



## NOTICE OF PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday  
July 13, 2011  
Regional District Board Room  
175 Ingram Street, Duncan, BC

3:30 p.m.

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### A G E N D A

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3:30 p.m.	<u>START OF MEETING</u>	
1.	<u>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</u>	1 – 2
2.	<u>ADOPTION OF MINUTES</u>	
	M1 Minutes of Parks Committee Meeting of May 25, 2011	3 – 5
3.	<u>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</u>	
4.	<u>DELEGATIONS</u>	
5.	<u>REPORTS</u>	
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6.	<u>CORRESPONDENCE</u>	
7.	<u>INFORMATION</u>	
	IN1 Two News Articles – Trans Canada and Cowichan Valley Trails, and Trails Enforcement	15 – 17
8.	<u>NEW BUSINESS</u>	

9. **QUESTION PERIOD**

10. **CLOSED SESSION**

Motion that the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with the *Community Charter* Part 4, Division 3, Section 90(1), Subsections as noted in accordance with each agenda item.

<b>CSM1</b>	Minutes of Closed Session Special Parks Committee meeting of May 25, 2011	18 – 20
<b>CSR1</b>	Land Acquisition – Section 90(1)(e)	21 – 52
<b>CSR2</b>	Land Acquisition – Section 90(1)(e)	<b>Verbal</b>
<b>CSR3</b>	Third Party Negotiations, Section 90(2)(b)	<b>Verbal</b>

11. **NEXT MEETING**

12 **ADJOURNMENT**

**NOTE: A copy of the full agenda package is available at the CVRD website [www.cvrld.bc.ca](http://www.cvrld.bc.ca)**

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Director M. Dorey, Chair  
 Director I. Morrison, Vice Chair  
 Director L. Duncan  
 Director B. Harrison

Director G. Giles  
 Director K. Kuhn  
 Director K. Cossey

Director D. Haywood  
 Director P. Kent  
 Director L. Iannidinardo

Minutes of the Parks Committee Meeting held on Wednesday,  
May 25, 2011, at 1:00 p.m. in the Regional District Board Room, 175 Ingram  
Street, Duncan, BC

**PRESENT**

Director M. Dorey, Chair  
Director L. Duncan  
Director G. Giles  
Director L. Iannidinardo  
Director K. Kuhn  
Director M. Marcotte  
Alternate Director R. Burgess  
Alternate Director B. Bhandar

Absent: Director I. Morrison, Vice-Chair  
Director B. Harrison  
Director P. Kent  
Director D. Haywood  
Director K. Cossey

**CVRD STAFF**

R. Austen, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture Department  
W. Jones, Corporate Administrative Officer  
B. Farquhar, Manager, Parks and Trails Division  
T. Soroka, Parks and Trails Planner  
L. Gale, Recording Secretary

**APPROVAL OF  
AGENDA**

The Chair noted changes to the agenda, including moving item CSD1 to the  
front of the agenda.

It was Moved and Seconded  
That the agenda, as amended, be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

**M1 - MINUTES**

It was Moved and Seconded  
That the Minutes of the Parks Committee Meeting of March 9, 2011, be  
adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

**BUSINESS ARISING**

There was no business arising.

**CLOSED SESSION**

It was Moved and Seconded  
That the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with the *Community  
Charter* Part 4, Division 3, Section 90(1), Subsection as noted in  
accordance with agenda item.

MOTION CARRIED

The Committee moved into closed session at 1:10 P.M.

**RISE**

It was Moved and Seconded  
That the Committee rise without report.

MOTION CARRIED

**STAFF REPORTS**

**R1 – Regional Parks  
and Trails Program –  
Growth and  
Development**

Staff Report from Tanya Soroka, Parks and Trails Planner, Parks and Trails Division, regarding Regional Parks and Trails Program – Growth and Development.

It was Moved and Seconded

That the Staff Report dated May 16, 2011 from Tanya Soroka, Parks and Trails Planner regarding Regional Parks and Trails Program – Growth and Development be received and filed.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**R2 – Regional Parks  
Signage and  
Promotional Materials**

Staff Report from Graham Gidden, Parks Planning Technician, regarding Regional Parks Signage and Promotional Materials.

