

Robert D'Arcy

From: Robert D'Arcy <rdarcy@dccnet.com>
Sent: January-07-14 6:23 PM
To: (workparty@secheltgroves.com)
Subject: SHCA and Trailbuilders

The December 2nd minutes of the SHCA have just been posted on line - <http://www.sandyhookca.com/Sandyarchives.html> - and include this item: " Clean up of the lower boat launch/park is needed and Kirk agreed to contact the Trail Builders group associated with Hidden Grove for help;" (Emphasis mine)

I have no knowledge of any contact from Kirk on this.

It is not my shot to call (may need board input but just going to you guys right now) but I have an opinion (as always)

I do not think this should be a function of the Trailbuilders. If some members wish to assist as residents that of course is fine and nobody's business but theirs. There could be legal issues but moreover there is a lot to do in the Groves as you know – and a meeting today with the Community Forest just highlighted some of this. In my view if you are contacted you should not volunteer as a Groves Trailbuilder but as a good Sandy Hook resident. It is technical but there could be insurance issues among others.

In any event I don't think the Trailbuilders are for Sandy Hook general projects – just ones selected by the SGS. This might include a general item from time to time – like Deerhorn Park (fits the Bylaws and purposes) but a boat launch clean-up is hard to relate to the Bylaws. Not sure how it could ever be explained to our many donors.

If you feel strongly I am wrong please advise and I will have to approach the board in a full legal fashion.

Bob D'Arcy
President, Sechelt Groves Society
<http://secheltgroves.com>

Quick Notes of Meeting January 7/14

(Tony Greenfield, Peter Moonen, Michael Davidson, Gertrude Pacific, Bob D'Arcy)

Not in any accurate order or maybe not accurate information<grin>

Take care not to overdue signage and spoil natural experience.

Proposed Signage Types:

1. Large Sign – probably for kiosk replacing sign to right of map with any surplus material going on second sign where bulletin board is now.
 - a. Welcome and intro to what one might see and be educated about in the Groves.
 - b. Likely Vital Signs creation to match current others.
2. Medium – Special Feature Sign –
 - a. These would be used in several places
 - i. To describe items that require a larger sign than the plant identifiers
 1. Of note to SIB – Gertrude may investigate examples with SIB
 2. Bark stripped
 3. Fire damage
 4. Wetlands
 5. Comment on age of specific tree(s)
 - ii. Probably Vital Signs 8 ½ X 11 mounted on cedar post at angle with support board behind.
 - iii. Might have a few the same if the same feature repeats itself – i.e. marsh or gravel or?
3. Little or Identifiers – Peter can probably make on aluminium
 - a. Two basic sizes
 - i. About 4”X5” for 4”X4” post low to ground
 - ii. About 6”X6” for 6”X8” post low to ground
 - b. Some may be just name – Common and Latin
 - c. Some may have picture and a brief description

Other Notes:

1. Gertrude will send Peter scans of her plant sketches/paintings for possible use on Identifiers
2. Peter will design and circulate some options for identifiers
3. Peter will design and circulate one or two Medium signs as possible examples.
4. All (but maybe not Bob) do some preliminary designs for large sign.
5. Basic examples of all done in time for CF AGM in April sometime (?)

Basics mentioned:

1. Hope to have HG trails done by end of March leaving upgrading ongoing
2. Trailbuilders can install signage with timing open
3. SHF entrances need upgrading with more prominent openings and new signage (might leave signs until Section 56 in)
4. SHF trails need to be raised to HG standard
5. When ready look at some special publicity to schools and Sandyhookers as guides to school parties.

Can' think of anything else.

Bob

Robert D'Arcy

From: Robert D'Arcy <rdarcy@dccnet.com>
Sent: January-09-14 7:00 PM
To: 'Mike Lane'; 'workparty@secheltgroves.com'
Subject: RE: SHCA and Trailbuilders

Hi all,

I don't want to get into splitting hairs but the mandate is not limited to the Groves (SHF/HG). It starts there but the constitution was very purposely written to allow for work on similar projects elsewhere. As a Society and a registered charity we must watch what we do and not get outside the constitution or even think about it without changing it. Deerhorn Park fits and so would the park at the end of Mt. Richardson and so would the trails on the real Mt. Richardson where there is an outstanding request from the Trails society and so did the trail into the falls in East Porpoise until the DoS gave them a grant to do it commercially.

We have insurance that is paid for by the Dos that has as part of the material information our constitution and bylaws.

The problem with some things like the boat launch is that they are very limited to benefit to Sandyhook boaters. Tough to explain to donors from the Village or Tuwanek and that is why it stood out and needed an email. It is a thin line from "enhance and maintain selected natural recreational areas" to cleaning a boat launch up.

In any event it may well be academic to some extent. I had a conversation with Gene Scanlan of the SHCA today and while the minutes read one thing it was more Kirk saying 'he knows some of the Trailbuilder crowd and would speak to them' rather than engaging the actual Trailbuilders. That fits with what Mike Lane is saying regarding joining in a work party of the SHCA as a Sandyhooker. Not knowing what Kirk said except as in the minutes and concerned I felt my earlier email could do no harm and might save an embarrassing step. It is sort of a president's duty.

Sorry to be so long winded but it is important.

Bob D'Arcy
President, Sechelt Groves Society
<http://secheltgroves.com>

PS> Here is the 'purposes part of the constitution always available on line.

The purpose(s) of the society (are):

- a) To work to preserve, enhance and maintain selected natural recreational areas of Sechelt and its surrounds and in particular, but not limited to, those areas colloquially known as the Sechelt Heritage Forest and the Hidden Grove;
- b) To organize for the development of amenities within the designated areas for the access and enjoyment of the general public, those with physical handicaps and school children;
- c) To promote and develop amenities that will aid in the education of the public and particularly school children, in the wonders of and value of such preserved natural recreation areas;
- d) To assist the local tourism industry to promote and utilize the areas provided such use is not in conflict with the main purpose as set out in section 2 a) above as determined by the membership and executive;
- e) To raise funds as needed for the furtherance of the activities of the society without purpose of gain for its members, and any profits or other assets of the organization shall be used solely to promote its objectives;
- f) To provide similar or related services as recommended by the membership and executive.

From: Mike Lane [mailto:michaellane@dccnet.com]
Sent: January-09-14 4:50 PM
To: Robert D'Arcy; workparty@secheltgroves.com
Subject: Re: SHCA and Trailbuilders

I talked to Neil Edmunds today.

I told him that the "Mandate" for the Trailbuilders is limited to the Groves. I suggested that if the "Association" wants work done elsewhere they should organize a work party and they will probably find that several of the "Trailbuilders" would volunteer to join the party. Alternatively they can ask us to do any one project, we can say "yay or nay", and fit it into our schedule.

I seem to remember we had already agreed to work on the Deerhorn Park trail.

There is a fallen tree on the trail South of Junction 75. This is private land. I think we should clear this ASAP and then decide if we want to re-furbish the boardwalks on this trail (I vaguely remember Bob D'Arcy building these a few years ago!)

Mike

From: [Robert D'Arcy](#)
Sent: Tuesday, January 07, 2014 6:22 PM
To: workparty@secheltgroves.com
Subject: SHCA and Trailbuilders

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Bob D'Arcy
President, Sechelt Groves Society
<http://secheltgroves.com>

No virus found in this message.

Checked by AVG - www.avg.com

Version: 2014.0.4259 / Virus Database: 3658/6986 - Release Date: 01/08/14



Sechelt Groves Society

c/o 5866 Deerhorn Drive, Sechelt, B.C., V0N 3A4

Email: secheltgroves@eastlink.ca

Web Site: <http://secheltgroves.com>

Phone: 604-885-5766

Date: January 17, 2014

BY EMAIL

Mr. John Mercer
SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
District of Sechelt

Re: Entrance to parking at Hidden Grove - hazard

Dear Mr. Mercer,

We last corresponded regarding this matter back in July, 2013 when you arranged for the paving of the entrance and it was done on or about July 15th.

For some reason the paving was not done to the standard required by the District (see attached letter of June 2, 2009) and specifically the 15 metre minimum. It looks like only about 5 metres from the edge of Sechelt Inlet Road.

We were so pleased with getting the paving done prior to the busy tourist season we did not question the change of plans but our experience this fall and winter had forced us into a re-think. At the edge of the new pavement within the Grove the gravel surface is constantly dug out or eroded away leaving drop-offs or pot holes that are quite severe. Smaller cars, in particular, run the risk of serious wheel or undercarriage damage as a wheel drops into the hole or hits the sharp edge.

Our Trailbuilders have been trying to mitigate the problem by throwing in some crushed gravel each Wednesday when they have their work party but it is soon blown out again so that in a day or so the problem is back and getting worse.

We have little expertise in this but a consensus seems to be that if the pavement extended into the parking area as originally required the problem would be solved or reduced substantially. The logic is:

1. Much of the 'erosion' is the car rear wheels powering out of the Grove. Particularly with long vehicles, the back wheels are still on the unpaved surface as they press the accelerator to go out onto Sechelt Inlet Road.
2. Vehicles entering the Grove often do so a little faster than they would prefer as they clear the Inlet Road resulting in them braking a little harder and by then with the front wheels on or dropping onto the unpaved drop off area.

Support the Society - Become a Member - Donate - All Online

3. Once cars are fully into the parking lot road areas they have slowed and are usually almost crawling so when they came to the end of the longer pavement required they would not drop hard or brake.

We do not know but maybe this is why the 'Development Engineer' set the 2009 requirement. We also note that the requirement No. 7 has not been complied with but that is something that I am sure you can assess without our input.

We sincerely regret having to raise this paving issue again after your helpful actions last July but we believe the current situation is not only unpleasant but could lead to damage to a vehicle or, worse, an accident of some kind.

We look forward to hearing from you and thank you very much for all your help – now and in the future.

Yours very truly,

Bob D'Arcy (computer signature)

R.B. D'Arcy
President
Sechelt Groves Society.

Attachment: Letter from District Development Engineer – June 9, 2009.



