

**METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE**

MEETING

**Wednesday, May 6, 2026
9:00 am**

28th Floor Boardroom, 4515 Central Boulevard, Burnaby, British Columbia

REVISED AGENDA

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. May 6, 2026 Meeting Agenda

THAT the Regional Parks Committee adopt the agenda for its meeting scheduled for May 6, 2026 as circulated.

B. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

1. April 1, 2026 Meeting Minutes

THAT the Regional Parks Committee adopt the minutes of its meeting held April 1, 2026 as circulated. *pg. 4*

2. April 21, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes

THAT the Regional Parks Committee adopt the minutes of its special meeting held April 21, 2026 as circulated. *pg. 8*

C. DELEGATIONS

D. INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Added

1. Ken Williams, Chair, Kanaka Educational and Environmental Partnership Society

Subject: Contribution Agreement for Operation of the Kanaka Creek Bell-Irving Hatchery 2027 - 2029

E. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE OR CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Regional Parks 2025 Annual Report

Report dated April 14, 2026, from Mike Redpath, Director, Regional Parks, and Jamie Vala, Division Manager, Planning and Resource Management, Regional Parks. *pg. 11*

Executive Summary

In 2025, Regional Parks continued to protect natural areas and connect people to nature, progressing towards the vision of a resilient network of regional parks and

greenways that provide important climate, health, and other benefits to park visitors and the wider region.

In 2025, there were an estimated 14.7 million visits to regional parks and greenways with records set at two locations. A total of 46,802 people took part in 606 programs, events, and outreach activities, while 6,617 volunteers and park partners contributed 21,068 hours to stewardship, education activities, and interpretive programs and events. Staff advanced numerous planning, design, and asset management initiatives.

Recommendation

THAT the Regional Parks Committee receive for information the report dated April 14, 2026, titled "Regional Parks 2025 Annual Report".

2. Kanaka Creek Regional Park – Contribution Agreement for Operation of the Kanaka Creek Bell-Irving Hatchery 2027 - 2029 *pg. 61*

Report dated April 1, 2026, from Doug Petersen, Division Manager, East Area, Regional Parks.

Executive Summary

This Contribution Agreement proposes a three-year funding amount of \$28,000 per year for the Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society (KEEPS) to support the Society's operations at Kanaka Creek Bell-Irving Hatchery, with respect to fish production, conservation, education, and community involvement activities.

Metro Vancouver's contribution is combined with an annual contribution of \$25,000 from the Canadian Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans to fund a Hatchery Manager position, and related fish production and administration costs.

Recommendation

THAT the MVRD Board approve the Contribution Agreement between Metro Vancouver Regional District and the Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society towards the operation of the Kanaka Creek Bell-Irving Hatchery for a three-year term in the amount of \$28,000 per year, commencing January 1, 2027, and ending on December 31, 2029.

Attachment 1 was replaced

3. Manager's Report – Regional Parks *pg.79*

Report dated April 14, 2026, from Mike Redpath, Director, Regional Parks.

Executive Summary

Attachment 1 to this report sets out the Regional Parks Committee Work Plan for 2026. The status of work program elements is indicated as pending, in progress, or complete. The listing is updated as needed to include new issues that arise, items requested by the Committee, and changes in the schedule.

Recommendation

THAT the Regional Parks Committee receive for information report dated April 14, 2026, titled "Manager's Report - Regional Parks."

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Regional Parks Upcoming Events

pg. 87

G. OTHER BUSINESS

H. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

Note: The Committee must state by resolution the basis under section 90 of the Community Charter on which the meeting is being closed. If a member wishes to add an item, the basis must be included below.

THAT the Regional Parks Committee close its meeting scheduled for May 6, 2026 pursuant to section 226 (1) (a) of the *Local Government Act* and the *Community Charter* provisions as follows:

- 90 (1) A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:
 - (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality.

I. ADJOURNMENT

THAT the Regional Parks Committee adjourn its meeting of May 6, 2026.

Membership:

Chair, John McEwen, Anmore

Vice Chair, Rebecca Bligh, Vancouver
Belcarra, Jamie Ross

Bowen Island, Andrew Leonard

Burnaby, Pietro Calendino

Coquitlam, Craig Hodge

Delta, Dylan Kruger

Langley Township, Steve Ferguson

Maple Ridge, Jenny Tan

North Vancouver District, Lisa Muri

Pitt Meadows, Tracy Elke

Port Coquitlam, Darrell Penner

Port Moody, Meghan Lahti

Richmond, Michael Wolfe

Surrey, Rob Stutt

West Vancouver, Sharon Thompson



METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE

MEETING

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

9:00 am

28th Floor Committee Room, 4515 Central Boulevard, Burnaby, British Columbia

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair, John McEwen, Anmore
Vice Chair, Rebecca Bligh, Vancouver* (arrived at 9:04 am)
Belcarra, Jamie Ross
Bowen Island, Andrew Leonard" (arrived at 9:01 am)
Burnaby, Pietro Calendino
Coquitlam, Craig Hodge
Delta, Dylan Kruger*
Langley Township, Steve Ferguson
Maple Ridge, Jenny Tan (arrived at 9:01 am)
North Vancouver District, Lisa Muri
Pitt Meadows, Tracy Elke
Port Coquitlam, Darrell Penner
Port Moody, Meghan Lahti
Richmond, Michael Wolfe
Surrey, Rob Stutt*
West Vancouver, Sharon Thompson

*denotes electronic meeting participation as authorized by the *Procedure Bylaw*.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mike Jerowsky, President, Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation
Simran Sarai, Philanthropy & Development Manager, Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation
Michael Wiebe, Executive Director, Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation

STAFF PRESENT:

Mike Redpath, Director, Regional Parks
Hadir Ali, Legislative Services Coordinator, Board and Information Services
Paul Brar, Division Manager, Parks Design and Development, Regional Parks
Doug Peterson, Division Manager, Parks East Area, Regional Parks

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**1. April 1, 2026 Meeting Agenda****It was MOVED and SECONDED**

THAT the Regional Parks Committee adopt the agenda for its meeting scheduled for April 1, 2026 as circulated.

CARRIED

B. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**1. March 4, 2026 Meeting Minutes****It was MOVED and SECONDED**

THAT the Regional Parks Committee adopt the minutes of its meeting held March 4, 2026 as circulated.

CARRIED

C. DELEGATIONS

No items presented.

D. INVITED PRESENTATIONS**1. Michael Wiebe, Executive Director, Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation**

Subject: Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation Update

9:01 am Councillor Tan and Director Leonard joined the meeting.

9:02 am Director Bligh joined the meeting.

Michael Wiebe, Mike Jerowsky, President, Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation, and Simran Sarai, Philanthropy & Development Manager, Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation, gave the committee a presentation titled "Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation", providing an overview of its work to support regional parks, foster community connections, and assist parks staff where possible. Members were informed of the Foundation's key programs, which include programming for seniors, Indigenous-led "Mishkoopitum" youth camps, and bus grant initiatives aimed at reducing accessibility barriers.

E. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE OR CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**1. MVRD Consumption of Liquor in Regional Parks Amendment Bylaw No. 1453, 2026**

Report dated March 9, 2026 from Paul Brar, Division Manager, Regional Parks Services, Regional Parks seeking MVRD Board approval to adopt Metro Vancouver Regional District Consumption of Liquor in Regional Parks Amendment Bylaw No. 1453, 2026.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the MVRD Board:

- a) give first, second, and third reading to *Metro Vancouver Regional District Consumption of Liquor in Regional Parks Amendment Bylaw No. 1453, 2026*; and
- b) adopt *Metro Vancouver Regional District Consumption of Liquor in Regional Parks Amendment Bylaw No. 1453, 2026*.

CARRIED

Councillor Wolfe voted in opposition.

2. Designated Smoking Areas in Regional Parks

Report dated March 10, 2026 from Paul Brar, Division Manager, Regional Parks Services, Regional Parks reviewing designated smoking areas in regional parks and seeking direction from the MVRD Board on the removal of these areas based on health authority guidance, public expectations, environmental and wildfire risks, and regional and provincial approaches.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the MVRD Board:

- a) receive for information the report dated March 10, 2026, titled "Designated Smoking Areas in Regional Parks"; and
- b) direct staff to remove the existing smoking areas in regional parks currently designated by posted notice, as proposed in the report dated March 10, 2026, titled "Designated Smoking Areas in Regional Parks."

CARRIED

3. Derby Reach Regional Park – Campground Expansion

Report dated March 8, 2026 from Jeffrey Fitzpatrick, Division Manager, Design and Development, Regional Parks providing an update to the Regional Parks Committee on the proposed campground expansion at Derby Reach Regional Park in the Township of Langley.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Regional Parks Committee receive for information the report dated March 8, 2026, titled "Derby Reach Regional Park – Campground Expansion."

CARRIED

4. Manager's Report – Regional Parks

Report dated March 11, 2026 from Mike Redpath, Director, Regional Parks, providing the committee with a status update of the Committee's work plan and activities.

Members were updated on the Pacific Spirit Regional Park's Night Quest annual event which was held in March and was delivered in partnership with the Pacific Spirit Park Society and resulted in a total of 3,321 attendees.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Regional Parks Committee receive for information the report dated March 11, 2026, titled "Manager's Report - Regional Parks."

CARRIED**F. INFORMATION ITEMS****1. Regional Parks Upcoming Events - April 2026****G. OTHER BUSINESS**

No items presented.

H. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

No items presented.

I. ADJOURNMENT**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

THAT the Regional Parks Committee adjourn its meeting of April 1, 2026.

CARRIED

(Time: 9:52 am)

Rapinder Khaira,
Legislative Services Coordinator

John McEwen,
Chair

84394358

**METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE****SPECIAL MEETING****Tuesday, April 21, 2026****1:00 pm****28th Floor Boardroom, 4515 Central Boulevard, Burnaby, British Columbia****MINUTES****MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chair, John McEwen*, Anmore
Vice Chair, Rebecca Bligh*, Vancouver
Belcarra, Jamie Ross* (arrived at 1:02 pm; departed at 1:15 pm)
Bowen Island, Andrew Leonard*
Burnaby, Pietro Calendino*
Coquitlam, Craig Hodge* (arrived at 1:04 pm)
Delta, Dylan Kruger*
Langley Township, Steve Ferguson*
Maple Ridge, Jenny Tan* (arrived at 1:09 pm)
North Vancouver District, Lisa Muri*
Pitt Meadows, Tracy Elke*
Port Coquitlam, Darrell Penner*
Port Moody, Meghan Lahti*
Richmond, Michael Wolfe*
West Vancouver, Sharon Thompson* (arrived at 1:04 pm)

*denotes electronic meeting participation as authorized by the *Procedure Bylaw*.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Surrey, Rob Stutt

OTHERS PRESENT:

Amanda Farrell, CEO, Transit Investment Corporation
Amerigo Silvestri, Vice President, Major Projects, Transit Investment Corporation

STAFF PRESENT:

Mike Redpath, Director, Regional Parks
Rapinder Khaira, Legislative Services Coordinator, Board and Information Services

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**1. April 21, 2026 Meeting Agenda****It was MOVED and SECONDED**

THAT the Regional Parks Committee adopt the agenda for its special meeting scheduled for April 21, 2026 as circulated.

CARRIED**B. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE OR CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER****1. Metro Vancouver Regional District Park Dedication Removal of Certain Lands in Deas Island Regional Park Bylaw No. 1462, 2026**

Report dated April 17, 2026 from Mike Redpath, Director, Regional Parks, providing the Regional Parks Committee with an opportunity to consider a bylaw to remove certain lands in Deas Island Regional Park to facilitate replacement of the George Massey Tunnel.

1:04 pm Director Hodge and Councillor Thompson arrived at the meeting.

1:09 pm Councillor Tan arrived at the meeting.

Amanda Farrell, CEO, Transit Investment Corporation, and Amerigo Silvestri, Vice President, Major Projects, Transit Investment Corporation, provided a presentation titled "Fraser River Tunnel Project", with an overview of the intended use of the lands in Deas Island Regional Park, the subsequent impact, and measures planned for park restoration.

1:15 pm Director Ross left the meeting.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the MVRD Board:

- a) give first, second and third readings to *Metro Vancouver Regional District Park Dedication Removal of Certain Lands in Deas Island Regional Park Bylaw No. 1462, 2026* (the "Bylaw");
- b) direct the Corporate Officer to initiate an Alternative Approval Process to obtain elector approval for the Bylaw pursuant to section 269(b) of the *Local Government Act*; and
- c) direct staff to negotiate with the Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MOTT) and the Transportation Investment Corporation (TI Corp) an amendment or an addendum to the July 22, 2025 Accommodation Agreement, and the associated July 28, 2025 Lease, between Metro Vancouver and the Province (represented by MOTT) to reflect the proposed additional use of Deas Island Regional Park, including impacts, mitigation measures, restoration requirements for park amenities and environment, and related compensation, all to the satisfaction of Metro Vancouver's CAO for execution.

CARRIED

Director Kruger and Councillor Wolfe voted against.

C. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

No items presented.

D. ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Regional Parks Committee adjourn its special meeting of April 21, 2026.

CARRIED

(Time: 1:27 pm)

Rapinder Khaira, Legislative Services Coordinator

John McEwen, Chair

84809690

To: Regional Parks Committee

From: Mike Redpath, Director, Regional Parks
 Jamie Vala, Division Manager, Planning and Resource Management, Regional Parks

Date: April 14, 2026 Meeting Date: May 6, 2026

Subject: **Regional Parks 2025 Annual Report**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Regional Parks Committee receive for information the report dated April 14, 2026, titled “Regional Parks 2025 Annual Report”.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2025, Regional Parks continued to protect natural areas and connect people to nature, progressing towards the vision of a resilient network of regional parks and greenways that provide important climate, health, and other benefits to park visitors and the wider region.

In 2025, there were an estimated 14.7 million visits to regional parks and greenways with records set at two locations. A total of 46,802 people took part in 606 programs, events, and outreach activities, while 6,617 volunteers and park partners contributed 21,068 hours to stewardship, education activities, and interpretive programs and events. Staff advanced numerous planning, design, and asset management initiatives.

PURPOSE

To provide the *Regional Parks 2025 Annual Report* to the Regional Parks Committee for information.

BACKGROUND

The preparation of the *Regional Parks 2025 Annual Report* is identified as an action in the Regional Parks Committee 2026 Work Plan.

REGIONAL PARKS ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY

In 2025, Regional Parks continued to protect natural areas and connect people to nature, progressing towards the vision of a resilient network of regional parks and greenways that provide important climate, health, and other benefits to park visitors and the wider region. The *Regional Parks Plan* drives this work to protect natural areas and connect people to nature. There were an estimated 14.7 million visits to Metro Vancouver’s regional parks with records set at two locations.

