

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING Highway Traveller Information Sharing

Between

**The Government of Canada, as represented by
the Chief Executive Officer of the Parks Canada Agency**
(hereinafter referred to as "Parks Canada")

And

**The Government of Alberta, as represented by
the Minister of Transportation**
(hereinafter referred to as "Alberta")

And

**The Government of British Columbia, as represented by
the Minister of Transportation**
(hereinafter referred to as "British Columbia")

(The three jurisdictions are hereinafter referred to as the "parties")

WHEREAS Parks Canada is responsible for the direction, control and management of road and bridge infrastructure within national park boundaries of Banff, Kootenay, Yoho, Jasper, Waterton, Mount Revelstoke, and Glacier National Parks of Canada (hereinafter referred to as the Mountain Parks); and

WHEREAS Alberta and British Columbia are responsible for the direction, control and management of road and bridge infrastructure in each of the respective jurisdictions, particularly the Trans-Canada Highway (Highway 1) and the Trans-Canada Yellowhead Highway (Highway 16) outside the Mountain Parks, as well as the Crowsnest Highway (Highway 3); and

WHEREAS Parks Canada, Alberta, and British Columbia have a vested interest in ensuring the safe, efficient, and seamless movement of traffic along the inter-provincial and other highway corridors, particularly through the Mountain Parks; and

WHEREAS these roads are susceptible to challenging driving conditions including, but not limited to, heavy snowfalls, avalanches, washouts, collisions, large game and endangered species of wildlife; and

WHEREAS Parks Canada, Alberta, and British Columbia have much information to disseminate to the travelling public to assist in the safe, efficient, and seamless movement of traffic through the Mountain Parks and along other routes through the mountains; and

WHEREAS a variety of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) technologies can be used to disseminate information to the travelling public on road and traffic conditions; and

WHEREAS Alberta and British Columbia have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to work collaboratively to pursue opportunities to share traveller information messaging and technology along the provinces' common border;

NOW THEREFORE the parties agree as follows:

Purpose

1. The purpose of this Memorandum is for the parties to work collaboratively toward a coordinated and strategic approach to providing highway traveller information to the travelling public. Highway information will be shared among the three jurisdictions.
2. This Memorandum acknowledges the intentions and understanding of the parties to cooperate and pursue common goals and mutually beneficial initiatives; however, it does not create any enforceable legal or equitable rights, or obligations.

Shared Vision

3. The parties share a vision that the travelling public will receive timely, accurate, and consistent highway information in order to plan their trips or adjust their travel plans accordingly. The safety and efficiency of the movement of people and goods in and around the Mountain Parks and on other provincial highways can be improved by the parties sharing and disseminating traveller information.

Short-Term Cooperation Opportunities

4. The parties agree to undertake the following within six (6) months of the signing of this Memorandum:
 - 4.1. The parties agree to establish a Coordinating Committee composing of relevant staff from each jurisdiction to meet regularly, or at a minimum annually, to coordinate and develop procedures, and resolve any issues arising from the implementation of this Memorandum.

- 4.2. The parties agree that in the event of any traffic disruption or lane or road closure on highways in and around the Mountain Parks, the jurisdiction in which the disruption occurs shall inform the other two jurisdictions in a timely manner as set out in the Operational Protocol, hereto attached as Schedule A and forming part of this Memorandum.
- 4.3. Each party shall provide road reports and special updates, at a frequency to be determined by the Coordinating Committee, on Highway 1, Highway 16, and Highway 3 in its jurisdiction, as well as for other highways including Highway 93 North in the Mountain Parks, Highways 11, 5, and 6 in the Mountain Parks and Alberta, and Highways 93 South and 95 in British Columbia, by facsimile or electronic mail to the other two jurisdictions, as outlined in Schedule A.
- 4.4. The parties further agree to disseminate the information through their existing infrastructure, normal communication channels, and the media, as outlined in Schedule A.
- 4.5. The parties agree to keep Schedule A current and update it when necessary by mutual agreement in writing. The parties understand that Schedule A is a high-level operational protocol, and the Coordinating Committee may develop further detailed procedures if necessary.
- 4.6. The parties agree to cooperate and participate as stakeholders in each other's initiatives concerning the development of traveller information systems.

Long-Term Cooperation Opportunities

5. The parties agree to work through the Coordinating Committee to establish a consistent and uniform set of messages that are to be displayed on dynamic message signs in each jurisdiction in order to advise motorists and travellers of highway conditions in and around the Mountain Parks.
6. The parties agree to work toward the future deployment of various forms of Intelligent Transportation Systems throughout the highways in and around the Mountain Parks to improve the sharing and dissemination of traveller information.

Amendment and Termination

7. This Memorandum may be amended by agreement of each of the parties in writing at any time.

8. Each party may terminate its involvement in this Memorandum by giving three (3) months prior notice in writing to each of other parties.

ENTERED INTO THIS 25TH DAY OF MAY, 2004

Government of Canada

Original signed by Gaby Fortin,
Director General West and North of the Parks Canada Agency

Government of Alberta

Original signed by Jay G. Ramotar,
Deputy Minister of Transportation

Approved pursuant to the Alberta Government Organization Act.

Original signed by Hon. Halvar Jonson,
Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations

Government of British Columbia

Original signed by Dan Doyle,
Deputy Minister of Transportation