

## **ALBERTA HIKING ASSOCIATION**

### **Newsletter Spring 2026**



Welcome to the Alberta Hiking association Newsletter

This month updates include

1. Canmore masterplan
2. Ghost -Kananaskis Sub regional plan engagement
3. Alberta Hiking Association Board Recruitment

## **Bow Valley and the Canmore Area Trails Master Plan**

The Friends of Kananaskis (who is a member of AHA) is highlighting the opportunity to participate in the planning process around Canmore that was recently completed. This process aims to take into consideration the habits of wildlife and the people who use the area.

The Canmore Area Trails Master Plan (CATMP) was presented to the public for input in December/January 2025-2026. This is a trails plan for the Bow Valley, which is one of the busiest areas in Alberta for trail-based activities and includes the trails at the Canmore Nordic Centre and many trails, both designated and undesignated throughout the Bow Valley.

This plan was created by Alberta Forestry and Parks and the process included input from 28 different stakeholder groups in the Bow Valley that included indigenous groups, industry representatives, and many different recreation groups, including the Friends of Kananaskis, a volunteer-driven charity that focuses on maintaining and improving trails in Kananaskis Country. The initial work on the trails plan began in summer 2023 and the stakeholder group began meeting in winter 2024. This work fed into a process that resulted in the CATMP.

This plan is designed to renew and improve Canmore's trail network to meet the recreational needs of residents and visitors for years to come while also ensuring adequate wilderness protection for wildlife. Recent research on the impact of recreation on wildlife was used to make decisions to enlarge wildlife corridors to allow better movement of wildlife and less disturbance.

As a partner, the Friends of Kananaskis are supportive of this plan and believe that when it is implemented, it will protect wildlife through expanded wildlife corridors and improve trail recreation with improved biking, hiking, and equestrian trails.

More information about CATMP can be found here: [Canmore Area Trails Master Plan engagement | Alberta.ca](#)

Friends of Kananaskis website: [www.kananaskis.org](http://www.kananaskis.org)

Written by Trevor Julian

Executive Director

## Friends of Kananaskis



### **Have a say in the Ghost-Kananaskis Sub-regional planning process**

Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (EPA) welcomes participation from organizations and members of the public as it begins its Ghost Kananaskis Sub-regional planning process. The sub-regions along Alberta's eastern slopes include a mix of public land, parks and protected areas as identified in the [South Saskatchewan Regional Plan](#). The development process includes two phases, pre-planning engagement (March to June 2026) and draft plan engagement (August to November 2026). Public engagement opportunities will be announced.

The AHA will form a planning task force and invites interested members to join the committee email [info@abhiking.ca](mailto:info@abhiking.ca) to join.





## **AHA Board Recruitment**

The Alberta Hiking Association (AHA; <https://abhiking.ca/>) wishes to rebuild the strength of its Board and Committees. Presently we are looking for 2 or more

individuals who would like to contribute their time to improve trails in our increasingly busy province Please contact Don Cockerton at [info@abhiking.ca](mailto:info@abhiking.ca) for more information.



## **Please see below for some Elbow watershed related updates:**

West Fraser looks forward to hearing your thoughts and gathering feedback on our 2026 timber harvest plans and future harvest areas. To help ensure your questions are answered by the right experts, the events on March 31 and April 1 will focus on different harvest areas so you can connect directly with staff who specialize in those locations.

**March 31, 2026 - 3:00 to 7:00 pm**



Cochrane RancheHouse - Hall of Vision

Harvest Plans: Atkinson Creek, B9 Quota, Burnt Timber  
Creek, Coalcamp Creek,

Grease Creek, Highwood River, Jumpingpound (Sibbald),  
McLean Creek

**April 1, 2026 - 10:00 am to 1:00 pm**

Cochrane RancheHouse - Hall of Vision

Jumpingpound (Bragg Creek & Moose Mountain)

**April 1, 2026 - 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm**

Cochrane RancheHouse - Hall of Vision

Jumpingpound (Bragg Creek & Moose Mountain)

To learn more please visit our website:

[West Fraser Cochrane | West Fraser Timber  
Co.](#)



## **AHA is:**

The Alberta Hiking Association is committed to making hiking trails in Alberta available to all Albertans who love being outdoors in nature to see the trees and hear the birds.

If you have photos you would like to share with the AHA please send them to [info@ahiking.ca](mailto:info@ahiking.ca)

[Learn more](#)