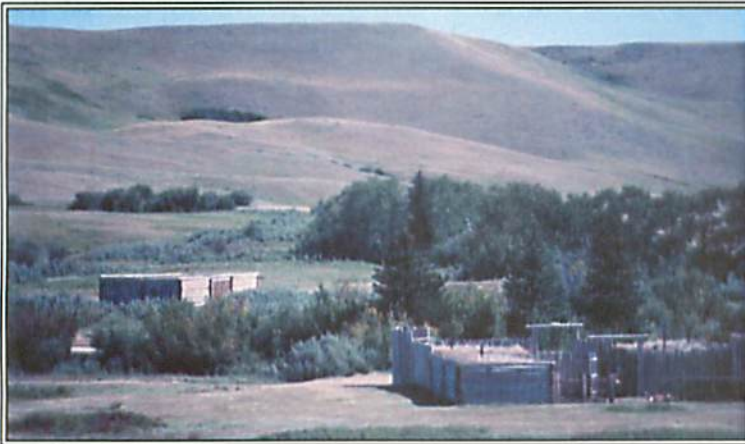
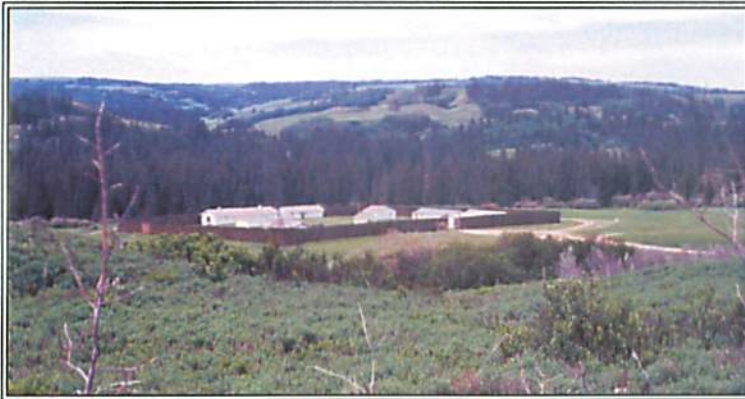




State of the Sites Report

Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre

National Historic Sites of Canada



November 2009



Parks Canada
Parcs Canada

Canada

Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre National Historic Sites are part of a larger family of national historic sites. Each site has had a nationally significant impact on Canadian history or illustrates a nationally important aspect of the history of Canada. Together with national parks and national marine conservation areas, national historic sites are part of a larger system of protected heritage places.

Parks Canada Agency mandate:

“On behalf of the people of Canada, we protect and present nationally significant examples of Canada’s natural and cultural heritage, and foster public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment in ways that ensure their ecological and commemorative integrity for present and future generations.”

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SIGNATURE PAGE

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre National Historic Sites of Canada (NHSSc) State of the Sites Report provides a snapshot of the state of these sites as of 2009, reports their achievements in meeting Parks Canada Agency's performance expectations, reports the results of the sites' efforts to maintain or improve the state of the site since the 2005 Fort Walsh NHSC management plan, and identifies key issues facing the sites for consideration in management planning.

Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSSc are closely linked in their geography and history. They are on the same Parks Canada-administered property in the historic and scenic setting of the Battle Creek valley in the Cypress Hills of Saskatchewan.

First Nations and Métis communities having an association with Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSSc are situated across a broad area of Saskatchewan, Alberta and the northern United States of America. Some of these communities have been involved with one or the other national historic site, while others have yet to be engaged. These relationships are discussed in Chapter 2 of the report.

The state of the sites is measured in terms of commemorative integrity (using indicators of resource condition, effectiveness of communication and selected management practices), visitor experience (using indicators of number of visits, learning, satisfaction, enjoyment and meaning), and public appreciation and understanding (using indicators of appreciation and understanding, and support). These indicators and their ratings are summarized in Executive Summary Table ES1

and reported in Chapter 3. The overall commemorative integrity is rated as having minor impairment (7 out of a scale of 10, with fair condition ratings for all three indicators). Visitor experience and public appreciation and understanding are rated as trends (i.e., change from one reporting period to another). Because this is the first State of the Sites Report for both sites, most indicators for these two aspects could not be measured, with two exceptions. Visit numbers show an overall trend of increasing annual attendance that is in contrast to many historic sites and attractions across Canada. Recent partnering initiatives illustrate growing support in enhancing the sites' facilitation of visitor experiences.

With the implementation of the 2005 Fort Walsh NHSC management plan and other initiatives, Parks Canada staff at these two national historic sites have contributed to the Parks Canada Agency's corporate expectations for the period of 2004/05 to 2008/09. Figure ES1 indicates that these sites were successful for the most part in meeting the corporate

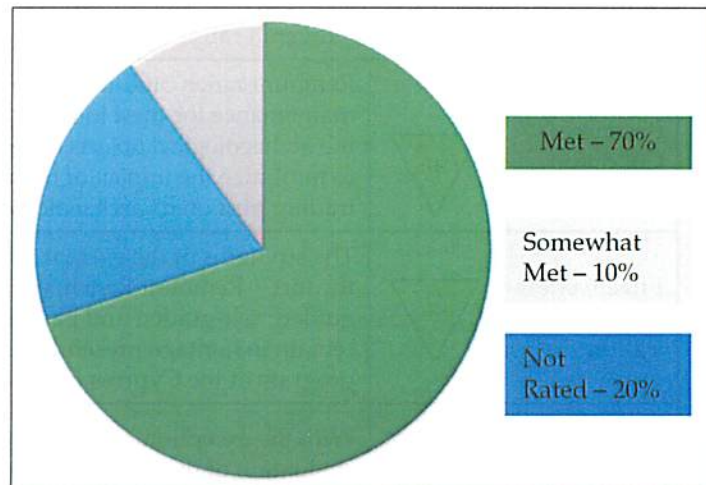





Figure ES1. Rating the Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSSc results in achieving the performance expectations in the Parks Canada Agency Corporate Plan 2004/05 – 2008/09.

expectations discussed in Chapter 4. The management plan outcomes contributing to the state of the sites and the Agency’s performance expectations are presented in Chapter 5.

The State of the Sites Report concludes with Chapter 6 and the key issues to be considered in management planning for both sites, based on the assessments in Chapters 3 through 5. These issues relate to: commemorating the Cypress Hills Massacre; improving the wishing, planning and travelling stages of facilitating visitor experiences; improving heritage presentation at the visitor reception centre, in Aboriginal history and by innovative personal and non-personal means; providing and marketing a range of recreational and learning opportunities; and better understanding and protecting of the cultural landscape and other cultural resources.

Because Cypress Hills Massacre was only recently designated a national historic site, no site-specific tools and measures are in place for separately measuring its current state of commemorative integrity, visitor experience and public education and outreach. Table ES1 is therefore a combined summary of the state for Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSsC.

Executive Summary Table ES1. The State of Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre National Historic Sites of Canada.		
INDICATOR	STATE	RATIONALE Summary of state and work done over last 5 years to maintain or improve that state
Commemorative Integrity (overall rating of 7 out of 10 – minor impairment)		
Resource Condition		Remount ranch buildings have been or are being repaired and maintenance for their long term care introduced. Direction for the care of the archaeological objects collections is needed. Measures are being taken to minimize the impact of rebuilding the 1967 representation of Farwell trading post on its archaeological remains.
Effectiveness of Communication		The strengths of the current heritage presentation program are seen at the fort / Remount Ranch, where visitors receive combined elements of guided, self-guided and participatory activities. A number of challenges remain in heritage presentation, including the development of a new program at the Cypress Hills Massacre NHSC.
Selected Management Practices		With the exception of landscape features, there is a good inventory and evaluation of the sites’ cultural resources and their heritage values. A Commemorative Integrity Statement and management plan are needed for the Cypress Hills Massacre NHSC.

