

## FISH CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK

### TREASURE QUEST BOOKLET

**RECOMMENDED AGES:** 6 - 12 years old

**PROPS PROVIDED:**

- Treasure Quest booklet
  - If you want each participant to have a booklet, please photocopy the one provided.

**YOU BRING:**

- One pencil per leader,
- ‘treasure’ to give participants at end of Treasure Quest (ideas – popcorn, snack, raisins, sucker, small craft item) - optional
- answers (see below)

**TIME REQUIRED:** approximately 45 minutes to one hour

**ACTIVITY SUMMARY:**

Using the Treasure Quest booklet provided, participants will locate 10 different ‘treasures’ (locations in the Park, answer a riddle about each and piece all the answers together to discover the mystery word. You provide them with a “treasure” they can keep once they have completed the hunt. Through the treasure quest your participants will learn about the history, plants and animals of the park. These are our ‘treasures’.

**ACTIVITY DETAILS:**

1. Divide your participants into groups with one leader per group (maximum of 10 participants per one adult). Ensure that each group has one Treasure Quest booklet and a pencil or pen. It is also suggested that each group start at a different location and rotate them through as this will help with the number of participants at each location at one time.
2. Use the map on page 3 and the directions provided on each page to locate the 10 stops.
3. When you get to each stop, read the riddle and fill in the answer. Transfer each answer to the appropriate line on the last page of the booklet.
4. While at each stop, be sure to complete the bonus question or sensory alert.
5. After visiting all 10 areas, participants should have discovered that the mystery word is ‘travelling’. Transfer this word to page 15 and give them the treasure you have brought them (if applicable).

**ANSWERS:**

Stop #1 – River

Stop #2 – Tipi

Stop #3 – Magpie

Stop #4 – Deer

Stop #5 – Buffalo

Stop #6 – Settlers

Stop #7 – Beaver

Stop #8 – Glenn

Stop #9 – Bow Valley Rancho

Stop #10- Tennis

**MYSTERY WORD: TRAVELLING**

**NOTE:** For **BONUS** answers – see Booklet, page 14.

## MYSTERY WORD

Insert the answer from each stop in the space provided. A dash has been given for each letter of the answer so that you will know if they are correct.

Stop #2

Stop #4

Stop #5

Stop #1

Stop #7

Stop #9

Stop #6

Stop #10

Stop #8

Stop #3

Once you have filled in all the blanks, transfer the **MYSTERY WORD** to page 15.

## FISH CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK

# TREASURE QUEST



**Government  
of Alberta** ■

# WELCOME!

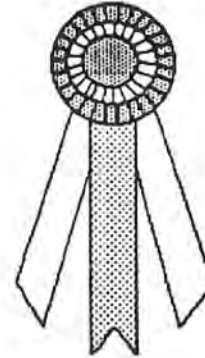
...to the Fish Creek Provincial Park Treasure Quest.

Use this booklet and the help of your imagination to uncover the many secrets of Fish Creek Provincial Park.

Use the following map to find Stops 1 to 10. Fill in all the riddles and transfer your answers to the back page of this booklet.

**HAVE FUN and GOOD LEARNING!**

**Fish Creek Provincial Park**  
Bow Valley Ranch Visitor Centre  
Box 2780  
Calgary, Alberta  
T2P 0Y8  
Phone: (403) 297-5293



# CONGRATULATIONS!

You have completed the Fish Creek Provincial Park Treasure Quest. By solving each riddle, you have discovered a great many things about Fish Creek, including how it was formed, and about the first people in the valley. You have also learned about some important pioneers in Southern Alberta - the Glenn's and W. R. Hull.

We also hope that you have had a chance to enjoy the wildlife and scenic areas.

Thank you for \_\_\_\_\_\*\* through time with us at Fish Creek Provincial Park. We hope you visit the Park again!

\*\*Insert **MYSTERY WORD** here.