District of Sechelt

"Heart of the Sunshine Coast"



June 2, 2009

File No. 0230-20

Michael Davidson
Hidden Grove Steering Committee
5866 Deerhorn Drive
Sechelt, BC V0N 3A4

Dear Michael Davidson:

RE: Hidden Grove Trail Access and Parking

With reference to your letter dated April 16, 2009, the District of Sechelt's subsequent inspection and discussion with you, regarding the access to Hidden Grove.

The approval for the access road to Hidden Grove and its parking space will be granted, subject to the following conditions:

1. The District will allow only one access to Hidden Grove: the entrance from Sechelt Inlet Road south of the Sandy Hook Road junction, as indicated on the enclosed map.
2. The other end of the access road, across from Sandy Hook Road, must be barricaded and kept accessible for emergency vehicles only. A sign for "Emergency Access Only" must be installed.
3. The access road must be paved for a minimum 15m distance from the asphalt edge of Sechelt Inlet Road and at a width of 7m.
4. A stop sign and a stop bar must be installed on the access road.
5. The radius of the curb returns must each be a minimum of 7.5m.
6. A turnaround must be provided, such as a cul-de-sac, a traffic loop, or a Hammerhead to accommodate long vehicles such as school buses, fire trucks, etc.
7. A caution sign must be installed on the east side of Sechelt Inlet Road approx. 130m south of the access road. The sign is "Vision Limited" (W-125) combined with the sign "Hidden Grove Access Ahead" (see attached drawing).

Please contact the Engineering and Public Works Department if you require additional information.

Yours truly



Sanath Bandara, Development Engineer

Enclosures

Installation guideline: Condition C, Table 1, (Appendix).

W- 122 STRONG CROSS WIND AREA SIGN

The W-122 STRONG CROSS WIND AREA sign warns motorists of possible driving objects caused by strong and abrupt cross winds. This sign may be warranted in areas prone to frequent strong cross winds, such as roadways on plateaus or hills, or wherever high winds are channelized.

Installation guideline: Condition A, Table 1, (Appendix).

W-123 OPENING BRIDGE SIGN

The W-123 OPENING BRIDGE sign warns motorists that the bridge ahead is a opening bridge which when in operation, can be lifted or swung open to permit the passage of boat, and that the traffic will be required to stop when the bridge is open.

If the approach to the opening bridge is posted at a high speed and/or a high volume location, traffic signals may also be required.

Installation guideline: Condition B, Table 1, (Appendix).

W- 125 VISION LIMITED SIGN

The W-125 VISION LIMITED sign warns motorists of limited sight visibility ahead due to physical obstructions such as adverse vertical or horizontal alignment, or any other intrusions into the road user's sight triangle.

Installation guideline: Condition A, Table 1, (Appendix).

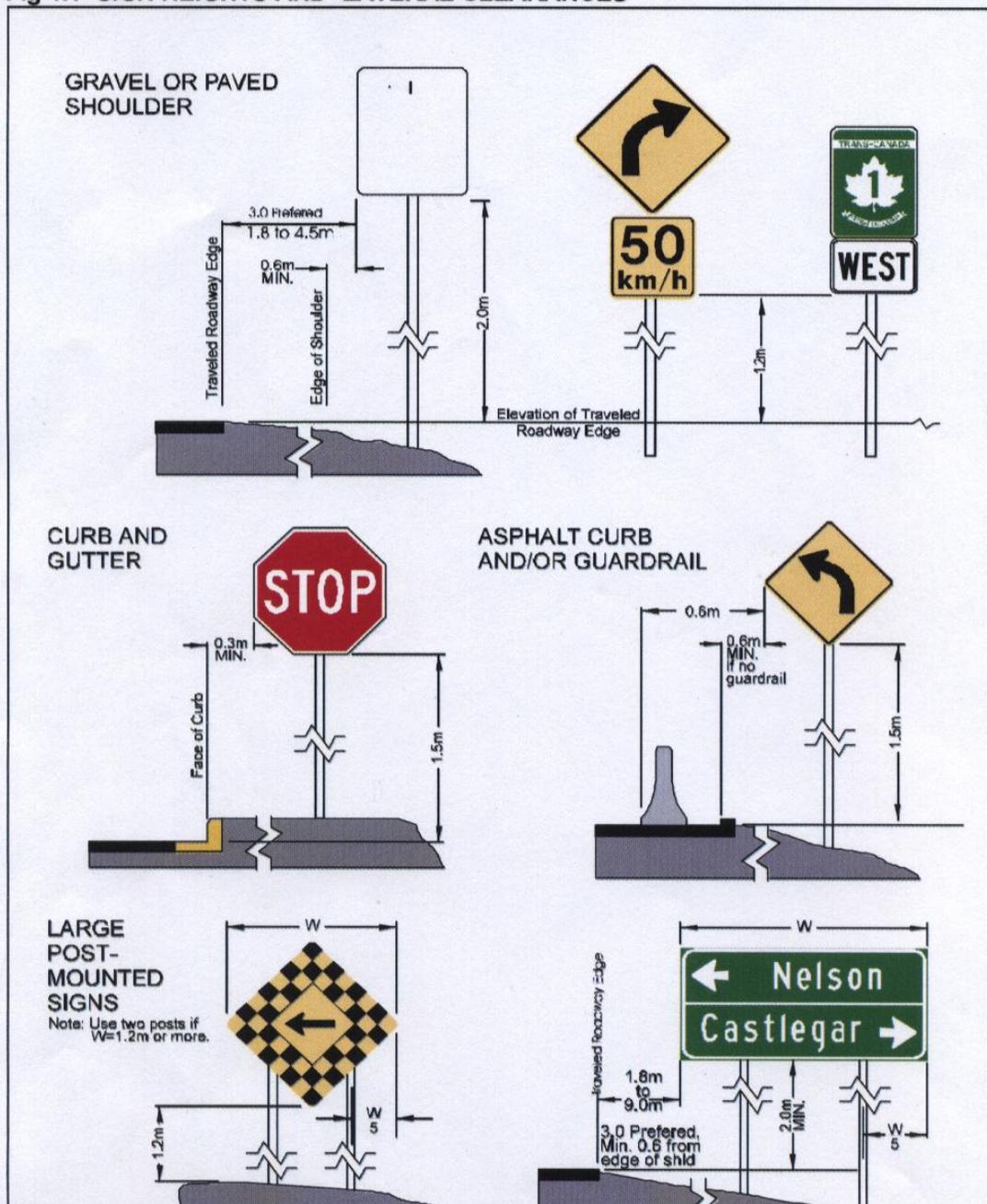
W- 126 HORSE AND RIDER SIGN

The W-126 HORSE AND RIDER sign warns motorists of potential horseback riders on the roadway. This sign may be used on narrow or winding roadways where horseback riding is known to take place.

The W-126 sign shall be installed just prior to the start of any roadway used for horseback riding.



Fig 1.1 SIGN HEIGHTS AND LATERAL CLEARANCES





Sent to the current board of the SGS: February, 2014

President: Bob D'Arcy

Vice President: Gray Waddell

Secretary/Treasurer: Michael Davidson

Directors: Rupert Clark -- Michael Siddall -- Doug Smith-- Mike Sutcliffe -- Kirk Exner

In Addition by copy of Email: The Trailbuilders and Dave Lasser of the Community Forest.

ONLINE BOARD MEETING (sort of)

With a new year it seems appropriate to call another of our online meetings and I assume we have a quorum. You will note that the Trailbuilders are included in the "audience" which seems appropriate since most everything affects them and is done by them.

There are some specifics to report and clear with the board.

President's Report

- 1) **Current Financial State** –We have \$8,852 in hand and all may be used as we see fit with none dedicated to any specific project. This with all bills paid to date and 1 fully paid for bench in storage awaiting a donation to install.

We are in good shape to finish all planned projects

- 2) **Future Financial Considerations** – as indicated we have enough on hand to finish most everything so the Groves may be considered "done". There will always be some ongoing expenses:

- a) Maintenance of all trails will incur costs relating to Trailbuilders tools and some materials
- b) Signs will be damaged and need replacement

On this basis membership fees and some small support from outside sources should keep the Groves solvent and functioning. The District continues, so far, to pay the insurance bill. We did not apply for any Grant in Aid for 2014 as it was difficult to justify and it was deemed better to save brownie points for another day.

- 3) **Membership** – as I write this report membership stands at 29, far short from the total for 2013 of 93. It is very early days and the spring is the busy time so not to fret. The map box continues to be a real generator of memberships with the form on the back of the map. Even now in winter it is 1 or 2 a week. I will be sending out renewal reminders by email. At least 4 board members might consider this their reminder for this year! You can renew online on the website.(Trailbuilders get free memberships and are already entered on the list)
Membership numbers are very important aside from the fees. They give the Society credibility as we approach governments and organizations for support or assistance.

- 4) **Projects Underway or Nearly Finished** – the website will give you details but current work is:

- a) As this report goes out the finishing touches are being made to 3 new trails – the last of the planned trails for the Hidden Grove. Remember the Work page of the website has all the email workparty instructions for every week for you to read at your leisure.

- b) All of the map signs on the intersection posts are to be redone and replaced. The signs for the Sechelt Heritage Forest were done last year. We will be installing posts and signage for the entire Hidden Grove this year.
- c) Section 56 protection for the Hidden Grove. Recently we heard back from the Provincial Government and while the approval is still a work in progress there they confirmed it is moving forward. This what we reported last year so it still is outstanding but definitely still on. Dave Lasser of the SCF is our point man on this and does the chasing with the Provincial souls. We will keep you posted from time to time on this important matter.
- d) The native rhodo plantings are in

5) Some Proposed (note: proposed only) Future Projects – probably not undertaken until summer if ever:

- a) Upgrading of entrance ways to the Heritage Forest on the Sechelt Inlet Road – clearer entrance and new signage.
- b) Some trail improvements in the Heritage Forest too.
- c) Restoration of Deerhorn Park in Sandy Hook and creation of a natural park on dedicated land between Mt. Richardson and Skookumchuk.
- d) Working with SC Trails Society in construction of a walking path to a view area in Mt. Richardson Park.