Visitor Experience		
Visits	↑	Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSsC have seen growth in annual visits. The sites' involvement with the Cypress Hills Destination area may be a contributing factor.
Learning	N/R	Trend cannot be measured. Visitor surveys indicate visitors understand why Fort Walsh is a place of national historic significance. Cypress Hills Massacre is currently without heritage presentation.
Satisfaction	N/R	Trend cannot be measured. Nonetheless, the 2004 visitors surveys indicate a high level of satisfaction with the service offer. Since 2008 there has been dissatisfaction expressed with the reduced service at the Cypress Hills Massacre and at the food and souvenir concession.
Enjoyment	N/R	Trend cannot be measured. Even so, the 2004 visitor survey indicates a high degree of enjoyment by visitors.
Meaning	N/R	Trend cannot be rated.
Public Appreciation and Understanding		
Appreciation and Understanding	N/R	Trend cannot be measured.
Support	↑	There are partnerships that benefit marketing and promotion, engage interested parties in the sites' commemoration and have helped to enhance interpretation and visitor experience opportunities.




Legend:							
Condition				Trend			
			N/R	↑	↔	↓	N/R
Good	Fair	Poor	Not rated	Improving	Stable	Declining	Not rated
+ / - the actual state is on the high or low borderline of the condition							

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SIGNATURE PAGE	i
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	vi
1. INTRODUCTION.....	1
2. ABORIGINAL CONNECTIONS WITH THE SITES	2
3. STATE OF THE SITES	4
3.1 Context.....	4
3.2 Commemorative Integrity	5
Resource Condition Indicator.....	6
Effectiveness of Communication Indicator	7
Selected Management Practices Indicator	8
3.3 Visitor Experience	9
Visits Indicator.....	10
Learning Indicator.....	10
Satisfaction Indicator	11
Enjoyment Indicator	12
Meaning Indicator.....	13
3.4 Public Appreciation and Understanding.....	13
Appreciation and Understanding Indicator.....	13
Support Indicator	14
4. PERFORMANCE STATUS IN RELATION TO PARKS CANADA’S STRATEGIC OUTCOME.....	16
5. MANAGEMENT PLAN RESULTS.....	18
5.1 A Success Story.....	18
5.2 Management Plan Results.....	19
6. KEY ISSUES.....	21
7. REFERENCES	22
8. GLOSSARY.....	23

1. INTRODUCTION

This *State of the Sites Report* summarizes the state of Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre National Historic Sites of Canada (NHSsC) as of 2009. The *State of the Sites Report* assesses the sites' commemorative integrity, facilitation of visitor experiences, and public appreciation, understanding and engagement using specific indicators and measures. It also assesses how these sites are contributing to the Parks Canada Agency's strategic outcome and performance expectations.

This is the first *State of the Sites Report* for both Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSsC and will serve as an important tool in their planning and management. It will also serve as an important baseline reference for future reporting on changes and trends in site state (condition) and performance indicators.

Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSsC comprise one of the larger national historic sites in Canada (Figure 1). Their 650 hectares in the historical and scenic setting of the Battle Creek Valley has evidence of many human activities and events from more than 4000 years ago to the 20th century.

These national historic sites are a part of the Cypress Hills destination area of places, attractions and services that offer opportunities for entertainment, recreation, relaxation, education and inspiration. As the top historical attraction in this tourism area, Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSsC play a significant role in facilitating experiences for the many visitors that come to the Cypress Hills destination area.

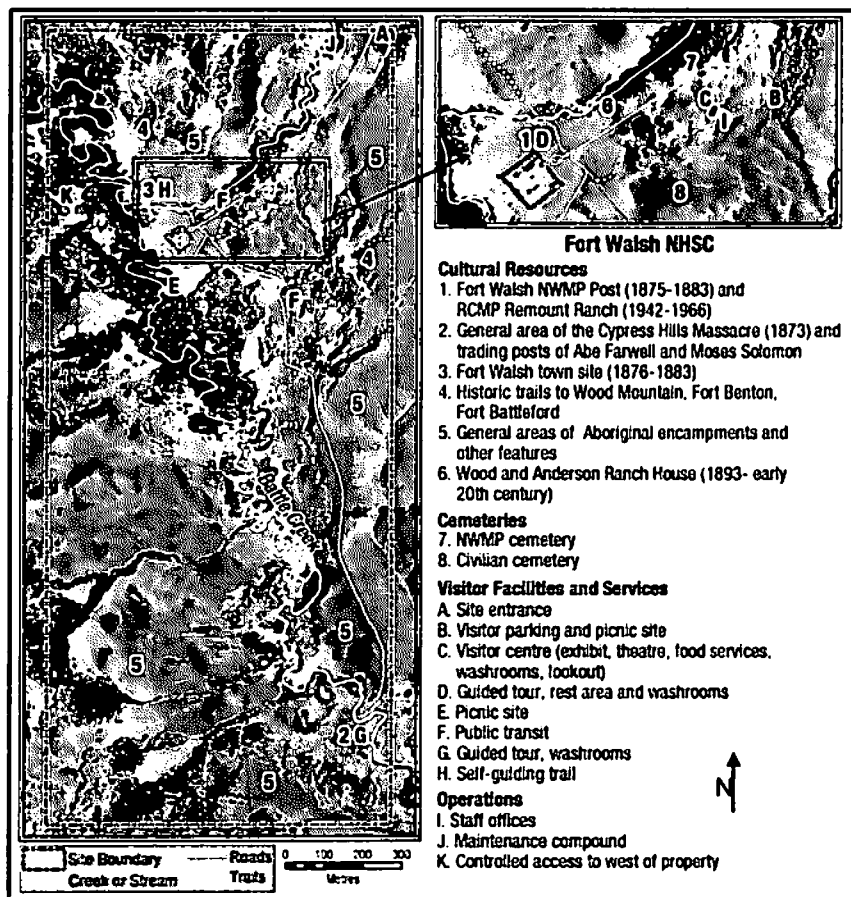


Figure 1. The land base, cultural resources, facilities and services of Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSsC. The Cypress Hills Massacre NHSC is situated in the very southeast corner of the Parks Canada property (map source: Parks Canada 2005b).

2. ABORIGINAL CONNECTIONS WITH THE SITES

This chapter highlights the historical and contemporary Aboriginal connections associated with Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSsC, and the Aboriginal relationships that have and are being formed as Parks Canada follows its course to improve the engagement and involvement of Aboriginal peoples in the protection and presentation of protected heritage places.

Evidence from an archaeological site near Elkwater, Alberta, points to an almost continuous human occupation of the Cypress Hills for the past six to seven thousand years. The Cypress Hills has been the crossroads for many Aboriginal peoples. Cree, Assiniboine, Gros Ventres, Blood, Peigan, Blackfoot and others made use of the hills before the 1870s, particularly in winters and harsh springs. First Nations and later Métis found shelter, fuel, game, medicinal plants and lodge pole pine they could not find on the prairie. One account from 1873 recorded 1500 lodges of First Peoples and 200 families of Métis in the hills.

The Cypress Hills is still an important place to many descendants of the people who used this land in the past. Aboriginal communities having an association with the sites are situated across a broad area of Saskatchewan, Alberta and the northern United States of America. Some of these communities have been involved with one or the other site, while others have yet to be engaged.