One of the year’s most significant milestones was the opening of Widgeon Marsh Regional Park following more than a decade of careful planning and design. The park protects 620 hectares of forested slopes, meadows, wetlands, and open space in Northeast Coquitlam and Electoral Area A. Metro Vancouver continues to work closely with First Nations on the park’s ongoing development, including infrastructure improvements and ecological protection.

In 2025, relationships with Indigenous communities were strengthened by working together towards truth and reconciliation. ᑕᓄᓐᓄᓐ (Kwantlen First Nation) Elder Karen Gabriel shared knowledge about Indigenous tools used from past to present, traditional uses of plants, and wildlife identification. Staff are currently working with Elder Karen to record her knowledge for a self-guided Campbell Valley

Regional Park trail walk. Staff continued to strengthen existing and develop new cultural planning and cooperation agreements across Metro Vancouver.

Regional Parks continued its important work of protecting the region's natural areas and connecting people to nature, adding 3.5 hectares of parkland to expand Kanaka Creek and Widgeon Marsh regional parks. Regional Parks also progressed key development projects, including the Pine Ridge Bridge replacement in Kanaka Creek Regional Park, the Davies Orchard revitalization project in Crippen Regional Park, the planning and design of the təmtəx'wtən/Belcarra South Picnic Area redevelopment, and planning and design of the Delta Nature Reserve Boardwalk replacement.

In 2025, staff worked to protect and conserve ecosystem health by creating and maintaining 31.5 hectares of ecological restoration areas, completing 27 restoration projects in 20 regional parks, and enhancing habitats through initiatives such as the removal of invasive yellow flag iris flowerheads at Widgeon Marsh Regional Park. Contractors, volunteers, and staff worked together to treat nearly 90 hectares. Staff, partners, and volunteers invested time and effort to restore the health and beauty of regional parks, removing 26,783 kilograms of invasive species and adding 11,727 native plants to parks.

In all, 606 public programs, events, and outreach activities inspired 46,802 people, including the Camping for Beginners program at Tynehead Regional Park designed for wheelchair users and adults with visual impairments. Also in 2025, volunteer participation in stewardship and interpretive programs continued to surpass participation levels from the last three years with 6,617 volunteers contributing 21,068 hours to environmental stewardship, park partners, and public programs.

ALTERNATIVES

This report is presented for information. No alternatives are presented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This is an information report. There are no financial implications associated with this report. The production of the annual report is undertaken with staff resources included annually in the MVRD Board approved Regional Parks budget.

CONCLUSION

This report presents highlights from the *Regional Parks 2025 Annual Report* including:

- 14.7 million visits to regional parks and greenways with records set at three locations
- 3.5 hectares of land added to grow the regional parks system
- 46,802 people were able to take part in 606 programs, events, and outreach activities
- 6,617 volunteers and park partners contributed 21,068 hours to environmental stewardship, park partners, and public programs

The annual report will be used to support ongoing park planning by MVRD and local municipalities for capital planning, future facility development, program delivery, and resource management activities.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Regional Parks 2025 Annual Report
2. Presentation re: Regional Parks 2025 Annual Report



Regional Parks Annual Report 2025

About Metro Vancouver

Metro Vancouver is a diverse organization that plans for and delivers regional utility services, including water, sewers and wastewater treatment, and solid waste management. It also regulates air quality, plans for urban growth, manages a regional parks system, provides affordable housing, and serves as a regional federation. The organization is a federation of 21 municipalities, one electoral area, and one treaty First Nation located in the region of the same name. The organization is made up of four separate legal entities, each governed by its own Board of Directors. Board directors are elected officials from member jurisdictions.

Territorial Acknowledgment

Metro Vancouver acknowledges that the region's residents live, work, and learn on the shared territories of many Indigenous Peoples, including 10 local First Nations: q̓íćǎy (Katzie), q̓ʷɑ:níłən (Kwantlen), k̓ʷikʷǎłəm (Kwikwetlem), máthxwi (Matsqui), x̓ʷmǎθkʷǎyǎm (Musqueam), q̓íqéyt (Qayqayt), Semiahmoo, Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), scəwáθǎn məsteyǎx̓ʷ (Tsawwassen), and səliłwǎtǎł (Tsleil-Waututh).

Regional Parks Committee Members 2025

John McEwen (Chair) – Village of Anmore

Andrew Leonard – Bowen Island Municipality

Rebecca Bligh (Vice Chair) – City of Vancouver

Lisa Muri – District of North Vancouver

Pietro Calendino – City of Burnaby

Darrell Penner – City of Port Coquitlam

Tracy Elke – City of Pitt Meadows

Jamie Ross – Village of Belcarra

Steve Ferguson – Township of Langley

Rob Stutt – City of Surrey

Craig Hodge – City of Coquitlam

Jenny Tan – City of Maple Ridge

Dylan Kruger – City of Delta

Sharon Thompson – District of West Vancouver

Meghan Lahti – City of Port Moody

Chak Au – City of Richmond

Cover image: Widgeon Marsh Regional Park



A Message from the Regional Parks Committee Chair

It was an honour to continue serving as Chair of the Regional Parks Committee throughout 2025. Metro Vancouver remains dedicated to protecting regionally significant natural areas and ensuring that residents and visitors can meaningfully connect with these special places.

In 2025, an estimated 14.7 million visitors explored our regional parks, reinforcing just how essential access to nature is for the health and well-being of our communities. Our work this year continued to support and deepen this vital relationship between people and nature.

One of the year's most significant milestones was the opening of Widgeon Marsh Regional Park following more than a decade of careful planning and design. The park protects 620 hectares of forested slopes, meadows, wetlands, and open space in Northeast Coquitlam and Electoral Area A. Metro Vancouver continues to work closely with First Nations on the park's ongoing development, including infrastructure improvements and ecological protection.

We celebrated the completion of the Davies Orchard Revitalization Project at Crippen Regional Park, restoring historic cabins, enhancing visitor amenities, and revitalizing the iconic landscape to support long-term recreational use.

Public engagement continued to be a central focus. Over 46,800 participants took part in 606 programs, events, and outreach activities, helping to build environmental awareness and stewardship, especially among children and youth. The contribution of volunteers remained invaluable. A total of 6,462 volunteers dedicated 20,392 hours to stewardship, education, and interpretive programs, strengthening community involvement and environmental leadership.

We continued growing the system through our land acquisition program, adding 3.5 hectares in partnership with local municipalities and other organizations. These efforts ensure that more natural areas are protected for future generations.

Underlying these achievements is the dedication of our staff, who work year-round in all weather conditions to maintain the safe operation and ecological health of the regional parks system. Their dedication keeps our parks resilient and welcoming for millions of visitors each year.

I am deeply proud of the dedication shown by the Metro Vancouver Board, the Regional Parks Committee, our staff, and our many partners. Together, we make the region stronger as we continue to ensure that Metro Vancouver's regional parks remain world-class natural spaces for generations to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. McEwen'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John McEwen
Chair, Regional Parks Committee

2025 in Review

In 2025, we continued to protect natural areas and connect people to nature, progressing towards the vision of a resilient network of regional parks and greenways that continues to provide important climate, health, and other benefits to park visitors and the wider region.

The *Regional Parks Plan* drives our work. Key accomplishments in 2025 helped support the priority areas of work within five goals:



1. The region's important natural areas are protected in perpetuity

- Completed the multi-year restoration of Imperial Trail in Pacific Spirit Regional Park
- Renewed the lease for Burnaby Lake Regional Park with City of Burnaby
- Removed over 26,000 kilograms of invasive species – a 40% increase from 2024



2. Everyone has the opportunity to benefit from exceptional experiences in nature

- Provided over 2,300 participants with an exceptional nature experience watching the Perseids meteor shower in Aldergrove Regional Park
- Continued to connect new audiences to regional parks with English Language Learners walks and a new Camping for Beginners event
- Engaged over 46,800 participants through Regional Parks public programs and events



3. Regional parks are sustainably managed and well-maintained for the safety of visitors and integrity of ecosystems

- Completed the public opening of Widgeon Marsh Regional Park
- Completed construction of three kilometres of regional greenway in Campbell Valley Regional Park
- Worked closely with səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation) to complete planning and design of the təmtəmíx'tən/Belcarra South Picnic Area redevelopment



4. First Nations have an active role in the planning and stewardship of regional parks

- Staff collaborated with First Nations to incorporate Traditional Knowledge into park programming



5. Regional parks adapt to change and contribute to regional resilience

- Completed the Natural Asset Management pilot project at Campbell Valley Regional Park
- Completed the second phase of stream modelling using LiDAR-derived data to support evidence-based planning and environmental management across the system
- Participated in multi-agency wildfire training exercises held across the region

Our Role

Protecting Metro Vancouver's important natural areas and connecting people with them.

Vision

Regional parks are protected and resilient, connecting people to nature, with benefits for all.

Minnehada Regional Park

Guiding Principles

Nature-focused

Nature has inherent value and its protection for future generations is the foundation of what we do.

Interconnected

Our work nurtures the essential connection between people and nature, recognizing the vital role nature plays in human health and well-being.

Inclusive

Equity is integral to what we do, as we create an inclusive environment for all.

Reconciliation-focused

Relationships with Indigenous peoples are strengthened as we make the journey together along the pathway of truth and reconciliation.

Collaborative

By working with others, we collectively care for the land to improve the region's livability and ecological health.

Knowledge-based

Decision-making is informed by data and science, and incorporates Indigenous Knowledge. We learn from others and share our knowledge generously.

Adaptive

We sustain a culture of adaptive management, through learning, innovation, and evaluation.

Learning from First Nations

Recognizing that advancing truth and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples is a process that starts with listening and learning together, Metro Vancouver is committed to strengthening relationships with First Nations based on trust and working collaboratively towards shared goals.



Learning about Indigenous Tools and Traditional Knowledge

Throughout the spring and summer, Campbell Valley Nature House visitors had the opportunity to learn from q̓ʷɑ:n̓l̓ən̓ (Kwantlen First Nation) Elder Karen Gabriel about Indigenous tools used from past to present, traditional uses of plants, and how to identify wildlife by their scat and tracks. Interpretation staff are currently working with Elder Karen to record her Indigenous plant knowledge for a self-guided Campbell Valley Regional Park trail walk.

Elder Karen Gabriel, q̓ʷɑ:n̓l̓ən̓ (Kwantlen First Nation)



Growing the System

Regional parks play a crucial role in making Metro Vancouver a resilient region. [Regional Parks Land Acquisition 2050*](#) is a key strategy for contributing to regional livability by protecting regionally important natural areas. Metro Vancouver advances delivery of the strategy each year in collaboration with member jurisdictions, senior levels of government, and others.

In 2025, 3.5 hectares of parkland were acquired to expand Kanaka Creek and Widgeon Marsh regional parks.

* Adopted by the Metro Vancouver Regional District Board in 2018.

Kanaka Creek Regional Park



Metro Vancouver Regional Parks & Greenspace



Community Involvement

Strong community partnerships continue to be essential in engaging the diverse populations that make up our region. Throughout the history of the Regional Parks system, residents have consistently shown a desire to contribute in meaningful and lasting ways beyond just experiencing parks as visitors.

In 2025, we strengthened our collaboration with community partner organizations by:

- Advancing system-wide consistency
- Expanding the Park Partner Network
- Building internal capacity to support volunteerism and stewardship

These efforts help create a more connected, engaged, and resilient network of supporters who play a vital role in caring for regional parks.

Park Associations

The following non-profit groups received contribution funding from Metro Vancouver and partnered with Regional Parks on projects and activities ranging from habitat restoration to nature education.

1. Burnaby Lake Park Association
2. Derby Reach/Brae Island Parks Association
3. Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society
4. Lower Coquitlam River Nature Association
5. Minnehada Park Association
6. Pacific Spirit Park Society



CTS Youth Society

Connect | Teach | Sustain

Metro Vancouver continued its funding support of the CTS Youth Society, a non-profit organization that aims to connect every youth in Metro Vancouver with their natural environment, their community, and with each other through the life-changing outdoor experience of summer camp.

To find out more about the CTS Youth Society, go to ctsyouthsociety.com.



Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation

Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation is a registered charity dedicated to raising funds for and supporting Metro Vancouver Regional Parks.

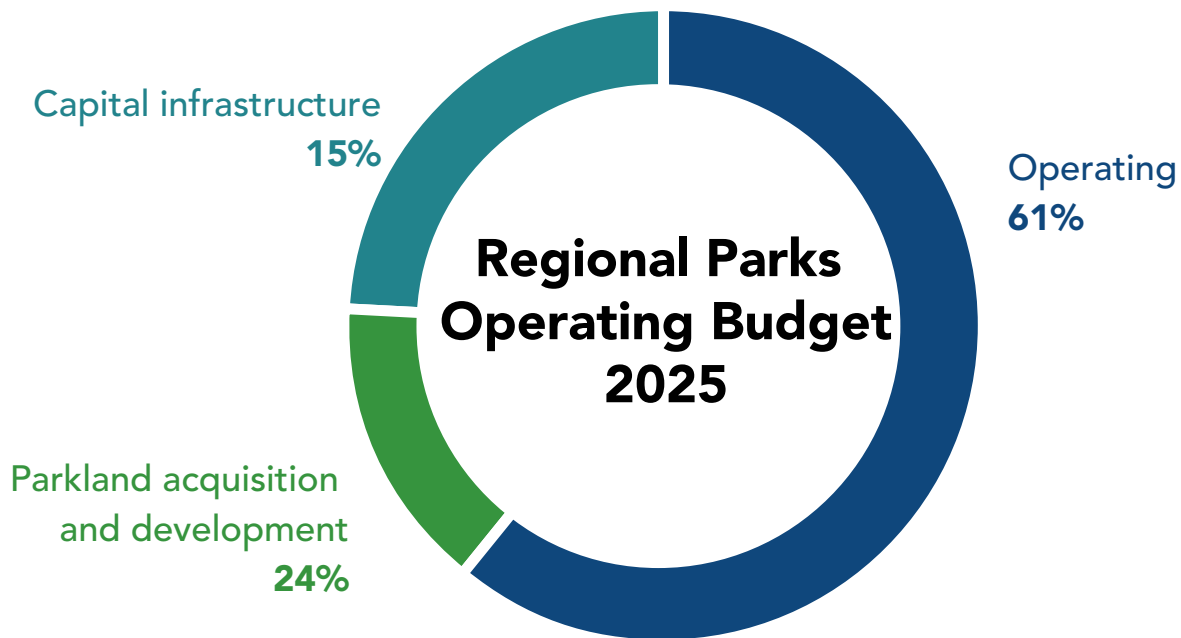
The Foundation funds projects that restore the health and beauty of these special places, improve the habitats of at-risk and endangered species, and support volunteer environmental stewardship events in regional parks. By filling in the gaps of public funding and helping more people visit regional parks, the foundation promotes the mental and physical health of people and community resilience, while ensuring regional parks remain spectacular.

