

Joint Communication
Waskesiu Community Council & Waskesiu Seasonal Residents Association

The Community Council and the WSRA (following discussions with Parks Canada Agency) are pleased to provide the following information to the Waskesiu community.

Water & Sewer Infrastructure

- There are currently no plans to replace any of the existing “shallow” water or sewer lines in the Waskesiu townsite with “deep” lines.
- Parks Canada Agency (“PCA”) will continue to monitor and repair its existing water and sewer lines in accordance with past practice.
- PCA, as part of its ongoing infrastructure monitoring, will consider all options when the replacement of any existing water & sewer line is needed.
- The Community Council and WSRA will be actively involved in future discussions with PCA regarding the replacement of townsite infrastructure (including water or sewer lines). When that time comes, both the WSRA and Council will strive to represent all Waskesiu residents and business owners.
- Some PCA deep-water infrastructure already exists in portions of the Waskesiu townsite. In 2022, the Superintendent issued a letter confirming that, in certain circumstances, a “tie in” to PCA’s existing deep-water infrastructure may be possible if all PCA’s requirements are met and all project costs are borne by the project proponent(s).

Cabin Area - Bringing Legal Non-Conforming Decks into Compliance

- The PANP Cabin Development Guidelines 2013 (the “Cabin Guidelines”) require that all “*legal non-conforming decks*” in the “cabin area” (Bluebird to Pelican) must be brought into compliance by December 31, 2026 (at the very latest).
- The Cabin Guidelines were developed locally - through the joint efforts of the WSRA, the Community Council, and Parks Canada Agency - and were agreed to in 2013.
- The Cabin Guidelines can be accessed online at www.waskesiu.org. (Go to the “*Our Community*” tab, and then scroll down to the “*Building and Development*” section.)
- Section 15 of the Cabin Guidelines defines a “legal non-conforming deck” and requirements for deck construction and design. It also identifies “trigger dates”, along with a final deadline (one year following December 31, 2025), by which cabin owners must ensure that their “legal non-conforming deck” conforms to the Cabin Guidelines.
- The reasons underpinning deck setback requirements include safety issues (including limiting fire spread), and inconvenience caused to adjacent cabin leaseholders.
- PCA’s efforts to bring “legal non-conforming decks” into compliance, pursuant to the Cabin Guidelines, are supported by the WSRA and the Community Council.
- Of the 451 cabins in the cabin area, Parks Canada estimates that fewer than 25 cabins currently have “legal non-conforming decks”.
- Cabin owners with questions about this issue are encouraged to contact Paulette Hodgson at PCA (306.663.4520 / paulette.hodgson@canada.ca) to obtain more information.