

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO**

**ELECTORAL AREA 'B' PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY JUNE 3, 2014**

**7:00 PM**

*(Gabriola Island Women's Institute Hall)*

**A G E N D A**

**PAGES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**DELEGATIONS**

2-3 M. Gillis – Gabriola Dog Park Consideration

*Motion to receive late delegation.*

**MINUTES**

5-7 Minutes of the Regular Electoral Area 'B' Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee meeting held March 4, 2014.

*Motion to approve Minutes.*

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS**

8 J. Ewert, Gabriola Tennis Players, to E. McCulloch, RDN, **Re: Huxley Community Park Master Plan Open House**

9 R. Young, POSAC B Member, to E. McCulloch, RDN, **Re: Cox Park**

*Motion to receive Correspondence/Communications*

**REPORTS**

10-17 Monthly Update of Community and Regional Parks and Trails Projects – Feb-Mar 2014

18-23 Monthly Update of Community and Regional Parks and Trails Projects – April 2014

Mudge Island Davidson Bay parking lot update (verbal)

24-37 Huxley Park Master Plan - Engagement Summary and Design Direction

38 Area 'B' Five Year Project Planning

Mudge Island Water Access Boundary Identification Update - *verbal*

*Motion to receive Reports.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

**COMMITTEE ROUND TABLE**

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion to adjourn.*

**NEXT MEETING**

**November 4, 2014**

**7:00pm**

**Aggi Hall**

## **Application for consideration by RDN Advisory Committee of a fenced-in, off-leash dog park on Gabriola Island**

Most of us on Gabriola know that dogs can be a joy or a pest on a rural island where deer, birds and other fauna roam free, and happily reproduce themselves. I'd like to propose to the RDN an already well established way of allowing humans and their pets to live comfortably alongside the flora and fauna of this precious island.

For over a year now in all weathers and whenever I go to Nanaimo, I spend time with my 7 year-old Brittany spaniel at the Beban Park off-leash, fenced dog area. When I visit Surrey and Vancouver, I take my pooch to similar places in both urban and rural settings.

I've spoken to dog owners on Gabriola, as well as people who don't much like dogs (!), and found something of a consensus on the need for such a human/canine delight to be established here.

Advantages to both sides of the enthusiasm spectrum for such a park include:

1. Dogs and puppies, whether well trained or just learning, work within established rules for canine and human community standards.
2. Owners learn to pick up after their pooches and this behaviour extends beyond the fences and into other non-fenced areas.
3. Dogs learn how to behave vis-à-vis humans in non-fenced areas where they may be encountering others who may not like them so much.
4. Puppies and older dogs learn by observing bigger dogs in a group.
5. Owners can appreciate different types and personalities of dogs – e.g. those dogs that like to play in packs; those that are more solitary; those that are drawn primarily to humans; those that are bullies; dogs (and humans) can learn how to be assertive without being aggressive (group dynamics).
6. Owners, by watching dog interaction, learn effective inter-human behaviours around their dogs. Free, unlimited doggie conversations. (It's a bit like taking your first child to nursery school and learning from other parents!)
7. Owners, some with children there too, exchange tips and information about problems or other issues related to good dog behaviours and manners.

The idea behind allowing dogs into a largish fenced area where the necessary rules include that the dogs run free, play and socialise with one another, while the owner

stands apart “but in control of their dog at all times” (including picking up the poop), seems to work. Within the fenced area, dogs and more importantly their owners learn how to socialise happily in the world.

I have a list of people on Gabriola Island who are prepared to support this application and “Gabe” being such a such a volunteer-driven island, will be able to call on many who’d be willing to support the Regional District in establishing and helping maintain such a park.

It has been suggested to me that Paisley Park, behind the Village commercial centre, might be a suitable location. And other people on the island have suggested other District-administered places that might also work. I can supply names of people already committed to supporting this plan. We are open to all thoughts and ideas the RDN might have and to share our own thoughts on how the park could be set up. Above all, we hope that the Gabriola Advisory Committee will get behind this proposal.

**Mary Gillis**

Gabriola Resident  
1173 North Road  
Tel: 250 247 8481  
[maryjwords@shaw.ca](mailto:maryjwords@shaw.ca)

30<sup>th</sup> May 2014

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO**

**MINUTES OF THE ELECTORAL AREA 'B' PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY  
REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING HELD  
TUESDAY, March 4, 2014  
7:00pm**

**(GABRIOLA WOMEN'S INSTITUTE HALL)**

**Attendance:** Howard Houle, Director, RDN Board, Chair  
Jacinthe Eastick  
Randy Young  
Sam Betts  
Megan Dickinson  
Mark Woolley  
Ivan Bulic

**Staff:** Elaine McCulloch, Park Planner

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Houle called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**Introduction of New Members:** Mark Woolley from Mudge & Ivan Bulic.

**Election of Secretary**

MOVED R. Young, SECONDED M. Dickinson to appoint J Eastick as secretary.

CARRIED

**Adoption of the Agenda**

MOVED J. Eastick, SECONDED S. Betts to adopt the Agenda after adding "POSAC Projects List" in Unfinished Business and adding a letter from Mudge Island Land Trust Association in Correspondence /Communication.

CARRIED

**MINUTES**

MOVED M. Woolley, SECONDED J. Eastick that the Minutes of the Regular Electoral Area 'B' Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee meeting held November 5, 2013 be approved with the following amendment: change the mover's name on the second motion in the section titled Island Trust Park Re-Zoning Bylaw report (page 4) from J. Eastick to M. Dickinson.

CARRIED

## **CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS**

MOVED S. Betts, SECONDED M. Woolley to receive the following correspondence:

L. Webster, Islands Trust to T. Osborne, RDN, Re: **Bylaw Referral Package – GB BL 271 and 272 – Gabriola Island Trust Committee**

A. Vestraete, Hope Centre to T. Osborne, RDN Re: **Skateboard park project on Gabriola Island**

Mudge Island Land Trust Association Re: **Beach access priorities and request for amendments.**

CARRIED

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS**

MOVED J. Eastick, SECONDED S. Betts to mark MI 23 instead of MI 27 on the Mudge Island Beach Accesses priority list.

CARRIED

## **REPORTS**

**Monthly Update Regional and Community Parks and Trails Projects - June to December 2013 and January 2014.**

**Monthly Update Regional and Community Parks and Trails Projects - January 2014.**

### **Village Trail Concept Report (verbal)**

Topographics, a local Landscape Architectural design firm, has been retained by the RDN to develop a design and cost estimates for proposed Village Trail. Megan Walker, Topographics representative, presented a brief summary of the concept plan for the Village Trail. The 6.6 feet (2m) wide, multi-use, bi-directional pathway will be sited on the North side of North Road from the Ferry Hill fork to Tin Can Alley. Survey work has been completed and conceptual design work is underway in preparation for a public open house which is scheduled for March 29, 2014. Funding for this project comes from the Community Works Fund which is financed by Federal Gas Tax Revenue. Director Houle stated that the estimated cost of the project is likely to be a maximum of \$400,000. Final approval for the project will come through MOTI as the proposed walkway will be located within the road right-of-way.

### **Huxley Park Master Plan – Conceptual Plans (verbal)**

Topographics, a local Landscape Architectural design firm, has been retained by the RDN to develop a master plan for Huxley Park. Cameron Murray from Topographics, presented a brief summary of two concept plans for Huxley Park. The Open House is scheduled for March 29, 2014. Time and place to be announced.

CARRIED

### **Mudge Island Davidson Bay Parking Lot Improvements**

E. McCulloch provided a verbal update on the progress of the parking lot improvements. A site meeting and preliminary design has been completed for the site. Staff are working towards completing the works in the spring of this year.

### **Gabriola Island Parks Rezoning Bylaw Referral Report**

E. McCulloch summarized the latest staff report and recommendations regarding the Gabriola Island Parks Rezoning Referral – Island Trust Draft Bylaws.

MOVED R. Young, SECONDED M. Dickinson that Bylaw No. 272 be amended to include a new permitted use to specifically allow special events in all park zones and that Bylaw No 272 be amended to provide Active Recreation Community Park (P3) zoning for Paisley Place Community Park.

CARRIED

### **Community Parks and Trails Work Plan 2014**

E. McCulloch distributed as information a list of community parks and trails projects for 2014. All Gabriola applicable projects were highlighted.

### **POSAC Projects List**

Randy Young submitted a GaLTT projects list dated February 27, 2014 which identified a number of projects which GaLTT is working on. RDN support has been requested on a few of the projects.

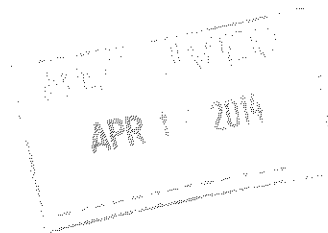
MOVED S. Betts, SECONDED I. Bulic to receive the reports.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED M. Dickinson to adjourn at 9:35pm.

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Chairperson



John Ewert  
1989 South Road  
Gabriola, B.C.  
V0R 1X6  
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Via email: [johnewert@gabriola.com](mailto:johnewert@gabriola.com)

Saturday, March 29, 2014

Regional District of Nanaimo  
Attention: Elaine McCulloch  
6300 Hammond Bay Rd  
Nanaimo, B.C.  
V9T 6N2

Dear Ms. McCulloch:

**Re: Open House - Huxley Community Park Master Plan - March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014, at the  
Agricultural Hall on Gabriola**

I was pleased to meet with you at the above noted. We discussed the inadequacy of the 2 existing tennis courts.

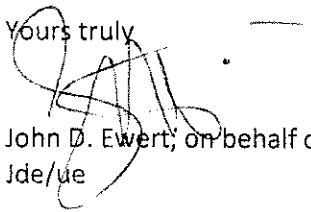
Our club hosts inter island tennis tournaments and cannot complete the draw on only 2 courts. For this we must travel a great distance to access a 3<sup>rd</sup> court on the island.

As well, on many summer days we have twice as many players showing up to play only to find that the 2 existing courts cannot accommodate the turnout.

