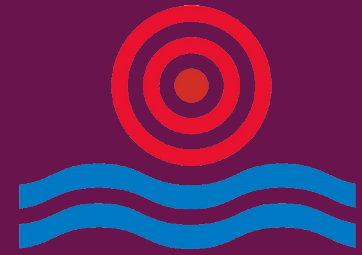


Newsletter Three - March 2019



Fort Selkirk Historic Site Management Plan



PHOTO: YG

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

You are invited to participate in a review of the Final Draft Management Plan for Fort Selkirk Historic Site

Monday, March 25, 2019

4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre
Artist Studio
Whitehorse, Yukon
Refreshments will be served.

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

12:00 to 3:00 p.m.
Selkirk First Nation
Administration Building, Big Room,
Pelly Crossing, Yukon
Lunch will be served.

For more information call:
Heritage Manager: Selkirk First Nation
Tel: 867-537-3331 ext. 606
Historic Sites Planner: 867-393-6291
Or visit www.selkirkfn.com or
www.yukonheritage.com



Fort Selkirk is a living cultural heritage site and a special place for all who come here. To the Selkirk First Nation people, it is a part of their homeland and a place for spiritual and cultural renewal. For other Yukon people, Fort Selkirk is a cherished reminder of the past. For the visitor, Fort Selkirk provides a rare glimpse at the history of trade and settlement in the north.

Fort Selkirk is co-owned and co-managed by Selkirk First Nation and Yukon governments in accordance with the *Selkirk First Nation Final Agreement, Historic Resources Act* and the approved Management Plan. This partnership

began in 1982 to protect, preserve and promote the site for the benefit of current and future generations.

A Historic Site Management Plan for Fort Selkirk was completed in 1990. In accordance with Chapter 13, Schedule A, of the *Selkirk First Nation Final Agreement* and the *Selkirk First Nation Implementation Plan*, the plan was updated in 2000, and is now being updated again in 2019.

What is a Management Plan?

A heritage management plan identifies what is significant in a historic place, to whom, and how to guide and manage change within the historic 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 of the site.

It is a tool intended to provide sufficient information for managers to protect and manage the heritage values of the site, guide the day-to-day management, assist in decision-making and to support local cultural and economic benefits.



PHOTO: David Johnny

What we heard at the October 2018 meetings

At open houses in Pelly Crossing and Whitehorse in October 2018 the public identified important topics that the management plan should address, including:

- the various uses of the site by visiting school groups, river travellers, groups/events, and by SFN families;
- monitoring changes to the river bank; and,
- management of commercial use of the site for filming or other economic activities.



Final Draft Management Plan, 2019

The 2019 Management Plan recommends protection and preservation actions for the heritage features of the site. The Fort Selkirk Management Committee is made up of equal representatives from YG and SFN and is responsible for the management of the site including reviewing and approving use or changes to the site.

Following the 1990 and 2000 Management Plans, the 2019 Management Plan builds on the preservation and development work completed at the site over the past 19 years and provides recommendations for future actions.

The Plan addresses the actions required for ongoing conservation activities to protect the exceptional heritage and cultural values of the site, and to support the continuing use of the site for cultural activities, interpretation and education, economic development and tourism.

The Plan provides management guidelines for protection, conservation and interpretation based on the requirements of SFNFA Chapter 13 Schedule A, 3.6.1, and following the current standards adopted within Canada: *The Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada (2nd Ed.)*.



PHOTO: Yukon Archives, Vol 6-268

Following the 1990 and the 2000 management plans, the site has been divided into three zones:

- The **Historic Zone**, which contains the majority of heritage buildings, structures, archaeology and landscape features;
- The **Natural Zone**, which includes the forest surrounding the Historic Zone and contains cultural and historic resources; and,
- The **Visitor Services and Maintenance Zone**, which includes the campground, work camp and a number of heritage resources.

