



**ARPA
CONFERENCE**
ENERGIZE WORKSHOP

JUSTIFICATION

TOOLKIT



CONFERENCE BENEFITS

Professional Development

01 Gain insights from sector leaders and innovators through workshops, keynotes, and educational sessions. Explore Alberta-focused challenges and solutions while building skills you can apply directly in your role



Knowledge & Education



The ARPA Conference & Energize Workshop is designed around learning, reflection, and knowledge-sharing. Sessions are intentionally structured to provide fresh insights, practical tools, and sector-wide perspectives that you can carry back to your workplace. The credibility gained comes not just from attendance, but from engaging with ideas, case studies, and practices that continue to shape recreation and parks in Alberta.

02

Inspiration

03 Be inspired by powerful voices like Olympian and activist Waneek Horn-Miller, whose story of resilience, leadership, and reconciliation sets the tone for future-focused conversations in recreation and parks.



Innovative Solutions



Discover practical tools, strategies, and case studies presented across four streams — Tourism, Energize/Elected Officials, Reconciliation, and Women in Recreation — that offer new ways to approach planning, engagement, and community building

04

Networking Opportunities

05 Connect with peers, elected officials, and leaders from across Alberta. Build partnerships, share challenges, and discover solutions that can strengthen your organization and community.



CONFERENCE STREAMS



Tourism

Sessions highlight how recreation and parks fuel Alberta's visitor economy, foster cultural connection, and strengthen community pride. Learn from case studies on sport tourism, regenerative tourism, and strategies to measure impact

Energize / Elected Officials

Tailored to municipal leaders, this stream tackles planning, advocacy, and collaborative governance. Explore youth engagement, budgeting across political lines, and community benefit agreements that ensure development reflects what matters most

Reconciliation

A space to learn from Elders, Indigenous leaders, and community voices. Topics include Indigenous Food Sovereignty, land-based learning, and partnerships that advance reconciliation while fostering belonging

Women in Recreation

Spotlighting leadership, resilience, and mentorship, this stream elevates women's voices in the sector. Keynote Waneek Horn-Miller shares her journey as an Olympian and activist, inspiring strength and purpose.

ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE COST

EXPENSE	GUIDELINE	COST
Conference Registration	View ARPA's registration rates on our webpage.	
Travel	Use maps & your mileage policy to verify your distance to Lake Louise	
Lodging	View ARPAs hotel block rates on our hotel information webpage.	
Food Per Diem	Full Registration packages include all meals while at the event	

Registration includes access to sessions, keynotes, and networking opportunities

BEYOND THE BACKYARD



[Date]

24 October 2025

[Title]

[Organization]

[Postal Address]

[City, Province, Postal Code]

Dear, [Supervisors Name]

I am requesting approval to attend the 2025 Alberta Recreation & Parks Association (ARPA) Conference & Energize Workshop, scheduled for October 23–25 at the Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge. This annual event is Alberta’s leading gathering for recreation, parks, and community leaders, providing professional development, networking, and innovative tools that directly benefit our organization.

Here’s how my attendance aligns with our goals:

Professional Development – I will gain skills and knowledge from sector experts and thought leaders that I can bring back to strengthen our team and services.

Networking – I will connect with municipal leaders, peers, and potential partners to share challenges and discover new approaches we can adopt locally.

Innovation – By attending Alberta-specific sessions across streams like Tourism, Reconciliation, Energize/Elected Officials, and Women in Recreation, I’ll gather ideas directly relevant to our community needs.

Return on Investment – Upon my return, I will provide a summary of key takeaways and recommendations for how these can be applied in our workplace to increase impact.

The estimated cost of my attendance is attached. I am confident that the benefits of participating — both professionally and organizationally — far outweigh the expenses.

Thank you for supporting this opportunity to build skills, connections, and insights that will strengthen our work.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]