



CITY OF REVELSTOKE

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE MASTER PLAN

FINAL

UPDATED AUGUST 30, 2011

**SUBMITTED TO:
THE CITY OF REVELSTOKE**

**SUBMITTED BY:
HB LANARC CONSULTANTS LTD
WITH GDH SOLUTIONS**

This page is intentionally blank for printing purposes.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This document was prepared by HB Lanarc Consultants Ltd. together with GDH Solutions.

Thanks are extended to the Steering Committee for their time, guidance and thoughtful input to this project.

Steering Committee Members

John Guenther, Director of Planning, City of Revelstoke

Kerry Dawson, Director of Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture

Alan Chell, Parks and Recreation Director, City of Revelstoke (Retired)

Tony Scarcella, City Council, City of Revelstoke

Roger Beardmore, Team Leader - Parks and Recreation, CSRD

Zuzana Driediger, Parks Canada

Ken Gibson, Forest Service

Loni Parker, CSRD Director Area B

Also greatly appreciated are the contributions shown by City of Revelstoke residents who came out to the many workshops, meetings and open houses to express their thoughts, make their suggestions and offer their opinions about the City of Revelstoke Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan is to develop a network of sites, programs and facilities for parks, recreation and cultural activities that will encompass the character of the City of Revelstoke, providing both residents and visitors with an outstanding experience of nature, recreation and culture. The Plan will provide overall direction and guidance for managing parks, recreational and cultural facilities, resources, programs, infrastructure and investment over a horizon of 10 years.

BENEFITS OF PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services contribute to a wide range of community benefits which include:

- **Health and Recreation:** Access helps increase physical activity and contributes to a healthier community.
- **Social Engagement:** Participation in recreation and cultural activities helps build stronger interactions between people. Children and youth especially benefit from recreation opportunities.
- **Well Being and Longevity;** There is a positive connection between cultural events and a healthy, long, life. Arts and culture improves personal confidence and enhances social connectedness.
- **Community Spirit:** Parks serve as locations for the community to come together in enjoyable, interactive settings that can foster mutual respect, inclusion, civic pride and participation that stimulate positive community growth.
- **Environmental Responsibility:** Protecting open space and environmental features, and encouraging people to participate in the reduction of their carbon footprint.
- **Economy:** Parks, recreation and cultural services strengthen the local economy by supporting tourism, providing employment, encouraging local spending and stimulating urban renewal.

This report builds on the following publications:

- City of Revelstoke: Official Community Plan (2009);
- Upper Arrow Lakes Drawdown Zone Management Plan, BC Hydro (2007);
- Conceptual Planning and Geotechnical Feasibility Assessment for Revelstoke River Trail, EBA Engineering (2000);
- A Cultural Strategy for the City of Revelstoke (2006);
- Revelstoke and Area Community Development Action Plan (2007 and update added in 2009);
- Revelstoke Parks Master Plan (2005)
- Revelstoke Active Transportation Plan (2010).

STUDY PROCESS

The Revelstoke Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan was conducted in four phases, beginning in October 2009 and concluding in December 2010:

- **Inventory & Analysis:** The first phase of the project identified opportunities and constraints present in the existing City of Revelstoke parks, recreation and culture system, and included review and analysis of demographics, legislation and trends that affect parks, trails, recreation and culture.
- **Gauging the Demand:** The second phase focused on the future of parks and recreation through the eyes of the public, stakeholders, staff and Council.
- **Development and Review of the Draft Plan:** involved working with City Staff and the Project Steering Committee, as well as CSRD staff, to analyze the information gathered;
- **Finalizing the Plan:** The last phase involved revising the Draft Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan in response to the feedback received.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INPUT

As part of the planning process, public workshops were held on December 3, 2009 and March 8, 2010 at the Revelstoke Community Centre. Workshops were also conducted with community stakeholders including Ministry of Forestry and Range, Ministry of Environment, ATV Club, Environmental Committee, Arena users, Arts Council, Curling club, and other agencies and community groups. On May 27 and 28, 2010, additional stakeholder consultations took place with arts and cultural organizations, recreation program providers and the School District.

A series of key themes or important issues that the plan should address emerged from this community input:

- **Trails** emerged as a key area in which there is opportunity to improve the current system.
- **Balance Between Users** ~ High demand among a variety of uses highlighted the importance of balancing priorities for all user groups.
- **Motorized Recreation** ~ Participants indicated that the need for designated motorized recreation areas is relatively high, especially due to the incompatibility of this type of recreation with other.
- **Environment protection** ~ emerged as a key consideration when planning for parks and trails.
- **Access to Information, Awareness and Education** ~ participants responded that access to information about all types of parks and trails in the region is important, including signage

- Support for Volunteer Organizations ~ Input indicated that there should be more support for volunteer organizations to organize and sustain recreational and cultural activities.
- Arts & Culture Facilities ~ Input called for an increased focus on arts and culture, offering many ideas such as an integrated arts centre or performance space.
- Recreation and Culture Programs ~ Stakeholders indicated a need for a need for recreation and culture programs for youth (ages 13-19) and pre-teens (ages 9-12) particularly non-sports activities.

Based on the information gathered from all sources a series of recommendations have been identified to support the development of a comprehensive Park, Recreation, and Culture Plan based on the following vision.

The residents of the City of Revelstoke recognize the significant recreational, environmental and cultural value that they derive from the area in which they live. Taken together they recognize that these benefits support a very high quality of life that in turn drives a vibrant local economy.

With this understanding they wish to take action to provide access to a diverse range of recreational opportunities for a diverse range of user groups extending from the shorelines to high alpine areas, to preserve a diverse network of ecological greenspace and to support the cultural energy of the community in a way which is both cost-effective and sustainable.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PARK ACQUISITION

Recommendation 1: Plan toward the acquisition of Parks and Open Space as envisioned by the Official Community Plan.

Revelstoke's Official Community Plan recognizes that parks, trails and open space will have an increasingly important role as community density increases. These OCP designations align with the findings of this Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan to provide a range of recreational. As new parks are added it will be important to prepare park management plans to guide individual acquisitions.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PARK FACILITIES

Recommendation 2: Site Plans for Parks

Site plans should be developed for all existing parks in the City of Revelstoke before any new development takes place. All future park development requires a site plan. Site Plans are developed in consultation with community interest groups.

Recommendation 3: Update Skateboard Facility

The current skateboard facility in Kovach Park is dated and underdeveloped. A new skateboard park would provide a challenging and safe experience for users. Well designed skateboard facilities have proven to be valuable recreational assets for youth while at the same time providing durable community assets. A location for a new skateboard park should be explored with the user group, the School District, committees and neighbours.

Recommendation 4: Dog Off Leash Park

Extensive input was received from the community about creating more park spaces for people to enjoy with their pets. It is recommended that the City identify future potential for off-leash areas – aiming to provide one off-leash dog park in each area that provide a mixture of experiences including trails, fenced open spaces and beach areas. Areas to consider may include: Columbia Park (off Basford Road), Big Eddy, Central Revelstoke, South Revelstoke, Arrow Heights, and/or Resort Lands.

Recommendation 5: Community Gardens

Community gardens can be successful additions to a park network where they are developed in conjunction with community groups. It is recommended that the city confirm interest and demand for community gardening in Revelstoke and identify suitable locations for community gardens. The city should work to develop community partnerships and garden use agreements that describe the expectations of the City and gardeners.

Recommendation 6: Frisbee Golf Course

Frisbee Golf is a popular and growing pastime that can be accommodated at a relatively low cost to the community. Frisbee Golf requires the installation of disk baskets and signage and does not otherwise limit the recreational use of open park spaces. It is recommended that a Frisbee Golf course be established on publicly owned land at Big Eddy.

Recommendation 7: BMX Pump Track

BMX is a popular recreational activity. Properly designed and well maintained facilities can provide a safe recreational outlet for young people in Revelstoke. The city should confirm interest and demand for BMX and mountain bike facilities and prepare a site layout for a BMX and mountain bike pump track, confirm a location and confirm implementation costs.

Recommendation 8: Trailhead access points into recreation destinations outside the City

Planning should ensure that permanent access to recreation destinations located outside of the city. It is recommended that public access be obtained and developed to provide trail access points for hikers, mountain bikers and horseback riders.

Recommendation 9: River Access Locations and Upland Facilities

As demand for river use increases there is a corresponding demand for facilities like parking, boat ramps, moorage, etc. Facilities should be designed to: increase awareness of and access to boat launch sites; provide durable upland facilities to support increased recreational access to the river, and; provide protection for habitat areas.

Recommendation 10: Horseshoes at Queen Elizabeth Park

Stakeholder input indicated a desire to develop a Horseshoes Pitch. Queen Elizabeth Park has been identified as a preferred location.

Recommendation 11: Provide Beach Volleyball Facilities

Beach volleyball is a popular activity for youth and the provision of a suitable area may provide an important additional activity for this group. It is recommended that the city confirm interest and demand for beach volleyball within Revelstoke, and identify a suitable location and prepare a siteplan for the area.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

Recommendation 12:

Revelstoke Waterfront Trail

An essential part of the Revelstoke trail network, this trail project has been described in trail reports dating back to 1992. The Revelstoke Waterfront Trail is a significant and visible component of the overall park and trail network that can: provide a trail connection and transportation alternative that connects all parts of Revelstoke, and; provide significant and visible recreation infrastructure that provides both community and economic benefit. It is recommended that the city review existing trail plans and develop a cost estimate and funding plan for this section of waterfront trail.

Recommendation 13: Active Transportation – Pedestrian & Cycle Infrastructure

Develop an on-street cycle and pedestrian connection from Revelstoke Community Centre to Williamson Lake Park and a cycling connection to Highway 23 North and South.

Recommendation 14: Active Transportation ~ Big Eddy Connector

Develop an on-street cycle and pedestrian connection along Big Eddy Road to Big Eddy Bridge as described within the Revelstoke Active Transportation Plan.

Recommendation 15: Illecillewaet Pedestrian Bridge

Provide a pedestrian crossing of the Illecillewaet River to dramatically improve the extent, appeal, and safety of the trail network connections to Arrow Heights and RMR.

Recommendation 16: Williamson Lake Loop Trail

Develop a looped nature trail around Williamson Lake. The development of a loop trail will provide an improved park experience, enhancing the park as a recreational destination for all residents.

Recommendation 17: Jordan River Trail

Develop a nature trail along the West bank of the Columbia River from Big Eddy Bridge to Lake Revelstoke Reservoir. The trail would provide access from Big Eddy and to a significant recreational area in close proximity for all Revelstoke Residents.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FACILITIES

Recommendation 18: Implement Life-cycle Approach for Facilities

A comprehensive life-cycle approach to planning upgrades in the future will help prevent premature failure of component parts and surprise costs associated with emergency repairs

Recommendation 19: Undertake an Operational Cost Analysis

The introduction of a Maintenance Management System for facilities and parks will allow more accurate tracking of operational costs. These figures can then be used to determine appropriate fees and charges and levels of subsidy as may be necessary.

Recommendation 20: Improve the Golf Experience to Ensure Long Term Success

The Revelstoke Golf Club will require capital investment in the course and clubhouse to retain and attract local and visiting golfers. Experience from similar communities suggest that the provision of an additional golf course would encourage visiting golfers and provide greater opportunity to expand golf at the Revelstoke Golf Club as a destination attraction for the City, which would also benefit local golfers. It is recommended that the City encourage development of planned RMR course and additional courses where possible, and review Capital and Operating Plans, prepared by the Golf Club Society.

Recommendation 21: DEVELOP A PLAN FOR ARENA/CURLING RINK REPLACEMENT

Planning should begin immediately to ensure that the long-term future of an arena facility in Revelstoke is secure, and consider expenditures on arena renovations and repairs during the next 5-10 years.

Recommendation 22: INVESTIGATE PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FOR ARENA REPLACEMENT

Successful P3s can ease the pressure on local government spending while ensuring a facility meets the needs of the community. The Revelstoke Grizzly Junior B Hockey Club has expressed an interest in collaborating with the City with respect to the development of a new or renovated ice facility. It is recommended that the city review experiences in similar

communities and develop a P3 policy and guidelines for private sector involvement in City projects.

Recommendation 23: IMPLEMENT AND UPDATE AGREEMENTS WITH SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Neighbourhoods of Learning Project is now under construction. It is recommended that the city confirm agreements to maximize opportunities for community use during after school hours, and a separate agreement setting out parameters for the use of the Theatre.

Recommendation 24: INVESTIGATE FEASIBILITY OF ADAPTIVE REUSE OF SCHOOLS

There is considerable interest in using the Mountain View facility as an Arts and Cultural space. It is therefore recommended that the City review the potential future use of the Mountain View building, based on the feasibility study conducted by the arts community. A business plan for this vision should be developed by the city to provide clarity about capital and operating costs of converting the school to a community facility. If feasible, this venue would provide a larger, more centrally located, facility for the arts community and other community associations. Also investigate the potential reuse of Big Eddy School, Mt. Begbie School and Farwell School.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE

Recommendation 25: ENGAGE YOUTH IN A CONSULTATION PROCESS

Support a coordinated consultation process that would address how to best provide recreation and culture opportunities to youth. Work with City departments and other agencies to determine the best means of communicating with youth to obtain their feedback on potential recreation and culture facilities and programs; their concerns regarding access and affordability etc. Provide resources to support consultation and engagement process.

Recommendation 26: INCREASE THE NUMBER AND VARIETY OF RECREATION AND CULTURE PROGRAMS.

Develop new programs at its facilities, particularly for youth by working with community agencies; supporting youth programs through services, space, equipment, and continuing to offer low cost swimming and skating for low income families whenever possible.

Recommendation 27: DEVELOP HEALTH, FITNESS, ARTS & CULTURE FOR OLDER ADULTS

Supplement the programs offered at the Seniors Centre to support a healthy lifestyle in order to ensure that older adults have access to a variety of programs in the Community Centre and the Seniors Centre. Meet with seniors to ascertain the types of programs that interest them. Develop a variety of low cost, age appropriate programs that focus on increasing physical activity.

Recommendation 28: UPDATE THE 2006 CULTURAL STRATEGY

A new Cultural Strategy and Implementation Plan should be developed and to guide the development of arts and culture in Revelstoke for the next ten years. It is recommended that the city pursue funding opportunities to support the development of an updated Cultural Strategy; consider opportunities to integrate arts and culture into parks and recreation, and engage the local arts and culture community in the development of the updated Strategy.

Recommendation 29: INVENTORY OF CULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT SITES

Culturally significant sites can celebrate the City's heritage and culture through preserving historic and unique features. It is recommended that the city work with First Nations, community organizations, other levels of government and industrial partners to prepare an inventory of sites and buildings of cultural significance, specifying the level of protection desired.

Recommendation 30: IMPROVE COORDINATION WITH RECREATION, ARTS & CULTURE SERVICE PROVIDERS

Increased coordination and consultation among these groups would be beneficial and can result in more effective use of limited resources, improving information sharing and the provision of coordinated programs and services. This coordination will reduce gaps in service provision, and provide improved access to the extensive expertise within the City and improved access to grants.

Recommendation 31: IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM REGISTRATION AND BOOKING SYSTEM

The City of Revelstoke does not currently have a computerized system in place to track participation in programs or events at their facilities. A system is required so that staff can identify gaps and surpluses in program provision.

Recommendation 32: REVIEW EXISTING FEES AND CHARGES

Review parks, recreation and culture fees and charges to ensure that they support the City's objectives for customer service and cost recovery. Review user fees now and every two to three years. Increases should be considered to match the cost of inflation related to service delivery.

Recommendation 33: ANALYZE STAFFING LEVELS

A number of recommendations in this Plan will result in a higher level of service, and some operational efficiency. Additional staff may be required to implement some aspects of this plan, in particular the delivery and co-ordination of recreation, arts and culture programs. This review should ensure that staff has the capacity to provide regular ongoing operations, program development, maintenance and improvements, and provide staff time and resources necessary to provide high quality services.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Recommendation 34: REVIEW THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO CONFIRM THAT ITS MANDATE IS ADEQUATE TO OVERSEE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PLAN.

To assist in providing future parks, recreation and cultural planning, the City should, review and revise terms of reference for the Advisory Committee, as needed, and confirm future tasks for the Advisory Committee.

Recommendation 35: SUPPORT EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The City should support and cultivate partnerships with community organizations to meet the goals of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan, including: review all current and potential community partners, endeavouring to expand partnerships to a wider range of organizations, and meet with community partners to identify a list of potential projects and define partnership agreements.

Recommendation 36: DEVELOP VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS TO ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE.

To implement a volunteer program the City should allocate sufficient staff time and resources to research and develop volunteer programs.

