



Fort Selkirk Historic Site Management Plan

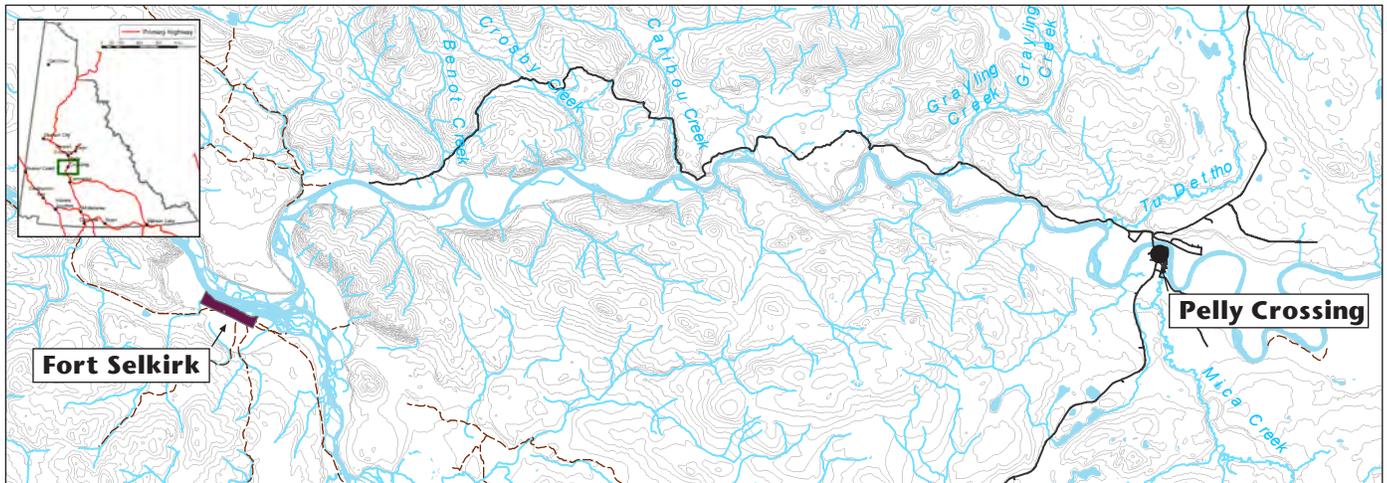


PHOTO: Government of Yukon

In accordance with Chapter 13, Schedule A, of the Selkirk First Nation Final Agreement, the Fort Selkirk Historic Site is co-owned and co-managed by the Selkirk First Nation and Government of Yukon. The site has been actively preserved since the 1980s by the Selkirk First Nation and Government of Yukon. The first Management Plan for the site was finalized in 1990, with an updated plan approved in 2000. Both parties accepted the management plan

as a framework for the cooperative management of the Fort Selkirk Historic Site. As outlined in the Selkirk First Nation Final Agreement, the site was designated as a Yukon Historic Site under the *Historic Resources Act* in August 2010. The Fort Selkirk Heritage Management Plan (2000) will be reviewed and updated to reflect the vision, goals and objectives for the protection, conservation and development of the historic site.





Fort Selkirk Brief History

Fort Selkirk is set in a beautiful river valley rich in natural resources and surrounded by a mountainous, boreal landscape with a dynamic geological record. Fort Selkirk illustrates the unique contribution and combination of different cultures and natural environment that has helped form the social, economic and political fabric of the territory.

Fort Selkirk is central to the homeland of the Northern Tutchone and their cultural traditions such as game harvesting, trade and travel. This place has been a traditional harvesting and gathering site for thousands of years. The site also illustrates the historic trading economy, the transportation development of Yukon, the sovereignty of Canada, the early expansion of the church and community life in a northern isolated area. A permanent community evolved in the early 1890s with the establishment of a trading post and an Anglican Church mission. The community grew quickly as thousands of stampedeers headed for Dawson City during the Klondike Gold Rush. Throughout the first half of the 20th century Fort Selkirk remained a stable, thriving community where two cultures lived, worked, played and prayed together. Abandoned in the 1950s due to the construction of modern roads and the end of sternwheeler traffic, members of Selkirk First Nation and other Yukoners continue to think of it as their ancestral home.