# BONUS ANSWERS

Word:

A - Erratics

B - Tipi

C - Woodpeckers

D - Deer, Mule, White tail

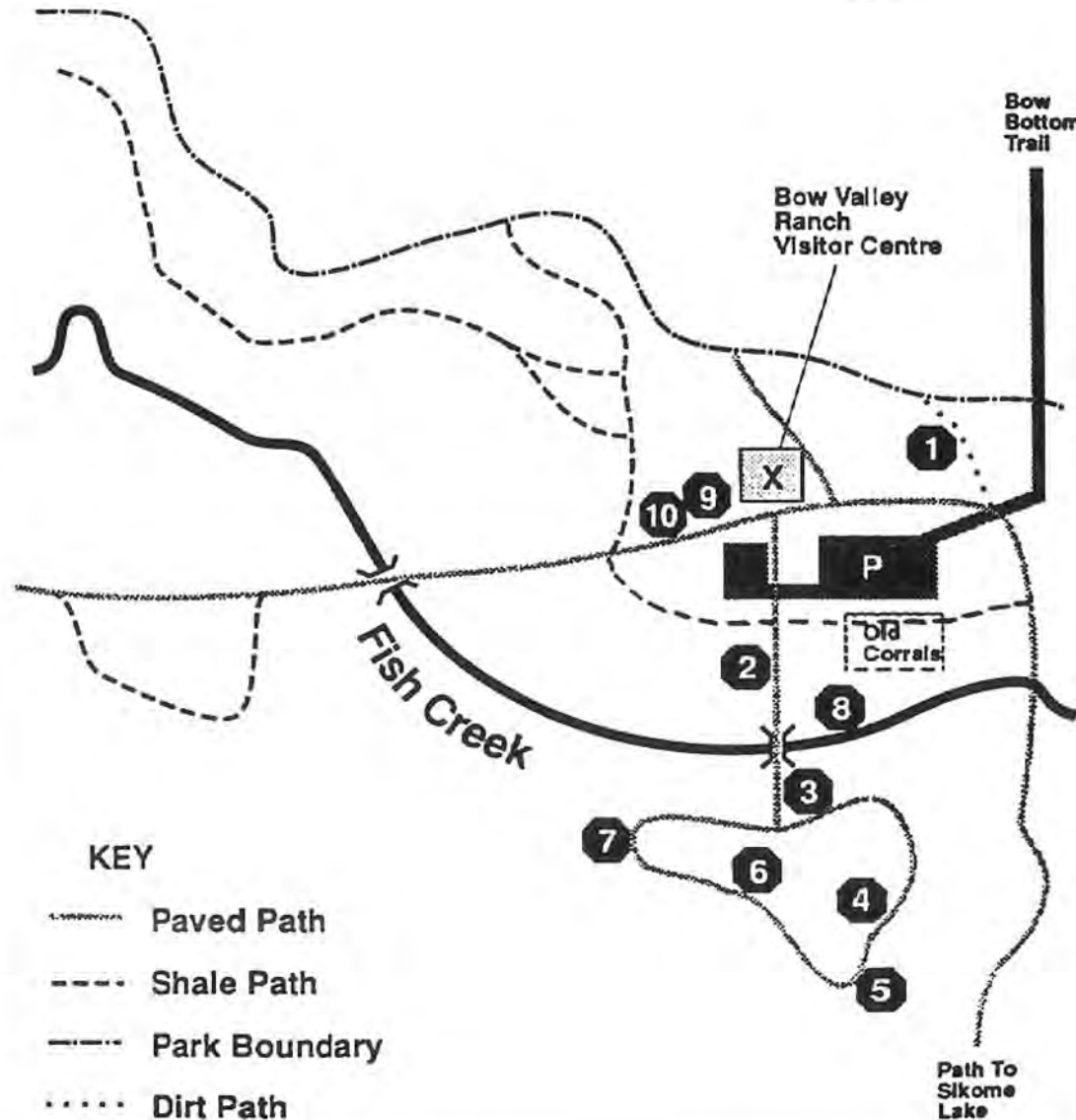
E - Bison/Bison Jump

F - Ranche

G - 1896



# TREASURE QUEST MAP



## STOP 1 IN THE BEGINNING

**Directions:** Begin the Treasure Quest by leaving the Visitor Centre and taking the main paved path to the left. Walk to the end of the line of spruce trees and look up the hill to the left for the large rock. Be careful climbing!