Recommendation 37: COORDINATION WITH PROVINCIAL AGENCIES

The City can work with the Province to communicate the details of this plan so that opportunities for land transfers, leases and joint management agreements can be identified with respect to potential park, recreation or trail sites

Recommendation 38: TOURISM STRATEGIES ~ SPORT, RECREATION, HERITAGE & CULTURE

Revelstoke has an extensive outdoor recreational resource base and natural setting that supports tourism. The City should create and promote a parks and recreation identity that encourages tourism and supports economic development.

Recommendation 39: PRIVATE RECREATION

To encourage private recreation development the city could support approvals where proposed facilities provide desirable community resources and improve the recreational tourism appeal of the community to encourage private enterprise.

Recommendation 40: LANDSCAPING WITH NATIVE PLANTS

It is recommended that the city incorporate a indigenous planting policy as part of its landscape maintenance practices.

Recommendation 41: INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES MANAGEMENT

Recognizing the growing concern with invasive plants, it is recommended that the city continue its program to increase awareness on the identification of invasive plants and their impacts and the development of an early detection and rapid response program for the removal of invasive plant species that incorporates education, detection and focused response efforts.

Recommendation 42: WATER CONSERVATION STRATEGIES

Park management strategies should look for opportunities to seamlessly integrate rainwater and stormwater management facilities within existing and future parks. New projects should consider use of drought-tolerant plant species, low-flow irrigation techniques, and reduced turf areas within increased soil depth.

Recommendation 43: ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP EDUCATION

Park management strategies should incorporate the development of an environmental stewardship program that encourages ownership and personal responsibility among young people.

Recommendation 44: DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A CONSISTENT SIGN STRATEGY FOR THE PARK, RECREATION AND CULTURE SYSTEM.

A commonly cited issue related to the use of parks in the region is that there is not enough information available about parks and trail locations. To resolve this shortcoming the city should: create a system wide signage strategy, including recreational facilities and to begin providing signs for existing parks, trails

Recommendation 45: INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION

People often fail to use public recreation and cultural resources because they are not aware of what is available to them. To help minimize the impact of this bottleneck, the city should expand the parks webpage to enhance information provided and proactively share the contents of this plan and its priorities with federal and provincial agencies, conservation organizations, local businesses, educational institutions and other potential partners.

Recommendation 46: PARKLAND ACQUISITION FUND

Implement a yearly per parcel property tax levy to fund the acquisition of priority parks as described in the OCP Schedule K.

Recommendation 47: PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS

The city should consider the benefits of using property tax exemptions and covenants as an incentive for landowners to protect natural features.

Recommendation 48: DONATIONS AND FUNDRAISING

It is recommended that the city develop a structure to encourage fundraising, donations, commemorative giving and/or in-kind donation for park, recreation and cultural sites. To implement a program of this type the City may wish to develop a park endowment fund with guidelines for advertising and management and create clear recognition systems to ensure people receive credit for their contributions.

Recommendation 49: PARKLAND DEDICATION AT SUBDIVISION

To implement park acquisition plan outlined in the OCP (Schedule K). The municipality should direct its park dedications to support this acquisition strategy.

Recommendation 50: DEVELOPMENT COST CHARGE BYLAW

Adopt a Development Cost Charge Bylaw to support the implementation of capital projects for Parks and Trails. While taxation for parks is sufficient to provide ongoing maintenance and capital replacements for existing infrastructure this funding source is not sufficient to provide improved facilities as may be expected by an increasing population.

Recommendation 51: COMMUNITY AMENITY CONTRIBUTIONS

Amenity contributions through rezoning provide amenities or capital funding that support growth and densification.

Recommendation 52: SENIOR GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Parks and recreation cultural projects can secure funds related to non-vehicular transportation, public infrastructure, the environment, sustainability initiatives and parks and recreation improvements. The city should review and evaluate grant opportunities regularly against the priorities and goals identified in this Plan and allocate staff time to identify and pursue grant funding opportunities.

Recommendation 53: COORDINATION WITH INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES

Major infrastructure improvements such as street or utility upgrades, public building development or stormwater projects often overlap with trail connections or other parks and recreation projects.

Recommendation 54: MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS FUNDING

As parks and facilities are added to the system, budgets for maintenance and operations should increase accordingly.

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY BLANK TO FACILITATE DOUBLE SIDED PRINTING

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART 1: BACKGROUND

Executive Summary.....	4
1. INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Purpose of the plan.....	1
1.2 What Does the Plan Address?	1
1.3 Benefits of Parks, Recreation & Culture.....	2
1.4 Previous Publications.....	4
1.5 Study Process.....	9
2. BACKGROUND & CONTEXT	10
2.1 Location.....	10
2.2 History	10
2.3 Environment.....	12
2.4 Trends.....	15
2.5 Summary of Public Input.....	22
3. ASSESSMENTS	24
3.1 Park Classification System.....	24
3.2 Existing Parks and Trails - City of Revelstoke	26
3.3 Cultural Assets	30
4. VISION	37
5. CITY OF REVELSTOKE PARKS AND TRAILS.....	39
5.1 Park Acquisition	39
5.2 Park Facilities.....	40
5.3 Trails.....	43
6. FACILITIES.....	46
6.1 General Strategies	46
6.2 Golf Course.....	46
6.3 Arena/Curling Rink.....	47
6.4 Adaptive reuse of schools.....	48
7. RECREATION & CULTURE.....	50
7.1 Recreation Programming.....	50

7.2	Cultural Strategy.....	51
7.3	Related Initiatives	52
8.	RESOURCES	54
8.1	Park, Recreation and Culture Advisory Committee	54
8.2	Shared Responsibility	55
8.3	Environmental Management	57
8.4	Information & communication	58
8.5	Resources and Funding	60
9.	IMPLEMENTATION.....	64
9.1	Adaptations to Revelstoke OCP implied by this Plan	64
9.2	Capital Planning Estimates	69
10.	APPENDICES.....	72
10.1	References	72

TABLE OF FIGURES

Figure 1:	Regional Context Map: CSRD Area B	11
Figure 2:	Core Area/Connectivity Analysis.....	14
Figure 3:	City of Revelstoke Existing Parks.....	29
Figure 4:	City of Revelstoke Proposed Parks.....	38

PART 1: BACKGROUND

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The purpose of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan is to develop a network of sites, programs and facilities for parks, recreation and cultural activities that will encompass the character of the City of Revelstoke, providing both residents and visitors with an outstanding experience of nature, recreation and culture.

The Plan will provide overall direction and guidance for managing parks, recreational and cultural facilities, resources, programs, infrastructure and investment over a horizon of 10 years. As well, it will facilitate budget development, acquisition and improvement strategies, funding applications and park, recreation and culture program planning. The Plan will need to match community aspirations, but also be balanced with fiscal reality.

The Plan is intended to be a living document that is responsive to the changing needs of the community. It should be recognized that the recommendations of the plan must be reviewed and adjusted on a yearly basis to ensure that opportunities are explored and investments continue to reflect community desires. All projects undertaken by the community should be considered within the larger planning and improvements context for the community, and are subject to consideration and approval by Council. In addition, this Plan will run concurrently with a City-wide Transportation Plan and will ensure that coordination and efficiencies between the two plans are maximized.

1.2 WHAT DOES THE PLAN ADDRESS?

The Plan will review existing facilities, staffing, and programs associated with the City and with other Park, Recreation and Culture providers such as Parks Canada and the Forest Service.

The City works with multiple partners and allies to maximize recreation and culture opportunities in the community. Partners include over twenty-five groups

including School District # 19, Revelstoke Arts Council, Community Connections, and the Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy, as well as numerous community associations and sport groups in the area.

Specifically, the plan will:

- Undertake an analysis of parks, recreation and culture programs and facilities in the City of Revelstoke
- Conduct a needs assessment to determine the needs and use patterns of the region's residents
- Ensure that recreational needs address changing demographic trends
- Further develop the park and trail network
- Recommend upgrades to existing park, recreation and culture facilities
- Recommend funding strategies to implement the plan
- Update the parks, recreation and culture aspects of Official Community Plans (OCP) and bylaws

1.3 BENEFITS OF PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE

Parks and Recreation

Parks and recreation are valuable to our communities because they contribute to a wide range of community objectives, particularly helping to create healthy ecosystems and healthy residents.

The social benefits of our parks and recreational spaces are numerous. Parks provide opportunities for participating in outdoor education, increasing our health and wellness through physical exercise, and relaxing or socializing in a natural environment. An intensified focus on sports and outdoor play is encouraged to increase quality of life for all residents.

Maintaining a strong network of parks and recreational spaces provides many environmental benefits. Areas set aside as parkland support the protection of wildlife habitat and ensure healthy ecosystem function. Healthy ecosystems provide valuable services to our communities such as reducing air pollution and filtering toxins from our water supply. Greenspaces in developed areas can serve as a buffer around habitat areas, connect corridors for wildlife movement and prevent soil erosion.

Parks, recreation and culture have a positive impact on a region's economy, as well. The world class natural landscapes and recreational areas in and around Revelstoke boost the region's tourism and provide opportunities for many

tourism-related businesses to prosper. Economic benefits are also gained through reductions in health care costs resulting from a healthier population.

Parks, Recreation and culture are most beneficial and effective when they are combined with a diverse and compact built form that enables healthy social interaction. This includes a significant focus on good urban design which includes having a highly permeable/interactive interface between the private (i.e., residences and businesses) and public realm (e.g., parks, trails, streets, etc.). Incorporating plenty of natural vegetation and maintaining a strong connection to large tracts of the natural environment throughout the community creates an essential foundation for well balanced play, education and community interaction. It is through a diversity of people and well designed spaces/places that citizens can continually connect and exchange realities enabling the ongoing progression towards a more resilient balance with nature.

The 2009 British Columbia Parks and Recreation Association (BCPRA) Report, “A Time for Renewal” documents five essential services that parks and recreation provide for communities:

- **Health and Recreation:** Access to parks and recreation helps increase physical activity and contributes to a healthier community.
- **Social Engagement:** Participation in recreation helps build stronger interactions between people. Children and youth especially benefit from recreation opportunities; recreation participation has been shown to reduce negative youth behaviours.
- **Community Spirit:** Parks serve as locations for the community to come together in enjoyable, interactive settings. Recreation activities and programs can foster mutual respect, inclusion, civic pride and participation that stimulate positive community growth.
- **Environmental Responsibility:** Effective parks planning protects open space and environmental features, builds green facilities and encourages people to participate in the reduction of their carbon footprint by providing transportation alternatives and access to quality, low-impact activities.
- **Economy:** Parks and recreation services strengthen the local economy by supporting tourism, providing employment, encouraging local spending and stimulating urban renewal.

Arts and Culture

There are major social, health and economic benefits in developing opportunities for and participation in arts and cultural activities. Arts and culture play an

important role in “at least seven of the twelve determinants of health defined by Health Canada,” including personal confidence, control, social connectedness, education, and supportive physical environments. Research demonstrates the positive correlation between attending cultural events and performances and higher levels of well-being and increased longevity.

The results of using arts and culture to engage marginalized groups such as youth at risk and the elderly include higher academic achievement, better “life success,” and the ability to address difficult social issues. With respect to economic benefits, a study by the Conference Board of Canada found that arts and culture are “cornerstones of the creative, knowledge-based economy.”¹

In B.C., it is becoming widely recognized that:

- Arts and culture are significant contributors to our quality of life, making our communities healthier, more vibrant and enhancing young people’s ability to learn.
- The presence of a thriving arts and cultural sector in a community is essential to attracting and retaining the highly trained creative workforce needed to compete in the 21st century global economy.
- Cultural tourism is the fastest growing part of the industry and one that will get more attention in the future as the demographic ages.²

1.4 PREVIOUS PUBLICATIONS

The City of Revelstoke has completed comprehensive planning for parks, recreation and culture in various studies and community plans, providing valuable background information and guidance for the Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan. The following documents inform and provide direction for the Plan:

CITY OF REVELSTOKE: OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN (2009)

Key recommendations related to parks, recreation and culture:

- Develop and maintain a system of parks, trails and associated recreation facilities to serve the needs of local residents and visitors to the community.

¹ Conference Board of Canada. “Measuring and Understanding Canada’s Creative Economy.” Arts Research Monitor October 2008.

² BC Arts Council Strategic Plan 2009-2013

- Designate parks, the golf course, sport and activity fields, the equestrian centre, undeveloped park lands and linear parks as park and trails on Land Use Map.
- Update the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
- Work with the school district and other institutions in encouraging joint use of park and recreation facilities at school sites by the public.
- Require dedication of parkland or payment in lieu of parkland at the time of subdivision in designated areas.
- Implement the Downtown Trail, Centennial Park Trail and Illecillewaet Trail components of the Greenway Plan.

UPPER ARROW LAKES DRAWDOWN ZONE MANAGEMENT PLAN, BC HYDRO (2007)

In consultation with the community, BC Hydro developed a management plan to guide the use of the Upper Arrow Lakes drawdown zone (the drawdown zone refers to exposed shoreline between the high-water mark and the reservoir water level) between Revelstoke Dam and Shelter Bay, providing a balance between recreational, fish, and wildlife habitat needs in the area. The key objectives in the plan are to:

- Confirm BC Hydro's reservoir operations mandate and agreements that are in place that affect management of the drawdown zone;
- Promote vegetation growth in the drawdown zone to minimize dust impacts on the City of Revelstoke;
- Protect and enhance fish and wildlife and their habitat;
- Allow for recreation uses that are safe and respect the rights of property owners, environmental resources and values and other users of the drawdown zone; and
- Prevent illegal or other activities that could result in unacceptable risks and liabilities to BC Hydro and other adjacent property owners.

CONCEPTUAL PLANNING AND GEOTECHNICAL FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT FOR REVELSTOKE RIVER TRAIL, EBA ENGINEERING (2000)

The report includes an assessment of geotechnical, hydrological and environmental conditions, and offers recommendations for trail design and location of the Revelstoke River Trail.

A CULTURAL STRATEGY FOR THE CITY OF REVELSTOKE (2006)

This strategy was developed by Commonwealth Historic Resource Management. The following content is drawn directly from this strategy and is included in this document for background reference only.

A Cultural Strategy for the City of Revelstoke was produced in 2006, but was not adopted by Council. The Cultural Strategy built on the “Cultural Scan” undertaken by the Economic Development Commission of the City of Revelstoke in 2005. The Scan identified interests and concerns of those involved in the cultural sector and prepared an inventory of the cultural assets and capacities in the community.

The Cultural Strategy proposed the following vision for cultural development in Revelstoke:

Revelstoke will maintain and strengthen its position as a cultural community for both residents and visitors by celebrating its authentic culture and heritage.

The Cultural Strategy included six main strategies along with numerous actions. The six strategies were:

1. Increase the awareness of culture and the perception of its value among residents, and make culture accessible to all segments of Revelstoke society.
2. Acknowledge cultural services as an essential municipal responsibility, consistent with the vision for Revelstoke, and identify an appropriate community or municipal agency to coordinate the delivery of cultural services.
3. Foster excellence in the culture of Revelstoke by building community organizational capacity.
4. Ensure that Revelstoke has adequate cultural facilities in which to present the community’s cultural offerings.
5. Maximize the effectiveness of the cultural component of the revitalized downtown core of Revelstoke.
6. Take advantage of the cultural opportunities available as a result of the Revelstoke Mountain Resort.

The Strategy also provided an implementation plan for the strategies and actions, assigning a priority rating to each; designating responsibility for the actions; and indicating an order-of-magnitude resources required for implementation.

The City of Revelstoke is currently working with the cultural community to begin the process of updating the Cultural Strategy.

REVELSTOKE AND AREA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN (2007 AND UPDATE ADDED IN 2009)

This plan was developed by Mountain Labyrinths Inc. The following content is drawn directly from this plan and is included in this document for background reference only.

The Revelstoke and Area Community Development Action Plan was developed as a guide to assist citizens, organizations, local and senior governments in addressing social, environmental, cultural and economic opportunities in the region. The Plan is based on twenty-eight community goals and identifies priority actions needed to meet each goal. It also provides a series of indicators with which to monitor the community's progress toward each goal.

Key goals and recommendations related to parks, recreation and culture include:

Arts & Culture

GOAL - Maintain a rich array of cultural activities and establish adequate facilities to present the community's cultural offerings.

