TRIBUNE BAY PARK RECREATION ENHANCEMENTS

Project Overview

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

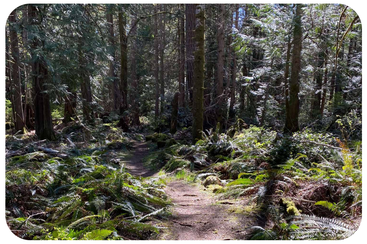
In 2021, BC Parks acquired two properties to expand Tribune Bay Provincial Park on Hornby Island. Since then, BC Parks has been creating a long-term plan for the new park areas, as well as improvements to the existing park property. The expanded park will protect additional lands and offer opportunities to enhance natural, cultural, and recreational values at the park. The park improvements include enhancing the park's existing facilities for an improved visitor experience.

Planning has included a focus on topics such as:

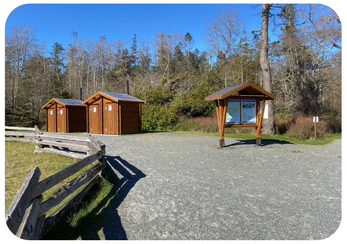
- Improving the ecological health of the site,
- Providing outdoor recreation opportunities for British Columbians of all ages and abilities,
- Respecting the land and Indigenous history, and
- Supporting sustainable tourism opportunities.

There has also been consultation with First Nations and engagement with the public and stakeholders throughout the process. Building on the information gathered through site assessments as well as conversations with the community, BC Parks has prepared a design for park improvements that includes:

- Enhancing and protecting wetland values,
- Preserving areas with mature tree cover,
- Upgrading trails to provide inclusive trail access to the shoreline,
- Enhancing accessibility,
- Redesigning transportation corridors in the park to reduce congestion at existing park entry points and surrounding community roads, and
- Providing a range of campsites including walk-in sites, vehicle campsites and bunkies while keeping the overall number of campsites the same.



Katimavik Trail



Tribune Bay Park Existing Amenities



Tribune Bay Beach Views



Tribune Bay Campground

PROJECT TIMELINE

We Are Here

Winter 2021	Spring 2022	Summer 2022	Summer 2022- Fall 2023	Fall 2023	Fall 2023 - Winter 2024	April 2024	May 2024	May/June 2024	Oct 2024-May 2025	Oct 2025-June 2026
PHASE 1	**PHASE 2**	**PHASE 3**	**PHASE 4**	**PHASE 5**	**PHASE 6**	**PHASE 7**	**PHASE 8**	**PHASE 9**	**PHASE 10**	**PHASE 11**
Early Public Engagement	Public Engagement & Environmental / Archaeological Assessments	Reporting Out What We Heard & Answers to Frequently Asked Questions	Draft Management Guidance & Continued Site Assessments	Shared Updated Management Guidance & Draft Site Design Concept	Upgrade Water/ Electrical Systems & Develop Shields Road Trail	Information Sharing Session	Reporting Out on Information Sharing Session & Feedback	Tender for Construction	Phase 1 Implementation (Walk-in sites)	Phase 2 Implementation (Vehicle campsite improvements)

INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT
BC Parks is consulting with all First Nations with interests in this area. This consultation is active and ongoing.

TRIBUNE BAY PARK RECREATION ENHANCEMENTS

BC Parks

Past Engagement Overview

ENGAGEMENT TIMELINE

- **December 2021** — In-Person Public Information Session with Community Groups & Neighbours #1
- **April/May 2022** — Online & Hard Copy Survey, In-Person Information Session with Community Groups & Neighbours #2 & #3
- **June 2022** — What We Heard Report Shared
- **October 2022** — Draft Management Guidance Shared & In-Person Information Session with Community Groups & Neighbours #4
- **June 2023** — Updated Management Guidance Shared & In-Person Information Session with Community Groups & Neighbours #5
- **October 2023** — Project Website Updated & Recreation Site Plan Shared
- **April 2024** — We Are Here — Public Information Session — **We Are Here**
- **May 2024** — Reporting Out on Information Sharing Session & Feedback

ENGAGEMENT PARTICIPATION

75 on-site engagement participants

206 online + hard copy survey participants

70 email responses/ comments received

2700 visits to the project website

WHAT WE HEARD

KATIMAVIK TRAIL

Concerns about impacts to Katimavik Trail:

- Proximity to proposed campsites.
- Desire to keep existing conditions/ character of trail.