Carry the Kettle First Nation

The people of Carry the Kettle First Nation are descendants of the Nakoda camp massacred in the Cypress Hills on June 1, 1873. Carry the Kettle was the proponent for the 2006 re-designation of the Cypress Hills Massacre from an event to a site of national historical significance, to recognize it is a legacy place. Since about 2000, Elders, councillors and members have come to the site on the anniversary of the massacre, to honour and remember the spirits of their ancestors. Some years ago, Carry the Kettle provided its own interpretive staff to work with Park Canada at the massacre site. Parks Canada has consulted Carry the Kettle on aspects of interpreting the massacre including, for example, protocols for sharing the names of the massacre victims with the public and raising a tipi at the massacre site. Carry the Kettle has conducted a number of overnight cultural camps at the national historic sites for its youth. The main reserve of Carry the Kettle is near Sintaluta, east of Regina. It has treaty entitlement land about 9.5 kilometres west of the sites' western boundary.



Carry the Kettle Ceremony at Cypress Hills Massacre NHSC, 2007 (N. Gagnon)

Little Pine First Nation

Little Pine First Nation made treaty at Fort Walsh in 1879 (adhesion to Treaty 6). In 2004, Little Pine observed the 125th anniversary of their treaty adhesion at Fort Walsh NHSC. The event produced a number of products to tell their story on site, including a commemorative panel in the Visitor Reception Centre featuring a copy of the original Treaty Adhesion document, a history booklet and a video. Little Pine First Nation Reserve is northwest of

North Battleford. It has treaty entitlement land immediately adjacent to the sites' western boundary.

Lucky Pine Cree Nation

Lucky Pine Cree Nation also made treaty at Fort Walsh in 1879(adhesion to Treaty 6). Along with Little Pine, Lucky Pine observed the 125th anniversary of their treaty adhesion at Fort Walsh NHSC. The Little Pine Cree Nation Reserve is northeast of North Battleford.

Nekaneet First Nation

The Nekaneet First Nation reserve was set aside in 1913 when 1440 acres were provided near Maple Creek. Foremost Man, a leader of the Nekaneet, is commemorated as a person of national historic significance. The plaque is at the reserve; his story is told at Fort Walsh NHSC as part of the story of the North West Mounted Police and the Aboriginal peoples of the Cypress Hills. During the last few decades, Nekaneet has been involved at Fort Walsh NHSC including, for example: providing Aboriginal heritage presentation (with tipi village and involving youth employment); holding a pow wow and dancing demonstration; participating in "Historic Trades Day"; and at one time operating the food and souvenir concession at the site. Nekaneet has treaty entitlement land about 9.5 kilometres east of the sites' eastern boundary.

Wood Mountain First Nation

Wood Mountain First Nation, near Wood Mountain, Saskatchewan, includes descendents of the Lakota people who were led to Fort Walsh by Sitting Bull when they sought refuge from the American Indian Wars of the late 1870s. To date, Wood Mountain has had little to no involvement with Fort Walsh NHSC.

Siksika Nation

The Blackfoot (Siksika) of Alberta are rediscovering their historic ties to the Cypress Hills and have recently constructed a medicine wheel in the area. The Blackfoot also regularly participate in the Cypress Hills Interprovincial Parks' *History in the Hills* program, which highlights aboriginal heritage of the Cypress Hills. The Blackfoot have historical connections to Fort Walsh and the Cypress Hills, but to date have had no involvement with Fort Walsh NHSC.

Miywasin Society

Fort Walsh NHSC has been a venue since 2004 for the Métis dancers from the Miywasin Society of Aboriginal Services, Medicine Hat. The site is currently working with the Society to plan an on-site event that will serve as the launch for a Red River Cart trek through the Cypress Hills in June 2010.

Nez Perce Tribe

The Nez Perce people of Idaho have conducted a number of ceremonies in recent years at Fort Walsh NHSC in memory of their people who also sought refuge in Canada in 1877 during the American Indian Wars.

3. STATE OF THE SITES

The state of a national historic site is characterized by Parks Canada's three mandate elements and a defined set of indicators representative of those elements. The three mandate elements and their indicators (in brackets) are: Commemorative Integrity (resource condition, effectiveness of communication and selected management practices); Visitor Experience (visits, learning, satisfaction, enjoyment and meaning); and Public Appreciation and Understanding (appreciation and understanding, and support). The measurement of the indicators was done using commemorative integrity evaluations (Parks Canada 2003, 2009a), a visitor experience assessment (Parks Canada 2009b), the most recent site visitor survey (Parks Canada 2005a) and professional expertise. In several cases, no information to measure an indicator was available and this is noted.

Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSsC are combined for these assessments and ratings. To date, the management and programming of the two sites has been done as one.

3.1 CONTEXT

Fort Walsh National Historic Site

The site of Fort Walsh was declared a place of national historic significance in 1924 because the police post served as headquarters of the North West Mounted Police (NWMP) from 1878 to 1882, and it played a key role in imposing Canadian law and government policy in western Canada from 1875 to 1883.

There is a powerful story at this historic place, not only of Fort Walsh's role in carrying out Canada's laws and policies, but also what they signified to First Nations of dramatic social change in the late 19th century. Evidence of Aboriginal encampments can still be seen on the hills and benches overlooking the valley. Near the fort are the remains of a once large town site that built up beside the NWMP post.



Entrance to Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSsC. (D. Deck)

Overtop the archaeological site of the NWMP post are the buildings of the former Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) Remount Ranch dating from 1942 to 1968, where the horses for its famous Musical Ride were raised. Today, these buildings provide the setting for telling the stories of Fort Walsh.

Fort Walsh NHSC receives more than 18,000 visitors per year. They are welcomed at a Visitor Reception Centre overlooking the fort site and are transported by Parks Canada bus service to the sites of the fort and the Cypress Hills Massacre. At the fort site, adult visitors are invited to take guided tours of the 1870s-1880s period furnished Remount Ranch buildings, while their children are taken on their own path of discovery of the police and their duties. Visitors also have the opportunity to take self-guided walks to other points of interest on the Parks Canada property (the two cemeteries, townsite and Battle Creek picnic ground). Equestrian riders and cyclists are also welcomed and can take the Trans Canada

Trail that connects to the Centre and West Blocks of Cypress Hills Provincial Park. In 2005, Fort Walsh NHSC joined the Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park that straddles the Alberta-Saskatchewan border. Together, the two provincial parks and the national historic sites offer visitors a range of recreational activities and learning opportunities founded on the natural and cultural heritage of the Cypress Hills.

Cypress Hills Massacre National Historic Site

The Cypress Hills Massacre was designated a place of national historic significance in August 2006. The site commemorates the memory and legacy of the Nakoda who were massacred at this place on June 1, 1873. It reaches across time to remind all Canadians of how the events that day influenced Canadian history, including the first major test of Canada's law enforcement policies in western Canada.

The Cypress Hills Massacre NHSC, which includes a portion of the Nakoda camp – the scene of the massacre, and remains of two American trading posts, is situated in the southeast corner of the Fort Walsh NHSC property. The RCMP constructed representations of these trading posts for Canada's 1967 Centennial. Parks Canada furnished and provided programming at Farwell's Trading Post buildings to tell the story of the whiskey trade, the massacre and the establishment of the NWMP. The Parks Canada program at Cypress Hills Massacre NHSC is in a state of renewal owing to its recent designation and new commemoration.




