



Kamloops Fly Fishers' Association

#13-1775 McKinley Court, Kamloops, B.C. V2E 2P2

2021 June 9th

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Subject: Kamloops Fly Fishers Association (KFFA) Submission regarding Paul Lake Management Plan (Request for Proposal CP22KAE002) and our Human Rights Complaint combined under #19101.

Background:

My first email was sent to Mr. Steve Maricle Senior Fisheries Biologist on 2013 June 4th and the boat launch facility was as shown in **slide 1 2013 Paul Lake Boat Launch Facility**. We met with BC Parks **Staff slide 2 1st plan** was a draft that would allow us to launch our trailered boats but we ended up with **slide 3 2016 boat launch slide apparatus structure**. This structure was unacceptable and unsafe. Our current configuration is shown in **slide 4 2017 & current configuration**.

Prior to HR Complaint:

We asked for trailered boat access from ice off till June 30th and from the Day after Labour Day till ice on. This we felt was a workable solution that should be done on a trial basis but BC Parks said NO.

HR Complaint:

The Kamloops Fly Fishers Association (KFFA) with the unanimous support of our Membership filed a Human Rights Complaint (#19101) alleging discrimination. The Human Rights Tribunal on 2019 December 18th accepted our complaint based on "Accommodation, Service and Facility (s.8): Age, Accommodation and Service and Facility (S.8): Physical Disability.

To settle our HR Complaint the Province offered to update the Paul Lake Management Plan (Request for Proposal CP22KAE002). Human Rights Complaints were submitted by the following KFFA Members; Leonard Piggin, Sinclair (Sinc) Dalgleish, Alan McLean, Tracy



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Murdoch, Bruce Gemmell, Charles Douglas, Richard Forde & the late Gordon Bacon. An important part of the HR Complaint process is that those that file a complaint be heard. Each Member has stated that they want to be heard. This is an important part of us withdrawing our complaints. This is one reason why we would like to conduct an onsite review of the current boat launch facility.

See slides 4, 7 & 8.

Our HR Complaint asks for the following remedy "The bollards be removed from Paul Lake so I can fish for the Kokanee and rainbow trout".

Leonard Piggin Physical Disability:

I have had ear trouble (infections) ever since I was a Child and now I have equilibrium issues as I'm getting older (66 years old).

I don't lift my boat I use either my Automatic Boat Loader or my trailered boat.

Boat loading/Unloading Operation with current bollards:

- If I use my **Automatic Boat Loader** I have to lower my boat 14+ feet before the bollards then drag it up to the bollards & then lift my boat on edge & pull it to get it through the bollards and then drag it to the water. All equipment must be carried to the boat at the water's edge.
- If I use my 15 ft. **trailered boat** I have to take all equipment out of the boat including my long shaft 9.9 horsepower motor (which I can't lift by myself as it's over 150 lbs. & awkward) then lift my boat off the trailer before the bollards drag boat then I have to lift my boat on edge & pull it through the bollards and drag it to the water. All other fishing equipment needs to be transported to the boat. I'm then supposed to have an enjoyable day fishing dreading what I have to do to load my boat & equipment at the end of the day.
- See other Member details after my signature.

Paul Lake is within ½ hour of Kamloops and is easy to get to with a paved road. I don't travel far to enjoy my fishing recreating especially with gas constantly over \$1.35 a litre. I also want to fish for Kokanee as they are a great eating fish.



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For some reason Residents that live at Paul Lake can launch any type of boat as I have viewed speed boats of all kinds docked at shores edge.

See slides 11 to 17

This practice of allowing Residents different access than me and the public is discriminatory.