To find out more about Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation, its projects, and how you can give back to regional parks, go to mvrpfoundation.ca.

To discover more about the impact the foundation made in 2025, refer to their [2025 Annual Report](#).

Regional Parks Provide Significant Value

Regional Parks is primarily funded through the annual Metro Vancouver Regional District tax requisition. This core revenue source is supplemented by modest income from user fees, capital reserves, and occasionally, sustainability reserve funds and external revenues, such as federal or provincial grants.



Planning for Parks Today and Into the Future

We support the long-term development and management of regional parks and greenways by conducting original research and preparing plans and policies. Regional Parks policies support day-to-day decision making while system and park-level plans describe a long-term vision for the regional parks system and guide resource management, development, operations, and programming.

Regional Parks Plan:

The [Regional Parks Plan](#) is Metro Vancouver's management plan for the regional parks system. The plan guides Metro Vancouver's work to protect natural areas and connect people to nature. The plan establishes a strategic vision of a resilient network of regional parks and greenways that provides important climate, health, and other benefits to visitors and regional residents.

2025 Accomplishments

- Implemented new field data collection workflows, enabling high accuracy field monitoring through advanced GPS equipment and ArcGIS Field Maps
- Completed the second phase of stream modelling using LiDAR-derived data to support evidence based planning and environmental management across the system
- Completed the second phase of the Visitor Use Management Strategy, including internal engagement and the development of strategy components
- Completed Natural Asset Management project Phase 4, including a pilot project at Campbell Valley Regional Park



Meteor Shower Watch event



Camping Opportunities Study

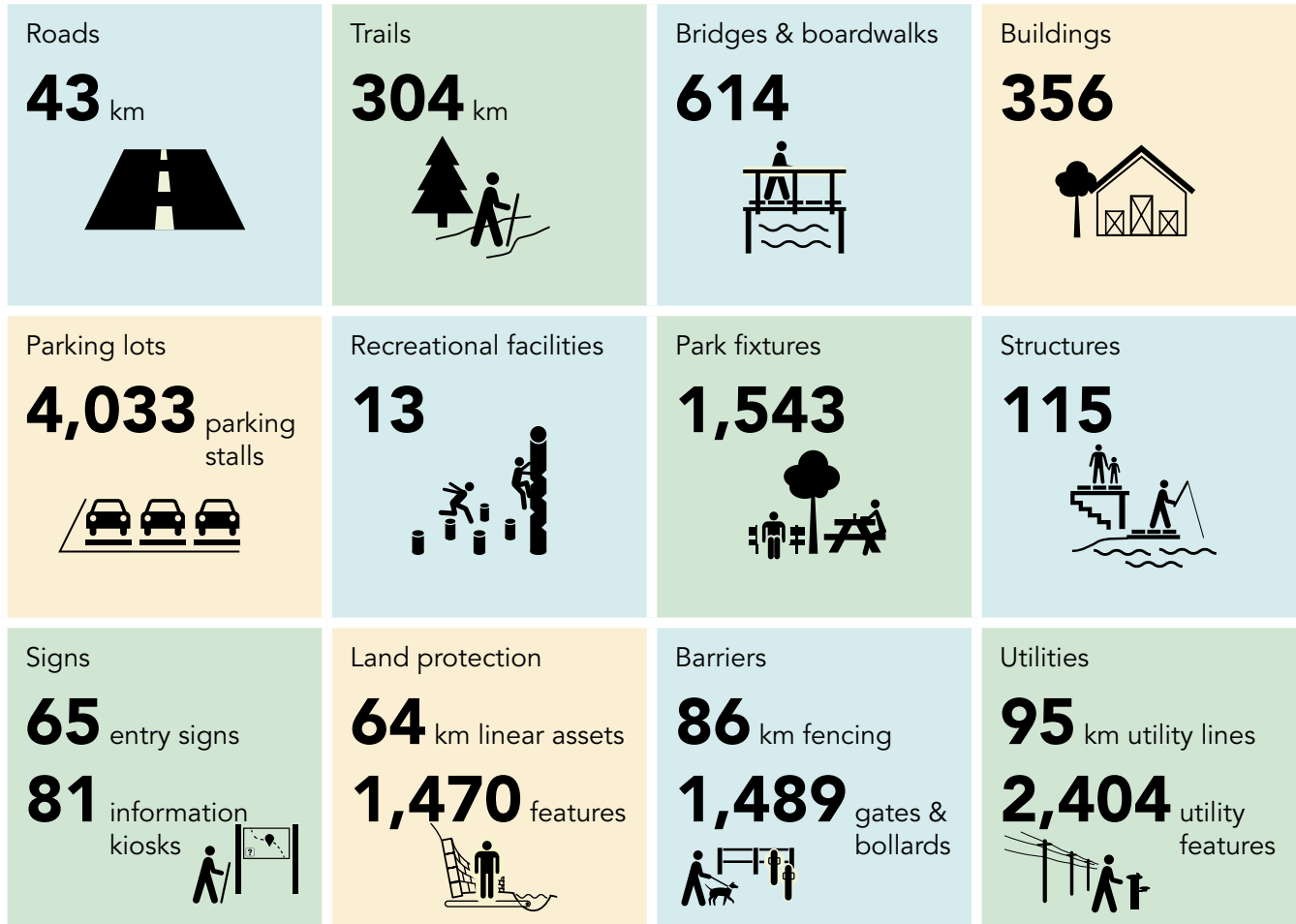
In 2025, the *Regional Parks Camping Opportunities Study* was completed. The aim of this study was to identify potential sites for new campgrounds within regional parks. The study identified three potential wilderness camping sites, 12 group camping sites, and four multi-type camping sites. Additionally, sites in two parks affected by major capital projects were identified for possible long-term consideration. Future work includes business and financial planning, and detailed site feasibility work to determine if Metro Vancouver should prioritize an expanded camping program.





Watch this video about camping in regional parks (vimeo.com/1013347669)

Building and Maintaining Park Assets

Each year, we manage a growing number of built assets including:



-  Watch this video about boardwalk repairs at Boundary Bay Regional Park (vimeo.com/1115936659)
-  Watch this video about culvert clearing at Deas Island Regional Park (vimeo.com/1110165938)

2025 Accomplishments

1. Completed the Pine Ridge Bridge replacement in Kanaka Creek Regional Park
2. Completed the Davies Orchard revitalization project in Crippen Regional Park
3. Completed construction of three kilometres of regional greenway in Campbell Valley Regional Park
4. Worked closely with səilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation) to complete planning and design of the təmtəmiş*ʔən/Belcarra South Picnic Area redevelopment
5. Completed planning and design of the Delta Nature Reserve Boardwalk replacement



Watch this video about the bridge installation at Kanaka Creek Regional Park (vimeo.com/1142257669)



Widgeon Marsh Regional Park



Widgeon Marsh Regional Park Opening

Widgeon Marsh Regional Park—a remote, spectacular natural area—opened on November 1, 2025 for public access. This marked the first time the public was able to experience one of our region’s most ecologically significant natural areas. Widgeon Marsh is part of southwest BC’s largest freshwater wetland and provides habitat to a variety of wildlife, including bears, cougars, and coyotes. This opening reflects our commitment to protecting sensitive habitats while creating meaningful opportunities for people to connect with nature. Visitors booked free reservations to drive in or take the weekend shuttle bus. Once there, they had the opportunity for a six- to seven-kilometre round-trip walk to the marsh edge to admire sweeping mountain views, hike beside steep forested slopes, or picnic in a meadow surrounded by wilderness.



Watch this video about Widgeon Marsh Regional Park (vimeo.com/1172336031)

Protecting Important Natural Areas



In 2025, Regional Parks protected:

13,923 hectares – including **86%** sensitive and important modified ecosystems*

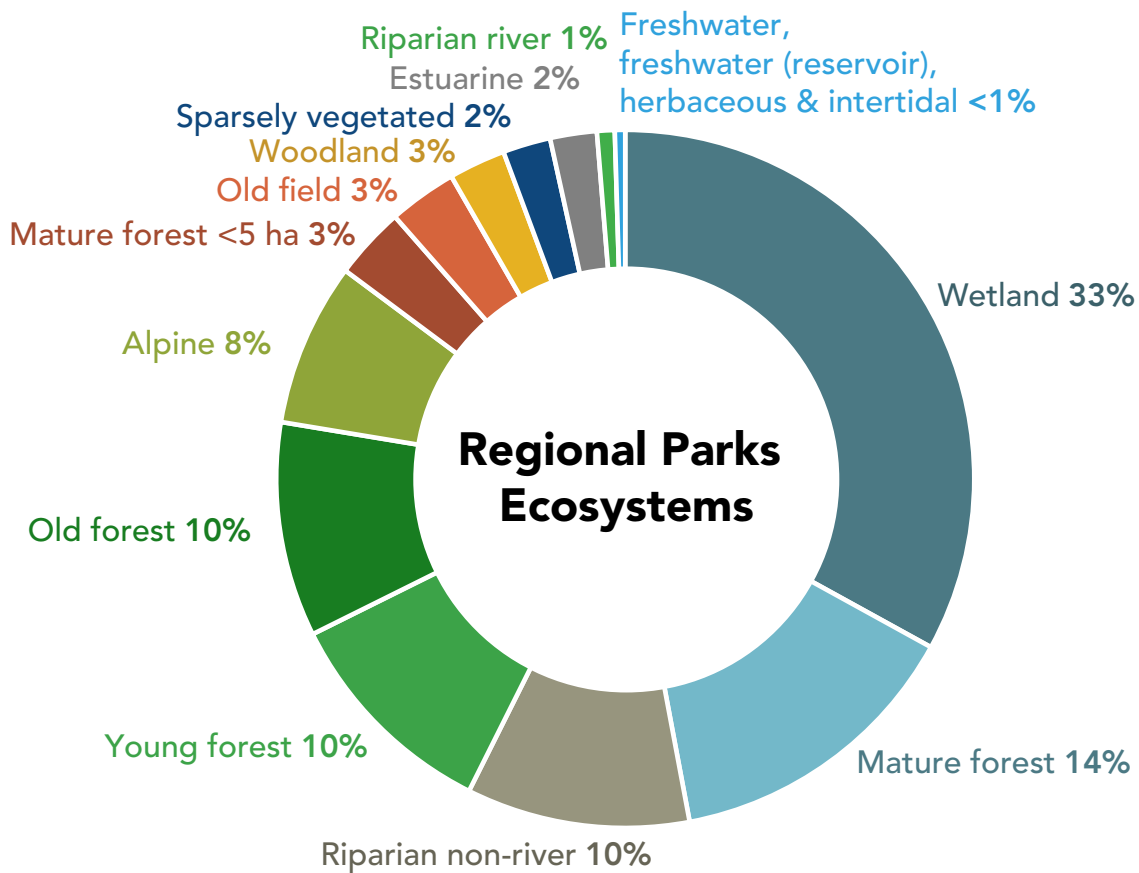
24 regional parks

5 regional greenways

2 regional park reserves

2 ecological conservancy areas

* Sensitive ecosystems are ecologically fragile, rare, or at-risk and include wetlands, older forests, and woodlands. Important modified ecosystems are younger and more human modified but still have ecological value and importance to biodiversity, such as young forests (under 80 years old).





Kanaka Creek Regional Park

Natural Resource Management

We work throughout the year to protect and conserve ecosystem health.

Goals of the Natural Resource Management Framework:

1. Ensure ecosystem health and long-term resiliency to conserve diverse biological communities and their associated habitats
2. Provide opportunities for public to connect with natural areas while conserving the integrity and resilience of ecosystems
3. Provide opportunities for public involvement in natural resource management through partnerships and stewardship activities

2025 Accomplishments

- Created/maintained 31.5 hectares of ecological restoration areas
- Conducted invasive plant treatments across nearly all regional parks
- Advanced 27 restoration projects in 20 regional parks and one regional greenway including:
 - Removing pine seedlings from the 2016 wildfire zone in Burns Bog Ecological Conservancy Area
 - Dune ecosystem planting and removing invasive species at Iona Beach Regional Park
 - Completing multi-year restoration of Imperial Trail in Pacific Spirit Regional Park
 - Renovating and planting the Round Field at Campbell Valley Regional Park: harrowing the entire field, reseeding 2.7 hectares with forage grasses, planting 0.3 hectares of selected areas with native trees and shrubs, and reseeding 0.3 hectares portion of the field with a native wildflower/grass mix
- Six projects supported by the Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation



Managing Yellow Flag Iris at Widgeon Marsh Regional Park

In spring 2025, we launched a multi-year invasive species management initiative to control yellow flag iris at Widgeon Marsh Regional Park. Drone surveys identified over 22,000 plants capable of producing nearly two million seeds, making flowerhead removal a top priority to prevent further spread. Left unmanaged, this invasive species can degrade sensitive wetlands, block waterways, and outcompete culturally significant food plants.

Contractors, volunteers, and staff worked together using hand-held tools from canoes and by wading through nearly 90 hectares of marsh. The valuable insights gained will guide the next phase of this important project.



Watch this video about controlling the spread of yellow flag iris at Widgeon Marsh Regional Park (vimeo.com/1094527418)

Widgeon Marsh Regional Park



Parks Operations and Maintenance

Maintaining regional parks and their assets to the high standard expected by visitors requires significant planning and coordination. Even in the most challenging environmental conditions, we work diligently to ensure parks remain safe, welcoming, and accessible 365 days a year.



Grouse Mountain Regional Park

2025 Accomplishments

- Diverted over 90 tonnes of dog waste from the landfill
- Installed three automated external defibrillators (AEDs) along the BCMC Route at Grouse Mountain Regional Park, complementing the three AEDs installed on the Grouse Grind Trail in 2024
- Completed year two of a pilot program that allowed visitors to consume alcohol responsibly at designated areas in six regional parks
- Administered a five-day park officer training program to prepare and certify new seasonal Park Patrollers for future Park Officer roles, with 16 patrollers successfully completing the program.
- Participated in multi-agency wildfire training exercises held across the region, including the Coquitlam Watershed, Delta, Surrey, Langley, Bowen Island, and the North Shore



Regional Parks Bylaw Update

In 2025, staff completed a comprehensive review of the Regional Parks Regulation Bylaw, which establishes the rules and regulations for managing and enforcing activities on property in regional parks. This review provided an opportunity to clarify ambiguous sections, update language, address current trends, and respond to new provincial legislation. The updated [Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Regulation Bylaw No. 1420](#) was adopted in April 2025. Key changes include a streamlined format, new provisions addressing electric micro-mobility devices such as e-bikes and e-scooters, and updated regulations related to temporary sheltering in regional parks.