Viewing the Cypress Hills Massacre NHSC. (H. Penwarden)

3.2 COMMEMORATIVE INTEGRITY

The indicators of commemorative integrity are measured using the following rating scheme. The assessments and ratings come from the 2009 Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills National Historic Sites of Canada Commemorative Integrity Evaluation (Parks Canada 2009a).

Good	●	<p>Resource Condition (RC) - Stable. No work other than regular maintenance and monitoring is required.</p> <p>Effectiveness of Communication (EOC) - Effective, not currently impaired.</p> <p>Selected Management Practices (SMP) - If the activity is complete or the product finished.</p>
Fair	▼	<p>RC - Minor loss, damage or deterioration, resulting in minor or potential loss of integrity. Intervention may be required within three years.</p> <p>EOC - Minor to moderate impairment to effectiveness. Requires improvement.</p> <p>SMP - If the activity or product is partly complete, or has been completed but is now out of date.</p>

- Poor**  RC - Major loss, damage or deterioration, resulting in significant loss of integrity. Work required within three years to prevent further loss of integrity or to capture information before it is lost. May include cases where preservation is no longer practical or feasible.
- EOC - Ineffective, seriously impaired or a significant attribute missing in communications.
- SMP - If the activity has not taken place or the product does not exist.
-
- Not Rated** N/R Not rated or not reported because the information is not available.

Resource Condition Indicator



Resource condition at Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSsC is rated fair plus (Table 1). The Remount Ranch buildings account for the fair rating, while most archaeological sites are in good condition. Archaeology is underway as part of cultural resource conservation measures at the rebuilding of the 1967 representation of Farwell’s trading post.









Cypress Hills Massacre NHSsC is rated







Since 2003, when the cultural resources of Fort Walsh NHSC were first evaluated, steps have been taken to improve the condition of the Remount Ranch log buildings affected by wood rot. The last of the 10 buildings is being repaired and a maintenance program should ensure their fair to good ratings for the long term.



Repairing the Remount Ranch buildings at Fort Walsh NHSC. (Parks Canada)

More than 100,000 archaeological objects, mostly from the NWMP post, are a part of the cultural resources of Fort Walsh NHSC. Since 2003, a research and interpretive collection has grown from 2255 to 2403 objects and the number that has been conserved to improve their condition to good has also increased. Some objects are now on display at the fort. Challenges in maintaining the condition of cultural resources are identified in Chapter 6, Key Issues.

Cultural Resource Types	State - 2003 (Parks Canada 2003)	State - 2009 (Parks Canada 2009a)
Landscape Features		
Buildings and Structures		
Archaeological Sites		
Objects		

Designated Place		
Other Heritage Resources		
Overall		

Effectiveness of Communication Indicator



Ensuring the commemorative integrity of a national historic site requires not only maintaining or improving the condition of cultural resources, but also effectively communicating its national significance to Canadians. Effectiveness of communications rates the degree to which the messages of national historic significance are communicated and understood, whether the media are effective, and whether the story presented is balanced.

Effectiveness of communications is rated fair plus, indicating that minor improvements are needed in the content and/or delivery of sites messages provided on location or through public education outreach (Table 2). The messages for Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSsC are given in Table 3.



Heritage presentation at Fort Walsh NHSC. (Parks Canada)

The strengths of the current heritage presentation program are seen at the fort / Remount Ranch, where visitors receive combined elements of guided, self-guided and participatory activities framed around Fort Walsh's reasons for national significance. Interpretive programs for all ages and interests demonstrate historical events and activities of the fort. A number of challenges in heritage presentation are identified in Chapter 6, Key Issues.









Messages and Media (Content and Delivery)	State - 2003 (Parks Canada 2003)	State - 2009 (Parks Canada 2009a)
Reasons for Designation as a National Historic Site		
Messages Not Related to Designation (includes another measure used in 2003 – National Historic Sites General Values, also rated Good)		
Audience Understanding		
Effectiveness of Presentation (in 2003, represented by two measures: Effectiveness of Media - rated Fair; and Range and Complexity of Perspectives Presented – rated Good)		

Table 3. National Historic Site and Parks Canada program messages.		
	Fort Walsh (Parks Canada 2000)	Cypress Hills Massacre (Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada 2004)
Messages of National Historic Significance	Fort Walsh served as the headquarters of the NWMP from 1878 to 1882	According to the Nakoda, the site of the Cypress Hills Massacre, where many Nakoda lost their lives, is the place to which their spirits are forever tied. Here the memory and legacy of the massacre victims reach across time to remind how the events that occurred at this location on June 1, 1873 influenced Canadian history.
	The police post played a key role in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • imposing Canadian law from 1875 to 1883; • implementing Canada's Indian Policy; • supervising the Lakota who fled to Canada under Tantanka Iyotanka (Sitting Bull) after the Battle of the Little Bighorn. 	The massacre was one of the first major tests of Canada's law enforcement policies in Western Canada. Ottawa's determination to prosecute crimes against Natives with as much vigour as those against others was important in establishing peaceful relations between Aboriginal peoples of the prairies and the government.
Parks Canada Program Messages	A national historic site is a place designated by the Government of Canada as a site of importance to all Canadians. There are also events and people of national historic significance. James Morrow Walsh and the establishment of the NWMP are commemorated at Fort Walsh National Historic Site.	
	This is one of a family of national historic sites found across Canada.	
	Parks Canada is the steward of national historic sites under its administration.	

Selected Management Practices Indicator



The *Parks Canada Cultural Resource Management Policy* defines principles and practices (inventory, evaluation, consideration of heritage values in decision-making, and monitoring and remedial action) to guide effective cultural resource management. The practices are the basis for measuring this indicator.

Selected management practice is rated fair, indicating some minor improvements are warranted in the cultural resource management of two of the national historic sites (Table 4). Since the 1970s, extensive information has been collected on the cultural resources of Fort Walsh NHSC, but to a much lesser extent on Cypress Hills Massacre NHSC. The cultural resource information is organized and accessible to support heritage presentation and protection. Monitoring programs are being developed for many of the resources to assess and report changes in their condition and threats.



Archaeology at Farwell's trading post, Cypress Hills Massacre NHSC. (D. Deck)

Practices	State – 2003 (Parks Canada 2003)	State – 2009 (Parks Canada 2009a)
Inventory and Cultural Resource Evaluation	▼	▼
Respect for CRM Principles and Practice	▼	●
Records	▼	▼
Maintenance Programs	▼	▼
Monitoring and Remedial Action	▼	▼ ⁺
Overall	▼	▼

3.3 VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Parks Canada staff and all Parks Canada-administered national historic sites, national parks and national marine conservations areas, work in concert towards a common strategic outcome, in which Canadians have a strong sense of connection to their heritage places. The sum of all visitor experience indicators – visits, learning, satisfaction, enjoyment and meaning, are expected to lead to a personal connection to the protected heritage places visited.

The visitor experience indicators are measured using the following rating scheme of trends. The assessments are based mainly on the Fort Walsh NHSC 2004-05 visitor survey (Parks Canada 2005a) and a recent visitor experience assessment for the two sites (Parks Canada 2009a). Because the 2004-05 survey serves as the baseline measure for many of the visitor experience indicators, trends for these indicators cannot be assessed for this report.

Improving	↑	The state of the indicator/measure has improved since the last assessment
Stable	↔	The state of the indicator/measure has not changed since the last assessment
Declining	↓	The state of the indicator/measure has declined since the last assessment
Not Rated	N/R	Not rated or not reported because the information is not available.