- Continue to support and create cross-community projects where diverse members of the community work side-by-side; continue the Festival and Events Committee.
- Develop one reliable, closely managed, well-publicized, and easily accessible community cultural calendar available online and in hard copy downtown and in the local newspaper.
- Broaden cultural programming to encourage those segments of the local population that do not usually participate in cultural activity to become engaged.
- Recognize that a cultural program is supportive of the overall City Vision Statement.
- Designate the Revelstoke Arts Council as the primary community organization for delivering cultural services.
- Alleviate volunteer 'burnout' by boosting volunteerism across all age groups.

- Assist community cultural organizations to increase board capacity through workshops and accessible literature.
- Build on the ingrained philanthropy and pride of the community to garner support for adequate facilities.
- Locate a temporary home and storage for the Theatre Company.
- Secure a community performance venue that seats 150 - 250 people with adequate rehearsal space, lobby, greenroom and scene shop.
- Develop another feasibility study for an Interdisciplinary Arts Centre.
- Look for opportunities to partner with developers including Revelstoke Mountain Resort on events and marketing.

Parks & Greenspace

GOAL - Maintain, or expand and improve on the scale, diversity and management of parks and green space.

- Adopt and implement the 2005 draft Parks Master Plan including:
 - as feasible, add to parks, including neighbourhood parks in Central Revelstoke and Southside, and within Revelstoke Mountain Resort development where an additional 33.2 hectares of public community park area and 16.6 hectares of neighbourhood parks will be needed
 - individual park management plans
 - improvements in general policies for tree management and noxious weed control, and
 - upgrading conditions in specific parks (bear proof containers, mature tree replacement, more shade trees)
- Support school ground greening programs (note: On hold while school consolidation planning is completed).
- Retain parks/green space associated with schools.

REVELSTOKE PARKS MASTER PLAN (2005)

A Plan for City of Revelstoke Parks and Trails was developed in 2005, but was not adopted by Council. However, the content of the 2005 Plan was reviewed and utilized, as appropriate, to inform this Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan.

REVELSTOKE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (2010)

The Revelstoke Active Transportation Plan provides the city with a strategy to increase the use of active transportation choices in the community. This plan includes recommendations for policies and programs that will support a long-

term vision for an active transportation network. Active transportation is closely related to parks and recreation as it promotes walking, cycling, rollerblading and other forms of self-propelled movement through a community. The Active Transportation will share and support objectives with the Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan, such as increased trail connectivity and implementation of community programs focused on health and recreation.

1.5 STUDY PROCESS

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan was conducted in four phases, beginning in October 2009 and concluding in December 2010.

Phase 1: Inventory & Analysis: The first phase of the project identified opportunities and constraints present in the existing City of Revelstoke parks, recreation and culture system. This phase also included review and analysis of demographics, legislation and trends that affect parks, trails, recreation and culture.

Phase 2: Gauging the Demand: The second phase focused on the future of parks and recreation through the eyes of the public, stakeholders, staff and Council.

Phase 3: Development and Review of the Draft Plan: Phase three involved working with City Staff and the Project Steering Committee, as well as CSRD staff, to analyze the information gathered during the first two phases. Using this information, a draft plan for parks, recreation and culture was developed.

Phase 4: Finalizing the Plan: The last phase involved revising the Draft Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan in response to the feedback received during Phase 3 and finalizing the report.

2. BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

2.1 LOCATION

The City of Revelstoke is located in the Columbia Shuswap Regional District (CSRD) that is characterized by forested mountainous areas and deep valleys occupied by Lake Revelstoke, Kinbasket Lake and the Arrow Lakes. The City of Revelstoke is the only urban centre within the Electoral Area. Area 'B' is largely uninhabited with vast tracts of crown land that are generally considered to be in a wilderness state.

The City of Revelstoke is relatively isolated in its location on the Columbia River between the Selkirk and Monashee Mountain Ranges. The city has a population with lifestyles that are based on a tight-knit community and exceptional natural setting. Many tourists and residents are drawn to Revelstoke for its spectacular scenery and recreational opportunities. In 2006, the population of the City of Revelstoke was 7,230 persons (Revelstoke OCP).

2.2 HISTORY

The settlement of Revelstoke and surrounding region has a rich history that dates back to the 1880s. Mining and the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway both served to influence early growth of the area. By the turn of the 20th century, Revelstoke was a regional hub serving the railway, mines and several farm sites.

Mining and the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway served to influence early growth of the area. By the turn of the 20th century, Revelstoke was a regional hub serving the railway, mines and several farm sites. A second major wave of growth occurred after the completion of the Trans Canada Highway and the construction of the Revelstoke and Mica Dams. Growth slowed down during the economic recession of the 1980s, yet in recent years then the town has seen immigration of young families and residents that place a high value on recreation.

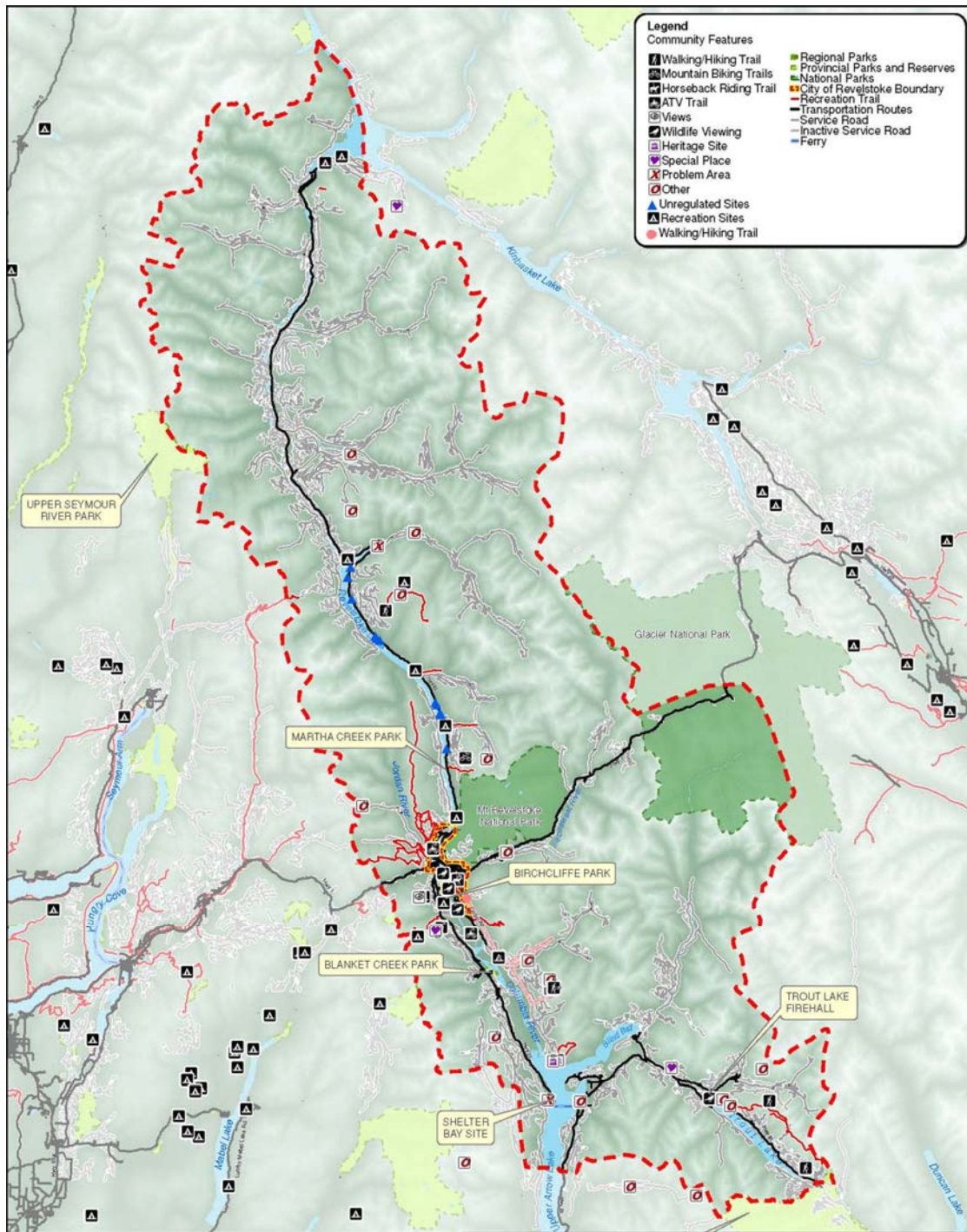


Figure 1: Regional Context for City of Revelstoke Parks and Trails

2.3 ENVIRONMENT

The City of Revelstoke is located in the interior rainforest, comprised of complex and diverse forest ecosystems with mature coniferous trees and a dense understory. The Monashee and Selkirk mountain ranges provide a spectacular setting with steep mountain peaks bordering the valley, forming alpine meadow ecosystems at higher elevations.

The Columbia River is a defining environmental feature of the region. As the sixth largest river basin in North America, it contributes to ecosystems that support hundreds of wildlife species. The Revelstoke wetlands located around the confluence of the Columbia and Illecillewaet Rivers are of particular ecological significance, providing habitat for a range of birds, mammals, fish and plant species. According to the Wildlife Technical Committee for the BC Hydro Water Use Plan⁴², “Revelstoke Wetlands is an area of critical wetland habitat used extensively by 213 species of various birds, including 16 red-listed and 15 blue-listed species.”³

The wilderness areas in the region are home to a number of Species at Risk as listed by the BC Conservation Data Centre, including Grizzly Bear, Caribou and White Sturgeon.

Table 1: Partial List of Red and Blue Listed Species in CSRD Area B⁴

List	Scientific Name (and Comment)	Common Name
Vascular Plants		
Red	<i>Botrychium lineare</i>	Linear-leaf Moonwort
Red	<i>Botrychium montanum</i>	Mountain Moonwort
Red	<i>Eutrochium maculatum</i> var. <i>bruneri</i>	Joe-pye Weed
Blue	<i>Agoseris lackschewitzii</i>	Pink Agoseris
Blue	<i>Botrychium crenulatum</i>	Dainty Moonwort
Blue	<i>Botrychium hesperium</i>	Western Moonwort
Blue	<i>Botrychium simplex</i>	Least Moonwort
Blue	<i>Cryptogramma cascadenis</i>	Cascade Parsley Fern
Blue	<i>Delphinium sutherlandii</i>	Sutherland's Larkspur
Blue	<i>Draba lactea</i>	Milky Draba

³ Revelstoke Community Environmental Strategy, 2003.

⁴ Red and Blue listed species supplied by BC Conservation Data Centre, Victoria, B.C. www.env.gov.bc.ca/cdc/

Blue	Eleocharis elliptica	Slender Spike-rush
Blue	Gymnocarpium jessoense ssp. parvulum	Nahanni Oak Fern
Vertebrate Animals		
Red	Acipenser transmontanus pop. 2	White Sturgeon (Columbia River population)
Red	Rangifer tarandus pop. 1	Caribou (southern population)
Red	(Found in the drawdown zone near the airport)	American avocet
Blue	Ursus arctos	Grizzly Bear
Blue	Myotis septentrionalis	Northern Myotis
Blue	(Broad ranging species w/ Revelstoke being inside their known range)	Wolverine
Blue	(Located in Williamson's lake, Airport Marsh, Turtle pond)	Western painted turtle
Blue	(Nest sites found in drawdown zone near the airport)	Short eared owl
Blue	(A rookery is located just outside of the City boundary S of the airport)	Great blue heron
Blue	Found in several nearby streams. 2 populations (Akolkolex, Kirkup) identified as "genetically pure" (very rare)	Westslope cutthroat trout
Blue	(Found in the Columbia R and many nearby streams)	Bull trout
Invertebrate Animals		
Red	Argia vivida	Vivid Dancer
Fungus		
Blue	Nephroma occultum	Cryptic Paw

A CONSERVATION AREA DESIGN FOR THE INLAND TEMPERATE RAINFOREST OF CANADA (2004)

The Conservation Area Design for the Inland Temperate Rainforest of Canada provided an analysis to determine regional scale conservation priorities for the Inland Temperate Rainforest which includes the CSRD Area B. The process analysed data on six key terrestrial species (Grizzly Bear, Wolverine, Lynx, Cougar, Gray Wolf, and Mountain Caribou), salmon and other aquatic species to determine core habitat areas and connectivity habitat. To protect populations of the focal species, the report recommends that areas with habitat for 4 or more focal species should be protected as parks. It also recommends that identified medium-risk areas should be managed to maintain connectivity that allows species to move freely within and through the areas (see figure 2). The report states:

Managing the landscape for biodiversity conservation does not mean ‘locking up’ 85% of the land in protected areas. In a general sense we can say that it means ensuring that the species and populations that currently exist in the 85% of the landscape delineated by the CAD are not extirpated either directly or indirectly through a variety of conservation measures ranging from full protection to scientifically adequate Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM).

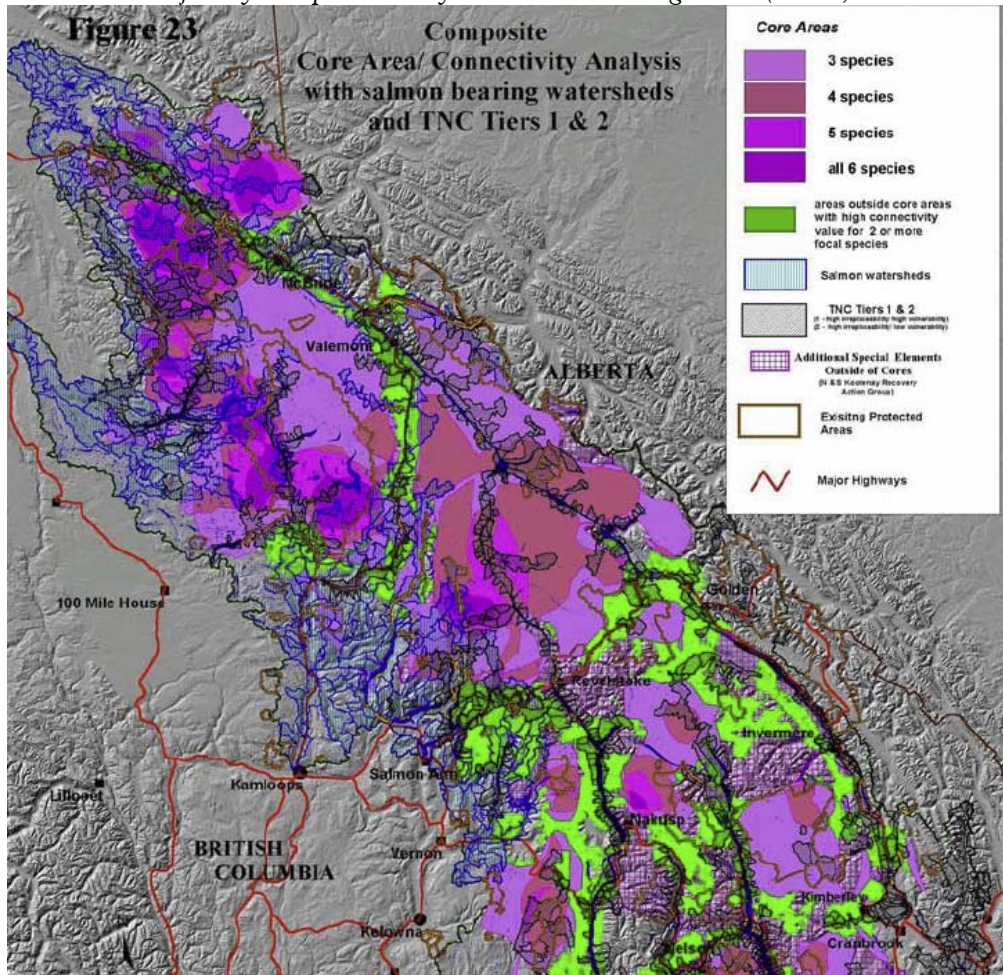


Figure 2: Core Area/Connectivity Analysis⁵

⁵ Craighead, Lance. A Conservation Area Design for the Inland Temperate Rainforest of Canada. 2004

2.4 TRENDS

2.4.1. INTRODUCTION

British Columbia is in an era of change, economically, demographically, socially, and environmentally. The impact of hosting the 2010 Olympic Winter Games is having an impact on the Province and on the CSRD and Revelstoke, bringing tourists, jobs and an economic boost.

The Government of British Columbia has identified “Five Great Goals”. One of the five is “Lead the way in North America in healthy living and physical fitness”. The Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan will provide support for the development of a greater number of opportunities for an active lifestyle in the region.

This information in this section will provide background to support discussions on the future of parks, recreation and culture in the region. The trends are divided into five categories: Demographic, Behavioural, Environmental, Infrastructure and Economic.

