

# 2016 IRC

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## *7-Day Pre-Congress Tour Schedule*

### **IRC 2016 Pre-Congress 7-Day Tour Prairie Grassland and Rocky Mountain Tour 10-16 July, 2016 Tour Schedule**

#### **SATURDAY - 09 July evening**

Informal meeting of tour participants with tour guides at the Parktown Hotel. Time and room to be determined.

#### **DAY 1 - SUNDAY, July 10** (*Saskatoon to Swift Current*)

- Breakfast on your own
- Beginning of Tour. Bus departs Parktown Hotel at 7:30
- Rudy Rosedale Community Pasture near Saskatoon – crown land pasture management
- Danielson Provincial Park – Gardiner Dam, Lake Diefenbaker, and local irrigation
- Matador Provincial Pasture – Pasture and land management, working cowboy demonstration
- Barbeque dinner at the Semi-arid Prairie Agricultural Research Centre
- Overnight in Swift Current

#### **DAY 2 - MONDAY, July 11** (*Swift Current to Reesor Ranch, Cypress Hills, SK*)

- Semi-Arid Prairie Agricultural Research Centre – Research programs on native plant breeding, native forage legumes and grazing management.
- Grasslands National Park – One of the largest and least disturbed native prairie areas in N. America. Reclamation and conservation of plant and animal species. Time available for hiking this pristine area.
- Reesor Ranch – horseback riding, hiking, exploration, bonfire, cowboy poetry
- Overnight at Reesor Ranch

#### **DAY 3 - TUESDAY, July 12** (*Reesor Ranch to Medicine Hat, AB*)

- Reesor Ranch – Additional activities on the Ranch
- Elkwater, AB – lunch and meet Alberta Public Lands staff
- Native Rangeland Benchmark Sites – Range Health Assessment System to monitor native range – hands on experience on its use
- Supper and overnight in Medicine Hat, AB



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### **DAY 4 - WEDNESDAY, July 13** *(Medicine Hat to Banff, AB)*

- Hayes, AB – oil and gas reclamation sites on native range – natural recovery vs seeding native species
- Travers Dam, AB – lunch
- Chattaway's Bar SRanch, foothills of Rocky Mountains – Ranch and grazing management
- Scenic drive to Banff National Park
- Overnight in Banff National Park

### **DAY 5 - THURSDAY, July 14** *(Banff)*

- Morning – Sulphur Mountain gondola ride – exploration on mountain
- Afternoon and evening – touring and hiking on your own, or optional Johnson Canyon hike
- Lunch and dinner on your own

### **DAY 6 - FRIDAY, July 15** *(Banff to Hanna, AB)*

- Buckley Ranch, Cochrane, AB – Ranch and grazing management
- Strathmore, AB – lunch and meet irrigation district staff
- Mattheis Ranch, University of Alberta – Rangeland Research Institute
- Travel to Hanna – description of area and its management
- Overnight in Hanna

### **DAY 7 - SATURDAY, July 16** *(Hanna to Saskatoon)*

- Oyen, AB area – Chinook Applied Research Association – visit research sites
- Craig farm, Herschel, SK – Cattle production on grassland
- End of Tour (approximately 6:30 PM). Buses will drop tour participants at any of the six congress hotels. Dinner and evening activities on your own

**For a map showing tour stops, visit <http://j.mp/1iKBdy1>**

**For full Congress details visit: [www.irc2016canada.ca](http://www.irc2016canada.ca)**

