

Waterton Visitor Reception Centre Petition Instructions and Information

Instructions for gathering signatures

- 1. Anyone is permitted to sign this petition, as long as they sign only once.** There are **no** age restrictions or the need to live in a certain geographical boundary, although signatories should be able to write their own name.
- 2. Please ensure blue or black pen is used, **not** pencil.**
- 3. Please be diligent in ensuring information collected is honest and accurate.**
- 4. Use only the designated lines for signatures. Do not add your own lines below or on the back of the document.**
- 5. Please mail completed petition forms to:**

**Save the Waterton Field
41 Sandstone Rd S
Lethbridge, AB
T1K 8C9**

We would like to have all signatures collected and forms mailed to the above address
by **April 25, 2016.**

To print more petition copies, visit savethewatertonfield.com

Information

Parks Canada Administration is planning to build a new \$7.6 million Visitor Reception Centre (VRC) and parking lot on the green space next to the playground in Waterton Lakes National Park without any genuine consultation with the public. We see the need for a new Visitor Reception Centre and are in favour of one, just not in the proposed location of this open space. There are numerous reasons why this green space next to the playground is an undesirable location for the proposed site, but with enough public awareness, we hope to prevent the proposed site from going forward.

These are the issues surrounding the Proposed Site for the new Visitor Reception Centre:

1. A VRC with the associated traffic, built next to a busy playground and spray park, poses a significant danger to children.
2. Parks Canada is ignoring its own Community Plan that zones this area as an Environmental/Recreational Reserve where development is prohibited.
3. The proposed location in the middle of a busy town will increase congestion, be difficult for visitors to find, and would be much easier to locate on the edge of town as is customary with most Visitor Centres.
4. The parking lot for the VRC will not be able to accommodate the trailers, motorhomes, and charter buses that will be arriving, in addition to the regular car and truck traffic.
5. This green space has been used by children, young adults, park employees, families, and tourists for generations. This is also a prime location for wildlife to graze.
6. This is an extremely undesirable choice for a scenic view, as manmade structures surround the area. Waterton Lake is hardly visible from the proposed site.

The alternative site for the new VRC would be located on the hill close to the Park operations buildings across from middle Waterton Lake. This would be a better solution. This site would provide easy access and visibility for those entering Waterton Lakes National Park as it is on the only road entering the townsite. There would be extensive space for parking and picturesque views from the hillside.

However, we believe no final decisions for any site should be made without public input and thorough review.