Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent

Connecting People to Sustain & Enhance Culture, Community, & Conservation

**DRAFT AGENDA**

**5th Annual Conference**

**Living in the Crown:**

**A Balancing Act for Critters, Commerce and Culture**

September 10-12, 2014

Waterton Park, Alberta

**About the Annual Conference**

The annual conference serves as one of the primary vehicles to achieve the core mission of the Roundtable--to connect people to sustain and enhance *culture*, *community*, and *conservation* in the Crown of the Continent. During the past four years, the conference has moved around the Crown to feature and celebrate different regions. The organizing theme of the 5th annual conference is “A Balancing Act.” The conference will explore how our businesses, cultures, and communities are taking forward-looking actions to balance values in the face of changing economic, demographic, political, and climatic conditions.

**Objectives and Expected Outcomes**

1. Exchange new information and ideas, connect people working on similar issues, and foster a sense of regional identity;
2. Celebrate the links among the culture, community, and conservation values of the Crown of the Continent and how people are working to sustain and enhance these values; and
3. Examine some of the most compelling issues facing the Crown of the Continent and build our collective capacity to address them at a local and regional scale.

**About the Roundtable**

The Roundtable is an ongoing forum to bring together people who care about the Crown of the Continent. It is based on the observation that the future of the region is being shaped by over 100 government agencies, Tribes and First Nations, non-government organizations, and community-based partnerships. Through workshops, forums, adaptive management research, policy dialogues, and conferences, the Roundtable: (1) embraces the 18 million acre region; (2) includes all perspectives and communities; (3) focuses on connecting people, facilitating communication, and catalyzing action; and (4) promotes sustainable communities and landscapes. The Roundtable is not any particular group of people, a government commission, or a new organization—the forum is ongoing and open to all. For more information, please go to www.crownroundtable.org.

**AGENDA**

**Wednesday, September 10, 2014**

AM **OPTIONAL FIELD TRIP**

A bus and hiking tour to points of interest in Waterton Lakes National Park and the surrounding area.

12:00 **Registration**

(Lunch on your own, a list of local eateries will be provided)

1:00 pm **Welcome and Overview**

1:20 pm Film screening: “Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent”

1:30 pm **Keynotes: International Response to Changing Times**

*Jeff Mow*, Superintendent of Glacier National Park (invited)

*Ifan Thomas*, Superintendent of Waterton Lakes National Park (invited)

2:30 pm **Crown Café,** Part 1

3:00 pm **Break**

3:15 pm **Balancing Issues and Opportunities: Regional Innovations**

* What We Now Know about Fire, Invasives, and the Seasonality of Water--and How to Respond.
* Traditional Ecological Knowledge*:* Changes in Species Composition on the Landscape, and the Iinii Initiative
* Changes in Our Communities: The Regional Economy and Shifting Demographics
* Innovations in Agricultural and Ranching Practices
* Shifts in Land Ownership and Legacy

4:45 pm **The Power of Applied Research to Guide Our Actions**

An Introduction to the Adaptive Management Initiative

5:00 pm **Adjourn,** Personal Recharge Time

6:00 pm **Poster Session and Cocktails**

7:00 pm **Dinner Program**

* Reading:The Spirit of Our Collaboration
* Presentation:

**Thursday, September 11, 2014**

6:30 am **Optional Sunrise Ecology/History Walk**

7:00 am - **Continental Breakfast**

8:30 am

8:30 am **Keynote: Cumulative Effects and Sustainable Growth**

9:15 am **Balancing Community, Conservation and Culture: A Panel Response** fromranchers, scientists, corporations and businesses

10:30 am **Break**

11:00 am **A Look at What Matters to You: Framing Your Next Steps**

11:30 **A Case for Working Together: The South Saskatchewan**

Noon **Lunch**

1:15 pm **Workshops on What’s New and What’s Next: Action Topics in the Crown**

(Each 2-hour workshop will include a presentation by an expert host organization deeply involved in the topic area, followed by group discussion on ideas for active next steps. Topics may include: Solutions for Weeds and Invasives Management; Watershed Monitoring and Management; Improving Communications and Networking Systems in the Crown; Building Opportunities with Tribes and First Nations; Geotourism and Sustainable Business Development; Creating Opportunities for Large Landscape Management; or others TBA)

3:30 pm **Boat Tour on Waterton Lake Aboard the MV International**

(Or self-guided hikes, afternoon tea, continued discussion)

6:00 pm **Social Time**

6:30 pm **Dinner, Presentation** by photographer *Steven Gnam* and essayistson their new publication, **“Crown of the Continent: The Wildest Rockies”**

8:00 pm **Line Dancing with the Great Canadian Barn Dance**

**Friday, September 12, 2014**

7:00 am- **Continental Breakfast**

8:00 am

8:00 am **Review Highlights from Wednesday and Thursday**

8:20 am **Crown Café,** Part 2

8:45 am **Keynote: A Retrospective by Many on the Crown of the Continent Community:** A look back on the last 5 years, what’s been accomplished, what changed, how we want to move forward. To include slide presentation and plenary response.

10:15 am **Break**

10:30 am **World Café: A Collective Exercise in Embarrassing Self-Revelation**

(With a clear process for follow-up)

11:45 am **Final Words and Evaluation**

Noon  **Meeting Close**

**NOTES:**