6) Bench Project – As of the end of this February we will have 4 benches installed and one fully paid for awaiting a donation to install. This program has raised over \$5000 since it started last year.

7) Parking Lot – the lot is pretty well finished but we are in correspondence with the District over improving the paving at the entrance so that the potholes do not develop.

8) Trailbuilders – we are so lucky to have these guys. It just would not happen without them. There are now nine showing up regularly. So many cookies consumed! Thanks so much fellows.

9) Other Information of interest

- a) A complete revision of the website is a work in progress. The idea is to post the new version when the final Hidden Grove Trails are done and the signage in. The new site in a more modern format will open with almost all the emphasis on helping and guiding visitors to the Groves. There will, of course, be links to Society business so it will still function – well I hope – for that.

10) New Business

- a) **Toilet Facility** – You may recall that some folks keep bringing this up for the Hidden Grove and we promised to keep looking at the idea. So far all the looking has not come up with practical solutions to all the problems that have been raised and were documented in earlier newsletters and notices. So, this stays on hold.
- b) **Annual General Meeting** – Yes, March is coming again and that is the proper time to have the AGM although it was delayed until May last year. Let's target March or early April

this year to get it out of the way and make getting the reports into government folks more timely. (The Federal Charity report was filed January 30/14).

- i) Again, I hope someone will volunteer a free meeting room we can use (hint).
- ii) Would all Board members **please** review their world to be sure they can continue on as Board members for the 2014 year. There is no need for any elections as the board was elected for 2 years in 2012. I am sure you cannot have found the duty too arduous with only 2 email "meetings/votes" in 10 months and the odd notice.
- iii) If I get some OK answers to the above i) and ii) then I will try and get my act together for the AGM and the required notices to the membership et al.

PLEASE ADVISE.

There that's it and your comments and responses will be welcomed.

Yours,

Bob D'Arcy (computer signature)

Bob D'Arcy
President

Robert D'Arcy

From: Robert D'Arcy <rdarcy@dccnet.com>
Sent: February-10-14 1:10 PM
To: 'John Mercer'
Cc: Michael Davidson (pacidavi@gmail.com)
Subject: RE: Hidden Grove Entrance

Thank you John and I am forwarding this email of yours on to Michael Davidson who guides the Trailbuilders gang and they are the ones handling the maintenance issues. I am sure Michael will get back in a timely way.
Again thanks.

Bob D'Arcy
President, Sechelt Groves Society
<http://secheltgroves.com>

From: John Mercer [mailto:JMercer@sechelt.ca]
Sent: February-10-14 12:18 PM
To: Robert D'Arcy
Subject: RE: Hidden Grove Entrance

Hello Bob,

Thank you for your letter. I have reviewed it and I have visited the site. The deterioration of the gravel road surface at the intersection of paved and gravel portions of roads is a constant maintenance issue we struggle with wherever it occurs in the community. I do not think the length of the apron is the reason for the appearance of the pot holes at the end of the pavement. I photographed my truck as it was located in a spot one would likely stop to check for oncoming traffic, and there appears to be lots of paved area still left behind it. Possibly changing the type of material used to fill in the pot holes would have an impact on how long the repair is lasting. The material you are using is probably a bit fine for that use. I will bring you a small load of a more suitable material if you like. I will not stop the problem entirely, but should improve the longevity of the repair significantly. Let me know if you are interested in trying this. If you are, would you please forward detailed instructions on where you would like it dumped.

Sincerely,

John Mercer | SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



Cell: 604.885.8488 Main Tel: 604.885.1986
PO Box 129, Sechelt, BC V0N 3A0
2nd Floor, 5797 Cowrie Street | www.sechelt.ca

From: Robert D'Arcy [<mailto:rdarcy@dccnet.com>]
Sent: January-17-14 9:52 AM
To: John Mercer
Subject: RE: Hidden Grove Entrance

Hello Mr. Mercer,

Hate to be bothering again. Back in July we corresponded regarding the paving of the entrance to the Hidden Grove as had been both required and promised by the District.

Please see an update letter attached for your review, comment and hopefully timely action.

Thank you very much and really sorry to have to raise this again.

Bob D'Arcy
President, Sechelt Groves Society
<http://secheltgroves.com>

February 11, 2014

(Sent Blind To all past and present members on record plus others with registered emails)

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

In accordance with the bylaws of the Sechelt Groves Society this is the official thirty day advance notice of the Annual General Meeting for the 2014 year.

The meeting will take place on 7 PM on Thursday. March 20th in the Board Room of the Sunshine Coast Community Forest (Sechelt Community Projects, Inc), Unit C – 5588 Inlet Avenue, Sechelt, B.C.***

A preliminary agenda for the meeting is attached to this notice in PDF format and a final agenda will be provided at the start of the meeting.

We look forward to your attendance. Memberships will be available at the door.

On behalf of the Board,
Bob D'Arcy
President
February 11, 2014

*** If you are not familiar with the location:

In Sechelt off Dolphin, just turn up Inlet towards Cap College and about a block up on the right you will see offices and Unit C is where you want to go. A shot of a Google map is attached too with the agenda.

Sechelt Groves Society

(Sent blind to all current and past members plus some special folks)
(PDF version attached too for your convenience or to print out easily.)

February 14th, 2014

Dear <<First Name>> <<Last Name>>,

You all should have received the official notice of the upcoming AGM – have to send those darn things out every year. It is just part of the fun of being a registered Society and Charity.

Now for some real news instead but first, HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2014?

The planting of 3 areas with rare Elphinstone rhododendrons in the Hidden Grove has been completed. Not much to see yet and it will be a few years probably. We have not marked them for now.

The fourth dedicated bench is ready to install and should be in by the end of the month. It will be in the Ancient Grove near the end of the “Take It Easy” trail. (Have you considered one for your special cause?)

Our wonderful Trailbuilders (Thanks as always, guys) have just about finished the last of the planned trails and some of the newest ones are really worthwhile. Another wetland area in the north and spectacular forest. Watch the website for the latest news and some updated mapping.

We are just about to the point where we can order all the replacement signs for the posts in the Hidden Grove replacing the current paper ones with metal.

As this newsletter is being written meetings have been organized with the Community Forest folks to install some interpretative signage in the Groves enhancing the educational value for all and especially the school children. No – it will not turn into a billboard place. Some carefully designed and select signage will be placed to point out unusual and special plants and features. The Community Forest Folks have generously agreed to fund this project.

We continue to follow-up on the Section 56 designation (full government protection) and recently had a brief meeting with one of the provincial executives responsible. So far all seems to be a go – still.

Those pesky memberships. They are more important than you know. Yes, the money counts but of utmost importance is the list of members. It is only by showing strong public support that we can have any influence with all levels of the government and with those corporate folks who can help us out. PLEASE renew. Remember it is easy to do on the website either paying online or by printing out a form to fill in and send with your cheque. (Donations are nice too and can be done the same way)

That's it for now. Please do not hesitate to email us with questions or comments.

Your Sechelt Groves Society

(See lots of stuff and keep up to date at our website – secheltgroves.com)

(If you wish to be removed from our membership or email list please advise by replying to this email with the word REMOVE in the subject line - we hope you don't do it!)

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Robert D'Arcy

From: Robert D'Arcy <rdarcy@dccnet.com>
Sent: March-11-14 10:47 AM
To: 'Celia Robben'
Cc: 'eliserudland@dccnet.com'
Subject: RE: Sunshine Coast Trails Society grant application to Community Foundation
Attachments: Community-Grant-Sponsorship-Agreement-2014.doc; FullPDF.pdf

Here you go.

1. Attached everything in Word
2. Needless to say my signature could not be written on the screen in Word so attached is the whole thing in PDF with my signature and they want the whole thing submitted electronically SO.
3. I suggest you print it out and you or Elise sign it and then scan the whole thing as a PDF to produce one electronic PDF document with signatures – I think<grin>

If I have messed up let me know and I will go at it as you say.

Bob D'Arcy
President, Sechelt Groves Society
<http://secheltgroves.com>

From: Celia Robben [mailto:president@sunshinecoastcanada.com]
Sent: March-10-14 4:59 PM
To: rdarcy@dccnet.com
Cc: eliserudland@dccnet.com
Subject: Sunshine Coast Trails Society grant application to Community Foundation

Hi Bob,

As per our conversation, attached is our grant letter of interest and a sponsorship agreement to allow Sechelt Groves Society to sponsor Sunshine Coast Trails Society. If you could please have a look and add necessary information to the Sponsorship Agreement, we would greatly appreciate the assistance.

If you can please return electronic documents to me, I will submit to the Community Foundation by their deadline on March 15, 2014.

Thank you!