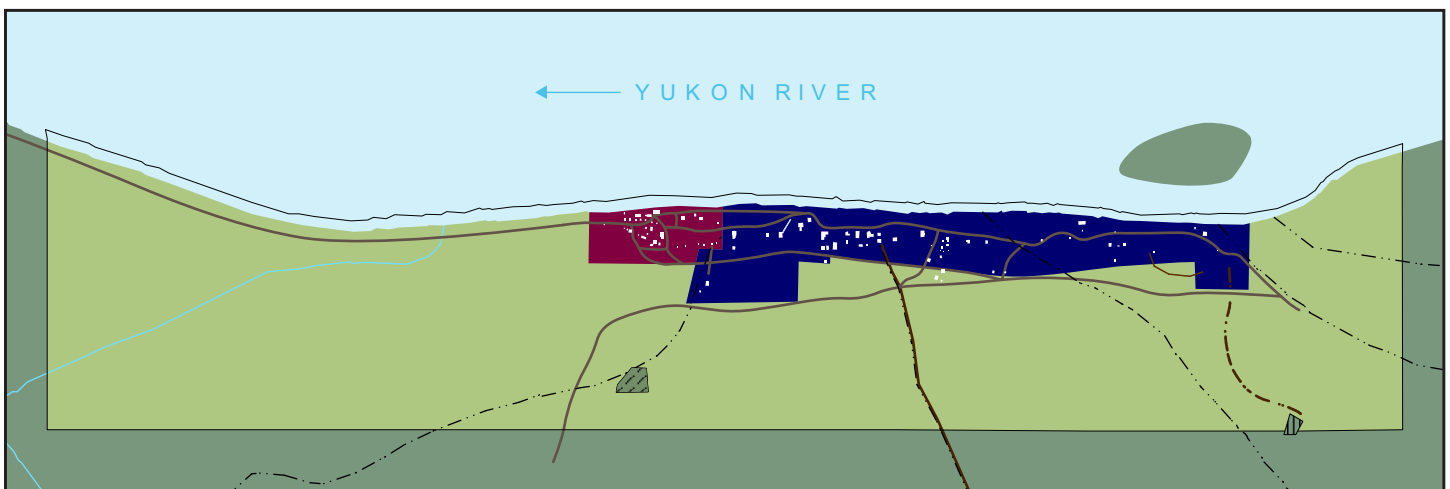
Draft Management Plan Vision, Goals, Objectives and Action Items

The implementation of the management plan will be based on specific actions to achieve the vision, goals and objectives of Fort Selkirk Historic Site.

VISION

As a living cultural heritage site, Fort Selkirk is a place to share, respect and preserve for future generations.

The Vision statement summarizes the long-term desire of the Selkirk First Nation and Yukon governments to protect and conserve Fort Selkirk as a 'living cultural heritage site' the purpose to protect the heritage resources, and the traditional and current use of the site by all people.



Historic Zone

Visitor Services and Maintenance Zone

Natural Zone





Management Plan Goals and Objectives

The following eight goals and objectives will lead to achieving the Vision.

Goal 1

Recognize and protect the traditional and current use of the area by the Selkirk First Nation people and the past and current use by other Yukon residents and third-party interests.¹

Objectives:

- Preserve, protect and present the evidence of trade, settlement and way of life experienced at Fort Selkirk by all past groups that accessed or occupied the site.
- Encourage Selkirk First Nation use of the site as a 'living cultural heritage site' through traditional use, stewardship, education, employment, and conservation.
- Promote visitor use and appreciation of Fort Selkirk, respect for the Selkirk First Nation culture, and stewardship of the site.

¹ Third-party interests include any group that may use the site, such as schools, Canadian Rangers, or others.

Goal 2

Direct the conservation of heritage resources, management and operation of the site by SFN and YG.