Tynehead Regional Park



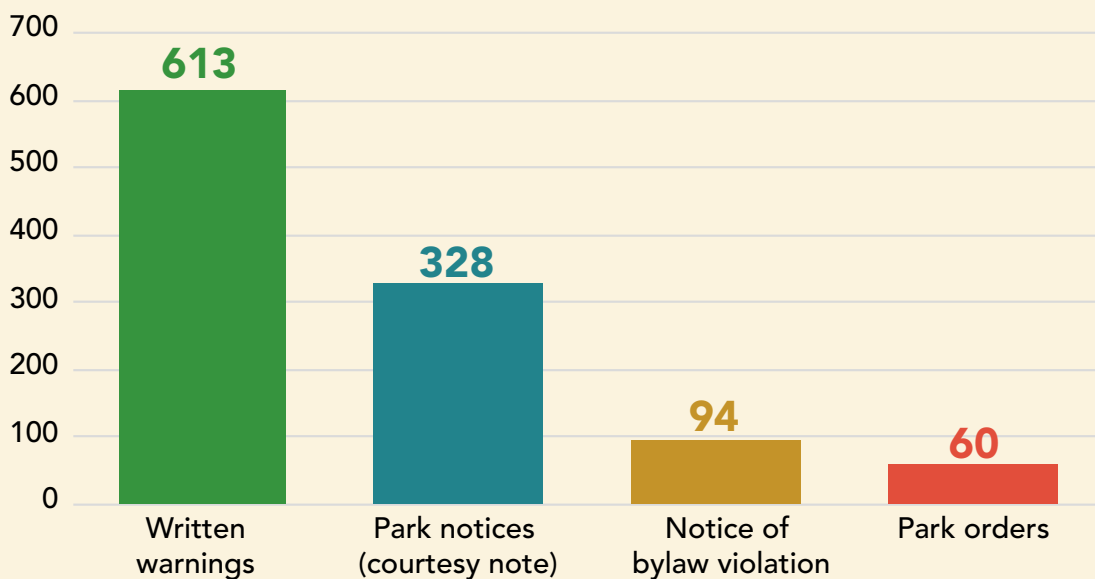
Supporting Safe and Enjoyable Park Experiences

Metro Vancouver protects and manages natural areas while providing safe and enjoyable outdoor experiences that connect people to nature. The Regulation and Compliance program supports this mandate by ensuring that park rules are understood and followed in a fair and consistent manner. Guided by the compliance continuum, the program emphasizes an education-first approach that encompasses a spectrum of tools and strategies to encourage voluntary compliance. We focus on educating visitors about expected behaviours that protect sensitive ecosystems, enhance public safety, and contribute to an enjoyable experience for all.

Through effective park design, proactive education, and enforcement as a last resort, we promote visitor safety by:

- Providing a uniformed presence in regional parks
- Educating park visitors on safe and expected use of regional parks
- Investigating and responding to public safety concerns and bylaw complaints
- Coordinating patrols and response from emergency teams
- Issuing Warnings, Park Orders, and Notice of Bylaw Violations when required

Regulation and Compliance Actions



Connecting People with Nature



Visits

14.7 million estimated park visits in 2025
(3.2% average annual increase from 2004 to 2025)

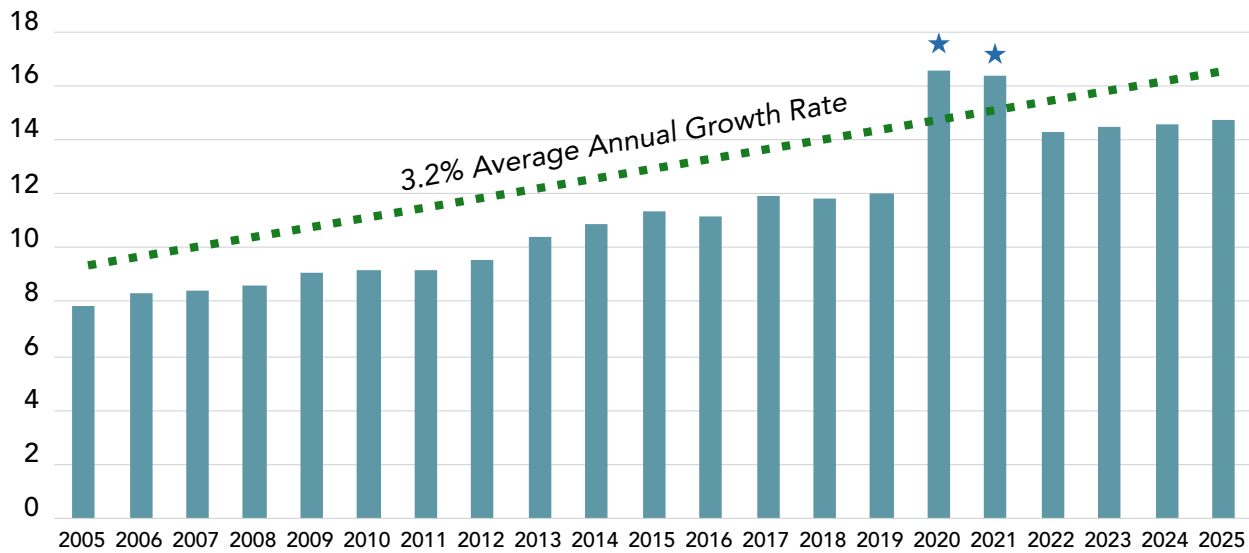
Two regional parks received a record number of visits

Location	2025 Visits	Change from 2024	Visitors in millions									
			0	.5	1	1.5	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	
łéxətəm Regional Park	386,900	-2%										
Pacific Spirit Regional Park	3,888,800	-1%										
Boundary Bay Regional Park	1,148,200	12%										
Capilano River Regional Park	1,097,000	-3%										
təmtəmíxʷtən/Belcarra Regional Park	927,500	-6%										
Campbell Valley Regional Park	887,600	-3%										
Derby Reach Regional Park	881,700	4%										
Tynehead Regional Park	604,600	9%										
Lynn Headwaters Regional Park	578,400	53% ☆										
Grouse Mountain Regional Park	545,300	10%										
Kanaka Creek Regional Park	528,000	-26%										
Aldergrove Regional Park	464,600	-0.2%										
Crippen Regional Park	429,400	15% ☆										
Burnaby Lake Regional Park	422,900	0%										
Deas Island Regional Park	362,800	2%										
Brunette-Fraser Regional Greenway	292,300	5%										
Iona Beach Regional Park	287,900	11%										
Pitt River Regional Greenway	229,700	8%										
Brae Island Regional Park	227,900	-14%										
Minnekhada Regional Park	188,900	9%										
Surrey Bend Regional Park	130,800	12%										
Delta South Surrey Regional Greenway	63,200	-2%										
Seymour River Regional Greenway	53,600	-10%										
Glen Valley Regional Park	49,700	-5%										
Barnston Island Regional Park	11,500	10%										
TOTAL USE	14,689,200	1%										

☆ Record annual visitation

Note: Visitation estimates are rounded to the nearest hundred in this figure. Data counters installed at park entrances (roads and trails) are used to produce annual and monthly visitation estimates for each park.

Annual Visits



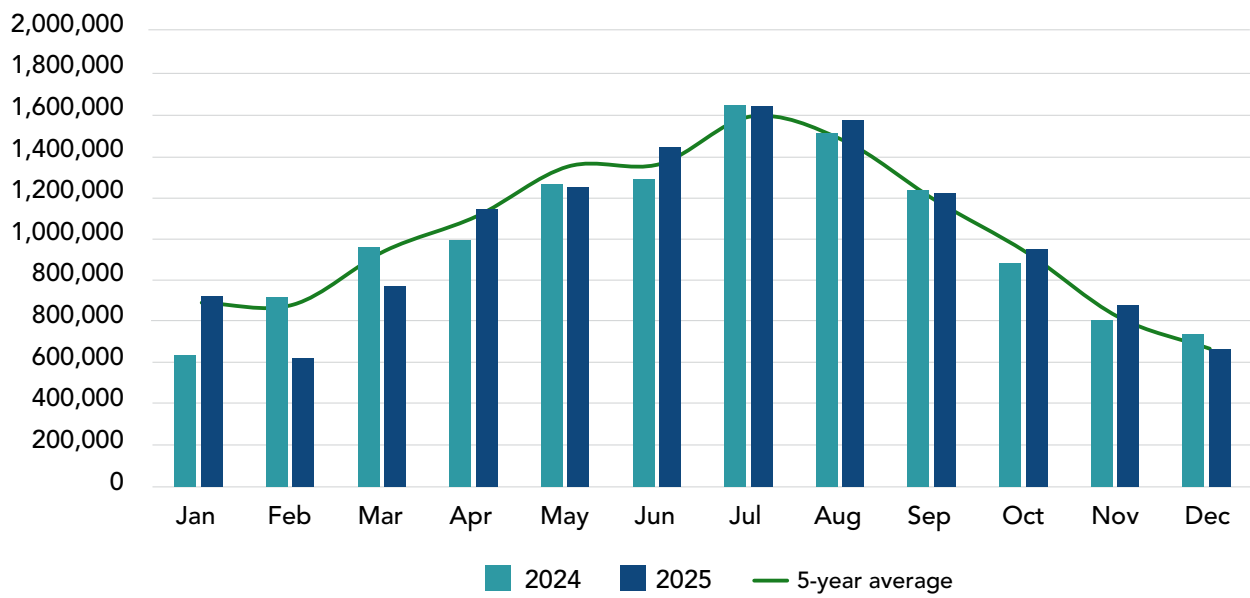
■ Visits in millions

★ Regional parks experienced unprecedented visitation during the first two years of the pandemic.

Crippen Regional Park



Visits by Month



Public Programs and Events



46,802 total participants

11,276 group program participants

35,526 public program participants



606 total programs, events, and outreach activities

464 field trips and workshops

142 programs

Park interpretation enriches experiences in regional parks by revealing the stories, processes, and connections that shape the natural world. By deepening people's sense of place and appreciation, interpretation helps foster a lasting connection to regional parks.

Through engaging, experience-based programs, staff cultivate a culture of care and understanding for the region's diverse natural heritage. These encounters inspire people to value, respect, and help protect the ecosystems that define Metro Vancouver's regional parks.

2025 Accomplishments

- Delivered the popular Meteor Shower Watch event at Aldergrove Regional Park, attracting more than 2,300 participants for an evening of stargazing during the Perseids meteor shower. The event featured constellation talks, interactive exhibits from community partners, and a lantern-lit trail experience.
- Re-instituted the volunteer host program at Burnaby Lake Nature House, where twelve volunteers from the Burnaby Lake Park Association contributed 136 hours to connect 2,600 visitors to the site. Their support enabled park interpreters to address broader management issues, including bear activity and wildlife feeding concerns.
- Hosted Night Quest at Pacific Spirit Regional Park, which drew over 2,000 attendees for an immersive, lantern-lit evening forest experience. Visitors wandered a two-kilometre trail illuminated by glowing animal lanterns, met costumed forest characters sharing nature stories, and enjoyed drumming and a campfire.
- Implemented Forest Harmonies, a mid-summer musical celebration that transformed Pacific Spirit Regional Park into a living soundscape where nature and music intertwined. Over 700 participants strolled through rainforest trails at dusk, listened to local musicians, tried hands-on instruments, and explored interpretation stations highlighting forest “music makers” such as woodpeckers, wrens, and tree frogs.



Watch this video about the Meteor Shower Watch event at Aldergrove Regional Park (vimeo.com/1113743160)



Watch this video about the Forest Harmonies event at Pacific Spirit Regional Park (vimeo.com/1105630825)

Aldergrove Regional Park





Camping for Beginners

To expand inclusive programming and strengthen a sense of belonging in nature, we partnered with Power to Be, a registered charity dedicated to creating access to outdoor experiences for youth, adults, and families living with cognitive, physical, financial, and social barriers. Together, we delivered Camping for Beginners at Tynehead Regional Park, a program designed specifically for wheelchair users and adults with visual impairments. Participants learned essential outdoor skills, including how to set up a tent, pack the ten essentials, and cook a simple camp meal. The program also emphasized stewardship, with participants practicing Leave No Trace principles and learning how to interact safely with wildlife. Due to the strong positive response from participants, this program will continue in 2026.

Derby Reach Regional Park



What Our Participants Say

“We are so appreciative of the intention you put into considering our group’s needs. Your delivery was tailored in a way that made the learning engaging, authentic, and inclusive for everyone there. We were truly blown away by the quality of the program and the passion and expertise you brought to it. Thank you for such a fulsome experience.”

— Marin Puffer, Community Engagement and Education Lead, Power To Be
Salmon Rainforest program catered to visually impaired or wheelchair user adults, Tynehead Regional Park

“[The park interpreter] really modelled a personal connection to nature for my students, which is one of our goals to develop school-wide. Many of my students shared that it was the best field trip ever, and several told their parents at pickup that they wanted to go there as a family. I believe that this has set up our exploration of local animals and biodiversity perfectly for this term, and has inspired more of my students to explore the regional parks around Metro Vancouver.”

— Erica Bloom, Teacher, F.W. Howay Elementary, Pond Peeking program, Minnekhada Regional Park

“One of my [student’s] parents said to me, ‘I will never look at this beach in the same way. I can’t wait to come and explore the beach with my other kids and their dad.’ All the kids had a wonderful time and could not believe the amount of learning that took place.”

— Leila Milonas, Teacher, Cliff Drive Elementary School, Seashore Sleuths program, Boundary Bay Regional Park

“This event warms my heart every year. It’s a delight for every member of our family and we thank you so much for the perfect mix of education, wonder, and outdoor adventure.”

— Night Quest event participant, Pacific Spirit Regional Park



Iona Beach Regional Park

Facilities and Visitor Use

We strive to support physical and mental health by providing facilities that allow the public access to nature. From picnic areas that support social connections, to trails that enable quiet contemplation, everyone should have the opportunity to experience the wide range of benefits that emerge from time spent in nature.