It was Moved and Seconded

That the Regional Parks Committee endorse the graphic standards as proposed for CVRD Regional Park signage and informational documents.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**R3 – Kinsol Trestle  
Heritage Legacy Grant**

Staff Report from Graham Gidden, Parks Planning Technician, regarding Kinsol Trestle Heritage Legacy Grant, was received as information.

**R4 – Cowichan Valley  
Trail 2011 Priorities  
and Grant Funding  
Opportunities**

Staff Report from Brian Farquhar, Manager Parks and Trails, regarding Cowichan Valley Trail 2011 Priorities and Grant Funding Opportunities.

It was Moved and Seconded

That application be made to Trans Canada Trail for grant funding to financially assist with completion sections of the Cowichan Valley Trail between the Chemainus River and Town of Ladysmith in 2011.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**R5 – Use Compliance  
Update on the  
Cowichan Valley Trail**

Staff Report from Ryan Dias, Parks Operations Superintendent, regarding Use Compliance Update on the Cowichan Valley Trail, was received as information.

**R6 – BC Parks 100 year  
Celebrations –  
Community Legacy  
Program Grant  
Funding**

Staff Report from Tanya Soroka, Parks and Trails Planner, regarding BC Parks 100 year Celebrations – Community Legacy Grant Funding.

It was Moved and Seconded

That an application be made to the community Legacy Program Grant funding program for \$20,000 for parking lot and day use improvements and interpretive signage at Chemainus River Park.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**R7 – Cowichan Valley  
Trail Celebration  
Events**

Staff Report from Dan Brown, Parks Trail Technician, regarding Cowichan Valley Trail Celebration Events, was received as information.

**R8 – Vista Request For Support For Trail Reconnaissance Study Grant Application**

Staff Report from Brian Farquhar, Manager Parks and Trails, regarding Vista Request for Support for Trail Reconnaissance Study Grant Application

It was Moved and Seconded

That application be made on behalf of the Vancouver Island Spine Trail Association (VISTA) for \$8,000 in grant funding from the provincial government to complete a trail reconnaissance study for the proposed VI Spine Trail section between the east end of Cowichan Lake and Francis Lake located in Alberni Clayoquot Regional District.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**R9 – Sansum Point Property – TLC Fundraising Activities**

Staff Report from Brian Farquhar, Manager Parks and Trails, regarding Sansum Point Property – TLC Fundraising Activities.

It was Moved and Seconded

That a Framed Limited Edition Giclee Print “Samsun Point”, be purchased from Sue Coleman’s Studio for the CVRD Ingram Street building.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**INFORMATION**

**IN1 – Excerpts from Trails BC News**

Excerpts from Trails BC News regarding Cowichan Valley Trail for informational purposes only.

It was Moved and Seconded

That the excerpts from Trails BC News regarding Cowichan Valley Trail be received and filed.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no New Business.

**CLOSED SESSION**

It was Moved and Seconded

That the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with the *Community Charter* Part 4, Division 3, Section 90(1), Subsections as noted in accordance with each agenda item.

**MOTION CARRIED**

The Committee moved into closed session at 2:25 p.m.

**RISE**

It was Moved and Seconded

That the Committee rise without report.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 pm

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Chair

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Recording Secretary



## STAFF REPORT

**PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING  
OF JULY 13, 2011**

DATE: July 6, 2011

FILE NO:

FROM: Dan Brown, Parks Trails Technician

BYLAW NO:

SUBJECT: Cowichan Valley Trail Celebration Events - Update

**Recommendation/Action:**

That this report be received for information.

**Relation to the Corporate Strategic Plan:**

Safe and Healthy Community – Promote individual and community wellness. The trail celebration events are an opportunity to increase awareness in our local communities of the completion of segments of the Cowichan Valley Trail for walking/jogging, cycling and equestrian riding.