It looks like there is almost enough space to add a 3rd court on the existing site. The north side might be used for necessary widening. The 3 courts could then be made to face E-W rather than N-S.

The above could be done at minimal expense.

I trust the RDN will give this serious consideration and I look forward to your response.

Yours truly  


John D. Ewert, on behalf of Gabriola Tennis Players  
Jde/ue

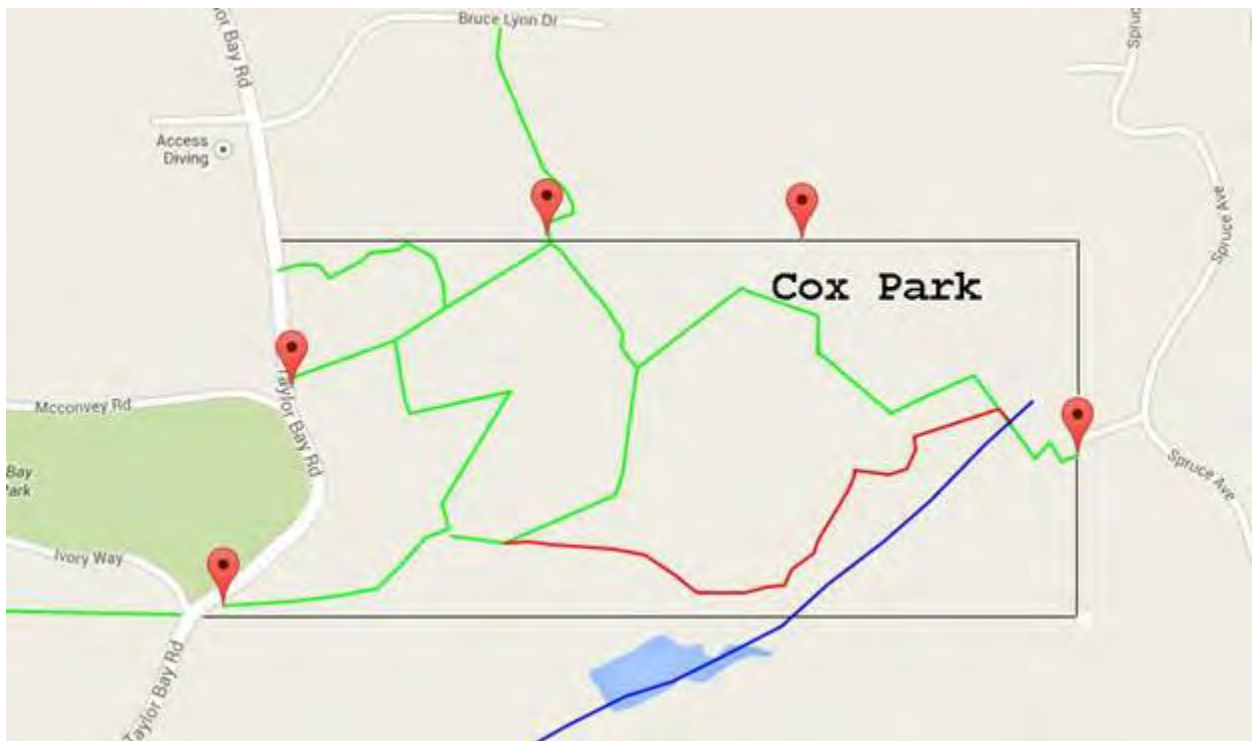


On Apr 16, 2014, at 9:39 AM, "Randy Young" <[ranyoung@shaw.ca](mailto:ranyoung@shaw.ca)> wrote:

Hi,

Rob Brockley has proposed an additional GaLTT cleared trail in Cox Park for POSAC, as shown red in the attached picture. Starting at the logging road stub to the right on the main trail going uphill to River place, the proposed trail passes some interesting features: A huge maple tree dominates a large area, with stems having large bumps, much like a necklace, a view of the lake and dam in the adjoining property, followed by a hidden valley with a small stream step over at the top of the valley and two rocks are piled on top of one another, probably by a glacier. The trail then joins the main trail just on the Cox Park side of the bridge.

Thanks,  
Randy Young



## Parks Functions Report

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**TO:** Tom Osborne  
General Manager of Recreation and Parks

**DATE:** April 7, 2014

**FROM:** Wendy Marshall  
Manager of Parks Services

**FILE:**

**SUBJECT: Monthly Update of Community Parks and Regional Parks and Trails Projects**

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During February and March staff have been involved with the following projects and issues.

### **Electoral Area Community Parks**

#### **Area A**

Staff attended the “soft opening” for the Cedar Skatepark on February 1<sup>st</sup>, approximately fifty people were present. Planning and construction of a new toilet at the Cedar Skatepark was completed, along with an anti-graffiti coating on the concrete parking curbs. Regular garbage collection and maintenance visits were conducted, and a contractor was organized for ongoing washroom servicing work. Staff also continued to work with the contractor to complete the remaining deficiencies on the project.

A damaged porta-potty surround was repaired at the Quennell Lake boat launch, with additional boulders installed to prevent further (vehicle) damage.

Staff prepared and distributed the February 19<sup>th</sup> PRCC meeting agenda package, attended the meeting and prepared the meeting minutes.

#### **Area B**

Final rock scaling work was completed at 707 Community Park. Staff also met on site with an adjacent landowner and a tree falling contractor regarding several hazard trees along the park boundary.

At Rollo McClay Community Park, a new pump was installed and plumbing work completed at the irrigation pond in order to achieve suitable water levels for planned berm work. A utility access road was constructed for the pond area, and the berm was sanded and seeded. Tree pruning and site grading work was also completed. Garbage service continued at the park, along with several beach access sites on the island.

An access agreement was completed with the landowner adjacent to the southern boundary of 707 Community Park. A gate was ordered, for installation on private land and is scheduled for April.

Staff met with an El Verano Drive boat launch resident regarding access issues, and then conducted boulder placement at the site in order to properly define private driveway access on site.

Removal of an old park entrance sign was carried out at Huxley Community Park.

Snow removal was conducted on bridges at Joyce Lockwood and Cox Community Parks.

Staff prepared a report regarding the referral request for the proposed Islands Trust park land rezoning bylaw. The report outlined what implications the proposed bylaws will have concerning the management of parks on the island.

Staff continued to work with the consultant to develop concepts for the Huxley Park Master Plan. Staff organized and attended an open house on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

Staff prepared and distributed the February 4<sup>th</sup> Area B POSAC meeting agenda package, attended the meeting and reviewed the minutes.

Staff visited Davidson Bay on Mudge Island to review potential parking lot improvement options.

Staff continued to provide support to an ongoing investigation into a potential park land acquisition.

Staff met with members of the Gabriola Recreation Society and RDN Recreation Staff to review projects and issues at various parks.

#### ***Area C – Extension***

In March, a design for the future pedestrian bridge in Extension Miners Community Park was finalized by Harold Engineering in consultation with community members and park staff. In preparation for building permit application, park staff completed a bridge site plan and hired Levelton Consultants to conduct geotechnical assessment and soil prep recommendations. A building permit application will be submitted in April upon receipt of engineers' drawings and reports.

Park clean up and maintenance work was carried out at Extension Miner's Community Park.

#### ***Area C - East Wellington/Pleasant Valley***

A site visit with a contractor was made and staff liaised with park users in order to determine an appropriate location for a newly ordered bike rack for Meadow Drive Community Park. Installation is planned for April. Weeding and trail maintenance work was also carried out at the site.

A questionnaire regarding the potential options for Anders and Dorrits' Community Park was available to the public both at the September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013 open house and online between September 5<sup>th</sup> and January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Staff prepared a summary of the forty-nine (49) responses that were received. The park web page has been updated and a link to the summary provided.

Several hundred plant pots were removed from Anders and Dorrit's Community Park, and donated to the Nanaimo Area Land Trust's nursery program. Site inspections were also carried out at the park. A draft parking plan for Anders and Dorrits' Community Park was prepared by staff in March as a first stage of park development.

Staff prepared and distributed the February 24<sup>th</sup> Area C –East Wellington Pleasant Valley POSAC meeting agenda package. The meeting was postponed to a later date due to the snow.

### ***Area E***

Two hazard trees noted during a site inspection at Nanoose Road Community Park were removed, and a high 'wildlife stump' retained.

Staff prepared and distributed the February 3<sup>rd</sup> Areas E POSAC meeting agenda package, attended the meeting and prepared the meeting minutes.

### ***Area F***

The Meadowood CP Phase 1 Construction tender was posted in late March with an April 11<sup>th</sup> closing. Monthly information meetings have been conducted with the CMRA Park Subcommittee. An application was submitted for the BC Tire Stewardship Grant to upgrade to rubber tire play surfacing. There is ongoing coordination of volunteers for completion of the rough grading the Phase 2 park area. The community emphasis now is on coordination of in-kind and donated materials for the park development, e.g. RDN compost, boulders, timbers, pavilion construction. The quarterly Recreation Grant report for 2013 was submitted.

Hazard tree removal work was carried out at Malcolm Community Park.

Staff met on site with a contractor regarding replacement of stairs at Errington Community Park. This work is scheduled for April.

### ***Area G***

Contractor consultation and planning was carried out regarding building upgrades at the Women's Institute Hall at Dashwood Community Park. Janitorial work and contract approval was carried out for the hall.

At Neden Way Community Park staff cleaned garbage from park trails.

At Miller Road Community Park staff inspected trails, and cleared debris and garbage.

Snow removal work was carried out at Barclay Crescent Bridge.

Staff prepared and distributed the March 10<sup>th</sup> POSAC meeting agenda package, attended the meeting and reviewed the meeting minutes.

### ***Area H***

Staff liaised with Ministry of Forests regarding the start-up of forest fire abatement work at Oakdowne Community Park.

### **Community Parks and Trails Strategy - Developers' Information Package – Parkland Dedication**

A draft guide was prepared by park staff in March. The document is intended to simplify the parkland dedication process at time of subdivision by providing developers with a succinct outline of desirable parkland types and instances that warrant cash-in-lieu.

