

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

**REGIONAL PARKS AND TRAILS SELECT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015

12:00pm

(RDN Committee Room, 6300 Hammond Bay Road, Nanaimo)

A G E N D A

PAGES

CALL TO ORDER

DELEGATIONS

Motion to receive late delegation.

MINUTES

3-5 Minutes of the Regular Regional Parks and Trails Advisory Committee meeting held June 16, 2015.

Motion to approve Minutes.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

6-8 J. Turlock, Prov. Of BC – MFLNRO to L. Feysiak, RDN, **RE: Mt. Benson Renewal of Crown Land**

9-10 B. Smith, Canadian Wildlife Service to E. McCulloch, RDN, **RE: Request for Authorization of Proposed Change in Use for Ecological Gift BC109**

11-12 S. Yates to Director Houle, RDN, **RE: Descanco Bay Oyster Harvesting**

Motion to receive Communications/Correspondence

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORTS

13-23 Monthly Update of Community and Regional Parks and Trails Projects-June-Aug 2015

24-31 Monthly Update of Community and Regional Parks and Trails Projects –Sept 2015

E & N Trail – verbal update

Motion to receive Reports.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS

NEW BUSINESS

Mt. Benson Race Request- Verbal

32-33 TLC Transfer of Properties

IN CAMERA

That pursuant to Section 90(1) (e) of the Community Charter the Committee proceed to an In Camera Committee meeting to consider items related to land and legal issues.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

NEXT MEETING

TBD

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

**MINUTES OF THE
REGIONAL PARKS AND TRAILS SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY JUNE 16, 2015 AT 12:00 PM
IN THE RDN BOARD ROOM**

Attendance: Director Colin Haime, Chair, District of Lantzville
Director Maureen Young, Electoral Area 'C'
Director Alec McPherson, Electoral Area 'A'
Director Julian Fell, Electoral Area 'F'
Director Bob Rogers, Electoral Area 'E'
Director Ian Thorpe, City of Nanaimo (12:20 pm)
Director Teunis Westbroek, Town of Qualicum Beach
Director Marc Lefebvre, City of Parksville

Staff: Tom Osborne, General Manager of Recreation and Parks
Paul Thorkelsson, Chief Administrative Officer
Wendy Marshall, Manager of Park Services
Geoff Garbutt, General Manager of Strategic and Community Development
Ann-Marie Harvey, Recording Secretary

Also in Attendance: Director Stanhope, Electoral Area 'G'

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Haime called the meeting to order at 12:04pm.

MINUTES

MOVED Director Westbroek, SECONDED Director Rogers that the Minutes of the Regular Regional Parks and Trails Select Committee meeting held February 3, 2015 be approved with the corrected typo.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

MOVED Director Westbroek, SECONDED Director Rogers that the following Correspondence be received:

C. Simpson, Island Trust to T. Osborne, RDN, **RE: Gabriola Parks Rezoning Bylaws**

R. O'Donnell, Benson View Rd Resident to W. Marshall, RDN, **RE: Mt. Benson Regional Park Parking Issues**

CARRIED

REPORTS

Monthly Update of Community and Regional Parks and Trails Projects –January to April 2015

Ms. Marshall answered questions from the directors regarding items in the report.

MOVED Director Lefebvre, SECONDED Director Westbroek that the Monthly Update of Community and Regional Parks and Trails Projects –January to April 2015 be received.

Morden Colliery Historic Provincial Park Land Tenure Review

Mr. Osborne summarized the main points of the report and answered questions from Directors.

MOVED Director Fell, SECONDED Director McPherson that that the Morden Colliery Historic Provincial Park Land Tenure Review report be received.

DEFEATED

MOVED Director Westbroek, SECONDED Director Lefebvre that the Morden Colliery Historic Provincial Park Land Tenure Review report be received as information and no additional resources be provided to the restoration project at this time.

CARRIED

MOVED Director Westbroek, SECONDED Director Young that staff provide the Friends of Morden Mine information from the Morden Colliery Historic Provincial Park Land Tenure Review report.

CARRIED

Regional Park Dedication Bylaw 1726

MOVED Director Lefebvre, SECONDED Director Rogers that the “Regional District Parkland Dedication Bylaw 1726, 2015” be introduced and read three times.

CARRIED

MOVED Director Lefebvre, SECONDED Director Rogers that the “Regional District Parkland Dedication Bylaw 1726, 2015” be adopted.

CARRIED

Mount Benson Regional Park Management Plan – 5 Year Review

Ms. Marshall summarized the main points of the report.

MOVED Director Westbroek, SECONDED Director Thorpe that the Five Year Review for the Mount Benson Regional Park Management Plan be received and that any revisions to the Management Plan policies and significant actions be approved.

CARRIED

E&N Rail Trail Costing and Phasing Options

Ms. Marshall summarized the main points of the report.

MOVED Director Lefebvre, SECONDED Director Westbroek that the Regional District proceed to tender for the E&N Rail Trail Project for the Coombs to Church Rd section, with a tender upgrade option for the construction of the Church Rd to Springwood Park trailhead section, should sufficient Community Works Funds and Regional Parks Capital Funds be available.

CARRIED

MOVED Director Lefebvre, SECONDED Director Westbroek that construction of the section of E&N Rail Trail from Springwood Park to Lowry’s Rd, along the Victoria Line, be completed in a later phase once additional funding is secured.

CARRIED

Fairwinds Regional Park Management Plan

Mr. Osborne provided a summary of the report.

MOVED Director Rogers, SECONDED Director Lefebvre that the Regional District Park Management Plan for the Fairwinds Lakes District be approved in principal.

CARRIED

MOVED Director Rogers, SECONDED Director Lefebvre that the name 'Qwiyulass Regional Park" be approved for the future Regional Park within the Fairwinds Lake District.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Parks Staff – Changes to work distribution

Mr. Osborne summarized the work distribution sheet that was emailed to Directors, explaining the shift of staff allocation from Regional and Community Parks divisions to geographic area divisions.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS, COMMUNICATION OR PRESENTATIONS

IN CAMERA

MOVED Director Lefebvre, SECONDED Director Rogers that pursuant to Section 90(1) (e) of the Community Charter the Committee proceed to an In Camera Committee meeting to consider items related to land issues.

Time: 1:35pm

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED Director Lefebvre, that the meeting be adjourned at 2:33pm.

CARRIED

Chairperson



July 10, 2015

Crown Land File: 1401383
FCBC File: 10100-30/142437

Regional District of Nanaimo
c/o Lesya Fesiak
830 West Island Hwy
Parksville, BC V9P 2X4

Via email: lfesiak@rdn.bc.ca

Dear Lesya Fesiak:

Re: Application for Premature renewal of a Crown Land Tenure in the Mountain District

Thank you for your Crown land application for a premature replacement of tenure received at the FrontCounter BC office on October 21, 2014.

FrontCounter BC (FCBC) has accepted your application on behalf of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO). Your application has been assigned to Mark Harvey, Land Technical Officer.

During the application review, your application will be referred for comment to:

- Government agencies;
- Etc (as applicable)

The Province will also undertake consultation with those First Nations which have aboriginal interests in the area of your application. In order to meet the Province's legal obligations to First Nations, it is important to ensure an appropriate level of consultation is completed. In addition, some applications may require further study (e.g. archaeological assessments or review by other authorities such as the Environmental Assessment Office). The length of time required to complete an application review will vary and depends on: the complexity of the application; the potential for social and environmental impacts; and, the effect the proposal may have on aboriginal interests.