2.4.2. DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

The population of BC in 2006 was 4,113,487, which was an increase of 5.3 % over 2001. In contrast the population of Area B including Revelstoke decreased by 3.6 % to 7,936. The age characteristics of Area B and Revelstoke are very similar to that of BC as a whole, with the exception of the over 75 age group and children under five. Both of these areas have lower percentages than the rest of the Province.

The Official Community Plan for Electoral Area B, Bylaw 850, states that the area is “poised to enter a new and continued growth period with the development of the Revelstoke Mountain Resort”. This growth will put pressure on the demand for services and facilities including the provision of adequate parkland and open space.

Aging Population

The population of Canada and British Columbia in particular, is aging. The following facts highlight the declining birth rate and the aging of the country:

- Births: 479,800 in 1959; 342,175 in 2005
- Fertility rate in 1947 was 3.6 children; it is now 1.53 children
- Children 14 and under were 33% of population in 1961, and 17.7% in 2006 (16.5% in BC)
- In spite of 5.3% population growth, BC had 26,460 fewer children (14 and under) in 2006 than 2001
- Proportion of 65+ rose from 13.0% in 2001 to 13.7% in 2006 in Canada
- BC went from 13.6 to 14.6%
- As Boomers become 65+, proportion will go to 24% by 2031, then much more slowly to about 29% by 2056⁶

The largest segment of the population is the “Baby Boom” generation, those born between 1947 and 1966. The youngest Boomers turn 44 in 2010 and the oldest will be 63. This 19 year age cohort makes up over one-third of the Canadian population, and is the same proportion in Area B/Revelstoke. As a whole, Boomers are more affluent, tend to be more active than preceding generations, and think of themselves as younger than their parents at the same age. As they age, Boomers are shifting from activities such as tennis and aerobics to less strenuous ones such as walking, cycling, tai chi and yoga.⁷

It is anticipated that the baby boom generation will continue to be active and place a high demand on services. Their preferences will shift away from strenuous physical activities toward cultural activities.⁸

Local Implications: In Revelstoke there has been an increasing number of births per year since the 2006 census. In 2006, there were 370 children aged 0-4; whereas in 2010 there could be about 413. This trend should be monitored and taken into account when planning for future facilities and programs.

There is an increasing older adult population which will necessitate the continued provision of senior’s facilities and additional programs.

Changing Families and Households

Families are more diverse, with more common-law and lone-parent families. People are marrying later in life, an average of 5 years older since the 70’s. There

⁶ Don Hunter, “Trends” presentation BCRPA, 2009

⁷ David Foot. Boom, Bust & Echo 2000

⁸ British Columbia Recreation and Parks Association. Trends in the Recreation Culture and Parks Field 2006

has been an increase in one person households – 28% in BC in 2006. Young people (aged 20-29) are staying home longer from 32.1% of this age group living at home in 1986 to 43.5 % in 2006.

Local Implications: The increasing numbers of people living alone, in particular senior citizens, could affect preferences for increased opportunities for socialization through recreation. Accessibility and affordability for all types of families will need to be a priority.

Increasing Diversity

Immigration has shifted from Europe to Asia, especially in larger centers. Twenty seven percent of BC residents born were in other countries; half have come since 1991. Immigration continues to diversify, including Eastern Europe, Middle East and SW Asia, Latin America and Africa.

Local Implications: Although these immigration patterns have been largely in the urban centres, they may affect smaller communities, such as Revelstoke, as the population grows and employment opportunities arise.

2.4.3. BEHAVIOURAL TRENDS

Shift from Structured to Unstructured Activity

There has been a clear shift from formal and organized activities to more individualized and informal. People are increasingly choosing activities that can be done individually or in small groups, at a time of the individual's choosing, and often near or at the individual's home. This is reflected in the top five favourite physical activities for adults and youth in Canada as identified in the Canadian Community Health Survey. The top five favourite adult activities are: 1) walking 2) gardening 3) home exercise 4) swimming and 5) bicycling. For youth, the top five activities are: 1) walking 2) biking 3) swimming 4) running/jogging 5) basketball 6) hockey and 7) soccer.

With the possible exception of swimming, these activities can be done close to or at home. They can all be carried out at a personally convenient time and are generally unstructured. The only team sport found in either list is basketball; however, its inclusion is largely based on informal play rather than on formal organized team activity. In fact, registered sport participation levels fell to 34% in 1998 from 45% in 1992. In the case of swimming, most aquatic activity is drop-in water play or lap swimming. There is an increased interest in outdoor activities. New trail development consistently ranks at or near the top of public

surveys in terms of preferred new facilities. Young families are also looking for inexpensive, informal activities that can be enjoyed as a family unit.

Local Implications: With the increase in informal activities the demand for walking, running and cycling routes will increase. Swimming continues to be a favourite and should be encouraged by a wide range of recreational swim times at the pool. Despite the shift to informal activities, in Revelstoke children's soccer and hockey continue to be popular activities and should continue to receive City support through the provision of facilities.

Changing Preferences and Expectations

Another clear trend is the shift toward the experiential aspect of activities. People are seeking personal growth and meaning in the activities they choose. For example, the two fastest growth areas in tourism are cultural learning and ecotourism. People not only have high expectations for achieving personal benefits, but also that there will be a high quality of service in terms of quality of instruction, customer service, and facility cleanliness and appearance.

As the Baby Boomers age, they continue to have an interest and commitment to being active, but will turn away from more strenuous activities such as tennis and jogging to more moderate activities such as walking and yoga. Boomers are also showing an increased interest in culture, both in terms of attending performances and cultural venues, and in actual participation in art activities.

Local Implications: The increased interest in cultural learning is an opportunity for the City of Revelstoke to support and enhance its arts and cultural assets. And to develop art programs and opportunities, invest in public art and community enhancement.

Wellness and Chronic Disease Prevention

There is an increased importance being placed on the importance of physical activity as part of a healthy lifestyle, resulting in lower health care costs.

Numerous studies have shown that Canadians' most popular form of physical activity is walking. Residents of BC are the most active in the country and the East Kootenay/Columbia Region is the most active within the province.⁹

Local Implications: These trends support the development of trails, walking paths, and active transportation options throughout the communities as well as walking and hiking

9

www.interiorhealth.ca/uploadedFiles/Health_and_Safety/Healthy_Community_Environment/IHA_Guidelines_for_Local_Government/Mental_Health_Addictions.pdf

programs to encourage participation is an important role of the Parks, Recreation and Culture department.

Children and Youth Inactivity

The level of inactivity on the part of Canadian children has been increasing dramatically. Two thirds of Canadian are not active enough for optimal growth and development. Children are 40% less active than 30 years ago. The levels of obesity in children have also risen significantly. Obesity has quadrupled over last 30 years, from 2% to 9.5% of children classified as obese, and 26 % overweight, up from 12%. Studies have shown that children spend more than 6 hours a day in front of screens. All this inactivity contributes to health issues, including a rise in Type 2 Diabetes.

Local Implications: A partnership approach between the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department the School District and the community associations who currently support children and youth in Revelstoke is a method of addressing the issue of youth inactivity and obesity.

2.4.4. ENVIRONMENTAL TRENDS

A Growing Sense of Stewardship

The environment has remained on the agenda of individual British Columbians and other Canadians. This is evidenced by the public support given to the preservation and protection of natural areas, and the current pressures on the Province to upgrade provincial parks that are perceived to have deteriorated. The environment is a key consideration in the decision making related to parks and recreation.

Local Implications: The beautiful natural setting of Revelstoke and the proximity of provincial and national parks is highly valued by its citizens. The protection and preservation of the natural areas is of paramount importance.

Interest in the Environment

There is a growing interest in learning about the natural environment. Outdoor experiences are growing in popularity, but tend to be done within shorter timeframes and closer to home. There is a growing willingness of citizens to participate in projects to protect or restore sensitive environmental areas.

Local Implications: The residents of Revelstoke have a keen interest in the natural environment and many people have moved to the area to take advantage of the natural surroundings. There is an opportunity to engage local citizens and groups in activities such as stream restoration, removal of invasive species, and restoration of sensitive environments. Regional and local authorities may consider interpretive programs, signage and environmental education and information programs.

2.4.5. INFRASTRUCTURE TRENDS

Aging Infrastructure and Facility Shifts

A large proportion of BC's recreation, parks, and culture infrastructure is aging. The cost of renovating or replacing these old facilities is significant. There is a clear shift from stand-alone to multi-use facilities, often integrating youth and seniors components. The Federal/Provincial Infrastructure funding has been insufficient to replace old facilities and to build new ones, both indoor and outdoor. Recognizing that resource based communities follow a boom-bust cycle, communities should undertake planning for the replacement of facilities in the future.

Local Implications: Revelstoke has a fairly new Aquatic Centre (2005) and a number of other recreational facilities and parks. Some of the facilities including the arena and Centennial Park need upgrades.¹⁰ The community centre, the seniors centre, the golf clubhouse and the visual arts buildings are further examples of buildings needing immediate attention.

Trail Infrastructure

The development of trails in British Columbia has seen an increase over the past few years. This is due in part to recognition of the role of trails in promoting an active lifestyle. Trails are also an important component of “outdoor tourism”.

Active transportation systems are a major contributor to individual and community health. Ideally, walkway and bikeway connections should be made to indoor facilities and adequate bicycle parking should be provided. As the trail system expands, funding for trail infrastructure will become a function of parks, public works and the Ministry of Transportation.

¹⁰ Revelstoke and Area Community Portrait 2007

Local implications: Although there are several trail systems throughout the region there is a need for more multi-use and single purpose trail systems throughout Revelstoke. The cost could be significant, if not shared with other levels of government and community partners.

2.4.6. ECONOMIC TRENDS

Personal Economics

Reports show that household debt is at an all-time high and Canadian families are struggling to deal with day-to-day living expenses.¹¹ There is also a growing gap between haves and have-nots. The downturn in the economy in 2008-2009 resulted in considerable job losses. Young families are twice as likely to live in poverty as those over 65.

In today's uncertain economy, some people are looking at ways to minimize spending. Recreation may be considered a non-essential aspect of life, limiting personal spending on it. Studies show people with lower household incomes are less likely to participate in sport.¹²

Local Implications: The provision of low or no cost opportunities for participation in parks, recreation and cultural activities will encourage higher rates of participation by all demographics. Revelstoke has a significant number of young families, as well as a large seniors population that need low or no cost options for participation in recreational opportunities.

Municipal/Provincial Economics

British Columbia has witnessed strong economic growth in the few years preceding the downturn in the economy. The impact of the downturn had the greatest impact on resource and manufacturing based communities. There has also been a shift away from a reliance on natural resources to a more diversified economy. Tourism is also a significant economic generator, but was also affected by the overall worldwide economic downturn.

While parks and recreation have always fallen under the municipal umbrella, since the 1970s, a larger portion of responsibility for all public infrastructure has shifted to municipalities.¹³ Provincial and federal spending is increasingly being consumed by health care and education costs, reducing their contribution to services like parks and recreation.

¹¹ CGA. Where has the Money Gone: The State of Canadian Household Debt in a Stumbling Economy, 2009.

¹² Ifedi, Fidelis. Sport Participation in Canada, 2005.

¹³ Mirza, Saeed. Danger Ahead: The Coming Collapse of Canada's Municipal Infrastructure, 2007.

Property tax is the traditional funding mechanism for parks and recreation, but revenue from property tax often does not keep up with escalating municipal expenses. With competing budget pressures, local governments must often make difficult decisions about spending.

Local Implications: The City of Revelstoke needs to continue to work with the CSRD and other partners to develop an overall plan for the funding of future parks and trail construction and maintenance. Opportunities to partner with other levels of government, the Revelstoke Mountain Resort, Interior Health (IHA) and not for profit organizations should be pursued.

2.5 SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INPUT

Overview

As part of Phase 2 and 3 of the planning process, public workshops were held on December 3, 2009 and March 8, 2010 at the Revelstoke Community Centre. The workshops included a presentation on background information and the planning process, discussions on opportunities and constraints to be addressed by the parks plan, and a community mapping exercise. Workshops were also conducted with community stakeholders including Ministry of Forestry and Range, Ministry of Environment, ATV Club, North Columbia Environmental Society, Arena users, Arts Council membership, Curling club, and other agencies and community groups. On May 27 and 28, 2010, additional stakeholder consultations took place with arts and cultural organizations, recreation program providers and the School District.

A series of key themes or important issues that the plan should address emerged from the public and stakeholder input gathered. See the appendix for full transcripts of community input.

Key Themes

Trails

Trails emerged as a key area in which there is opportunity to improve the current system. There was a request for increased clarity and resources for the various types of trail users (cyclists, motorized vehicles, walkers, horseback riders, etc.), including specifying trails for each group, ensuring that trail uses are compatible on designated trails, and the importance of finding a balance in providing trail resources for all groups in an unbiased manner. There was general agreement that there should be a more

complete system of trails, particularly between city and recreational/rural areas. In addition, there were many comments that called for completion of the River Trail.

Balance Between Users

Further to issues around demand for trail user by various users listed above, there is an awareness that the highly recreational character of Revelstoke residents and visitors can sometimes lead to tension or conflict between user groups. There are a wide variety of recreational activities that take place in the region (kayaking, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, hiking, cycling, dirt biking, horseback riding, etc.) and participants highlighted the importance of balancing priorities for all user groups.

Motorized Recreation

Participants indicated that the need for designated motorized recreation areas is relatively high, especially due to the incompatibility of this type of recreation with other uses or residential areas (e.g. horseback riding, noise). Participants responded that there is a need for designated trails and a motocross track (to be replaced).

Environmental Protection/Habitat Connectivity

Environment protection emerged as a key consideration when planning for parks and trails. Participants felt it is important to be aware of sensitive areas and habitat connectivity, and to comply with Riparian Area Regulations.

Access to Information, Awareness and Education

Participants responded that access to information about all types of parks and trails in the region is important, including signage. There was a request for more education on recreational impacts, ecosystems, history and culture. Also, stakeholders who provide a variety of activities and services in the community noted the need for a more coordinated and comprehensive approach to the marketing and communication of all activities in Revelstoke.

Park Improvements/Recreational Amenities/Facilities

Although many of the comments focused on trails, some participants noted that it is necessary to protect and improve parkland (e.g. waterfront, decommissioned school sites) and also add to recreational opportunities near residential areas for activities such as volleyball, skateboarding, bocce ball, etc. There was considerable interest in an off-leash, fenced dog park within Revelstoke.

Support for Volunteer Organizations

Input indicated that there should be more support for volunteer organizations to organize and sustain recreational and cultural activities.

Arts & Culture Facilities

Input called for an increased focus on arts and culture, offering many ideas such as an integrated arts centre or performance space, more overall spaces available to artists, and attention for public art and heritage revitalization. In addition, at the March 8, 2010 stakeholder workshop, it was noted that the Cultural Strategy should be reviewed, updated and implemented.

Recreation and Culture Programs

Stakeholders indicated a need for recreation and culture programs for all ages, but in particular for youth (ages 13-19) and pre-teens (ages 9-12) particularly non-sports activities. It was noted that the current support provided by the City to non profit organizations, offering programs and activities, is essential to the continued success of those activities.

Funding & Implementation

The ability to access sufficient funding to implement the plan was identified as a key constraint. Participants recognized that there is a significant cost to many of the parks priorities and shared concerns that money would limit the success of a parks plan.

Private Property Issues

Participants noted that private property ownership could be a major barrier to access and acquiring lands. They also noted that there is a lack of understanding about ownership on the part of recreational users of some areas.

3. ASSESSMENTS

3.1 PARK CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

During previous City of Revelstoke parks planning processes, a Park Classification System was developed for the region and may be successfully applied to City parks planning, as well. The Park Classification System allows the characteristics of each park type to be easily understood, helps to define standard

levels of service and facilities for each category and helps to inform land use decisions.

- **Waterfront Park:** Provides access to and from the shores of lakes and waterways. Provides opportunities for beach activities, swimming, picnicking, canoeing/kayaking and where appropriate, boat launching.
- **Community Recreation Park:** Provides community-wide opportunities for intensive recreation including arenas, sports fields, and playgrounds, in a residential community setting. May include facilities related to new “extreme” sports.
- **Trails:** a linear corridor that provides opportunities for non-motorized trail based activities including hiking, bicycling, horse back riding, cross country skiing, in a natural setting. Multi-purpose trails, including motorized use, may be designated where deemed appropriate.
- **Conservation Park:** a natural area that provides for low-impact outdoor recreation opportunities such as nature appreciation and wilderness hiking. Focus is more on conservation and protection of natural values of the area.
- **Special Feature Park:** Protects and presents a locally or regionally unique and significant natural and/or cultural feature such as First Nations or early settlement history, or provincially red listed species. Levels of visitor use and development are contingent upon the capacity of the “special feature” to withstand use.
- **Neighbourhood Park:** Serves the recreational needs of local residential neighbourhoods. As neighbourhoods are typically organized around an elementary school, neighbourhood parks should be planned and developed in conjunction with school sites and schools may be used for joint uses, such as community recreation or cultural activities. Neighbourhood parks should provide a broad range of active and passive recreational opportunities, albeit at a smaller scale than community parks.

