

Winter Guide 2016-2017



Aussi disponible en français.

Canada

1 Hour of Fun

- Borrow snowshoes at the Hawood Inn and break through fresh snow. As you roam, be sure to look for animal tracks to see if wildlife has recently walked the trail.
- Take advantage of the early sunset and gaze into a sky full of stars! For the best views find an open area away from lights. For a great lookout right in town, head to the main beach and peer over Waskesiu Lake!
- Take the kids to the Visitor Centre to check out interactive displays, dress up in animal costumes, pick up Xplorer and Club Parka books, and borrow a birding or geocache backpack to use while you explore the park!



Under 3 Hour Adventures

- Have a true Canadian winter experience! Ski a family-friendly trail then head to an enclosed shelter to warm up with a fire and some hot chocolate. Feeling energized? Bring a Frisbee to play winter disc golf!
- Lace up your skates and head to Waskesiu's indoor skating rink on Montreal Drive. A great way to stay warm on those cold days!
- Take a relaxing drive to Paignton Beach or Birch Bay for a picnic and a fantastic view of Waskesiu Lake.
- Pick up your fishing license and ice fishing equipment from the Hawood Inn and make tracks on your way out to the fishing shack on Waskesiu Lake.



Trail Report

waskesiolake.ca/winter_activities.php
pc.gc.ca/princealbert
Visitor Centre: (306) 663-4522

Trail Etiquette

- Keep to the right when meeting oncoming skiers.
- Move off the trail when resting or visiting.
- Pack out all your garbage.
- Do not walk, snowshoe, or bike on groomed ski trails.

Dogs are Welcome

Get out on the ski and snowshoe trails with your dog! To allow the track to set, please keep dogs off ski trails that are freshly groomed. Remember to pick up after your pet and keep them on a leash.

Waskesiu Ski Club

Cross-country ski trails are groomed by the Waskesiu Lake Cross-country Ski Club Inc. To learn more, join, or donate visit waskesiolake.ca/winter_activities.php.

Planning

- Research your trip and ask park staff for advice if needed.
 - Check the weather forecast and road conditions.
 - Inform someone of your travel plans.
 - Study trail information and choose one suitable for your group.
 - Travel with a partner or in a group.
 - Be prepared for sudden weather changes.
 - Trails are not patrolled – use them at your own risk.
- Visit Adventuresmart.ca for more safety tips and planning resources.



What to Bring

- Trail guide, map, and compass
- Food and water for 48 hours
- First aid kit
- Flashlight or headlamp
- Warm clothing
- Camera and binoculars

REMEMBER!

Be extremely cautious when travelling over lakes, rivers, and boggy areas as ice thickness can vary over a short distance.

Fuel up your vehicle and pack emergency equipment including flashlight, extra blankets, booster cables, candles, and waterproof matches or lighter.

Cell phone coverage is variable throughout the park. Do not rely on your cell phone.

Visitor Centre

Monday – Friday 8 am – 4 pm
Saturday & Sunday 10 am – 5 pm
Closed December 25th & 26th
Hours may vary

1-306-663-4522
panp.info@pc.gc.ca
pc.gc.ca/princealbert
@ParksCanada_SK

Toll-free National General Information Line:
1-888-773-8888

Emergency

Dial 9-1-1 RCMP, Fire, and Ambulance
1-877-852-3100 For all other calls (Parks Canada Dispatch)

Road Conditions

highways.gov.sk.ca/road-conditions
Toll-free across Canada: 1-888-335-7623
SaskTel cell network: *ROAD (*7623)



Services

Visitor Centre

The Prince Albert National Park Visitor Centre, located in Waskesiu, is open year-round. Friendly staff are available to help with ski trail updates, planning a winter camping excursion, and information about upcoming events.

In celebration of Canada's 150th birthday access to all Parks Canada locations will be free in 2017. Pick up your free Discovery Pass in 2017 at the Visitor Centre during operating hours.

Accommodation and Dining

WASKESIU	Contact
Chateau Park Chalets	1-306-663-5556
Lost Creek Resort	1-866-663-8622
The Hawood Inn	1-877-441-5544
Waskesiu Lake Lodge	1-306-663-6161

SURROUNDING AREA

Elk Ridge Resort	1-800-510-1824
Land of the Loon Resort (Anglin Lake)	1-306-982-4478

Gas Station

In winter, the nearest gas station to Waskesiu is LT's Food & Fuel. This full-service station is approximately 15 km from Waskesiu at the junction of Highway 2 and 264.