This will provide you with certainty that the decision on your application is made in a manner that respects aboriginal interests, minimizes negative impacts on the environment and is in the best interests of the Province.

Based on the comments received from First Nation consultations, agency and stakeholder referrals and MNRO's technical review of the application you may be required to provide additional information in a form acceptable to the MFLNRO. You may be contacted by MFLNRO to discuss the possibility of arranging a meeting between yourself, First Nations and MFLNRO. The intent of such a meeting would be to share your vision for the use of Crown land and to answer questions from the First Nation related to their use of the land.

Stakeholder review and discussion will occur concurrently with First Nations consultations to minimize the amount of time required to complete the referral process. Upon completion of the review process, FLNR will make a decision on your application.

Your application may be subject to further requirements under the federal Fisheries Act. Please refer to Fisheries and Oceans Canada's "Projects Near Water" webpage <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/index-eng.html> (<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/index-eng.html>) for information on how to ensure your project complies with the Fisheries Act.

Also, as you are doing work around water, bridge installation, you are required to apply for a Section 9 Approval through the following link: http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wsd/water_rights/licence_application/section9/index.html and if you are cutting down trees you will need an Occupant Licence to Cut as well.

Please note, a hardcopy of this letter and attachments will not be forwarded via Canada Post.

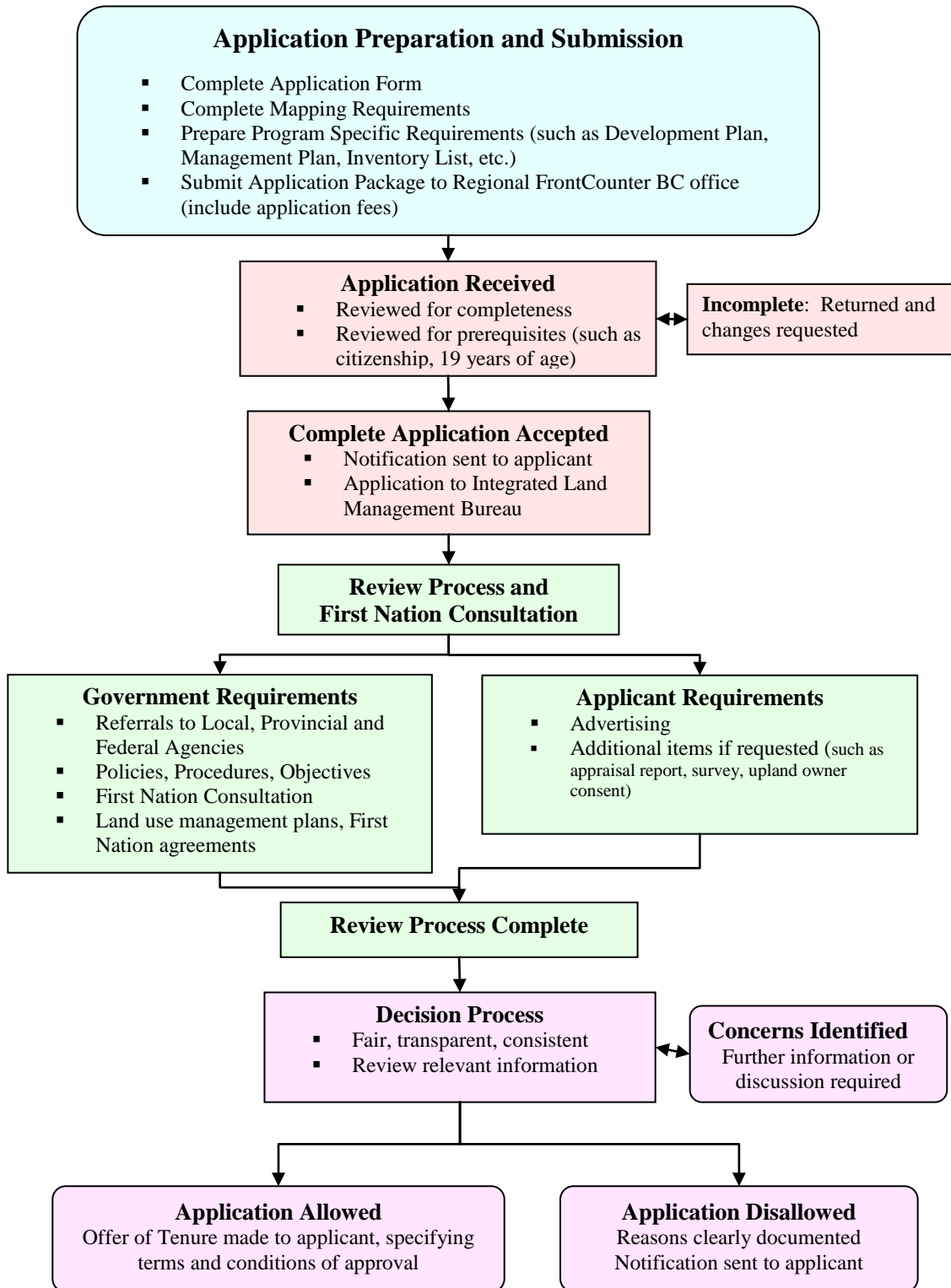
If you require any further information or clarification, please contact Bonita Wallace at 250-751-7248 or the undersigned at 250-751-7227 or email to: Diane.Elliott@gov.bc.ca quoting the above-noted file number.

Sincerely,

Natural Resource Specialist
FrontCounter BC
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Enclosure

APPLYING FOR CROWN LAND – APPLICATION PROCESS FLOWCHART





October 4, 2015

**To: Elaine McCulloch,
Regional District of Nanaimo,
830 West Island Highway,
Parksville, BC, V9P 2X4**

Dear Ms. McCulloch

RE: Request for authorization of proposed change in use for ecological gift BC109

I am writing in response to your letter of 24 September, 2015, requesting the Minister of the Environment's authorization of a proposed change in use of an ecological gift donated to The Nature Trust of BC and the Regional District of Nanaimo. The proposed change in use is to create a trail, boardwalk, and viewing platform, on the ecological gift property (reference BC109) donated by Mr. Clyde Coats.

Environment Canada considers a recipient to have changed the use of an ecological gift if the recipient: a) undertakes any action that results in, or could result in, a diminution of the ecological condition or protection of the ecological gift; or b) fails to take reasonable action to manage and protect the ecological condition of the ecological gift. Environment Canada staff have reviewed the Nanaimo Regional District's change in use request to develop a trail, boardwalk, and viewing platform, through an area to the south of Coats Marsh and within a Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory polygon. The property's 2011 management plan contemplates construction of the proposed trail. While the trail and boardwalk would pass through sensitive riparian habitat, existing logging roads will be used where they are available, and the trail will control pedestrian access to the wetland.

I hereby authorize this proposed change in use for the ecological gift BC109, legally described as PID 009-735-828, NW 1/4 of Section 10, Gabriola Island, Nanaimo District, except those parts in Plans 29152, 30043 and 30051. This authorization is valid until September 30, 2017.

Under section 207.31 of the *Income Tax Act* any changes in use or dispositions of ecological gifts that are not authorized by the Minister of the Environment are subject to a tax. The authorization granted now is only for the request as per the terms outlined in the correspondence of 24 September, 2015, including the attached map and trail

specifications. Authorization of any further changes in use or dispositions would need to be requested separately.

Please contact David Cunnington (604.350.1987) of this office if you have any questions about these provisions or about the Program in general.