3.2 EXISTING PARKS AND TRAILS - CITY OF REVELSTOKE

Table 2: Existing City of Revelstoke Parks

Park Name	OCP Designation	Waterfront	Community	Neighbourhood	Conservation	Special Feature	Facility	Underdeveloped
Centennial Park	P4	✓	✓					
Queen Elizabeth Park	P12		✓					
Williamson Lake Park & Campground	P17	✓	✓					
Beruschi Park	P1			✓				
Kovach Park	P8		✓					
Moose Park	P10			✓				
Columbia Park	P5	✓		✓				
Moberly Park	P9			✓				
Big Eddy Park	P3			✓				
Big Eddy (Landlocked)	P2							
Columbia View Park	P6			✓				
Woodenhead Park	P18			✓				
Farwell Park	P7			✓				
Rotary Park	P13			✓				
Grizzly Plaza				✓		✓		
Heritage Garden at Revelstoke Museum				✓		✓		
Thunderbird Embankment	P14			✓				
Veteran's Memorial	P16			✓		✓		
Undeveloped Park	P15	✓	✓					✓
Nichol Road & Airport Way Neighbourhood Park	P11							
TOTALS (Primary Park Class)		4	4	14	0	3	0	1

Table 3: Proposed City of Revelstoke Parks

Park Name	OCP Designation	Waterfront	Community	Neighbourhood	Conservation	Special Feature	Facility	Underdeveloped
Trail Head (Connecting Thunderbird Park and Proposed Trails)	U			✓				
Bocce Ball Court (C.P. Railway Owned Land)	V			✓				
Trail Head (Adjacent to C.P. Railway)	S			✓				
Trail Head (Adjacent to Trans Canada Highway)	W			✓				
Trail Head (Adjacent to McKinnon Road)	T			✓				
Expansion of Designated Park Area in Big Eddy (Tum Tum Road)	B			✓				
Community Park Moses Creek (Waterfall)	A	✓		✓				
Community Park Across from Private Campground (Big Eddy Bridge)	C			✓				
Community Park with Access to Columbia River "Lagoon"	O	✓		✓				
Viewpoint Over Columbia River (Pearkes Drive North)	D	✓						
Formalize Existing Greenspace	E			✓				
Playground Adjacent to Trail System (Malcom Place and Allen Road)	F	✓		✓				
Neighbourhood Park Adjacent to Rail Right-of-Way (Proposed Trail)	G			✓				
Neighbourhood Park (Bridge Creek Development Land)	H			✓				
Community Park - Possible Mountain Bike Staging Area	I			✓				
Neighbourhood Park with Views of Illecillewaet River and Mount Revelstoke	J			✓				
Viewpoint Along Trail System (Camozzi Road)	K			✓				
Neighbourhood Park (Hay Road)	M			✓				
Viewpoint Along Trail System	L			✓				

(Beyond Proposed Arrow Heights Water Tower)								
Neighbourhood Park with Trail Connection (Nichol Road and Airport Way)	N			✓				
Viewpoint Overlooking Williamson Lake	R			✓				
Close Off Foot of Boyle Avenue to Create Park	P	✓		✓				
TOTALS (Primary Park Class)		6	0	22	0	0	0	0

Figure 3: City of Revelstoke Existing Parks - see appendix

3.3 CULTURAL ASSETS

3.3.1. RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL FACILITIES

The City of Revelstoke owns a number of facilities, operated by the City or by a non-profit organization.

- **The Revelstoke Community Centre:** This is a large community facility with a large multi-purpose space (7,442 sq ft) with a fully stocked commercial kitchen, and stage, two program/meeting rooms, a fitness room, a dance studio, preschool area, a lounge and large foyer as well as a multi-use newer Aquatic facility. The Community Centre is booked for large and small events, meetings and programs. The facility is in reasonable shape for its age (built in 1978).
- **Aquatics Facility:** The aquatics facility was added on the RCC in 2005. It contains a large wading/leisure pool, lazy river, 25 metre lane pool, a waterslide, a rock climbing feature, hot tub, steam room and sauna. A heat recovery, dehumidification system has been installed under a “Canada in Action” grant.
- **Seniors Centre:** This centre was added to the RCC, in the 1980’s with primary access through a separate entrance. Within the Centre is a large multi-purpose/banquet room, with large kitchen, a games room, office space, and several storage areas. It is operated by the Revelstoke Seniors Society and maintained by the City.
- **Okanagan Library:** Revelstoke Branch is located in space leased within the Community Centre. The Library is part of the Okanagan Library system and is open Tuesday to Saturday.
- **Revelstoke Forum:** This is a single pad arena with 1100 seats. Although the arena was built in 1967, ongoing maintenance and renovations have allowed the facility to continue to operate as a viable community ice facility serving hockey, figure skating and recreational skate. The normal life span for this type of building is 50 years, so consideration must be given to future replacement or extensive renovations.

- **Curling Rink:** The curling facility is attached to the arena and is also 43 years old. It is operated by the Revelstoke Curling Club and includes a snack bar area which is contracted out to a catering company.
- **Revelstoke Golf Club:** The golf club has been in existence since 1924 with the clubhouse predating the course to 1911. It is an 18-hole course, with a driving range and practice greens, situated on the banks of the Columbia River. The course is owned and maintained by the City and operated by the Revelstoke Golf Club Society. They have a five year renewable lease arrangement with the City. The restaurant is contracted out to a private operator. In order to fully benefit from the development of the RMR golf course, a higher quality golf experience will be needed at Revelstoke. This will require capital funding over the next few years.
- **Revelstoke Museum and Archives:** This facility is in the historic post office building, owned and maintained by the City, operated by the Revelstoke Museum Society (through an agreement).The City provides an annual grant of \$55,000 to the museum; however, the museum obtains most of its funding from other grant sources and revenues.
- **Visual Arts Centre:** The Visual Arts Society operates the Centre which is owned and maintained by the City. The Centre houses an Art Gallery, artist studios, a large woodworking shop, pottery kilns, and classroom/workshop areas. The Centre is housed in the former RCMP building, which is old and has space constraints. The building is poorly located and not accessible. While it does serve their purpose for now, in the future, the Arts Society would like more space for artists and art classes as well as a more accessible, visible, location for the Art Gallery.

School District #19 – Facilities in Revelstoke

- **Neighbourhoods of Learning Project (NoL):** This provincial program has resulted in a \$50 million school and community facility being built in Revelstoke. When complete it will include a Secondary School, an Elementary school, an Early Learning Hub, a 250 seat Theatre, a Gymnastics facility and a Youth Support Services area. The facility will open in phases commencing in November 2011.
- **Mountain View School:** Once the new NoL facility is complete, Mountain View School will close. A portion of the school is a historic building, with an extensive addition. This facility has been proposed as a

potential future home for the arts community. The school has a good-sized fenced green space which could become a valuable community asset. The school is currently used after hours by community groups. The school is currently used extensively after hours by community groups. The gymnasium is booked every weeknight (Mon-Thurs.) for sports activities including floor hockey, badminton, and soccer.

- **Mt. Begbie School:** This is the other elementary school that will close once the new school is complete. The school gym is used after school hours in the fall and winter by minor sports including ball, soccer, lacrosse, and well as by the Brownies.
- **Arrow Heights and Columbia Park Schools:** These are two other elementary schools with gymnasiums available for community use after hours.
- **Revelstoke Secondary School:** This school will be closed and torn down, once the new high school opens in 2011. Community activities currently run out of this building will move to the new facility. Community users will transfer to the new facility.
- **Farwell School:** This is a former elementary school currently occupied by Okanagan College and an Early Learning Hub. The ECD portion will be moving to the new Neighbourhood of Learning facility. Farwell school has a large, partially fenced green space surrounding the building. A community wading pool and neighbourhood park, maintained under an agreement by the DOKKY, are located across the street from this facility.
- **Big Eddy School:** This school has been closed as a school for about seven years. It is currently being used by various groups including the Revelstoke Boxing Association and scouts and guides.

The City of Revelstoke has a Joint Use Agreement with the School District dated December 1996. The Agreement is extremely outdated and should be reviewed by both parties. The City handles the bookings of the four elementary schools and the high school for evening use by community groups. The agreement allows for school use of the Aquatic Centre and the Revelstoke Forum for no charge other than the cost of extra lifeguards if required and/or instructors if required.

3.3.2. FACILITIES COMPARISON WITH OTHER BC COMMUNITIES

BC's municipalities supply a range of recreation opportunities and the numbers of facilities available in each location vary widely. The table below provides an overview of municipal facility provision reported by BC municipalities with populations between 15,000 and 45,000. The information provided analyzes quantity only, and does not account for size or quality of resources.

Table 4: Approximate municipal facility provision reported by select BC communities with populations of 15,000 – 45,000

Location	Revelstoke (pop. 8,000)	Penticton (pop. 31,909)	Campbell River (pop. 29,572)	North Cowichan (pop. 27,557)	Port Moody (pop. 27,512)	Courtenay (pop. 21,940)	Port Alberni (pop. 17,548)	Fort St. John (17,402)	Salmon Arm (pop. 16,012)	Central Saanich (pop. 15,745)
Aquatic Centre	1	1	n/a*	1	0	n/a	1	2	1	1
Arena	1	1	n/a	1	2	n/a	2	4	2	2
Arts Centre/ Auditorium	1	1	0	n/a	2	1	0	1	1	n/a
Curling Rinks	1	n/a	0	0	1	n/a	n/a	1	n/a	n/a
Community Hall/Centre	1	1	1	1	7	2	4	1	1	n/a
Fitness Studio	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1
Gymnasium	0	n/a	2	0	1	5	1	0	1	1
Seniors Centre	1	n/a	0	n/a	0	0	1	1	2	n/a
Squash /Racquetball	1	n/a	4	0	0	4	n/a	0	2	n/a
Tennis Courts – Indoor	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	3
Youth Centre	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	n/a	n/a
Community Gardens	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Off-Leash Dog Parks	0	n/a	n/a	7	4	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Outdoor Pools	0	0	1	2	2	1	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Skateboard Park	1	1	2	2	1	3	1	1	1	1
Soccer/Football Fields	4	7	15	9	9	8	6	2	5	2
Softball/Baseball Fields	12	6	21	14	9	8	22	17	6	6
Tennis Courts - Outdoor	4	19	15	9	9	4	5	2	n/a	n/a
Water/Spray Park	0	1	n/a	0	4	1	4	1	1	n/a
Volleyball Courts (Sand)	2	n/a	4	n/a	n/a	2	n/a	n/a	1	n/a

Municipal park provision reported by select BC communities with populations of 15,000 – 45,000

CivicInfo BC, 2009 Local Government Survey^[1] (information provided by municipal reporting and applies to municipal facilities only (excluding private)).

†Information supplemented by municipal staff reporting. Accuracy of this table is not guaranteed and should be used for reference

3.3.3. RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL PROGRAMS

Recreation and culture programs and services in the City of Revelstoke are offered by a combination of a large number of community non-profit agencies, societies, private companies and individuals, the School District, the Library, and the City. The number of direct, City run, programs is limited and are mainly in the area of aquatics. In addition there are a number of organizations that provide social, community and educational services which often overlap with “recreation and culture” particularly in the case of children and youth. These agencies include Interior Health, Community Connections Ministry of Child and Family Development and Okanagan College.

For cultural programs and services the main providers are the Revelstoke Visual Arts Society, the Revelstoke Theatre Society, Revelstoke Arts Council, the Revelstoke City Museum & Archives, the Revelstoke Railway Museum and the Nickelodeon Museum.

The key non-for-profit service providers are Revelstoke Child Care Society, Community Connections, Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy, and the Revelstoke Community Social Development Committee.

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department primarily acts as a facilitator of programs by providing space in the Community Centre for organizations, businesses and individuals wishing to offer programs. The Department also operates the arena, and books schools, sports fields and parks. The exception is in the area of preschool programs which are operated by the Department in the Preschool in the Community Centre. They offer a good variety for children aged 2 to 5, during weekdays, during the school year.

The Aquatic Centre offers swimming lessons for children and youth and aquafit classes for adults. The Fitness Centre is open on a drop-in basis and fitness programs are offered for adults and youth.

Programs for seniors are offered through the Seniors Centre and generally cater to older seniors. The activities are mainly sedentary in nature such as bingo, darts, and bridge, although they do have carpet bowling and a new Wii fitness game.

The Revelstoke Library branch offers free reading and activity programs for toddlers and children as well as some programs for all ages such as needlepoint, crochet and scrabble.

One of the issues is the coordination of services and the provision of information to the public on programs, services and events in the community. The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department produces seasonal brochures that provide an opportunity for organizations to promote their programs online. The brochure also includes a comprehensive directory of community organizations and a calendar of events. Although this brochure contains useful information, it may not be the most cost efficient and effective means of providing this type of information to the community.

Program Gap Analysis

Children

There are considerable services and programs provided for young children in Revelstoke. This is both in terms of childcare and early learning, including physical, social and intellectual development. Programs run year round on weekdays. There appears to be a lack of activities for children ages 6 to 12 in the evenings and on weekends, with the exception of sports.

Youth

Youth, aged 13-19 have few options to participate in organized or unorganized activities other than sports. Community Connections Youth Program does provide a limited number of activities, most of which require pre-registration, and are only available once a week. Community Connections also offer activities for pre-teens (ages 9-12), which take place one day per week after school at the Community Connections centre. They run a pre-teen day camp over the summer. All of the pre-teen programs have waiting lists.

There is a large void in participation options for pre-teen and teenaged children. Community Connections appears to be the only organization that offers non-sports oriented, social/recreational activities for these age groups. They are unable to offer more programs due to severe funding constraints. Although they have a good space in the basement of their building, they have insufficient funds to pay additional program staff.

Adults

For adults, there are some opportunities to participate in the arts (theatre or art classes), to take a fitness class, or join a sports league. There are no adult

swimming lessons offered at this time, only pre-booked private lessons. Early morning swim and aquafit are popular swim activities for adults. For older adults, the Seniors Centre offers activities, but there appears to be limited variety and few programs that involve physical activity. There is an opportunity for the City to become more involved in the provision of programs for this growing demographic.

4. VISION

The residents of the City of Revelstoke recognize the significant recreational, environmental and cultural value that they derive from the area in which they live. Taken together they recognize that these benefits support a very high quality of life that in turn drives a vibrant local economy.

With this understanding they wish to take action to provide access to a diverse range of recreational opportunities for a diverse range of user groups extending from the shorelines to high alpine areas, to preserve a diverse network of ecological greenspace and to support the cultural energy of the community in a way which is both cost-effective and sustainable.

Figure 4: City of Revelstoke Proposed Parks - see appendix

PART 2: RECOMMENDATIONS

5. CITY OF REVELSTOKE PARKS AND TRAILS

5.1 PARK ACQUISITION

Recommendation 1: Plan toward the acquisition of Parks and Open Space as envisioned by the Official Community Plan.

Revelstoke’s Official Community Plan recognizes that parks, trails and open space will have an increasingly important role as community density increases. The OCP provides a list of proposed park acquisitions in the form of parks, trails, plazas and other open spaces:

Proposed Park Acquisitions –Revelstoke OCP Schedule K	
A	Community Park Moses Creek (Waterfall)
B	Expansion of Designated Park Area in Big Eddy (Tum Tum Road)
C	Community Park Across from Private Campground (Big Eddy Bridge)
D	Viewpoint Over Columbia River (Pearkes Drive North)
E	Formalize Existing Greenspace
F	Playground Adjacent to Trail System (Malcolm Place and Allen Road)
G	Neighbourhood Park Adjacent to Rail Right-of-Way (Proposed Trail)
H	Neighbourhood Park (Bridge Creek Development Land)
I	Community Park - Possible Mountain Bike Staging Area
J	Neighbourhood Park with Views of Illecillewaet River and Mount Revelstoke
K	Viewpoint Along Trail System (Camozzi Road)
L	Viewpoint Along Trail System (Beyond Proposed Arrow Heights Water Tower)
M	Neighbourhood Park (Hay Road)
N	Neighbourhood Park with Trail Connection (Nichol Road and Airport Way)
O	Community Park with Access to Columbia River "Lagoon"
P	Close Off Foot of Boyle Avenue to Create Park
R	Viewpoint Overlooking Williamson Lake
S	Trail Head (Adjacent to C.P. Railway) Partnership with CPR
T	Trail Head (Adjacent to McKinnon Road) Coordinate with future development plans
U	Trail Head (Connecting Thunderbird Park and Proposed Trails)
V	Bocce Ball Court (C.P. Railway Owned Land) Partnership for other uses
W	Trail Head (Adjacent to Trans Canada Highway)

These OCP designations align with the findings of this Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan to provide a range of recreational opportunities at the neighbourhood, community, and regional scale. Recognizing that there are many

funding priorities for the city, it will be vital to seek innovative funding and park dedication opportunities to achieve these goals.

