# CVRD COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL PARKS and TRAILS ANNUAL REPORT 2014



Cowichan Bay Marine Gateway in Electoral Area D

Community and Regional Parks & Trails

**Cowichan Valley Regional District** 



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## ELECTORAL AREA PARKS COMMISSIONS

Each of the Cowichan Valley Regional District's nine electoral areas has a Volunteer Parks Commission appointed by the CVRD Board. The role of the parks commission is to provide input on the direction for community parks and trails in the electoral area including park development plans, long range community parks and trails master plans and park concept plans. Parks Commissions also review and provide feedback on referrals involving potential park land dedication or acquisition through land use development proposals, land donation, or property purchase opportunities to establish new local parks or trails.

Parks Commissions foster volunteer involvement in park stewardship, park development opportunities, organizing community events, contributing to the annual community parks and trails budget planning process, and providing input to the Regional Board and committees of the Board on parks, trails and outdoor recreation issues.

Local Parks Commissions often volunteer their time and labour to ensure projects are completed with community involvement. The CVRD Board and Parks and Trails Division staff are appreciative of the effort the community makes on these volunteer days throughout the year.



Mother's Day event at Shawnigan Hills Athletic Park

## **Community Parks and Trails Program 2014**

## BACKGROUND

The Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) covers an area of approximately 8,995 square kilometres and has a population of 79,800. The Regional District includes nine electoral areas, four member municipalities (Town of Ladysmith, Municipality of North Cowichan, Town of Lake Cowichan and City of Duncan) and ten First Nations.

Community Parks and Trails are administered through the CVRD's community parks program which includes involvement of volunteer Parks Commissions appointed by the Regional Board. Community parks are funded through each of the nine electoral areas and provide a range of amenities, including trail systems, playgrounds, boat launches, beach and picnic areas, habitat and ecological protection, and athletic fields.

## ELECTORAL AREA COMMUNITY PARKS AND TRAILS

At the end of 2014 there were 201 community parks across the nine electoral areas covering over 1,060 hectares of land. As well, there were 47 km of managed community trails in the electoral areas. Out of these 201 parks, 56 are active parks inclusive of one or more of the following: sport fields, sport courts, playgrounds, and/or washrooms. The remaining parks are passive parks that have trails, picnic areas and/or natural green spaces. Community parks and trails continue to be acquired and developed each year in response to community support and population growth.

The following lists the number of community parks and kilometres of trails/community pathways in each electoral area as of December 31, 2014 inclusive of Bright Angel Park, Mill Bay Historic Church, and the Cowichan Bay Boat Launch.

Electoral Area	# of Parks	Km of Trails
A – Mill Bay/Malahat	34	4.1
B – Shawnigan Lake	51	9.8
C – Cobble Hill	21	6.5
D – Cowichan Bay	26	3.6
E – Cowichan Station /Sahtlam /Glenora	22	7.6
F – Cowichan Lake South/Skutz Falls	11	0.25
G – Saltair/Gulf Islands	10	3.4
H – North Oyster/Diamond	8	3.1
I – Youbou/Meade Creek	18	8.6
TOTALS	201	46.95

## COMMUNITY PARKS AND TRAILS MASTER PLANNING

A community parks and trails master plan is intended to set direction and priorities for the next 10 to 20 years for community parks and public trail corridors in and around an Electoral Area. These Master Plans are linked to local Official Community Plans (OCP) by providing recommendations that compliment or support policies outlined in the OCP. These recommendations are developed through consultations with local residents within the electoral area inclusive of public open houses, surveys and public displays.

Community Parks and Trails Master Plans are currently in place for Electoral Area B - Shawnigan Lake (adopted in 2010), Electoral Area C -Cobble Hill (adopted in 2012) and Electoral Area D – Cowichan Bay which was adopted in 2013.

In 2014 the Electoral Area A - Mill Bay/Malahat Community Parks and Trails Master Plan was initiated after being put on hold for a few years. Four open houses were held in earlier years and one open house was held in May, 2014. Further community input will be invited as work proceeds to complete this plan in 2015.



## **COMMUNITY PARKLAND ACQUISITION**

Community Parks and trails can be established in different ways: from land donations or gifts, through dedication by subdivision under section 941 of *the Local Government Act* or by purchase of lands noted as having community park value. Land can also be acquired through negotiations with developers as a community amenity contribution through land use rezoning.