Sincerely



Barry Smith,
Regional Director,
Canadian Wildlife Service - PYR

cc: Clyde Coats, Donor
Thomas Reid, The Nature Trust of BC
Jacey Scott, Ecological Gifts Program, National Secretariat

Incl: *Disposition and Change in Use – What Recipients Need to Know* fact sheet

From: [Osborne, Tom](#)
To: [Marshall, Wendy](#); [Harvey, Ann-Marie](#)
Subject: Fwd: Item for POSAC agenda
Date: Monday, October 05, 2015 2:39:33 PM
Attachments: [Descanso Bay oyster harvesting.docx](#)
[ATT00001.htm](#)
[ATT00001.html](#)
[ATT00002.htm](#)

Tom Osborne
General Manager
RDN Recreation & Parks Dept.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Howard Houle <howardhoule@yahoo.ca>
Date: October 5, 2015 at 2:30:08 PM PDT
To: "Osborne, Tom" <TOsborne@rdn.bc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: Item for POSAC agenda

Hi tom one for the RPTSC
Howard

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Susan <susanemilyyates@gmail.com>
Date: October 5, 2015 at 12:37:55 PM PDT
To: Howard Houle <howardhoule@yahoo.ca>
Cc: Deborah Ferens <debferens@hotmail.com>
Subject: Item for POSAC agenda

Hi Howard - could you forward the attached letter to the appropriate POSAC person if need be? Thanks very much,
Regards,
Susan
susanemilyyates@gmail.com

Dear Editor,

For the first time since the Clayoquot summer of 1993 I feel compelled to engage in civil disobedience in defense of my island home, and it's not because of anchor-rage, pipeline protest, or ferry frustrations, all well-known problems we must continue to work on. No, my distress, shared equally by my Descanso Bay park and campground friends, results from watching van-loads of visitors and campers come once or twice a year during our summer's lowest tides, to pillage the intertidal zone from its lowest to highest point.

These visitors have no compunction about filling bags full of oysters *without a licence*, from the shores of one of our favourite natural areas, beloved by residents and off-island campers. I endured the rage-inducing experience of having two of the oyster pillagers ask me if I had a printer, so that they could print as many licences as possible before the low-tide was over, on Sunday August 2. You see, our diligent campground operator had told this group of 'harvesters' that they could not take bag-loads of oysters from the park beach without a licence, something they very well knew before they started their illegal activity.

Given that this activity is legal once a licence is issued, and given that this is just one more environmental travesty we must endure because of provincial and federal government regulations that are not actually regulatory at all, but rather easy money-grabs (for the licences) that allow deprecation in environmentally precious areas, I'm ready to walk the beach at low tide and prevent the pillaging. After discussing this with a few friends, apparently others are willing to join me in saying, "enough is enough."

Those of us who live here, and who have spent many years working diligently to preserve and protect what little is left of our beleaguered natural spaces, would never consider the shellfish in our coastal parks to be ours for the taking in such a greedy and selfish manner. The oysters in Descanso Bay campground have been carefully restocked over the past 30 years so that there are enough for each of us to take just a few, and leave some, especially the ones in the very low tide zone, for re-seeding.

I am wondering whether we might convince our Regional District, via POSAC or another supportive group, to request that the provincial/federal government does NOT issue licences for harvesting shellfish from the beaches in our parks, and in this specific case, our popular and much-appreciated campground park. As dwellers on this fragile island it is our responsibility to protect and steward its natural environment for future generations. If regulations cannot be changed swiftly and effectively, civil disobedience may be the only route, and I will consider standing in front of incoming careless oyster pickers in defense of my home.

TO: Tom Osborne
General Manager of Recreation & Parks

DATE: September 10, 2015

FROM: Wendy Marshall
Manager of Park Services

MEETING: EA 'A' PRCC , D69 Recreation Commission –
September 2015
All POSAC's, RPTSC

FILE:

SUBJECT: Monthly Update of Community Parks and Regional Parks and Trails Projects- June, July, August 2015

RECOMMENDATION

That the Parks Update Report for June, July and August 2015 be received as information.

Regional and Community Parks and Trails

During June, July and August staff have been involved with the following projects and issues.

Electoral Area Community Parks

Area A

At the Cedar Skate Park staff performed weekly watering of newly planted trees, pruned trees and removed weeds in the beds. Brushing and weeding work was completed along the Morden Colliery Trail and throughout the Cedar Plaza area. At Nelson Road boat launch staff removed garbage and cleared blackberry. Planning for a privacy surround for the portable toilet at this site was also begun. At Pylades Road beach access staff cleared the trail performed beach access stair maintenance work. At Ritten Road Boat Launch staff conducted brushing work and removed illegally dumped garbage.

Staff toured a number of MOTI water access sites with Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission members to review potential development opportunities to improve public access to the water.

Staff prepared and distributed the June 17th Electoral Area A Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission meeting agenda package, attended the meeting and reviewed the meeting minutes.

Staff coordinated conceptual design work and preliminary cost estimates for a future kiosk structure at the Cedar Plaza entrance to the Morden Colliery Regional Trail. A surveyor was contracted to complete a legal and topographic survey of the existing plaza in order to move forward with final design and engineering work. In August, staff met with the project designer and Herold Engineering to begin engineer design work on the future kiosk structure for Cedar Plaza.

Area B

Water delivery/supply and chlorine monitoring work continued at Rollo McClay Community Park throughout the summer. The field mowing contract remains underway. Dugout benches were replaced at the ballfield, and the concession building and dugouts were painted.

Regulatory parking signage was replaced at El Verano boat launch following a theft/vandalism incident, and beach access stairs at several sites were inspected for damage and wear and tear.

At Hummingbird Community Park staff removed and rebuilt the landing for the beach access stairs. Site assessment and signage planning work was started for the parks and trails in the Whalebone Parks area. Survey work will be ordered in September to clarify property lines along some sections of the trails connecting the parks.

Illegally dumped garbage was removed from Huxley Community Park.

Staff worked with a Landscape Architect consultant to prepare detailed construction drawings and costing for the proposed phase 1 construction / upgrades for Huxley Park and prepared a grant application for the Canada 150 Infrastructure grant. If the grant application is successful Phase 1 construction would include the replacement of the sport court perimeter dasher boards, tennis court resurfacing, a new community plaza and site preparation for the playground.

Staff assisted the Islands Trust with an inquiry regarding waterfront at the bottom of Brickyard hill. Staff also assisted an Islands View Drive waterfront resident with undeveloped road allowance and trail bisecting property. GaLLT contacted and dealt with landowner to rectify erroneous community directional signage to access.

The Licence of Occupation renewal (30 years) for Joyce Lockwood was received from the Province and processed for signature.

Area C – Extension

At Extension Miners Community Park staff completed trail brushing and clearing work. At Nanaimo River Canyon staff made several site visits, removing garbage and a rope swing. GIS staff GPS'd the park trails and a park regulatory sign was also installed.

Staff met with a representative from the Extension Recreation Commission to discuss potential site layout options for the installation of new playground equipment next to the Extension Community Hall. RDN Parks holds a Permit to Construct Works with MOTI as the playground will be located on undeveloped MOTI road allowance. The Commission has already purchased the equipment and will be doing the installation. Park staff along with GIS staff relocated the boundary pins for the work area.

Staff investigated a water storage tank proposal by the Cranberry Fire Department, including a site visit and meeting with the fire chief. Proposal review will continue following formal plan submission by the fire department.

A final draft of a memorial sign commemorating the opening of Extension Miners Community Park was completed by staff in August with approval from the area director. The sign will be printed in September and installed in October 2015.