Visits Indicator ↑

Compared to the national trend of decreasing visitor numbers to Canada's national historic sites, Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSsC have demonstrated success with increasing attendance. In one year, from 2007/08 to 2008/09, visits to these two sites went up by eleven percent to 18,342 visits (Table 5). While attendance spiked in 2005/06, but was followed by a slump in 2006/07, the general trend appears to be growth in attendance. This may be due in part to the sites' participation in the Cypress Hills Destination Area (www.cypresshills.ca). The sites are promoted and marketed in conjunction with other area attractions in ways that visitors can plan and tailor their time in the Cypress Hills by their interests.



Visitors anticipating the firing of the cannon at Fort Walsh NHSC. (Parks Canada)

According to the 2004-05 visitor survey, about 38% of visitors are from Saskatchewan and 56% are from elsewhere in Canada. Three quarters are first time visitors. Compared to the Canadian population, Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSsC have an under representation of young adults in their 20s and 30s in their visitation, but host a high percentage of children under 14 (Parks Canada 2005a).

Table 5. Attendance at Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre National Historic Sites. Data From: Parks Canada Attendance 2004 to 2008.

Fiscal Year (April to March)	Number of Person-Visits *	Comments
2004 – 2005	15,479	
2005 – 2006	19,633	The 2005 Saskatchewan Centennial and the RCMP Musical Ride in July 2005 are attributed as major factors to the increase.
2006 – 2007	14,542	For part of the summer, the site was closed due to threat of wildfires from extreme drought conditions in the Cypress Hills.
2007 – 2008	16,465	
2008 – 2009	18,342	

* Person-Visits: Each time a person enters Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills NHSsC (one main entry point) for recreational, educational or cultural purposes during business hours.

Learning Indicator N/R

In 2004-05, more than 98% of visitors surveyed at Fort Walsh NHSC were satisfied (and nearly 79% very satisfied) with their visit as a learning experience (Table 6). Similar results were obtained when asked how satisfied they were with learning about Canada's history and culture and learning about the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. However, the

percentage satisfied and very satisfied with learning about Aboriginal history and culture was considerably lower. This low rating of satisfaction is a particular facet of heritage presentation and visitor experience opportunities that will need to be addressed in site management (see Chapter 6, Key Issues).

Satisfaction Indicator N/R

The degree of satisfaction with a site visit, in terms of its facilities, activities, services and staff, contributes to how an individual will feel a personal sense of connection to that place, an outcome that Parks Canada hopes to achieve with each and every visitor.



Sighting deer along Battle Creek at Cypress Hills Massacre NHSC. (D. Deck)

According to the 2004-05 visitor survey, a high percentage of visitors were very satisfied with their overall visit at Fort Walsh NHSC (Table 6), although the percentages were quite lower for those very satisfied with recreational and fun experiences and doing something that children enjoy. However, since 2004, children's programs have been introduced that, on the basis of visitor comment cards, appear to be improving the learning and recreational activities for children (see Chapter 5. 1, A Success Story).

Table 6. Visitor Satisfaction Rating, based on the question: After your visit to Fort Walsh today, how satisfied were you with each of the following elements (where 1 = not at all satisfied, 5 = very satisfied, 4/5 represents satisfied)? Data from Parks Canada 2005a.

Element	Rating (%)						
	nil	1	2	3	4	5	4/5
Overall satisfaction with visit	0.3	0	0	1.7	15.8	82.2	98.0
As a learning experience	0	0	0	1.4	19.7	78.9	98.6
To learn about Canada's history and culture	0.3	0	0	1.4	19.5	78.8	98.3
To get good value for my money	1.4	0	0.6	2.5	19.1	76.4	95.5
To learn about RCMP history	0	0	0.3	2.8	21.9	75.0	96.9
To have a fun experience	3.7	0	0.3	7.5	27.5	61.0	88.5
As a recreational experience	2.3	0	1.4	8.9	30.1	57.3	87.4
To learn about Aboriginal history and culture	2.3	0.9	1.7	13.1	26.2	56.7	82.9
To do something that children enjoy	38.8	0	2.0	7.6	15.7	35.9	51.6

Enjoyment Indicator N/R

Along with satisfaction and learning, enjoyment from a site visit contributes to how much someone feels a personal sense of connection to that place.

Information from the 2004-05 visitor survey indicates that most of those surveyed (94%) left Fort Walsh NHSC having enjoyed their visit more than they had expected (Table 7). Site facilities and services contributed to this enjoyment (Table 8). Since 2004, however, two changes in the sites' service offer - reduced programming at the Cypress Hills Massacre NHSC and reduced food and souvenir concession at the Visitor Reception Centre, have likely negatively affected people's enjoyment. Several aspects related to improving visitor enjoyment for current and potential target markets are identified in Chapter 6, Key Issues.



Having Canada Day cake at Fort Walsh NHSC. (Parks Canada)

Table 7. Visitor Enjoyment Rating, based on the question: Compared to what I expected, today's visit was an enjoyable visit (where 1 = much less than expected and 5 = much more than expected and 4/5 = enjoyed more than expected). Data from Parks Canada 2005a.

Rating	1	2	3	4	5
Percentage of visitors surveyed with a response (N= 367)	0.3	0.5	5.2	33.2	60.8

Table 8. Rating of facilities or services in terms of their affecting visitor enjoyment at Fort Walsh National Historic Site (where 1 = greatly detracted from my enjoyment and 5 = greatly enhanced my enjoyment). Data from Parks Canada 2005a.

Guided tours	4.6
Furnishing and artifacts (inside buildings)	4.47
Employees in period costumes	4.28
Heritage buildings	4.26
Opportunities for children	4.21
Learning resources	3.95
Artifacts (on the grounds)	3.95
Aboriginal tipis	3.85

Meaning Indicator N/R

The meaning indicator will be measured through a new question to be added to standard visitor surveys for national parks and national historic sites. The question will focus on how meaningful the place is to the visitor. In the 2004-05 Fort Walsh NHSC visitor survey there was no such question or measure for this indicator.

3.4 PUBLIC APPRECIATION AND UNDERSTANDING

Public appreciation and understanding is about Canadians appreciating the significance of heritage places administered by Parks Canada and understanding the importance of protecting and presenting them. Canadians means not only visitors, but those discovering them through public outreach education and external communications that bring Parks Canada's parks, sites and programs in to their homes, schools and other community places of leisure and learning. Public appreciation and support is also about stakeholders and partners being engaged in the protection and presentation of Parks Canada Agency's administered places.

The public appreciation and understanding indicators are measured using the following rating scheme of trends.

Improving	↑	The state of the indicator/measure has improved since the last assessment
Stable	↔	The state of the indicator/measure has not changed since the last assessment
Declining	↓	The state of the indicator/measure has declined since the last assessment
Not Rated	N/R	Not rated or not reported because the information is not available.

Appreciation and Understanding Indicator N/R

Parks Canada aims to reach Canadians at home, at leisure, at school and in their communities through communication and education opportunities designed to increase awareness, understanding, and appreciation of Canada's historical and natural heritage. The measurement of Canadians' appreciation and understanding is done at the Agency level through a national survey of Canadians. At the individual park and site level, this indicator is reported on in terms of the audiences targeted and reached through various public outreach education programs.

The main vehicle for reaching out to audiences beyond the sites' boundaries is through the Fort Walsh NHSC page on the Parks Canada website. This site introduces viewers to the history and natural heritage of the site and visitor experience opportunities available. One fact sheet for Fort Walsh appears in the "Teacher Resource Centre". The website has not been updated to identify the Cypress Hills Massacre as a distinctive national historic site.