Objectives:

- Utilize available resources in Pelly Crossing and area when possible.
- Develop an updated Conservation Plan for Fort Selkirk.
- Undertake the identification and collection of artifacts and develop processes and policies to manage the artifacts.
- Maintain buildings, structures, landscapes and artifacts in a manner that reflects the history of settlement and use of Fort Selkirk by all who lived there.
- Using traditional knowledge and undertaking research as required to enhance the management, conservation and interpretation of the site.
- Ensure the heritage values of Fort Selkirk are respected in all decisions regarding the site.

Goal 3

Encourage public awareness and appreciation for the natural, historical and cultural resources of the site.

Objective:

- Develop an updated Fort Selkirk Interpretation Plan.
- Using traditional knowledge and undertaking research as required to enhance interpretation of the site.



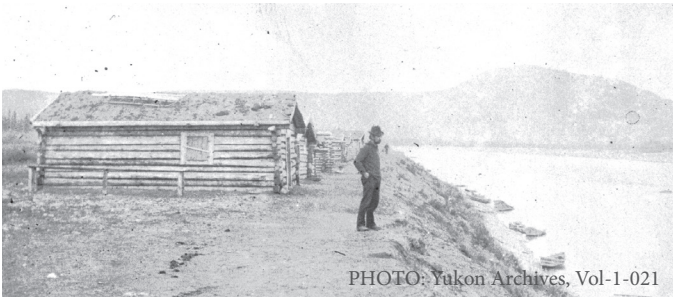


PHOTO: Yukon Archives, Vol-1-021

Goal 4

Contribute to the cultural and economic benefit for the SFN.

Objectives:

- Encourage economic development and employment opportunities for Selkirk First Nation consistent with their social and cultural development objectives while protecting the site's heritage values.
- Ensure economic development at Fort Selkirk occurs at a pace, scale and timing that allows Selkirk First Nation opportunities for employment, training, and business development.

Goal 5

Apply guidelines for infrastructure development that follows management and heritage conservation objectives.

Objective:

- Apply best practices and guidelines for new infrastructure or buildings, alterations or additions, or interpretive infrastructure.

Goal 6

Provide visitors the opportunity to experience Fort Selkirk while protecting heritage values.

Objectives:

- Continue to promote Fort Selkirk as a destination for visitors, according to the site's capacity to sustainably receive visitors.
- Continue to promote understanding and education through interpretive services, facilities and activities.

Goal 7

Manage and operate the site based on reasonable funding expectations and human resource capabilities.

Objectives:

- Continue to provide monitoring of site management effectiveness and reporting within resource capabilities.
- Continue to provide opportunities for education and skills development.

Goal 8

The Management Committee will oversee the operation of the site in compliance with the vision and management plan recommendations.

Objective:

- The Management Committee will review proposals and requests for change as they arise to ensure that the heritage resources are protected.



PHOTO: YG



Selkirk First Nation Final Agreement

The Selkirk First Nation Final Agreement (SFNFA) was signed July 21, 1997. The Agreement requires the designation of Fort Selkirk as a historic site under the *Historic Resources Act* and an approved Management Plan. A Management Plan updating the 1990 Management Plan was completed in 2000 and Fort Selkirk was designated a Yukon Historic Site on August 6, 2010.

Chapter 13, Schedule A¹: Fort Selkirk Historic Site

2.0 Establishment

- 2.2 *The Commissioner of the Yukon Territory and the Selkirk First Nation will hold title for lands forming part of Fort Selkirk as tenants in common.*

3.0 Management Plan

- 3.1 *A management plan shall be prepared for Fort Selkirk.*
- 3.2 *A steering committee shall be established to prepare the management plan referred to in 3.1.*
- 3.2.1 *A steering committee shall be comprised of six members, of whom three shall be nominated by Government and three shall be nominated by the Selkirk First Nation.*
- 3.6 *The preparation of the Management Plan will be guided by the following principles:*
- 3.6.1 *protection, conservation and interpretation of the Heritage Resources at Fort Selkirk in accordance with national and international standards as accepted or modified by the Selkirk First Nation and Yukon;*
- 3.6.2 *recognition of the importance of Fort Selkirk to Selkirk People and protection of the use of Fort Selkirk by Selkirk People;*

