



Neck Point Park Expansion Opened

December 17th, 2009- Thursday marked the official opening of the expansion of Nanaimo's popular Neck Point Park. In June of 2009 the City purchased an additional 3.1 acres of land adjoining the park for \$3,175,000.00. Over the past few months the existing residence and outbuildings have been removed. New trails and walkways have been established and a railing has been installed along the water's edge within the new portion of the waterfront park.

"Any time we can create more opportunities for our residents to explore and enjoy their natural surroundings we move forward as a community. We invite residents to bring their visitors to the park over the holiday season, there is so much to explore," says Mayor John Ruttan.

"Funding for the purchase of this was made possible by way of the park and property acquisition reserves, which are designated specifically for opportunities such as the one that presented itself this past summer," explains Parks Recreation Commission Chair, Councilor Larry McNabb.

The current master plan for the park has been in place since 1999, with this expansion the department intends to host public input sessions. The department will work with the public to revisit the plan and determine how the 36 acre park will evolve. The first public input session will be held Saturday, January 23rd, from 10am to 4pm at the Hammond Bay School Gym (1025 Morningside Drive).

For a complete listing of City parks and trails be sure to pick up a copy of the 'Explore our Parks and Trails' brochure at any city Facility or visit the City website at www.nanaimo.ca . For more information about the parks system please contact Jeff Ritchie, Senior Parks Manager 250 756 5200.

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