



CUSTODIAL MANAGEMENT DIRECTIVE

NAHANNI NATIONAL PARK RESERVE OF CANADA

SCOPE

This directive applies to all Custodial Groups in Nahanni National Park Reserve of Canada

PURPOSE

To ensure a professional standard of care for every Custodial Group that visits Nahanni National Park Reserve of Canada.

BACKGROUND

Leading a group of minors through remote northern wilderness is an enormous responsibility due to the reality that, for the most part, minors do not possess adequate knowledge, maturity, experience, or abilities to manage their own risk and are greatly dependant upon adult leadership for their safety. For these reasons adult leadership of minors in Nahanni National Park Reserve must be of a professional standard. Institutions sponsoring Custodial Group excursions into the park will determine their levels of service in cooperation with an outfitting and guiding company licensed by Nahanni National Park Reserve.

This will have several desirable outcomes most notably safe, enjoyable and quality visitor experiences. In addition, the onus is on all parties i.e. parents, group organizers and/or group leaders, outfitters and guides to completely understand their respective roles and responsibilities for the safety of Custodial Groups in Nahanni National Park Reserve.





CUSTODIAL MANAGEMENT DIRECTIVE

NAHANNI NATIONAL PARK RESERVE OF CANADA

DEFINITIONS

Custodial Group: Is an institutional group where at least one person is less than 18 years of age and that minor is not in the company of his/her parent. Institutional groups include, but are not limited to School Groups, Scout/Guide Groups, Church Groups, Cadet Groups and Community Youth Groups.

Licensed Outfitter: The holder of a valid outfitting and guiding licence from Nahanni National Park Reserve, which currently (2008) includes:

- Black Feather
- Nahanni River Adventures
- Nahanni Wilderness Adventures

Guide: Is a person employed by an outfitting and guiding company licensed by Nahanni National Park Reserve, who posses a valid Nahanni National Park Reserve Guide Licence.

Minor: Is a person who is less than 18 years of age.

Parent/Legal Guardian: Is a person(s) who is the primary/legal caregiver(s) and/or guardian(s) of a minor(s).

Adult Leader: Is a person who is greater than 18 years of age who is contributing/participating in the Custodial Group excursion in a leadership capacity. Adult leaders include but are not limited to parents, teachers, teaching assistants, instructors, community volunteers, group organizers, cultural demonstrators, elders, chaperones etc.

Standard of Care: The standard of care for Custodial Groups in Nahanni National Park Reserve will be the professional care of an outfitting and guiding company licensed by Nahanni National Park Reserve.





CUSTODIAL MANAGEMENT DIRECTIVE

NAHANNI NATIONAL PARK RESERVE OF CANADA

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Nahanni National Park Reserve of Canada

- Will communicate park management and safety messages
- Will liaise with partners about risk management
- Will register and deregister groups
- Will complete in-park registration and orientation with groups
- Will provide 24 hour emergency phone line
- Will provide emergency access to all park facilities
- Will provide search and rescue services

Custodial Groups

- Must ensure full risk disclosure to Parents/Legal Guardians and Adult Leaders.

Parents/Leagal Guardians

- Must disclose fully any health concerns about their child to the Custodial Group and Licensed Outfitter.

Adult Leaders

- Must consult with Custodial Group, Licensed Outfitter, and/or Nahanni National Park Reserve to better understand risks and risk management in the park.

Licensed Outfitters

- Must ensure full risk disclosure to institutions sponsoring Custodial groups.
- Must submit a complete Custodial Permit Application to Nahanni National Park Reserve.

Guides

- Are responsible for the safety of their clients in the park and the compliance of the group they are guiding with park regulations.

(Revised: 04/2008)

Page 3 of 4





CUSTODIAL MANAGEMENT DIRECTIVE

NAHANNI NATIONAL PARK RESERVE OF CANADA

PARK DIRECTION

- Custodial groups must acquire the professional care of a Licensed Outfitter.
- A Licensed Outfitter must submit a Custodial Permit Application to Nahanni National Park Reserve four (4) weeks prior to their planned departure date.
- Departure units for Custodial groups will be managed by Nahanni National Park Reserve in accordance with the Visitor Reservation and Fee System Agreement 1996 (under review 2008).
- Nahanni National Park Reserve will confirm reservations when conditions for the Custodial Permit are satisfactory.
- Custodial Permits can be cancelled or suspended by the Park Superintendent if it is necessary to do so.

REFERENCES

Canada National Parks Act (2000)

National Parks General Regulations (31-03-07)

Management Directive 4.6.40: Certification and Licensing of Guides in National Parks (1988)

Nahanni National Park Reserve Visitor Reservation and Fee System Agreement (1996) (under review 2008).

Chuck Blyth
Park Superintendent
Nahanni National Park Reserve

Date

(Revised: 04/2008)

Page 4 of 4