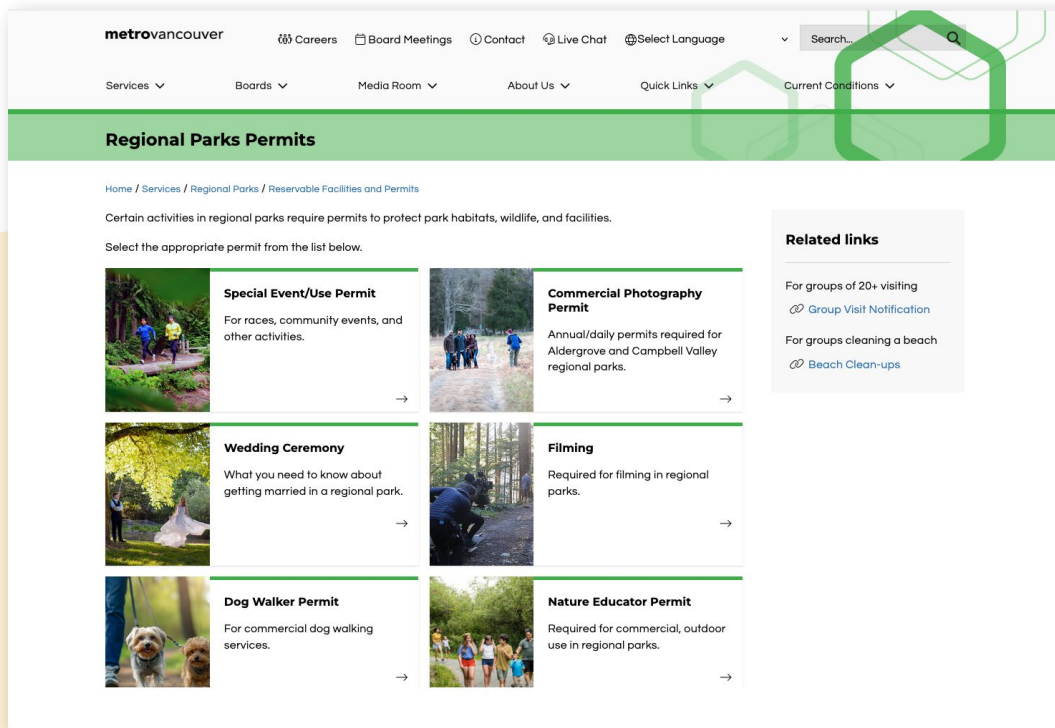
2025 Accomplishments

- Completed the final phase of picnic area improvements at Iona Beach Regional Park with a new shade sail and widened pathways
- Completed repairs to the Inverholme Schoolhouse at Deas Island Regional Park
- Expanded commercial dog walking permits at Pacific Spirit Regional Park by 33 per cent
- Implemented a commercial photography permit process for Campbell Valley and Aldergrove regional parks
- Launched a free reservation-based shuttle bus service to Widgeon Marsh Regional Park from the Lafarge Lake-Douglas SkyTrain station. This initiative enabled visitors to experience this ecologically sensitive park while reducing vehicle traffic and supporting sustainable visitation.



New Permit Web Page Portal

We launched a new Regional Parks permit web page that creates a streamlined, one-stop hub for all permit needs. The portal makes it easier for organizations to complete and submit applications, while providing staff with a centralized system to download, review, and manage permit information. By simplifying the workflow and reducing manual data handling, the new web page improves user experience, shortens processing times, and makes the permitting process more accessible and efficient.



Facility Reservations

Most regional parks have reservable facilities suitable for group picnics, camping, weddings, special events, meetings, filming, and workshops.



121,972 total visits* at camping facilities in six regional parks

106,360 visits at individual camping facilities in Derby Reach and Brae Island regional parks

125 unique groups had **15,612 visits** at outdoor and indoor camping facilities in four regional parks

təmtəmíxʷtən/Belcarra Regional Park





934 groups had **125,920** visits* at reservable buildings and facilities

589 unique groups with **33,881** guests visited picnic shelters in eight regional parks

345 unique groups had **92,039** visits at buildings and other booking opportunities in regional parks

* "Visits" are counted as "person days" (one person staying for two days counts as two "visits")



Volunteering



**21,068 total
volunteer hours**



**6,617 total
volunteer instances**

A volunteer instance is when one person volunteers once at an event or program.

Each year, volunteers invest time and effort to restore the health and beauty of regional parks. Volunteers contribute to the delivery of a range of programs and activities in regional parks including community science, educational activities, and other events in regional parks.

Derby Reach Regional Park



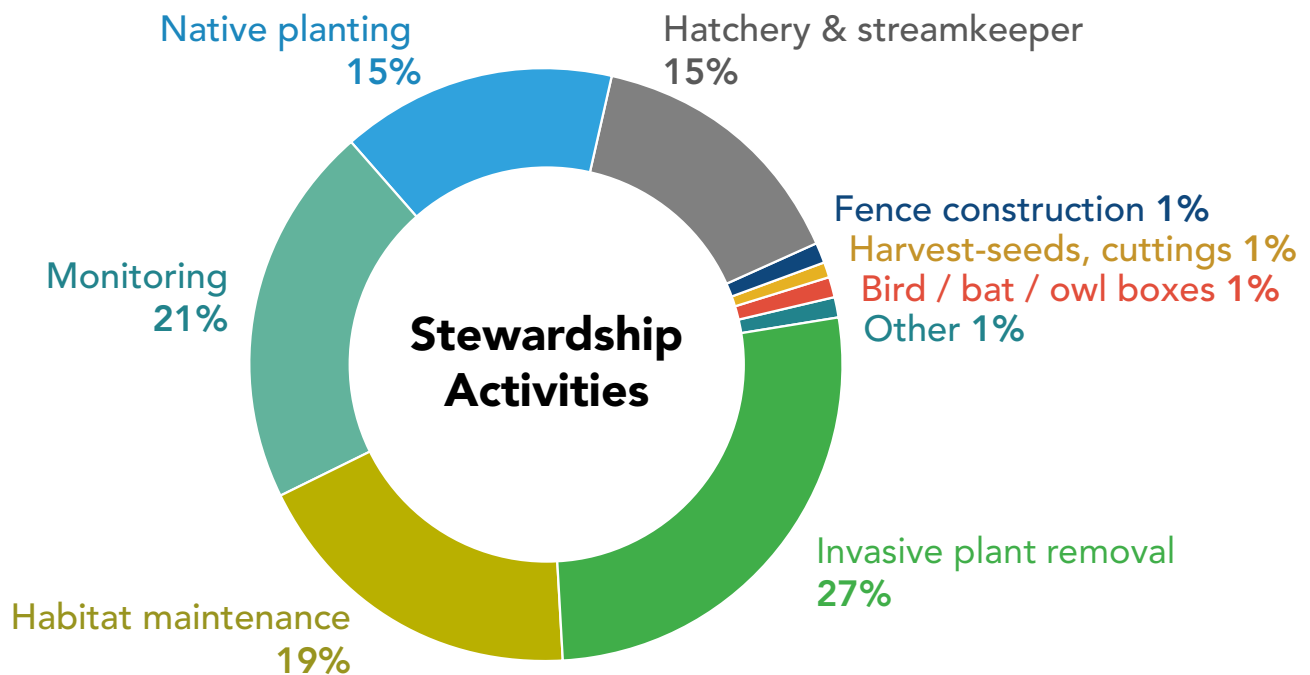


26,783 kg of invasive species removed

11,727 native plants added to regional parks

Environmental Stewardship

In 2025, 4,649 volunteer instances supported 412 environmental stewardship work parties in regional parks, contributing 14,299 volunteer hours.



Park Partners and Public Programs

Volunteers support the delivery of community science, educational activities, and other events in regional parks. In addition, volunteers contribute hours to strategic planning, program coordination, display development, fundraising, and board governance. In 2025, 1,968 volunteer instances contributed 6,769 volunteer hours.

Campbell Valley Regional Park



What Our Volunteers Say

“We had a great experience volunteering. It was rewarding to learn more about the environment around us while working hands-on to care for the park. It felt meaningful to contribute alongside others and see the difference we made in a few hours. The team left feeling inspired and eager to get involved again.”

— Samantha Maw, Mustang Survival

Kanaka Creek Regional Park



Getting the Word Out

Regional Parks Newsletter

This monthly e-newsletter features the latest Regional Parks programs and events.

6,424 subscribers

Nature Program Guide

Published in the spring, summer, and fall/winter.

Promotes events and activities for all ages to learn about, connect with, and enjoy nature in regional parks.

Distribution includes household mailouts, park kiosks, community centres, libraries, and city halls.

Over **6,000** people received each seasonal nature program guide by email.

24,933 hard copies of the nature program guide were distributed per edition, on average.



Social Media and Video

Regional Parks connects with people through social media, sharing information ranging from nature activities and volunteer opportunities to safety and land acquisition announcements. Social media is also a way for people to reach out to — and engage with — Regional Parks.

8 videos produced and shared

- 857 Regional Parks Facebook content interactions and link clicks (includes comments, shares, saves, link clicks, and follows)
- 395,807 video views (YouTube and Vimeo)

7 videos promoted on YouTube pre-roll

- 569,497 pre-roll views

Pre-rolls reach viewers right before they watch their desired content, offering a way to capture attention early. These videos play before the main video content starts.

11 videos shared on community channels

Metro Vancouver runs a monthly show on community channels. Delta Cable plays each episode six to 10 times a week and Novus about five times a week.



[FB.ME/MetroVancouverRegionalParks](https://fb.me/MetroVancouverRegionalParks)

14,966 Facebook engagements (includes reactions, comments, shares, saves, link clicks, and follows)



[@metrovancouverbc](https://www.instagram.com/metrovancouverbc)

1,887 interactions (likes, shares, comments on Regional Parks content)

In 2025, Metro Vancouver Regional Parks protected over 13,900 hectares of regionally important natural areas with 14.7 million visits to its regional parks.



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SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS FOR A LIVABLE REGION



Widgeon Marsh Regional Park

Regional Parks 2025 Annual Report

Jamie Vala

Division Manager, Planning and Resource Management, Regional Parks

Regional Parks Committee – May 6, 2026

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1



2

2



Protecting Important Natural Areas


Iona Beach Regional Park

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3

LAND ACQUISITION

- **3.5** hectares parkland acquired, expanding Widgeon Marsh and Kanaka Creek Regional Parks



Kanaka Creek Regional Park

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4

STEWARDSHIP

- **31.5** hectares of ecological restoration areas created and maintained
- **412** stewardship work parties
- **26,783** kilograms of invasive species removed
- **11,727** native plants added to parks



Widgeon Marsh Regional Park

5

VOLUNTEERING

- **6,617** volunteer instances
- **21,068** hours to environmental stewardship and park partners and programs



Kanaka Creek Regional Park

6

PARK OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Bylaw Update

- Review of the Regional Parks Regulation Bylaw to clarify ambiguous sections, update language, address current trends, and respond to new provincial legislation



Tynehead Regional Park

7



Tentamen/Belcarra Regional Park

Connecting
People with
Nature

8

VISITS

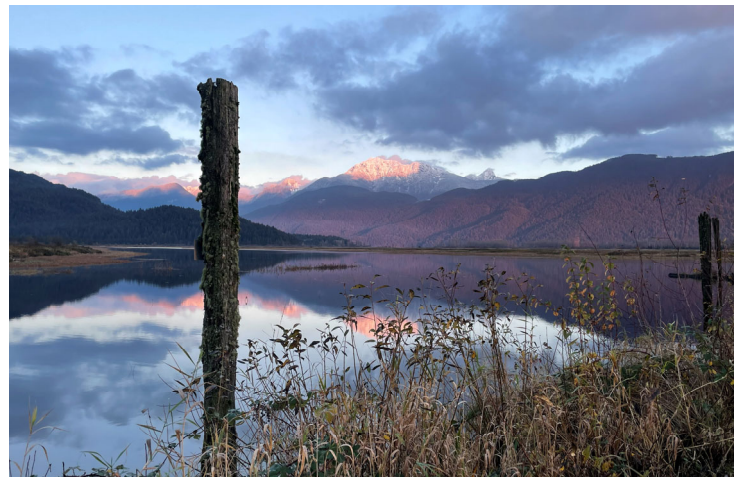
- 14.7 million park visits in 2025
- Record visits at:
 - Crippen Regional Park
 - Lynn Headwaters Regional Park



Crippen Regional Park

WIDGEON MARSH REGIONAL PARK OPENING

- Opened to the public November 2025
- Diverse and unique ecosystems
- Accessible via vehicle (limited, reservation-only), weekend shuttle bus, bike, or paddling



Widgeon Marsh Regional Park

LEARNING FROM FIRST NATIONS

- q^wa:n^lən' (Kwantlen First Nation) Elder Karen Gabriel shared knowledge about Indigenous tools, plants, and wildlife at Campbell Valley Nature House



Campbell Valley Regional Park

metrovancover

11

11

PUBLIC PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

- **46,802** total participants
- **606** total programs, events, and outreach activities



Aldergrove Regional Park

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12

12

ASSET MANAGEMENT AND NEW DEVELOPMENT

- Pine Ridge Bridge replacement in Kanaka Creek Regional Park
- Davies Orchard revitalization project in Crippen Regional Park
- Worked with səlilwətał (Tseil-Waututh Nation) to complete planning and design of the təmtəmíxʷtən/Belcarra South Picnic Area redevelopment
- Planning and design of the Delta Nature Reserve Boardwalk replacement



Iona Beach Regional Park

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT AND NEW INITIATIVES

- New permit portal webpage
- Expanded commercial dog walking permits at Pacific Spirit Regional Park by 33 per cent
- Mobile food vending at Boundary Bay Regional Park
- Free reservation-based shuttle bus service to Widgeon Marsh Regional Park from the Lafarge Lake-Douglas SkyTrain station

Regional Parks Permits

Home / Services / Regional Parks / Reservable Facilities and Permits

Certain activities in regional parks require permits to protect park habitats, wildlife, and facilities.

Select the appropriate permit from the list below.

<p>Special Event/Use Permit For races, community events, and other activities.</p>	<p>Commercial Photography Permit Annual/daily permits required for Aldergrove and Campbell Valley regional parks.</p>
<p>Wedding Ceremony What you need to know about getting married in a regional park.</p>	<p>Filming Required for filming in regional parks.</p>
<p>Dog Walker Permit For commercial dog walking services.</p>	<p>Nature Educator Permit Required for commercial, outdoor use in regional parks.</p>



Widgeon March Regional Park

Thank you

metrovancouver
Together we make our region strong

15

To: Regional Parks Committee

From: Doug Petersen, Division Manager, East Area, Regional Parks

Date: April 1, 2026 Meeting Date: May 6, 2026

Subject: **Kanaka Creek Regional Park - Contribution Agreement for Operation of the Kanaka Creek Bell-Irving Hatchery 2027-2029**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the MVRD Board approve the Contribution Agreement between Metro Vancouver Regional District and the Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society towards the operation of the Kanaka Creek Bell-Irving Hatchery for a three-year term in the amount of \$28,000 per year, commencing January 1, 2027, and ending on December 31, 2029.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Contribution Agreement proposes a three-year funding amount of \$28,000 per year for the Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society (KEEPS) to support the Society's operations at Kanaka Creek Bell-Irving Hatchery, with respect to fish production, conservation, education, and community involvement activities.

Metro Vancouver's contribution is combined with an annual contribution of \$25,000 from the Canadian Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans to fund a Hatchery Manager position, and related fish production and administration costs.

PURPOSE

To seek MVRD Board approval to enter into a three-year Contribution Agreement with the Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society towards the operation of the Kanaka Creek Bell-Irving Hatchery.

BACKGROUND

The Kanaka Creek Bell-Irving Hatchery has operated for over 36 years in Kanaka Creek Regional Park through collaboration involving Metro Vancouver, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, KEEPS, and earlier community groups. A new hatchery building, opened in 2013, is a core element of the fully completed Kanaka Creek Watershed Stewardship Centre, opened in April 2017.