FREE Equipment

Available for lend at the Hawood Inn on a first-come first-served basis:

- Chariot strollers with ski attachments
- Cross-country skis
- Snowshoes
- Ice fishing equipment



Winter Activities

Cross-country Skiing

Pack a lunch and make a day of it! There are groomed trails for skate and classic skiing or you can choose your own route and venture off the beaten path.

See map for trail distances and difficulty levels.

A great network of cross-country ski trails are also available at Elk Ridge Resort and Great Blue Heron Provincial Park.

Snowshoeing

Enjoy one of the oldest forms of winter transportation. Grab your snowshoes and try one of these routes or blaze your own through the forest. Designated routes are not groomed and you may encounter fallen trees. Use extra caution when snowshoeing over ice.

Please do not snowshoe on groomed ski trails.

Note: Boardwalk and stairs on any designated winter trail are not cleared of snow.

Enclosed Shelter

Need a place to warm up and have lunch? The two enclosed shelters in the park offer the perfect sanctuary for a picnic! They can be found:

- Across from the Visitor Centre
- Paignton Beach on the Narrows Road

Fishing

If you need to scratch that fishing itch, ice fishing season on Waskesiu Lake is open until March 31.

The ice fishing shack on Waskesiu Lake is available for visitors to use. Contact the Hawood Inn for details.

A valid Prince Albert National Park fishing permit is required. Permits can be purchased at these locations:

- Visitor Centre
- CL Gas – Christopher Lake
- The Hawood Inn
- Prince Albert Tourism Office



Winter Camping

Why not spend the night? The northern sky, solitude, and sense of adventure make a winter camping experience unlike any other. With services close by, you don't have to travel far to have a safe and enjoyable experience.

Paignton Beach and Birch Bay are designated winter campgrounds with access to firewood and pit toilets. Paignton Beach also has an enclosed shelter. Contact the Visitor Centre before any overnight excursions and for information on random winter camping.

Kite Skiing/Boarding

Looking for some adventure on a windy day? Take your gear and head out onto the lakes for a great day of exhilarating kite skiing/boarding.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Indoor skating rink located on Montreal Drive
- Winter disc golf course across from Main Beach
- Road shinny outside the Hawood Inn
- Toboggan hill, outdoor skating rink, warming shelter and spa located at Elk Ridge Resort
- Fat biking available on Narrows Road



View Wildlife

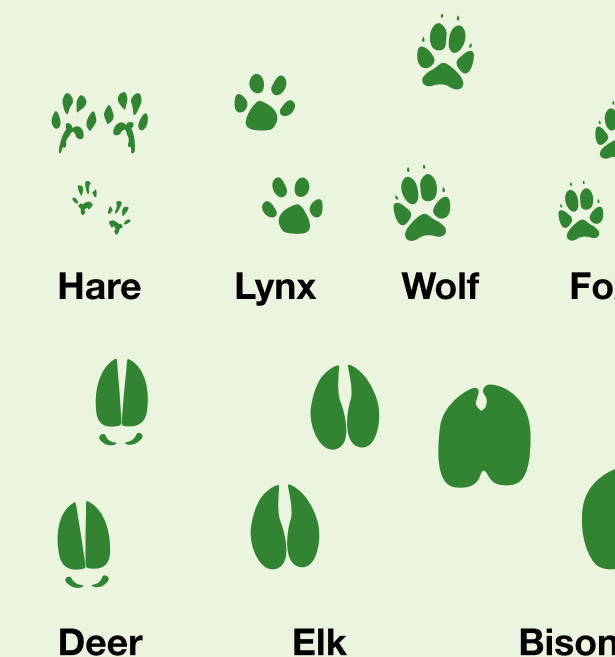
Winter is a great time of year to view wildlife. Elk, white-tailed deer, moose, red fox, wolf, and lynx are some of the larger mammals you may see. Watch for otter, fisher, marten, snowshoe hare, and weasel. Bird watchers may enjoy seeing over 20 species of birds that make Prince Albert National Park their winter home.



Wildlife Viewing Opportunities

- Take a drive along the many roadways.
- Look carefully across the frozen lakes for wolves.
- Visit the Narrows of Waskesiu Lake where otters often play in the open waters.
- Travel to the park's West Side where you may see wild plains bison.

The snow is like the white pages of a book that tell the story of an animal's travels. Learn how to identify a few tracks and try to figure out who's been travelling along the same path as you.



2016-2017 Winter Events

WASKESIU HOLIDAY CHEER

December 27 to January 2
WASKESIU SNOW DAYS
February 17-26

Embrace winter in the beauty of Saskatchewan's boreal forest and enjoy a number of free activities for the whole family!