In 2014 there were 6 new parcels (16.6 hectares) of community parkland acquired either through subdivision development, registration of a statutory right of way (SRW), by donation or as a land purchase. These are noted below by Electoral Area.

Electoral Area	Community Park	Hectares	Acquisition
А	Bucktail Road Park	0.03 ha	Subdivision
А	McCurdy Point Park	12.1 ha	Subdivision
D	Botwood Lane Park	0.06 ha	Purchase
D	Pritchard Trail	0.05 ha	SRW
E	Sunrise Road Park	2.11 ha	Donation
G	Saltair Centennial Park	2.24 ha	Purchase



Electoral Area A – McCurdy Point Park

## REGIONAL PARKS AND TRAILS MASTER PLANNING

In 2007 the Regional Parks and Trails Master Plan was adopted by the Regional Board to provide direction for the Regional Parks Program over the next 20 years.

The Master Plan outlines a regional implementation strategy for land acquisition and management inclusive of funding through the approved regional parkland acquisition fund.

## REGIONAL PARKLAND ACQUISITION

The Regional Board approved a Regional Parkland Acquisition Fund in 2008 following a region-wide public referendum that endorsed taxing for the fund specifically to assist with the acquisition of regional park sites as outlined in the Plan. The fund generated approximately \$853,000 in 2014 for the acquisition of regional park sites.

In 2014 18.8 hectares of regional parkland was acquired; 15.7 hectares as an addition to Stoney Hill Regional Park and 3.1 hectares as an addition to the Cowichan Valley Trail at Bings Creek.



Stoney Hill Regional Park



**Regional Parks and Trails Program 2014** 

#### BACKGROUND

Regional parks and trails are established by the Cowichan Valley Regional District for the benefit of the entire Cowichan Region. Regional parks and trails are administered and funded though taxation of all nine electoral areas and the four member municipalities. The Regional Parks function was established in 1972, and in 1979 Osborne Bay Regional Park was the first park acquired under the program.

There are six regional park sites, the Cobble Hill Mountain Regional Recreation Area, the Friendship Trail, and the Cowichan Valley Trail currently under the regional parks program for a total of 794.14 hectares of managed lands and 104.1 km of constructed trail. As part of this program the CVRD manages outdoor recreation within the Cobble Hill Mountain Regional Recreation Area which covers approximately 406 hectares of forest lands under a licence agreement with the Ministry of Forests. These forest lands also include two active Provincial community woodlots.

The Regional Parks and Trails program continues to focus on the completion of the Cowichan Valley Trail, a 120 km trail route initiative linking the entire Region and neighbouring Regional Districts. The CVRD also manages the Friendship Trail which runs through the City of Duncan and Municipality of North Cowichan. Lands currently managed under the Regional Parks and Trails Program are listed below:

- 1. Spectacle Lake Park (62.88 ha)
- 2. Chemainus River Park (119.62 ha)
- 3. Sandy Pool Regional Park (16.59 ha)
- 4. Osborne Bay Regional Park (24.96 ha)
- 5. Stocking/Heart Lake Regional Park (96.70 ha)
- 6. Stoney Hill Regional Park (67.49 ha)
- 7. Cobble Hill Mountain Regional Recreation Area (405.9 ha)
- 8. Cowichan Valley Trail/Kinsol Trestle (100 km)
- 9. Friendship Trail (Siiye 'yu) (2.6 km)

# PARK BYLAW COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT

The CVRD Parks and Trails Division has the support of two full time bylaw enforcement officers who provide bylaw compliance and enforcement in Community and Regional Parks and Trails throughout the CVRD. Monitoring of the Cowichan Valley Trail is a major component of the program.

Regular visits are also made to parks and trails across the region to assist with compliance issues so as to ensure local parks remain accessible and enjoyable to park visitors.



Old Mill Park – derelict boat caught in bushes



Sandy Pool Regional Park – illegal dumping



**Chemainus River Regional Park - illegal Dumping** 

#### **COWICHAN VALLEY TRAIL**

The Cowichan Valley Trail is a spectacular multi-use trail that is an integral part of the Trans-Canada Trail route on Southern Vancouver Island. From the south end of Shawnigan Lake to the Town of Lake Cowichan, the trail follows the gentle grade of the former turn of the century CN railway line and recently rehabilitated Kinsol Trestle that served pioneer logging and settlement communities. In 2010 portions of the trail through the Municipality of North Cowichan were completed, as well as new sections linking Saltair and Ladysmith to the Nanaimo Regional District. In 2011 sections of the trail were completed from the Town of Lake Cowichan to Sherman Road following the former E&N rail grade, as well as extending north of Chemainus towards Saltair.