Information on Fort Walsh is also available on and/or linked with partner websites, such as the Cypress Hills Destination Area and Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park.

The sites have outreach programs in the Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park during the summer vacation period, notably the evening shows at the parks' amphitheatre once a week during July and August. Other than this, there are no formal on-the-ground outreach education programs for Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSsC. The operating season is from May to September and during this time programming and staff resources are focussed on visitors. During the off-season, outreach capacity is extremely limited and is generally restricted to the Medicine Hat and Swift Current home and leisure trade shows.

With the exception of anecdotal information regarding provincial park audiences, such as increased visits the day following amphitheatre shows, there is no information available to measure trends in the audiences targeted and reached through the sites' public education outreach programs.

Support Indicator



The state of a national historic site is directly affected by partner and stakeholder support. This indicator is measured by a qualitative assessment of partner and stakeholder engagement¹. The assessment is based on how Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSsC have broadened support by: 1) providing opportunities for stakeholder involvement that is responsive to their interests; 2) decision-making informed by and responsive to stakeholder interests and perspectives; and 3) developing opportunities for Canadians to discover and develop a strong sense of connection. The number of formal and informal relationships developed in recent years illustrate increasing cooperation among partners and stakeholders in the promotion, protection, presentation and public education outreach, which suggests an improving trend since 2005 for this indicator.



Re-enacting a court trial as part of the school children's program.
(Parks Canada)

Cypress Hills Destination Area

Fort Walsh NHSC is a member of the Cypress Hills Destination Area, a network of the major visitor experience providers in the Cypress Hills. It is an initiative of Tourism Saskatchewan to develop the Cypress Hills as a market ready destination, enhance the attractiveness of the Cypress Hills as a travel destination, market the Cypress Hills to potential markets, and encourage movement of visitors within the destination area.

¹ In future, Parks Canada will undertake a national baseline survey of stakeholder and partner support to help measure this indicator. The national survey results will not provide individual site results, but when combined with the qualitative narrative of individual sites, should provide insights into the 'state of' stakeholder and partner engagement at the site, park and Agency levels.

Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park

Fort Walsh NHSC is a member of the Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park Partnership (Saskatchewan and Alberta). The partnership cooperates in training, marketing, public programming, public education outreach and resource conservation.

Nez Perce National Historical Park

Fort Walsh NHSC has developed a working relationship with United States National Park Service sites of Big Hole National Battlefield, Bear Paw National Battlefield and Nez Perce National Historical Park. This relationship has seen staff exchanges between them and Fort Walsh NHSC.

Old Forts Trail Association

Fort Walsh NHSC is a member of the International Old Forts Trail Association that includes other historic sites of Fort Battleford, Wood Mountain Post, Fort Assiniboine, Fort Benton, Fort Whoop-Up, Fort Macleod and Fort Calgary. The association works collaboratively with Travel Alberta, Tourism Saskatchewan and Travel Montana to encourage tourism along the Old Forts Trail.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Fort Walsh NHSC has hosted two performances of the RCMP Musical Ride, and an official overnight visit by the RCMP Commissioner. The site has a positive relationship with the new RCMP Heritage Centre in Regina, and is exploring opportunities with the Police to enhance on-site equestrian programming. Members of the RCMP Depot Division "Sunset Ceremony" have joined in historic weapons training led by Parks Canada staff, and have participated in on-site special events. The RCMP has also been involved with the designation and commemoration of the Cypress Hills Massacre NHSC.

South West Saskatchewan Oldtimers' Association

Fort Walsh NHSC maintains a close working relationship with the South West Saskatchewan Oldtimers' Association. The association, founded in 1926, has ties to Fort Walsh, including members who are descendents of policemen posted there, and involvement in finding and marking the corners of the NWMP post, assisting in maintaining the NWMP cemetery, and participating in the first Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada ceremony at the site in 1927.

Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills NHSCs do not have volunteer or Friends programs.

Fort Walsh NHSC informs partners, stakeholders and an interested public of site news and activities on an annual basis via newsletter and, on occasion, through articles in local newspapers.

4. PERFORMANCE STATUS IN RELATION TO PARKS CANADA'S STRATEGIC OUTCOME

Parks Canada's strategic outcome is that *Canadians have a strong sense of connection, through meaningful experiences, to their national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas and these protected places are enjoyed in ways that leave them unimpaired for present and future generations.*

In order to achieve its strategic outcome, Parks Canada identifies Agency-wide performance expectations that are outlined in the Parks Canada Corporate Plan. While Chapter 3 reports on the state of the sites and steps to maintain or improve them, this chapter looks at their performance in terms of contributing to Parks Canada corporate performance (Table 9). The following ratings are the extent to which Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSsC have contributed to Parks Canada Agency corporate expectations identified five years ago in the Parks Canada Agency 2004/05 – 2008/09 Corporate Plan (Parks Canada 2004).

The following ratings are used for this performance assessment.

Exceeded	More than 100% of the expected level of the performance was achieved
Met	100% of the expected level of the performance was achieved
Mostly Met	80-99 % of the expected level of the performance was achieved
Somewhat Met	60-79% of the expected level of the performance was achieved
Not met	Less than 60% of the expected level of the performance was achieved
N/R	Not rated or not reported on because the information is not available.

Table 9. Sites' performance measurement in relation to the Parks Canada Agency 2004/05-2008/09 performance expectations (Parks Canada 2004).		
Establishment of Heritage Places		
Performance Expectation	Rating	Results / Rationale
On average, designate 27 new sites, persons and events per year of which, on average, 11 relate to Aboriginal People, ethnocultural communities and women.	Met	The Cypress Hills Massacre was re-designated from an event to a place of national historic significance in August 2006.
Heritage Resource Conservation		
Performance Expectation	Rating	Results / Rationale
All national historic sites administered by Parks Canada have a current management plan by December 2006.	Met	The Fort Walsh NHSC management plan was tabled in May 2005. The Cypress Hills Massacre was designated a national historic site in August 2006; as per <i>the Parks Canada Agency Act</i> , a management plan is required for it by no later than August 2011.
Improve elements of commemorative integrity that are rated as poor.	Met	The 2003 Fort Walsh NHSC commemorative integrity evaluation (Parks Canada 2003) identified all three elements of commemorative integrity as being fair.

Visitor Services		
Performance Expectation	Rating	Results / Rationale
10% increase in the number of visits to targeted national historic sites by March 2008	Some-what Met	From 2004/05 to 2007/08, the number of visits to Fort Walsh NHSC increased by 6.4%, from 15,479 to 16,465 (see Table 5).
85% of visitors are satisfied and 50% are very satisfied with their visit.	Met	In 2004-05, 98% of visitors surveyed were satisfied and 82% were very satisfied with their visit.
Minimize public safety incidents.	Met	Fort Walsh NHSC has been diligent in providing for public safety. In the summer of 2006, the site was closed on occasion due to wildfire threats. Fire management planning is being done in cooperation with Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park Partnership.
Heritage Presentation		
Performance Expectation	Rating	Results / Rationale
50% of national park visitors and 80% of national historic site visitors participate in a learning experience related to natural and/or cultural heritage places.	N/R	
85% of visitors are satisfied, and 50% are very satisfied with onsite heritage presentations programming.	Met	While not a direct measure of the expectation, in 2004-05, more than 98% of surveyed visitors were satisfied and nearly 79% very satisfied with their visit as a learning experience
75% of visitors understand the significance of the heritage place.	Met	While not measured specifically, results of the 2004-05 visitor survey show 94% of respondents correctly answered questions related to their understanding of Fort Walsh NHSC's commemoration.
Canadians, visitors and stakeholders actively support the integrity of heritage places.	N/R	

5. MANAGEMENT PLAN RESULTS

This chapter evaluates outcomes of the objectives identified in a site's current management plan in terms of their progress and contribution to improving the state of the site.