Celia Robben
886.1940



Sechelt Groves Society

c/o 5866 Deerhorn Drive, Sechelt, B.C., V0N 3A4

Email: secheltgroves@eastlink.ca

Web Site: <http://secheltgroves.com>

Phone: 604-885-5766

AGENDA FOR 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING **Thursday March 20th at 7PM at the Board Room of the Sunshine Coast** **Community Forest - Unit C – 5588 Inlet Avenue, Sechelt, B.C.**

- 1) Welcome - Call to Order by President D'Arcy and Introduction of Head Table
- 2) Motion to adopt agenda
- 3) Motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting of the Society – May 13, 2013 – posted on website at <http://secheltgroves.com/docs.html> and in the drop down list of 2013 documents.
- 4) Current Board of Directors was elected for a term of two years in 2013 and therefore in accordance with the Bylaws of the Society there is no need for an election of directors and the following will remain as the Board for the 2014-2015 annual term period:
Bob D'Arcy - Michael Davidson - Rupert Clark -- Michael Siddall -- Doug Smith – Jim Stockall, Mike Sutcliffe – Gray Waddell – Kirk Exner. No motion is required for this information.
- 5) President's Report -
- 6) Secretary/Treasurer's Report presented by the President (Financial Statements were handed out to attendees upon their sign-in at the reception desk)
 - a) Financials for Fiscal Year 2013 and summation to date
 - b) Membership Report
- 7) More Detailed Comment/Reports on activities of the Society over past year:
 - a) Installation of metal signage in 2013 - Davidson
 - b) Regular Trail Building, maintenance and improvements in 2013 – Davidson
 - c) Native rhododendron planting – Davidson
 - d) Other completed projects, if any – Davidson
 - e) Work with Sechelt Community Forest and other senior organizations – D'Arcy
- 8) NEW Business
 - a) Plans for 2014 and forward for Sechelt Heritage Forest and Hidden Grove projects – D'Arcy/Davidson
- 9) OPEN Discussion and Questions from the floor.
- 10) Summing Up – D'Arcy
- 11) Motion to Adjourn

Support the Society - Become a Member - Donate - All Online

Robert D'Arcy

From: Sechelt Groves Society <secheltgroves@eastlink.ca>
Sent: March-15-14 2:40 PM
To: rdarcy@dccnet.com
Subject: Sechelt Groves Society AGM
Attachments: 2014AGMagenda2.pdf

(Sent Blind To all past and present members on record plus others with registered emails)

REMINDER OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Over 30 days ago we sent you the official 30 day notice of the upcoming AGM. This is just a reminder in case it has slipped your mind.

A final agenda is attached as a PDF document and you can see it appears to forecast be a pretty tame AGM (hope so!) but still good news and a positive vision.

If you can make it, we would be delighted to see you at the meeting:

**Thursday March 20th at 7PM at the Board Room of the Sunshine Coast Community
Forest - Unit C – 5588 Inlet Avenue, Sechelt, B.C.**



Sechelt Groves Society

c/o 5866 Deerhorn Drive, Sechelt, B.C., V0N 3A4

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Support the Society - Become a Member - Donate - All Online

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
SECHELT GROVES SOCIETY
Board Room of Sunshine Coast Community Forest
Thursday, March 20, 2014
Meeting of the Membership and Guests**

- 1) Welcome and Call to Order at 7:08 PM by President D'Arcy. It was noted that a quorum was in attendance – 8 paid up members. Guests Mayor John Henderson and President of SC Trails Society Elise Rutland were welcomed.
- 2) ***Motion to adopt agenda – Moved by Doug Smith and seconded by Alice Janisch, carried***
- 3) ***Motion to approve the minutes of the last general meeting of the Society – May 13, 2013 – posted on website. Moved by Michael Siddall and seconded by Kirk Exner, carried unanimously.***
- 4) The President advised - Current Board of Directors was elected for a term of two years in 2013 and therefore in accordance with the Bylaws of the Society there is no need for an election of directors and the following will remain as the Board for the 2014-2015 annual term period:

Bob D'Arcy - Michael Davidson - Rupert Clark -- Michael Siddall -- Doug Smith --Mike Sutcliffe – Gray Waddell – Kirk Exner. No motion is required for this information.

President's Report – (as presented to the meeting)

Again I am lucky to be able to give a pretty good news report once again. Membership is down but it is much earlier in the year than we reported last year(May), we have money in the bank, the accessibility trails have gone in, the other trails are in good shape, a few new trails are nearing completion, and our Trailbuilders have hung in there for it all.

You can see that later in the agenda there will be more detailed reports on specific items.

Before I go into any detail I must acknowledge and thank and compliment the very core of our success. The real work is done by Michael Davidson and his hearty gang of volunteer Trailbuilder members. Michael works untold hard hours personally but I want to also single out those serving on the work parties these past months who have done so much on all the projects. They are: Rupert Clark, John Campbell, Michael Davidson, John Dunne, Ken Hall, Louis Janke, Mike Lane, Tom Melski, Mike Sutcliffe, Jim Stockall and Damien Wallbank – if I missed someone – forgive me.

I am in no way ignoring the contribution of another dozen or so souls who have done the manual labour over the years but I think very special thanks are due to this recent team. It is amazing the work you have done throughout the Groves. Thank you. Thank you.

Part of the philosophy of the Society board was that we would not burden board members with a bunch of meetings but rather just get the jobs done. We have certainly succeeded in this area as we have managed to avoid having one single actual physical board meeting this past year and only three declared online meetings. I want to assure you all though that this does not mean the board was not functioning. Email is wonderful and we kept in touch and even voted on issues that way throughout the year. There were definite places where the board agreement was needed and the email worked well. Those email meetings will appear on the website shortly.

Some of these specifics of the year will be reported on more fully later in this meeting by Michael Davidson but a quick check list is:

- Early in the year with special thanks to the District of Sechelt, Perry Schmidt, John Mercer and Phil Strain we had 8 more parking stalls put in and the entrance paved.
- The second accessibility trail – Monty's Way – that was started 2012 was finished with a Grand Opening on April 7th, 2013. It is a lovely trail and I know Monty appreciates it.

- Trail signage was not only improved but expanded throughout more of the developed trails. Even government park authorities have complimented us on the quality of the signage and how easy it makes for folks to find their way about.
- Rare Elphinstone rhododendrons were installed.
- Geocaching has expanded the sites in the Groves
- In September a special BarBQ was held for the Trailbuilders. Thank you John Dunne for letting this disreputable group use your home.
- Usage of the Groves continues to grow, particularly Hidden Grove. One handle we have is looking at a full parking lot even on rainy days. Another is the take away of the maps from the box at the kiosk. Even in winter it was running over 25 a week and we know that regulars do not take them. The Sechelt Visitors Centre has called 3 times for more brochures and advise they get top praise for the Groves so they recommend them to all.
- Our bench donation program was launched and we now have 4 lovely benches installed in the Groves. In addition, Swanson's Ready-Mix donated 2 concrete benches for our use.
- AND, of course, wonderful new trail work and maintenance on all trails.

If you want to review more about these developments please refer to our website articles and pictures.

Addressing one item from last year's AGM, we have done a lot of research into the porta potti and other toilet options. So far none appear practical for our limited group but we are staying up with developments.

As I said, much of what there is to report will be covered in specifics later on. To close this report I want to add my thanks to all the membership for their support. You have made it happen.

Treasurer's Report – I get to present this as I do the function of Treasurer so that Michael is free to keep the field work going. Financial Statements were handed out to attendees upon their sign-in at the reception desk. I hope these are pretty well self-explanatory.

In the 2013 report you will see that we managed to spend every cent granted us for the Special Project – the second accessibility trail – Monty's Way. We were a whole \$231.87 over budget. This is as it should be and the reports have gone in to the generous grant givers as required.

But of maybe more interest is where we are as of this week. You can see that we are in pretty good shape for carrying on the work which will be described in more detail later.

I would be pleased to try and field any questions on the Finances now. *(None were forthcoming)*

As a Membership Report I should note that you can always go to the website to see the current list and the past year's lists. We ended 2013 with 93 members including 4 lifetime members, 9 Gold Members and 17 Friend memberships plus 3 Super Dogs. It is quite special to see Friend members from Buckingham, England and Moray, Scotland.

To date this year we have 46 members but it is early.

While donations are wonderful and needed I would like to point out that simple memberships are very important for our future. It is numbers that give us credibility with outside organizations and big foundations or government donors. Please encourage your friends to do the \$10 bit if nothing else.

Any questions on the membership part of things. *(None were forthcoming)*

The President then called for some specific reports on the activities of the Society over past year and called upon Michael Davidson:

- (1) Michael had maps prepared showing the recent additions to the Hidden Groves and advised that this very day the start had been made on the last of the Trails planned for the Grove. This is set in the 'new' areas bordering and in part outside the official Grove areas from post 7 to post 37. It is expected to complete this trail in about a month. The map also highlighted the great deal of work done by the Trailbuilders during the past 12 months.

- (2) He explained that during 2013 all metal signs had been placed in the Sechelt Heritage Forest as no more trails are expected there so final signage could be made. As soon as the last trail in the Hidden Grove is done it is planned to install metal signage throughout.
- (3) Native Elphinstone Rhodos were planted in 3 locations recently. They are very tiny yet and it has been decided not to show them on the maps at this time for fear of pilferage. Special thanks were extended to Ron Knight who assisted providing the plants and supervising planting.
- (4) Regular maintenance was continued, of course. The recent snow storms presented an unprecedented number of fallen trees (over 50) to deal with but the wonderful Trailbuilders rose to the task with hand saws and chain saws.

After thanking Michael the President gave an update on the Society's work with and relationship with some other organizations.

First, the Sunshine Coast Community Forest. Our relationship continues to be excellent. Dave Lasser responds in every way he can to our calls and requests. The actual Hidden Grove has expanded a bit thanks to him. We know Dave is there when we need him even if he decided to go on holiday tonight! Thank you Sunshine Coast Community Forest.

The District of Sechelt continue to support us with a free insurance program. In light of our excellent financial situation we did not apply for a Grant in Aid in this year. The Parks department with Perry Schmidt and the Public Works Department with John Mercer continues to be very helpful.

Your Hidden Grove folks are working with Sunshine Coast Trails Society to advise and help on the overall coast trails system. We recently completed a Sponsor document with the Sunshine Coast Community Foundation lending our charitable status to SC Trails so that they might apply for a special grant.

Then the President advised:

I am going to let Michael primarily address the topic of the future except for me to say we are seeing an end to development of the Groves so that it becomes a maintenance and improvement project. How soon this is the case depends upon how the remaining work in the Groves gets done including some upgrading in the Heritage Forest.

Our Bylaws allow us to take on projects outside the Groves provided they meet our Constitution. There are some ideas for work very close by and some further afield, like a trail for the SC Trails group up Mt. Richardson. No decisions have been made yet and we would go out to the full board and membership before getting too far off our current marks.