As new parks are added it will be important to prepare park management plans to guide individual acquisitions. Individual park management plans will provide:

- Inventory of existing park facilities;
- Inventory of existing environmental resources;
- Recommended locations for future park facilities;
- Budgets for capital and operating expenses, and;
- Opportunities for public input into park designs.

5.2 PARK FACILITIES

The following facilities have been identified as priority additions for the City of Revelstoke.

Recommendation 2: SITE PLANS FOR PARKS

Site plans should be developed for all existing parks in the City of Revelstoke before any new development takes place. All future park development requires a site plan. Site Plans are developed in consultation with community interest groups.

Recommendation 3: SKATEBOARD FACILITY

The current skateboard facility in Kovach Park should be renovated or relocated to provide challenging and safe experiences for users. Well designed skateboard facilities have proven to be valuable recreational assets for youth while at the same time providing durable community assets. A new skateboard facility should consider public visibility and potentially include a pump track.

- Confirm interest and demand for skateboard facilities within Revelstoke.
- Identify a suitable location and prepare a siteplan for the area.
- Public input process
- Construct skateboard facility and provide programming support for the first two seasons.

Recommendation 4: DOG OFF LEASH PARK

Extensive input was received from the community about creating more park spaces for people to enjoy with their pets. A comparison to similar-sized communities suggests that the City of Revelstoke may have fewer off-leash areas than comparable communities. There are many undeveloped or open park spaces in the City that could potentially be designated as off-leash areas. Revelstoke residents have also indicated an interest in off-leash trails.

It is recommended that the City identify future potential for off-leash areas – aiming to provide one off-leash dog park in each area that provide a mixture of experiences including trails, fenced open spaces and beach areas. Areas to consider may include: Columbia Park (off Basford Drive), Big Eddy, Central Revelstoke, South Revelstoke, Arrow Heights, and/or Resort Lands.

- Invite neighbourhood input prior to development of new dog parks.
- Public input process
- Develop dog park facilities at Basford Drive including: fencing, signage, kennels, exercise and training areas, and off-leash code-of-conduct information.

Recommendation 5: COMMUNITY GARDENS

Community gardens can be successful additions to a park network where they are developed in conjunction with community groups. Community Gardens can provide a social and educational opportunity for residents of all ages to participate in the local production of food. For residents without access to a private garden a community garden can provide an important outlet for production and a connection to neighbours with similar interests. Food production connected to school or summer camp programming can provide an important connection and understanding of the food production process and the importance of natural bounty to our own well-being.

- Confirm interest and demand for community gardening in Revelstoke.
- Identify suitable locations for community gardens within the Revelstoke park system.
- Develop community partnerships and garden use agreements that describe the expectations of the City and gardeners.
- Prepare a site plan and cost estimate for the implementation of community gardens.
- Identify in zoning bylaw - connect to development (UDB)

Recommendation 6: FRISBEE GOLF COURSE

Frisbee Golf is a popular and growing pastime that can be accommodated at a relatively low cost to the community. Frisbee Golf requires the installation of disk baskets and signage and does not otherwise limit the recreational use of open park spaces. It is recommended that a Frisbee Golf course be established on publicly owned land at Big Eddy.

- Confirm interest and demand for frisbee golf in Revelstoke.
- Consult with Neighbourhood Groups.
- Prepare a site layout for frisbee golf course on publicly owned land and confirm implementation costs.
- Construct frisbee golf course and provide programming support for the first two seasons.

Recommendation 7: BMX PUMP TRACK

BMX is a popular recreational activity. In addition the frequent recreational or casual use BMX also provides opportunities for riders to participate in organized

events throughout BC and across North America. Properly designed and well maintained facilities can provide a safe recreational outlet for young people in Revelstoke.

- Determine a location for BMX Pump Track
- Develop site plan for proposed park to identify long term development
- Consult with Neighbourhood Group in area.
- Confirm interest and demand for BMX and mountain bike facilities in Revelstoke. Engage interested residents in the design and promotion of this facility.
- Prepare a site layout for a BMX and mountain bike pump track at proposed park and confirm implementation costs.
- Construct BMX and mountain bike pump track and provide programming support for the first two seasons.

Recommendation 8: SECURE PARKLAND TO PROVIDE TRAILHEAD ACCESS POINTS INTO RECREATION DESTINATIONS OUTSIDE OF THE CITY

Potential Trailhead Locations

- OCP - "S" Adjacent to CPR;
 - OCP - "T" Adjacent to McKinnon Road;
 - OCP - "U" Connecting to Thunderbird Park;
 - OCP - "W" Adjacent to TC Highway.
- And
- Access Mount Revelstoke National Park behind Railway Museum
 - Access to Boulder Mountain Trails.
 - Access to Lake Revelstoke Area on the west side of the lake.

Planning should ensure that permanent access to recreation destinations located outside of the city. To achieve this, public access should be obtained and developed to provide trail access points for hikers, mountain bikers and horseback riders. These facilities should be considered where new development may otherwise sever access. Key destinations for trailhead access points include:

- Review development proposals to ensure access points to recreation destinations are protected and developed as trailhead locations.
- Consult with neighbourhood, environmental and internet groups.
- Identify existing parks to be used as trail access points.
- Develop key trailhead parks with facilities that may include: parking, signage, environmental information, bike lock-ups, benches, garbage facilities.

Recommendation 9: RIVER ACCESS LOCATIONS AND UPLAND FACILITIES

Boating is a very popular recreational activity. Boating recreation includes, but is not limited to kayaking, canoeing, fishing and power boating.

As demand for river use and access for reaching rivers increases, there is a corresponding demand for facilities like parking, boat ramps, moorage, etc. In the absence of proper facilities is it reasonable to expect not only a diminished recreational experience, but also damage to riparian habitats and erosion. These facilities should be designed to: increase awareness of and access to boat launch sites; provide durable upland facilities to support increased recreational access to the river, and; provide protection for habitat areas.

- Consider better managed Columbia River access and waterfront access that respect riparian areas and habitat.
- Identify formal and informal boat launch locations (motorized and non-motorized) and any issues related to each site.
- Prepare site development plans for individual boat launch sites including provision of parking, garbage collection, and signage.
- Fund and construct river access facilities.
- Work with partners on Columbia River use, access and facilities.

Recommendation 10: HORSESHOES PITCH

Stakeholder input indicated a desire to develop a Horseshoes Pitch. Queen Elizabeth Park has been identified as a preferred location.

- Confirm interest and demand for horseshoes within Revelstoke.
- Investigate previous horseshoes pitch locations and determine if still usable.
- Identify a suitable location and prepare a siteplan for the area.
- Identify funding resources.
- Construct horseshoes pitch and provide programming support for the first two seasons.

Recommendation 11: BEACH VOLLEYBALL FACILITIES

Beach volleyball continues to grow in its popularity with leagues and tournaments becoming more developed over time. Beach volleyball is a popular activity for youth and the provision of a suitable area may provide an important additional activity for this group. This would include:

- Confirm interest and demand for beach volleyball within Revelstoke.
- Identify a suitable location and prepare a site plan for the area.
- Construct beach volleyball area and provide programming support for the first two seasons.
- Revisit previous sites for potential upgrades.
- Identify potential funding resources.

5.3 TRAILS

Recommendation 12: ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION – PEDESTRIAN & CYCLE INFRASTRUCTURE

Develop an on-street cycle and pedestrian connection from Revelstoke Community Centre to Williamson Lake Park and a cycling connection to Highway 23 North and South.

This cycling connection has been identified within the Revelstoke Active Transportation Plan (Jan 2010). This link provides a direct connection between downtown and the Revelstoke Mountain Resort. Linking these nodes will provide an important transportation alternative that will grow in importance as

Arrow Heights and the resort grow over time. This recommendation will also provide an on street cycle and pedestrian facility to support direct links between Arrow Heights, RMR, and downtown.

- Seek city status as a bicycle friendly community.
- Prepare a preliminary design report, including the cost estimates, facilities and alignment adjustments required to implement this connection.
- Prepare an implementation phasing plan, as necessary, to facilitate construction.
- Identify external funding (MoT or similar) that may be available to offset implementation costs.
- Incorporate private educational and historical reference panels at strategic trail locations.

Recommendation 13: ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ~ BIG EDDY CONNECTOR

Develop an on-street cycle and pedestrian connection along Big Eddy Road to Big Eddy Bridge.

Also identified within the Revelstoke Active Transportation Plan (Jan 2010), this on street connector would allow Big Eddy residents to connect with all other parts of Revelstoke:

- Prepare a preliminary design report, including cost estimates, facilities and alignment adjustments required to implement this connection.
- Prepare an implementation phasing plan as necessary to facilitate construction. Identify external funding (MoT or similar) as may be available to offset implementation costs.

Recommendation 14: ILLECILLEWAET PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

Provide a pedestrian crossing of the Illecillewaet River at the approximate location of the old rail grade.

This pedestrian crossing would allow trail links to be made separately from the 4th Street bridge. A separated crossing would dramatically improve the extent, appeal, and safety of the trail network connections to Arrow Heights and RMR. The construction of a bridge in this location would also have a number of related benefits, including a redundant crossing in case of catastrophic failure of the 4th St bridge and an opportunity to link district energy.

- Prepare a preliminary design report, including cost estimates, facilities and alignment adjustments required to implement this connection.
- Community consultation
- Identify environmental impacts
- Fundraising for proposed crossing.
- Coordinate Trail connections for crossing to downtown and to Arrow Heights and RMR.

Recommendation 15: WILLIAMSON LAKE LOOP TRAIL

Develop a looped nature trail around Williamson Lake.

Williamson Lake Park provides recreational access for Revelstoke visitors staying at the campground and for local residents accessing the lake. The development of a loop trail will provide an improved park experience, enhancing the park as a recreational destination for all residents. The loop trail approximately 1.4 km in length will also provide an important link in the trail connection between Arrow Heights and RMR. Some portions of the proposed trail will be located on private land.

- Prepare a preliminary alignment and cost estimate for the proposed trail.
- Identify funding resources
- Community partnerships
- Confirm land ownership for all areas covered by proposed trail and confirm tenure. (purchase/lease)
- Construct Nature Trail and interpretive signage program

Recommendation 16: JORDAN RIVER TRAIL

Develop a nature trail along the West bank of the Columbia River from Big Eddy Bridge to Revelstoke Lake.

Included in the OCP Schedule K, this nature trail would extend approximately 2.2 kilometres. The trail would provide access from Big Eddy and to a significant recreational area in close proximity for all Revelstoke Residents.

- Prepare a preliminary alignment and cost estimate for the proposed trail.
- Identify funding resources
- Community partnerships
- Confirm land ownership for all areas covered by proposed trail and confirm tenure. (purchase/lease)
- Construct Nature Trail and interpretive signage program.

6. FACILITIES

6.1 GENERAL STRATEGIES

Recommendation 17: IMPLEMENT LIFE-CYCLE APPROACH FOR FACILITIES

A comprehensive life-cycle approach to planning upgrades in the future will help prevent premature failure of component parts and surprise costs associated with emergency repairs. The goal of life-cycle planning should be to increase the energy efficiency of facilities and to predict investment needed for ongoing facility maintenance. All facilities benefit from life-cycle planning, to better understand maintenance requirements and budget for required upgrades in order to: maximize service delivery to the public through the provision of high-quality, well-maintained facilities; avoid scenarios of early deterioration of facilities and parks; investigate opportunities for cost recovery.

- Develop a life-cycle maintenance plan for the arena and curling rink.
- Develop a life-cycle maintenance plan for the community centre and aquatic centre.
- Develop a life-cycle maintenance plan for other City owned culture and recreation facilities including the Visual Arts Centre and the Museum
- Complete on-going life-cycle evaluations for parks and amenities in Revelstoke.
- Create a high priority to identify funds to implement the life-cycle plan for the arena etc.
- Develop a xeriscaping and natural planting regime for all parks.

Recommendation 18: UNDERTAKE AN OPERATIONAL COST ANALYSIS

The introduction of a Maintenance Management System for facilities and parks will allow more accurate tracking of operational costs. These figures can then be used to determine appropriate fees and charges and levels of subsidy as may be necessary. It will also result in more efficient maintenance practices.

- Review the current procedures for monitoring maintenance systems in the facilities
- Submit budget request
- Fully implement the system already purchased by the City
- Consider dark skies lighting (solar powered) of parks and trails that increases safety (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design).

6.2 GOLF COURSE

Recommendation 19: IMPROVE THE GOLF EXPERIENCE TO ENSURE LONG TERM SUCCESS

The Revelstoke Golf Club will require capital investment in the course and clubhouse to retain and attract local and visiting golfers. Experience from similar

communities suggest that the provision of an additional golf course would encourage visiting golfers and provide greater opportunity to expand golf at the Revelstoke Golf Club as a destination attraction for the City, which would also benefit local golfers.

This investment should be designed to maximize the golf experience through the provision of high quality, well-maintained course and clubhouse, and attract new golfers to a re-vitalized course.

- Encourage development of planned RMR course and additional courses where possible.
- Review Capital and Operating Plans, prepared by the Golf Club Society.
- Develop a 10 year Capital Improvement Plan and identify sources of funding.
- Plan to engage a golf course designer to review the course layout for potential future improvements.

6.3 ARENA/CURLING RINK

Recommendation 20: DEVELOP A PLAN FOR ARENA/CURLING RINK REPLACEMENT

The Revelstoke Forum is now 44 years old. The normal life cycle of this type of facility is 50 years. Although some aspects of the facility have been upgraded over the years, it will need to be replaced or substantially renovated, likely within the next 10 years. Planning should ensure that the long-term future of an arena facility in Revelstoke is secure, and consider expenditures on arena renovations and repairs during the next 5-10 years.

- Complete upgrades that have been identified by staff as required.
- Review the capital investment plan for the arena and curling rink for 2010-2014.
- Undertake a Feasibility Study for the replacement of the entire facility
- Prepare a plan and detailed budget for replacement and demolition of the arena and curling rink.

Recommendation 21: INVESTIGATE PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FOR ARENA REPLACEMENT

Successful P3s can ease the pressure on local government spending while ensuring a facility meets the needs of the community. The Revelstoke Grizzly organization has expressed an interest in collaborating with the City with respect to the development of a new or renovated ice facility.

- Develop a P 3 policy and guidelines for private sector involvement in City projects.
- Initiate formal discussions with Grizzly Junior Hockey organization and other potential partners
- Prepare an RFP for a P3 for respective facilities

6.4 ADAPTIVE REUSE OF SCHOOLS

Recommendation 22: IMPLEMENT AND UPDATE AGREEMENTS WITH SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Neighbourhoods of Learning Project is now under construction. This new facility offers an excellent opportunity for enhanced community integration. The City of Revelstoke should be involved in the recreation and culture aspects of the facility, in particular the theatre and the youth space. Agreements should be confirmed to maximize opportunities for community use during after school hours, and a separate agreement setting out parameters for the use of the Theatre.

- Meet with School Board officials to explore opportunities for community use of the new facility.
- Meet with the Theatre Society to determine their requirements for the theatre and act as the liaison with the School District in theatre matters.
- Negotiate a new Joint Use Agreement with the School District for the new school facility; update the existing agreement for existing facilities

Recommendation 23: INVESTIGATE FEASIBILITY OF ADAPTIVE REUSE OF SCHOOLS

Mountainview School and Mt. Begbie schools will be closing in less than two years, and it is unlikely that the School District will require either school for educational purposes. In addition the former Farwell School will have additional space, once the child care program moves.

There is considerable interest in using the Mountainview facility as an Arts and Cultural space. It is therefore recommended that the City review the potential future use of the Mountainview building, based on the feasibility study conducted by the arts community. A business plan for this vision should be developed by the city to provide clarity about capital and operating costs of converting the school to a community facility. If feasible, this venue would provide a larger, more centrally located, facility for the arts community and other community associations.