To date there is a total of 92 km of constructed trail plus 28 km of road that is currently part of the trail system. Of the 28 km of road, approximately 23 km will be replaced at some point in the future with constructed trail with only 5 km remaining on roads to complete the 120 km Cowichan Valley Trail.

In 2014, under the newly signed Memorandum of Understanding with the Malahat Nation, work began to collaborate on the planning and construction of the trail connection from Sooke Lake Road in Shawnigan Lake, south to the Galloping Goose Trail in the Capital Regional District. This will complete a key section of the Cowichan Valley Trail.

As part of regular maintenance, vegetation management surrounding the Kinsol Trestle keeps the trestle clear from obstructions and shading. The parking lot on the south side of the Kinsol Trestle at Glen Eagles Road was landscaped, a kiosk constructed, and an interpretive sign and new entrance sign installed.



Kinsol Trestle Parking lot improvements



New Nature Scape play area



New family picnic area



**Playfield improvements** 



**New Washroom building** 



New outdoor fitness equipment

## **Parks and Trails Initiatives**

#### **BRIGHT ANGEL PARK**

Bright Angel Park is located in Cowichan Station in Electoral Area E, 10 km south of the City of Duncan. The park was established in 1958 with a donation of private land to the provincial park system from the Fleetwood family. With further land donations and acquisitions over the years the park has grown to 22.2 hectares. During the early years, Bright Angel Park was developed and maintained by the Bright Angel Park Society as a Class C Provincial Park, supported by volunteers and donations. In 2001 the CVRD agreed to enter into a 30 year lease with the Province to take on the management, operation and maintenance of the Park at the request of the Society. For the past 13 years the CVRD has maintained the existing park facilities, trails and caretaker residence that were all put in place by the society years earlier.

In 2014, the CVRD received \$400,000 in grant funding from the Province of British Columbia for improvements and replacement of aging facilities and amenities at Bright Angel Park. Additional funding for the project was also secured through a Federal Gas Tax Grant in the amount of \$60,000. The existing recreational amenities had served the community and visitors well for many years; however, the condition of these park features had reached a stage where a significant upgrade or replacement was required to ensure park users would continue to enjoy these amenities for many more decades.

With these funds, the following rejuvenation work took place in the park throughout 2014:

- construction of a new public washroom building,
- replacement of the old play equipment with a new children's playground, natural play/interpretive area and amphitheatre,
- improvements to the upper field area,
- installation of new outdoor fitness equipment stations,
- trail improvements for better accessibility,
- upgrading of the well, electrical and septic systems,
- removal of the old playground, change-room building, lower parking lot, outhouses and surrounds and,
- improvements to parking and circulation.

These park improvements were inclusive of park user feedback from both in-park surveys and open houses hosted by the Regional District in late 2012 and early 2013.



New playground

#### SUMMER STUDENT PROGRAM

The CVRD Parks and Trails Division hires a 6 person *summer student crew* from May – August each year. The summer crew spends time in several electoral areas working on planned parks projects. The summer student work is incorporated into the annual maintenance budget with support from electoral area parks commissions.



Summer Student crew in Bright Angel Park



Summer students

#### OUTDOOR RECREATION EVENTS

Various groups regularly ask to use regional and community parks for various outdoor recreation and sporting events which help to bring tourism and economic development into the local communities. Examples are the Subaru Ironman Triathlon and the Ceevac half-marathon which are held each year at Shawnigan Lake, in West Shawnigan Lake Park and on the Cowichan Valley Trail/Kinsol Trestle.

The annual Cobble Hill Classic Mountain Bike race takes place in the Cobble Hill Mountain Regional Recreation Area, and the Annual MS RONA Grape Escape bike tour incorporate different CVRD park sites annually during their rides.

#### VOLUNTEERING

Numerous volunteer projects take place each year in community parks throughout the Regional District. The Parks and Trails Division works with various community groups such as Scouts Canada, Rotary Clubs, Cowichan Community Land Trust, and school groups. Many of the community volunteers also contribute volunteer time through the local parks commissions.

In 2014 there were approximately 2000 hours of volunteer time provided in our local community parks, which include time spent by local parks commissions at community events, park/trail clean up events and tree/shrub planting. Community groups provided volunteer time as well such as trail construction, invasive species removal, and general park cleanup.