Standards for other lakes in Region 3:

I would like to ask you to look at slide **10 VORR from Hilary Lawson Boat Safety Officer Transport Canada.**

- Heffley Lake at each end has two areas that have 15Km/Hr speed restrictions the larger middle section doesn't have speed restrictions. The two smaller sections also don't allow towing a person on any sporting or recreational equipment. There are no bollards or other apparatus at the BC Parks Public Boat Launch to stop the Public from launching any type of boat. The Public & Residents have the same access. **Why is Paul Lake different?**
- Lac Le Jeune lake has a 20 Km/Hr Speed Restriction. The boat launch is located in BC Parks facility and there are no bollards or any other apparatus to restrict boats. The Public & Residents have the same access. **Why is Paul Lake different?**
- For further information regarding speed restrictions contact Hilary Lawson Boating Safety Officer Transport Canada hilary.lawson@tc.gc.ca 604-916-3573. **Why is Paul Lake different?**
- The KFFA supports speed restrictions **for everyone** as another way of reducing the impact on the environment

While fishing Jacko Lake in 2020 I took the attached photograph **slide 6 2020 Sept 27 Jacko Lake** of the parking lot – seven trucks with trailers, one truck with automatic boat loader and two with no apparatus – One truck the people were fishing from shore and the other truck had a pontoon boat. This is the current situation.

Environment & Safety:

We have been told the reason for the restrictions is the environment & safety issues. Heffley and Lac Le Jeune Lakes I'm sure have the similar environmental concerns but for some reason the Public has been restricted at Paul Lake but the residents are not.



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- If wake from boats are causing environmental issues then all boats need to be regulated to ensure the environment is not harmed.
- Safety - Our Conservation Officers need this access to carry out the safety aspect of their job Mr. Kevin Van Damme Sergeant [250-371-6331](tel:250-371-6331) kevin.vandamme@gov.bc.ca needs to be contacted in this regard.

The current Management Plan is dated 1996 November. The Pleasure Craft Operator Card was implemented in 1999 and is proof of competency to operate a recreational boat with a motor.

Inclusive:

The Accessibility Secretariat focuses on improving accessibility for people with disabilities. Located within the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction and the secretariat works across government and with the disability and business communities. Government has a vision to make B.C. a truly inclusive province for all people with disabilities. We want to remove barriers that prevent equal and meaningful participation in society. British Columbia supports the principles outlined in the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities \(UNCRPD\)](#). We are strongly committed to advancing and safeguarding those principles within the province.

The above information was taken directly from the Accessibility Secretariat web page.

Our Management Objectives for Paul Lake are;

1. Remove Bollards – Accessibility & Inclusivity for all.
2. Riparian area at South West end of Paul Lake needs to be rehabilitated.
3. Campsites are installed nearer the water for Anglers so they don't have to drive their gear from the campsite to boat.

The current setup at Paul Lake may have been ok 27 years ago but in this age of inclusivity and our Provincial Governments vision to remove barriers it is out of step and must be changed.

Tight lines.

Leonard P. Piggin

Secretary KFFA

Chairperson of Paul Lake Boat Launch Committee KFFA



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Age, Physical Disability and Accommodation of Service details:

- Sinc Dalglish – Member of our KFFA Committee. 80 with hip replacement and can't carry heavy items so uses and Automatic Boat Loader that drops the boat right into the water.
- Terry Garbutt – Member of our KFFA Committee. 70 has 2 herniated discs in my lower back, (L4 & L5). Paul Lake is 10 kilometres from his house and he can't use his Automatic Boat Loader to put his boat into the water.
- Al McLean – Filed Human Rights Complaint. 66 with rotator cuff problems and can't lift items over his head so he either trailers his boat or uses an Automatic boat loader depending on the lake he's going to.
- Bruce Gemmell – Filed Human Rights Complaint. 67 2 fused vertebrae in back, overweight with bad back and knees. He uses a Pontoon boat. He would have to drag it 40+ feet to get to the water's edge. Not something you want to do with a Pontoon boat.
- Other KFFA Members have provided their information but you get the idea from the above examples.

Attachments:

- 2021 March 12th RFP signed letter
- 2018 3 May 11 letter from KIB
- Trailered water craft – by Ted Hardaker
- 2019 6 December 18 Notice of complaint proceeding
- 10 VORR from Hilary Lawson Transport Canada – Excel spreadsheet.

Photographs – Fourteen

CC:

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