The current Fort Walsh NHSC management plan was tabled in 2005 (Parks Canada 2005b). It provides direction for:

- protection of the archaeological remains and artifacts of Fort Walsh;
- interim guidelines for the Cypress Hills Massacre site;
- care and protection of cemeteries and burial sites;
- conservation of the Remount Ranch buildings;
- renewed heritage presentation for Fort Walsh;
- recreational use; and
- public involvement and partnerships.

Currently, the Cypress Hills Massacre NHSC is without a management plan. A management plan will be completed for the site by 2011.

5.1 A SUCCESS STORY

A success story in recent years involves children's and their parents' enjoyment of Fort Walsh NHSC. Through innovative programming, children dress as police recruits and explore the fort and its stories with their own guide, while their parents can immerse themselves (and even relax) on a tour paced for them. This program has provided fun recreational and learning opportunities for children that were previously lacking.



Children discovering the early days of the Mounties. (Parks Canada)

A Fabulous Time...

"We've visited many historic sites and have never experienced a tour where kids are taken on their own tour. What a FANTASTIC idea! Our kids had a fabulous time with their tour guide while we were able to listen to the adult history. Thanks! We loved it". (Visitor comment)

5.2 MANAGEMENT PLAN RESULTS

Table 10 lists the goals and objectives from the 2005 Fort Walsh NHSC management plan (Parks Canada 2005b) and whether or not they have been met.

Table 10. Sites' performance in relation to the current management plan for Fort Walsh NHSC (Parks Canada 2005b).	
<p>Heritage Protection Goals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The designated place and the cultural resources directly related to the reasons for designation as a national historic site are unimpaired or not under threat. • The site heritage values (including those not related to the reasons for designation) are respected in all decisions and actions affecting the site. 	
Objective	Results
Level 1 and Level 2 cultural resources will be inventoried and monitored to enable effective management.	<p>Inventories have been completed for the sites' cultural resources, including a Geographic Information System database which provides readily accessible information on cultural resource and their condition.</p> <p>Documenting and mapping the town site, Wood- Anderson ranch and landscape features have not been done.</p> <p>Monitoring protocols have been or are being developed to assist in reporting condition of and threats to cultural resources.</p>
Cemeteries and burials will be managed using Parks Canada management directive for human remains, cemeteries and burial grounds.	Research, consultation and management are underway for the two cemeteries, but not yet for the burials.
The archaeological remains of the historic police post and its artefact collection will be protected.	Cumulative impact assessment and management recommendations are completed for the police post. The artifact reference collection continues to be developed as an important research and interpretive tool.
The RCMP Remount Ranch buildings will be protected for their own heritage values, not as reconstructions of the historic police post.	The Remount Ranch buildings have been repaired with their heritage values retained.
For the interim, the archaeological sites of Farwell's and Solomon's trading posts, and the Cypress Hills massacre on Parks Canada property will be managed as Level 2 cultural resources pending the HSMBC's recommendation on its designation.	Trading posts buildings were evaluated as Not Heritage by FHBRO. Archaeological assessment and mitigations were done at the Farwell's trading post at the initiation of rebuilding the 1967 representation.

Heritage Presentation Goal	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Canadian public understands the national historic significance of Fort Walsh NHSC and supports the site. 	
Objective	Results
<p>The site messages will be the foundation for the stories told.</p> <p>The site of the police post will be the focal point for these messages.</p>	<p>The heritage presentation program at the fort site is developed on the reasons for designation (see Table 3), including refurbishing of Remount Ranch buildings and children's program.</p>
<p>The trading post will focus on the story of the Cypress Hills Massacre.</p> <p>The historical relationship between the Cypress Hills Massacre and Fort Walsh will be told.</p>	<p>The heritage presentation program will be undergoing renewal with the new designation and commemoration of the massacre site.</p> <p>Rebuilding of the representation of Farwell's Trading Post is underway and will be re-opened to the public.</p>
<p>Partners will participate in the presentation of their history associated with Fort Walsh.</p>	<p>Some consultation has been undertaken (see Chapter 2.2, Aboriginal Connections, and Chapter 3.4, Support Indicator).</p>
Visitor Services and Facilities Goal	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visitors enjoy and appreciate Fort Walsh NHSC in a manner and level of use that is safe for them and for the cultural and natural resources of the site. 	
Objective	Results
<p>Visitor expectations and use will match Fort Walsh's purpose.</p> <p>Visitor activities will complement, not compete with those in the Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park.</p> <p>The services, facilities and products will meet or exceed visitor expectations.</p>	<p>There is still a need to better promote visitor services and activities at various trip stages, as identified in the visitor experience assessment (Parks Canada 2009b). Providing information for equestrian users and update service offer on recreational opportunities has not been done.</p>
Environmental Stewardship Goals	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural ecosystem features are valued in a manner that reflects the role of Parks Canada as an environmental steward. Fort Walsh demonstrates sound environmental practices. 	
Objective	Results
<p>Ecological values of the Cypress Hills ecosystem represented at Fort Walsh will be sustained.</p> <p>Threatened and endangered species will be protected.</p>	<p>Grazing is being monitored and observations are used in site management, including protection of Sprague's Pipit.</p> <p>Collaborative work with the interprovincial park in ecosystem-based management is ongoing, including developing a fire management plan for the sites.</p>
<p>Human impacts on the natural environment will be reduced.</p>	<p>Contaminated waste site testing and monitoring has concluded. The final evaluation is the site does not pose a threat to the environment.</p>

Public Involvement and Partnerships Goal	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The commemorative integrity of Fort Walsh NHSC is enhanced through public involvement and partnerships. 	
Objective	Results
Key site policy, land-use and planning decisions affecting partners and stakeholders will be arrived at in a participatory manner.	Examples include the HSMBC commemoration of and plaque vetting for the Cypress Hills Massacre, fire management planning and access to the University of Regina field station.
Partnerships will improve knowledge about the site. Partnerships will add to the experience of visitors.	See Chapter 2.2, Aboriginal Connections, and Chapter 3.4, Support Indicator.
Public and partners will be kept informed of the state of Fort Walsh and implementation of its management plan.	An annual newsletter and occasional newspaper articles inform interested public, partners and stakeholders of news about the sites.

6. KEY ISSUES

This chapter identifies key sites management issues based on assessments in Chapters 3 to 5. These issues may range from those that Parks Canada has an ability to influence to those that are more global in nature. Key issues may be focused on a mandate area (e.g., resource conservation or visitor experience), or may relate to an integrated understanding of an issue (i.e., where more than one element may be influencing an issue).

Key issues identified in this report will be considered in the management planning for Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSsC.

Commemorating the Cypress Hills Massacre

Completing a commemorative integrity statement and a management plan for the Cypress Hills Massacre NHSC are required to guide management for its sense of place, conservation, heritage presentation, facilitating visitor experiences, and for partnering with Carry the Kettle First Nation.

Wishing, Planning and Travelling Aspects of the Visitor Experience

A major challenge for these sites and the small number of year-round staff is the promoting of the sites year round; the absence of trip planning material on the Web; and the need for improved directional signage en-route, particularly coordinated with other attractions in the Cypress Hills destination area (Parks Canada 2009b).