The Kanaka Creek Bell-Irving Hatchery program aligns with Metro Vancouver's *Board Strategic Plan 2022-2026*, by providing opportunities for the community to engage in stewardship activities in regional parks. It also supports the Action 12.8 of the *Regional Parks Plan (2022)* by "seeking partnerships in program delivery, community engagement and provision of special programs where others have expertise."

The MVRD Board previously approved a three-year Contribution Agreement for KEEPS' capacity building in July 2024, for an annual amount of \$15,000 for the years 2025-2027, towards its broader Park Association activities in community engagement, education, and stewardship in Kanaka Creek Regional Park.

Kanaka Creek Regional Park - Contribution Agreement for Operation of the Kanaka Creek Bell-Irving Hatchery 2027-2029

Regional Parks Committee Regular Meeting Date: May 6, 2026

Page 2 of 2

In addition, KEEPS is in the process of entering into a 4-year Licence of Use Agreement for the period between January 1, 2026, until December 31, 2029, for the Bell-Irving Hatchery and the Kanaka Creek Regional Park Fish Fence area.

HATCHERY CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT

This Contribution Agreement (**Attachment 1**) is solely for the operation of the hatchery. The Operating Plan (Schedule A) sets out the specific expectations for fish production, facility upkeep and operations, public education and outreach, and hatchery administration. The Operating Plan will be reviewed annually during the term with any changes approved by Metro Vancouver staff.

Metro Vancouver's annual contribution of \$28,000 is combined with an annual contribution of \$25,000 from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to fund a Hatchery Manager position, and related fish production and administration costs.

In addition to fulfilling fish production and conservation functions, the Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society has developed a robust educational program and community stewardship base. Community volunteers and fundraising augment the program.

Term

The term of the proposed agreement commences on January 1, 2027, and ends on December 31, 2029.

ALTERNATIVES

1. THAT the MVRD Board approve the Contribution Agreement between Metro Vancouver Regional District and the Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society towards the operation of the Kanaka Creek Bell-Irving Hatchery for a three-year term in the amount of \$28,000 per year, commencing January 1, 2027, and ending on December 31, 2029.
2. THAT the Regional Parks Committee receive for information the report dated April 1, 2026, titled "Kanaka Creek Regional Park - Contribution Agreement for Operation of the Kanaka Creek Bell-Irving Hatchery 2027-2029."

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funding in the amount of \$28,000 per year for three years, towards operation of the Kanaka Creek Bell-Irving Hatchery is currently included in the annual operating budget for Regional Parks to support the contract.

CONCLUSION

Alternative 1 seeks MVRD Board approval for Metro Vancouver's contribution of \$28,000 per year for three years to KEEPS towards operation of the Kanaka Creek Bell-Irving Hatchery. Fish production, conservation, education and community involvement activities will continue to benefit Kanaka Creek Regional Park and the region.

ATTACHMENT

1. Contribution Agreement for Operation of the Kanaka Creek Bell-Irving Hatchery 2027-2029

CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is dated for reference _____, 2026

BETWEEN: METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT, 4515 Central Boulevard, Burnaby, BC,
V5H 0C6 (“**MVRD**”)

AND: KANAKA EDUCATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP SOCIETY,
11450 – 256TH Street, Maple Ridge, BC, V2W 1H1 (the “**Recipient**”)

WHEREAS:

- A. The Recipient is a non-profit society. One of the purposes of the Recipient is to promote appreciation, understanding, protection and the enjoyment of the Kanaka Creek Regional Park and the natural and historical features of the Kanaka Watershed;
- B. Bell-Irving Hatchery (the “**Hatchery**”) is located at the Kanaka Creek Regional Park and has been developed, maintained and operated with a view to enable stewardship groups and volunteers, and Indigenous people to undertake small, community based projects that restore critical salmon habitat, enhance salmon to support local fisheries, education and volunteerism, educate the public on the importance of salmon conservation and promote a culture of salmon stewardship (the “**Project**”);
- C. Section 263(1)(c) of the *Local Government Act* provides that MVRD may provide assistance for the purpose of benefitting the community or any aspect of the community; and
- D. The Recipient has requested to receive, and MVRD has agreed to provide funding to the Recipient for the purposes of the Project.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises, terms and conditions to be hereinafter contained (the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged), the parties hereto covenant and agree each with the other as follows.

1.0 INTERPRETATION

In this Agreement the following terms have the following meanings:

"Agreement" means this agreement and the appended schedules.

"Operating Plan" means the activities to carry out the Project funded under this Agreement and its related outputs as set out in Schedule 'A' of the Agreement, including but not limited to fish production, facility upkeep and operations, public education and outreach, and Hatchery administration.

2.0 TERM

The term of this Agreement will commence on January 1, 2027 and end on December 31, 2029 (the **"Term"**) unless otherwise terminated as provided herein.

3.0 OPERATING PLAN

- 3.1** The Recipient will only use the Funds (as defined in section 4.1) in relation to the Operating Plan and in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement.
- 3.2** The Recipient will implement the Operating Plan under the terms of this Agreement subject to any applicable bylaws of MVRD and applicable legislation and regulations and in a manner consistent with any applicable guidelines provided by MVRD.
- 3.3** The Operating Plan will not be amended during the Term without the prior written approval of MVRD.
- 3.4** If the Recipient makes changes to the Operating Plan or operates in a manner contrary to the Operating Plan without the prior written approval of MVRD pursuant to section 3.3, MVRD may, at its sole discretion, immediately terminate the Agreement in accordance with section 10.
- 3.5** The Recipient represents and warrants that, as of the date of this Agreement, and throughout the Term:
- (a) it has, and will have, all the power and authority to enter into this Agreement and perform its obligations under this Agreement;
 - (b) it is, and will be, a duly organized society, validly existing, and in good standing under the laws of British Columbia; and
 - (c) the person signing this Agreement for the Recipient has the authority to bind the Recipient to the terms of this Agreement
- 3.6** The Recipient will ensure that its directors, employees, agents, licensees and volunteers maintain collaborative, professional, and productive relationship with MVRD, and promptly follow direction and guidance of MVRD in connection with the Project.

4.0 FUNDING AND PAYMENT

4.1 During the Term, MVRD will provide to the Recipient annual payment in the amount set out in section 4.3, all inclusive of taxes and disbursements (the “**Funds**”), to support the Recipient's implementation of the Operating Plan in support of the Project.

4.2 The payment of Funds is conditional on MVRD being satisfied that the Recipient carries out the Operating Plan in accordance with all requirements under the Agreement and otherwise complies with this Agreement.

4.3 MVRD will deliver the Funds to the Recipient by cheque, or electronic fund transfer, annually, as follows:

- (a) On or before January 31, 2027: \$28,000;
- (b) On or before January 31, 2028: \$28,000; and
- (c) On or before January 31, 2029: \$28,000.

5.0 REPORTING

The Recipient will report to MVRD in accordance with the requirements set out in the Operating Plan.

6.0 TAXES

The Recipient will be fully responsible for reporting and remitting all taxes (including GST and PST) payable in connection with the Funds, the Operating Agreement, and this Agreement. Without limiting the foregoing, it is the Recipient's responsibility to determine whether or not it has to be registered for GST and/or PST purposes. The amount of funding provided in this Agreement includes any GST and/or PST which may be payable by MVRD. Any liability for GST and/or PST required in respect of this Agreement will be the responsibility of the Recipient.

7.0 SEPARATE FUNDS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Recipient will keep its books of account in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and will retain the books of account for a minimum of seven years after the completion of the Term.

8.0 RIGHT OF AUDIT

At any time, MVRD may provide written notice to the Recipient that it wishes its representative to examine the books of account of the Recipient, and the Recipient will produce for examination to such representative within ten days after receipt of such notice, its books of account. The MVRD representative will have a right of access to all records, documents, books, accounts and vouchers of the Recipient and to require from the directors and officers of the Recipient such information and explanations as, in his/her opinion, may be necessary to enable MVRD's staff to report to MVRD's Board of Directors on the financial

position of the Recipient, and the Recipient will fully and promptly cooperate with all such requirements and deliver to the MVRD recipient all the required information.

9.0 INDEMNITY AND RELEASE

- 9.1** The Recipient will indemnify and save harmless MVRD and its elected officials, officers, employees and agents (“**MVRD Indemnified Parties**”) from and against all actions, causes of action, claims, liabilities, damages, losses, costs, legal fees, fees, fines, charges or expenses which MVRD Indemnified Parties may incur, be threatened by or be required to pay by reason of or arising out of the Recipient's activities related to this Agreement, the Recipient's use of any facility in relation to the Operating Plan, the breach by the Recipient of any term of this Agreement, or by the Recipient's contravention of any law, enactment or regulation of a federal, provincial or local government.
- 9.2** The Recipient releases MVRD Indemnified Parties from and waives any claim, right, remedy, action, cause of action, loss, damage, expense, fee or liability which the Recipient may have against any or all of them in respect of an act of MVRD Indemnified Parties in relation to this Agreement, except insofar as such claim, right, remedy, action, cause of action, loss, damage, expense, fee or liability directly arises from the negligence of MVRD Indemnified Parties.
- 9.3** This section will survive the expiry or sooner termination of this Agreement.

10.0 TERMINATION

- 10.1** Without prejudice to MVRD's rights and remedies, at law or in equity, MVRD may terminate this Agreement immediately at any time by written notice to the Recipient, if:
- (a) the Recipient breaches any of the terms of this Agreement and does not remedy the breach within 10 days after MVRD delivers to the Recipient a written notice requiring the remedy;
 - (b) the Recipient becomes insolvent or bankrupt or subject to bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings, or ceases to operate;
 - (c) in the opinion of MVRD, the Recipient changes its bylaws, constitution, mission, or purpose in the manner that is not compatible with the Project, or is contrary to the public interest; or
 - (d) in the opinion of MVRD, the Recipient uses the Funds, or conducts its administration, or operation, in the manner contrary to the Operating Plan, this Agreement, or the public interest.
- 10.2** MVRD may terminate this Agreement, at convenience, without reasons, upon giving 90 days written notice to the Recipient.
- 10.3** The Recipient may terminate this Agreement upon giving 30 days written notice to MVRD if the Recipient, for any reason, is unable to meet its obligations with respect to the Operating Plan or comply with this Agreement.

10.4 In the event of termination of this Agreement:

- (a) the Recipient will immediately return to MVRD any portion of the Funds that has been paid but has not been spent, and provide a full accounting of the portions of the Funds not returned;
- (b) to the extent unpaid, no further Funds will be paid by MVRD to the Recipient; and
- (c) this Agreement will be at an end, and, except as expressly stated in this Agreement, neither party will have any further obligations to the other party.

11.0 NOTICE**11.1** It is hereby mutually agreed that any notice required to be given under this Agreement will be deemed to be sufficiently given:

- (a) if delivered at the time of delivery; or
- (b) if mailed from any government post in the Province of British Columbia by prepaid registered mail addressed as follows:

To MVRD:

Mike Redpath, Director, Regional Parks
Metro Vancouver Regional District
4515 Central Boulevard
Burnaby, BC V5H 0C6

To the Recipient:

Ken Williams, Chair
Kanaka Education & Environmental Partnership Society
c/o Bell-Irving Hatchery
11450 - 256th Street
Maple Ridge, BC V2W 1H1

11.2 Unless otherwise specified herein, any notice required to be given under this Agreement by any party will be deemed to have been given if mailed by prepaid registered mail, or delivered to the address of the other party set forth above or at such other address as the other party may from time to time direct in writing, and any such notice will be deemed to have been received if mailed, seventy-two (72) hours after the time of mailing and if delivered, upon the date of delivery. If normal mail service is interrupted by strike, slow down, force majeure or other cause, then a notice sent by the impaired means of communication will not be deemed to be received until actually received, and the party

sending the notice must utilize any other such services which have not been so interrupted or must deliver such notice in order to ensure prompt receipt thereof.

12.0 AUTHORIZATION

The execution and delivery of this Agreement and the completion of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, if any, have been duly and validly authorized by all necessary corporate action of the Recipient, and this Agreement constitutes a legal, valid and binding obligation of the Recipient enforceable against the Recipient in accordance with its terms and the persons signing this Agreement on the Recipient's behalf are duly authorized to do so.

13.0 TIME

Time is of the essence in this Agreement.

14.0 BINDING

In consideration of being granted the Funds, the Recipient agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions of this Agreement, and if the Recipient represents a group or organization, the Recipient agrees to inform all responsible persons associated with the group or organization of the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

15.0 ASSIGNMENT

The Recipient will not assign this Agreement in whole or in part without the prior written consent of MVRD.

16.0 ENUREMENT

This Agreement will enure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties hereto and their respective heirs, administrators, executors, successors and permitted assignees.

17.0 RELATIONSHIP OF PARTIES

No provision of this Agreement will be construed to create a partnering agreement (within the meaning of the *Community Charter*), a partnership or joint venture relationship, an employer-employee relationship, a landlord-tenant relationship, or a principal-agent relationship.

18.0 WAIVER

The waiver by a party of any failure on the part of the other party to perform in accordance with any of the terms or conditions of this Agreement is not to be construed as a waiver of any future or continuing failure, whether similar or dissimilar.

19.0 AMENDMENTS

This Agreement may not be modified or amended except by the written agreement of the parties.

20.0 WHOLE AGREEMENT

The whole agreement between the parties in connection with the Funds is set forth in this document and no representations, warranties or conditions, express or implied, have been made other than those expressed.

21.0 LANGUAGE

Wherever the singular, masculine and neutral are used throughout this Agreement, the same is to be construed as meaning the plural or the feminine or the body corporate or politic as the context so requires.

22.0 CUMULATIVE REMEDIES

No remedy under this Agreement is to be deemed exclusive but will, where possible, be cumulative with all other remedies at law or in equity.

23.0 GOVERNING LAW AND JURISDICTION

This Agreement is to be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws applicable in the Province of British Columbia and the parties attorn to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of British Columbia.

24.0 COUNTERPARTS

This Agreement may be executed in counterparts with the same effect as if both parties had signed the same document. Each counterpart will be deemed to be an original. All counterparts will be construed together and will constitute one and the same Agreement.

25.0 SCHEDULES

Schedule A is attached and forms part of this Agreement.

[Signature blocks follow]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this Agreement as of the date and year first written above.

METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT,
by its authorized signatory:

Jerry W. Dobrovolny, P. Eng., MBA
Chief Administrative Officer

KANAKA EDUCATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP SOCIETY,
by its authorized signatories:

Name:
Position:

Name:
Position:

SCHEDULE A

KANAKA CREEK WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP CENTRE KANAKA CREEK BELL-IRVING HATCHERY OPERATING PLAN 2027-2029

The Kanaka Creek Bell-Irving Hatchery will be operated in 2027 through 2029 by Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society (KEEPS), which in cooperation with Metro Vancouver Regional District (MV) and Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), will provide:

1. Fish Production - deliver eggs and fish according to set targets and standards;
2. Facility Upkeep and Operations - provide daily maintenance and repair of hatchery-related equipment;
3. Public Education and Outreach - provide and/or facilitate public education, information and outreach; and,
4. Hatchery Administration - handle business needs of the hatchery and its related activities.