The Mt. Begbie and Farwell Schools should also be assessed for their suitability for community use based on need and cost.

- Review the existing feasibility study on the Mountainview school facility to determine potential for community use and associated capital and operating costs.
- Conduct community consultation to determine interest and potential partnerships with non-profit organizations for all three locations.
- Explore opportunities for private sector involvement in the Mountainview facility e.g. art galleries, museums, restaurants, etc.

- Explore private sector interest in Mt. Begbie and Farwell, including the expansion of Okanagan College.

7. RECREATION & CULTURE

7.1 RECREATION PROGRAMMING

Recommendation 24: COORDINATE YOUTH ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES

Recreation and Culture provides an important role in the community by providing physical, social and mental benefits to people of all ages. There is an opportunity for the City to develop new programs at its facilities, particularly for youth by:

- Working together with a variety of community agencies and the School District to increase comprehensive youth programming;
- Supporting non-profit community programs through services in kind, space, equipment, etc;
- Increasing the quality and variety of recreation and culture programs for all ages;
- Continuing to offer subsidies to low income families for all municipal recreation facilities and programs.

Recommendation 25: INCREASE THE NUMBER AND VARIETY OF RECREATION AND CULTURE PROGRAMS.

Recreation and Culture provides an important role in the community by providing physical, social and mental benefits to people of all ages. There is an opportunity for the City to develop new programs at its facilities, particularly for youth.

- Work with community agencies to increase comprehensive youth programming.
- Support youth programs through services in kind, space, equipment, etc.
- Increase the number and variety of recreation and culture programs for all ages
- Continue to offer low cost swimming and skating for low income families whenever possible.

Recommendation 26: DEVELOP HEALTH, FITNESS, ARTS & CULTURE FOR OLDER ADULTS

The number of older adults in Revelstoke is increasing. It is important to supplement the programs offered at the Seniors Centre to support a healthy lifestyle in order to ensure that older adults have access to a variety of programs in the Community Centre and the Seniors Centre that will result in increased levels of physical activity, and to provide programs that appeal to older adults interested in arts pursuits.

- Ascertain the types of programs that interest seniors using a variety of means (survey, focus group, etc)

- Work together with the Seniors Association to develop a variety of low cost, age appropriate programs that focus on increasing physical activity.
- Work together with the Visual Arts Centre and Revelstoke Arts Council to provide programs that appeal to older adults interested in arts and heritage pursuits.

7.2 CULTURAL STRATEGY

Recommendation 27: UPDATE THE 2006 CULTURAL STRATEGY

The Cultural Strategy, which has never been adopted as council policy, is in need of updating to reflect current circumstances. Community attitudes, opportunities, and the economy have changed the plan was prepared in 2006. There are many opportunities through parks and recreation to integrate arts and cultural activities and features.

A new Cultural Strategy and Implementation Plan is being developed to guide the development of arts and culture in Revelstoke for the next ten years.

- Pursue funding opportunities to support the development of an updated Cultural Strategy.
- Consider opportunities to integrate arts and culture into parks and recreation through the Cultural Strategy.
- Engage the local arts and culture community in the development of the updated Strategy.
- Present to City Council for endorsement.

Recommendation 28: INVENTORY OF CULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT SITES

Public survey results showed support for protecting culturally significant sites. Parks and greenspaces can provide opportunities to preserve and raise awareness about heritage and First Nations cultural sites, providing a glimpse into the history and culture of a community. Culturally significant sites can celebrate the City's heritage and culture through preserving historic and unique features.

- Work with First Nations, community organizations, other levels of government and industrial partners to prepare an inventory of sites of cultural significance, specifying the level of protection desired.

Recommendation 29: IMPROVE COORDINATION WITH RECREATION, ARTS & CULTURE SERVICE PROVIDERS

The City of Revelstoke and the surrounding CSRD Area B is currently served by a significant number of non profit and government organizations providing a large variety of recreation and arts and culture services. Increased coordination and consultation among these groups would be beneficial and can result in more effective use of limited resources, improving information sharing and the

provision of coordinated programs and services. This coordination will reduce gaps in service provision, and provide improved access to the extensive expertise within the City and improved access to grants.

- Initiate quarterly meetings with recreation, arts, and culture service providers
- Investigate opportunities for collaboration with CSRD Area B for program delivery of grant opportunities.
- Investigate opportunities for collaboration in program delivery and grant applications

7.3 RELATED INITIATIVES

Recommendation 30: IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM REGISTRATION AND BOOKING SYSTEM

The City of Revelstoke does not currently have a computerized system in place to track participation in programs or events at their facilities. A system is required so that staff can identify gaps and surpluses in program provision. This analysis will increase efficiencies in planning and funding investments. This approach recognizes that community needs and desires will change over time and will help increase community satisfaction by accommodating parks, recreation and culture interests.

- Purchase an industry proven computerized software registration system that is capable of accommodating online registrations
- Implement the system –start with facility bookings, then registration
- Ensure new system provides systems for reports, publicity, marketing tools, budget management and other tools necessary to manage a recreation department.

Recommendation 31: REVIEW EXISTING FEES AND CHARGES

Review parks, recreation and culture fees and charges to ensure that they support the City’s objectives for customer service and cost recovery. Are existing fees fair and do they promote access to parks, recreation and arts and culture by all members of the community. Do existing fees balance the provision of affordable recreation with revenue recovery to ensure high-quality parks, recreation and culture services continue to be provided.

- Review user fees now and every two to three years. Increases should be considered to match the cost of inflation related to service delivery.
- Consider opportunities to host events that help facilitate recreation low-cost provision (e.g. gear swap event)

Recommendation 32: ANALYZE STAFFING LEVELS

Consultations with staff suggested that the current staff complement in Parks, Recreation and Culture is less than in previous years. Although the population has not increased, the nature of service delivery may be changing. A number of

recommendations in this Plan will result in a higher level of service, and some operational efficiency. Additional staff may be required to implement some aspects of this plan, in particular the delivery and co-ordination of recreation, arts and culture programs. This review should ensure that staff has the capacity to provide regular ongoing operations, program development, maintenance and improvements, and provide staff time and resources necessary to provide high quality services.

- An initial analysis of the staffing levels at all facilities should be undertaken as soon as possible to determine the existing capacity to provide the desired levels of service
- The Department should perform an annual review of staff capacity to consider demands for each new year and the appropriate staffing model
- Identify gaps in service provision and why

8. RESOURCES

8.1 PARK, RECREATION AND CULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Recommendation 33: REVIEW THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO CONFIRM THAT ITS MANDATE IS ADEQUATE TO OVERSEE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PLAN.

Many municipal governments throughout the province have established advisory committees to support the community integration of park recreation and cultural services. Advisory committees provide broad representation of recreational and environmental stakeholders and can be an invaluable asset in providing guidance such as:

- Implementation and monitoring of the Plan;
- Input to staff and council on parks and recreation issues, policies and programs;
- Representation for parks and recreation, culture, planning, public safety, heritage, and development;
- Dissemination of information about parks and recreation to related groups and the general public; and
- Assistance to staff for the organization of volunteer activities, public relations and communications.
-

To assist in providing future parks, recreation and cultural planning, the City should:

- Review and revise terms of reference for the Advisory Committee, as needed.
- Identify future tasks for the Advisory Committee.

To support a collaborative implementation process for parks recreation and culture, the City should work with community organizations, the regional district, and provincial and federal agencies, to develop an interagency committee that can provide advice and direction on the implementation practices. Such a committee would:

- Provide a platform for cross communication between agencies;
- Identify inter-jurisdictional issues that require collaborative solutions;
- Provide information about ongoing efforts of individual agencies, and;
- Provide strategic direction on current and future recreational priorities.

8.2 SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Recommendation 34: SUPPORT EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Many park trail development projects would not happen without the efforts of local residents, stewardship organizations and volunteer committees. In Revelstoke, community support park enhancement and conservation. User groups such as hiking and mountaineering clubs, equestrian groups and mountain biking clubs are also enthusiastic supporters and participants of park projects.

Collaboration with conservation organizations allows for a wider range of potential environmental conservation options than would be available to the City through their own resources.

The City should support and cultivate partnerships with community organizations to meet the goals of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan.

- Review all current and potential community partners, endeavouring to expand partnerships to a wider range of organizations.
- Meet with community partners to identify a list of potential projects and define partnership agreements.

Recommendation 35: DEVELOP VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS TO ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE.

Volunteers are recognized as an active force with a history of protecting greenspaces and creating or improving recreational and cultural opportunities. Examples of volunteer programs can include:

Volunteer programs are more successful when sufficient staff resources are dedicated to supporting volunteer efforts. Modest investment in staff resources can provide significant payback. Organized, quality programs that are well advertised encourage people to contribute within their community.

- **Park Volunteers:** Assist with monitoring and managing of specific parks.
- **Program Volunteers:** Provide program services to the community at no or low costs to encourage participation in recreation.
- **Project Volunteers:** Contribute to the development of a particular project that utilizes their specific skills or has meaning to them.
- **Youth Volunteers:** Students and youth are often willing and able to participate in parks and trails development, programming or operations.

To objective of a volunteer policy would be to encourage people to participate in parks, recreation and culture to benefit both the community and the individual, and to engage people in parks, recreation and culture to inspire a greater sense of ownership and community pride.

To implement a volunteer program the City should allocate sufficient staff time and resources to research and develop volunteer programs. Tasks that may be necessary include:

- Identifying volunteer opportunities;
- Responding to queries about volunteering;
- Meeting with school groups, service organizations, clubs and individuals to discuss volunteer opportunities;
- Training and supervising;
- Investing in liability insurance;
- Documenting the benefits of volunteer programs, reporting effectiveness and revising programs accordingly;
- Developing volunteer recognition programs;
- Partnerships with Revelstoke Mountain Resort;
- Programs on safety in the backcountry winter/summer

Recommendation 36: COORDINATION WITH PROVINCIAL AGENCIES

Work proactively with the province to communicate the details of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan.

Some sites of recreational interest and trails identified by the community are located on land controlled by the province. The City can work with the Province to communicate the details of this plan so that opportunities for land transfers, leases and joint management agreements can be identified with respect to potential park, recreation or trail sites. To support this effort the City should identify sites and recreational resources currently controlled by provincial agencies, and identify tenure or other joint management agreements to facilitate the recreational interests of the community.

- Develop an inventory of identified park and trail sites on crown lands.
- Work with provincial land managers to confirm appropriate links between the City's parks and trails, and those managed by the province.

Recommendation 37: TOURISM STRATEGIES ~ SPORT, RECREATION, HERITAGE & CULTURE

Revelstoke has an extensive outdoor resource base and natural setting that attracts tourism. Opportunities to demonstrate the City's draw as an outdoor recreation destination should be explored. A park, recreation and culture system that offers unique and enjoyable outdoor experiences will significantly increase tourism within the community should:

- Create and promote a parks and recreation identity that encourages tourism and supports economic development.

Major events such as sports tournaments and athletic events like triathlons or mountain bike races can highlight the unique opportunities that the City has to offer.

- Explore avenues to increase recreation and cultural tourism in the community.
- Inform people about the tourism opportunities that the City offers.

Recommendation 38: PRIVATE RECREATION

It is important to recognize that the City does not have the financial capacity to independently satisfy all recreation interests. Private recreation facilities can supplement recreation opportunities; however, these businesses are driven by profit. To encourage private recreation to develop in the area, the City could:

- Provide taxation incentives for recreation providers;
- Support rezoning or variances where proposed facilities provide desirable community resources; and
- Work to improve the recreational tourism appeal of the community to encourage private enterprise.

To encourage expansion of private recreation beyond the City’s funding capabilities the Revelstoke should:

- Consider providing incentives for development applications that provide private recreation.
- Advertise the region as a destination for recreation-based business.
- Implement strategic upgrades as recommended by life-cycle planning to ensure facilities remain efficient and continue to provide high-quality experiences.

8.3 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Recommendation 39: LANDSCAPING WITH NATIVE PLANTS

Native plants describe those plants that have evolved over long periods of time to best fit the characteristics of a specific geographic location (e.g. climate and soil type). The assemblage of plants in a region is part of its unique natural heritage and once lost it is difficult and sometimes impossible to recreate. Native plants maintain biodiversity because they are well-adapted to the landscape and to the wildlife species that have historically used them for food, nesting sites and materials.

Recommendation 40: INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES MANAGEMENT

Invasive plants are alien (not indigenous to the region) plant species that have the potential to negatively impact humans, animals or ecosystems. Negative impacts of invasive plants include: reducing biodiversity by outcompeting a wide variety of native plants; affecting forestry operations by competing with seedlings for

light, nutrients, and water; reducing soil stability and water quality; and reducing crop yields.

- Increase awareness on the identification of invasive plants and their impacts.
- Re-vegetate disturbed areas with native, non-invasive, non-persistent seeds or plants.
- Design and implement an early detection and rapid response program for the removal of invasive plant species that incorporates education, detection and focused response efforts.

Recommendation 41: WATER CONSERVATION STRATEGIES

Parks, recreation and culture projects should take a responsible approach to protection of the lakeshore and water resources. If designed sensitively, parks and recreation projects can protect and enhance aquatic areas.

- Look for opportunities to seamlessly integrate rainwater and stormwater management facilities within existing and future parks.
- Consider water resource implications when planning and developing new park projects. Seek opportunities to reduce water consumption in park facilities, notably related to irrigation. New projects should consider at minimum use of: Drought-tolerant plant species; Low-flow irrigation techniques (e.g. drip, rain sensors, off-peak watering, xeriscaping); Reduced turf areas within increased soil depth.

Recommendation 42: ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP EDUCATION

Parks and greenspaces are an important link to the natural world that surrounds us. Particularly for young people, there is a significant opportunity to encourage a closer connection between academic and recreational programs and the parks within their community.

Increased awareness of the sometimes precarious nature of the natural world encourages a more positive connection to the park and greenspace network. Where parks may otherwise be taken for granted there can be increased understanding and personal responsibility.

- Support the development of an environmental stewardship program that encourages ownership and personal responsibility among young people.
- Encourage the use of parks as a laboratory for community organizations or school groups interested in developing an Environmental Stewardship Program.

8.4 INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION

Recommendation 43: DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A CONSISTENT SIGN STRATEGY FOR THE PARK, RECREATION AND CULTURE SYSTEM.

Since a portion of the City's economy is based on tourism, providing clear signage and mapping that assists newcomers to the community is very important.

A commonly cited issue related to the use of parks in the region is that there is not enough information available about parks and trail locations. Well-signed parks and trails are an attractive and effective method to communicate information about available recreation locations, to facilitate wayfinding and to help reduce risks and conflicts between users.

The objective of the signage strategy is to:

- Increase the amount of information on publically accessible park, recreation and cultural sites.
- Effectively identify public areas, minimize encroachment on private property and facilitate public wayfinding to key destinations.
- Develop an aesthetic, clear and durable sign standard.

To implement this recommendation the City should:

- Create a signage strategy and develop a cost-effective, standard design.
- Begin signing existing parks, trails and recreation resources throughout the region – plan to sign 5 existing parks or trails per year. It is recommended that the most prominent parks receive signage first.
- Require new development areas to supply signage for parks and trails.

Recommendation 44: INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION

People often fail to use public recreation and cultural resources because they are not aware of what is available to them. Awareness garners community support, encourages public use, supports tourism and increases civic pride. The objective of better public information is to:

- Ensure community members are aware of recreation opportunities available.
- Provide easily accessible information that reaches all segments of the community.

To implement this recommendation the City should:

- Increase the amount of information available on parks and greenspaces, including maps, signage, ownership and stewardship.
- Expand the parks webpage to enhance information provided. Consider developing a ‘clickable’ parks, recreation and culture map and database, providing regular updates and interactive postings.
- Proactively share the Plan and its priorities with federal and provincial agencies, conservation organizations, local businesses, educational institutions and other potential partners.

8.5 RESOURCES AND FUNDING

Recommendation 45: PARKLAND ACQUISITION FUND

Implement a yearly per parcel property tax levy to fund the acquisition of priority parks as described in the OCP Schedule K.

A parkland acquisition fund can help to acquire publicly valued land for recreation or conservation. This type of fund provides relatively stable income, allowing municipalities to undertake long-term planning for land acquisition. These conservation bylaws require home owners to pay a tax calculated on their assessed home value into an acquisition fund. Land acquisition funds have been successfully implemented by the Capital Regional District (CRD), the Regional District of East Kootenay (RDEK), and the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD).

- Review revenue generation options for Parkland Acquisition Fund;
- Develop a proposal for Council review on the implementation of additional measures to support an acquisition fund.