## **Community Works Projects**

### ***Area B***

Staff continued to work with consultants on the preliminary design work for the trail. Staff, consultants and Area Director met with select neighbours along the proposed trail route to talk about potential conflicts with signs and/or fences in the road right-of-way. Staff and the Area Director met with staff from the Ministry of Transportation to review the preliminary design and seek guidance on specific questions relating to road drainage, potential future crosswalks and the potential for future bike lanes along the trail route. Staff also prepared for the open house, updating online information and creating a questionnaire. The public Open House, held at the end of March, saw over 100 people. The event was a joint effort between the Village Trail and Huxley Community Park. Ongoing design work will continue through the summer.

### ***Area C - East Wellington/Pleasant Valley***

Staff met with select community members and the Area Director to talk about how to improve pedestrian safety along Jingle Pot Rd. Staff will follow up with MoTI regarding the possibility of improving the shoulder along sections of the road.

### ***Area G***

Staff met to discuss development permits in the area around Wembley Mall and opportunities for improving pedestrian access through this area. Staff will be coordinating with the City of Parksville and MoTI to work on this initiative. Staff also met with the Oceanside Cycling Coalition to reconnect on the topic of improving cycling opportunities in the area. Correspondence with this group will continue with trail projects underway in this area.

### ***Morden Colliery Bridge***

In March, staff coordinated survey work with Harold Engineering for the undeveloped portion of the Morden Colliery Regional Trail right-of-way. Neighbouring land owners were notified by mail with regards to the land survey (early April), and future trail development and bridge construction. Staff prepared a project site context map for coordination purposes with the Engineers who will be working on the bridge design.

### ***Regional Significant Gas Tax Project***

Staff received 9 submissions from engineering firms bidding on the design of the RDN's first piece of E&N Rail with Trail (from Coombs to Parksville to French Creek). The Evaluation Committee reviewed all proposals and made a recommendation to the Board. The Board approved the contract to Koers and Associates and the project is scheduled to begin at the beginning of April.

Park Staff installed two trail counters along the pre developed trail.

## **Regional Parks and Trails**

### ***Arboretum***

Park staff met with the volunteers to develop a work plan and the beginnings of a management plan for the land. Park staff installed a surveillance sign and angled the tree id posts. Park staff visited the Arboretum to review the current status of the land and reviewed its potential for the future.

### ***Beachcomber Regional Park***

Park Staff posted letters on illegally moored vessels indicating that the vessels would be removed after two weeks. One boat was impounded after the two weeks ended. A hazardous tree was then removed after all vessels were removed. Park Staff conducted trail maintenance cleaning the stairs and collected trail counter data. Of the two trail counters installed one was stolen this month and has been replaced with another counter. Data is being collected at this location for management plan purposes.

### ***Benson Creek Falls***

Park staff conducted park inspections and maintained trails. Park staff inspected a report regarding the fence being compromised at the falls and that it was being undermined by flow from the falls. This was not the case. The fence was wiggled to some degree but was made stable in a short order of time. Park staff stabilized the fence at the falls, and installed boundary and directional signs. Park Staff met with MOTI staff to review installing no parking signs and expanding Creekside Community Park parking lot to accommodate parking for BCFRP.

### ***Big Qualicum River Regional Trail***

Park staff conducted park inspections and maintained trails. Park Staff installed new directional trail signage.

### ***Coats Marsh Regional Park***

Park staff conducted park inspections, maintained trails, monitored the berm and the pond leveler.

### ***Descanso Regional Park***

Park staff used leaf blowers to clean the sites, trails and roads. Park staff also installed new sign posts made out of the hazard trees previously felled and milled on site with the Park Operator. The Park Operator installed replacement signs, new site number signs along with the last of the new fire rings.

A Park Operator Agreement is being prepared for 1-year renewal, and 2013 Campground reports were requested from the Operator.

### ***Horne Lake Regional Park***

Park staff completed brushing a trail linking the BC Parks parking lot and the Regional parking lot. Further campground improvements were completed in the park such as new trails, roads and group site improvements.

Staff met with the Park Operator to review the Annual Report on the first year of operation.

### ***Englishman River Regional Park***

Park Staff carried out routine inspections of Englishman River Regional Park and Top Bridge Park. Staff responded to maintenance issues identified by the Volunteer Park Warden including; garbage issues, ATV trespass, vandalism, graffiti and suspect hazardous trees.

Park staff made two picnic tables out of a windthrown cedar. They were delivered to the Hatchery for Watershed school field trips.

### ***Lighthouse Country Regional Trail***

Park staff removed a tree which fell over the railway tracks near the crossing. A trail and bridge inspection was conducted after the snow storm. Park staff cleaned the bridges that span over Nash and Ridgewil, cleared grass at the Lioness staging area and collected trail counter data.

The development of 5 interpretive signs along the trail is in the final design phase, with production and installation planned for early summer.

### ***Little Qualicum River Regional Park***

Park staff conducted park inspections and maintained trails. Staff cleaned off the stairs at the swimming area. Park staff installed warning high water level signs throughout the park

### ***Little Qualicum River Estuary Regional Conservation Area***

Park staff conducted park inspections monitoring the conservation area.

### ***Mount Benson Regional Park***

Park staff and NALT staff continue to brush and construct the Old Logging Road Loop. Park staff installed fire reporting signs along the boundary that have their location and contact numbers to report a fire. NALT volunteers installed more trail counters as per a volunteer warden's request. Staff cleared snow and ice from the Witchcraft Lake boardwalk.

Staff met with members of NALT to review the progress on the covenant. Small changes were made to the document and accompanying maps.

### ***Morden Colliery Regional Trail***

Park staff conducted park inspections and maintained trails. Four hazard trees were removed at the bridge site near Cedar Plaza. Park Staff met with MOTI staff to review installing a crosswalk and associated signs on Woobank Road.

Staff met on site to review the possibility of a kiosk at the trailhead on Cedar Rd.

### ***Moorecroft Regional Park***

Park Staff repaired a section of split rail fence at vesper point after it was pushed over during one weekend. A danger tree was removed and a regulation sign was installed to act as a bollard at the main entrance. Park staff conducted park inspections and maintained trails. Trail upgrades were completed in the park before the nesting bird window. Trail counter data was collected.

### ***Nanaimo River Regional Park***

Park staff conducted park inspections and maintained trails. Park staff and Water Services moved a boulder at the Frey Road entrance to allow for wheelchair accessibility. Park staff removed a hazardous tree from the trail.

### ***Parksville-Qualicum Links***

Park staff removed snow and ice from the bridge during and after the storms.

### ***Top Bridge Regional Trail***

Park staff conducted park inspections and maintained trails.

### ***Trans Canada Trail***

Park staff conducted park inspections and maintained trails. Park Staff looked at the requested rerouting of a section identified by the Backcountry Horsemen’s Society as being currently too dangerous for horses.

Staff met with a representative from the TCT to look at roadside options for a detour route around the Nanaimo River. None of the options offer an easy fix, meaning more than simply putting up some signs would be required. Narrow road shoulders and reduced visibility in some areas along Haslam and Cedar Roads do not offer a safe alternative for trail users. In the long-term, the E&N rail corridor will offer the best route for the TCT, however this will not be in place for several years.

### ***Witchcraft Regional Trail***

Park staff cut back brush from the trail to expose trail markers.

### **Miscellaneous**

Numerous park inspection visits and maintenance projects were conducted throughout the district including garbage removal, brushing and trail maintenance, new sign layouts and installations, and sign maintenance, and numerous information requests were received from the public. Quarterly playground inspections were also completed across the district. Contract administration work for annual park maintenance contracts has continued throughout the month. Parks Operations building safety inspections were completed and submitted to the Joint Health and Safety Committee. New tires were purchased/installed on one of the department’s fleet vehicles.

### ***Trail Counter Data***

<b>Month</b>	<b>Beachcomber RP #1</b>	<b>E&amp;N Trail #2</b>	<b>E&amp;N Trail Lowery Rd.</b>	<b>LCRT Linx Road</b>	<b>LCRT Lioness Blvd.</b>	<b>Moorecroft La Selva Place</b>
2013-07-01				1,315	2,697	
2013-08-01				1,235	2,319	
2013-09-01				841	1,552	
2013-10-01				695	1,001	
2013-11-01				706	1,250	
2013-12-01				653	1,124	
2014-01-01				592	1,535	
2014-02-01				622	604	
2014-03-01	3,770	52	31	16	1,266	907

Please Note Trail Counters were moved to new locations. Lighthouse Country Regional Trail trail counters have remained in place. Also numbers should be divided by two as people go past the counter twice to return to their vehicle or home.

### ***Operational and Efficiency Review***

Staff have been involved in interviewing other staff and doing research on benchmarks and preparing questions for stakeholders.



**Park Use Permits and Events**

- Gabriola Streamkeepers received a permit for a stream stewardship work at Winthuysen Creek at Descanso RP.
- A PUP was set up for the RDN Watershed Protection group to do school group tours in May-June, Sept-Oct for Nanaimo River RP and Englishman River RP.
- BCCF completed a PUP for BCIT restoration ecology students to tour restoration projects at Big Qualicum River RP.
- The Parks dept. assisted the Recreation dept. with selection of Golden Shoe park sites for this year's hunt.

**Publications and Communications**

- The 2014 Breathe Guide was produced and distributed to major RDN facilities and public venues, e.g. Visitor Centres, Nanaimo Aquatic Centre, etc. as well as an on-line version published on the RDN website.
- The Parks section of the Spring 2014 Active Living Guide was prepared and published.

**Recommendations**

That the Parks Update Report for February and March 2014 be received as information.

*Original copy signed by W. Marshall*

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Manager of Parks Services

*Original copy signed by T. Osborne*

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General Manager Concurrence

## Parks Functions Report

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**TO:** Tom Osborne  
General Manager of Recreation and Parks

**DATE:** May 9, 2014

**FROM:** Wendy Marshall  
Manager of Parks Services

**FILE:**

**SUBJECT: Monthly Update of Community Parks and Regional Parks and Trails Projects**

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During April staff have been involved with the following projects and issues.