**Financial Impact:** (Reviewed by Finance Division: sent)

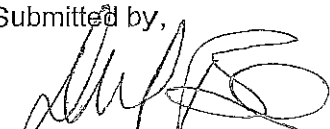
The cost to host the two regional trail celebration events has involved existing staff resources to organize the event, with minimal expense related to materials and supplies as well as event advertising which will be covered under the existing regional parks operations budget.

**Background:**



On Thursday June 9<sup>th</sup> the first of two Cowichan Valley Trail Celebration events took place at the Greendale Road Trailhead in the Town of Lake Cowichan. Over sixty people attended the celebration including members of the local Cowichan Lake Retreads hiking club, members of Trails BC attending their annual AGM held in Duncan this year, and representatives from Trans Canada Trail, Island Coastal Economic Trust, Island Corridor Foundation and the Town of Lake Cowichan Council. The event included recognition of project funding sponsors and ribbon cutting, with coverage by the local media (see attachment).

The second Cowichan Valley Trail Celebration event is scheduled for Thursday July 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at the Chemainus Train Station in Chemainus. Invitations have been sent to project funders and supporters as well as ads in the local papers inviting the public to come out and celebrate the completion of sections of the new trail between Duncan/North Cowichan and Chemainus. A copy of the ad is running in the local papers and on the CVRD's website (see attached). The local media is also invited to this event. Events such as these assist with promoting new parks and trails managed by the Regional District.

Submitted by,

  
Dan Brown, Parks Trails Technician  
Parks and Trails Division  
Parks, Recreation and Culture Department

DB/mca  
Attachment

<b>Reviewed by:</b> Division Manager: 
<b>Approved by:</b> General Manager: 



Powered by Clickability

## Walkers and hikers celebrate official opening of Cowichan Lake link

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By Peter Rusland - Cowichan News Leader Pictorial

Published: **June 18, 2011 7:00 PM**

The Warm Land's ever-widening web of hiking and biking trails now officially includes a 26-kilometre stretch between North Cowichan and Lake Cowichan.

That gravel span — banning motorized vehicles such as ATVs and dirt bikes — of the Cowichan Valley Trail system was officially opened last week.

It runs between Lake Cow's Greendale Road and North Cowichan's Sherman Road.

"It's our section of Cowichan Valley Trail which is part of the Trans-Canada Trail," said Ryan Dias, parks superintendent with the Cowichan Valley Regional District.

He noted a separate trail, linking Chemainus Road and Elm Street, is now completed and due for official opening next month.

Also, the goal of the northern completion route is to eventually hook North Cowichan's trails to those in the Regional District of Nanaimo, Dais explained.

Meanwhile, he was stoked about the new path to Lake Cowichan that also welcomes horse riders.

It was built during the past 1 1/2 years using more than \$1 million from taxpayers, plus various corporate contributions.

Ottawa chipped in some \$400,000 through the Trans-Canada Trail Foundation.

That money helped resurface the former E&N rail line along the three-metre, 26-km route.

About \$620,000 in provincial cash also arrived via the Island Coastal Economic Trust.

Money well spent in the view of Duncan mom Christy McClelland who walked the trail last week with friends and toddlers.

“Thank-you to all bodies of government and council and leadership in this community, and all the workers and companies that laboured to make such an amazing oasis of quiet and safety, right in my backyard,” she wrote the Leader.

“We were able to walk three wide and chit-chat, allow our walking kids to get out and run, and actually hear one another talk — all things that are clearly not options while walking on a sidewalk along a loud and busy road.”

Dias was also happy with the eco-project.

“There are two major bridge crossings across Averill and Holmes creeks,” he said.

“This trail also goes through various ecosystems, such as beaver dam areas.”

Natural features also include patches of wild ginger and other sensitive plant species.

Signage appears at every road crossing and there are trailhead maps in North Cow and Lake Cow.

Planned signage includes interpretive signage at points of interest, plus distance markers along the route covering Teleglobe’s buried fibre-optic cables.

Telus corporation poured \$200,000 into the trail’s drainage-culvert replacement.