PARKING

Parking concerns including:

- Number of parking stalls needed.
- Parking lot was considered too large and location was thought to be too close to Katimavik Trail and affecting natural values.

CAMPING

Comments about camping opportunities including:

- Need for more privacy in existing campground.
- Desire to not increase the number of campsites.
- Desire for low-impact camping opportunities including walk-in and bike camping.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Concerns about potential environmental impacts of the camping enhancements including:

- Tree removal required to build campsites.
- Potential impacts or disturbance to wildlife and rare species/ ecological communities.
- Potential impacts to hydrology and wetlands.

TRAFFIC CONGESTION

Concerns about impacts to traffic on Shields Road including:

- Increased traffic on Shields Road from campsite.

WHAT WE DID

We have made adjustments to the plan including:

- New walk-in campsites will be relocated at least 30m from the trail to provide a vegetated buffer to block sounds and views.
- Campers using walk-in sites will use a separate access trail, so that Katimavik Trail users are separated from walk-in campsite pedestrian traffic.
- Keeping the most of the trail as-is with accessibility improvements to the trail surface and width only at key sections (i.e. access to the beach). See the Concept Plan.

We have made adjustments to the parking layout including:

- Reducing the number of proposed new parking stalls, while still providing adequate parking for campers. Providing some parking for walk in-sites is required and is intended to mitigate other problems that would arise if no additional parking were available, such as overflow parking on the road.
- Moved the location of the walk-in campsite parking lot to a previously disturbed location, and further away from the Katimavik Trail.

We have made adjustments to the camping plans including:

- A more private camping experience is planned for the existing camping area including re-vegetating areas with native species and providing more dispersed campsites.
- The overall number of campsites will remain approximately the same as existing.
- The plan has reduced RV/vehicle campsites and replace them with walk-in campsites. The goal is to promote sustainable tourism and transportation and to reduce impacts to ferry capacity and vehicle traffic.

We have taken measures to reduce impact including:

- Recreation site plan designed using detailed information gathered from site-specific assessments of hydrology, wildlife trees, ecological and cultural values.
- Revising site design plans for walk-in camping area to protect wetlands and hydrology, ecological values and mature/ significant trees.
- Initiating invasive species removal from newly acquired property.
- Developing environmental management plans for construction that include sensitive timing windows for migratory breeding birds, bald eagles, and other species to guide project timelines and minimize impacts.

We have made adjustments to the plan for Shields Road including:

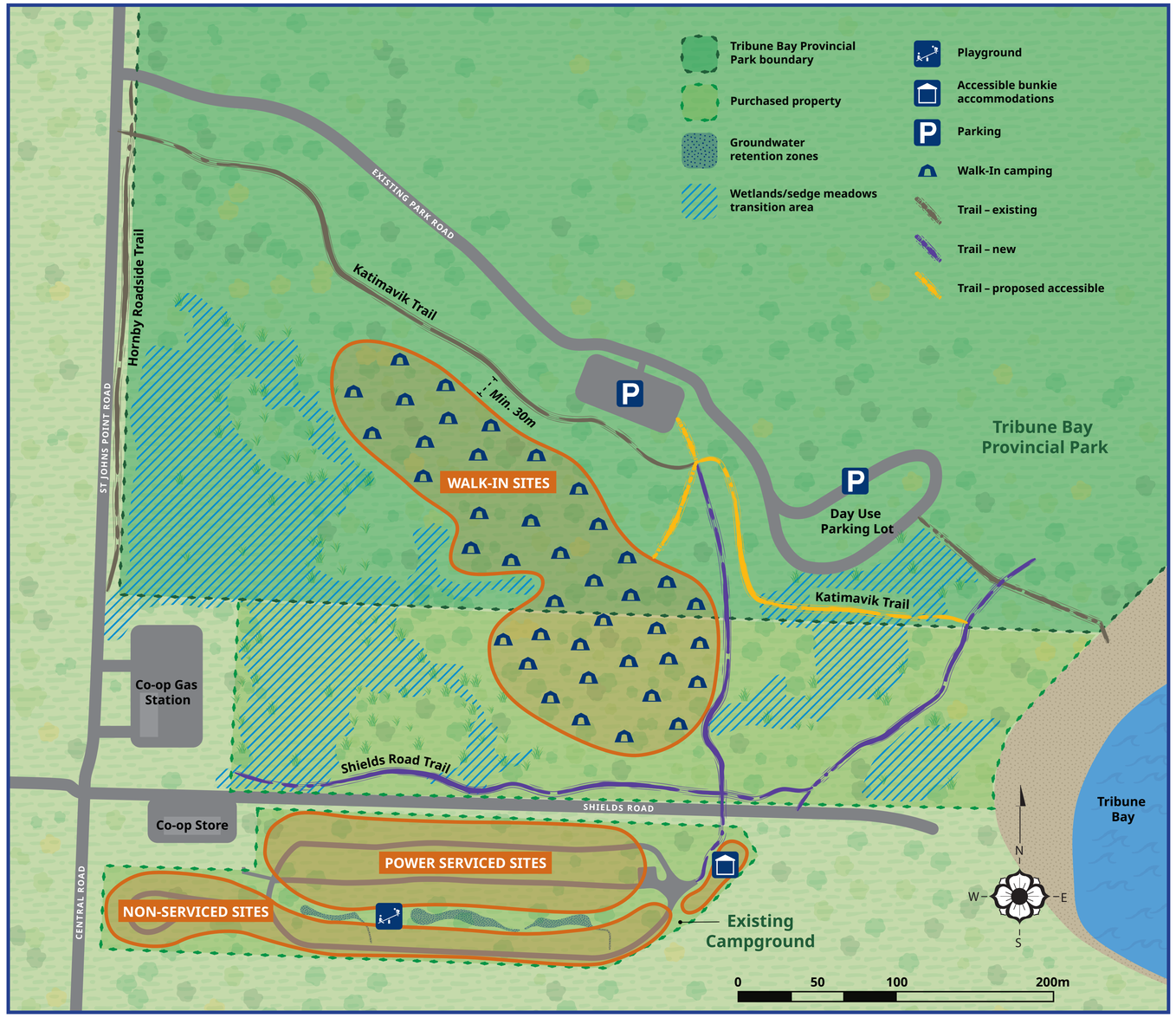
- The campground will have a self registration model which will reduce traffic congestion and line ups of vehicles.
- A trail adjacent to Shields Road will result in improved public safety by directing foot traffic off of the road.

TRIBUNE BAY PARK RECREATION ENHANCEMENTS

Concept Plan

This concept plan illustrates the culmination of professional knowledge of the site conditions and also responds to the comments and feedback received during engagement. Campsite locations are for illustrative purposes only and will be field fit during construction.





SHARE YOUR COMMENTS HERE

TRIBUNE BAY PARK RECREATION ENHANCEMENTS

Recreational, Community, & Operational Considerations

RECREATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

The addition of parkland to Tribune Bay Park will ensure recreation opportunities and other park values are protected in perpetuity. It will support the public desire for quality camping experiences while managing important ecological values and local use. BC Parks' Commitment to Inclusion states "our vision is that B.C's provincial parks are welcoming and meaningfully accessible to all."

The proposed recreation enhancements will:

- Provide a range of camping opportunities including walk-in/bike-in sites, vehicle camping and bunkies enhancing the camping experience overall, while maintaining approximately the same number of sites dispersed between park-beside and walk-in camping areas.
- Provide inclusive access to key park amenities for all ages and abilities by providing accessible camping opportunities and trail upgrades to provide better accessibility.
- Contribute to Hornby Island's sustainable tourism economy while reducing impacts to the community and transportation systems (i.e. shifting approximately half of the existing campground's capacity from park-beside sites to walk-in sites).