### **Electoral Area Community Parks**

#### **Area A**

Two new garbage and recycling containers were installed at the Cedar Skate Park. Construction and chain link fencing was also removed. Following completion of this park development, ongoing and regular garbage collection and maintenance visits were conducted. Staff also continued research into options for the installation of a video surveillance system for the park.

Ramp debris and garbage were removed at the Nelson Road boat launch.

Trail brushing and garbage removal was carried out at Pylades Road beach access.

Staff provided information regarding the planning and construction process of Cedar Skate Park to the District of North Cowichan.

#### **Area B**

At Rollo McClay Community Park, ongoing well maintenance work is being conducted by Water Services staff, requiring the provision of purchased water for the washrooms and concession while staff work to correct a turbidity issue with the well water. Garbage service continued at the park, along with several beach access sites on the island.

Further to an agreement with a landowner adjacent to the southern boundary of 707 Community Park, a gate was installed on private property in order to control vehicle access into the park. This is the last of three gates planned for the park. Keys have also now been distributed to police, fire and ambulance services on Gabriola.

Staff continued to work on the Huxley Park Master Plan and updated the RDN webpage to provide the most recent information on the process.

Staff continued to develop a site plan for the proposed upgrades to the Davidson Bay water access parking lot. The Islands Trust planning department as well as the immediate neighbours were contacted to discuss the draft plans.

Park inspection and pruning work was carried out at Joyce Lockwood Community Park.

***Area C – Extension***

A building permit application for the future pedestrian bridge in Extension Miners Community Park, including final engineered drawings and geotechnical report, was submitted by staff. Building permit approval was received end of April and bridge construction is scheduled to commence mid-June.

***Area C - East Wellington/Pleasant Valley***

Site inspections and garbage clean-up work were carried out at Anders and Dorrit's Community Park. The contracted mowing services has also started up for this site.

A new bike rack was installed at Meadow Drive Community Park. Contracted mowing services were also commenced for this site.

***Area E***

Park inspection and hazard tree removal work was conducted at Brickyard Community Park.

Fallen trees were bucked and garbage removed at Dolphin Lake Community Park.

***Area F***

Replacement stairs were installed at the concession building at Errington Community Park. Trail brushing and pruning work was also completed. Staff met on site with a park volunteer and member of the Errington War Memorial Hall Board to examine options for park maintenance work scheduled for this year, including re-grading of drainage ditches in the park, and roadside parking improvements.

Staff provided planning assistance to the Silver Spurs Riding Club regarding their Giant Donkey Competitive Trail Ride planned for July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

***Area F***

Staff reviewed and provided parks comments to the RDN Planning department regarding the Earthbank Resources rezoning application.

The Meadowood CP Phase 1 Construction tender closed April 11<sup>th</sup>, with the selection of Milestone Equipment Contracting Ltd of Nanaimo. Playground equipment was ordered by staff. Monthly information meetings have been conducted with the CMRA Park Subcommittee. A BC Tire Stewardship Grant was received (matching grant) to upgrade to rubber tire play surfacing. There is ongoing coordination of volunteers for completion of the rough grading the Phase 2 park area and to receive donations of in-kind materials for the park construction e.g. boulders, timbers, pavilion construction. The quarterly Recreation Grant report for Jan-March 2014 was submitted.

***Area G***

Staff responded to a call regarding hazard trees at Riley Road Community Park, and conducted brushing and garbage removal work.

Planning work continued for upgrades to the Women's Institute Hall at Dashwood Community Park.

### ***Area H***

Park sign planning work was completed for Oakdowne Community Park. Ordered signs and posts have been received and installation is currently planned for May. Staff maintained contact with Ministry of Forests regarding ongoing forest fire abatement work at the site.

Staff prepared and distributed the April 2<sup>nd</sup> POSAC meeting agenda package, attended the meeting and reviewed the meeting minutes.

At Illusion Lake Community Park, staff installed new signage, and removed garbage and hazard trees.

Brushing and garbage removal work was completed at Sunnybeach Community Park.

## **Community Works Projects**

### ***Area B***

Parks staff compiled the input received from the questionnaires that were distributed at the March 29<sup>th</sup> Open House and posted the summary on the project website. The Consultants continue to work on developing the design for the trail. A meeting has been arranged with the Ministry of Transportation in early June to review the design plans.

### ***Area C - East Wellington/Pleasant Valley***

Staff have arranged a meeting with MoTI for early June to address pedestrian safety along sections of Jingle Pot Rd and discuss options for improving the roadside condition.

### ***Area G***

Regional and Community parks staff have briefly discussed community trail connections in the area surrounding Wembley Rd and Parks staff have requested plans from the City of Parksville in relation to development in the area.

### ***Morden Colliery Bridge***

Survey work was completed along the undeveloped portion of the Morden Colliery Regional Trail right-of-way in anticipation of a future pedestrian bridge crossing over the Nanaimo River. A feasibility study and preliminary bridge design will be completed by Harold Engineering in May.

### ***Regional Significant Gas Tax Project***

The project start-up meeting for the E&N Rail Trail was held in early April between parks staff and Koers & Associates Engineering Ltd. The project is off to a good start, with survey work underway in April and to continue into May. An environmental report was also prepared that describes vegetation and wildlife within the corridor. Staff prepared letters that were sent neighbouring residences and landowners, introducing the project and letting them know about the survey work that will be underway. A second letter was prepared and distributed to approximately 30 mid-island stakeholders who may be interested in the Rail Trail project. Stakeholders include adjacent local-governments, school districts, tourism, recreation and business associations, and emergency response agencies. A questionnaire was included with the letter to solicit preliminary input to the project. Letters have been drafted to local First Nations and will be sent out in early May. Trail design work will begin following completion of the topographical survey. On-going community liaison will occur throughout the life of the project. The project website is [www.rdn.bc.ca/railtrail](http://www.rdn.bc.ca/railtrail)

## **Regional Parks and Trails**

### ***Arboretum***

Park staff conducted park inspections and park maintenance.

### ***Beachcomber Regional Park***

Park Staff conducted trail maintenance and park inspections. Trail counter data was collected.

### ***Benson Creek Falls***

Park staff conducted park inspections and maintained trails. Park staff installed new posts with regulatory signs, boundary signs and emergency location signs.

### ***Big Qualicum River Regional Trail***

Park staff conducted park inspections and maintained trails. Park Staff installed new directional trail signage and brushed out Hunts Creek Bridge.

### ***Coats Marsh Regional Park***

Park staff conducted park inspections, maintained trails, monitored the berm and the pond leveler.

### ***Descanso Regional Park***

A one-year renewal (2014-15) of the Park Operator Agreement was set up for signature. The 2013 Annual Report was received from the Park Operator. Park staff conducted site inspections.

### ***Horne Lake Regional Park***

Park staff brushed and removed roots from the new trails. A hazard tree assessment was completed with RLC staff. Park staff applied grass seed on the berms and around the bathrooms at the group sites.

### ***Englishman River Regional Park***

Park Staff carried out routine inspections of Englishman River Regional Park and Top Bridge Park. Staff responded to maintenance issues identified by the Volunteer Park Warden including; garbage issues, ATV trespass, vandalism, graffiti and suspect hazardous trees. Park surveys were attached to the kiosk for the public to provide comment on park services.

### ***Lighthouse Country Regional Trail***

Park staff conducted park inspections, maintained trails and collected trail counter data. Park surveys were attached to the kiosk for the public to provide comment on park services.

### ***Little Qualicum River Regional Park***

Park staff conducted park inspections and maintained trails. Design and layout of five interpretation signs was completed and were ordered for production.

### ***Little Qualicum River Estuary Regional Conservation Area***

Park staff conducted park inspections monitoring the conservation area.

### ***Mount Benson Regional Park***

Park staff conducted park inspections and maintained trails. Park surveys were attached to the kiosk for the public to provide comment on park services.

**Morden Colliery Regional Trail**

Park staff conducted park inspections and maintained trails.

**Moorecroft Regional Park**

Park staff conducted park inspections, maintained trails and installed new directional signs. Trail counter data was collected. Park surveys were attached to the kiosk for the public to provide comment on park services.

Staff continue to liaise with the Moorecroft Stewards volunteers to support their fundraising activities.

**Nanaimo River Regional Park**

Park staff conducted park inspections and maintained trails. Park surveys were attached to both kiosks for the public to provide comment on park services.

**Top Bridge Regional Trail**

Park staff conducted park inspections, maintained trails and installed a new concrete garbage can at the Industrial Way trailhead. Park surveys were attached to the kiosk for the public to provide comment on park services.

**Trans Canada Trail**

Park staff conducted trail inspections and maintained trails.

**Witchcraft Regional Trail**

Park staff conducted trail inspections and maintained trails.

**Miscellaneous**

Numerous information requests were received from the public and followed up with a response from staff. Quarterly playground inspections were also completed across the district. Contract administration work for annual park maintenance contracts has continued throughout the month. Quotations for electrical and brake equipment upgrades were sought and received for two fleet vehicles. Staff also attended meetings as part of the Asset Management review process for the organization. More sessions are planned for May.

**Provincial Land Tenures**

Staff met with the province regarding the renewal and upgrade of crown land tenures for the Morden Colliery Regional Trail, Benson Creek Falls Regional Park and Moorecroft Regional Park. Tenure renewal applications will be prepared following completion of required survey work and site plans.

**Trail Counter Data**

Month	Beachcomber RP #1	Beachcomber RP #2	E&N Trail #2	E&N Trail Lowery Rd.	LCRT Linx Rd.	LCRT Lioness Blvd.	Moorecroft La Selva Place
2014-01-01					592	1,535	
2014-02-01					622	604	
2014-03-01	3,869		56	33	109	1,103	822
2014-04-01	2,683	501	95	52	5,325	146	553

### ***Operational and Efficiency Review***

Staff continued with their involvement in the department staff interviews. Staff also developed questions for specific stakeholder groups including park users, park partners and other local government park departments. Input from these groups continues to be received. Staff also reviewed job descriptions and policies and procedures.