In August, final approval from the federal and provincial governments was received on a draft plaque recognizing Community Works Fund contribution for improvements completed in Extension Miners Community Park in 2014. The plaque will be manufactured in September and installed in the fall.

Area C – East Wellington / Pleasant Valley

Trail brushing, tree pruning, garbage collection, and sign replacement work was carried out at Ander's and Dorrit's Community Park.

Staff prepared and distributed the June 22nd Electoral Area C POSAC meeting agenda package, attended the meeting and reviewed the meeting minutes.

Staff met with horticulture contractor at Anders and Dorrits Park in June and August to discuss required weeding of ornamental flower beds and pruning of trees and shrubs to be completed in late summer and autumn.

In August, design options and cost estimates for an outdoor toilet in Meadow Drive Community Park were compiled by park staff for presentation to POSAC in October.

Area E

Staff carried out a large volume of trail brushing, clearing and garbage removal work at Park Place, Blueback, Jack Bagley, Stone Lake Drive, and Brickyard Community Parks.

Staff continued to work with the Landscape Architecture consultant to refine the concept plan for Blueback CP. Staff met with MOTI staff regarding the planned reconfiguration and expansion of the existing parking area and worked with a civil engineer to design a drainage system for the park. The brushing of the blackberry bushes from the site was completed. Park Staff conducted bird surveys prior to brushing blackberry at the park. Stems that were missed by the contractor due to their proximity to stumps and rock were weed-wacked by Park Staff. Garbage was also removed. A plant restoration plan was completed by staff in August with planting by a contractor anticipated in October 2015. The plan includes approximately 20 Douglas-fir and 20 native alders for forest regrowth.

Area F

At Meadowood Community Park staff performed weekly watering of newly planted trees, installed two new cedar picnic tables, painted the basketball court key and installed new park signage. Throughout the summer the Recreation and Parks Department dealt with numerous and significant vandalism issues. Damage to the playground, toilet, privacy surround, fencing, signs and picnic tables is being regularly sustained and then repaired by staff and contractors.

Along Arrowsmith Community Trail staff completed brushing and clearing work.

At Errington Community Park (and Farmer's Market) staff installed numerous new trail identification signs, conducted hazard tree removal work, and brushed and cleared walking trails. Staff also met with a contractor to get a quote on improving the roadside parking along Veterans Rd.

A significant amount of trail brushing work was completed at Malcolm Community Park. Garbage removal, new signage installations and site inspections were carried out at the newly-acquired French Creek School Community Park.

Staff met with a teacher volunteer to review the proposed interpretive trail signage plans for the Errington School Trail. The project was spearheaded by the Errington Elementary School and was funded through their successful grant writing campaign. The signs were designed and installed by local community volunteers.

Staff attended and helped with the Meadowood Community Park Official Opening Event on June 22nd.

Staff prepared and distributed the June 10th Electoral Area F POSAC meeting agenda package, attended the meeting and reviewed the meeting minutes.

Area G

At Neden Community Park staff removed old fencing along Neden Road, and installed an arbour/entrance and new cedar split rail fence along Neden Road and Wembley Road. The original, volunteer-built park identification sign was removed, sanded, refinished and reinstalled.

Regular park and bike jump inspections and garbage removal work was conducted at Columbia Drive-Community Park. At Lee Road Community Park trail brushing and tree pruning and removal work was carried out. Fence repair and maintenance was also dealt with. At Miller Road Community Park staff cut and decommissioned a drainage pipe adjacent to French Creek, and conducted trail brushing and clearing. At Barclay Bridge staff brushed the trail and conducted bridge maintenance work. Trail brushing, improvements and garbage removal work as completed at Dashwood Community Park.

Staff met with BC Hydro on site at River's Edge Community Park to discuss removal of a large amount of Scottish Broom along the utilities corridor adjacent to the park's northern boundary.

Staff prepared and distributed the June 29 Electoral Area G POSAC meeting agenda package, attended the meeting and reviewed the meeting minutes.

Area H

A seating bench was repaired and refinished at Baywater Road beach access. A new concrete slab is scheduled for installation in the fall

Staff continued to liaise with Ministry of Forests Coastal Fire Base regarding the ongoing forest fire abatement project underway at Oakdowne Community Park. Several new signs were installed at the park, to replace vandalized/stolen ones. Trail brushing and inspection work was also carried out.

Sill and approach work/improvements were carried out adjacent to the two new pedestrian footbridges recently constructed at Islewood Community Park, along with signage installations.

At Henry Morgan Community Park a new portable toilet and privacy surround wall was constructed. Logs and timber frame components at this playground were refinished/restained.

Trail and site brushing and garbage removal work was carried out at Sunnybeach Road, Wildwood, Crane Road, Rose Park, and Nile Road Community Parks. At Shoreline Dr. new stairs were constructed and are now being protected by lock blocks.

At Leon Road staff responded to a neighbor complaint regarding tree removal, upon visiting staff inspected property pin location and determined no violation was committed.

Staff reviewed existing signage at the following Area H water access sites: #47 (Deep Bay Dr), #42 (Shoreline Dr), #36 (Buccaneer Beach Rd), #31 (Bowser Rd), #24 (Nile Rd), #23 (Crane Rd), #18 (Sunny Beach Rd), #17 (Baywater Rd), #11 (Alert Rd). Park staff also designed public access signs and installed them at 9 existing accesses.

Park staff created signs for volunteers to install at the Big Qualicum River Hatchery. Staff worked with the Electoral Area H Director, community trail volunteers, Woodlot manager and MFLNRO Recreation Officer on community trails project. Community trail operations on Crown lands was clarified.

Staff prepared and distributed the June 9th Electoral Area H POSAC meeting agenda package, attended the meeting and provided the meeting minutes.

Staff corresponded with the Lighthouse Slo Pitch Association regarding their desire to improve the fields at the Lions Community Park.

Staff worked with POSAC members to plan the upcoming Centennial Community Park Open House on September 18th. Posters, postcards and other additional advertising material were developed and distributed.

Staff discussed Oakdowne Community Park and Oakdowne Adjunct II trails outstanding licence renewals with the Province. The process for expanding the trails licence over two parcels to full licence over five parcels was explored.

Community Works Projects

Area B

Staff continued to work with Village Way contractors on the project design. Additional survey and civil engineering was obtained. A site meeting was held with contractors and the Electoral Area Director to review plans for the 1.5 km path course, in particular as concerns drainage from North Road. Another site meeting was held with the Director and the Village Vision group in regard to community participation in the second phase of project involving amenities. Ongoing meetings were held with the contractor and the civil engineer. The draft final design has been received.

Staff worked with the Gabriola Island Softball Association to plan a new playground at Rollo McClay Community Park. The RDN will provide matching funding of \$12,000 for the project through the Electoral Area B Community Works Fund.

Area E

Park Staff conducted bird surveys prior to thinning the corner of Claudet and NW Bay to improve intersection sight lines.

Area F

A resolution was prepared for Board approval of funding to carry out Price Rd Trail (Arrowsmith Community Trail 4).

Regional Significant Gas Tax Project

E&N Rail Trail

Work continued with the planning for the trail. It was clarified that the scope of the trail from Springwood Park to Coombs will end at Station Rd in Coombs. Staff worked regularly with the project management consultant on plan development and conclusion on approach to the Romney Creek crossing (gabion wall). A Statutory Right of Way required for the trail was concluded and registered with Land Titles. 'Ready for approval' drawings were received and reviewed. Plan review and the final approval process was initiated with SVI/ICF, MoTI, RDN Planning, MFLNRO and the ALC. Staff Prepared for and attended meeting with Area F and G Directors in regard to project financing.

Regional Parks and Trails

Arboretum

Park staff conducted park inspections, removed garbage, removed an old fence and conducted trail maintenance.

Arrowsmith CPR Regional Trail

Further to direction from Island Timberlands, the trail was closed to the public through July and August.

Benson Creek Falls Regional Park

Park staff conducted park inspections and trail maintenance and installed bridge number signs.

Benson Regional Trail

Staff liaised with the Nanaimo Mountain Bike Club on the planning of trail to link Westwood Lake Park in the City of Nanaimo with the Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail trailhead (which connects to Mount Benson Regional Park) and the Ammonite Falls Regional Trail (which connects to Benson Creek Falls Regional Park). Staff met with the Club to review their proposed alternate route. Staff liaised with Planning on a s57 referral from MFLNRO for the Club's route and the City of Nanaimo regarding the club's proposed water crossing on City property.

CPR Regional Trail

Park staff installed a new kiosk at the CPR trailhead to replace the old kiosk.

Big Qualicum Regional Trail

Park staff conducted trail inspections and met with DFO staff regarding trails. Signs have been designed and produced.

Coats Marsh Regional Park

Park staff visited the park to assess the location of a future trail along the south side of the lake. The plans for the trail were discussed with the Natures Trust and approval for the trail needs to be obtained from staff at the ECO gifting program. Once approvals are in place, construction will begin.

Descanso Bay Regional Park

Staff delivered RDN tents for Park Operator's 7th Annual Oceans Day and provided event posters and keepsake buttons.

The 2014 financial and occupancy report was received from Park Operator and reviewed. Staff met with the Operator and obtained a more detailed expenditures report for the last five years for use in the upcoming Park Operator RFP.

Staff arranged for a reprint of the park brochure and worked with the Park Operator to clarify how specific sites are booked.

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. Staff worked with the volunteer park warden, Bylaw Services and Animal Control Services on pursuit of dangerous dog complaint.

Staff worked with the Hatchery Manager/Park Caretaker and DFO to see extra flow and temperature monitoring conducted in the side channel given the severe drought conditions. Staff liaised with BCCF regarding low main stem water levels and exposed large woody debris structures. The Hatchery Manager/Park Caretaker dealt with a break in at the Hatchery buildings and theft of small equipment.

A contractor conducted service road improvements as the hatchery bridge has now been closed by the means of a bollard.

Park staff installed bridge number signs.

Horne Lake Regional Park

Park staff conducted park inspections. Staff installed barriers to stop ATV traffic and new Bear proof garbage cans were delivered to site.

Staff installed a bollard in South Park (Ridgeview trail) and filled potholes throughout park as requested by RLC

Lighthouse Country Regional Trail

Park staff conducted trail inspections and trail maintenance. Park staff installed bridge number signs. Staff responded after storm events, clearing large fallen tree across trail and removed debris from trail.

Little Qualicum River Estuary Regional Conservation Area

Staff liaised with BCCF, QB Streamkeepers and DUC on watering and monitoring of vegetation plantings along the fish channel. Staff provided QB Streamkeepers with honorarium for assistance at spit with watering as well as invasive species removal.

The draft report on Canada Geese (CAGO) was received from the Guardians of the Mid-Island Estuaries. The Guardians are invited to present findings at the September Board. Staff investigated, obtained and reviewed detailed background material on CAGO work within the Capital Regional District.

Little Qualicum River Regional Park

Staff continue to repair vandalized items and remove fire rings in the park. Fortunately the pins on the gates are still securing access however the concrete barriers have been removed allowing access once again. Staff will replace missing barriers.

Moorecroft Regional Park

Park staff met with a representative from the Moorecroft Stewards (a five-member community group working to promote Moorecroft and support RDN initiatives), to provide an update on park projects.

In August, staff met with the curator from the Parksville Museum to discuss the possible relocation and/or management of Ms. Moore's Cabin by the museum. The proposal will be reviewed by the museum Board in September.

Park staff conducted park inspections and trail maintenance. Park staff have built a couple of split rail fences, one is for safety at Mrs. Moore's and the other to protect the ecologically sensitive area at Skipsey Lake.

Morden Colliery Regional Trail

An application for a 30-year Lease of the seven Crown parcels that constitute the Morden Colliery Regional Trail was completed on July 31 by park staff. The application required the submission of 25 files including a management plan outlining proposed development within the MCRT, location maps, detailed site plans, photos, legal surveys, title searches and First Nations correspondence.

Mount Benson Regional Park

Further to a May meeting with NALT and with feedback from the lawyer, staff updated the draft covenant. Staff worked with the GIS department on a covenant map and submitted the updated covenant to NALT for review and discussion in September.

Staff met with the volunteer park warden and provided him with a digital camera to use on almost daily trips up the mountain.

Nanaimo River Regional Park

Park staff conducted park inspections and trail maintenance. Staff removed large piles of broom from random volunteer efforts.

Ammonite Falls Regional Trail

Trail signage was installed in June.

Trans Canada Trail

Staff liaised with MoTI concerning upcoming changes to the property management of the DL 20 gravel pit property through which runs TCT route.

Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail

Staff removed graffiti from the kiosk.

Fairwinds Lakes District - Regional Park Management Plan

The final Management Plan for the Fairwinds Lakes District Regional Park was completed by staff and submitted for Regional Parks and Trails Select Committee and Board review in June along with a staff report. The plan was officially approved in principal on June 23, pending submission of the final Enos Lake Protection and Monitoring Program (Appendix E of the management plan) by the developer.

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 several information requests were received from the public.

Seasonal campfire/smoking and hazard warning signs were posted, in accordance with notifications received from Ministry of Forests and local fire protections agencies. Staff prepared media notices, Park page updates and social media posts regarding the wildfire risk, the ban of campfires at both campgrounds, the smoking ban at all parks and trails, and the closure of the TCT and Arrowsmith CPR Regional Trail due to wildfire risk. Staff researched the approach that other local governments were taking to deal with the wildfire risk in their parks and participated on an RDN committee regarding the dry summer.

Staff attended internal training on Sharepoint, the new budgeting software and participated in a webinar on Emergency Planning for large events.

Park staff worked with GIS staff to create printable PDF's on our website. This is being reviewed before making it open to the public. Park Staff and GIS staff continued to collect data for mapping purposes and Community Park inventory purposes.

Park staff began developing the 2016 budget. The year-end projections were calculated and staff assembled the work plan for 2016. Budget development will continue through the fall.

Parks and IT staff have met and begun the work of moving Parks files to Sharepoint folders. Staff are currently cleaning out old files and will merge the two existing parks filing systems: the parks operations folders and the folders that were used for Oceanside Place staff.

Staff prepared park pages for the Fall/Winter Active Living Guide and assisted Recreation staff with the Island Timberlands Blog and adult hike program planning. Staff worked with Eyes on BC writer on article about Top Bridge area trails and arranged for distribution of the Regional Parks and Trails Guide to Nanaimo, Parksville and Qualicum Beach Info Centres, along with Ravensong and OP.

A template for a Project Information Sheet was completed by park staff in June as a way to standardize organization and documentation of tasks, responsibilities and budgeting for each park project. Completed sheets will also serve as a quick reference to staff members unfamiliar with the project.

Staff continued work on the community park name and civic address confirmation project. Statistics were updated for community parks.

Staff prepared a letter of support for Tourism Vancouver Island in their bid to ICET for funding to support Phase II of the VI-Sunshine Coast Trail Project.

Staff continued to work on acquisition files for both Regional and Community Parks. Potential parkland was visited and assessed, meetings were held, agreements were drafted and future investigations were initiated on several files.

Park staff ordered road signs for some of the parks. Permission was obtained by MOTI via permit.

Park playground inspections were carried out to meet Canadian Standards Association requirements.

Park Use Permits and Events

Parks permits approved and in process include:

Area A

- Held site meeting with the Nanaimo Skateboard Association regarding the September fundraiser at the Cedar Skatepark; concluded on permit conditions and approved permit.

Area B

- Approved a park use permit for a wedding at Descanso Bay Regional Park.

Area C

- Concluded permit with MFLNRO for a hydro-climatic monitoring station at Mount Arrowsmith Massif Regional Park; obtained actual location information.
- Worked with Nanaimo group on permit for a Nepal fundraiser involving Westwood Lake and a run up to the top Mount Benson.
- Concluded work with Backcountry Horseman group on permit for Pipeline section of TCT; permit approved.
- Dealt with and approved a permit for the National NDP party in regard to a media event at the park entrance sign for Benson Creek Falls Regional Park.
- Addressed and declined a permit request by the Mid-Island Velo Association to set up a bike course at Anders and Dorrit's CP for a series of evening events. Group referred to POSAC to discuss such a use.

Area E

- Concluded park use permit for QF's annual Teddy Bear Picnic at Jack Bagley Field. Liaised with Legislative Coordinator regarding associated permits.
- Worked with seniors group on permit for use of Vesper Pt picnic area; permit approved.

Area F

- Concluded permit for Arrowsmith Community Recreation Association and Coombs Community Picnic at French Creek School Community Park; assisted group with site access.
- Concluded work on a park use permit to Corcan Meadowood Residents Association for Canada Day celebrations (including beer garden and fireworks) at Meadowood Community Park. Permit approved subject to permission from Coastal Fire in respect of fireworks.

Area G

- Arranged park use permit with Nanoose Heart and Stroke for park and hatchery visit.
- Liaised with Hatchery Manager regarding WaterSmart Gr IV/V classroom visit.

Area H

- Approved permit for Mid-Island Bluegrass Society's Festival at Lions Community Park; liaised with Legislative Coordinator for additional permits.



Manager of Parks Services



General Manager Concurrence

TO: Tom Osborne
General Manager of Recreation & Parks

DATE: October 9, 2015

FROM: Wendy Marshall
Manager of Park Services

MEETING: D69 Recreation Commission –October
15,2015
All POSAC’s, RPTSC

FILE:

SUBJECT: Monthly Update of Community Parks and Regional Parks and Trails Projects- September 2015

RECOMMENDATION

That the Parks Update Report for September 2015 be received as information.

Regional and Community Parks and Trails

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

Electoral Area Community Parks

Area A

Park staff worked with Herold Engineering to revise design drawings for a future kiosk structure at Cedar Plaza.

Parks and GIS staff gps’d the trails along undeveloped road water access locations #18 and #20. It was confirmed that the current trail locations do not trespass on neighbouring properties. Planning for stair construction will continue through the fall.

Staff prepared and distributed the September 16th Electoral Area A Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission meeting agenda package, attended the meeting and reviewed the meeting minutes.

Site maintenance and cleanup work was completed at the Cedar Skate Park, following a large skateboarding competition/event. Additionally, staff repaired a leaking holding tank at the washroom site.

Blackberry removal and garbage clean-up work was carried out at Nelson Road Boat Launch.

A new sign was installed at Pylades Drive beach access, and the toilet door was repaired.

Area B

Staff worked with the Gabriola Softball Association to order Playground equipment for Rollo McClay Community Park. The project was funded with matching funds through the Softball Association and the Electoral Area B Community Works funds. Parks staff is providing continuing support to the Softball Association for the installation of the playground.

Contracted parking lot grading and re-surfacing and trail surfacing work commenced at Rollo McClay Community Park. This work will be completed in October.

At Malaspina Galleries Community Park the access trail was resurfaced and raised to improve drainage.

Site assessment and signage planning work continued for the parks and trails in the Whalebone Parks area. Staff have contracted a surveyor to accurately locate and mark several sections of the access trails along Whalebone Drive. Following notification to several park neighbours in the area, this surveying work will commence in mid-October.

Area C – Extension

Revisions to a draft memorial sign commemorating the opening of Extension Miners Community Park was completed by staff following community input. The sign will be printed in October and installed in Spring 2016.

Staff coordinated the installation of stairs in Extension Miners Community Park, to be completed in October 2015. The work will be completed by community volunteers.

Drainage assessment work was begun at Extension Miners Community Park. Work to remediate some drainage and erosion issues will take place over the winter.

Staff provided support to the Extension Recreation Commission's playground installation project which is planned to be installed on MoTI undeveloped right-of-way the first weekend in October. RDN Parks holds a Permit to Construct Works with MoTI for the installation.

Area C – East Wellington / Pleasant Valley

Park staff compiled design options and cost estimates for park development in Meadow Drive Community Park (including an outdoor toilet, a bench and a picnic shelter) for presentation to POSAC in October.

At Andres Dorritt Community Park, staff installed a bollard for access control. A contractor was hired to landscape the gardens and maintain the trees.

Park staff monitored use on the Benson Meadows Path and staff graded the parking lot at Creekside Community Park.

Area E

Piles of blackberry roots and stems at Blueback Community Park were raked up and removed from site by Sellentin's Habitat Restoration & Invasive Species Consulting. Herold Engineering Ltd. drafted plans for needed drainage at the park. Staff developed washroom/porta potty surround design specifications. Staff submitted a Request for Review application to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to

ensure that a notification to DFO was not required for the planned park construction. DFO advised that no notification is required.

Staff ordered plants and met with a landscape contractor to coordinate tree planting in Stone Lake Drive Community Park for this October. Park staff cleared a plugged culvert at Stone Lake Drive.

Staff removed garbage and cleared trail of debris at Brickyard. Garbage was regularly removed from Jack Bagley field.

Area F

Parks and Planning staff worked with the owner of the Evergreen Estates development to arrange for roadside parking improvements along Veterans Rd adjacent to Errington Community Park. The planned in-kind works will satisfy the terms of the rezoning approval that required the owner to provide \$10,000 of construction value towards park improvements in the Errington area. Staff submitted an application for a Permit To Construct Works to Ministry of Transportation for the parking area.

The increased presence of a volunteer Park Steward/Warden has led to a significant reduction in the volume of vandalism issues at Meadowood Community Park. However, portable buildings scheduled for installation at the park and currently being warehoused at a public site in Parksville have been twice broken into by vandals, requiring maintenance/repair work to be conducted by parks staff.

The Price Road section of the Arrowsmith Community Trail system has been substantially completed by a contractor. Trail surfacing compaction and identification signage installs will be completed in mid-October.

The Recreation and Parks Department gave permission to BC Hydro's vegetation management contractor to remove two hazard trees in a community park adjacent to and interfering with utility poles.

Area G

Staff removed garbage regularly from Columbia Drive and visited the Dashwood Hall with MIA for an insurance / liability inspection.

Area H

Parks staff provided presentation materials, organized and attended an Open House at Dunsmuir Community Park. The open house was an opportunity to gather input regarding future park upgrades either in Dunsmuir Park or at another local park in the area. Staff worked with the Bow Horn Bay Community Association to submit a Temporary Food Services Permit to Island Health to allow hot dogs to be served at the Open House. Staff prepared Dunsmuir Community Park for an open house by scrapping and power washing the tennis and basketball courts. Broom was also removed from the fence around the tennis court. Approximately 60-70 community members attended the event; POSAC members attended and helped gather community input.

Staff prepared and distributed the September 16th Electoral Area H Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee meeting agenda package, attended the meeting and prepared the meeting minutes.

At Baywater Beach Access staff graded the site and moved broken concrete. At Buccaneer Beach Access staff installed a new public access sign. At Shoreline Drive new stairs were constructed and are now being protected by lock blocks. At Sunnybeach staff removed a large log as per request. Weed eating and garbage removal took place at most Beach Access sites.

Staff liaised with the Lions Club (leaseholders on property) concerning insurance, field improvement plans and planning for Bluegrass Festival 2016.

Coastal Fire Centre crews continue fuel management in Oakdowne Community Park.

Park staff installed a garbage can at the Lighthouse Community Pullout.

Community Works Projects

Area B

Staff worked closely with the project consultants and the Area Director to move along the Village Way design. Staff concluded on a number of design issues and provided detailed feedback on draft plans. Advice was obtained from a land consultant on pursuing works located on private property adjacent to the road allowance.

Area E

At Claudet Community Park, a tree falling contractor walked the trails that are going to be developed and fell or modified hazardous trees as per WCB requirement. Staff drafted up a tender document and invited contractors to a site viewing to provide bids for the trail development works.

Regional Significant Gas Tax Project

E&N Rail Trail

Work continued on the design. Staff provided input required for the revised submission to the Agricultural Land Commission panel. The signed 'Issued for Approval' plans were received from the engineering consultant and six applications to MoTI were prepared and submitted. The plan review process with ICF and SVI was initiated and a site review on the rail with SVI and rail crossings specialist was carried out. Staff met with City of Parksville engineering and parks staff to review the route through the City lands (Springwood Park) and to examine the impact of proposed water line development. Further to a site visit, a new route was proposed through Springwood Park. Staff also dealt with the engineer and consultants on instructions for sensitive lands and work with a private land consultant on a possible new road and crossing. A meeting was held with ICF and SVI to review the approach to works on an inactive rail line and it was agreed that there is a need for additional information about some crossings, in particular Church Rd.

Regional Parks and Trails

Arboretum

Staff and Arboretum volunteers hosted a tour of the Arboretum property for the City of Nanaimo Culture and Heritage Commission on September 30th at their request. The Commission is considering adding the property to the City of Nanaimo's Community Heritage Register.

Arrowsmith CPR Regional Trail

Staff liaised with Island Timberlands and obtained clearance to end the summer trail closure. A notice was issued and the website updated.

Beachcomber Regional Park

Park staff conducted park inspections and trail maintenance.

Benson Creek Falls Regional Park

Park staff conducted park inspections and trail maintenance. Staff responded to complaint regarding garbage dumping.

Benson Regional Trail

Staff continued to work with the Nanaimo Mountain Bike Club on concept planning for the regional trail connection between Westwood Lake, the Witchcraft Regional Trail trailhead and Benson Creek Falls Regional Park.

Coats Marsh Regional Park

Staff worked with the Nature Trust to submit a Notice of Change in Use application to Environment Canada's Ecological Gifts Program to construct the proposed trail in Coats Marsh RP as per the management plan recommendations.

Descanso Bay Regional Park

The campfire ban at Descanso Bay Regional Park was lifted and the web site updated.

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 continue to block access breaches to keep ATV's out of the park.

As in previous years, the RDN contributed to the cost of VIU's fall environmental monitoring of the fish channel for DFO. VIU will now produce a report on eight years of monitoring the fish channel.

Horne Lake Regional Park

Park staff conducted park inspections. Staff worked with RLC to deliver and install recycle bins/bases.

Lighthouse Country Regional Trail

Park staff conducted trail inspections and trail maintenance. Staff installed new road signage on HWY 19A and resurfaced bridge approaches.

Staff liaised with MoTI and a private landowner on a driveway construction up Lioness Blvd and crossing of the trail along the Gazetted Highway; obtained construction schedule and safety plan.

Little Qualicum River Regional Park

Staff met on site with a contractor to plan for improved vehicle barricades at the park's Qualicum side access point where a large steel gate has been bypassed by someone removing large boulders. Additional vehicle barricades are required closer to the bridge. This work is expected to occur in October.

Moorecroft Regional Park

Park staff conducted park inspections and trail maintenance. New directional signage was installed along HWY 19A, Northwest Bay Road, and Stewart Road to get to the park.

Staff met with a consultant to outline options to get building design and construction underway for the new washroom, the Kennedy Hall upgrades and the upgrades to the caretaker house.

Morden Colliery Regional Trail

Park staff completed a planting design, hired a landscape contractor and ordered plants for a restoration planting along a section of the Morden Colliery Regional Trail at Cedar Plaza.

Mount Benson Regional Park

Park staff conducted park inspections. Staff installed new road directional signage on Kilpatrick Road.

With camera provided by Parks, the Volunteer Park Warden identified Whiskey Jacks on the mountain, not recorded there by area ornithologists in over 15 years.

Staff received feedback from NALT on the draft conservation covenant and reviewed the feedback with lawyers.

Nanaimo River Regional Park

Staff met on site with a local park steward, to assess the rate of erosion of a portion of the river bank. Staff will continue to monitor the situation.

Ammonite Falls Regional Trail

Park staff conducted trail inspections and trail maintenance. Numbered trail markers were GPS'd to produce a map for emergency services.

Trans Canada Trail

Liaised with Island Timberlands and obtained clearance to end the summer trail closure. Issued notice and updated the web site.

Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail

Park staff installed number stickers on the orange trail markers for safety purposes. These numbers can be given to emergency services such as search and rescue to help locate where they are.

Miscellaneous

Park Staff installed new entrance signs in area G and E CP's. Staff will be updating the other areas in the month of October.

Park Staff are removing "No Smoking- Extreme Fire Hazard" signs as work is completed in areas of placement. Web site updated to remove 2015 smoking ban postings.

Park Staff pruned the trees along the back road at Oceanside Place as requested by the recreation department.

Two property assesses were carried out for potential parks. For one property, staff rated the site using the Parks Rating and Criteria Framework. For the other, an initial site visit took place. Staff continue to work on another potential park file.

Staff continued work on the community park name and civic address confirmation project.

Staff continued to work with IT on transition of all parks files to the SharePoint system.

Park staff created signs for volunteers to install at the Big Qualicum River Hatchery.

Staff liaised with City of Nanaimo staff on plans to convene an Island meeting on the Canada Goose (CAGO) problem.

Staff created the 2016 Budget and Capital and Financial Plans. Budgeting work will continue through October and November.

Park Use Permits and Events

Parks permits approved and in process include:

Area A

Staff worked with the Nanaimo Skateboard Association on final preparations for the Sunday September 13th fundraising event at the Cedar Skatepark. Staff addressed issues in event organization and unmet permit conditions and responded to participant complaint that resulted.

Area C

Staff addressed an old park use permit application for a fundraiser run up the mountain, and a more recent effort to organize a similar event in support of Nepalese earthquake victims. Staff discussed the events with NALT and clarified with both groups that the Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail and Mount Benson Regional Park trails and related access facilities are in the condition needed to handle a launch of 'Benson Grind' events and expectations at this time. The focus on conservation at the regional park and concluding the park conservation covenant were noted.

Area E

Began working with Nanoose Elementary, with launching the first outdoor nature class under the new provincial curriculum. Initial focus will be on Moorcroft and Englishman River Regional Parks.

Area G

Staff continued to work with the Mid-Vancouver Island Habitat Enhancement Society on a five-year report on their River Run event at Englishman River Regional Park.

Area H

Staff continued to work with the Mid-Island Bluegrass Society on a five-year report on their Bluegrass event at Lions Community Park. Staff liaised with the Society and the Lions Club in regard to 2016 plans and the apparent need to seek an alternative venue given growing limitations on overnight camping at the park.

Staff worked with mid-Island equestrians on plans for a 2016 Bowser ride.



Manager of Parks Services



General Manager Concurrence

- [Home](#)
- [Membership](#)
- [Properties](#)
- [Covenant Program](#)
- [Get Involved](#)
- [About TLC](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Latest CCAA Updates](#)

TLC Transfers 28 Properties to Conservation Organizations and Regional District

By
dstenberg

Published: September 30, 2015 **Posted in:** Board of Directors, Press Release **Tags:** [Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District](#), [Avola Creek](#), [briony penn](#), [Center Creek](#), [Clare Winnett Copeland Property](#), [conservation](#), [conservation organizations](#), [contributed](#), [covenant](#), [Cowichan River](#), [creditors](#), [Creekside Rainforest](#), [Cusheon Cove](#), [debt](#), [Debtor in Possession](#), [DIP](#), [District of Tofino](#), [Donors](#), [Elizabeth Lake](#), [forgiveness](#), [funding](#), [Goodall Ecological Land Reserve](#), [Harold Monks](#), [horsefly river riparian conservation area](#), [Kindwood](#), [Laux Property](#), [legal fees](#), [Lehman Springs Conservation Area](#), [Lohbrunner Bird Sanctuary](#), [Luke Creek](#), [Luke Creek Wildlife Corridor](#), [Monks Point](#), [mortgages](#), [municipal taxes](#), [Nanaimo River](#), [Nancy Newhouse](#), [Natasha Boyd Wetland Conservation Area](#), [NCC](#), [News Release](#), [non-profit](#), [Peachcliff Conservation Area](#), [plan](#), [Plan of Arrangement](#), [press release](#), [properties](#), [regional district](#), [Restructuring](#), [revenue](#), [Similkameen River Pines](#), [South Winchelsea Island](#), [Squitty Bay](#), [stewardship](#), [Supreme Court of B.C.](#), [Talking Mountain Ranch](#), [The Nature Conservancy of Canada](#), [The Nature Trust of BC](#), [TNTBC](#), [Tofino](#), [transfers](#), [Turtle Valley Farm](#), [west twin](#), [Wood's Family Property](#), [wycliffe wildlife corridor](#)

NEWS RELEASE

THE LAND CONSERVANCY OF BC TRANSFERS OF 28 PROPERTIES TO CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS AND REGIONAL DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: [September 30, 2015](#)

Victoria, BC – The Land Conservancy of B.C. (TLC) will complete transfers of 28 properties to like-minded conservation organizations and a regional district on September 30 as part of the non-profits restructuring plan.

TLC received approval from the Supreme Court of B.C. on September 29 to transfer its Tofino property, Monks Point, to the District of Tofino for a \$250,000 contribution to the organization. The transfer also triggers a debt forgiveness of \$1 million of Debtor in Possession (DIP) funding and \$75,000 in unsecured debt from long-time TLC supporters.

TLC received Monks Point Park in 2008 as part of the estate of Harold Monks. TLC has been working with the [District of Tofino](#) to generate funds from Monks Point Park while upholding Harold Monks' wish for the site to remain accessible to the public. By negotiating the transfer to the District with a covenant, TLC will generate revenue for creditors while ensuring the site remains protected. The covenant, which will be co-held by the [Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District](#) and TLC, will protect the Point from development and subdivision, and allow public access.

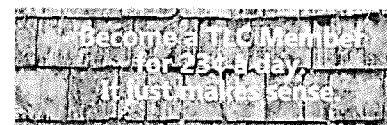
TLC also transferred 26 conservation properties to the [Nature Conservancy of Canada](#) (NCC) and one property (4% undivided interest in Squitty Bay) to [The Nature Trust of BC](#) (TNTBC) on September 30. With NCC contributing \$1.5 million to TLC's restructuring plan, funds from the partnership will pay TLC creditors according to the agreed upon Plan including DIP funding, legal

- [Donate Today!](#)

Help protect special places you care about in B.C.



- [TLC Membership](#)



- [What's Happening at TLC](#)



- [Already a TLC Member? Renew Today!](#)



- [Experience BC this Spring](#)



- [Support Protection](#)

fees, municipal taxes, and mortgages on Horsefly River Riparian Conservation Area, Cowichan River, Luke Creek, and Wycliffe Wildlife Corridor.

Properties transferred to NCC include Avola Creek, Center Creek, Clare Winnett Copeland Property, two parcels on the Cowichan River, Creekside Rainforest, 60% interest in Cusheon Cove, Elizabeth Lake, Goodall Ecological Land Reserve, Horsefly River Riparian Conservation Area, 60% interest in Kindwood, Laux Property, Lehman Springs Conservation Area, Lohbrunner Bird Sanctuary, Luke Creek Wildlife Corridor, two parcels on the Nanaimo River, Natasha Boyd Wetland Conservation Area, Peachcliff Conservation Area, Similkameen River Pines, South Winchelsea Island, Talking Mountain Ranch, Turtle Valley Farm, West Twin, Woods Family Property, and Wycliffe Wildlife Corridor.

“We are very pleased to have found a way to ensure these important properties remain protected and to uphold the expectations of the donors who had originally contributed to their conservation,” says Nancy Newhouse, acting BC Regional Vice President, Nature Conservancy of Canada. “The Nature Conservancy of Canada take very seriously the need to provide for the long-term stewardship of all our conservation properties, and we are honoured to assume the responsibility for these special places.”

“The Board and I are thrilled that TLC’s secured creditors will be paid in full this fall while our properties will remain protected,” said Briony Penn, Chair of TLC’s Board of Directors. “Our creditors have shown such patience throughout this process and we are so grateful to them all. We look forward to completing our restructuring plan next year.”

TLC entered creditor protection in October 2013 to definitively resolve the organizations debt. In April 2015 creditors and the Supreme Court of B.C. approved a Plan of Arrangement detailing how creditors would be paid. The first of three tranches, to be completed in October, will complete payments to secured creditors.

Upon completion of the Plan of Arrangement TLC will continue to own Abkhazi Garden, among other properties, and continue to hold more than 200 conservation covenants across B.C.

About The Land Conservancy of BC:

The Land Conservancy of BC (TLC) is a non-profit, charitable Land Trust working throughout British Columbia. TLC’s primary mandate is to benefit the community by protecting habitat for natural communities of plants and animals. Founded in 1997, TLC is membership-based and governed by an elected, volunteer Board of Directors. TLC relies on a strong membership and volunteer base to help maintain its operations.

- 30 -

Media contacts: Briony Penn, TLC Board Chair 1-250-653-9996

No Comments

Start the ball rolling by posting a comment on this article!

Leave a Reply

Name (required)

Mail (will not be published) (required)

Website

XHTML: You can use these tags: <abbr title=""> <acronym title=""> <blockquote cite=""> <code> <del datetime=""> <i> <q cite=""> <strike>



- Support TLC on Facebook



The Land Conservan...

Like Page 2.3k likes

- Navigate TLC

- [Membership](#)
- [Properties](#)
- [Covenant Program](#)
- [Get Involved](#)
- [About TLC](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Latest CCAA Updates](#)