

Honourable Mr. Jason Nixon
Minister of Environment and Parks, House Leader
Office of the Minister
Environment and Parks

Honourable Minister Nixon,

I'm a 41 year old father of 2 young children from Calgary Alberta writing with a suggestion I feel will create a better future for Albertans who enjoy our mountain Parks.

I respectfully ask you to consider ending the Fortress Mountain (FM) Lease, and merging it into the surrounding two Provincial Parks. ([DML100011](#) contains terms that allow AEP to cancel it.) This would include the cessation of water licence amendment [#00037369-00-03](#) which allows FM to sell water.

The current development at FM, [selling water](#) and \$500+/head [cat skiing](#), doesn't have mass benefit for everyday Albertans.

Creating a new Provincial Park would give the UCP a public image boost during the current outcry over Alberta's Parks.

As you know, the Fortress Lands are a simple Crown Lease that predates both the Spray Valley and Peter Lougheed Provincial Parks that now surround it.

The following 7 reasons strongly justify a Provincial Park creation and the termination of water selling. Complete supporting documentation on all 7 points can be found on [conservekananaskis.com](#)

- 1) FM's business acumen is questionable, as evidenced by them being unable to open as a ski resort for over a decade despite being contractually required to do so. FM has missed 4 contractually mandated opening dates and are currently on their 5th! This gives no benefit to everyday Albertans and not having a ski hill means Alberta is missing out on Tax revenues.
- 2) Trucking 50million litres of water/year from Kananaskis Country creates needless pollution as well as posing a vehicular risk to recreating Albertans and Wildlife.
- 3) The Stoney Nakoda Nation has [taken Alberta to court](#) over the granting of the FM water amendment. Creating a Provincial Park would solve these Judicial Proceedings.
- 4) Fortress is in non-compliance with its lease's Terms & Conditions. (Details on [website](#))
- 5) Granting FM permission to sell water wasn't in compliance with the Alberta Water Act.
- 6) FM appears (from [updates to AEP](#)) to be out of money. Its [current lease](#) states that AEP can cancel it if FM is insolvent.
- 7) Summer use, such as [selling water](#) and [ATV shuttled hiking](#), were never part of the winter only FM lease and are in contrast to recommendations in the [Alberta Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan](#).

I look forward to your reply. Thank you,
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