



MEMORANDUM

TO: Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee
FROM: Ian Kennedy, Supervisor Major Parks West
DATE: January 3, 2024
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 continues through the Winter months. Additional Jack Pine 'snags' have been located and will soon see removal – Unable to determine at this time if this is weather/climate related or due to disease/insects; Investigating with Staff Arborist and discussing with Urban Forestry as to the cause and whether this is isolated or happening elsewhere in HRM. Winter focus remains on maintaining roadways, and culverts to prevent washouts and ensure proper drainage. PPP saw extensive roadway degradation from 2023 rainfall, so efforts to retaining road infrastructure are essential this time of Year to prevent standing water in cold weather. December storm before Christmas saw further damage to the shoreline, high tides lead to further encroachment onto green space along Sailor's Memorial - Efforts to remove rock and debris have commenced now that ground has hardened due to colder temperatures. Awaiting the arrival of a replacement vehicle unit that will bolster our Winter Maintenance abilities during the 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 2024:

- Targeted Masonry work on exterior stone walls that have degraded or been damaged by vehicles. (Summer 2024)
- Forestry Thinning Project Final Phase (Fall 2024)
- Additional "Motor Vehicles Prohibited" Signage and Infrastructure installed to mitigate continued vehicle traffic from Young Ave. onto Lodge Road
- 2 additional culverts to be installed along Sailor's Memorial Way – Lower Parking Lot Park Entrance & Bottom of Prince of Wales (Spring 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 installed in Lower Parking Lot (30km/h Maximum)

Ian Kennedy

Parks, Recreation and Culture

Tel: 902.943.1397

Email: ian.kennedy@halifax.ca