Some of the volunteer and community events held in the parks in 2014 include:

- Mother's Day event held in Shawnigan Hills Athletic Park,
- Youbou Regatta,
- Plant rescue day and planting with Tsaout First Nation and Living Forests Development in Shawnigan Hills Athletic Park,
- Cobble Hill Fair,
- Low Tide Day Cowichan Bay,
- Currie Park Family Day,
- Glenora Trails Head Park Family Day.



Volunteer day supervised by Parks and Trails staff



Volunteers working at Glenora Trails Head Park



Local youth volunteering in Cobble Hill at Cleasby Bike Park



Volunteers with the Ecole Cobble Hill Elementary School Roots and Shoots Club



Scotch Thistle



Japanese Knotweed



**Picking Spurge Laurel (Daphne)** 



Removing invasive species in Shawnigan Hills Athletic Park

#### **INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT**

In 2014, the third year of the invasive species management program was implemented at 16 community parks in Electoral Area B – Shawnigan Lake. This is the first such program for community parks in the Electoral Areas, and was developed with the support of the Shawnigan Lake Parks Commission. Following removal of 5 full sized dump truck loads of noxious plants in these parks in 2013 and the same in 2014, the annual action plan revisits these parks to further suppress any regrowth. In addition to the regular program, for 2014 Scotch Broom was targeted for removal at Melrose Park.

Active monitoring and periodic spot treatments will be important to ensure these parks remain free of re-infestation.

#### **CHARITABLE DONATIONS**

The CVRD Parks and Trails Program can accept all forms of donations such as land, cash, labour, services, materials, equipment, real estate, park amenities and park furniture. In some cases a tax donation receipt can be issued to the donor.

In 2014 a 2.11 hectare parcel of riverfront land was donated to the CVRD for park. This piece of property is located on the Cowichan River adjacent to the existing Sunrise Trail and included a new mobile home with hookup to a septic system, well and hydro.

In addition to the land donation there were benches, picnic tables and trees donated to various parks throughout the region. These amenities also have a donation plaque mounted either on or beside them.

A monetary donation of \$95,000 was given to the CVRD's Regional Parks Program in 2014 to be used for further work on the Kinsol Trestle.



Bench donated in Bright Angel Park

#### PARK SUSTAINABILITY

With the adoption of the updated CVRD Corporate Strategic Plan in November 2013 the CVRD Parks and Trails Program has continued to move towards a more sustainable park system that integrates the natural environment, economics and climate change.

Key changes that took place with community and regional parks in 2014 were: the addition of bio-swales in and around Central Park in Honeymoon Bay, installation of a reclaimed water system in Quarry Nature Park for the washroom and irrigation, and erosion stabilization of the river bank in Sandy Pool Regional Park through planting cottonwood and willow stakes.



Bio-swale in Central Park



Erosion Stabilization Plantings in Sandy Pool Regional Park

As well, newer parks have areas that are left un-mowed, non-irrigated or in a natural grass state as a low impact play area for park users to reduce irrigation demands on local water system and aquifer.

Rainwater management within CVRD parks, recreation centres and community halls are important for reducing water runoff and for allowing water to infiltrate back into the natural aquifer. The use of bio-swales, rain gardens, and dry and wet ponds, is becoming more common as the Parks and Trails Division and the CVRD Engineering Department work together to integrate rainwater management into the natural environment within CVRD managed property.

#### **BOOKINGS IN PARKS**

Currently there are 14 parks that can be booked for various events such as weddings, group picnics/reunions/BBQs, ball tournaments, birthday parties, and group camping. In addition to park bookings, recreational programs are also offered in various parks throughout the year that are organized through the CVRD's recreation centres. There are also four bookable sportsfields in the Regional District that seasonally provide teams with a venue for field sport activities.

In 2014 there were 67 special event park bookings in Community and Regional Parks, plus 46 group bookings at Bright Angel Park (four field rentals, 15 lower shelter rentals and 29 upper shelter rentals including group camping). 2014 was the first year that Glenora Trails Head Park was included and 19 events were officially booked in this park. In total, **132 special event and group bookings** took place under the Community and Regional Parks Programs, for an increase of 32% from 2013.

