

MEMORANDUM

TO: Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee
FROM: Ian Kennedy, Supervisor Major Parks West
DATE: March 2nd, 2023
SUBJECT: **Point Pleasant Park Operations Update**

The supervisor of Major Parks West is responsible for; 5 parks (Point Pleasant Park, Hemlock Ravine, Sir Sandford Fleming, Shaw Wilderness Park and Linear Trail), 2 cemeteries (Camp Hill and Fairview) as well as providing Civic Event support as a member of the Special Events Taskforce. In a typical season, seasonal and student staff return in early May bringing the total staff compliment to fourteen (14).

Ongoing regular maintenance typically includes daily garbage and litter pick-up, road/drainage maintenance, grass whipping and mowing, selected removal of invasive plant species, and the repair and painting of park benches and litter bins. As well staff is responsible for snow plowing and sanding of main roads in winter months, along with 30 other locations outside of PPP. Staff this winter has focused efforts on maintaining roadways, and culverts to prevent washouts and ensure proper drainage. With the level of rainfall present this Winter, along with routine temperature drops, it is essential to keep the roads clear of standing water. The removal of aging, hazardous, and invasive trees on behalf of staff and urban forestry has continued, as now is an optimal time for safe felling.

The operation has seen a shortage in staff over the Winter due to reasons beyond our control, but Point Pleasant remains priority in our focus. The 10-week Co-Op Placement we took on from J. L. Ilseley High School ended in January, and the experience proved to be a beneficial both for the Student and Major Parks. Moving into the Spring/Summer Season we aim to have Seasonal Staff back to full capacity in order to meet the operational demands of Point Pleasant Park. Unfortunately there will be no Student Staff this Summer season, but the operation will endeavour as always.

Operations projects completed or to be completed in 2023:

- Facilitating the installation, selection, and placement of NSCAD Student Art Installation for 3 weeks in April 2023.
- Access Road to Northwest Arm along Pumping Station to be filled in for regrowth this Spring. Unofficial railway created for manhole construction that currently crosses private land.
- Replacement of damaged decorative lamp post in Lower Parking Lot
- Culvert replaced on Sailor's Memorial Way between Heather Rd. and Black Rock Beach. Area to have a 'grate' installed by the contractor to further prevent storm surge from clogging culvert.
- Repair of Lower Lot Barrier Gate that sustained damage in 2022, and Installation of Barrier Gate in Upper Parking Lot to facilitate operational demands.
- 4 Speed Bumps planned for installation in Lower Parking Lot to reduce speeding and prevent future damage to Park amenities.
- Focus on Road work for areas requiring extensive regrading, and additional material. This is both to maintain roadway integrity, and to prepare for NAIG Cross Country Race in July.
- Phases 1 and 2 of the Forestry Thinning Project are since Completed as of Fall 2020. Tender was issued for completion this Fall (2022) but will now be moved ahead to Fall of 2023.

Ian Kennedy