### ***Park Use Permits and Events***

- A dry run of the Watershed School Field Trips took place at Nanaimo River RP and Englishman River RP.
- GALTT set up a Park Use Permit (PUP) to conduct guided nature hikes at Descanso RP, Cox and 707 Community Parks.
- Mid-Island Enhancement Society set up a PUP to conduct Streamkeeper monitoring of Englishman River RP.
- A PUP was set up by 4-H group to run a concession at Rollo McClay CP from April-September.
- Assistance provided to Mid-Island Enhancement Society in their preparations for the June 8 River Run.
- Permission letter written for the CMRA to support their application to the Air Forces for a fly-by at their Canada Day celebrations at Meadowood Park.

### ***Publications and Communications***

- Staff continue to distribute the Breathe Guide to public venues.
- The RDN parks websites continues to be updated and expired information removed.
- Parks staff continue to support and participate in the Cross-Departmental Committee (quarterly meetings).

### ***Parks-GIS staff meeting***

Parks staff had a positive meeting with GIS staff to review the current collection of park features and to discuss how we can work towards having our park maps produced by the GIS department.

### ***Staff Training***

- Staff participated in a ½ day seminar hosted by City of Nanaimo on the effective use of social media.
- Staff attended a four day BCRPA Regional Parks Workshop and Symposium.
- Staff attended a Trails Risk Assessment workshop.

### **Recommendations**

That the Parks Update Report for April 2014 be received as information.

*Original copy signed by W. Marshall*

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Manager of Parks Services

*Original copy signed by T. Osborne*

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General Manager Concurrence

# Huxley Community Park

## Master Plan

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### ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY #2 & DESIGN DIRECTION

#### Introduction

Public engagement is integral to the development of the Huxley park Master Plan. Overall, the process includes three stages: two open houses and questionnaires and one final presentation of the preferred concept plan made available online with an opportunity to provide feedback through a third and final questionnaire.

#### Overview of Input Received

A second open house was held on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Two concept plans were presented which were developed based on input received from the community through the first open house and questionnaire. Attendees of the second open house were encouraged to provide feedback on the concept plans by completing a second questionnaire. This questionnaire was also made available online at [www.rdn.bc.ca/parks](http://www.rdn.bc.ca/parks) website from March 29<sup>th</sup> through to May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Approximately 80 people attended the open house. All paper copies of the questionnaire were input into the online survey and are therefore included in the summary of responses provided below. A total of one hundred and seventy two (172) responses were collected.

#### Design Direction for Preferred Concept Plan

The following design elements and improvements are recommended to be incorporated into the final Preferred Master Plan for the park:

##### Sport Court

- Maintain existing location and footprint.
- Investigate a solution for the existing gaps in the boards which pose a hazard when sticks get caught in them. Understanding that these gaps also provide drainage and that the boards are designed to flex when users hit them thereby reducing injury.
- Explore court surfacing, side board and netting upgrade options.
- Provide upgrades to bleachers.
- Investigate the potential of providing a covered viewing area.

##### Tennis Courts

- Maintain existing location, footprint and orientation.
- Explore court surfacing upgrade options.
- Consider relocation of and improvements to the tennis equipment storage shed
- Provide a tennis practice wall as a separate space that does not interfere with the tennis courts when they are in use.



### Playground

- No playground. Highest priority has been given to providing a skate /bike facility within the park, given this there is not adequate space for a playground as well).

### Skate / Bike Park

- Provide a cast-in-place skate/bike park (approx.. 6000 sq.ft. / 560 sq.m. in size)
- Locate along the North Rd frontage
- Investigate feasibility of constructing a concrete flow trail complete with skate/bike features along eastern edge of the park
- Consider providing a temporary bike pump and/or trials track in future skate park/ skate trail location.
- Provide a small covered space close to the skate park.
- Incorporate existing memorial bench close to skate park area.

### Parking

- Provide parking with access from North Rd. with a minimum of 12 parking spaces, including one delineated handicapped parking stall.
- Gravel surfacing, concrete parking wheel stops.

### Restroom facilities

- Provide a pump out washroom (or porta-potty with surround) in the park.

### Outdoor Gym equipment

- Provide an outdoor gym equipment area

### Bus Stop

- Provide a bus stop pull out along North Rd.

### Plaza (beside sport court)

- Paved plaza area.
- Bollards separating park plaza from Folk Life Village.
- Permanent seating built into slope.
- Versatile gathering area/performance space/covered space?

### Stage /performance area

- No stage

### Fencing

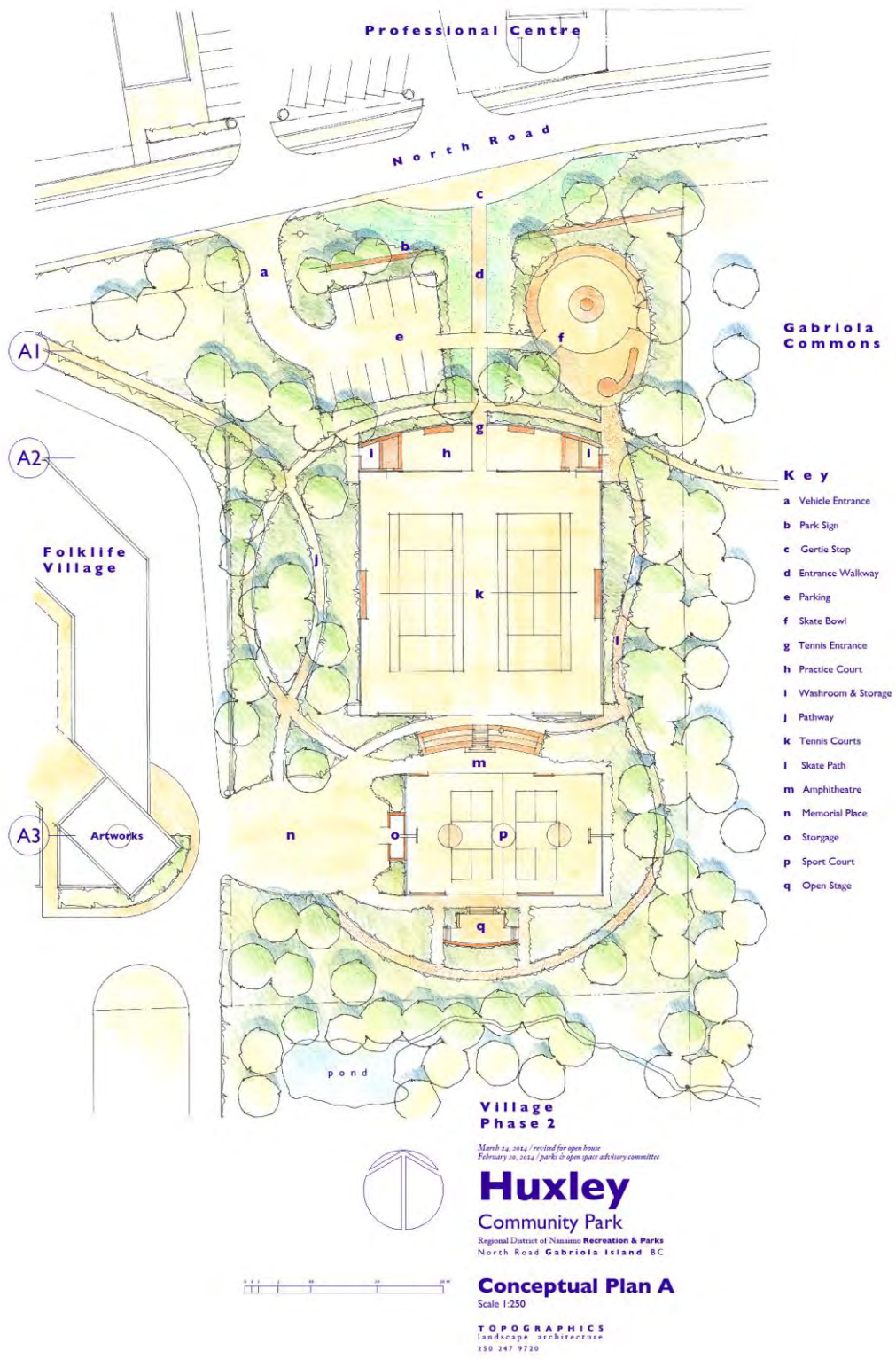
- Provide fencing along southern and eastern property line as well as the western property line.

### Trails

- Maintain trail connection between the park and The Commons.
- No loop perimeter walking trail.

