



# Vision for Canadian Parks and Recreation National, Provincial and Territorial Partners

## OUR VISION

Canada's network of recreation and parks services work together to inspire Canadians to embrace a lifestyle that creates healthy, active individuals and communities.

## OUR COMMITMENT

Providing the highest quality opportunities to meet the recreation needs of Canadians – that's the mission of our Parks and Recreation practitioners, volunteers and partners.

## OUR STRENGTH

We use our combined strength to help others understand that recreation and parks are essential in Canada's cultural landscape. We act collectively to:

- build strong communities
- provide community parks and facilities
- educate and create awareness
- advocate for resources
- provide enhanced opportunities
- contribute to a sustainable, robust industry

## OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

### Recreation is a Right

Our top priority. Everyone in Canada has the right to enjoy quality parks and recreation services. We will ensure high standards of excellence in all we do. Our primary focus is to involve people from an early age and throughout their lives, guiding healthy lifestyle development.

### Involved Communities

We are committed to supporting our community-minded citizens, who use their knowledge, skills and resident awareness to fill essential roles in advocacy, stewardship groups, advisory councils and building partnerships.

### Healthy Communities – to Live and Grow

Our partners and community champions work as a team to provide innovative ways to improve the quality of life for all Canadians. Our activities include:

- social inclusion initiatives
- beautification of parks and open spaces
- community development
- quality infrastructure and facilities
- environmental issues
- multi-use trails and pathways
- increasing physical activity

### Access for All

Eliminating barriers that block participation is vital to our goal of becoming truly all encompassing. The needs of all people must be met, regardless of age, ability, ethnic diversity or circumstance. The advantages of being involved in parks and recreation activities and services must be accessible to everyone everywhere.

### Environmental Leadership

We are all stewards of our land, water and air quality. We achieve results through education, awareness, commitment and involvement. Activities include:

- regenerating our forests
- developing environmentally friendly facilities
- reducing chemical use in our green spaces
- actively caring for our parks, horticulture and forests

## TOGETHER, WE SUPPORT. CREATE. DEVELOP.

### Quality Service

We believe that Canadians benefit from quality standards and service delivery that is second to none. Our service providers prepare staff and volunteers to offer their highest level of service, using targeted knowledge and strong skill sets.

### Quality Infrastructure

An audit of our current infrastructure will determine if our parks, facilities and natural environment should meet our current and future needs. We can determine what requires renewal, replacement or decommissioning. As we develop cost effective, long-range plans with innovative, environmentally friendly designs, we will maximize shared use opportunities for long-term sustainability.

### Partners in Success

From coast to coast to coast, we are one country. We create partnerships to focus on the priorities of all Canadians. We maximize our resources to minimize gaps in service. In all ways, we strive to recognize and support the unique and distinct cultural mosaic that is Canada.

### Pride in Participating

Our strategic partners help us promote the many benefits of being active in parks and recreation activities. Participation will become the Canadian norm, resulting in healthy, balanced lifestyles. With support from our partners, private sector and all levels of government, we provide measurable results based on real community needs.

### Our Canadian Team

Our citizen champions are a vital resource of grassroots awareness – empowered to identify challenges and develop solutions that increase community capacity. We encourage shared leadership and support all our team members so they can reach their full potential. Inclusion. Mutual respect.

### Accurate Research

Our priorities, actions and initiatives are developed through current research and trend analysis. Using baseline data, we cultivate innovative concepts and communicate desired outcomes. We create awareness of the wide-ranging positive value of participating in parks and recreation programs and services.

### Understanding, Awareness and Support

We believe decision makers and people of influence must realize that parks and recreation are essential. By increasing their understanding and awareness, we can have a positive impact on public policy. We can raise our profile to increase support, credibility and visibility, helping us make headway on our National Agenda priorities.

### Our Success

Together as partners, we will build on our multi-year National Agenda of priorities, complete with measures of success. Our agenda will assure Canadians that we are competent, accountable and committed to delivering only our best. Each year we will communicate progress on our priorities and celebrate our collective success.

### Our pledge ...

It is our strong belief that parks and recreation programs and services are a fundamental right of every Canadian. As service deliverers, we pledge to be inclusive, open and accountable.

This document, representing service providers and partners, commits our collective energies to ensure that all Canadians benefit from their involvement in parks and recreation.

Signed this day October 12, 2005, Edmonton AB.



CANADIAN PARKS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION



ARPA  
Recreation for Life



RECREATION CONNECTIONS MANITOBA



ASSOCIATION DES TRAVAILLEURS ET TRAVAILLEUSES EN LOISIRS DU NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK



PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND RECREATION & FACILITIES ASSOCIATION



BRITISH COLUMBIA RECREATION AND PARKS ASSOCIATION



NORTHWEST TERRITORIES RECREATION AND PARKS ASSOCIATION



PARKS AND RECREATION ONTARIO



RECREATION NEW BRUNSWICK



RECREATION NOVA SCOTIA



RPAY  
Recreation and Parks Association of the Yukon



SASKATCHEWAN PARKS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION



ASSOCIATION QUÉBÉCOISE DU LOISIR MUNICIPAL



NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR PARKS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION