

Notice of Meeting and Meeting Agenda Regional Parks Committee

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

9:30 AM

6th Floor Boardroom
625 Fisgard St.
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

M. Hicks (Chair), D. Screech (Vice Chair), J. Brownoff, D. Howe, B. Isitt, N. Jensen, S. Price,
L. Seaton, M. Tait, R. Windsor, G. Young, B. Desjardins (Board Chair, ex-officio)

1. Approval of Agenda

2. Adoption of Minutes

2.1. [17-606](#) Minutes of the June 21, 2017 Regional Parks Committee Meeting

Recommendation: That the minutes of the June 21, 2017 Regional Parks Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

3. Chair's Remarks

4. Presentations/Delegations

4.1. [17-671](#) Presentation: Robin Williams, Chair, Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission Re: Ganges Hill Biking and Walking Trail Feasibility Study - Surplus Funds

5. Committee Business

5.1. [17-655](#) Lifeguards at Regional Parks

Recommendation: That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:
That this report be received for information.

Attachments: [Staff Report: Lifeguards at Regional Parks](#)

5.2. [17-649](#) Matthews Point Regional Park Management Plant

Recommendation: That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:
That the initiation of a management planning process for Matthews Point Regional Park, as per the project scope shown in Attachment 2 and the engagement process shown in Attachment 3, be approved.

Attachments: [Staff Report: Matthews Point Regional Park Management Plan](#)
[Attachment 1: Matthews Point Regional Park Context Map](#)
[Attachment 2: Project Scope for Matthews Point Regional Park Management Plan](#)
[Attachment 3: General Flow and Anticipated Timeframe for Consultation Process](#)

5.3. [17-650](#) Update on Todd Creek Trestle Closure

Recommendation: That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:
That this report be received for information.

Attachments: [Staff Report: Update on Todd Creek Trestle Closure](#)
[Attachment 1: Location Map of Todd Creek Trestle](#)

6. Correspondence

6.1. [17-663](#) Correspondence: Town of View Royal Re: Lifeguards at Thetis Lake

Attachments: [Correspondence: Town of View Royal re Lifeguards at Thetis Lake](#)

7. New Business

8. Motion to Close the Meeting

8.1. [17-685](#) Motion to Close the Meeting

Recommendation: That the meeting be closed in accordance with the Community Charter, Part 4, Division 3, 90(1),(e),the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the board considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the regional district; and 90(1),(g),litigation or potential litigation affecting the regional district.

9. Adjournment

Next Meeting: October 18, 2017 at 10:00 am.

To ensure quorum, please advise Pat Perna (pperna@crd.bc.ca) if you or your alternate CANNOT attend.

Meeting Minutes

Regional Parks Committee

Wednesday, June 21, 2017

10:00 AM

6th Floor Boardroom
625 Fisgard St.
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

PRESENT:

Directors: M. Hicks (Chair), D. Screech (Vice Chair), J. Brownoff, B. Isitt (10:13), S. Price, L. Seaton, M. Tait, R. Windsor, G. Young, B. Desjardins (Board Chair, ex-officio)
Staff: R. Lapham, Chief Administrative Officer; L. Hutcheson, General Manager, Parks and Environmental Services; M. Walton, Senior Manager, Regional Parks; G. Harris, Senior Manager, Environmental Protection; B. Hudson, Manager, Planning, Resource Management, and Development; C. Stewart, Planner, Regional Parks; L. Wilson, Planner, Regional Parks; E. Gorman, Deputy Corporate Officer (Recorder)

REGRETS: Directors D. Howe and N. Jensen

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am.

1. Approval of Agenda

**MOVED by Director Windsor, SECONDED by Director Tait,
That the agenda for the June 21, 2017 Regional Parks Committee meeting be
approved as circulated.
CARRIED**

2. Adoption of Minutes

- 2.1. [17-509](#) Minutes of the May 17, 2017 Regional Parks Committee Meeting

**MOVED by Director Seaton, SECONDED by Director Windsor,
That the minutes of the May 17, 2017 Regional Parks Committee meeting be
adopted as circulated.
CARRIED**

3. Chair's Remarks

The Chair remarked on the opening of the Great Trail on Friday June 23, 2017. He advised that the Great Trail is part of the Sooke Hills Wilderness Park, which is part of the 24,000 kilometre trail network across Canada. The Chair also remarked on the Island View Beach Park Management Plan and hopes the plan can be presented to the Capital Regional District Board for approval.

4. Presentations/Delegations

- 4.1. [17-515](#) Delegation: Claire and Delphine Bouchard Re: Agenda Item 5.1. Draft Island View Beach Regional Park Management Plan

C. Bouchard spoke on concerns about the management of dogs in parks, the impacts of off-leash dogs to other park users, the rights of non-dog owners, and the disregard given by dog owners.

4.2. [17-516](#)

Delegation: Michael Simmons Re: Agenda Item 5.1. Draft Island View Beach Regional Park Management Plan

M. Simmons spoke to a presentation, which is on file at the Legislative and Corporate Services department. He spoke of concerns about the management of the beach for migratory birds and off-leash dogs.

4.3. [17-517](#)

Delegation: Wayne Cox Re: Agenda Item 5.1. Draft Island View Beach Regional Park Management Plan

W. Cox spoke in regards to the Coastal Loop Trail, mosquito control, invasive species, provision of pet waste bags, and additional garbage cans.

4.4. [17-518](#)

Delegation: Karen Harris Re: Agenda Item 5.1. Draft Island View Beach Regional Park Management Plan

T. Cooper spoke in regards to the natural environment zone, the plan being non-evidence based, and in concern for invasive species overcoming the back area of the park.

4.5. [17-519](#)

Delegation: Jason Austin Re: Agenda Item 5.1. Draft Island View Beach Regional Park Management Plan

J. Austin spoke to public access and restrictions, the coastal boundary, mosquito control, ditch maintenance, provision of dog waste bag dispensers, additional garbage cans, and fencing in the north east corner of the park.

4.6. [17-520](#)

Delegation: Kevin McLaughlin Re: Agenda Item 5.1. Draft Island View Beach Regional Park Management Plan

K. McLaughlin was not present.

4.7. [17-521](#)

Delegation: Brenda Axon Re: Agenda Item 5.1. Draft Island View Beach Regional Park Management Plan

B. Axon spoke to concerns of limited dog access and limited areas for off-leash dogs, lack of evidence of ground nesting birds to place restrictions on dogs, mowing for public access, ditch maintenance, mosquito control, provision of dog waste bags, additional garbage cans, and resolving issues before approving the plan.

4.8. [17-522](#)

Delegation: Mick Collins Re: Agenda Item 5.3. Elk/Beaver Lake Initiative Update

M. Collins, spoke to environmental issues, aeration, oxygenation, and cost-sharing opportunities with the Capital Regional District in Elk/Beaver Lake.

5. Committee Business

5.1. [17-502](#) 2017 Draft Island View Beach Regional Park Management Plan

L. Hutcheson and B. Hudson spoke to the report and the presentation.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- the direction from Tsawout First Nation in regards to fencing and reducing trespassing
- mowing and ditching maintenance for mosquito control and improved access
- the need and cost for providing dog waste bag dispensers for all regional parks and adding this to the service planning to consider the budget impacts
- impacts of garbage can locations, which contain dog waste
- impacts of climate and natural weather systems on the proposed fence

Moved by Director Windsor, Seconded by Director Price,

That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

That overtures are made to the District of Central Saanich that there is interest in having an off-leash dog area in the District of Central Saanich Park as well as an area for kite surfers outside of the fenced area.

CARRIED

OPPOSED: Director Isitt

Moved by Director Windsor, Seconded by Director Price,

That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

That the addition of doggie bag dispensers at the park be referred to staff to provide further information.

CARRIED

Moved by Director Windsor, Seconded by Director Isitt,

That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board to insert a bullet in 3.6.1.2 of the Draft Island View Beach Regional Park Management Plan stating “that the Regional Parks Committee work with the Province and the Federal Government to protect brant and migratory shorebirds from recreational uses of the adjacent park.”

CARRIED

Moved by Director Windsor, Seconded by Director Tait,

That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board that both of the submissions from The Friends of Island View Beach and The Rocky Point Bird Observatory be attached as an appendix to the Island View Beach Regional Park Management Plan for future reference.

CARRIED

Moved by Director Windsor, Seconded by Director Isitt,

That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board adding under 3.6.4 under bullet 3 the wording “under the current temporary use permit issued by the District of Central Saanich.”

Moved by Director Isitt, Seconded by Director Windsor

That the motion be amended to change the wording to “subject to the land use approval of the District of Central Saanich.”

CARRIED

Moved by Director Windsor, Seconded by Director Isitt,

That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board to add under 3.6.4 under bullet 3 the wording “subject to the land use approval of the District of Central Saanich.”

CARRIED

Moved by Director Windsor, Seconded by Director Screech,

That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board that the day-use area (Zone 1) have no dogs permitted year-round with the exception of service dogs.

CARRIED

OPPOSED: Director Young

Moved by Director Windsor, Seconded by Director Screech,

That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board that under 3.6.4.6 Drainage in sub-bullet under bullet 1 “Maintain the existing drainage ditch...” that the sub-bullet be divided into two separate sub-bullets to:

- Maintain the existing drainage ditch system.
- Monitor its effectiveness in reducing mosquito habitat and its effect on the coastal wetland ecosystem.

CARRIED

Moved by Director Isitt, Seconded by Director Windsor,

That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

That the Island View Beach Regional Parks Management Plan be approved with the following amendments:

- insert a bullet in 3.6.1.2 of the Draft Island View Beach Regional Park Management Plan stating “that the Regional Parks Committee work with the Province and the Federal Government to protect brant and migratory shorebirds from recreational uses of the adjacent park.”
- that both of the submissions from The Friends of Island View Beach and The Rocky Point Bird Observatory be attached as an appendix to the Island View Beach Regional Park Management Plan for future reference.
- adding under 3.6.4 under bullet 3 the wording “subject to the land use approval of the District of Central Saanich.
- that the day-use area (Zone 1) have no dogs permitted year-round with the exception of service dogs.
- that under 3.6.4.6 Drainage in sub-bullet under bullet 1 “Maintain the existing drainage ditch...” that the sub-bullet be divided into two separate sub-bullets to:
- Maintain the existing drainage ditch system.
- Monitor its effectiveness in reducing mosquito habitat and its effect on the coastal wetland ecosystem.

CARRIED

5.2. [17-484](#)

Draft Regional Trails Plan for the Gulf Islands

L. Hutcheson provided an overview of the report.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- use of road right-of-ways
- working with adjacent land owners to accommodate trails
- budget implementation at various phases
- when grant funding can be sought
- providing the Regional Parks Committee with a progress report and implementation update at twelve months from adoption of the plan

Chair Hicks left the meeting at 11:25. Vice Chair Screech assumed the Chair and called the question on the motion.

**MOVED by Director Seaton, SECONDED by Director Screech,
That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:**

That the draft Regional Trails Plan for the Gulf Islands be made available for public review and comment.

CARRIED

5.3. [17-491](#) Elk/Beaver Lake Initiative Update

G. Harris provided an overview of the report.

Chair Hicks returned to the Chair at 11:27.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- the transition of lakes to bogs and whether Beaver Lake is changing to a bog
- adjusting expectations of long term ecological changes
- the progress and success of the lake aerator in the City of Langford
- natural assets and economic development as a result of rowers, fishers, etc.
- different specific design systems for each of Elk Lake and Beaver Lake
- steps for education and requirements for fertilizer application to reduce impacts of farmland fertilizer entering the lakes
- providing aeration for Beaver Lake only
- road runoff from Patricia Bay Highway and discussions with Ministry of Transportation
- District of Saanich infrastructure for stormwater management

That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

That staff be directed to include up to \$40,000 in the 2018 Regional Parks service plan to install and operate an oxygenation system for Beaver Lake, and develop a business case for a high-efficiency hypolimnetic oxygenation system for Elk Lake.

6. Correspondence

6.1. [17-261](#) Correspondence: Capital Region Equestrians Re: Island View Beach

**MOVED by Director Brownoff, SECONDED by Director Seaton,
That the Regional Parks Committee receive this correspondence for information.
CARRIED**

7. New Business - None.

8. Adjournment

MOVED by Director Seaton, **SECONDED** by Director Windsor,
That the June 21, 2017 Regional Parks Committee meeting be adjourned at
11:42 am.
CARRIED

Chair

Recorder



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**REPORT TO REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2017**

SUBJECT Lifeguards at Regional Parks

ISSUE

Injuries and a near drowning at Thetis Lake Regional Park in the summer of 2017 have raised questions about the need for lifeguards at regional parks, particularly at Thetis Lake.

BACKGROUND

Capital Regional District (CRD) Regional Parks provide access to beaches at 13 regional parks, including 6 freshwater lakes and 7 oceanfronts. The main freshwater swimming areas are Thetis Lake, Elk/Beaver Lake, Sooke Potholes, Durrance Lake and Matheson Lake. Island View Beach, Witty's Lagoon and Jordan River are popular oceanfront beaches.

There are inherent dangers associated with swimming in lakes, rivers and oceans. Physical hazards can include uneven and slippery surfaces, submerged objects, poor visibility, strong currents and deep water. It is important that swimmers using these natural areas understand the potential hazards and have the swimming abilities required for the area they are swimming in.

Since 1999, there have been 9 serious water-related incidents at CRD Regional Parks and its associated waters. Five people drowned at Thetis Lake (1999, 2004 [2 people], 2006, 2013) and 1 person drowned at Sooke Potholes (2011). In addition, there have been 3 serious incidents involving 4 people at Thetis Lake. One person was injured in 2014 while cliff jumping, 2 swimmers were in distress and 1 of them almost drowned in June 2017, and 1 person was injured while cliff jumping in July 2017.

Lifeguard services were provided at Thetis Lake from 1970 to 1990 when the park was operated by the City of Victoria. The City cancelled the services in 1991. Services resumed in 1994 when the park was transferred to the CRD and were provided until 2002. At Elk/Beaver Lake, the District of Saanich provided lifeguards from 1966 to 1976. When the park was transferred to the CRD in 1976, lifeguard services continued until 2003.

The Regional Parks Committee approved a motion in November 2003 to discontinue lifeguard services at regional parks. The main reasons for the decision were competing budgetary pressures, challenges in recruiting qualified lifeguards and the overall trend toward removal of lifeguard services from waterfronts by municipalities and other park agencies. As with other recreational activities in parks, visitors are encouraged to assess their surroundings, know their skill levels and take responsibility for their personal safety.

Since then, staff have put an increased focus on communicating water safety messages through signs at the parks and posting information on the CRD website.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the CRD Board:

That the staff report be received for information and that current service levels be maintained focusing on the use of signage and public information to address public safety concerns near swimming areas in Regional Parks.

Alternative 2

That staff be directed to bring forward a proposed service level adjustment and budget proposal to provide lifeguard services at Thetis Lake commencing in 2018.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Lack of proficiency in English and unfamiliarity with common hazards in BC lakes are factors to consider. Three of the 5 people who drowned at Thetis Lake since 1999, and all 4 of those involved in the serious incidents in 2014 and 2017, were international visitors with limited knowledge of the English language. The coroner's report following the drowning in 2006 observed that visitors to BC might not realize that the lakes can be colder than where they are used to, and that there can be underwater hazards they are not familiar with. In response to, and in compliance with, the coroner's recommendation, staff added symbols to warning signs in 2006, then in 2013 changed sign standards to include images, shapes and colours that are internationally recognizable, to better communicate potential hazards to non-English-speaking visitors.

Before the service was discontinued, lifeguards were stationed at the main beach at Thetis Lake and Beaver Beach at Elk/Beaver Lake. Although people swim at those beaches, many swim at other parts of the lakes. For example, there are at least 8 places around the perimeter of Thetis Lake where swimmers enter the water. Even if a lifeguard service is provided at a park, incidents can happen outside guarded areas and/or when lifeguards are not on duty.

The coroner's reports on file made no recommendations regarding reinstatement of lifeguards at Thetis Lake. Commentary was made on the importance of signs being posted and of parental/guardian supervision. The 1999 coroner's report commented on lifeguards, stating "While lifeguards are not provided at Thetis Lake during all of the park's opening hours, neither are they provided at most natural swim areas throughout the capital region. The presence or absence of lifeguards at a swim location does not preclude parental or guardian supervision."

ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

Costs to provide lifeguards vary depending on the season and number of days per week lifeguard services would be provided. At Thetis Lake, when beaches are busiest in high season from Canada Day to mid-August, 4 lifeguards would be required, with an additional 2 on staff to cover days off. For the shoulder seasons, Victoria Day to Canada Day and mid-August to Labour Day, 3 lifeguards would be required, 2 on-duty and 1 to cover days off. The increase in lifeguards in the high season reflects the increase in number of visitors to the beach area.

Based on the above, and providing lifeguards 7 days per week, it is estimated that \$75,000 per beach is needed to set up and provide lifeguard services. This includes \$68,000 for salaries, \$7,000 for equipment and training. At Thetis Lake Regional Park, a minimum of 3 lifeguards would be required in the shoulder season (salary cost: \$28,000) and 6 lifeguards would be required in July/August (salary cost: \$40,000). Ongoing annual costs would be \$70,000.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Lifeguard services are not provided at beaches in the capital region by any other municipality or electoral area. The Cowichan Valley Regional District has lifeguards at 1 of its 22 beaches and Nanaimo has lifeguards at 1 of its 18 beaches. Vancouver has lifeguards at all 10 of its city beaches. Lifeguards are not provided at any BC provincial parks. Gulf Islands National Park Reserve does not have lifeguards. Pacific Rim National Park Reserve discontinued its surfguard services in 2012.

CONCLUSION

Lifeguard services have not been provided at regional parks for the past 14 years. As with other recreational activities in the regional parks, visitors are encouraged to assess their surroundings, know their skill levels and take responsibility for their own personal safety.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

That the staff report be received for information and that current service levels be maintained focusing on the use of signage and public information to address public safety concerns near swimming areas in Regional Parks.

Submitted by:	Mike Walton, PhD, Senior Manager, Regional Parks
Concurrence:	Larisa Hutcheson, P.Eng., General Manager, Parks & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

KStC:km



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**REPORT TO REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2017**

SUBJECT **Matthews Point Regional Park Management Plan**

ISSUE

To initiate the preparation of a management plan for Matthews Point Regional Park Reserve.

BACKGROUND

Matthews Point Regional Park, on Galiano Island, was established in 1999 and is currently in park reserve status. The park is 33.58 ha in size and is located on the south-east tip of the island, adjacent to the local Bluff Park (Attachment 1). No official trails or visitor facilities are in place at this time, although some informal trails exist on site.

The service levels outlined in the Regional Parks Service Plan calls for the preparation or updating of two management plans per year. Staff believe that initiating a management plan for this small park, which has been in park reserve status for 18 years and is expected to have limited management issues, is appropriate at this time given other park and trail planning priorities.

This park is classified as a 'natural area' Regional Park in the Regional Parks Strategic Plan 2012-2021. Regional 'natural area' parks protect the natural environment and provide opportunities for a range of appropriate outdoor experiences and activities. They protect key greenspaces that are important to the natural character of the region. Where sensitive or threatened ecosystems exist in a Regional Park classified as a natural area, conservation is given management priority.

The purpose of a management plan is to provide direction on conservation and use, based on the park's classification, and to identify management and operational tasks to be undertaken. Attachments 2 and 3 outline the proposed project scope and public engagement process. Once a management plan is approved, the park would no longer be in "reserve" status.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

That the initiation of a management planning process for Matthews Point Regional Park, as per the project scope shown in Attachment 2 and the engagement process shown in Attachment 3, be approved.

Alternative 2

That the report be returned to staff for re-scoping as directed by the Committee.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Once a management plan is in place, the park reserve status is lifted and park facilities are developed. The management plan directs actions that enhance visitor experience and conservation at the site.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Through the management planning process, existing environmental information will be updated and any conservation actions necessary to manage visitor use will be identified. Informal trails exist on-site; these will be assessed through the planning process to determine if any changes are needed.

ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

The Regional Parks Service Plan envisions two management planning processes per year being in progress. The Matthews Point Management Plan project will be one of those plans. Costs associated with this project will be covered by core funding.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

The public engagement process will include opportunities for dialogue with interested First Nations and key entities, such as the Galiano Island Parks and Recreation Commission.

CONCLUSION

Matthews Point Regional Park is currently in park reserve status. A management plan will guide conservation, development, park operations and use, and will allow the park reserve status to be removed.

RECOMMENDATION

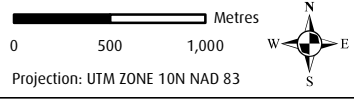
That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

That the initiation of a management planning process for Matthews Point Regional Park, as per the project scope shown in Attachment 2 and the engagement process shown in Attachment 3, be approved.

Submitted by:	Mike Walton, PhD, Senior Manager, Regional Parks
Concurrence:	Larisa Hutcheson, P.Eng., General Manager, Parks & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

CS:km

- Attachments: Attachment 1 – Matthews Point Regional Park Context Map
Attachment 2 – Project Scope for Matthews Point Regional Park Management Plan
Attachment 3 – General Flow and Anticipated Timeframe for Consultation Process



- ★ Matthews Point Regional Park
- Regional Park
- Provincial Protected Area
- Community Park
- Ferry Terminal
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Lake / Ocean

Important This map is for general information purposes only. The Capital Regional District (CRD) makes no representations or warranties regarding the accuracy or completeness of this map or the suitability of the map for any purpose. **This map is not for navigation.** The CRD will not be liable for any damage, loss or injury resulting from the use of the map or information on the map and the map may be changed by the CRD at any time.

Attachment 1
Matthews Point Regional Park
Context
 Regional Parks Committee Staff Report
 September 20, 2017

PROJECT SCOPE

MATTHEWS POINT REGIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN

PROJECT SCOPE

The management plan will identify a strategic direction and needed management and operational actions for Matthews Point Regional Park. The strategic direction will include a park vision, goals, objectives, park zoning and management statements relating to conservation and visitor opportunities.

The planning process will include two rounds of public engagement; one prior to drafting the plan and one when the draft plan is released for review. In-person sessions (e.g., open house) will be held on Galiano Island, where the park is located and where the highest level of interest and potential impact is likely. Additional opportunities to provide input will be provided through the website for the public who do not want to or cannot attend the sessions on Galiano Island. All of these opportunities will be advertised throughout the CRD through media releases, social media, and on the CRD website. Staff will also contact First Nations with lands on Galiano and/or traditional territories relating to Galiano Island to determine their interests in this project and meetings will be held if desired by the Nations. Other government agencies and non-governmental organizations will be invited to participate through various means, based on individual interests in and around this park.

PLANNING PROCESS – GENERAL TASKS

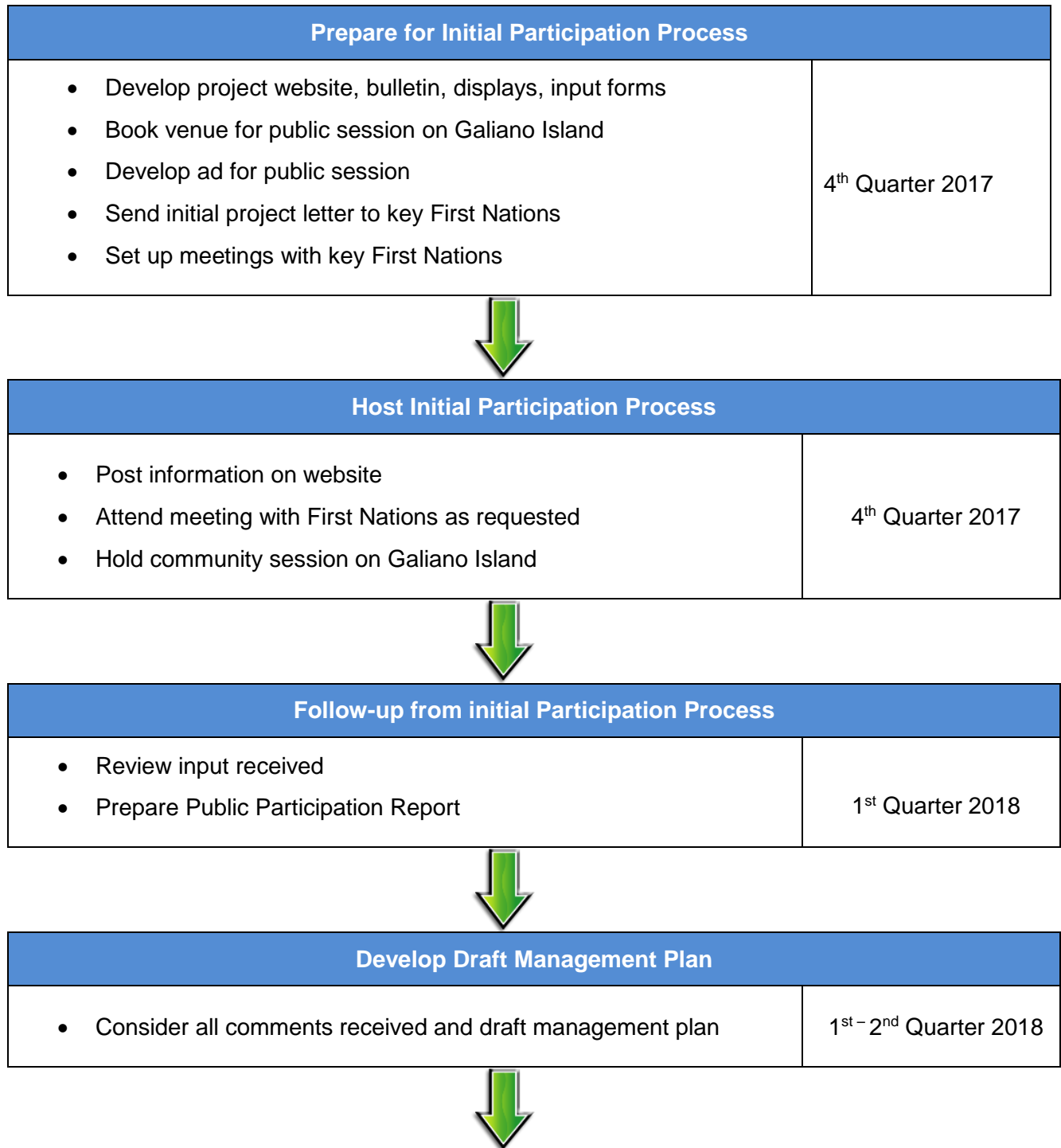
1. Update environmental/archaeological information taking in account possible First Nations interests
2. Develop public awareness information (website, project bulletin, on-site signs)
3. Prepare for and hold an initial public session on Galiano Island and First Nations engagement
4. Provide additional opportunity for input about the park, how the public use it, interests, and areas of concern, via the website and using other tools.
5. Review and consider all comments received
6. Develop draft plan
7. Provide Regional Parks Committee with public participation report and draft plan
8. Prepare for and hold second round of public participation highlighting the draft plan (session on Galiano Island and via CRD website)
9. Review and consider all comments received
10. Finalize management plan
11. Recommend to the Regional Parks Committee and CRD Board a final plan for approval

GENERAL OUTLINE/TABLE OF CONTENTS FOR THE PLAN

The management plan will include:

- Executive Summary
- Context
- Strategic Direction
- Park Zoning
- Development and Management Actions
- Proposed Implementation Strategy

**GENERAL FLOW AND ANTICIPATED TIMEFRAME FOR CONSULTATION PROCESS
MATTHEWS POINT REGIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN**



**GENERAL FLOW AND ANTICIPATED TIMEFRAME FOR CONSULTATION PROCESS
MATTHEWS POINT REGIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Prepare for Public Participation on Draft Management Plan	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update project website Book venue for public session on Galiano Island Develop project bulletin #2, displays, comment forms, media release, ad(s) Send update to key First Nations Set up meetings to present draft plan to key First Nations Draft Plan to Regional Parks Committee 	2 nd Quarter 2018



Host Public Participation Process for Draft Plan Review	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Send media release/social media directing people to website/public session on Galiano Island Hold public session. Public session will be drop-in in nature and will provide highlights of the plan. Input will be solicited via the website comment form Present highlights of draft Plan to key First Nations 	3 rd Quarter 2018



Follow up from Second Participation Process & Final Regional Trail Plan	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review comments received Finalize plan Public participation report and final management plan to Regional Parks Committee 	4 th Quarter 2018



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**REPORT TO REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2017**

SUBJECT **Update on Todd Creek Trestle Closure**

ISSUE

To update the Regional Parks Committee on the closure of the Todd Creek Trestle.

BACKGROUND

The Todd Creek Trestle was originally built as a part of the Canadian National Railway in 1917. The trestle structure was upgraded in 1956 and again in 1984 before the right-of-way was formally abandoned by the railway. In 1994, the trestle was upgraded to allow cycling and walking use of the trestle as part of the Galloping Goose Regional Trail.

In 2012, the Capital Regional District hired MacDonald and Lawrence Timber Framing to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the trestle. The assessment found that many of the supporting timbers for the trestle structure were in fair to poor condition.

The 2017 Regional Parks capital plan includes a project to initiate repairs for parts of the trestle. The project schedule called for these repairs to begin in the fall of 2017 and be completed by the spring of 2018. However, during an inspection in July 2017, staff noted a recent failure in a support post in one of the towers supporting the trestle. Subsequent to an evaluation of the failure, Stantec Engineering recommended closing the trestle to the public until repairs could be undertaken.

Remedial repairs to re-open the trestle prior to the major repairs planned in the fall of 2017 revealed that the supporting towers may not support the increased loads that would be present during the repair process. The consulting engineer therefore recommended that the trestle remain closed until the more comprehensive trestle repair project is completed.

Staff will retain professional consultants to undertake a detailed condition assessment of the Todd Creek Trestle to understand what has changed since the 2012 comprehensive assessment to refine the scope of the necessary repairs and the associated budget. Staff will update the Regional Parks Committee this fall on the results of that assessment and proposals to repair, modify or replace the trestle.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A bypass around the Todd Creek Trestle will be maintained that is suitable for pedestrians and equestrians. Cyclists are able to divert onto Sooke River Road for 4 kilometres from the Sooke River Road parking lot to Sooke Potholes Regional Park, where they are able to rejoin the Galloping Goose Trail. Information about the trestle closure has been communicated to the public on social media and through trail signage at multiple locations outbound from the City of Victoria, at the trail-head and at Sooke Potholes parking lot. Barricades on either end of the trestle are in place to ensure public safety. The expected date of the re-opening of the trestle will be communicated to the public once further information is available.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

The Todd Creek Trestle spans Todd Creek, which joins the Sooke River at Sooke Potholes Regional Park. In order to prevent impacts to Todd Creek from use of the bypass during the trestle closure, Regional Parks will install a temporary pedestrian bridge over Todd Creek.

ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

The Regional Parks capital plan includes a total of \$1.2 million to complete repairs in 2018. Approximately \$610,000 is available for the project in 2017. Costs for completing the updated condition assessment and undertaking any necessary trail bypass improvements will come out of the 2017 project budget. Once further information is available from the condition assessment, staff will provide more detailed cost estimates for the repair.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) own the land on which the Galloping Goose Regional Trail is located. Staff have contacted MOTI staff and discussed the status of the Todd Creek Trestle and proposed next steps. MOTI staff is supportive of the direction being taken. Staff have contacted the T'Sou-ke Nation, who operate the campground at Sooke Potholes Regional Park, to provide them with information about the trestle closure and address any concerns they may have. Public service announcements have been sent to local governments notifying them of the trestle closure and updates will be provided as necessary.

CONCLUSION

The Todd Creek Trestle has been closed to the public due to concerns with the aging structure. An engineering assessment will be undertaken to determine the current condition of the trestle and provide options and recommendations for addressing its structural integrity. A bypass trail option will be provided during the trestle closure. Staff will bring back a staff report in the fall with the results of the engineering assessment, including options and estimated costs for repairing, modifying or replacing the Todd Creek Trestle.

RECOMMENDATION

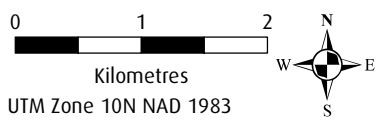
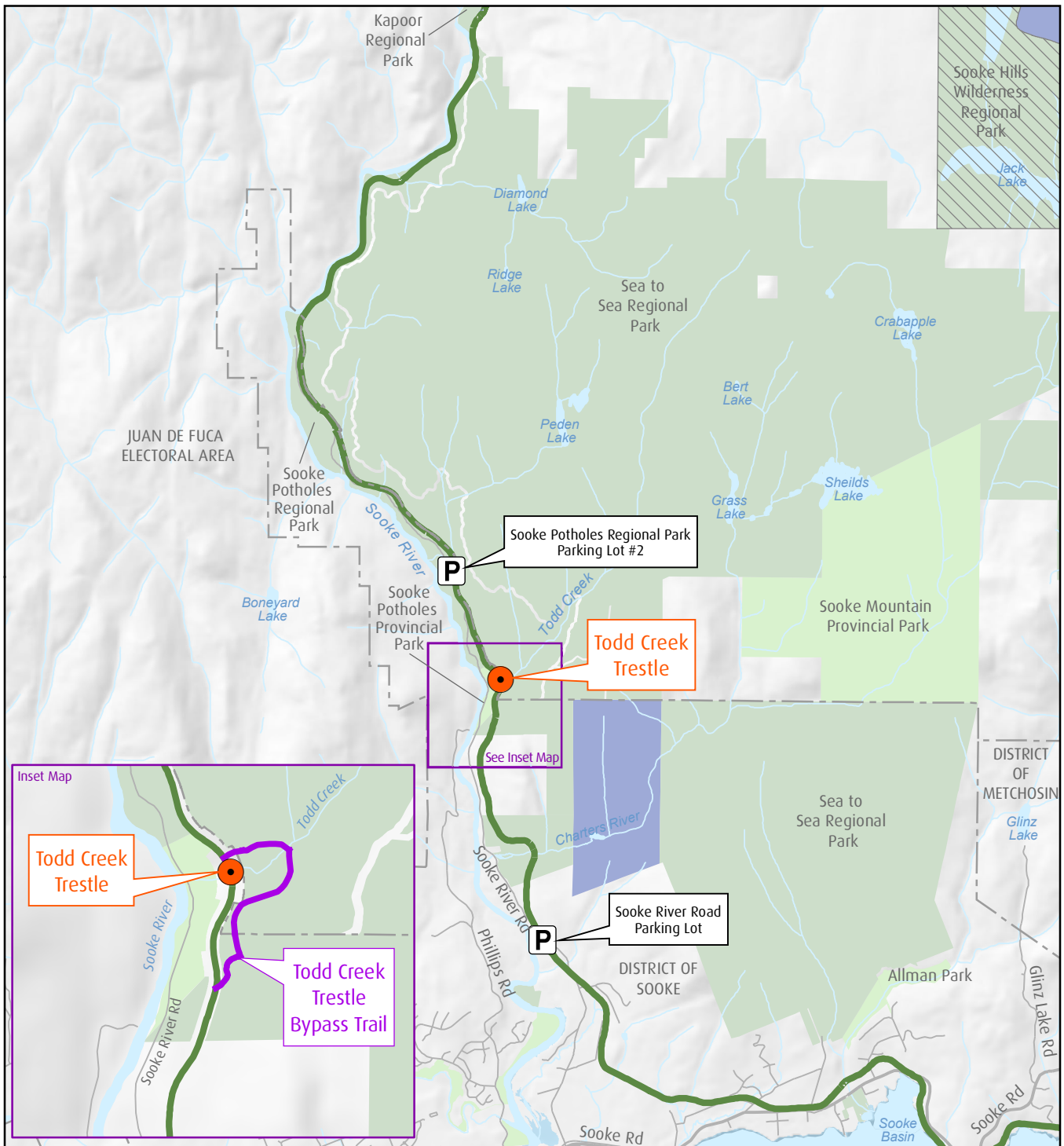
That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

That this report be received for information.

Submitted by:	Mike Walton, PhD, Senior Manager, Regional Parks
Concurrence:	Larisa Hutcheson, P.Eng., General Manager, Parks & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

LW:km

Attachment: Attachment 1 – Location Map of Todd Creek Trestle



Important This map is for general information purposes only. The Capital Regional District (CRD) makes no representations or warranties regarding the accuracy or completeness of this map or the suitability of the map for any purpose. **This map is not for navigation.** The CRD **will not be liable** for any damage, loss or injury resulting from the use of the map or information on the map and the map may be changed by the CRD at any time.

2017-09-20-SR-RPC-ToddCreekTrestle-Att1.mxd

-  Todd Creek Trestle
-  Todd Creek Trestle Bypass Trail
-  Galloping Goose Regional Trail
-  Municipal / Electoral Area Boundary
-  Major Road
-  Local Road
-  Regional Park
-  Provincial / Municipal Park
-  CRD Water Supply Land
-  Drinking Water Protection Zone

Attachment 1

Galloping Goose Regional Trail: Todd Creek Trestle

Regional Parks
Committee Staff Report
September 20, 2017





TOWN OF VIEW ROYAL

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July 18, 2017

CRD Board Chair Barb Desjardins & Directors
Capital Regional District
625 Fisgard Street
PO Box 1000
Victoria, BC V8W 2S6

Dear Board of Directors:

RE: Lifeguards at Thetis Lake

The Town of View Royal writes once again to request that lifeguards be returned to Thetis Lake for the exceptionally busy summer season. We objected to the removal in 2003 and have since asked twice for their return.

As you are aware, there have been multiple tragedies that include drownings at Thetis Lake since 1999 and several more close calls and injuries including two already this year. Enclosed with this letter I have provided you with some information written in the Times Colonist regarding some of these tragic events.

In a near drowning incident earlier this summer, it was only the presence of paddle boarders in the right place at the right time that helped to prevent two more possible drowning victims.

We are aware that lifeguards may not have helped in all of the situations currently facing us and we are aware that the cliff jumping is a separate but connected issue. However, we do feel strongly that in one of the most popular lakes in the region, with some of the most inherent natural dangers, including steep drop-offs, that lifeguards are absolutely vital to public safety in this area.

Therefore, we ask the Capital Regional District Board for support and adherence in adding the costs of lifeguards to your budget for the 2018 summer season.

Sincerely,

David Screech
Mayor

Enclosure



Thetis Lake swimmer dies
Times Colonist (Victoria)
Sun Jul 21 2013
Page: A3
Section: Capital & Van. Isl.
Byline: Amy Smart And Sarah Petrescu
Source: Times Colonist

A 21-year-old international student died after swimming in Thetis Lake on Saturday.

Witnesses and emergency responders arrived on scene at 12:20 p.m. and attempted to revive the man. He was transported to Victoria General Hospital in critical condition, but died, said the B.C. Coroners Service.

"He was an apparently fit male who went into the water with his friends," said West Shore RCMP Cpl. Bryson Hill. Foul play is not suspected.

Esquimalt resident Mark Burnham called 911 after a group of eight to 10 international students communicated to him that their friend was lost in the water.

"Some of them started saying, 'We can't find our friend, we're looking for our friend,' " Burnham said. "There was a language barrier, so there was some confusion as to how alarmed [we should] be."

As he made the call, others dove into the water to help with the search, he said. They found the man under three to four metres of water, about six to nine metres from the shore of the main beach.

"There was this one bigger guy who found him at the bottom and was struggling to bring him up," Burnham said. "And then there was this 50-year-old

lady who actually swam him to shore."

Burnham yelled out, asking if anyone was a lifeguard, and a few people ran over.

"It was right at the main beach area. The lifeguard would have been watching them, if there had been one," Burnham said. His wife is a lifeguard but was at another part of the park at that time.

"Probably never would have happened if they would have paid someone \$15 an hour to sit there."

Esquimalt resident Jon Leney said the unconscious man was dragged onto the beach. Witnesses jumped in to give CPR and chest compressions.

"He was completely unresponsive," Leney said. Emergency responders arrived within minutes.

"They were working on him on the beach for a while and then put him on a stretcher. It didn't look good. It was pretty traumatic for everyone there," he said. "Adults were crying and holding each other. Some people were very quiet."

Leney said he was honest with his young son about what was happening when he asked. "I asked him how he felt. He said he wasn't upset but that he was sad because that man might die."

The man's name has not been released. The B.C. Coroners Service is investigating.

asmart@timescolonist.com spetrescu@timescolonist.com

WATER SAFETY TIPS Always wear a personal flotation device when boating or tubing.

Children, non-swimmers and weak swimmers should also wear one when wading or playing in rivers or lakes.

Be aware of water conditions. If you're hosting visitors from another province or country, make sure they know about water conditions, such as steep drop-offs and rapids, around swimming locations.

Don't drink and swim or boat. Always supervise children near water. Preschool-aged children can drown in a few centimetres of water.

Never dive into unknown waters.

DEATHS AT THETIS LAKE

July 21, 2006: Wan Ting Chang, a 24-year-old University of Victoria student, drowned after slipping off a rock shelf into deep water. Friends tried to save Chang, who couldn't swim, but she drowned.

May 23, 2004: Jeffrey Hearn, a 23-year-old navy sailor, dove off a 12-metre cliff and didn't resurface. His body was found the next day.

Sept. 4, 2004: The body of Harry Albert Burns, 57, was recovered in Thetis Lake after he drowned.

Aug. 3, 1999: Tim Sheu, 14, drowned while on a field trip with St. Michaels University School. His family asked the school to donate money to help fund more lifeguards at the popular swimming destination.