Recommendation 46: PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS

Local governments have jurisdiction to provide tax exemptions as an incentive for landowners to protect natural features through the placement of conservation covenants on portions of their property. The covenants prevent current and future land owners from activities that could cause harm to the covenant area, thus protecting the ecosystem values of the land. In exchange the land owner is provided significant property tax savings.

- Develop a property tax exemption bylaw for residents.

Recommendation 47: DONATIONS AND FUNDRAISING

Develop a structure to encourage fundraising, donations, commemorative giving and/or in-kind donation for park, recreation and cultural sites.

Corporations, organizations and individuals who use and care for parks, recreation, conservation and culture are often willing to contribute financial or material resources to a park endowment fund that accepts gifts to be used solely for parks and conservation purposes. An organized and efficient donation program helps to provide opportunities for acquisition, maintenance and conservation, and ensures that the community sees results of the donations. Commemorative giving and donations need not be overly standardized or regulated. A successful program should be adaptable to unique opportunities. Examples of popular giving opportunities include:

- **Donations:** Providing a register of projects requiring fundraising allows the public to contribute to projects that are meaningful to them.
- **Amenities:** Benches, picnic tables, vegetation or playground equipment are common commemorative or donated amenities.
- **In-Kind Donation:** Opportunities for organizations and individuals to donate time, materials and services to parks and recreation projects.

To implement a program of this type the City should:

- Develop a park endowment fund with guidelines for advertising and management.
- Consider fundraising campaigns for large projects.
- Create clear recognition systems to ensure people receive credit for their contributions.

Recommendation 48: PARKLAND DEDICATION AT SUBDIVISION

To implement park acquisition plan outlined in the OCP (Schedule K), the municipality should direct its park dedications to support this acquisition strategy. Section 941 of the Local Government Act enables municipalities to require a dedication of up to 5% of site area for open space if a property is being subdivided. This helps balance new development with provision of parks and natural areas for the community. The City should work with developers to ensure park dedication meets both the needs of the community and the new development area. The 5% parkland dedication should not include provision of local trails or dedication of land that is deemed unsuitable for development (e.g. natural hazard lands, environmentally sensitive lands). Natural hazard lands and environmentally sensitive areas not appropriate for development may be accepted by the municipality to manage as park or protected through covenant outside the 5% dedication.

- Provide developers with guidelines to facilitate provision of desirable parks and natural areas.
- Carefully review all subdivision park dedication proposals and weigh the proposed benefits of against the vision of the Plan.
- Where proposed dedications will not meet neighbourhood objectives, accept cash-in-lieu.

Recommendation 49: DEVELOPMENT COST CHARGE BYLAW

Adopt a Development Cost Charge Bylaw to support the implementation of capital projects for Parks and Trails. As the population of Revelstoke continues to grow the demands on existing park infrastructure will continue to grow. In

many circumstances parks that were previously undeveloped or underdeveloped will now be subject to damage, erosion, and safety concerns as use increases.

While taxation for parks is sufficient to provide ongoing maintenance and capital replacements for existing infrastructure this funding source is not sufficient to provide improved facilities as may be expected by an increasing population. The following park and trail projects are identified as candidate Development Cost Charge projects:

To implement a Development Cost Charge bylaw the City should:

- Prepare capital estimates for the recommendations included with this Plan document.
- Review capital recommendations and confirm Council support for the proposed implementation plan.
- Draft a Development Cost Charge bylaw and prepare for Council Adoption
- Confirm capital estimates for inclusion with a Revelstoke DCC bylaw.

Recommendation 50: COMMUNITY AMENITY CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions negotiated through rezoning provide amenities or capital funding that support growth and densification. Examples of typical projects that are funded through amenity contributions include waterfront walkways, open spaces and plazas, parklets, community centres, heritage and cultural amenities, landscaping, stream preservation, and sensitive ecosystem protection. A funding formula may be developed by staff as part of implementation based on current conditions and circumstances. While it is beyond the scope of a park master plan to provide the detailed recommendation, Section 904 of the Local Government Act enables municipalities to obtain phased amenities through zoning.

Three methods of negotiating amenity contributions for parks and recreation should be considered:

- **Density Bonus:** Permits a specified higher density in developments that provide community amenities in accordance with conditions defined in the zoning bylaw.
- **Zoning Condition:** The municipality may request amenity contributions for rezoning to minimize capital cost burdens of new development on community resources. Zoning conditions allow negotiation of amenities as a condition of zoning that is proportional to the new development.
- **Cash-in-lieu Contribution:** Negotiated rezoning or density bonus can be provided in exchange for a cash contribution to a fund dedicated to providing community amenities.

Recommendation 51: SENIOR GOVERNMENT FUNDING

The Province of BC, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Government of Canada and a multitude of other government and non-government organizations regularly offer grants that provide capital or planning money. Parks and recreation projects can secure funds related to non-vehicular transportation, public infrastructure, the environment, sustainability initiatives and parks and recreation improvements.

Grant opportunities can provide a large source of funds for parks and greenspace projects. Identification of opportunities and high-quality applications are key to successful grant applications.

- Review and evaluate grant opportunities regularly against the priorities and goals identified in this Plan and the Community Development Action Plan.
- Allocate staff time to identify and pursue grant funding opportunities.
- Develop grant applications for projects that are priorities for the community. Be prepared to supplement funding through reserves if opportunities align with identified priorities.

Recommendation 52: COORDINATION WITH INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES

Major infrastructure improvements such as street or utility upgrades, public building development or stormwater projects often overlap with trail connections or other parks and recreation projects. Opportunities may exist to develop trail connections, public open space or public recreation facility space when other capital projects are undertaken. Identify where community improvements overlap and can be tied together to efficiently facilitate parks projects.

- Street or utility upgrades should coordinate with the recreation and parks departments to identify potential parks or trail connections.
- New public building planning for services such as fire or police services, libraries or museums should consider park and recreation elements.

Recommendation 53: MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS FUNDING

As parks and facilities are added to the system, budgets for maintenance and operations should increase accordingly. Without maintenance, it takes very little time for infrastructure and parks to degrade. Degradation leads to increased costs for renewal and undermines community pride.

- Analyze anticipated maintenance and operations increases for proposed projects prior to development.
- Increase staffing levels to meet accommodate additional delivery of programs, facility and park expansion and maintenance increases.

9. IMPLEMENTATION

9.1 ADAPTATIONS TO REVELSTOKE OCP IMPLIED BY THIS PLAN

The following statements may be incorporated in Revelstoke's Official Community Plan to support the implementation of this Park and Recreation Plan.

PARKS AND TRAILS

The development of a network of park and recreation facilities is guided by the following vision:

“The residents of the City of Revelstoke recognize the significant recreational, environmental and cultural value that they derive from the area in which they live. Taken together they recognize that these benefits support a very high quality of life that in turn drives a vibrant local economy.

With this understanding they wish to take action to provide access to a diverse range of recreational opportunities for a diverse range of user groups extending from the shorelines to high alpine areas, to preserve a diverse network of ecological greenspace and to support the cultural energy of the community in a way which is both cost-effective and sustainable.”

To achieve this vision the community recognizes the need to preserve and protect cherished open spaces and trail connections that allow Revelstoke's residents and visitors to enjoy its outstanding natural context.

Community Goals

To maintain a well-integrated and linked system of parks, trails and recreational facilities serving the needs of residents and visitors both inside the City and in the surrounding areas. This network should be managed collaboratively with community stakeholders, recreational and environmental organizations, and with BC Hydro, the Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Parks Canada and RMR.

New Policies Arising from this Plan

- To acquire strategic and cherished open spaces as have been identified by Revelstoke's citizens and described in this Community Plan (Schedule K);
- To identify funding sources to support the realistic acquisition of strategic open spaces;

- To develop park facilities that support active recreation throughout the park system. These facilities would provide enjoyment through organized activities and by providing access to natural amenities such as wilderness trails, waterfront, and open spaces;
- To provide a connected trail network that encourages access from throughout the City. This trail network should be easily accessible, well signed and well maintained to encourage access for Revelstoke's many visitors;
- To work toward a well integrated active transportation network that encourages residents to travel throughout the city as pedestrians and by bicycle;
- To provide a pedestrian crossing of the Illecillewaet River to connect urban areas to the recreational trails;
- To recognize the significant role of volunteers and community organizations and to support the activities of these groups.
- To recognize the value of recreational infrastructure to Revelstoke's tourism industry and to develop partnerships to enhance facilities for the benefit of tourists and residents;
- To support maintain the environmental integrity of public green spaces, and to continue to develop park maintenance practices that respond to natural conditions, control the spread of invasive species, and promote water conservation.
- To provide stewardship education programs that promote a positive land ethic among Revelstoke residents.
- Provide information about parks and trail facilities that help to make these facilities accessible for all residents and visitors

Existing OCP Policies to be Retained

- Maintain the high quality, diversity and management of existing parks and green space while considering the ongoing expansion opportunities to meet the needs of neighbourhoods, the community and visitors;
- Extend and enhance all-season recreational and commuter trail networks to accessibly link together neighbourhoods, important community destinations and focal points;
- Create an integrated and expanded River Trail system;
- Facilitate accessibility for all park users consistent with accessibility standards; and
- Manage wildfire fuels in City owned forested parks.
- Work with and support local trail user groups to create and maintain a comprehensive trail inventory to ensure trail connectivity is maintained when new areas are developed.

- Collaborate with BC Hydro to ensure the continued implementation of the Upper Arrow Reservoir Drawdown Zone Management Plan and the Columbia River Water Use Plan.
- Continue to improve facilities and programs to be accessible and meet the evolving needs of the community, consistent with the City Financial Plan and accessibility standards.
- Prohibit motorized users on City trails and City owned parks and greenspace, except for motorized wheelchairs or mobility scooters.
- Continue to evaluate the quantity and quality of active sports fields.
- Encourage joint use of school facilities by the community.
- Explore funding mechanisms for the creation and preservation of active and passive parks.
- Work with sports organizations to develop ways to meet their needs and operational requirements.

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Revelstoke has a variety of existing recreational facilities that have been developed by the community over many years. To support the sustained development of these facilities the community should plan for future needs and plan for capital replacement.

Community Goal

To provide an affordable and sustainable range of recreational facilities which can be renewed and improved over time.

Policies

- Develop a comprehensive life-cycle approach to planning upgrades to prevent premature failure of component parts and unexpected emergency repairs;
- The implementation of a Maintenance Management System for facilities that will allow more accurate tracking of operational costs.
- Encourage development of a new golf course that will support golf tourism and bring new golfers to Revelstoke which will in turn support the Revelstoke Golf Course;
- Develop a Plan for Arena/Curling Rink Replacement
- Plan the long term future of the Arena/Curling Ring to ensure that the long-term future of an arena facility in Revelstoke is secure
- Consider public/private partnerships to support the development of a replacement arena facility

- Develop collaborative agreements with the School District and the Neighbourhoods of Learning Project to maximize opportunities for community use during after school hours, and a separate agreement setting out parameters for the use of the Theatre.
- Investigate Feasibility of developing Mountain View School as a community arts facility and the opportunities for future community use of Mt. Begbie and Farwell schools.
- Develop strong connections to nature in all developments with diverse recreational and cultural experiences.

HERITAGE, ARTS & CULTURE

Our community heritage is showcased in the civic Museum and Archives, the Railway Museum and the BC Interior Forestry Museum, which are all run by community non-profit societies. A private museum of mechanized musical equipment augments these community efforts

The arts and culture scene is lively with fourteen volunteer groups hosting theatre, music, visual arts, festivals and speaker events throughout the year in a number of different venues. The Visual Arts Centre is the only dedicated public arts infrastructure in the community, with one staff position. The lack of a performing arts centre was a major gap in community facilities, however the new theatre being constructed by the School District will begin to address this gap.

The volunteer Community Arts Council is the umbrella organizing group providing leadership and support for arts, culture and heritage. In 2006 the Council lead the creation of a Cultural Strategy, which is being updated in 2011. Public art is encouraged through a City policy and Committee.

Activities for teens, youth and seniors have been identified as gaps in community services.

Community Goals

To develop Revelstoke as a celebrated cultural community with residents and visitors engaging with our authentic arts, culture and heritage. And develop community facilities that showcase arts and cultural activities and events.

Policies

- Provide a rich array of cultural activities with adequate facilities and resources to showcase the community and entertain residents and visitors, consistent with the community's new, updated, Cultural Strategy.
- Design and manage community heritage, arts and culture facilities to facilitate four-season resident and visitor enjoyment of arts and culture and to encourage interaction and shared activities.
- Improve City facilities and programs to be accessible and meet the evolving needs of the community, consistent with the City's Financial Plan.
- Support and provision of facilities and exhibiting opportunities, including the use of outdoor public space, for local artists and crafts people.
- Promote an open community by requiring (non-strata) resort and recreation amenities to be accessible to the broader community (with or without user fees).
- Enrich the public environment and promote awareness, understanding, access and enjoyment of art as part of everyday life for residents and visitors through public art installments.
- Enhance activities for teens and youth.

9.2 CAPITAL PLANNING ESTIMATES

The recommendations described in the previous section are intended to provide an outline of steps to be taken to enhance the delivery of park, recreation and cultural services by the municipality. Taken together these recommendations provide immediate benefit in response to current needs and a framework for planning enhancements to the existing park system.

The implementation matrix provided on the following two pages is intended to provide an initial outline of how these recommendations may be implemented over the ten year timeframe of this document. Estimates of costs are provided for general reference, but it is anticipated that a detailed scope of work for each project would be identified and appropriate budget adjustments incorporated prior to the commencement of individual projects.

The following items should be considered in reviewing this implementation matrix:

- Capital projects are included together with planning and feasibility assessments. In many cases the feasibility assessments are important initial steps to support future strategic investments;
- A range of budget estimates is provided. The median of these two is assumed to forecast the 10 year implementation plan;
- Some of the projects will require external funding and estimates of external contributions for each project are provided
- Projects have been prioritized on a five point scale such that High priority projects are expected to commence during the first year of the plan;
- A project duration is indicated. For some of the larger projects this multi-year duration indicates the expectation that project funding would need to span several budget cycles;
- Inflation at 2% is factored into multiyear budgeting.

This implementation plan has been developed based on input from the public, staff and the project steering committee over the course of the plan development process. It is anticipated that the priorities would be reviewed at the beginning of each new budget year, and that budget estimates would be updated based on current available knowledge.

Although this plan has indicated a variety of funding opportunities, the implementation plan has not allocated amounts to individual sources. The development of parkland acquisition funding, DCCs, etc Are expected to unfold based on council priorities. Once the funding opportunities are confirmed the prioritization of projects can be finalized.

- New goal: The implementation of this plan will include an analysis of the CSRD Area B Park and Trail Master Plan and others regarding trail connection opportunities and related items. To be completed in one year.
- Coordinate cohesive grant application to CBT and others through community partnerships.
- Collaborate with Parks Canada and provincial parks on mutual Parks, Recreation and Culture strategies and develop common master plan.

10. APPENDICES

10.1 REFERENCES

BC Hydro. Upper Arrow Lakes Drawdown Zone Management Plan. 2007.

Boulevard Transportation Group Ltd. Revelstoke Active Transportation Plan. 2010

British Columbia Parks and Recreation Association (BCPRA). A Time for Renewal. 2009

City of Revelstoke. Official Community Plan. 2009.

Commonwealth Historic Resource Management. A Cultural Strategy for the City of Revelstoke. 2006.

Conservation Data Centre (CDC). BC Species and Ecosystem Explorer.
GeoBC. Spatial Analysis Branch. Coastal Programs. Marine Protection Area. 2009.
<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/omfd/ocean-resources/mpa.html>

EBA Engineering. Conceptual Planning and Geotechnical Feasibility Assessment for Revelstoke River Trail. 2000.

Meidinger and Pojar (eds.). Ecosystems of British Columbia. 1991.
<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfd/pubs/Docs/Srs/Srs06.pdf>

Mountain Labyrinths Inc. Revelstoke and Area Community Development Action Plan. 2009.

Pojar, Jim. A New Climate for Conservation: Nature, Carbon and Climate Change in British Columbia. 2009. <http://www.davidsuzuki.org/publications/reports/2010/a-new-climate-for-conservation-nature-carbon-and-climate-change-in-british-colum/>

Urban Systems. The Revelstoke Greenway. 1992.

Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
<http://www.millenniumassessment.org/documents/document.354.aspx.pdf>

Biodiversity Offsets Program
http://bbop.forest-trends.org/documents/PwC_BBOP_UNEPFI_FINAL%20040310.pdf

International Year of Biodiversity 2010.
<http://www.cbd.int/2010/about/>