# PARK VISITATION PROGRAM: VEHICLE and TRAIL USE COUNTERS

The Parks and Trails Division install vehicle and trail counters in various parks throughout the Regional District to collect park usage data which assists with planning new park amenities and upgrading of existing facilities. In 2014, the following parks and trail locations were actively monitored for visitor use.

Location	# visitors	% increase/ decrease from 2013
Area A - Mill Bay Nature Park	25,500	-7
Area B - Old Mill Park	29,137	+21
Area B - West Shawnigan Lake Park	33,293	+2
Area D - Coverdale Watson Park (number low - missed data for summer months)	10,934	0
Area E - Glenora Trails Head Park	29,000	0
Area G - Stocking Creek Park	21,513	-11
South Cowichan off- leash Dog Park	30,476	+32
South Cowichan - Bright Angel Park	66,500	+18
Regional - Osborne Bay Park	24,689	+9
Regional - Cobble Hill Mountain	81,000	+76
Regional - Kinsol Trestle	75,600	+ 8



**Boatswain Park Final Concept Plan** 



Elsie Miles Park Draft Concept Plan



**Coverdale Watson Park Final Concept Plan** 



Mill Bay/Malahat Community Parks and Trails Master Plan

#### COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

#### **Boatswain Park**

In late 2013 a community survey was conducted that strongly supported a major makeover for this park. In 2014 a community working group was formed that consisted of eight residents, a member of the local parks commission and the Area C Director who worked closely with Parks staff to come up with a park concept plan and budget. The group met four times and a community gathering took place in the park to allow community input before the plan was finalized and endorsed by the Regional Board.

#### **Elsie Miles Property/Dougan Park**

The Elsie Miles property in Shawnigan Lake was acquired by the CVRD in 2013 to expand Dougan Park. Two community surveys, completed over three years, gathered information on what the community would like to see. In 2013/2014 a "Village Working Group" formed with local residents to provide input on the Shawnigan Village Centre and the Elsie Miles Park site. The village group, CVRD parks staff, the Shawnigan Parks Commission and the Shawnigan Recreation Commission had a couple of meetings to brainstorm ideas. During the Annual Shawnigan Gathering held in March 2014 a display was set up during the event by CVRD Parks staff to gather additional public input. A public display panel was also set up in the Shawnigan Community Centre from September to the end of November to gather community input. The process will continue through 2015.

#### **Coverdale Watson Park**

In early 2013 a community survey was conducted that strongly supported a major makeover for this park. In 2014 a community working group was formed that consisted of four residents, three local parks commission members and the Area D Director who worked closely with Parks staff to come up with a park concept plan and budget. The group met four times and a community gathering took place in the park to allow community input before the plan was finalized and endorsed by the Regional Board.

#### Mill Bay/Malahat Community Parks and Trails Master Plan

Preparation of the Mill Bay/Malahat Community Parks and Trails Master Plan has been underway for a while with the community. Major steps to completing the plan were taken with the community in 2014 and it is expected the plan will be finalized in 2015. The plan will provide guidance for community parks and pathway acquisition and development over the next 10-15 years.

## 2014 PARKS AND TRAILS PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

#### **Electoral Area A**

- <u>Mill Bay Wharf</u>: Removal and replacement of 6 pilings and additional floatation installed in the wharf.
- Mill Bay Nature Park: Resurfacing of 400m of trail including headwalls and drainage to improve park accessibility. The redesigned entrance includes a new park map, split rail fencing and an updated trail entrance.

#### Electoral Area B

Shawnigan Hills Athletic Park: Installation of 2 change rooms, each with two showers, team benches and storage shelves in the high end sports field washroom building to better serve teams.

#### **Electoral Area C**

- Quarry Nature Park (Purple Pipe reclaimed water): The public washrooms and lawn areas are provided with reclaimed water from Twin Cedars, greatly reducing this parks' use of the local aquifer.
- Cleasby Bike Park: Complete redesign and expansion of park features to better serve beginners while increasing skill levels.

## Electoral Area E

- <u>Currie Park</u>: Construction of a custom made super-slide for all age levels as well as installation of an irrigation system for the developed park area.
- Glenora Trails Head Park: Extension of the roofline on the cookhouse to cover the barbeque area for improved public usage. Landscaping and other aesthetic improvements to the parking lot area and paving of high impact trails.

## Electoral Area F

<u>Central Park:</u> Installation of three bio-swales around the Honeymoon Bay Hall to help control rain and stormwater run-off. Areas around the bio-swales were planted with native species and mulched. To complete the project split rail fencing was added including two entry arbours and standard park fixtures. The tennis courts were also upgraded for community use.