- 3.6.3 *encouragement of public awareness of, and appreciation for, the natural and cultural resources of Fort Selkirk and surrounding area; and,*

- 3.6.4 *provision of reasonable opportunities for the public to visit and appreciate Fort Selkirk.*

4.0 Approval and Review of the Management Plan

- 4.1 *The Minister and the Selkirk First Nation will jointly approve the Management Plan for Fort Selkirk;*
- 4.3 *The Government and the Selkirk First Nation will jointly review the Management Plan at least every 10 years;*

6.0 Implementation

- 6.1 *The Government and the Selkirk First Nation will manage Fort Selkirk in accordance with the Historic Resources Act and the approved Management Plan; and,*
- 6.2 *A management committee shall be established to implement the approved Management Plan, the committee will be comprised of six members, three nominated by Yukon Government and three nominated by Selkirk First Nation.*
- 6.3 *The Management Committee shall implement the approved management plan in a manner consistent with the principles set out in 3.6.*
- 6.5 *If the Management Committee is unable to agree upon the manner in which to implement the approved Management Plan, the Minister or Selkirk First Nation may refer the matter to dispute resolution under Article 26.3.0.*

¹Selkirk First Nation Final Agreement. (1997). Government of Canada, The Selkirk First Nation, and the Yukon Government.

The Selkirk First Nation and Yukon government have been working together to preserve and maintain Fort Selkirk since 1982. As part of the ongoing management of the site, Selkirk First Nation work crews preserve buildings, provide tours to visitors and maintain camping areas with funding and technical support from the Yukon government. YG staff also work at the site with the work crews when required and work closely with the site supervisor and the SFN Heritage Manager. YG staff also provide secretariat support to the Fort Selkirk Management Committee.

In May 2010, title was raised for Fort Selkirk Historic Site with the Yukon and Selkirk First Nation governments as tenants in common (co-owners). This fulfills the obligations of articles 2.1 and 2.2 of Schedule A (Fort Selkirk Historic Site) of Chapter 13 of the Selkirk First Nation Final Agreement.

The Fort Selkirk Historic Site is co-owned and co-managed by Selkirk First Nation and Yukon governments.

The Fort Selkirk Management Committee resumed in October 2017, in accordance with the Selkirk First Nation Final Agreement Chapter 13, Schedule A, to update the 2000 Fort Selkirk Historic Site Management Plan and implement the approved management plan.

The Management Committee will:

- Oversee the operations of the site in a manner that fulfills the vision and the management plan recommendations.
- Review proposals and requests for site activities as they arise to ensure that the heritage resources are protected.
- Review and advise on agreements that may be considered with respect to the use and protection of the site.

The Management Committee oversees the following administrative activities:

- Advise on the annual budget and work plan; and
- Review annual reporting of site conservation and work activities.



Photo: Vol-7-354, Yukon Archives.

In front of Big Jonathan House at Fort Selkirk, L-R: Mary Luke, Susie Jonathan, Jonathan Campbell and Sam Isaac.

Where are we in the process?

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

- 1 MARCH 2018:** Project Start Up; First Public Open House in Pelly Crossing and Whitehorse
- 2 JUNE 2018:** Site Visit and meeting with SFN Elders at Fort Selkirk
- 3 JULY 2018:** Research Report
- 4 SEPTEMBER 2018:** First Draft Management Plan

- 5 OCTOBER 2018:** Second Public Open house in Pelly Crossing and Whitehorse
- 6 DECEMBER 2018:** Revised Historic Site Management Plan
- 7 MARCH 2019:** Third Public Open House in Pelly Crossing and Whitehorse
- 8 MARCH 2019:** Final Historic Site Management Plan and Executive Summary

PHOTO: YG

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

Manager, Heritage

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Historic Sites Planner

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