What is a Management Plan?

A heritage management plan is a document that identifies what is significant in a historic place, to whom, and how to guide and manage change within the site. The Plan identifies long-range goals, objectives and policies that will guide the protection, conservation, and interpretation of its heritage resources and the development at the site.

Why are we updating the 2000 Management Plan for Fort Selkirk?

In accordance with Chapter 13, Schedule A, of Selkirk First Nation Final Agreement and Selkirk First Nation Implementation Plan the Historic Site Management Plan is to be reviewed every 10 years. Both governments now have the resources to undertake this important project.

This is an opportunity to measure the success of the existing plan and allow Selkirk First Nation and Government of Yukon to address new management issues that have risen and identify new opportunities for the site, including economic, interpretive, conservation activities and projects.



What is the process?

The Fort Selkirk Historic Site Management Committee was re-established in October 2017, and includes three Selkirk First Nation representatives and three Government of Yukon representatives. The Management Committee will be part of the Fort Selkirk Steering Committee that will guide the review of the update of the management plan in accordance with the elements outlined in Chapter 13, Schedule A, Section 3.0 of Selkirk First Nation's Final Agreement and Implementation Plan. The Management Plan will comply with *Yukon's Historic Resources Act* and the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*.

What will the update of the Management Plan achieve?

The main objectives of the Fort Selkirk Historic Site Management Plan revision/update are to:

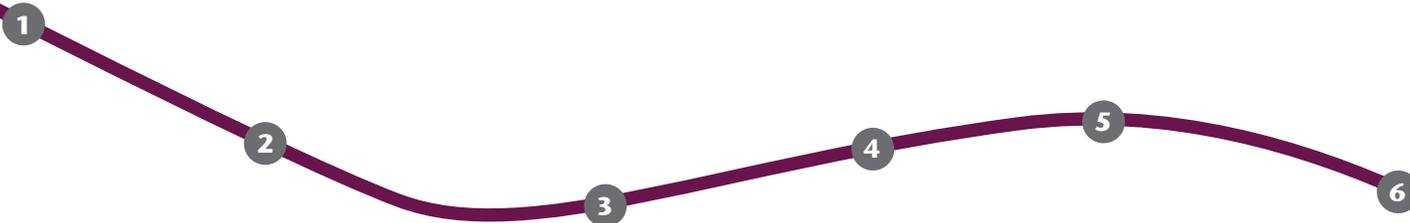
- Recognize and support continued traditional and current use of the area;
- Assess the vision, goals and objectives for the site, and identify any new ones;

- Analyze current and forecasted visitation levels, regional economic opportunities and site protection or development options;
- Determine new ways to encourage public awareness and appreciation for the natural, historical and cultural resources of the site;
- Contribute to the cultural and economic health of the SFN;
- Guide the conservation of heritage resources, management and operation of the site;
- Identify opportunities for local capacity development;
- Provide an overview of existing historical and physical information about the site and identify any gaps;
- Recommend tools to measure implementation of the management plan;
- Provide a strategy for carrying out further research if required, to best conserve, manage and interpret the site.



PHOTO: Government of Yukon

Where are we in the process?



1 MARCH 2018

Project Start Up; First Public Open House in Pelly Crossing and Whitehorse

2 SEPTEMBER 2018

First Draft Management Plan

3 OCTOBER 2018

Second Public Open house in Pelly Crossing and Whitehorse to gather comments on the Draft Management Plan

4 DECEMBER 2018

Final Draft Historic Site Management Plan and Executive Summary

5 JANUARY 2019

Third Public Open House in Pelly Crossing and Whitehorse

6 MARCH 2019

Final Historic Site Management Plan and Executive Summary

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE FORT SELKIRK HISTORIC SITE MANAGEMENT PLAN, CONTACT:

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