“It’s really a nature experience,” summed Dias.

But that experience will spell fines for folks caught using motorized rigs, or hunting, on the trail.

“There’ll be active bylaw enforcement with random site visits during the day, evenings and weekends, with support from the police.”

For more call 250-746-2500.

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## Cowichan Valley Trail Celebration Event

Thursday, July 14th at 11:00 am

at the Chemainus Train Station

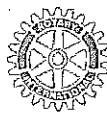
(Chemainus Rd and Mill St)

The Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) invites you to join in celebrating the opening of new sections of the Cowichan Valley Trail between Duncan and the Town of Ladysmith! This multi-use trail for walkers, hikers, cyclists, and equestrians links communities across our region and is a key part of the Trans Canada Trail on Southern Vancouver Island.

**Come celebrate with us on this new Regional Trail section through North Cowichan at the Chemainus Train Station (Chemainus Rd and Mill St).**

There will be ribbon cuttings, celebration cake, and project supporter recognitions.

Project Funding Supporters:



Island Coastal  
ECONOMIC TRUST

Canada



CVRD

For more information contact  
CVRD Parks 250-746-2620  
parks@cverd.bc.ca



## STAFF REPORT

 PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING  
 OF JULY 13, 2011

DATE: July 6, 2011  
 FROM: Ryan Dias, Parks Operations Superintendent  
 SUBJECT: Cowichan Valley Trail Use Agreement – Catalyst Waterline Route

FILE NO:

BYLAW NO:

**Recommendation/Action:**

That the Board Chair and Corporate Secretary be authorized to execute the necessary documents to renew the Trail License Agreement with Catalyst Paper, not to exceed 5 years, for use of portions of their fee-owned waterline corridor between the Cowichan Exhibition Grounds at Mays Road and Gibbins Road as the Cowichan Valley Trail.

**Relation to the Corporate Strategic Plan:**

Safe and Healthy Community – provide exceptional recreation, cultural and park services.

**Financial Impact:** (Reviewed by Finance Division) N/A

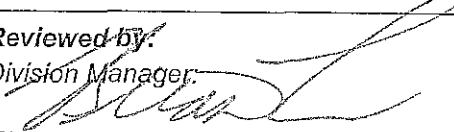

**Background:**

The Catalyst Paper waterline route was constructed in 2010 under the recent Cowichan Valley Trail Grant funding initiatives, with one small portion planned for construction in 2011 in order to complete the connection to the Cowichan Exhibition Grounds. The current sections of waterline route that are open for public use are operated under a one year Trail License Agreement with Catalyst Paper, which is set to expire on July 31, 2011.

In order to continue to operate the waterline route as a public trail, a renewal trail license with Catalyst for use of the existing and to-be-constructed sections of the waterline route for a public trail is required. The terms and conditions of the Use Agreement are proposed to be the same as currently in place, including the current fee structure, which would see the CVRD charged an annual rent cost equivalent to the portion of property taxes that are due on sections of the Catalyst waterline property used for the trail for each year of the license term.

Submitted by,

Ryan Dias, Parks Operations Superintendent  
 Parks and Trails Division  
 Parks, Recreation and Culture Department  
 RD/mca

Reviewed by: Division Manager: 
Approved by: General Manager: 



## STAFF REPORT

### PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING OF JULY 13, 2011

**DATE:** July 6, 2011

**FILE NO:**

**FROM:** Dan Brown, Parks and Trails Planning Technician  
Parks and Trails Division

**BYLAW NO:**

**SUBJECT:** Cowichan Valley Trail – Tansor Road Trailhead

**Recommendation/Action:**

That this be received for information.