# QUESTIONNAIRE #2 SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

## CONCEPT A

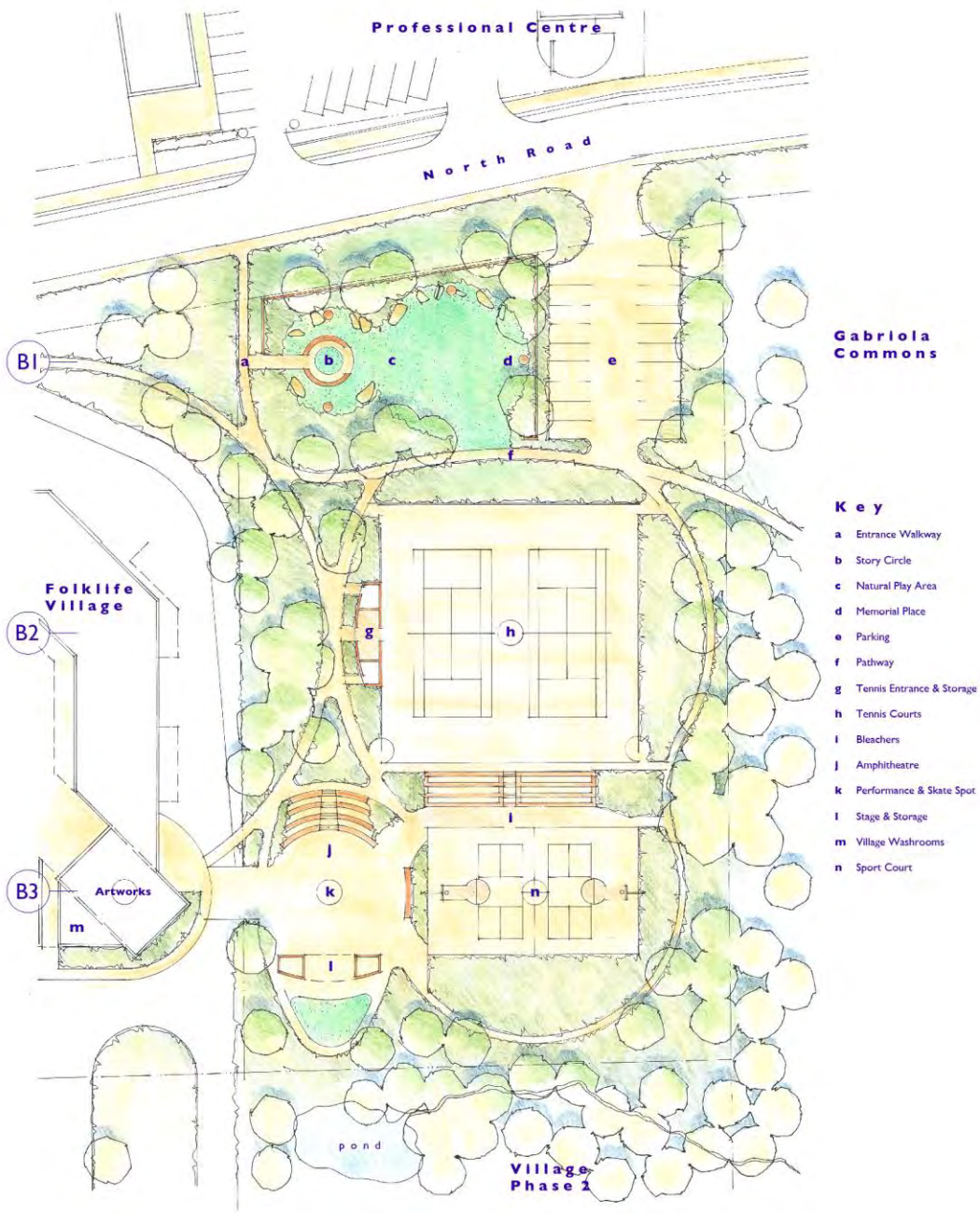


**Question 1**

**CONCEPT A - A summary of the main elements incorporated into Concept A is provided below. Please use this checklist to evaluate the plan.**

	like	dislike	Total Responses
resurface existing sport court	116 (89.2%)	14 (10.8%)	130
improve bleachers (can double as amphitheater)	118 (88.7%)	15 (11.3%)	133
removable perimeter sport court boards (sport court doubles as special event space)	83 (66.4%)	42 (33.6%)	125
relocate/expand storage area for sport court users	88 (73.9%)	31 (26.1%)	119
improve existing tennis court surface	107 (82.9%)	22 (17.1%)	129
expand/relocate storage area for tennis users	78 (65.5%)	41 (34.5%)	119
tennis gathering area & backboard	87 (71.9%)	34 (28.1%)	121
skate park located along North Rd park frontage	94 (69.1%)	42 (30.9%)	136
concrete poured-in-place concrete with features (approx. 6000 sq. ft. /560 sq.m.)	109 (85.8%)	18 (14.2%)	127
skateboard/bike flow trail, poured-in-place concrete with features	109 (85.2%)	19 (14.8%)	128
outhouse (pump out)	86 (61.4%)	54 (38.6%)	140
no natural playground	60 (48.4%)	64 (51.6%)	124
formal entrance walkway from North Rd.	105 (84.0%)	20 (16.0%)	125
expand /formalize park walking trail network; no loop perimeter trail	85 (74.6%)	29 (25.4%)	114
special event space/sport court area (removal sport court boards allows the area to double as a special event space)	91 (68.9%)	41 (31.1%)	132
a permanent stage located to the south of the sport court	89 (65.9%)	46 (34.1%)	135

# CONCEPT B



March 24, 2014 / revised for open house  
 February 20, 2014 / parks & open space advisory committee

## Huxley

Community Park  
 Regional District of Nanaimo Recreation & Parks  
 North Road Gabriola Island BC

### Conceptual Plan B

Scale 1:250

**TOPOGRAPHICS**  
 landscape architecture  
 250 247 9720

## Question 2

A summary of the main elements incorporated into Concept B is provided below. Please use this checklist to evaluate the plan.

	like	dislike	Total Responses
resurface existing sport court	96 (78.0%)	27 (22.0%)	123
improve bleachers	98 (81.0%)	23 (19.0%)	121
retain existing sport court perimeter boards (improved if required)	68 (61.8%)	42 (38.2%)	110
relocate/expand storage area for sport court users	66 (62.3%)	40 (37.7%)	106
improve existing tennis court surface	82 (68.9%)	37 (31.1%)	119
expand storage area for tennis users	54 (50.9%)	52 (49.1%)	106
no tennis practice backboard	26 (25.7%)	75 (74.3%)	101
skateboard/bike park located beside sport court	44 (36.4%)	77 (63.6%)	121
movable skateboard/bike ramps affixed to concrete plaza (area doubles as special event space)	37 (33.3%)	74 (66.7%)	111
no skateboard/bike trail	17 (15.3%)	94 (84.7%)	111
improve existing Folklife Village public restrooms (upgrade & extend access hours)	112 (84.2%)	21 (15.8%)	133
natural playground located along North Rd	87 (68.5%)	40 (31.5%)	127
formal entrance walkway from North Rd	82 (69.5%)	36 (30.5%)	118
formalizes/extends park walking trail network; perimeter loop trail	68 (60.2%)	45 (39.8%)	113
special event space/skateboard plaza (with removable skate ramps)	48 (41.0%)	69 (59.0%)	117
permanent stage located in the plaza (doubles as covered shelter/sport court storage area)	64 (53.8%)	55 (46.2%)	119

### QUESTION 3

#### Do you have any other comments or ideas?

#	Response
1.	The tennis court is so large in the center of the park could be more suited to be located in the current location of the sports court
2.	I'm sorry I didn't make it to the open house this past weekend, and I can't get these survey images to open in detail. As the skatepark and Stephen Smith's legacy have been mentioned here, I have a couple specific questions maybe Topographics or anyone representing RDN could answer... Does concept A include poured concrete skate park features? What size area are we talking about allotted to skate park? (images won't open in detail for me - are they online anywhere else?). Would there be any counsel from skatepark designers in regards to the layout and geometry of features? It was my understanding from the press release in the Sounder a couple weeks ago that neither of the proposed concepts included permanent concrete features. Would be thrilled if I've got this wrong. Hope everyone in the community considers that movable/temporary skate ramps and park features as outlined in Concept B will NOT be a lasting solution for our youth. Can't imagine they are what Stephen and his friends envisioned either.
3.	Better washrooms for sure. And better access to stores from park side. Love plan 2.
4.	Use must have a skate park, a kids park, and proper wash room facilities. The tennis Court and sports Courts can go together. Please keep in mind people have Acres of trail space all over Gabriola so the only ones to use this will be teens and Mom's with their little kids. Maybe sometimes in the summer people play tennis or the odd hockey but really the focus must be a skate park at least for all the people who donated for the last one and due to one persons greed, we ended up with absolute nothing for all are hard earned money. You will find a good skate park used every possible day by many different groups. There are alot of old time skaters who would love to be able to teach their little ones the art, its not just a place for teens! Thank you for any consideration:)
5.	The sports venues are more important than an ampitheatre, we already have the haven for theatre productions and music and the concert on the green at the golf course but this is the only spot for skateboarding, tennis and hockey. As for the natural playground that is just redundant we live in a natural playground, there is the Malaspina Galleries, Descanso bay and the camp ground, The 707 Park, Rollo park, humming bird park, Elder Forest park, whale bone beach park, Sandwell park, Drumbeg Provincial Park etc. etc. We really need a good sports venue so the young people on this island have some thing to do and older people as well, many people play hockey and tennis. If this Island is lacking in anything it is paved surfaces not green spaces.
6.	I'm not sure the format of the survey really works to get my feelings across. Basically I feel that the skate park should be along North Road (higher visibility), and I feel that having removable ramps for the special event space is problematic - the special event space would be much, much better suited to the sport court. Sure, a natural playground is nice, but the school is practically across the street, so that demographic is being well-served - the teen demographic not so much. The skate/bike park in Concept A looks *much* better. I don't see why improving access to Folklife's washroom facilities has to be limited to Concept B. I think most folks would prefer that, and I hope the layout of your survey does not cause

	people to favour Concept B for the washroom access, ignoring other aspects of the plan.
7.	Not really, I just wanted to say how great it would be to see Huxley Park used regularly again!
8.	keep it simple. The fewer breakable parts the lower the maintenance costs.
9.	I would be happy to volunteer, not so much in the planning but when it is finally put together if needed. Jacqui Braid jacbraid@shaw.ca 250 325 5050
10.	I don't see a need for a natural play area when the entire island is a natural play area. The skate park should be dedicated feature of the park. Making the sport court multipurpose for special events seems more ideal.
11.	I wish a covered (roof) dry floor arena could be considered as a significant enhancement to this whole plan. something that could accomodate various sport activities year round. it would need to be big enough for things like floor hockey , lacrosse, rollerderby etc. would be better for the many seniors and folks who are here during the winter months when huxley park is barely used
12.	make the skate park next to north road and MUCH BIGGER
13.	the park should focus on sports, not special events. The park has been used for a long time for different sports and that should be supported.
14.	I would like to see an outdoor gym where Lesley Standwick can teach fitness classes or I could work out for free with my friends, and a bike pump track.
15.	Over ten years ago, a young Gabriolan named Stephen Smith was tragically murdered in Nanaimo. Stephen was an avid skateboard fan and was a daily fixture at Huxley Park. All his Gabriola friends asked of the adults from our community was that a new skate park be developed to commemorate his memory. It is shameful that we have taken so long to make this simple request come to life - a tribute to one of our own children, a tribute to all of our island children. A Stephen Smith memorial skate park is a MUST for any future development of Huxley Park.
16.	I could not read the text for each of the Keys, so couldn't actually answer accurately. If there was a way to repost this survey with larger print, it would benefit your purpose...and ours!! - minus: no playground/greenspace obviously visible in first design - plus: outdoor stage ideas are excellent, but i could not decipher(small text) where the skatepark would be on the second design..... - prefer the permanent performance space over the removeable skatepark, if that was the proposal.... - question: would a performance space need to be "rented" from the RDN, or could it be used(prearranged, of course, to access sound/lights etc)without charge for summer concerts etc....? thanks for asking the public for opinion!
17.	Please, more space for skaters and teens, there needs to be a visible and cool place for them to want to be..
18.	incorporate a third tennis court and lighting
19.	I Think this is a perfect addition to this community. A fun and safe place for all ages to gather. Thank you to everyone who is making this vision a reality!!
20.	Add 3rd tennis court

