

## NEWS RELEASE

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### Impact studies to be completed for Departure Creek

#### Summary

As part of an ongoing collaborative effort to improve habitat values along Departure Creek, the City of Nanaimo will be completing an archeological impact assessment of the City-owned lands located at 1420 Bay Street. The assessment is intended to help decide if restoration and realignment of Departure Creek is feasible at that location.

Work is expected to begin the week of July 25 and will be completed under the oversight of the Provincial Archaeology Branch and members of Snuneymuxw First Nation.

*Strategic Link:* Environmental Responsibility; Taking Responsibility to be an Excellent Municipal Government

#### Key Points

- The goal of realigning Departure Creek away from neighbouring buildings on Departure Bay Road will allow for a larger riparian setback area and improved in-stream fish habitat.
- The City of Nanaimo will be working with Golder and Associates to complete an archeological impact assessment of the City-owned parking lot at 1420 Bay Street starting the week of July 25.
- The City has been supporting the work of local stewardship groups, members of the Departure Bay neighbourhood association and Snuneymuxw First Nation fisheries staff in completing an updated habitat assessment of Departure Creek.
- While the work is underway, signage will be put up to direct park users to available City-owned parking lots nearby.

#### Quotes

"The City is pleased to be working with Snuneymuxw First Nation and our community partners to improve the ecological health of Departure Creek."

Rob Lawrance  
Environmental Planner  
City of Nanaimo

Continued... Impact studies to be completed for Departure Creek

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