**Relation to the Corporate Strategic Plan:** N/A

**Financial Impact:** *(Reviewed by Finance Division: N/A)*

**Background:**

The Electoral Area Services Committee meeting of June 21, 2011, referred the following from the Electoral Area E Parks and Recreation Commission to the Parks Committee:


**“It was noted at the meeting that the Tansor Service Station has indicated that they have had to close their washrooms since they were being inundated by users of the Trans Canada Trail (Cowichan Valley Trail). Their washrooms are on a septic tank/field system and cannot accommodate trail users and the owner has suggested that there is an immediate need for washroom facilities constructed at key locations along the trail. It was also noted at the meeting that more and more garbage is showing up along the trail and some garbage cans are needed.”**

The Parks and Trails Division continues to monitor the level of use on the Cowichan Valley Trail, including new sections recently opened over the past year. In locations are noted with continued excessive garbage, the response plan has been to install a garbage receptacle where appropriate and serviceable. Similarly, key entry points to the trail are being assessed to determine capacity and demand to install toilet surrounds for seasonal/year-round porta-potties for trail users. As servicing of garbage cans and porta-potties both have cost implications, the approach to determining such requirements has been based on monitoring the overall trail use to gauge the level of demand/need. The feedback from the Electoral Area E Parks Commission is appreciated by the Parks and Trails Division.

..../2

The Tansor Road Trailhead is currently undergoing a planned upgrade which includes a twelve (12) car gravel parking area, porta-pottie surround, trailhead information kiosk and garbage receptacle. These works should be completed in the next couple of weeks.

Submitted by:

  
Dan Brown, Parks and Trails Technician  
Parks and Trails Division  
Parks, Recreation and Culture Department

DB/mca

**Reviewed by:**

Division Manager

**Approved by:**

General Manager



## STAFF REPORT

### PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING OF JULY 13, 2011

DATE: July 6, 2011

FILE NO:

FROM: Ryan Dias, Park Operations Superintendent

BYLAW NO:

SUBJECT: Osborne Bay Regional Park – Hay Cutting Permit

#### **Recommendation/Action:**

That the Board Chair and Corporate Secretary be authorized to execute the necessary legal agreement documents as required to enter into an agreement with Chris Vale for Hay cutting at designated areas within the west side of Osborne Bay Regional Park for a maximum five year term.

#### **Relation to the Corporate Strategic Plan:**

Sustainable Infrastructure – well maintained public facilities.

#### **Financial Impact:**

N/A

#### **Background:**

As part of the overall maintenance program for Osborne Bay Regional Park, the south west portion of the regional park has been cut annually for hay by a local farmer, Chris Vale, who lives adjacent to the park. For the past several years, the CVRD has held an annual permit with Mr. Vale allowing him to cut the hay at no cost to the Regional District, which provides for both invasive species management and controlling fire risk potential within the regional park. This mutually beneficial arrangement continues to occur at this time under a 1 year operating agreement set to expire July 31, 2011.

These open field areas that receive annual hay cutting have also been subject to vandalism in recent years. Due to the open nature of the access on the west side of the regional park, and the lack of controlled accessibility, vehicles are able to enter the field area with ease, leaving behind damage in the form of large ruts, holes and disturbed vegetation.

As a longer term strategy to control both vandalism and maintenance of the west side of Osborne Bay Regional Park, Mr. Vale has offered to erect a page wire fence and three farm gates along the entire park property line that fronts Smith Road at no cost to the Regional District. This would secure the property line, making it impossible for vehicle traffic to enter the park, and provide much needed security for long term protection of the park. The proposed value of Mr. Vale's investment would be approximately \$10,000. In exchange, Mr. Vale has requested a five year hay cutting agreement with the CVRD so that his investment in site security is justified. The fence would become property of the CVRD after two years, and maintained by Mr. Vale for the duration of the five-year agreement term.

Terms of the five year haying agreement would be as follows:

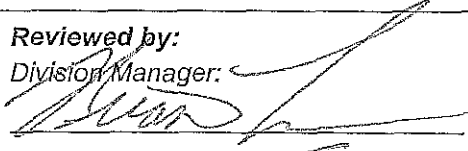

- Maintain liability insurance in the amount of \$2,000,000, and shall include the Cowichan Valley Regional District as an additional insured
- Will only cut hay on the southwest portion of Osborne Bay Regional Park
- Will leave the land in good condition after the hay cutting
- Will observe all fire regulations and restrictions during the period of this agreement
- Will not carry on any works or activity on the land that shall be deemed by the CVRD to be a nuisance
- Will agree to observe all legal requirements during the term of the agreement
- Will give up possession of the land at the end of the agreement term

The CVRD will also have the capacity to terminate the agreement upon written notice if the terms of the agreement are not complied with. The surrounding natural habitat and environs will be protected as deemed appropriate by the CVRD.