These outputs will comply with the expectations and standards below and be delivered between January 1, 2027 and December 31, 2029. KEEPS will retain a Hatchery Manager to fulfill these requirements.

1. Fish Production

KEEPS will:

- Comply with the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Salmonid Enhancement Program through the Production Planning process program and as regulated by the Aquaculture License Agreement;
- Strive to meet fish production targets set by Fisheries and Ocean Canada (DFO), and agreed to by the Hatchery Management Committee (HMC) in an approved Fish Production Plan;
- Provide treatment for fish and eggs to promote quality, health, growth and survival to the standards required by DFO;
- Keep up-to-date and available accurate records, in electronic form, of all fish production related activities. Such records should be complete, consistent, well organized, secure and available when requested, for easy review; and,
- Ensure that all equipment and assets are maintained in the best operating condition and available for use at all times and the facilities are maintained in a clean, safe condition for the visiting public.

Under the general direction of DFO, KEEPS will manage the annual cycle of broodstock collection and contribute to stock assessment, in accordance with the Aquaculture License held by the DFO Community Advisor for Bell-Irving Hatchery (AQSEP # 121671). KEEPS will manage egg collection and incubation processes according to the DFO "Best Management Practices" (BMP) document including ponding, fin clipping, rearing, sampling and release. DFO is expected to communicate a release plan and strategies to KEEPS and the HMC annually. KEEPS will report species, numbers, weight, and locations to DFO as per the current DFO fish production plan and under reporting requirements for the Aquaculture License and BMP.

KEEPS will:

- Undertake incubation and egg maintenance including but not limited to:
 - o Operate and maintain incubators;

- o Monitor and adjusting water flows;
 - o Cull dead eggs;
 - o Clean trays and troughs as required; and,
 - o Ensure appropriate ponding strategies and feeding regimes are adhered to at all times.
- Undertake rearing activities including but not limited to:
 - o Transfer fry from incubation to troughs at the appropriate time;
 - o Feed fish as prescribed by DFO;
 - o Clean troughs and ponds;
 - o Fish weight sampling to adjust feeding rates as required;
 - o Transfer fingerlings to earthen ponds; and,
 - o Co-ordinate and supervise releases under DFO direction;
 - o Undertake and manage coho marking annually of coho smolt production numbers.
- Undertake broodstock collection activities including but not limited to:
 - o Install the 240th St. fish fence with the assistance of DFO and volunteers early enough in the season to catch adequate brood stock to meet the approved Fish Production Plan, within limits provided by DFO;
 - o Retrieve the 240th St. fish fence with the assistance of DFO and volunteers, at the earliest opportunity and as soon as brood stock collection targets have been met;
 - o Organize and coordinate volunteer broodstock anglers as necessary;
 - o Pick up fish caught by volunteer broodstock anglers;
 - o Secure appropriate vehicle(s) that might be rented, donated or provided in kind, to transport broodstock;
 - o Leave fish in the fish trap for public events and programs;
 - o Operate the fish fence using appropriate personal protective equipment while keeping emergency water rescue equipment at the ready, and review safety guidelines yearly with staff and volunteers;
 - o Ensure safety guidelines for the delivery of MV and KEEPS public education programming.
 - o Operate the fish fence, panels and trap to maximize broodstock collection opportunities and the keep the fence clear of debris; and,
 - o Conduct egg takes to maximize efficient use of paid labour, volunteers and associated resources.

2. Facility Upkeep and Operations

KEEPS upkeep and operations tasks for the Hatchery include:

- Inspect mechanical fittings, valves for leaks and proper functions as required;
- Maintain and store all equipment and tools in an appropriate fashion;
- Clean and maintain water intake screens at main intake, sumps, and the two earthen ponds on a regular basis according to an approved schedule;
- Maintain and complete minor repairs to Hatchery water systems such as pumps, valves, pipes, meters, monitors and alarms;
- Operate and maintain McFadden creek water intake to maximize positive results;
- Inform DFO, MV and KEEPS immediately of any major equipment failure or required repairs;
- Oversee the activities of the additional Hatchery volunteers as required;

- Inform MV, DFO and KEEPS about all fish-related facility deficiencies, fish culture operations, major mortalities and need for assistance as required;
- Actively pursue Hatchery operations cost saving initiatives (energy consumption savings etc.);
- Ensure that the Hatchery facility and washroom are kept in a clean, safe and presentable manner at all times for use by volunteers, KEEPS, DFO and MV staff. MV will provide the required paper, hand towels and cleaning products.

KEEPS general tasks include:

- Arrange for on-call coverage during typical and forecast stormy weather and busy periods through April to June then October to December;
- Arrange for emergency low water alarm calls;
- Checks the eggs and fish on a schedule as laid out by DFO best management practices for salmon enhancement;
- Provide information to the public and assist with public events as agreed with MV;
- Recruit additional volunteers and Hatchery operations assistance as required; and

3. Public Education and Outreach

KEEPS will provide staff, contractors or volunteers with the necessary training, education, aptitude and public service skills to interface with the public, students, and volunteers regarding salmonid life cycles, fish production, Kanaka Creek watershed issues and MV messaging in an effective, positive, safe and engaging fashion. KEEPS staff will hold a current and valid BC Driver's license, a valid first aid certificate and must submit to a criminal records check with respect to working alone with children and other vulnerable people. Any other personnel working alone with children and other vulnerable people must also have a criminal records check. MV will provide site and corporate orientation sessions to ensure that KEEPS staff, contractors and volunteers have a basic working knowledge of MV's philosophy, operating objectives and policies, as necessary.

The Hatchery Manager is expected to:

- Attend Education Committee meetings
- Assist with or facilitate KEEPS and MV educational and interpretive program delivery;
- Work cooperatively with the KEEPS Program Coordinator to make the facilities available for programs when requested; as outlined in the Building Use Procedures guiding document;
- Support educational opportunities around various aspects of hatchery operations such as egg takes, egg picking, feeding and weighing/sampling as appropriate;
- Work with DFO and MV to make some aspects of the hatchery operation (incubation, rearing) visible to the public, where appropriate;
- Organize and/or assist MV with special events and activities;
- Assist with fundraising initiatives and grant applications when required;
- Be available at the Hatchery facility or Fish Fence during KEEPS open houses, to show the facility (when appropriate) and answer questions from visitors;
- Assist with the active recruitment and training of volunteers to help support the KEEPS hatchery program;
- Participate in MV interpretive training programs and educational meetings as required;

- Assist in the design, assembly and maintenance of displays;
- Assist in hiring and training of additional labour and/or volunteers;
- Assist in the production of educational material;
- Take every reasonable opportunity to maximize the education benefits provided by the Hatchery;
- Arrange for a responsible alternate replacement when on leave;
- Support the Kanaka Creek Watershed Stewardship Centre Interpretation Plan's goals, themes and messages;
- Support hatchery access requests in accordance with the Building Use Procedures guiding document.

4. Hatchery Administration

The Hatchery Manager or KEEPS supervisor is expected to:

- On behalf of KEEPS, respond to written and electronic correspondence regarding issues concerning the Hatchery;
- Transfer requests beyond the scope of the Hatchery operation onto DFO, KEEPS or MV resources as applicable.
- Keep daily records:
 - o Collect and record data in electronic form;
 - o Perform regular electronic data backup;
 - o Maintain an accurate accounting of all fish and/or eggs on-site;
 - o Complete enumerations of eggs/fish at egg takes, egg shocking, ponding, fish transfer and release, and after any abnormal or significant mortality of fish or eggs, in accordance with DFO's Best Management Practices document;
 - o Maintain equipment service records and manuals for all equipment on-site; and,
 - o Maintain a daily journal/diary to track routine, and unusual activities, time worked for all paid hatchery operations, labour and volunteers; and a subject journal for regular review by MV and DFO staff.
- Keep additional records:
 - o Numbers of visitors to the Hatchery (dates, number); numbers of tours given or programs (including program and or school names);
 - o Fish fence operating details including dates of operation, fish collected and released;
 - o Produce and submit detailed semi-annual reports to DFO and MV at completion of egg takes for the year (Dec 31) and after the release of all outplanted juveniles (May 31);
 - o Write and submit reports pertaining to the Hatchery operation as requested; and,
 - o Summary of fish fence operations.
- Meetings:
 - o Attend day or evening meetings related to Hatchery operation and management as required by KEEPS, MV and/or DFO.
 - o Maintain guidelines, procedures and safety plans/protocols to be review with the Hatchery Management Committee yearly;
 - o Provide an annual month-by-month maintenance schedule for hatchery operations and the fish fence.

5. General Agreements

The Hatchery Management Committee (HMC) comprised of representatives from KEEPS, MV and DFO will set targets and procedures and review and amend this plan as needed. The parties will seek consensus on all related business matters. KEEPS should contact DFO's Community Advisor directly for fish production matters and MV's designated East Area Supervisor, Park Operations for major changes to infrastructure and all other activities.

Attachment 1 outlines Hatchery Management Committee Terms of Reference (TOR).

Kanaka Creek Bell-Irving Hatchery will be operated by KEEPS following the approved budget outlined in Attachment 2. No additional operating funds will be provided by MV or DFO.

KEEPS will keep accurate up-to-date records of all expenditures and follow proper accounting and bookkeeping practices and provide a year-end financial report.

KEEPS will ensure adequate and appropriate WorkSafeBC coverage and compliance.

DFO, MV and KEEPS will review fish production targets and will develop public education and outreach objectives, and finalize plans by March 31 and September 15 respectively, each year.

KEEPS shall maintain commercial general liability insurance in the amount of not less than **\$10,000,000** per occurrence, affording coverage for public liability and/or death and/or damage to property. Such insurance shall cover all the activities and function of KEEPS, its officers and volunteers, including KEEPS operation of a hatchery and its related activities and functions at Kanaka Creek Regional Park in Maple Ridge, BC. Metro Vancouver Regional District shall be stated as an additional insured on such liability insurance obtained by KEEPS.

KEEPS shall obtain property insurance for its own assets that are kept at Kanaka Creek Regional Park in Maple Ridge, BC. The property insurance shall contain a waiver of subrogation by KEEPS' insurer(s) against Metro Vancouver Regional District, its administrators, directors, official, officers, employees, servants, agents and related entities.

For any vehicles owned or leased by KEEPS, KEEPS shall obtain third party liability insurance in the amount of not less than **\$5,000,000** per occurrence.

KEEPS shall provide currently valid certificates of insurance to Metro Vancouver Regional District annually.

KEEPS agrees to implement this Operating Plan for the Bell-Irving Hatchery while working collaboratively to benefit the Kanaka Creek Watershed, Kanaka Creek Regional Park and the salmonid resources of the Lower Mainland.

ATTACHMENT 1 TO Schedule A

Hatchery Management Committee (HMC) Terms of Reference

The operation of the Bell-Irving Hatchery is a shared responsibility between Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society (KEEPS) and Metro Vancouver (MV); three partners who contribute both funding and in-kind support toward the operation of the facility. The Hatchery will be managed under the general direction and guidance of the Hatchery Management Committee (HMC). KEEPS is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Hatchery as set out in the Operating Plan.

Committee Membership

The HMC will consist of:

- A KEEPS Board liaison and an alternate;
- A minimum of two MV staff members;
- The DFO Community Advisor;

Decision-Making

- The HMC will communicate in a respectful, open and transparent manner;
- Each partner determines independently the resources (both funding and in-kind) that they can contribute each year and cannot guarantee future funding levels based on past contributions;
- Once fish production numbers, budget and programming targets are accepted by the HMC, any changes will be reviewed by HMC.
- HMC will review fish production numbers, labour and equipment needs and determine the resources necessary to operate the Fish Hatchery on an annual basis;
- HMC partners will discuss available contributions (funding and in-kind) and determine any shortfalls that may require additional resources from other sources in order to operate the facility;
- KEEPS will keep MV informed of any staff changes;
- Review and set the budget and services for the Operating Plan.

Frequency of Meetings

- MV will arrange at least two HMC meetings per year. The spring meeting will review fish production numbers for the fall broodstock season; provide an update on spring releases and to discuss budget requests for the following year. The fall meeting will discuss the result of budget requests and confirm budget for the following year, and be used to discuss on broodstock capture, programming and other issues. Additional meetings may be scheduled at the request of any one partner.

ATTACHMENT 2 TO Schedule A

2027-2029 BELL IRVING OPERATING BUDGET

Wages and Benefits paid by KEEPS from MV/DFO grant

Expense	Cost/year
Hatchery Manager	\$40,869
Employer EI and CPP	2,655
WCB insurance	718
Administration	3,144
Equipment rental	5,852
Mileage	300
TOTAL CONTRIBUTION FUNDING	\$53,538
MV contribution	\$28,000
DFO contribution	\$25,000

Additional fixed operating costs are fully paid by MV. Current costs are:

Expense	Cost/year
Electricity	\$6,500
Natural gas	1,500
Water (CMR)	1,000
Alarm/wifi	672
Purchased repairs & maintenance	1,500
Fish fence installation	1,000
Subtotal MV	\$12,172

Additional DFO funding paid directly to KEEPS

Expenses	Cost/year
Storm drain marking, fish food and "Salmonids in the classroom"	\$3,000
Subtotal DFO	\$3,000

TOTAL ANNUAL HATCHERY COSTS

TOTAL MV	\$40,172
TOTAL DFO	\$28,000
HATCHERY TOTAL	\$68,172

To: Regional Parks Committee

From: Mike Redpath, Director, Regional Parks

Date: April 14, 2026 Meeting Date: May 6, 2026

Subject: **Manager's Report - Regional Parks**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Regional Parks Committee receive for information report dated April 14, 2026, titled "Manager's Report - Regional Parks."

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Attachment 1 to this report sets out the Regional Parks Committee Work Plan for 2026. The status of work program elements is indicated as pending, in progress, or complete. The listing is updated as needed to include new issues that arise, items requested by the Committee, and changes in the schedule.

METRO VANCOUVER DEVELOPMENT COST CHARGE UPDATE

The following reports have been considered by the MVRD Board in April 2026. These reports are chronologically being presented to the Regional Parks Committee for information regarding Development Cost Charges.

MVRD Special Board Meeting on April 15, 2026

At its April 15, 2026 MVRD Special Board meeting, the MVRD Board considered the report dated April 7, 2026, titled "MVRD Development Cost Charge Amendment Bylaw No. 1452, 2026 to Amend the DCC Rates for 2026 and 2027". Board directors discussed the MVRD Development Cost Charge Amendment Bylaw No. 1452, 2026 and the establishment of Household Impact targets for 2027-2031.