21.	There is already an overflow of people wanting to play tennis especially on the sunny days and it is only early April. I have seen some people come to play but don't want to wait so have left. Last year on many occasions there were many more players than the 2 courts could accommodate. And as Huxley Park gets developed it will attract more people who will be wanting to use the facilities. A third court should fill the need for now and into the near future. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.
22.	add a 3rd tennis court
23.	Separate skateboard park from pickle ball courts. The two user groups are of disparate ages and interests. It doesn't make sense to put pickleball playing seniors right next to a noisy environment such as a skateboard park. The skateboard park should be located in a highly visible area near North Road rather than hidden from view next to the Sport Court.
24.	Build a third tennis court
25.	Hockey court should remain as HOCKEY court, it has been religiously used for 20 years now... If it ain't broke - don't fix it.
26.	The addition of a third tennis court would be of the greatest advantage as well as a necessity if there is a desire to encourage and satisfy the growing interest in this sport. Tennis has been shown to be a growing sport among the youth throughout the country. Two courts are not sufficient to service the growing numbers which constantly attend for play. Our weather encourages this sport to be played for the majority of the year, and attendance at the courts prove this. There are some enthusiasts who resort to going into Nanaimo in order to be confident of being able to have court time. The tennis practice court, is used at every available time and remains a necessary item. There is no denying the growing popularity of this sport, and all efforts to nurture this, would be a long term investment into the community, especially the youth.
27.	I would love to see a third tennis courts as waiting time to play tennis can be very lengthy and tennis seems to be becoming more popular
28.	Build a third tennis court
29.	There should be third tennis court added. The washrooms should be incorporated with the Folklife village. Unless regular cleaning staff are provided for the new park washrooms. Unlikely that the open natural play area would be used for it's intended purpose. Parking is at a premium. Maximize parking for tennis and all purpose sport court. Keep skateboard area close to N Rd. Provide lighting from street poles directed to skateboard area. Do not expect formal theatre stage area would receive regular use. Very infrequent - speratic and therefore not worth the investment.
30.	Instead of a tennis gathering area or added storage space, a third court would be ideal.
31.	a third tennis court is needed
32.	A third tennis court is proving to be necessary. This sport is growing in popularity especially with the youth. Too often, there are more players than the courts can accommodate. The tennis practice wall remains important & it's use is popular.
33.	We most definitely need a THIRD tennis court to accommodate the many people who enjoy playing.
34.	prefer concept A



35.	We need at least one more tennis court. Not interested in spending money to make the area pretty.
36.	Add a third tennis court!
37.	Outdoor gym equipment would make the park a destination for me and my fitness friends. Outdoor gym equipment is great way to include teens and adults who don't play formal sports like tennis or hockey. Perfect to drop in on while out for a run or for group outdoor fitness classes. Outdoor gyms are hugely popular in Europe; almost every playground is accompanied by gym equipment for adults. I am concerned that whatever paint and surfacing material is used on the courts must be appropriately anti-slip for the players of both racket sports and ball hockey. An extended ball-hockey court would also be welcome; I understand that is something the ball-hockey players, who have been playing hockey 2x/week for 20 years, would really like to see. They are the core park users and deserve such an improvement. Skatepark -essential. Thank you : )
38.	Tennis has exploded on Gabriola. New residents and children and grandchildren are taking this sport up. At present, the "oldsters" in the Tennis Club have to sit around for an hour or more waiting to play a match. And now we have the children and grandchildren wanting to come out and join us, not play at separate times. With the emphasis on fitness for everyone's health I commend the RDN for having the foresight to plan for the future. Before plans are finalized it seems reasonable to investigate and include the proposal for a third tennis court.
39.	I'm wondering if we could include an outdoor gym like they have in Parksville, and make the trail around the park a gravel or wood mulch trail for running? Kind of a outdoor circuit? It would be fun to have fitness classes in the park. Maybe it could be near the playground so us parents could keep an eye on our kids while using the gym equipment.
40.	Of the two plans displayed, I favour B as having the more all-around benefits to residents. In particular I like the permanent performance area, improving existing restroom facilities rather than installing an outhouse, perimeter walking path, and the natural play area. Overall, B appears to be more accessible to wheelchair/scooter users. My one concern is the lack of a North Rd bus stop.
41.	Outdoor gym! I think it's a great idea that I don't see in the concept drawings. I'd like to see such equipment included; i've used it before. Outdoor ping pong table, too :)))) I play pickleball so appreciate upgrades to the courts Thank you.
42.	1. horseshoe pitch 2. concrete table tennis table, out of the wind, by sports arena.
43.	A third tennis court would be nice if it could accommodated into the scheme of plan A or plan B. At present, early April, the two existing courts are being used to capacity and wait times are not uncommon, it will only get worse during the summer months.
44.	There are a few things I don't see that I would like to see. I think the existing hockey rink should be expanded so it has the same ratio size as a real rink. I don't understand what the "memorial place" in Concept A is for - why not extend the court when the surface is improved? It definitely needs a new board system too - it is ugly and dangerous when sticks get stuck. I'd also like to see outdoor exercise machines, like they have in Parksville. I would use that because the gym is too expensive and it would be fun to work-out outside in the park with friends. Maybe it could be next to the playground so we can watch our kids while squeezing in a little exercise! Also, I like the idea of the skateboard park in Concept

<p>A. I'd also like to see a bike skills course - I think that a loop could be fit in, and be built for much less cost than a skatepark.</p>
<p>45. like concept A better than concept B support better access from north road locate natural play area at memorial place (concept A) could bushes and storage area be moved to provide better sight lines for performance stage? washroom and garbage facilities are important and must be maintained.</p>
<p>46. I visit Huxley park regularly with my 20 month old son. I recognize that any improvements to the park will be welcome ones, however, I strongly believe it is paramount that a natural playground be included in the design no matter what the other preferences for design elements may be. The young families on Gabriola are a demographic that is often overlooked and I sincerely hope we can be recognized and included in this improvement process.</p>
<p>47. I think the play area should have play structures for toddlers through school age kids. There is nowhere else on the island that has this. Slides, swings, climbing areas, rope ladders etc. If it was made of wood it would have a nice natural look that blends with the environment. Also opening up the park by thinning trees and letting more sun in would be ideal. It would also help keep the park safer.</p>
<p>48. Not all questions answered as I'm not certain whether I strongly like/dislike some of the ideas. For example whether I like/dislike the idea to improve the tennis court as I'm not a user of them, I don't know whether at this time they are in need of any improvement. Due to the limited parking spaces available for the sports courts alone, I believe it would be bad idea for an amphitheatre in this area. Where would all the vehicles park?? Don't think the village would approve of their parking spaces to be utilized. I believe the RDN is trying to satisfy to many ideas for this limited spaced area. What started out to be a sports centre has grown to take-in too many activities,</p>
<p>49. Please include a playground in the plan. A playground is needed on Gabriola. Thank you!</p>
<p>50. Fostering a healthy youth community is simple... Youth need to be active, to have fun and to be able to do this in safety. Where on Gabriola do we have this environment for our teens? What happens when the above needs aren't met? Who then expects a consistent positive outcome for our young adults? We can't always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future. I believe that a permanent skate/bike park along North Road, as well as a skateboard/bike flow trail through the entire park is needed. This is where there would be greater visibility, separation from those partying in the woods, and could include permanent concrete fixtures. This is key to keeping the skate park a safe and positive place for all ages, where even young children would feel welcome. I understand that the natural playground could not go in, but there are several playgrounds on this island, including two that are suitable for toddlers. I dislike Concept B not just for visibility reasons. It also includes temporary skate structures which would face the same restrictions that the ramps that were already donated by the HOPE Centre and quickly removed. They don't stand the wetness of winter, rusting or rotting and quickly become unsafe. They're also easy for people who don't want skateboarders in the area to remove or vandalize. The fact that the space needs to be shared might add to the already strained dynamics that exist at Huxley Park. Most of the 30 teens that I know who skate, say they rarely use the "skate park area" at Huxley now, because they simply don't feel welcome there. These teens deserve a fun, safe place to skate and given that the youth have been trying to get something built here for over 10 years, I believe they will take care of it if we provide them with a</p>

