are not Species at Risk
 - YG are in caretaker mode and are not allowed to discuss funding
 - EOI is due October 31, 2025.
 - May be better to apply next year.

6. Old Business

6.1. Chair's Update

- KNPMB Operating Procedures

Action 03 10-25: All members to read, at their leisure, to keep top of mind.
- YFWMB Honoraria Adjustments for Inflation

Action 04 10-25: Update 4.1 in Operating Procedures to reflect that honoraria amounts will be in accordance with FIDIPIDI calculations, keep amounts out of Operating Procedures.
- Letter from Minister Guilbeault
 - Expecting a response on/by November 4th. Will have 30 days to respond. Unclear who prepares a response – KFN or the Board.

Action 05 10-25: Try to schedule KNPMB Board Meeting second week of November in case meeting with Chief is needed.

6.2. Site Manager's Update & Update from A/Yukon Field Unit Superintendent (TJ Hammer)

- FIDDIPI payment/calculations/invoice
 - It is clearly laid out within the Final Agreements that the Board's funding is to be escalated each year based on FIDDIPI calculations.
 - FIDDIPI is well explained within the implementation plans – states it is to be applied each year. Financial Transfer Agreements (FTA's) incorporate FIDDIPI calculations.
 - Would like to ensure there is a common understanding of how FIDDIPI is calculated and applied.
 - Important for Parks Canada to ensure this is kept at the forefront.

Action 06 10-25: Include methodology for calculating FIDDIPI within the renewed contribution agreement.

Action 07 10-25: Parks will research what calculations are used in FTAs and implementation plans and will share this with the Board.

Action 08-10-25: Aynslie to re-send FIDDIPI invoice to Craig.
- Examples/options for the contribution agreement
 - Flexible contribution agreement model are intended to be less burdensome.

Action 09 10-25: Craig to send example of the contribution agreement to the Board along with the template for the workplan.

- Hiring committee - Resource Conservation Manager position
 - KFN, CAFN and KNPMB are involved in the hiring process.

Action 10 10-25: Robin to provide update at Board's November meeting.

- Prescribed burn – The prescribed burn was conducted on September 14th, all went well despite non-optimal conditions. There was no escapement beyond the area to be burned.

Action 11 10-25: Craig to arrange an opportunity for Board members to have a tour of the prescribed burn in the spring.

- KNPR has submitted applications to YESAB – 2025-0072 Kathleen Lake Dock Replacement and 2025-0134 Kathleen Lake Structures Removal.
- Implementation Plan – deferred to a later meeting.
- An open house in the new administration building may be planned for November.

7. Finance and Administration

7.1. August 2025 Financials

Motion 03 10-25 Elsabe motions to approve, Todd seconds, approved unanimously

7.2. September 2025 Financials

Motion 04 10-25 Todd motions to approve, Grace seconds, approved unanimously

7.3. Administrator's Update

- Will submit Q3 invoice once financials are approved
- Management plans have arrived
- Reissuance of uncashed checks, cancel old checks
- SWAG for open house – need motion/budget
- Have not received invoice yet from LGA for September Northern Nights ~\$300
- PO Box renewal ~\$200
- Fireweed market – tent purchase, feedback sent by email
- FN Bank – Have all signatures (I think?) can go to next step

Motion 05 10-25 Todd motions to approve a budget of \$2,000 for door prizes, preferably from local/Yukon suppliers (~\$500 large door prize, ~\$50 per prize for instant door prizes), Elsabe seconds, approved unanimously

Action 12 10-25: Elsabe will approach Grace to see if she is available to cater on December 11th.

8. Updates or Additions

9. Action Log Review

10. Next Meeting Dates

Sheep Working Group meeting Tuesday October 28, 2025 (Elsabe)

Robin away November 6-14

Dakwākāda Mountain Festival Saturday November 15, 2025

Craig on holidays until November 17th (Natalie Haltrich Acting)

November KNPMB Meeting Date Wednesday November 19th

Christmas Open House December 11, 2025

UFA B&C Gathering January 14 & 15, 2025 (get agenda before committing)

11. Adjournment

Motion 06 10-25 Grace motions to adjourn at 9:03, Ellen seconds, approved unanimously.



Chair or Vice-Chair



Administration