Submitted by,

Ryan Dias  
Parks Operations Superintendent  
Parks, Recreation and Culture Department

RD/mca

<b>Reviewed by:</b> Division Manager:	
<b>Approved by:</b> General Manager:	

## We're about to become a world-class destination for trails fans

<http://www.canada.com/about+become+world+class+destination+trails+fans/4962644/story.html>

**By T.W. Paterson, The Citizen**

**June 17, 2011**

If you haven't noticed, trails are in. Big time.

Not just the Cowichan Valley's section of the Trans Canada and Cowichan Valley Trails (the former Canadian National and E&N Railway grades), but miles of new and scenic pathways courtesy of Duncan and North Cowichan.

For its part, the CVRD has upgraded the CV Trail with handsome entry points on Sherman Road, at Glenora and at Lake Cowichan, a first class bridge over Holmes Creek and miles of crushed gravel from that point west to Greendale Road.

All that and the Kinsol Trestle is nearing completion.

Which has been one of the more intriguing points of the whole exercise, for me. Seldom have I seen all levels of government -- municipal, regional, provincial and federal -- on the same page in such a proactive way. The funding of the Kinsol is a prime example of this multi-governmental approach to outdoor recreation and what has been termed, heritage tourism.

For those of us who are so blessed as to live in the Cowichan Valley, the result is miles and miles of outstanding hiking, cycling and equestrian opportunities, year-round. Talk about our tax dollars at work!

Last Thursday, a ribbon-cutting ceremony (the cupcakes were delicious) at Lake Cowichan marked completion of the CV Trail's make-over. On Friday, the annual general meeting of Trails B.C. was held at the Quw'utsun' Cultural and Conference Centre. Among those attending from around the province were Gerry Giles, CVRD chair person, Brian Farquhar, CVRD parks manager, Deborah Apps, CEO and president, Trans Canada Trail, and representatives from the provincial Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources, the Capital and Nanaimo Regional Districts, and VISTA, the volunteer group which for several years has been working towards the establishment of the Vancouver Island Spine Trail.

Their project should be of particular interest to Valley residents as it's the natural extension of the Valley's Trans Canada Trail (which, at present, effectively ends at Lake Cowichan) to Port Alberni by following the same historic Canadian Pacific Northern (CNR) Railway grade that never made it beyond Kissinger, at the head of Cowichan Lake. Ultimately, the completed trails system will begin at Swartz Bay via the Lochsyde and Galloping Goose trails, and go overland for 400 miles, much of it through wilderness, to Cape Scott!

This would be nothing less than a world-class destination trail, one that is sure to draw visitors from all over. Visitors who pass through will, hopefully, do it at a leisurely pace. Meaning trade for local businesses, jobs for local citizens. If this isn't an example of win, win -- what is?

The many accomplishments of Trans Canada Trails, Trails B.C. and VISTA are prime examples of what can happen when private citizens with vision and drive work together. Yes, as I noted, much of the funding for these trails has come from various government levels. But much, too, has come from public donations from people who saw the value in these projects long before governments, some of them quite reluctantly, came to the table. To this day, even with the recognition of trails by officialdom, private individuals continue to lead the charge.

For example, we in Cowichan don't have the only saved railway bridge. Last April, Princeton area's metal Bridge of Dreams over the Tulameen River was reopened to recreational traffic. Built in 1915 as part of the Kettle Valley Railway and later deconstructed but for its concrete piers, it has been returned to service for recreational traffic. Much of the credit for the bridge's reconstruction goes to volunteers of the Vermilion Trail Society who chased down almost a million dollars in grants.