**Riddle:** *What flowed through this land many years ago  
Carving out this valley  
While its icy brother dug out the Bow?*

*Big brother has left  
leaving scars and debris  
if you have a look around  
there is evidence to see.*

What carved the Fish Creek valley?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

(write this answer in the blank marked #1 on the last page)

### **Bonus Question A:**

This Rock was carried down by a glacier from Mount Edith Cavell in Jasper. These large rocks are called Glacial

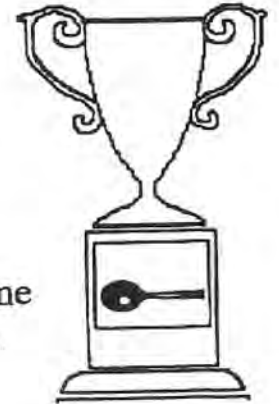
\_\_\_\_\_  
(see bonus answers on page 14)

## STOP 10 DISCOVERING THE PAST

**Directions:** Walk on the main paved path and stand in front of the formal gardens just to the west of the Bow Valley Ranch House. Now imagine that many years ago this was a grass area. Within that area was a large grass square with a net running across it.

**Riddle:** *At this ranch it was common to dance 'til dawn  
At parties the papers, wrote of 'til people yawned.*

*Hull's guests like to beat  
a small ball as a treat.  
Guests rallied outdoors,  
and tallied the scores,  
on a grass court perfecting their aim.*



Name this English outdoor game traditionally played on grass.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

*Did you know . . .* The Bow Valley Rancho House was the location of the Western Canadian Open \_\_\_\_\_ Championships from 1896 to 1898.

### **Bonus Question G:**

Somewhere on the front of the Bow Valley Rancho House is the date it was built. The date is \_\_\_\_\_.

## STOP 9 GOLDEN AGE OF RANCHING

**Directions:** Walk over to the Ranch House and stand in front of the yard on the southeast corner.

**Riddle:** *Another clever farmer bought these fields  
A wealthy man, with many other skills.  
He hired men in the saddle,  
and was good at raising cattle.  
His memory lives today.*

*Hull is the man we are talking about.  
His ranch was successful no doubt.  
His visitors he amazed  
and together they gazed  
at oats standing 4 1/2 feet tall!*

What did Hull call his farm? (see the sign in front of you)

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### **Bonus Question F:**

How did they spell ranch back then?

\_\_\_\_\_

This was a common spelling used by the large British owned ranches of the time.



## STOP 2 COMMUNAL QUARTERS

**Directions:** Walk to where the old horse corrals once stood south of the Visitor Centre (see map on page 3) and look at the field on your right.

**Riddle:** *Once upon a time, natives lived on this land.  
To ensure success, together they would band.  
Their villages were found  
To be built in the round.  
And their conical houses were built of skins and  
tall poles.*

What is a native house called?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

(write this answer across from Stop #2 on the last page)

### **Bonus Question B:**

Right where you are standing - native people built their campsites. They held the bottom of their houses down with rocks. You can still see these today in some places. These circles of stone are called \_\_\_\_\_ Rings. (see bonus answers on page 14)

### STOP 3 GUESS WHO?

**Directions:** Keep walking south towards the trees until you get to the bridge. Stop at the bridge and look east, or left, up in the trees for a large round nest.

**Riddle:** *What is black and white  
and a frequent sight  
to bird watchers in Fish Creek Provincial Park?*

*It isn't a robin, it isn't a lark.  
They are noisy and often chase owls  
around the Park.*

Name this bird.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

(Notice that the nest has a top and an entrance at front and back. This is because their long tails keep them from turning around while in the nest!)



