



# Parkland Strategy

## Public Engagement Strategy

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The City of Port Moody has embarked on a path towards truth and reconciliation, building initially on the Four our Future consulting group report considered by Council in June 2022. Also in June, Council endorsed the next steps in this long-term relationship-building process, including commitment of initial staff time, identification of training needs, and initial staff-to-staff outreach to Indigenous groups identified by Four our Future.

## Engagement overview

With its significant and diverse natural assets, Port Moody provides a wide range of opportunities for outdoor recreation for its residents and visitors. As regional growth continues, the City can expect increased pressure on its parks and natural assets. There is limited land available for new parks, and some existing spaces are close to or exceeding their capacity. Meeting the increasing demands on Port Moody's parkland resources presents both challenges and opportunities for the City in ensuring equitable access to diverse and high-quality parks and open spaces for residents and visitors alike.

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2015) highlighted several recommendations related to the long-term planning of Port Moody's parkland system. Based on these recommendations, there is a need for a parkland strategy to meet goals and targets identified in the Master Plan. In addition, improving and expanding Port Moody's parkland system is referenced in the Official Community Plan (OCP).

The Parkland Strategy will take a comprehensive approach to develop the overall parkland priorities for Port Moody over the next 30 years (to 2050). Aligned with other key plans and strategies such as the OCP Update and 2015 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, the Parkland Strategy will provide a vision for meeting park needs from a City-wide perspective in relation to population growth, and priority areas for future parks, provide a framework for an equitable approach to parkland planning, outline priorities, actions and phasing strategies towards prioritizing investment, and a monitoring mechanism.

Engagement is crucial to understanding the community's priorities for Port Moody's parkland system and for guiding the long-term planning of new parks, parkland expansion and improved access to existing parks. It will also aid in the decision-making process and prioritization of investment in parkland across the city.

We will present alternative engagement methods in consideration of the ongoing COVID -19 pandemic as required by regulations and requirements from the government and health authorities. There are currently no province-wide restrictions for organized gatherings in British Columbia.

There will be two rounds of public engagement. The process will kick-off Q4 2022 - Q1 2023 and will be completed Q1 2023. The Parkland Strategy will be completed Q2 2023.

## Purpose of engagement

We have four main objectives for community engagement

1. Inform and educate the community about:
  - Port Moody's existing parks and open spaces, and
  - the goals and opportunities for the long-term planning of new parks, expansion, and improved access to existing parks.
2. Involve the community in developing an overall vision and guiding principles for the Parkland Strategy.
3. Consult the community to help identify key issues, challenges, and opportunities.
4. Consult the community to identify their priorities to help guide recommendations.

## Topic of engagement

Engagement will seek to consult the community to identify opportunities to enhance Port Moody's parkland system. The goal of the engagement strategy is to obtain input from the Port Moody community and stakeholders on:

- an overarching vision and guiding principles for the Parkland Strategy;
- park capacity and the impact on enjoyment of parks;
- priorities for future parkland, and natural areas, and
- values and priorities for action.

## Impact of engagement

Community engagement will be considered a success if we achieve the following goals:

- Increase the community's knowledge of Port Moody's current parkland system, and opportunities for the long-term planning of new parks.
- Provide various opportunities for the community to share input.
- Participants feel that their input ultimately affected the outcome.
- Effective communication is an on-going component of the development of the Parkland Strategy.
- The final Parkland Strategy is well supported.

We have identified engagement and communications targets to help track our progress and allow us to respond and adjust as needed throughout the process to ensure engagement goals are met. The project team will track and report back on participation metrics such as the number of participants at engagement events and the number of online tools submissions.

## Level of engagement

Using the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) spectrum as a guide, it is expected that community members and external stakeholders will be engaged with a variety of methods at the “Inform” and “Consult” levels of the IAP2 spectrum of public participation.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>INFORM</b>  We will keep you informed.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>CONSULT</b>  We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision. We will seek your feedback on drafts and proposals.	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>INVOLVE</b>  We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternative developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>COLLABORATE</b>  We will work together with you to formulate solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>EMPOWER</b>  We will implement what you decide.
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*iap2canada.ca – IAP2 Canada, an association of professionals in the field of public participation (P2), works to advance good public participation practices and has set the standard for engagement levels.*

## Reach of engagement

We will seek input from the following list of stakeholders:

- Port Moody residents
- Park users
- Metro Vancouver, Regional Parks
- First Nations
- Committees
  - Parks and Recreation Commission
  - Environmental Protection Committee
  - Youth Focus Committee
  - Seniors Focus Committee
  - Land Use Committee
  - Transportation Committee
  - Economic Development Committee
  - Tourism Committee
- Environmental Groups
  - Port Moody Environmental Stewardship Group
  - Port Moody Ecological Society (Noons Creek Hatchery)
  - Burrard Inlet Marine Enhancement Society (Mossom Creek Hatchery)
  - Burke Mountain Naturalists
  - Salish Sea Research and Education Society

- Neighbourhood Groups
  - TROPICA (The Residents of Pleasantside loco Communities Association)
  - Pleasantside Community Association
  - College Park Community Association
  - Glenayre Community Association
  - Klahanie Community Association
- Other Groups
  - TORCA (Tri City Off Road Cycling Association)
  - Disability Alliance BC
  - Vancouver Port Authority
  - School District #43
  - Park Event organizers
  - Development community

## Methods of engagement and communication

The following external engagement activities are proposed:

### **Stakeholder Workshop #1:**

- Hold a group workshop with representatives from various community groups and committees to introduce the project and facilitate discussions to gather input on vision, principles, and goals, key issues and challenges, opportunities, and priorities.

### **Stakeholder Interviews:**

- Facilitate several one-on-one discussions with community representatives to introduce the project, and facilitate discussions to gather input on vision, principles, and goals, key issues and challenges, opportunities, and priorities.

### **Online Survey:**

- Develop an online survey open to the public which will aim to gather input.

### **Pop-up Event / Open House:**

- Inform community members about the Parkland Strategy project, key findings from preliminary analysis, and guide discussions and collect input.

### **Stakeholder Workshop #2:**

- Review and receive feedback on the draft components of the preliminary Parkland Strategy.

A comprehensive communications plan will be developed, and the community will be informed via the City's communications channels.

## Timeline

Engagement Event	Date(s) or date range
<i>* All timelines are approximate and are to be confirmed</i>	
Engage Port Moody project page launch	Q4 2022 - Q1 2023
Stakeholder Workshop #1	Q4 2022 - Q1 2023
Stakeholder Interviews	Q4 2022 - Q1 2023
Online Survey	Q4 2022 - Q1 2023
Pop-up Event	Q4 2022 - Q1 2023
Stakeholder Workshop #2	Q1 2023

## Reporting of engagement

The results of consultation will be reported back to Council and shared with the public via the Engage Port Moody project page. Participants will be notified via an Engage Port Moody newsletter when Council is considering the draft Parkland Strategy so there is an opportunity to review the report and participate in public input.