To put all this in context, let's take a quick look at the Trans Canada Trail which, in reality, isn't a single trail but a system of 400 trails "from coast to coast to coast." By 2017, Canada's 150th anniversary and the 25th year of the TCT, the goal is to complete the missing dots across Canada. At 22,500 kilometres from the Atlantic to the Pacific to the Arctic

Oceans, it'll be the longest "trail" in the world. Given Canada's mixed terrain and climate, this is a daunting challenge to say the least but one that is already well underway.

The work goes steadily on and we in the Cowichan Valley can certainly be said to have done our share with the extensive conversion to trails of our former railway lines, the building of new ones, and the rehabilitation of the Kinsol Trestle.

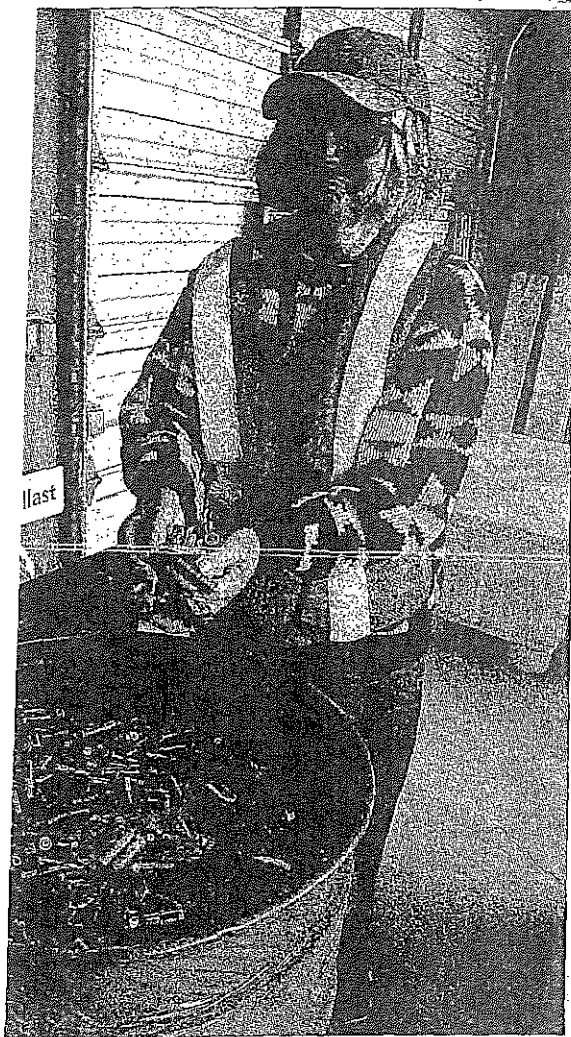
Speaking of which, for those readers who'd like to have a magazine cover worthy of framing, check out the current issue of CN Lines, available at the Cowichan Valley Museum gift shop.

Taken by the late and great railway photographer David Wilkie, it shows a steam locomotive pulling a load of logs across the Kinsol. The accompanying article on the trestle's rebuilding, by Victoria's well-known railway historian Bob Turner, has several other excellent photos, including the late Elwood White's iconic shot of the only passenger train ever to cross the Kinsol. It's worth every penny of the \$8 sales price!

[www.cowichanchronicles.com](http://www.cowichanchronicles.com)

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Peter W. Rusland

dent Beth McKeown examines a load of old batteries during the Zero kuff at the Bings Creek Solid Waste Management Complex.

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emainder is the goal  
regional chair-  
s, hoping to inspire  
rying less goods  
ssary packaging,  
more stuff and pro-  
ge," Giles said,  
n to reduce to zero."  
30 Styrofoam  
—transforming the  
into heavy lumps—  
it Bings.  
are planned at  
depots at Peerless  
Creek, McDonald  
gional board aims to  
ot in the Shawnigan

use places will soon

be joined by curbside pickup of  
organic waste such as bones and other  
greasy stuff.

Cowichan recycles most wastes  
now—outside of plate glass, building  
materials such as cinder bricks, plus  
plumbing fixtures such as toilets—as  
McDonald plans more programs.