#### **Bonus Question C:**

As you walk, look for holes in the trees. Whose nests might they be? \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Sensory Alert!**

This path has many good examples of nests built in the spruce trees by this and other birds. How many nests can you find? \_\_\_\_\_

***Just look - please do not disturb them.***

### STOP 8 BREAKING THE LAND

**Directions:** To get to Stop 8, go back to the bridge, walk across and look to the right (east). Downstream where Fish Creek meets the Bow River, is the area where the first settler made his homestead and had a successful farm.

**Riddle:** *Early settlers planted their crops  
and hoped that the rain would drop.  
For if it was dry  
no grain would arise  
and everybody went hungry.*

*But water flowed in the creek  
and upon the soil they let it leak.  
With a gleam in their eyes  
they saw their crops rise  
and every tummy was happy!*



What is the last name of the first settlers to come to Fish Creek and use the water from the creek to irrigate their crops?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_ (rhymes with pen)

If you are unsure of the answer, see Page 15 for clue. John and Adelaide sold their land and moved up to the valley to Macleod Trail where he started the first irrigation in all the huge area then called the Northwest Territories.

## STOP 7 BUSY AS A BEE

**Directions:** Walk towards the trees and stop along the creek where the trails run east (or right). Look at the creek and bank - what is happening to the trees?

**Riddle:** *This animal chews in the dark  
and to some people this damages the Park  
while to others his chews are very glad news  
and they welcome his furry adventures.*



What busy animal is this?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

### Sensory Alert! Ice Caves

Go left towards the Park benches. Look at the small caves in the rock ahead of you. Feel the rock. Although it looks like concrete, it is a special rock called conglomerate. Ice can be seen in front of these caves in winter.

*Remember to leave everything behind  
for others to enjoy!*

## STOP 4 IN THE EVENING

**Directions:** Turn left after the bridge, follow the paved path keeping your eyes and ears open. Stop near the open field and look for these common Park animals. Look both left and right.

**Riddle:** *Today many animals call the Park home.  
Here they eat, sleep and roam.  
But one stands out in the mind  
and you can easily find  
them grazing at dusk in the brome (a type of grass).*

*This four legged animal is shy  
and when spots you watching, bounds by.  
Often grouped together  
they don't mind winter weather  
but prefer to be down where it is dry.*



What animal is this?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

### Bonus Question D:

There are two kinds of \_\_\_\_\_ in the Park:  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

*Be a good wildlife watcher.*

*Move quietly and slowly and keep your dog on a leash!*

## STOP 5 WALKING SUPERMARKET

**Directions:** Continue to follow the paved path to the base of the hill where you will see a marsh and some Park benches.

**Riddle:** *Once upon a time on the prairie  
lived great shaggy beasts, brown and hairy.  
They grazed on the land,  
their numbers were grand,  
but their time in this land was temporary.*

*The Natives relied on the beast  
Upon whose flesh they would feast.  
They made tools, toys and homes,  
used the skins and the bones.  
It was like having a supermarket on four feet.*



What shaggy animal was this?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_  
(there are two possible words - fill in second below)

### **Bonus Question D:**

You are standing at the bottom of a hill. Native people chased \_\_\_\_\_ over this hill and killed them for food, shelter and clothing. It is called a \_\_\_\_\_.

## STOP 6 FURTHER THE FRONTIER

**Directions:** As you walk along the path, stop somewhere near the grass field.

**Riddle:** *Looking for a homestead to claim  
new folk arrived who were game,  
to work day and night  
and put up a fight  
for a better life, that was their aim.*

*They spent their days in toil  
as some plowed through the soil.  
With a dream of success  
they expected no less  
than to conquer the land and be happy.*

Who were these people?

Answer: S \_\_\_\_\_



### **Sensory Alert!**

This grass was introduced as hay to feed the cattle.  
Can you see an example of Brome grass?  
Can you see any flowers?

*Enjoy them where they are - please don't pick.*