Improving Heritage Presentation

Major challenges to effective communications in heritage presentation are fourfold. The first relates to the Visitor Reception Centre built in the 1970s. Its exhibits are worn and outdated in terms of their messages, the research and historiography, and appearance.

Secondly, while nearly 83 percent of the 2004-05 visitors surveyed were satisfied with their learning "about Aboriginal history and culture", less than 57% were very satisfied. Given the extent of Aboriginal history in the commemorations of both Fort Walsh and Cypress

Hills Massacre NHSsC, this suggests a major challenge to be addressed in Aboriginal heritage presentation.

The third challenge relates to non-personal interpretation options for visitors who come to the sites outside of operating hours or prefer to discover on their own. Self-guiding material is absent or outdated.

Lastly, maintaining a consistent level of personal heritage presentation and opportunities for visitor experiences has been a challenge for both Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre NHSsC with the gradual reduction of staff since the late 1990s. This reduction is additionally strained by the designation of the Cypress Hills Massacre as a new national historic site and the increased scope and expectations for programming there.

Providing Recreational Opportunities, Marketing the Sites

The 2005 Fort Walsh NHSC management plan noted that there will be recreational opportunities, including horseback riding, hiking and cycling (Parks Canada 2005b). The service offer for these activities and the possibility of other recreational opportunities identified through market analysis will need to be further explored given the relatively low percentage of visitors who were very satisfied with their recreational experience. Opportunities will need to be respectful of the sacred values of the Cypress Hills Massacre NHSC.

Investing in the Protection and Maintenance of Cultural Resources

The maintenance of the Remount Ranch buildings will require an ongoing investment to ensure they remain in fair to good condition. Vegetation management is and will continue to be a major factor with respect to cultural resource conditions, because of the threats of wildfires and encroachment of brush and trees on historic trails and other cultural landscape features.

Other cultural resource management needs are to inventory and evaluate cultural landscape features (including historic trails); and determine the scope of the archaeological object reference collection and management of the larger collection.

7. REFERENCES

Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada

2004 Minutes of the December 2004 Meeting (Report of the Cultural Communities Committee): re Cypress Hills Massacre, Fort Walsh National Historic Site of Canada, Maple Creek, Saskatchewan.

Parks Canada

1994 Cultural Resource Management Policy. In Parks Canada Guiding Principles and Operational Policies.

2000 Fort Walsh National Historic Site Commemorative Integrity Statement.

2003 Fort Walsh National Historic Site of Canada Commemorative Integrity Evaluation.

2004 Parks Canada Agency Corporate Plan 2004/05-2008/09.

2005a Fort Walsh National Historic Site of Canada 2004-2005 Visitor Survey.

- 2005 b Fort Walsh National Historic Site of Canada Management Plan.
- 2009a Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre National Historic Sites of Canada Commemorative Integrity Evaluation.
- 2009b Fort Walsh and Cypress Hills Massacre National Historic Sites of Canada Visitor Experience Assessment.
- 2009c Parks Canada Agency Corporate Plan 2009/10 - 2013/14.

8. GLOSSARY

Commemorative Integrity: describes the health and wholeness of a national historic site. A national historic site possesses commemorative integrity when: the resources directly related to the reasons for designation as a national historic site are not impaired or under threat; the reasons for designation as a national historic site are effectively communicated to the public; and the site's heritage values (including those not related to designation as a national historic site) are respected in all decisions and actions affecting the site.

Connection to place: reflects the relevance and importance of protected heritage places to Canadians. The concept expresses the emotional, intellectual, and spiritual attachment Canadians and visitors feel toward our natural and cultural heritage places. Parks Canada works to foster this sense of attachment through meaningful opportunities for enjoyment and learning provided on-site and through public outreach education. Respecting, understanding, and facilitating the relationship between heritage places and Canadians, including Aboriginal peoples, visitors, partners and stakeholders, help promote a shared sense of responsibility for heritage places and engage minds and hearts to support their protection and presentation now and for future generations.

Cultural landscape: is any geographic area that has been modified, influenced, or given special cultural meaning by people. A cultural landscape may be evaluated as a cultural resource if it is determined to have historic value.

Cultural resource: is a human work, or a place that gives evidence of human activity or has spiritual or cultural meaning, and that has been determined to be of historic value. Cultural resources are distinguished from other resources in a park by virtue of their assigned historic value. This value derives from an association with an aspect or aspects of human history. Parks Canada may apply the term cultural resource to a wide range of resources in its custody, including, but not limited to, cultural landscapes and landscape features, archaeological sites, structures, engineering works, artifacts and associated records.

Cultural resource management: applies to all activities that affect cultural resources administered by Parks Canada, whether those activities pertain primarily to the care of cultural resources or to the promotion of public understanding, enjoyment and appropriate use of them.

Designation: refers to the establishment of a national historic site. It occurs when the Minister approves a recommendation for national historic significance from the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.

Federal heritage building: is any federally administered building that has been designated by the Minister of Canadian Heritage under the Treasury Board Heritage Buildings Policy. The Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office (FHBRO) administers this program.

Heritage presentation: includes activities, services and facilities that bring the public into direct or indirect contact with the site, its stories and resources. It may be facilitated through personal (e.g., staff, volunteers, demonstrations) or non-personal (e.g., exhibits, brochures) means.

Heritage resource conservation: encompasses the activities that are aimed at safeguarding a cultural resource so as to retain its historic value and extend its physical life.

Heritage values: are attributes of a resource which have value. Heritage values derive from many sources, including historical associations, architectural features or significance, environmental importance, associations with the community, and continuity of use.

Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC): is an independent body that provides the Minister of Canadian Heritage with impartial and expert advice on matters relating to historical commemoration.

Historic value: is a value or values assigned to a resource, whereby it is recognized as a cultural resource. These values can be physical and/or associative.

Intervention: is any activity (such as maintenance, repair, preservation, stabilization, restoration, or rehabilitation) undertaken on a resource by those responsible for cultural resources.

National historic site: has both a formal and an applied meaning. The formal meaning is identical to Designated Place, i.e., it refers to "historic place" as defined in the Historic Sites and Monuments Act or a place set aside as a national historic site under Section 42 of the Canada National Parks Act . The name is commonly used to refer to the area administered by Parks Canada, or another owner, as a national historic site.

Objects: are moveable cultural property consisting of artifacts, made or used by people, and specimens, such as pollens recovered from archaeological investigation. Objects that have historic value within the meaning of the Cultural Resource Management Policy are cultural resources.

Performance indicator: A qualitative or quantitative means of measuring an output or outcome, with the intention of gauging the performance of a program.

Reasons for designation as a national historic site: are expressed as messages in the Commemorative Integrity Statement. They are derived from the Statement of Commemorative Intent.

State indicator: a reporting tool that helps to assess, summarize and communicate the condition and trend of measures related to each component of the Parks Canada Agency's mandate. It is based on a combination of data, measures and expert assessments.

Public Outreach Education: is reaching Canadians at home, at leisure, at school and in their communities through effective and relevant learning opportunities designed to increase understanding and appreciation of the natural and historical heritage of Parks Canada places, and to encourage individuals and communities to support and become engaged in their protection and presentation.

Visitor: is a person entering the park (including the Visitor Reception Centre) for recreational, educational or cultural purposes.

Visitor Experience: The sum total of a visitor's personal interaction with heritage places and/or people that awakens their senses, affects their emotions, stimulates their mind and leaves them with a sense of attachment to these places.