Michael Davidson was then called upon to give a brief rundown on the Plans for 2014 Sechelt Heritage Forest and Hidden Grove projects. He advised that with the completion of the sign installations there was lots of work to do:

- (1) Many of the Trails in the Sechelt Heritage Forest were built back when the level of expertise of the Trailbuilders was not at today's high standard. Many of the trails will be upgraded. There is a need to clear back foliage in some places.
- (2) The entrances on both sides of the Inlet Road will be re-done and the signage there too.
- (3) There are plans – maybe not for a year or so to augment the native plant culture in the Groves.
- (4) Someone has volunteered to do a more sophisticated GPS survey of all the trails so that the maps can be made much more accurate.
- (5) Meetings have been held with the Community Forest and they have agreed to provide funds for interpretative signage in the Groves. Design and placement are still in the early stages but generally there would be signs pointing out special items of interest and small signs identifying native plants. All would be carefully placed so as not turn the Grove into a sign heavy place.
- (6) Of course, maintenance will always be ongoing.

With that the floor was opened for suggestions and comments:

- (1) Kirk Exner asked if a relationship might be struck with the Sechelt Botanical Garden for the plant work and Michael advised that some communications was going on but it needed to be pursued more.
- (2) Kirk also asked if it might be reasonable to have a crosswalk marking – white hash markets - set up between the two entrances for the Sechelt Heritage Forest on Inlet Road. This was accepted as probably a very good idea but might not be possible as it depended so on Highway regulations and such. It will be looked into when the timing is right.

The President then moved to sum things up and specifically thanked the Mayor for coming and gratefully thanked Elise Rutland for coming to open up the board room in Dave Lasser's absence. The membership was thanked and he asked for a motion to adjourn. The Mayor then spoke to congratulate the Society for its work and said that it was the best example of volunteers doing a job and it should be held up for all to emulate – an asset to the community, the District and the Coast.

The Mayor was in turn thanked and a motion to adjourn was made by Mike Sutcliffe at 7:40 PM.

NOTE: COPIES OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOLLOW ON THE NEXT PAGES.

Sechelt Groves Society
Final 2013 Financial Statement
Year Ending: December 31, 2013

Income

	<u>General</u>		<u>\$2,694.89</u>
<i>Opening Balance January 1/13 was =</i>			
<u>GENERAL INCOME</u>			
Annual Memberships	\$690.00		
Memberships held at PayPal	\$0.00		
Over Annuals & Donations	\$8,133.38		
Over Annuals Held at PayPal	\$0.00		
SHCA Donation	\$0.00		
Sales of Goods or usage	\$0.00		
Miscellaneous	\$10.00		
Investment & Interest	\$0.00		
District Grant in Aid?	\$500.00		
0	\$0.00		
Total	\$9,333.38		\$9,333.38

	<u>Handicap</u>		<u>\$8,724.57</u>
<i>Opening Balance January 1/13 was =</i>			
<u>RESTRICTED GRANT INCOME(Handicap Trail #2)</u>			
Held at PayPal	\$0.00		
0	\$0.00		
0	\$0.00		
0	\$0.00		
0	\$0.00		
Total	\$0.00		\$0.00

\$20,752.84

Expenses

<u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u>			
PayPal Deductions	\$105.40		
Registration (society) costs	\$0.00		
Misc. Groves Materials	\$1,345.26		
Gifts Given	\$221.36		
Licenses/Permits/Memberships	\$25.00		
Meet and Greet	\$0.00		
Printing, Office, etc.	\$1,113.03		
Website - domain name 2 years	\$0.00		
Bank Services	\$53.41		
Plaques and Benches	\$515.01		
Total	\$3,378.47		\$3,378.47

<u>PROJECT EXPENSES(Handicap Trail Phase Two)</u>			
Compactor	\$537.60		
Big Bobcat-fuel	\$1,643.99		
Road Bed and C	\$1,355.77		
Culverts and installations	\$193.51		
Benches for Rest Areas	\$4,542.86		
Tools - Maintenance	\$343.27		
Trailbuilders	\$339.44		
0	\$0.00		
Total	\$8,956.44		\$8,956.44

-\$12,334.91

BALANCE - December-31-13 \$8,417.93

Sechelt Groves Society - General Expense			
Interim 2014 Financial Statement			
Updated: March 15, 2014			
		Opening Balance January 1/14 =	\$8,417.93
Income			
	<u>GENERAL INCOME</u>		
	Annual Memberships	\$300.00	
	Memberships held at PayPal	\$30.00	
	Over Annuals & Donations	\$605.00	
	Over Annuals Held at PayPal	\$80.00	
	SHCA Donation	\$0.00	
	Sales of Goods or usage	\$0.00	
	Miscellaneous	\$0.00	
	Investment & Interest	\$0.00	
	District Grant in Aid?	\$0.00	
		\$0.00	
		<u>\$1,015.00</u>	<u>\$9,432.93</u>
Expenses			
	<u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u>		
	PayPal Deductions	\$16.92	
	Registration (society) costs	\$0.00	
	Misc. Groves Materials	\$296.49	
	Gifts Given	\$0.00	
	Licenses/Permits/Memberships	\$40.00	
	Meet and Greet	\$0.00	
	Printing, Office, etc.	\$0.00	
	Website - domain name 2 years	\$0.00	
	Bank Services	\$11.25	
	Plaques and Benches	\$123.45	
		<u>\$488.11</u>	<u>\$488.11</u>
		OVERALL BALANCE	\$8,944.82

Robert D'Arcy

From: Robert D'Arcy <rdarcy@dccnet.com>
Sent: March-22-14 1:52 PM
To: GrovesBoard (board@secheltgroves.com)
Subject: AGM Approval - important.
Attachments: 2014AGMminutes.doc; 2014AGMminutes.pdf

OK guys. I need the minutes approved as have to file for the Society's Act, the insurance renewal, and the Bank. Approved I will also send an email out to membership and on the website as it is the latest news for all. Michael has vetted his bit since he was the only one other than me really presenting.

Please hit your reply button and put in the message below:
(just copy it and paste it in the reply area above this message)

I approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Sechelt Groves Society held on March 20, 2014 and as submitted to me as a Board Member by email in Word and PDF format on March 22, 2014.
I also confirm that I approve the current officers continuing in their present positions until the next AGM.
[Your Name]

Thanks,
Bob D'Arcy
President, Sechelt Groves Society
<http://secheltgroves.com>

Robert D'Arcy

From: Sechelt Groves Society <secheltgroves@eastlink.ca>
Sent: March-23-14 10:57 AM
To: rdarcy@dccnet.com
Subject: Sechelt Groves News

(Sent Blind To all past and present members on record plus others with registered emails)

Hi,

Just to let you know that the minutes of the AGM (approved by the Board) are now posted on the website at <http://secheltgroves.com/archives/2014/2014AGMminutes.pdf>
Full of good news.

We are now up to 50 paid members for 2014 but please note this comment in the AGM minutes:

“While donations are wonderful and needed I would like to point out that simple memberships are very important for our future. It is numbers that give us credibility with outside organizations and big foundations or government. Please encourage your friends to do the \$10 bit if nothing else.”

Remember you can join or renew by mail or online. Just go to <http://secheltgroves.com/join.html>

That's it for now. Please do not hesitate to email us with questions or comments.

Your Sechelt Groves Society
(See lots of stuff and keep up to date at our website – secheltgroves.com)

(If you wish to be removed from our membership or email list please advise by replying to this email with the word REMOVE in the subject line - we hope you don't do it!)

Robert D'Arcy

From: Robert D'Arcy <rdarcy@dccnet.com>
Sent: March-28-14 9:45 AM
To: Ray Parfitt (rparfitt@district.sechelt.bc.ca); Perry Schmidt (pschmitt@sechelt.ca); 'JMercer@sechelt.ca'
Subject: Hidden Grove Address?
Attachments: DSC03161.JPG

Hi Ray, John and Perry,

Not sure where to go with this one so have sent it to you three just in case.

We need a street address for the entrance to the Hidden Grove and 2 for the Sechelt Heritage Forest, I think! Why? Safety.

Some members have brought up an issue with 911 service. It goes to a mainland centre for handling and is then passed to Sechelt Fire or Ambulance as needed. The centre asks where you are including an address before doing anything about contacting any service in Sechelt. Just saying "Hidden Grove – Sechelt" may get you nowhere. Even then maybe the service would be ignorant of the locations.

Folks are carrying cellphones these days and in the event of a bad fall or, say, a heart attack may call 911. We note that the DoS are putting up signs with street addresses on beach accesses and 'park' places like the attached for the new Burnett Falls Park.

If we had an address for the Hidden Grove main entrance and the entrances both sides of Inlet Road for the Heritage Forest probably we would not put up signs (have not decided) but could consider making the address an addition to the maps we hand out and the ones we mount.

It is my understanding the addresses are obtained somehow through the provincial registry but by a municipality so we cannot get them.

Can you help us out?

Bob D'Arcy
President, Sechelt Groves Society
<http://secheltgroves.com>

Robert D'Arcy

From: Perry Schmitt <PSchmitt@sechelt.ca>
Sent: March-28-14 10:48 AM
To: 'Robert D'Arcy'; Ray Parfitt; John Mercer
Cc: pims@is.scrd.ca
Subject: RE: Hidden Grove Address?

Hi Bob,

Yes , the SCR D can supply addresses for access points to Hidden Grove. Please provide the location of these points and we will provide the appropriate addresses. There is a \$175 charge for each address provided. These addresses will be forwarded to ECOMM as well as other agencies requiring addressing updates (Telus, Hydro, etc.)

Regards

Brent

Hi Bob,

We just got signs and addresses for all of our beach accesses for the same reason. Our signs include the address for emergency responders, who to contact in case of any concerns or damage and the name of the access. We did the same for all our Parks a couple of years ago. The person you need to contact is Brent Parker (email is pims@scrd.ca) who is works for the SCR D. They will provide you with an address. The cost is around \$175.00 but that makes sure the address is registered in all the appropriate areas.

Good Luck,

Perry

From: Robert D'Arcy [<mailto:rdarcy@dccnet.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 28, 2014 9:45 AM
To: Ray Parfitt; Perry Schmitt; John Mercer
Subject: Hidden Grove Address?