The MVRD Board passed the following resolution:

THAT the MVRD Board:

- a) *give first, second, and third reading to Metro Vancouver Regional District Development Cost Charge Amendment Bylaw No. 1452, 2026, as presented in Attachment 1, in the report dated April 7, 2026, titled "MVRD Development Cost Charge Amendment Bylaw No. 1452, 2026 to Amend the DCC Rates for 2026 and 2027", which rolls back the 2026 DCC rate increase for MVRD to 2025 rates, reduces the 2027 DCC rate increases, and slows the transition to a 1% assist factor over the subsequent two years; and*
- b) *direct staff to forward Metro Vancouver Regional District Development Cost Charge Amendment Bylaw No. 1452, 2026 to the Inspector of Municipalities for approval;*
- c) *fill the resulting revenue gap of \$43M by transferring the projected revenue shortfall to the Household Impact for 2027 to 2031; and*
- d) *Direct staff to request expedited approval from the Inspector of Municipalities and submit the request by April 24, 2026.*

Special Joint Board Meeting on April 15, 2026

At its April 15, 2026, Special Joint Board meeting, the MVRD/GVWD/GVS&DD Boards considered the report dated April 8, 2026, titled "2027 Budget and 2027-2031 Financial Plan Budget Targets". Board Directors discussed the budget and considered amendment bylaws to change 2026 and 2027 DCC rates.

The MVRD/MVHC/GVWD/GVS&DD Boards passed the following resolution:

THAT the MVRD, MVHC, GVWD, and GVS&DD Boards direct staff to proceed through the 2027 budget cycle with household impact targets as follows: 2027 at 3.0%, 2028 at 5.0%, 2029 at 5.0%, 2030 at 5.0%, and 2031 at 5.0%.

MVRD Board Meeting on April 24, 2026

At its April 24, 2026 MVRD Regular Board meeting, the MVRD Board considered the report dated April 13, 2026, titled "Metro Vancouver Development Cost Charges - Proposed Approach for Agricultural Development".

The MVRD Board passed the following resolution:

THAT the MVRD Board:

- a) give first, second, and third reading to *Metro Vancouver Regional District Development Cost Charge Waiver for Agricultural Development Designed to Result in a Low Environmental Impact Amendment Bylaw No. 1455, 2026*; and
- b) adopt *Metro Vancouver Regional District Development Cost Charge Waiver for Agricultural Development Designed to Result in a Low Environmental Impact Amendment Bylaw No. 1455, 2026*.

2025 ANNUAL FINANCIAL RESULTS AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The report dated April 17, 2026, titled "2025 Annual Financial Results and Audited Financial Statements" (Reference 4) was considered by the Metro Vancouver Regional District (MVRD) Board on April 24, 2026. The MVRD Board received the report for information and approved the Audited 2025 Consolidated Financial Statements for the Metro Vancouver Regional District.

VISITOR USE MANAGEMENT GUIDE UPDATE

Metro Vancouver has developed a draft Visitor Use Management Guide for Regional Parks. It provides a framework for monitoring and managing visitor use and its impacts on regional parks, to protect park ecosystems and support high-quality visitor experiences. The goal of this project is to provide guidelines to manage visitor use more consistently and proactively.

The guide establishes desired conditions for regional parks based on the 'protect/connect continuum' identified in Regional Parks Plan. To measure if regional parks are meeting desired conditions, the guide has identified four primary indicators as proxies to understand visitor impacts on park ecosystems and park experience, including congestion. In conjunction with the visitor use indicators, staff also review incident reports, public comments, and visitor survey results to provide an understanding of visitor use issues at each park.

The four primary indicators are: the number of unsanctioned trails, the metres of trail edge trampling and braiding, the percentage of visitors with a dog off-leash in leash required areas, and the number of vehicles parked at one time in lots and overflow areas. The guide includes secondary measures for number of people at one time that can be used as needed. In order to address these issues, the guide provides a spectrum of management actions, from indirect, light touch actions to direct actions.

Staff will be testing monitoring methods at three to four regional parks this summer. This will provide baseline data for primary indicators at those parks and allow staff to test out and refine monitoring methods for future years. Monitoring is a key component of understanding the extent of visitor use issues, as well as measuring effectiveness of management actions.

Staff shared that this project was starting with First Nations in late 2025. Staff will share the draft guide later this year with First Nations, member jurisdictions, and other governmental agencies.

WATER SAFETY AT REGIONAL PARKS

Regional Parks offers a diverse range of beach experiences with unique opportunities for recreation and connection with nature. Popular destinations for swimming include Sasamat Lake (təmtə́míxʷtən/Belcarra Regional Park), Centennial Beach (Boundary Bay Regional Park), and Wreck Beach (Pacific Spirit Regional Park). Understanding open water safety is essential for preventing accidents and enjoying the water responsibly.



təmtə́míxʷtən/Belcarra Regional Park

Open water can be unpredictable.

Conditions can change rapidly due to weather, ocean tides, currents, and water temperature. Even on warm days, lakes and oceans can be cold, but wearing a wetsuit can help reduce heat loss and improve buoyancy. Swimming beaches at regional parks do not have lifeguards, so visitors are advised to be prepared by reading all posted signage about hazards or changing conditions, and to always swim with a buddy.

DOG MANAGEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE – PACIFIC SPIRIT REGIONAL PARK

As guided by the Regional Parks Committee in February, staff are implementing dog management program changes to education, signage, and enforcement in Pacific Spirit Regional Park.

Communication with Park Visitors

Staff continue to receive public inquiries and provide information, clarify park rules, and address concerns related to dog use and trail safety. In early May, Metro Vancouver social media posts will highlight the program changes, raise awareness of the newly installed tri-colour trail markers, and encourage trail etiquette. Interpretive staff have conducted twice weekly in-park education sessions since late March, engaging with over 200 park visitors. Education focuses on dog etiquette and compliance with park rules. Education sessions will continue through the year, including partnering with CTS Youth Society. Educational sandwich-board signs reinforce these sessions.

Tri-colour trail markers and other new signs

Staff have nearly completed the installation of new dog program signage. Installation is ahead of schedule and expected to be finalized by end of April. Early feedback from park visitors has been positive, noting improved clarity and visibility of park rules.

Ecological and Cultural Protection

Staff have started installing new sections of fencing along trails, with the goal of protecting ecologically and culturally sensitive areas such as creeks. Highest priority areas are complete and staff will continue fencing installation in other areas throughout the year.

Enhanced Enforcement

Staff have increased patrol and enforcement presence throughout the trail system, particularly south of 16th Avenue and on leash-required trails. As of fall 2025, two Park Officers conduct patrols daily. As summer seasonal staff are hired, patrol coverage will expand to multiple patrols per day. Staff continue to follow a progressive compliance approach, emphasizing education and voluntary compliance wherever possible.

Next Steps

Staff will monitor the effectiveness of the new signage, education initiatives, and enhanced patrol efforts. Future engagement with park visitors, including the dog walkers, will aim to better understand visitor needs and experiences. The goal of the current and any future changes is to simplify and maintain a safe and accessible trail network while protecting ecologically and culturally sensitive areas within Pacific Spirit Regional Park.



Enhanced enforcement efforts



New Split Rail Fencing



New Fencing and Habitat Sign



Newly Installed Sign



Newly updated tab sign



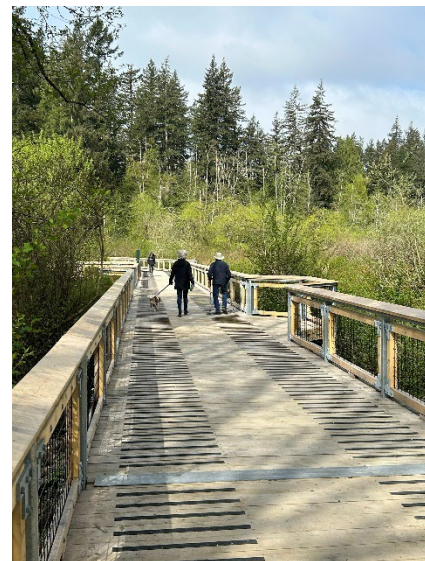
Newly installed sign

CAMPBELL VALLEY REGIONAL PARK - LITTLE RIVER LOOP BOARDWALK TRAIL PROJECT UPDATE

The Little River Loop Trail in Campbell Valley Regional Park provides a fully accessible 4 km trail that is popular with park visitors and school groups. Replacement of the aging boardwalk along the trail, which at the end of its operational life, was initiated in July 2025.

The project includes the replacement of 200 meters of boardwalk and the development of a new nature viewing platform. The upgraded boardwalk enhances accessibility, expands educational, programing, guided tour and school group opportunities.

The project is now substantially complete with the main boardwalk route open to public access. Final finishing on the viewing platforms will proceed through May and will be opened in June 2026.



Campbell Valley Regional Park

REGIONAL PARKS EVENTS UPDATE

Aldergrove Regional Park - Enchanted Forest (March 26, 2026)

Over 630 participants attended Enchanted Forest at Aldergrove Regional Park, which successfully attracted families by transforming the park into an interactive and imaginative outdoor experience. Through themed activities that encouraged exploration, creativity, and play, the event helped children connect with nature in a welcoming and accessible setting. Community partners, including the Fraser Valley Regional Library, Northern Spotted Owl Breeding Program, Langley Environmental Partners Society, and Canucks Autism Network enhanced the event with educational displays, activities, and games.



Aldergrove Regional Park

ATTACHMENTS

1. "Regional Parks Committee 2026 Work Plan", dated, April 14, 2026.

REFERENCES

1. "2027 Budget and 2027-2031 Financial Plan Budget Targets", dated April 8, 2026. Retrieved from <https://metrovancover.org/boards/GVRD/RDSP-2026-04-15-AGE.pdf>
2. "MVRD Development Cost Charge Amendment Bylaw No. 1452, 2026 to Amend the DCC Rates for 2026 and 2027", dated April 7, 2026. Retrieved from <https://metrovancover.org/boards/GVRD/RD-2026-04-15-AGE.pdf>
3. "Metro Vancouver Development Cost Charges – Proposed Approach for Agricultural Development", dated April 2, 2026. Retrieved from <https://metrovancover.org/boards/GVRD/RD-2026-04-24-AGE.pdf>
4. "2025 Annual Financial Results and Audited Financial Statements", dated April 17, 2026. Retrieved from Item E5.1 <https://metrovancover.org/boards/GVRD/RD-2026-04-24-AGE.pdf#search=mvrD%20april%2024>

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Regional Parks Committee 2026 Work Plan

Report Date: April 14, 2026

Priorities

1 st Quarter	Status
Regional Parks Committee Priorities and 2026 Work Plan	Completed
Dog Management Program Review at Pacific Spirit Regional Park	Completed
2026 Regional Parks Capital Program Update #1	Completed
Permitting Alcohol Consumption in Designated Areas of Regional Parks	Completed
Burns Bog Ecological Conservation Area - Delta Nature Reserve Update, and Delta South Surrey Greenway Update Project Definition	Completed
Belcarra South Day Use Area Concept Implementation	Completed
təmtəxʷtən/Belcarra Regional Park – Admiralty Heights Plan- Phase 1 Engagement	Completed
2 nd Quarter	Status
MVRD Consumption of Liquor in Regional Parks Amendment Bylaw	Completed
Filming in MVRD Regional Parks Update	Completed
George Ross Legacy Stewardship Grant Update	Completed
Derby Reach Campground Concept Plan + Implementation	Completed
Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation Invited Presentation	Completed
Visitor Use Management Strategy Update	In Progress
Regional Parks Annual Report 2025	In Progress
Aquatic Safety in Regional Park (Sasamat Lake)	In Progress
Contribution Agreement for Operation of the Kanaka Creek Bell-Irving Hatchery 2027-2029	In Progress
Regional Parks Buildings Strategy	Pending
Codd Wetland Management Plan- Initiation	Pending
Backcountry Safety Awareness Update	Pending
Draft Burnaby Lake Management Plan	Pending
3 rd Quarter	Status
Draft 2027 - 2031 Capital Plan Overview	Pending
Regional Parks Capital Projects Update	Pending
MVRD Dedication of Land as Regional Park Bylaw	Pending
Derby Reach - Brae Island Park Association Invited Presentation	Pending
Minnekhada Park Association Invited Presentation	Pending
Park Associations Contribution Agreement Renewal	Pending
Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation Agreement	Pending

Amendment to MVRD Regional Parks Regulation Bylaw 1426	Pending
Natural Resource Management Program Stewardship Program Update	Pending
Regional Parks Fees and Charges 2027	Pending
4th Quarter	Status
2027 - 2031 Five Year Financial Plan and 2027 Budget	Pending
Regional Parks Asset Management Plan	Pending
CTS Youth Society Update	Pending
Regional Parks Nature Programs Access Pass	Pending
Public Programming Strategy Implementation Update	Pending

Status = Pending, In Progress or Completed

METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL PARKS

Upcoming Events

May-June 2026

DATE	UPCOMING EVENTS
9 MAY 2026	<p>Forest Fairy Gathering BURNABY LAKE REGIONAL PARK</p>
	<p>Salmon Send-Off TYNEHEAD REGIONAL PARK</p>
10 MAY 2026	<p>Wild Moms CAMPBELL VALLEY REGIONAL PARK</p>
12 MAY 2026	<p>Piper Spit Bird Count BURNABY LAKE REGIONAL PARK</p>
16 MAY 2026	<p>Forest Bathing CAPILANO RIVER REGIONAL PARK</p>
	<p>Spring into Summer BURNABY LAKE REGIONAL PARK</p>
17 MAY 2026	<p>Escape the Nature House Ghost CAMPBELL VALLEY REGIONAL PARK</p>
20 MAY 2026	<p>Beaver Watch MINNEKHADA REGIONAL PARK</p>
23 MAY 2026	<p>Owls in the Park TYNEHEAD REGIONAL PARK</p>
24 MAY 2026	<p>Smolts on the Water TYNEHEAD REGIONAL PARK</p>
	<p>Wilderness at your Doorstep LYNN HEADWATERS REGIONAL PARK</p>
27 MAY 2026	<p>Sit Spot Series BOUNDARY BAY REGIONAL PARK</p>
30 MAY 2026	<p>Escape the Nature House Ghost CAMPBELL VALLEY REGIONAL PARK</p>

30 MAY 2026	Sexy Songbirds PITT RIVER REGIONAL GREENWAY
6 JUN 2026	Art in the Wild LYNN HEADWATERS REGIONAL PARK
	The Secret Life of Trees ALDERGROVE REGIONAL PARK
7 JUN 2026	Indigenous Tools CAMPBELL VALLEY REGIONAL PARK
9 JUN 2026	Piper Spit Bird Count BURNABY LAKE REGIONAL PARK

**Note: For more information on Regional Parks Programs & Events, please visit <https://metrovancover.org/events/events-calendar>*