Join us in Prince Albert National Park for winter programming, skiing, skating, snowshoeing, ice fishing, campfires, and more throughout the week! Remember to pick up an Xplorer or Club Parka book and geocaching kit from the Visitor Centre and borrow skis or snowshoes from the Hawood! After a day of activities, start a fire and warm up in the enclosed camp kitchen near the main beach!

In celebration of Canada's 150th birthday entry to all national parks and historic sites, including Prince Albert National Park, will be free throughout 2017; start your year of free adventures with Waskesiu Snow Days February 17-26th.

More event details available:

Elk Ridge Resort – 1-800-510-1824
The Hawood Inn – 1-877-441-5544
waskesiuwildernessregion.com

Visitor Centre Activities

OPEN DAILY!

- Hands-on wildlife displays
- Winter activity kits for lend:
 - Build a quinzee
 - Winter birding
 - Animal silhouette geocache
- Dress up in animal costumes
- Pick up Parks Canada official merchandise

Prince Albert National Park Winter Trails

Legend

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| First Aid | Snowshoe Route |
| Visitor Centre | Cross-country Ski Trail |
| Restaurant | Road |
| Gas Station | Gravel Road |
| Enclosed Shelter | Road Temporarily Closed to Vehicle Traffic |
| Accommodation | Park Boundary |
| Ice Rink | The Rock |
| Cross-country Skiing | Waskesiu Lake Lodge |
| Skate Skiing | The Hawood Inn |
| Ice Fishing | Lost Creek Resort |
| Washrooms | Chateau Park Chalets |
| Parking | |
| Viewpoint | |

Cross-country Ski Trails

(distance, difficulty, trail grooming)

1 BEAVER GLEN (5.8 km loop, Easy, Classic & Skate Skiing)
This trail parallels Waskesiu Drive then circles the Beaver Glen Campground. The Beaver Glen portion links to the Red Deer Yellow trail. The section of trail along Waskesiu Drive is lit for night skiing.

2 WAPITI (7.6 km or 5.6 km loop, Medium, Classic)
A perennial favourite, this short trail follows the golf course. The course's rolling terrain makes for a great ski. Watch for chilly conditions on windy days.

3 RED DEER RED (5.7 km one way, Medium, Classic)
This trail links Wapiti with the Fisher trail. The route, although gently rolling in many sections, has a few significant hills with challenging corners.

4 RED DEER YELLOW (2.7 km one way, Easy, Classic)
This trail is linked to Red Deer Red, Fisher and Beaver Glen trails. The route is flat to gently rolling.

5 FISHER (7.2 km loop or 8.4 km, Medium, Classic)
This trail is great for a family outing; scenic and close to Waskesiu. The trail ventures through mixed woods, aspen stands and black spruce muskeg.

6 CREAN (19 km return, Easy, Classic & Skating)
With long gentle slopes, this trail parallels the Heart Lakes following a patrol road. The trail passes through mature coniferous forest dotted with balsam fir before it reaches Crean Lake near its entrance to the Hanging Heart Lakes. Be cautious if crossing the lake.

7 GREAT BLUE HERON PROVINCIAL PARK
Sask. Parks maintains 18 km of groomed cross-country ski trails at Anglin Lake. From rolling hills to challenging slopes, these trails offer a variety of options for skiing. Trailhead parking is located at Jacobsen Bay Boat Launch off Highway 953 approximately 40 km from Waskesiu. For more information contact the Great Blue Heron park office at (306) 982-6250 or greatblueheron@gov.sk.ca.

Visitors can enjoy several groomed ski trails this winter thanks to volunteers of the Waskesiu Lake Cross-country Ski Club Inc.

8 BEACH WALK - 5.6 km return
9 TREEBEARD TRAIL - 1.4 km loop, Parking available at Narrows
10 MUD CREEK TRAIL - 4 km loop, Access from the Narrows Road
11 WASKESIU RIVER TRAIL - 2.5 km loop
12 SPRUCE RIVER HIGHLANDS - 8.5 km loop, 1 km spur to Great Blue Heron Provincial Park ski trails
13 FREIGHT TAIT SPRINGS TRAIL - 5 km return