Hi Ray, John and Perry,

Not sure where to go with this one so have sent it to you three just in case.

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Bob D'Arcy
President, Sechelt Groves Society
<http://secheltgroves.com>



You are here: [Home](#) ► [BLOG](#)



52 Weeks of Trails - Week 14 - Hidden Grove

In case you missed it, we've introduced our challenge to you for 2014-- 52 Weeks of Trails. Each week we'll blog about a trail (hike, bike, snowshoe, and paddle!) and we hope you enjoy and share your experience with us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), [Pinterest](#) and/or [Instagram](#) using #52weeksoftrails. Happy Trails!

Week #14: Hidden Grove

Thanks to [Coracle Cove Waterfront Suite](#) for sharing their trail tips and photos with us for another great guest blog this week. [Coracle Cove](#) is situated on Sechelt Inlet just a short jaunt away from Hidden Grove. The owners love sharing the beautiful Sunshine Coast with their visitors and write a blog called "[Everything Sunshine Coast](#)"-- local tips for visitors.



"How good is this... a walk through a beautiful forest and a chance to do some photography – sounds like the perfect outing for me!! Hidden Grove is just five minutes from [Coracle Cove](#) and I've been spending a lot of time there lately.

A series of wonderful trails has been created over the past few years and a second, widened trail with a good smooth base has just been finished by the hard working crew of volunteers. Both are perfect for the wheels of your choice – a wheel chair or a child's stroller - providing increased access to a broader spectrum of users.

There's a cultural history component to the trail system as well. Shortly after entering the trails you'll notice several trees which have undergone bark stripping. The shíshálh Nation who have settled the area for several millennia, continue to harvest the bark of the cedar tree to make traditional baskets, regalia and clothing. The bark is relatively thin and grows back quickly.



The history of Hidden Grove is also one of survival... survival from natural fires of several centuries ago, which left charred bark up to a foot thick on the largest Douglas firs. More recently, the area was scheduled for logging but the local community rallied together and Hidden Grove has been saved again.

Today these precious 125 acres have been set aside solely for recreation and less than 5 minutes away from Coracle Cove, they provide our guests a nearby opportunity for both solitude and a re-connection with nature.

The main trail rises gently, passing rocky outcrops and mossy plateaus and I branched off to the yellow trail to take this picture. The trail wound its way around a large outcropping of rocks and the view from the top was outstanding. It shows the very narrow stretch of land upon which the town of Sechelt sits and how it got its first name "Land Between Two Waters." We could just make out Vancouver Island in the distance across the Salish Sea.





The extensive trail system loops through some interesting micro-climates and vegetation. Coming down from Pine Bluff, I picked up the Red Trail and as I followed it further, the change in vegetation was dramatic with a profusion of low growing ferns and moss covered tree trunks.

The network of trails is well marked with signs like this at each intersection, and it's impossible to lose one's way. Today, it seemed as if I had the trails completely to myself, with the exception of a couple of woodpeckers who kept me company with their rhythmic tapping on the trunks of the trees."



***Direction to trailhead:** Coming from Gibsons at the main traffic light in Sechelt turn right onto Wharf Road and then right after 600 meters to Sechelt Inlet Road. Follow Sechelt Inlet Road for 6 kilometres to the head of the trail marked along this road. There is a parking area off the road on the Hidden Grove side.

***Trail Map**

***Note for dog walkers:** this is a legal off-leash area for well behaved dogs, so don't forget to bring your favorite pooch for a great hike.

***Hidden Grove** also has a [dedicated website](#) created by the Sechelt Groves Society. Its packed full of great

SUNSHINE COAST COMMUNITY FOREST

2013 ANNUAL REPORT

WILD RHODODENDRONS

In the fall a project by the Sechelt Groves Society saw wild rhododendron plants relocated from the Community Forest location on Elphinstone to Hidden Grove. These seedlings were removed from Elphinstone, with permission from the Community Forest, and planted into specific locations within Hidden Grove under the guidance of Harry Hill and Ron Knight of the Sunshine Coast Botanical Garden Society. The plants are just babies now but in about three years they should be fully developed, flowering and adding spring colour to Hidden Grove.

Correction rhodo information

Editor:

I write to correct an error that appeared in *Coast Reporter* on April 18 within the Sunshine Coast community forest's 2013 report.

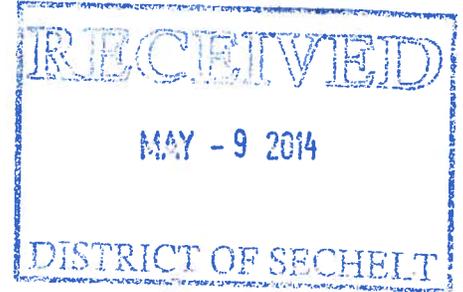
Under the heading "wild rhododendrons" the writer said, "In the fall a project by the Sechelt Groves Society saw wild rhododendron plants relocated from the community forest location on Elphinstone to Hidden Grove. These seedlings were removed from Elphinstone, with permission from the community forest, and planted into specific locations within Hidden Grove under the guidance of Harry Hill and Ron Knight of the

Sunshine Coast Botanical Garden Society."

What actually happened is that I visited the Elphinstone rhododendron grove several years ago and took home a few ripe seed pods (which gardeners call "deadheading"). The seeds from these pods were germinated over the next few months and the tiny seedlings were transplanted into pots of peat moss and perlite. After three years, the young rhododendrons were about 20 cm tall and some of these were planted in Hidden Grove, as well as at the Sunshine Coast Botanical Garden.

I would not want any Sunshine Coast residents to think that it is ever acceptable to remove native rhododendron plants from the wild. The Pacific rhododendron (*R. macrophyllum*) located on Mount Elphinstone is an extremely rare variation of the species that is found only on the Sunshine Coast and at Shawnigan Lake on Vancouver Island. In fact, the plant is so rare that it was protected by law in the last century. The Pacific rhododendron is notoriously difficult to grow in home gardens; however, gardeners who would like to try can order specimens through local garden centres.

Ron Knight, Garden Bay



May 5, 2014

Sechelt Groves Society
Attn: Victor Mema
c/o District of Sechelt
5797 Cowrie Street
Sechelt, BC V0N 3A0

Dear Victor:

Re: Sechelt Groves Society – Commercial Insurance Program

Further to our email correspondence of May 5, 2014, we are pleased to enclose the following documentation with respect to the Sechelt Groves Society:

Commercial General Liability - Policy no. RAP2605742

- Formal policy documentation issued by Royal and Sun Alliance Insurance Company of Canada evidencing coverage in place for a one year term effective June 29, 2014

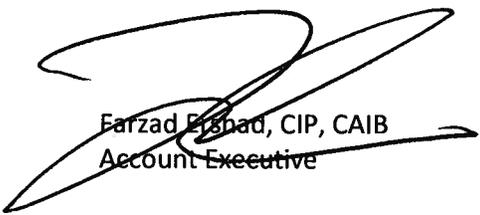
Directors & Officers Liability – Policy no. CDO3509483

- As this policy was renewed for a two year policy term for the term June 29, 2013 – June 29, 2015, insurers will not be issuing any policy documentation this term. If you do require a copy of this policy, please advise and we will forward a soft copy via email. Note, the renewal premium is included in the invoice included in this package.

Also enclosed, please find our invoice (no. 3260000020515000) in the amount of \$1,640 representing the total premium due, along with our disclosure notice. Please note payment is due to our office upon receipt of our invoice.

We trust you find the enclosed to be in order; however, should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 604.443.2527.

Yours truly,
Aon Reed Stenhouse Inc.



Farzad Eghad, CIP, CAIB
Account Executive

/kp

c.c Bob D'Arcy - Sechelt Groves Society



Sechelt Groves Society
Declarations

RENEWAL CERTIFICATE

Declarations

In consideration of the premium stated, the Insurer(s) will indemnify the Insured in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Policy and attached forms and endorsements. Insurance is provided for only those coverages for which forms and endorsements are attached and specific amounts of insurance are stated.

Insured and Policy Information	
Named Insured	Sechelt Groves Society
Address of Insured	C/O District of Sechelt Box 129 Sechelt, BC V0N 3A0
Insurer(s)	Royal and Sun Alliance Insurance Company of Canada
Policy Status	Renewal
Policy Period	June 29, 2014 – June 29, 2015 both dates 12:01 a.m. Standard Time at the address of the Named Insured as stated herein
Premium	\$ 1,040.00

Important Information for Insureds

PLEASE READ ALL DOCUMENTS

This Policy is issued and accepted subject to the following provisions, stipulations and conditions which form part of this Policy, together with other provisions, agreements, or conditions which may be endorsed or added.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF THE INSURER(S), has executed this Policy which is not valid unless countersigned by an authorized representative of the Insurer(s).

Signed on Behalf of Insurer(s)

Aon Reed Stenhouse Inc.

Royal & SunAlliance Insurance Company of Canada

Date

Issued at Vancouver, BC

AonProtect+

PLEASE REFER TO THE POLICY WORDING FOR COMPLETE DETAILS OF THE COVERAGE. THESE DECLARATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE POLICY.

1



AMENDMENT

Substitution of Limits/Sublimits of Liability

The expressions Limit of Liability and Sublimit of liability shall be substituted for the expression Limit of Insurance and Sublimit of Insurance wherever they appear in the policy to which these Declarations are attached. Any policy language related to these expressions is amended accordingly.

THE POLICY CONTAINS A CLAUSE THAT MAY LIMIT THE AMOUNT PAYABLE

AonProtect+

PLEASE REFER TO THE POLICY WORDING FOR COMPLETE DETAILS OF THE COVERAGE. THESE DECLARATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE POLICY.

2

**Cancellation of Policy
No**

RAP2605742

If you wish to cancel this Policy, please sign the following and return this document to your broker/agent.
In consideration of a RETURN PREMIUM to be calculated as provided in the policy conditions and to be paid by the Insurer(s) to the Insured, this Policy is hereby cancelled.

