



MEMORANDUM

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

The focused removal of aging, hazardous, and invasive trees on behalf of staff has continued into Fall Season – resurfaced knotweed and rosa multiflora sites identified for removal. Many Jack Pine ‘snags’ have been located and removed through September/October – Unable to determine at this time if this is weather/climate related or due to disease/insects; Staff arborist is monitoring other jack pine in the park. Two girdled copper beech trees on Heather Rd. were identified by the public in September. It was concluded that both trees were vandalized some time ago. Overhang cutbacks along Point Pleasant Drive, and Franklyn Street are underway, as well as canopy and roadside cutbacks in areas throughout Park. Road work continues through the Fall to appropriately prepare the Park for Winter Maintenance. The roadways and paths in the park saw considerable material loss and damage to ditches/culverts during the unexpected rainy season in August. Staff has made considerable efforts in repairing all aspects of road infrastructure in the park and will continue to do so into November. Awaiting the arrival of a replacement vehicle unit that will bolster our Winter Maintenance abilities during the 2023/2024 Season.

Park staff is now situated at 5 Full Time employees as last week saw the exit of our 2023 Seasonal hires. Looking forward to their return in 2024, as they all proved themselves to be valuable members of the Major Parks team - Spring/Summer of 2024 will also see the return of our Summer Student Staff.

Operations projects completed or to be completed in 2023/2024:

- Additional “Motor Vehicles Prohibited” Signage and Infrastructure to be installed to mitigate continued vehicle traffic from Young Ave. onto Lodge Road
- “Smoke Free Space” signage installed throughout Park in response to Service Requests and increased level of Smoking witnessed by Staff.
- 2 additional culverts to be installed along Sailor’s Memorial Way – Lower Parking Lot Park Entrance & Bottom of Prince of Wales (Fall 2023)
- Working with HRM Contract Supervisor on a Capital Proposal for resurfacing and regrading of major roadways in PPP – Cambridge, Shore, and Sailor’s Memorial
- New Speed Limit Signs to be installed in Lower Parking Lot (30km/h Maximum)

Ian Kennedy