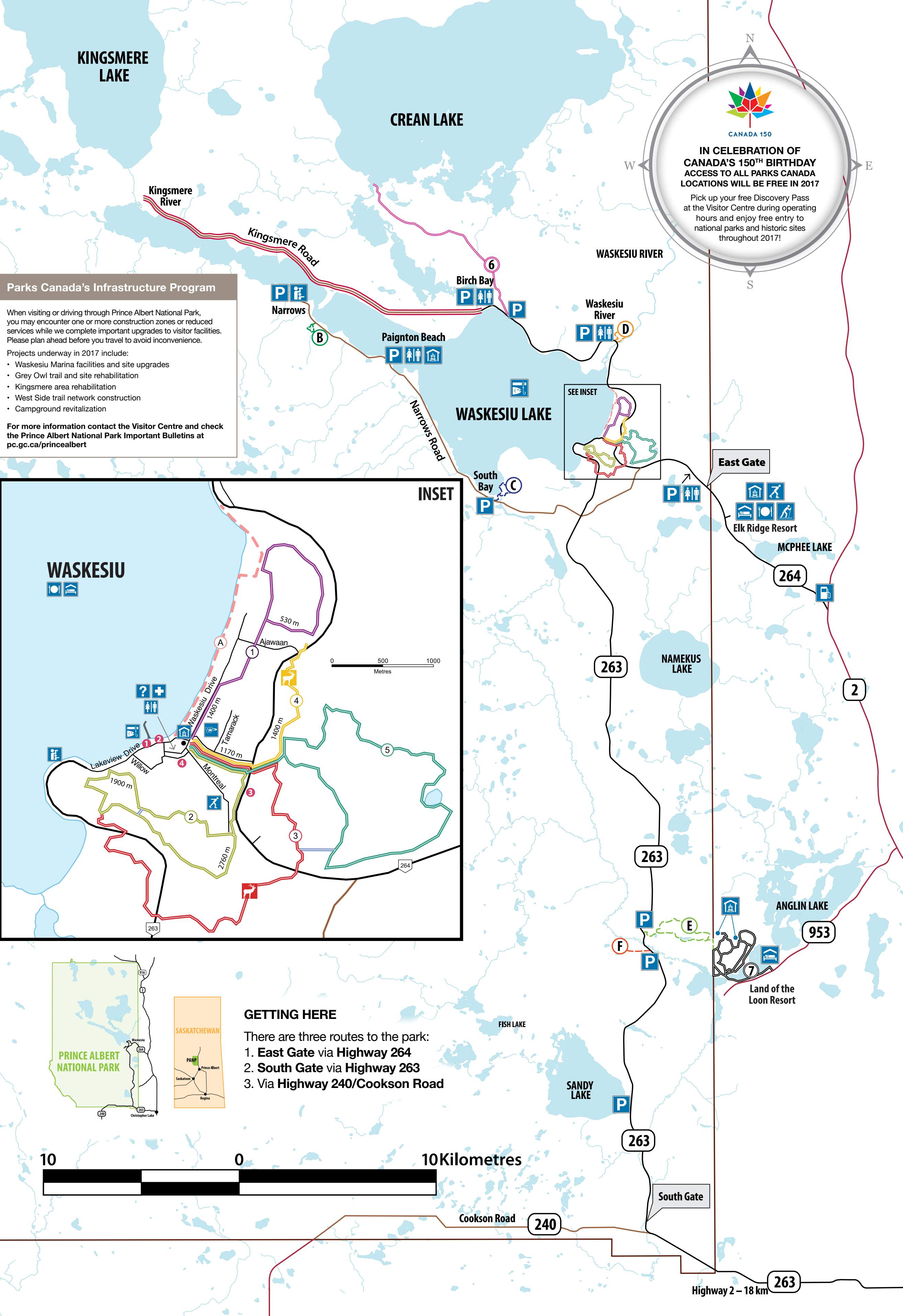
Snowshoe Trails

- A BEACH WALK** - 5.6 km return
- B TREEBEARD TRAIL** - 1.4 km loop, Parking available at Narrows
- C MUD CREEK TRAIL** - 4 km loop, Access from the Narrows Road
- D WASKESIU RIVER TRAIL** - 2.5 km loop
- E SPRUCE RIVER HIGHLANDS** - 8.5 km loop, 1 km spur to Great Blue Heron Provincial Park ski trails
- F FREIGHT TAIT SPRINGS TRAIL** - 5 km return

Please do not walk, snowshoe, or bike on groomed ski trails.

Visitor Centre: 1-306-663-4522
Emergency: Dial 9-1-1
Parks Canada Dispatch: 1-877-852-3100
Trail Report:
waskesiu.ca/winter_activities.php
pc.gc.ca/princealbert

Printed on recycled paper



IN CELEBRATION OF CANADA'S 150TH BIRTHDAY ACCESS TO ALL PARKS CANADA LOCATIONS WILL BE FREE IN 2017

Pick up your free Discovery Pass at the Visitor Centre during operating hours and enjoy free entry to national parks and historic sites throughout 2017!