"They're just a twinkle in my eye  
right now," he said.

He's also eager for Cowichan's  
Economic Development Commission  
to generate future jobs by growing  
businesses here to process recyclables.

Shawnigan Director Ken Cossey  
agreed.

"The more we can keep here, the  
better."

Visit [www.zerowastecowichan.ca](http://www.zerowastecowichan.ca) or  
call 250-746-2500.

# Trail abusers beware: patrols out in full force this summer

Trail blazers: CVRD eyes on the path with tickets in hand

Ashley Degraaf  
News Leader Pictorial

**C**VRD bylaw enforcement  
officers could be hot on your  
trail not only weekdays but  
also nights and weekends  
too, if you're travelling the  
links of the Cowichan Valley Trail and are  
committing one of several trail faux pas.

"There's a misconception out there that  
we don't work nights and weekends and  
we do," CVRD manager of inspection  
and enforcement Brian Duncan said.

The newest portion of the CVT, the  
waterline route through the Municipality  
of North Cowichan, is hot off the press  
and like with any new feature, folks have  
to be reminded of the rules, Duncan said.

That's why the CVRD is warning trail  
users that starting Canada Day long week-  
end, they're upping enforcement along all  
122-clicks of the CVT.

The CVT spans routes from the south  
end of Shawnigan Lake to the Town of  
Lake Cowichan following the grade of  
the former CN railway line.

The trail continues from the Town of  
Lake Cowichan to Sherman Road follow-  
ing the former E&N rail grade.

"We've got 40 random patrols lined up  
over the summer period and we've got  
seven bylaw enforcement officers on staff  
here at the CVRD," Duncan said.

"We've got two parks staff who usually  
double up with the bylaw officers to do  
bike patrols, and they'll park their jeeps  
at the trailheads with signs saying trail  
enforcement, and walk the trails.

"And the guys are clearly identifiable  
with bylaw enforcement vests on too."

Duncan couldn't give a dollar figure  
on summer patrols, but did say they're  
scrounging as much as they can in house  
to watchdog the trail.

They're also keeping the local Mounties  
in the loop.

"They're starting their bike patrols this  
weekend and they're going to be involved  
with us," Duncan said of North Cow-  
ichan/Duncan RCMP officers.

CVRD staffers will communicate to the  
cops the more "tougher, troubled," parts.

"As part of their regular enforcement,  
they'll ride through some of these prob-  
lem areas."

Duncan identified the chunk along  
what's known as the old Chinese  
cemetery in the Sahtlam area, as well as  
the Bings Creek Bridge portion, is the  
two areas most frequented by motorized  
vehicle users.

Quad and motorbike riders aren't wel-  
come on the trail.

"There are a lot of people jumping on  
their ATVs and taking shortcuts on the  
trail to get where they're going and not  
having a lot of regard for the people that  
are having to move out of the way," he  
said.

Other no-nos include people letting their  
pooches off leash, not cleaning up their  
dog's doo doo, dumping garbage down  
the sides of the trail and cutting down  
trees along the side of the trail.

"We're just trying to stop all of that. We  
just want to make the trail safe and clean  
and enjoyable for everybody.

"There are a select few that are bound  
and determined not to allow that."

The majority  
of users who  
slip up with the  
rules will be  
issued warn-  
ings, but repeat  
offenders can  
face charges  
ranging from  
\$50 to \$250.

"We're think-  
ing of increas-  
ing those fines  
too," Duncan  
said. "Maybe

even doubling or tripling them just to give  
some deterrent for the people who are  
making life miserable for others.

"We really just don't want people mess-  
ing it up. If it means fining them, then  
so be it. There's lots of signage too. You  
can't miss the signs that are up."

*"There's a  
misconception  
out there that  
we don't work  
nights and  
weekends."*

**Duncan**

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**Thank you!**

On behalf of the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 53, I'd like to take this  
opportunity to thank the BC Gaming Commission for their generous Gam-  
ing Grant to host our 85th Anniversary Party held on Saturday June 18th.  
...for all their support and help and especially