**Central Park upgraded Tennis Court** 



Central Park bio-swale and landscaping



Mill Bay Wharf



Mill Bay Nature Park



Shawnigan Hills Athletic Park



**Cleasby Bike Park** 



Currie Park



Glenora Trails Head Park

## 2014 PARKS AND TRAILS PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

#### Electoral Area G

- Saltair Centennial Park: The aged roofs on the washroom and concession buildings were replaced.
- Stocking Creek Park: The new Huckleberry Trail was constructed and surfaced with crushed gravel to improve public accessibility.

#### **Electoral Area I**

> <u>Nantree Park:</u> An aging swim dock was replaced.

#### South Cowichan Parks

- Bright Angel Park: See page 7 for details
- Mill Bay Historic Church: Construction of a wheelchair accessible Ramp to improve accessibility into the building.

#### **Regional Parks**

- <u>Cowichan Valley Trail</u>: 2.3 km of grading and new trail surfacing was conducted from the Kinsol Trestle north to Mountain Road.
- Sandy Pool Regional Park: Bank stability along the Cowichan River through live planting of willow, black cottonwood, and red osier dogwood stakes to protect the park and natural sand beach.
- Cobble Hill Mountain Regional Recreation Area: New directional signs were installed along the trails and a new kiosk and map were installed in the parking lot to improve public access to this trail network.



Sandy Pool Park riparian restoration



Sandy Pool Park cottonwood staking



Sandy Pool Park willow staking



Saltair Centennial Park



Nantree Park



Mill Bay Church



Cowichan Valley Trail



**Cobble Hill Mountain** 



New bear proof garbage cans



**Repair of steps** 



New entrance plantings in Galliers Park

## COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL PARK OPERATIONS AND BUDGETS

Maintenance of all the CVRD's community and regional parks and trails is currently achieved through a contract with Easy Living Landscaping Ltd. Capital projects and park operations activities are managed through the Parks and Trails Division staff engaging contactors to undertake the works. All capital projects are planned and budgeted annually through consultation with individual electoral area parks commissions and committees of the CVRD Board.

#### **Community Parks and Trails:**

- In 2014 the Community Parks and Trails capital program budget was \$1,130,000 to complete 17 capital projects. In addition to the budget, \$460,000 in grant funding was received by the CVRD for the Bright Angel Park Revitalization.
- In 2014 the Community Parks and Trails operating budget for 201 parks was \$2,062,000 inclusive of administration, park and trail planning, community consultation and engagement, volunteer event support, park operation and maintenance, special event and park booking coordination, the parks summer student work crew, playground programs, and invasive species management.

#### **Regional Parks and Trails:**

- In 2014 the Regional Parks and Trails capital program budget was \$475,500 to complete four capital projects.
- In 2014 the Regional Parks and Trails operating budget was \$685,030 to maintain eight Regional Parks, Cobble Hill Mountain Regional Recreation Area, and the Cowichan Valley Trail/Kinsol Trestle inclusive of the management, administration, planning, operations and maintenance of these lands.
- In addition to the annual operating budget, \$34,250 in grant funding was received by the CVRD from the Trans Canada Trail Foundation for planning a new Cowichan Valley Trail route on the Malahat to connect to the Capital Regional Districts' section of the Trans Canada Trail.

## **CVRD PARKS AND TRAILS DIVISION STAFF**

The CVRD's Community and Regional Parks and Trails programs are administered through a core staff team within the Parks and Trails Division. The responsibilities in administration of these programs include parkland acquisition, planning, parks design, managing contracted parks operations and maintenance, park facility and trail construction and park volunteer coordination. The Parks & Trails Division team is comprised of ten staff members, supplemented by a six member summer student parks work crew from May-August each year.



Brian Farquhar: Manager Parks & Trails



Ryan Dias: Parks Operations Superintendent



Tanya Soroka: Parks & Trails Planner



Graham Gidden: Parks & Trails Planner



Dan Brown: Parks Planning Technician (Trails)



Brent Wilson: Parks Field Operations Supervisor



Brock Tingey: Parks Operations Technician



Michael Miller: Capital Projects Specialist



Derek Kloosterman: Park Carpenter's Assistant



Brian Brown: Park Carpenter (Retired, December 2014)

# **COWICHAN VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT**

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