

**Sample Safety and Emergency Plan - ACC Ottawa XYZ Camp (Date)**  
**(Revise as appropriate for each specific camp)**

**Camp Concept** - This is a self-guided camp based out of the XYZ Hut (elevation). Individuals will form climbing teams and select objectives within their skill, experience and fitness levels. The group will discuss the next day's objectives each evening, consult with the camp leaders and complete the sign-out sheet prior to departure. As guide book travel times are often optimistic, teams will specify a realistic ETA and discuss contingency plans. Teams will travel light but are expected to carry the minimum essentials for self rescue, to care for a casualty and handle an unplanned bivy. Everyone will pack a light weight LED headlamp.

**Medical** - Camp participants will carry a micro personal first aid kit for minor cuts, bruises, blisters, etc. and any personal medications. Three small club group first aid kits are available to be regularly carried in the field. A larger club group first aid kit will normally remain at the XYZ Hut and can be deployed to the field for emergencies. If you have a medical condition the rest of us should know about (i.e. diabetes, severe allergy, asthma, etc.), let us know. Ditto for personal emergency meds.

**Communications** - We have sufficient FRS radios for each rope team to carry one. These are short range (~2-3 km), line-of-sight radios. Expect poor coverage in valleys but improved coverage with altitude. Communications will be spotty but, with several radios in the field, it should be possible to make periodic contact and relay information between teams. We will use FRS channel \_\_\_\_, sub-channel \_\_\_\_. Teams will check in hourly on the hour. Radios can be turned off at other times, except as required for intra-team communication whilst climbing. Cell phone coverage is not available.

An Iridium satellite phone has been rented. It will work in almost any area with a clear view of the sky. The usage tariff is \$2/min. It is TBD whether our sat phone will be carried in the field or left in the hut for emergency use.

**National Park Emergency Contact Numbers** - When calling for help, state you are in the backcountry of Jasper National Park, have an emergency and require the Warden Service.

<b>National Park</b>	<b>Emergency #</b>	<b>Backcountry Emergency #</b>
Jasper Wardens (24 hrs)	780-852-3100	1-877-852-3100
Banff	911	403-762-4506

Jasper RCMP		780-852-4848
Jasper Warden's Office (Day #)		780-852-6155

### Safety Plan

Risk	Mitigation
Weather	Check weather forecast Alpine start, aiming to be back at the hut by mid-afternoon Be prepared to retreat in the face of dangerous weather Extra clothing and gloves
Excessive travel time	Conservative objective within the team's ability Reconnaissance of the route prior to the climb Alpine start Travel light Efficient, steady but sustainable pace Small teams with compatible fitness and ability Adequate hydration and frequent snacking on the move Realistic ETA
Rock fall	Helmets to be worn in areas of objective hazard Maximum of two rope teams on the same objective Avoid climbing under another team Use "quiet feet" i.e. pay attention to foot placement Stay closely bunched (if possible), or else widely separated Shout a warning if a rock is dislodged Avoid areas with rock scars, debris and other signs of recent rockfall activity
Unstable scree and talus	Avoid moraines and talus slopes, whenever possible
Glacier travel	Roped-up is the default glacier travel mode A minimum of 3 climbers per rope is recommended for glacier travel Attentive rope management Good route finding Carry crampons, ice axes and self-rescue gear
Avalanche	Careful terrain and snow pack stability assessment before committing Good route finding

**Emergency Plan** - In the event of an accident, other team members will provide the first response to the incident following the *Standard Emergency Response Protocol*. If self-rescue is possible and appropriate, this is the preferred option. Communications will be established with the XYZ Hut, if possible, where an Ottawa Section member will organize emergency support. If rescue is time-critical or technically complex, this will be organized by contacting the Park Warden Service.

If a party is over-due, members at the XYZ Hut will attempt to establish communications. If communications cannot be established, the default assumption will be that the party will arrive late by headlamp or do an unplanned bivy. A rescue or support operation will not normally be immediately organized, unless there are grounds to believe an accident has occurred. A night-time rescue will be organized only in extreme circumstances and only after careful planning and preparation. Normal practice will be to organize an investigation/support/rescue party to leave early the next day. In any rescue, care will be taken to not endanger rescuers or to otherwise make the situation worse.