



January 17th, 2020

**Backgrounder: Central Purcell Mountains Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area –
Planning and community engagement**

- The IPCA will contribute directly to Canada’s commitment to protect 17% of its land area by 2020. The design of the IPCA (geographic scope, boundaries and goals/stewardship principles) will have two overarching goals: protecting biodiversity and supporting Ktunaxa cultural values.
- The KNC and BC are developing a plan for comprehensive community engagement in IPCA planning to be implemented over the next few years. The process will be open, transparent and inclusive. This engagement will include east and west Kootenay communities, both indigenous and non-native.
- The IPCA will be larger than the Jumbo valley – large enough to maintain and improve wildlife habitat connectivity both east-west and north-south within the central Purcell mountains. It will directly adjoin the northern boundary of the Purcell Wilderness Conservancy and encompass the entirety of the Jumbo watershed and parts of adjacent watersheds.
- Specific boundaries will be developed through collaboration between the Ktunaxa Nation Council and the Government of BC. We will be seeking community, stakeholder, industry and public input on the geographic scope of the IPCA and boundaries over the coming months, with a view to finalizing the geographic scope by the end of 2020.
- Access in the area will remain status quo during discussions on the IPCA. Engagement and dialogue with stakeholders may include access management strategies within the IPCA
- An IPCA does not have a consistent definition, as they may mean different things to different First Nations. The province will apply the most suitable parallel provincial designation to meet the intent of the conserved area.
- Management within the proposed IPCA will include a variety of zones addressing cultural and biodiversity values on the landscape and in some cases providing for resource use consistent with protecting these values
- The Jumbo Glacier Mountain Resort Municipality’s status will be determined by the Province in the future