ACCESSIBILITY:
Means that people regardless of age, size, ability, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity are able to access, experience and use the features and facilities. Definition adapted from: Centre for Excellence in Universal Design (CEUD)

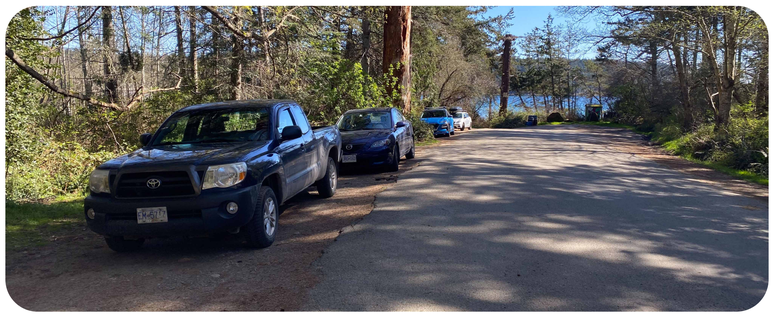
INCLUSION:
The practice or policy of providing equal access to opportunities and resources for people who might otherwise be excluded or marginalized, such as those who have physical or intellectual disabilities and members of other minority groups. Definition from: Oxford Dictionary

COMMUNITY CONSIDERATIONS

Hornby Island is home to over 1200 residents. Tourism is the main economic activity on the island, with Tribune Bay as one of the greatest attractions.

Considerations have been taken to reduce impacts to the community including:

- Minimized impacts to Katimavik Trail by designing a 30m minimum buffer between the new walk-in campsites and the trail.
- The campground will be operated as a self registration model to reduce camper traffic on the road.
- Creating walk-in/bike-in campsites and limiting the number of RV campsites reduces ferry congestion due to large vehicles and promotes sustainable camping opportunities.
- Since the same number of campsites will be maintained, the plan will not result in an increase in ferry traffic or road traffic on Hornby Island.
- An Archaeological Assessment will ensure any work does not impact cultural values.



OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

The existing campground at Tribune Bay has 135 campsites. The existing campsites will move from private operation to being operated by BC Parks. BC Parks is responsible for delivering water, wastewater, waste management, and most importantly safety services for the many visitors who can be in the campground any given day during peak summer season. The entire foreshore area in front of the park will now be under BC Parks' jurisdiction, allowing for consistent management of activities on the beach.

When spreading the campsites between the existing campground and new area in the park, the following operational considerations have included:

- Selecting an area for the new walk-in campsites that is in practical proximity to existing campground utilities (e.g. water filtration and infrastructure).
- Developing separation between the walk-in campsites' parking area, which would remain accessible to campers 24/7, and the day use parking lot which is closed to vehicle traffic at night.
- Locating the parking area for the walk-in campsites on the same side of the park road as the campsites, to avoid families in the walk-in sites crossing a park road to get supplies from their vehicle.



TRIBUNE BAY PARK RECREATION ENHANCEMENTS

Environmental Considerations

Tribune Bay Park features coastal Douglas-fir forests, Garry oak woodlands and wildflower meadows, as well as sensitive foreshore and marine habitats. The forested property that has been added to Tribune Bay Park features a wet meadow-swamp complex that transitions to a dry mature forest from south to north. From west to east, the land transitions from a forest to a beach upland meadow. There is a mix of coniferous and deciduous trees of mixed age including species such as cascara, Pacific crab apple and black cottonwood. Several invasive plant species occur within both properties of the Tribune Bay addition.

Please see detailed reports for additional information on the various assessments that have been completed for the park.



ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGIES

BC Parks has tailored management strategies for the specific environmental conditions of the park including:

- Planning for smaller, walk-in campsites to minimize the disturbance of natural values where possible.
- Developing a plan for removal and control of invasive plant species.
- Ensuring that the design of any new facilities (e.g., campsites, trails) considers the ecology and hydrology of the site, as well as anticipated climate change implications on forest composition and health.
- Enhancing or restoring natural values of the campground property where possible (i.e. re-vegetating the existing campground with native species).
- Ensuring that construction activities occur during least risk timing windows and include environmental mitigation measures to protect ecological values. Also, ensuring ecological monitors are on site during construction activities.

FOSTERING STEWARDSHIP

BC Parks fosters stewardship of the park's natural values by:

- Providing information to visitors about the ecological values at Tribune Bay.
- Encouraging low-impact, responsible recreation through signage and other outreach opportunities.
- Implementing water conservation strategies and other sustainable campground practices such as no campfires permitted, and recycling program as part of infrastructure design and campground operation.
- Collaborating with community partners to promote nature stewardship and responsible recreation to island visitors.
- Implementing environmental protection measures such as fencing, designated trails and signage to protect rare ecological values from recreational impacts.



Tribune Bay Mature Forest



Tribune Bay Beach Views



Meadow-swamp complex