

MEMORANDUM

TO: Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee
FROM: Ian Kennedy, Supervisor Major Parks West
DATE: Thursday July 6th, 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. During Winter Staff is responsible for plowing and sanding of main roads in the park, along with 30 other locations outside of PPP.

The removal of aging, hazardous, and invasive trees on behalf of staff and urban forestry has continued through Spring into Summer - numerous trees identified for removal along park perimeter, parking lots, and roadways. Tree Removal was halted in early June due to Wildfire situation but will commence in July. Staff made commendable efforts to ensure all Major Parks were closed to the Public during the Wildfire's as well as a speedy delivery of reopening Major Parks. Seasonal staff have done extensive work on the repair and painting of wooden benches throughout the park, a record number of benches have seen repair. The welcomed rainy season during the last few weeks has put an increased focus on drainage, culverts, and wash outs along trails and pathways. With prompted foliage growth staff has also begun opening the tree canopy and clearing sides of trails.

Seasonal staff has returned, but we have yet to meet full requirement of staffing - Ongoing hiring should see these vacancies filled by end of Summer. The Major Parks operation is managing the lack of Summer Student Staff incredibly well, but we look forward to the return of Summer Student staff next Year. June through August is peak Special Events season which requires focus outside of PPP operations to meet the requests and obligations of the SETF Taskforce.

Operations projects completed or to be completed in 2023:

- 5 Kiosks to be removed from PPP and replaced with new Signage infrastructure and updated Park Map Signs.
- Green Square Litter Bins replaced with Iron Ornate Black Bins to match with the Lower Parking Lot – Multi-sort bins removed from Upper and Lower Lot as well.
- Commemorative Bench Program installations have begun and multiple new black iron benches will be placed along shoreline this Summer.
- 2 additional culverts to be installed along Sailor's Memorial Way – Lower Parking Lot Park Entrance & Bottom of Prince of Wales
- Access Road to Northwest Arm along Pumping Station to be filled in for regrowth this August. Unofficial railway created for manhole construction that currently crosses private land.
Postponed due to Dry Season in Spring
- 4 Speed Bumps to be installed July 2023 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. Resurfacing of Arm Road and Cambridge Drive being planned with Contract Supervisor to propose for future Capital Project.
- Phases 1 and 2 of the Forestry Thinning Project are since Completed as of Fall 2020. No Tender will be issued for Phase 3 in 2023, as this project was cut from the Budget. Completion planned for Fall 2024.

Ian Kennedy