Date

Signature of Insured

PAYEE, if any, must discharge interest by signing this form

Payee

PLEASE REFER TO THE POLICY WORDING FOR COMPLETE DETAILS OF THE COVERAGE.
THESE DECLARATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE POLICY.

AonProtect+

GENERAL LIABILITY

Limits of Liability	
Bodily Injury & Property Damage - Each Occurrence	2,000,000
Personal and Advertising Injury Liability	2,000,000
Medical Expenses	5,000
General Aggregate Limit	10,000,000
Annual Aggregate, Products and Completed Operations	2,000,000
Tenant's Legal Liability - All Risks	1,000,000
Non-Owned Automobile Liability	2,000,000
Legal Liability for Damage to Hired Automobiles	50,000
Employee Benefits Liability	1,000,000
Annual Aggregate	1,000,000
Fire Fighting Expenses	100,000
Deductibles	
Bodily Injury & Property Damage - Each Occurrence	1,000
Legal Liability for Damage to Hired Automobile - each Occurrence	1,000
Tenant's Legal Liability - All Risks	500
Employee Benefits Liability - Each Claim	1,000
Fire Fighting Expenses	1,000
Special Exclusions/Restrictions	
Long Term Leased Vehicles	
Absolute Pollution Exclusion	

PLEASE REFER TO THE POLICY WORDING FOR COMPLETE DETAILS OF THE COVERAGE.
THESE DECLARATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE POLICY.



FORMS ATTACHED

- APP300-E October 1, 2008 Version 2
- APP304-E June 20, 2002 Rev. 1
- APP305-E June 20, 2002 Rev. 1
- APP307-E September 13th, 2002 Rev. 3
- APP308-E June 20, 2002 Rev. 1
- APP309-E September 13th, 2002 Rev. 2
- APP318-E October 1, 2008 Version 1.0.1

PLEASE REFER TO THE POLICY WORDING FOR COMPLETE DETAILS OF THE COVERAGE.
THESE DECLARATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE POLICY.

Sunshine Coast Regional District

1975 Field Road
Sechelt, British Columbia
Canada V0N 3A1

P 604.885.6800
F 604.885.7909
Toll free 1.800.687.5753

info@scrd.ca
www.scrd.ca



May 12, 2014

Sechelt Groves Society c/o Bob D'Arcy
5866 Deerhorn Drive
Sechelt, B.C.
Canada
V0N 3A4

Dear Sir/Madam:

Re: DL Sechelt Heritage Forest

The Sunshine Coast Regional District has established a region wide Civic Address system for the developed areas between Port Mellon and Egmont. The number assigned to the above-described property is:

7000 SECHELT INLET ROAD - Hidden Grove

Several agencies will be using this number to respond to their emergency and daily routine calls. These include such services as: Fire Departments, Ambulance, Police, B.C. Hydro, Cable and Telus (911). It is important to display this new number as soon as possible. It is imperative that the number be at least 4 inches in height and highly visible from the street.

Should you have any questions concerning your civic address or if you feel your assigned number does not correctly reflect your location, please contact the Regional District office.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brent Parker".

Brent Parker, AScT
Property Information and Mapping Services

May 21, 2014

Subject: Sechelt Groves News #18
Attachments: SGS News 140521.pdf

Sechelt Groves Society

(Sent blind to all current and past members plus some special folks)

(PDF version attached too for your convenience or to print out easily.)

May 21, 2014

Dear xxxxxxxxxxxx,

It just seems time to send you another newsletter to keep you posted on our wonderful Groves. The last newsletter was back in February.

As scheduled, we held our AGM on March 20th. The full minutes may be viewed on the website at <http://secheltgroves.com/latest.html> and include some planning presentations.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2014? You can check on the website by clicking the link mid-right at <http://secheltgroves.com/society.html> . It is only by showing strong public support that we can have any influence with all levels of the government and with those corporate folks who can help us out.

Here is part of a nice email we received last month:

"To whom it may concern

This Spring I had the opportunity to discover most of the trails that you have put so much effort into creating. You have really done a superb job and are a credit to the community.

In appreciation of your work, I am enclosing a cheque to cover the 2014 membership for my wife and myself, and a \$100 donation.

Keep up the good work, "

You may have noticed the website has been revised substantially. Now that the main projects for the current Groves are near completion we wanted to make the site more receptive to visitors and put the Society business more into the background. There is still revision work going on but any suggestions will be welcomed.

The fourth dedicated bench is installed and looks lovely in Ancient Grove near the end of the "Take It Easy" trail. (Have you considered one for your special cause?).

Our wonderful Trailbuilders (Thanks as always, guys), as this message is being written, are on the doing the last bits for the current planned trails in the Hidden Grove. This means we will be moving ahead with the installation of the metal signs replacing the laminated cardboard. The District of Sechelt has kindly agreed to pick up the bill for the new signs.

You will see another big change to the signs. They will give an address and instructions for phoning 911 in the event of an unfortunate incident. We met with the Fire and Ambulance services to get their advice. It required that the Groves have an official recorded address to give when 911 calls were made and we have one – "7000 Sechelt Inlet Road". DO NOT send mail to this. It is just for identification of location. We hope this new step will make our Groves safer for all.

We continue to follow-up on the Section 56 designation (full government protection) and as always the wheels of government turn slowly but we are not hearing of any problems.

Lastly, another thank you to our wonderful Trailbuilders. Here is recent email – in part:

“Anyway, just wanted to say thank you for your efforts. They are appreciated.

As a little comment - one of my buddies is fighting cancer and loosing. A small group of us went for a walk last Saturday at Hidden Grove with him. Several stops along the way to catch a breath- but I know he was lifted by beauty of the trails and the park itself. You should know how much it meant to him.”

That's it for now. Please do not hesitate to email us with questions or comments.

Your Sechelt Groves Society

(See lots of stuff and keep up to date at our website – secheltgroves.com)

(If you wish to be removed from our membership or email list please advise by replying to this email with the word REMOVE in the subject line - we hope you don't do it!)



This email is free from viruses and malware because [avast! Antivirus](#) protection is active.

MAY 23, 2014

The wild rhododendrons of Mount Elphinstone



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Ron Knight hosted the final rhododendron festival at Caron Gardens on May 17 with a garden tour, free seminars and the opportunity to purchase award-winning rhododendrons. Knight will present a slideshow on the native rhododendrons that grow on Mount Elphinstone, May 26 at the Seaside Centre.

Anyone who has taken a late spring trip through Manning Park has probably noticed the beautiful pink-flowering shrubs lining Highway 1.

These magnificent plants are the Pacific rhododendron, *R. macrophyllum*.

Members of this species are also found in the wild in Oregon and Washington, as well as at Nanaimo and Shawnigan Lake on Vancouver Island. However, right here on the Sunshine Coast, on Mount Elphinstone, we likely have the most northerly stand of macrophyllums in the Pacific Northwest.

Rhododendron macrophyllum is the tallest of B.C.'s native rhododendrons. It has large, glossy-green leaves and groups of twenty or more pink flowers appear at the ends of branches.

Ron Knight, who owns Caron Gardens in Pender Harbour, will present a slideshow presentation entitled The Wild Rhododendrons of Mount Elphinstone to the Sechelt Garden Club at the Seaside Centre on May 26 at 7:30 p.m. Visitors are welcome.

Knight first learned that the Pacific rhododendron grew wild on the Sunshine Coast from reading an article by a geneticist, Dr. Ben Hall, in the winter 2006 issue of the

American Rhododendron Society Journal. Hall had visited Mount Elphinstone with local environmentalists and members of the Vancouver Rhododendron Society, and had collected leaf and flower bud samples. He used these tissue samples to study the DNA of the rhododendrons and found that the Mount Elphinstone population was a distinct genetic variation of the species that preferred to live near salt water.

Following a trip into the area, Knight contacted Brian Smart, a forester who had spearheaded the development of the Sunshine Coast Community Forest (SCCF) plan. The SCCF board has provided signage in the Mount Elphinstone grove and also arranged for the planting of macrophyllum seedlings in Hidden Grove, in an attempt to establish a satellite population. Other seedlings have been planted at the Sunshine Coast Botanical Garden and should put out their first blooms in two or three years.

The wild rhododendrons of Mount Elphinstone are a local treasure. We can all be proud of the efforts taken by the SCCF board and the Sunshine Coast Botanical Garden Society to protect these rare, native plants.

— Submitted



Sechelt Groves Society

c/o 5866 Deerhorn Drive, Sechelt, B.C., V0N 3A4

Email: secheltgroves@eastlink.ca

Web Site: <http://secheltgroves.com>

Phone: 604-885-5766

Date: June 19, 2014

BY EMAIL

Sechelt Fire Department
Attention: CFO/Chief Bill Higgs

Re: 911 provisions for Sechelt Groves

Hi Bill,

I thought a formal update was due so you know what we have done for the Groves and getting you to any 911 calls plus seeking your advice on any further steps.

1. We now have a formal registered address for the Sechelt Groves Society and the Groves as: "**7000 Sechelt Inlet Road, Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A4**".
2. A simple address sign (as required by all the authorities) at the entrance of the Hidden Grove is being fabricated and should be up in a week or two. It will just be a simple clear board with the address on it and mounted below the Hidden Grove entrance sign.
 - a. It, of course, refers to all the Groves – not just the "Hidden" one.
3. All the post signs in the Hidden Grove are being replaced with metal ones with a notation of instructions for calling 911. These are on order at Vital Signs and should be installed within a few weeks. There are over 40 of them. A sample one is in with this letter.
4. The large map in the Kiosk has a notation on it reading "Tell Operator You are at 7000 Sechelt Inlet Road—And the Intersection Post Number"
5. The handout maps at the Kiosk box have a similar notation on them and as soon as the new post signs are in will have the new map on them.

We cannot think of what more to do but maybe you have some ideas. We would be pleased to try and do whatever else you think is best.

Now, a favour. I did not get too far with Scott Spain on this. Not his fault but it is just that the ambulance service seems to function more regionally and may not have simple on line map and address notations to refer to. Could I impose on you to discuss this with Scott noting that we have done what we can so far? We just want it to work if someone has a problem in the Groves and calls 911.

