

2019
Jurisdictional Scan: Provincial Park Advisory Boards









Does your jurisdiction have an advisory board or panel that provides regular advice to the Minister or senior management?

JURISDICTION	REPLIED	YES/NO	CONTACT NAME
B.C PARKS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO	N/A
<p>COMMENTS: BC Parks Elders Committee (this is not an Indigenous Elders Committee; I would characterize it as an advocacy group made up of former executives, academics and other leaders who periodically offer advice to the Minister and executives)</p>			
ALBERTA PARKS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO	Scott Jones
<p>COMMENTS: AB Parks - the 2009-2019 Strategic Plan called for an advisory committee, but one was not struck. Interest remains to move in this direction</p>			
SASKATCHEWAN PARKS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO	Bruce McCannel
<p>COMMENTS: No we don't have an advisory board or panel setup for the system. We do have park advisory groups for some individual parks but nothing system wide.</p>			
MANITOBA PARKS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO	Kelly-Anne Richmond
<p>COMMENTS: In Parks we have two boards but neither provides general parks advice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Whiteshell Advisory Board which is established under The Provincial Parks Act, serves for Whiteshell Provincial Park only, as a variance committee when a provincial park cottager formally requests a variance (usually dealing with size and locations of buildings or other development) to normal policies and guidelines and as a review panel when a provincial park cottager wishes to have the department reconsider its interpretation and application of existing policies and guidelines relative to a decision made by the department. The committee reviews applications from provincial park cottagers respecting these types of issues and conducts public hearings in order to hear from both applicants and those who may be in support of the application or opposed to it. Board members make recommendations on these issues to the Minister. The board may meet from once to up to ten times per year as necessary based upon frequency of applications received. • The Endangered Species, Ecosystems, and Ecological Reserves Advisory Committee provides science advice respecting two acts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As per The Endangered Species and Ecosystems Act, the role of the advisory committee is to provide advice and recommendations to the minister with respect to (a) species that are endangered, threatened, extirpated or that are 			

- of special concern; and (b) ecosystems that are endangered or threatened.
- As per The Ecological Reserves Act, the role of the advisory committee is to (a) examine areas for their suitability as reserves and make recommendations thereon to the minister; (b) receive and considers submissions from the public and make recommendations to the minister thereon; (c) provide to the public, the government, and government agencies information with respect to reserves, ecology, and ecological features within Manitoba; and (d) advise the minister generally with respect to the administration of The Ecological Reserves Act.

This is a new committee that has not met yet (it is an amalgamation of two previous committees). It is anticipated it will meet 3 or 4 times per year. Our department's boards, agencies, and commissions are summarized here:

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/government/abc/sd.html>

ONTARIO PARKS		YES	N/A
COMMENTS: ON Parks Board https://www.ontarioparks.com/board			
SEPAQ (QUEBEC)		YES	N/A
COMMENTS: Sépaq has a permanent board appointed by gov't and meets every 6-8 weeks (Sépaq CEO sits on the board)			
NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR PARKS		NO	N/A
COMMENTS: NL Parks does not have its own advisory committee, but there is a wilderness and ecological reserves council that provides advice to the Minister 2-4 times per year.			
NOVA SCOTIA PARKS			
PARKS NEW BRUNSWICK		NO	N/A
COMMENTS: NB Parks Public Planning Committee AND a separate First Nations Advisory Committee (ToRs attached)			
P.E.I PARKS		NO	N/A
COMMENTS: PEI Parks - no formal board/committee			
GOVERNMENT OF NORTHWEST TERRITORIES PARKS			
NUNAVUT PARKS			

YUKON PARKS	X		
PARKS CANADA	X		

Response Rate: 9/13 for **69%**

Key Findings:

- Although most jurisdictions do not have a permanent, official board that gives regular and general advice to the Minister and senior management, most jurisdictions have a number of committees or panels on specific issues that provide advice and feedback.
- Alberta is interested in the creation of an advisory board
- In Newfoundland & Labrador there is an ecological council that provides advice to the Minister, but it is not related to parks.
- Sépaq has a permanent board appointed by gov't and meets every 6-8 week and the CEO of Sépaq sits on the board.

Future Questions to Ask:

- Is it more effective to have advisory panels for individual parks or topics than to have one larger board for the entire jurisdiction? Would there be value in having both?
- What has Sépaq accomplished through their board? How efficient do they find their structure? Is this a structure that could be modelled in other jurisdictions looking to create advisory panels?

Links to Resources:

- [New Brunswick Provincial Parks Advisory Committee with First Nations](#)
- [New Brunswick Provincial Parks Public Planning Committee](#)