	permanent, visible park that they can take ownership and pride of. Thanks for your hard work, time and consideration! Sincerely, Genevieve Cooper
51.	I don't think the sport court should double as an amphitheatre. This will cause conflicts with the user groups. More parking spaces.
52.	My highest priorities are good pickleball courts, tennis courts and a skateboard park. While I support the idea of a natural playground, I think that this should not be the priority for this area, as it can be located in another place. I also think that a special event space may try and do too much here and would reduce pickleball opportunities.
53.	Scrap any idea of amphitheatre/removable bleachers/removable sports park walls. Hockey and pickle ball users and other sports park users don't need to be bumped for other events. There are enough other island places for events. Anything removable generates costs and time for making the changes. We don't want to see rental costs for tennis or use of the sports park. The young people need a good and permanent skate board area, as in Concept A, not an area where they can be bumped for amphitheatre events. Removable skate/board ramps is not what our youth need. There is no need to take limited space in this park for a memorial area nor for a reading circle, whatever that is. Where do such ideas come from? This park is and must continue to be, foremost an athletic area: tennis, pickle ball, ball hockey, skaters/boarders, maybe lacrosse. No natural playground nor facilities for special events. Improve the sports court "above wall" fence which prevents balls from leaving the court, just like the tennis court. What about exercise stations along the walkways? Pump out outhouses will be nothing but grief. Improve the facilities at the Village, work with them. Combine the best of the 2 concepts. The surface of the sports court seems to me to be OK, save money there. Not sure about resurfacing the tennis courts, looks good to me now. Hope no trees are removed, actually need more shade when using the sports court.
54.	Hockey is a big part of sports players lives. So please don't ruin their Sunday or Thursday evening games by scheduling other events. They need this outlet. Double functions for sports court & special events plaza will cause conflict of space. Sport is important.
55.	a skate park would be so radical
56.	I would like to see the skatepark gain some much deserved attention for our community. Thank you
57.	Major Dtractors for Tennis 1. Ambient Noise eg: Traffic Noise Music Loud Conversation 2. Wind Please preserve as many trees between road and tennis courts. Please provide natural sound barriers between other park uses and tennis courts.
58.	I believe the most important task at hand is building a skateboard park and more ideas need to be discussed about funds and ways the community can come together and it be cheaper.
59.	Looks good let's get it built.
60.	Less parking > more trees Amphitheatre?? Wastes space and increases parking requirements. Maybe locate @ Rollo McCay where that demographick can drive and park.
61.	No Tree Removal, Skate Park where it is now. Plan B Please
62.	I think that washrooms in the park may prove problematic. Providing support/financing to convert the Folklife Village toilets into higher quality puvlic toilets is the way to go.

63.	Please consider a permanent skateboard park!
64.	Public space along north road is the best idea. The public space would get far more use than a skate park.
65.	If we are mainly involved and still have thursday and sunday. Making hockey courts safer, and more practical for the overwhelming amount of recreational use it brings to the island! If is not just Tennis that is played. Also we need the shade of the trees for summer.
66.	It seems a bit crowed in both concepts A&B. Do we need both a tennis court and a sport court? Find room for a bigger skateboard park.
67.	The park should be kept as a sport based park. Ther are no other areas to Play hockey on the island - hours of volunteer work and money has gone into the building of the hockey court. Special events should be held elsewhere.
68.	The trees south of the ball hockey court provide shade that is much appreciated.
69.	There are several outdoor gathering/amphitheatre spaces on the island. Considering the small area available, please focus on providing outdoor sport opportunities which are lacking on Gabriola. Working with the village to combine restroom facilities. A walkway trail/bike trail around the park is an improvement. Hockey is an important sport at the parks and should be encouraged as much as tennis is.
70.	Particularly interested in another stage - not qualified to comment on others.
71.	Need village centre community space targetting young children - preschoolers and their parents to make essential errands shopping, bank ect fun trips enjoyed together.
72.	Yes! to north road skate park. Plan A parking, bleacher and stage for open air summer concerts.
73.	1. Tennis backboard in A to small, in B no longer present. - should have one for practise warmup. 2. landscaping = \$ - natural landscaping is good 3. spend money on functional aspects - not necessary for "aesthetics" - preserve the trees.
74.	Leave the hockey courts as is.
75.	Prefer Plan A for Huxley. Suggest extending walkway down ferry dock hill.
76.	Re-configure tennis courts to include a third court and re-configure so nets go other way so the sun is not shining in players eyes!
77.	Scenario B Skateboard Park is a winner. Plans should bring more people in to area. Natural play area for kids is great.
78.	The pathway should start at the ferry terminal. The road up from ferry needs improving.
79.	Plan B parking is OK
80.	Put removeable boards around the tennis courts and make that the sport area. Ensure there is a skateboard park net only for local youth but also for tourists to use.
81.	Dislike Amphitheatre/stage ideas. They will serve special interest group other than sports related. Park should remail as for encouraging outdoor activitiy and nature. Please don't cut down shade trees or move shed unnecessarrilly.

82.	I strongly feel the walkway should be widened and improved on the ferry hill-top to bottom
83.	No moveable skate ramps permanent and made of strong material.
84.	Locate skatepark "back" from road frontage. Don't remove too many trees provide compost toilet with instruction board on how it makes soil. Combine tennis court with sprots complex by adding /removing boards.
85.	Some mixture of the two plans is needed. MINIMIZE parking lot. Do NOT need " natural playground" Chamber of Commerce should address village car parking for the whole area. Don't waste parks space on cars!
86.	Please do not remove any of the trees between the tennis court and road. It would be a huge distraction to play while cars are going past.
87.	Ideas, giant chess playing area. More of a tie in to the village market entrance. Platform - amphitheatre for childrens shows.
88.	Definatley have concerns re: public washrooms in Huxley Park. Definatley feel there is a greater need for skate bowl than story circle and nature play.
89.	Concept A sounds awesome, I like that it would be away from the hockey court where there is drug/alcohol use all the time. That is why I never ever go there. Found a needle there before.
90.	Have the skatepark visible to cars passing

# RDN Electoral Area 'B' Community Parks

## 5-Year Project Planning: 2014-2018

### PLANNING WORKSHEET

May 2014

A suggested schedule for completion of each phase of the process is presented in the following chart.

This schedule is provided for planning purposes only and is subject to change to accommodate the needs of staff and funding constraints.

- ⚙ current year project
- ★ maintenance item
- ✓ completed projects

	Park Code	Budget Notes	General Notes
<b>Ongoing Projects</b>			
		Administrative support for Electoral Area 'B' POSAC	
<b>High Priority Projects (2014/2015)</b>			
⚙		Mudge Island water access - development	\$20,000 2014 budgeted amount
⚙		Huxley CP: community consultation & park concept design	B-32 \$15,000 2014 budgeted amount
⚙		North Road Roadside Park: community consultation & design	n/a \$65,000 2014 budgeted amount
⚙		Mudge Island Water Access - boundary identification (MI-21, MI-22, MI-26, MI-23)	MI-27 changed to MI-23 at March 4, 2014 POSAC meeting
⚙ ★		Whalebone CP's: clean-up & reclaim entrances	
⚙ ★ ✓		Rollo McClay CP: Water Reservoir Upgrades	
⚙ ★	B-26	707 CP: gate installation (South Road)	\$5,000 2014 budgeted amount
⚙		Park Aquisition Review - IC	
⚙ ✓	B-26	707 CP: bank stabilization at 880 Christine Close*	\$20,000 2014 budgeted amount
⚙		Honeysuckle Trail - work with GaLTT & MoTI on trail permit & development	
⚙		Joyce Lockwood Lease renewal	
	B-32	Huxley CP: Phase 1 redevelopment	\$20,000 - \$50,000 order of magnitude estimated cost; not based on official estimate (for planning purposes only)
★	GI-87	The Strand Boat Ramp: repair	\$5,000
	B-14	Rollo CP: parking lot improvements	\$25,000
<b>Medium Priority Projects (2016/2017)</b>			
	B-32	Huxley CP: Phase 2 redevelopment	\$20,000 - \$50,000 order of magnitude estimated cost; not based on official estimate (for planning purposes only)
<b>Low Priority Projects (2018/2019)</b>			
	B-32	Huxley CP: Phase 3 redevelopment	\$20,000 - \$50,000 order of magnitude estimated cost; not based on official estimate (for planning purposes only)
<b>Additional Project Suggestions</b>			
<b>Gabriola Water Access Development</b>			
	GI-43	Shaw Rd Water Access: MoTI permit, stair construction, signage	\$20,000 order of magnitude estimated cost; not based on official estimate (for planning purposes only)
	B-27	Eastholme Rd. Water Access: MoTI permit, survey, bench, signage	\$5,000 order of magnitude estimated cost; not based on official estimate (for planning purposes only)
	GI-52	Rowan Rd. Water Access: MoTI permit, survey, trail development, signage	\$5,000 order of magnitude estimated cost; not based on official estimate (for planning purposes only)
	n/a	Ivory Way Water Access - site assessment	staff time
	B-58	Sir Williams/Saint Catherines Water Access - site assessment	
	n/a	Review/install community park/water access signage	
<b>Mudge Water Access Development</b>			
		MI-14 - trail access to shore, off-road parking, signage	Priority #2
		MI-18 - trail access to shore, off-road parking, signage	Priority #3
	MI-17	Mudge Island Community Park improvements	Priority #4
		MI-21, MI-22, MI-26, MI-27 viewpoint development (including bench, signage)	Priority #5
		survey & sign remaining water accesses.	Priority #6
<b>Trail Development</b>			
	n/a	Macdonald Rd to Peterson Rd trail: MOTI Permit, boardwalk construction, signage	POSAC Motion: Feb 27, 2012
	B-24	De Courcy Dr. CP - trail construction to lookout	POSAC Motion March 4, 2014
<b>Park Development</b>			
	B-14	Rollo CP: boulder sitting/viewing area - lower field	\$2,000 order of magnitude estimated cost; not based on official estimate (for planning purposes only)
	B-31	Paisley Pl. Park: planning (dog park opportunity?)	
		707 CP: plan/design parking area - North Rd.	\$2,000 order of magnitude estimated cost; not based on official estimate (for planning purposes only)
	B-26	707 CP: parcel consolidation	staff time
	B-26	707 CP: develop parking area - North Rd.	\$20,000 order of magnitude estimated cost; not based on official estimate (for planning purposes only)
	B-26	707 CP: invasive plant mapping & removal	
	B-26	707 CP: plan/design parking area - Coats Dr.	\$2,000 order of magnitude estimated cost; not based on official estimate (for planning purposes only)
	B-26	707 CP: develop parking area - Coats Dr.	\$20,000 order of magnitude estimated cost; not based on official estimate (for planning purposes only)
	B-26	707 CP: conservation covenant	staff time
	B-26	707 CP: trail access agreements	staff time
<b>Maintenance Items</b>			
		Joyce Lockwood Park (Whalebone Dr) stair upgrade*	pour concrete pad @ beach & replace lower steps
	B-5	Hummingbird CP (Whalebone Dr): repair of concrete stairs	
	B-7	QueeQueg CP (Whalebone Dr): repair drainage/flooded stairs	