Also, do we have to do anything with the actual 911 folks or does this look after its self now or have you any advice on that.

Lastly, thanks for all your attention and we hope we 'NEVER' have call to you for anything<grin>

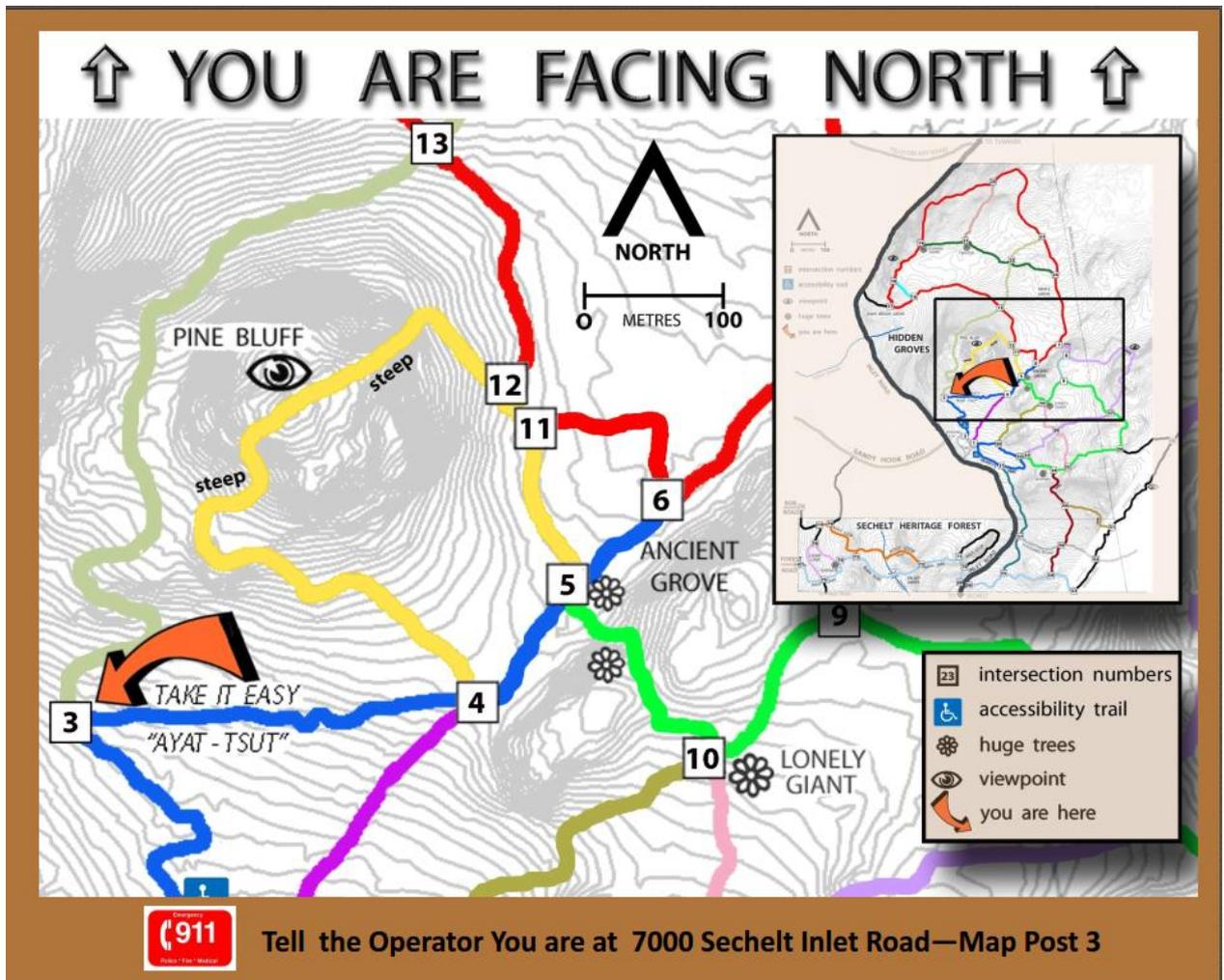
Yours truly,

R. B. D'Arcy (computer signature)

Bob D'Arcy
President
Sechelt Groves Society

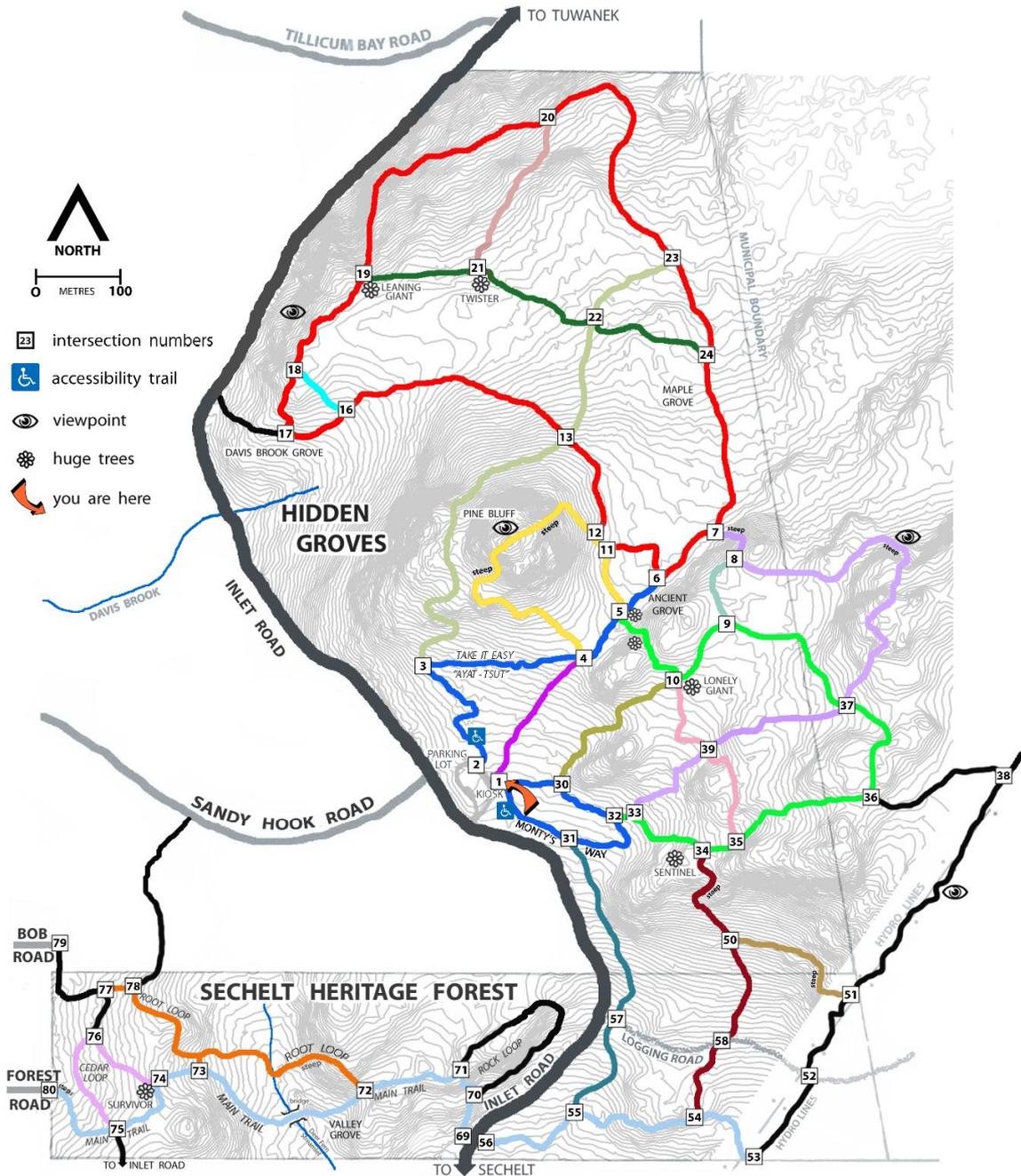
Support the Society - Become a Member - Donate - All Online

A typical post sign. EVERY post has one (in a couple of weeks that is).



A response need only refer to the new map (attached) to see the post number and follow the colour coded path. You cannot get lost!

THE NEW MAP. Please replace the one I sent you earlier. A separate PDF copy is attached to this email for your use. If you want it in some other format let me know.



Support the Society - Become a Member - Donate - All Online

To RCMP Sechelt/Gibsons

Re: 911 instructions for Sechelt Groves

We are sure you are aware of the over 125 acres and over 15K of trails within the District of Sechelt out by Sandy Hook. They are known as the Sechelt Heritage Forest or Hidden Grove or just the Sechelt Groves collectively.

We became aware of certain issues with calls going to 911 from anyone in distress within the Groves. 911 needed a street address to properly setup a response. It seemed important to do something especially with many seniors using the trails, there being 2 special accessibility trails for those in wheelchair and such and with the proliferation of cell phones making calls possible from well into the forest.

We worked with Bill Higgs of the Fire Department and also have ambulance and paramedics on side; all aware of new steps we have taken and they have confirmed they have put in place procedures to take advantage of what we have done. There might be calls about a police matter too.

We would appreciate you taking whatever action you see fit to take advantage of our efforts.

1. The Groves (all inclusive) now have a formal street address though the SCRCD and New Westminster:
"7000 Sechelt Inlet Road"
 - a. This is the address that callers may give to 911 and it will be used by 911 to contact services.
 - b. In addition a caller may give a marker post number to direct services to the right spot.
2. At the main entrance to the Hidden Grove there is a kiosk with a full map of the Groves showing all the marker post numbers throughout.
3. Also at the kiosk are usually (not always) a supply of "take-away" maps with the same information.
4. MOST IMPORTANTLY - Every marker post has instructions for calling 911 as you can see at the bottom on the attached example post marker.

We hope this is helpful to you. I would be delighted to answer any questions, take suggestions or even have tours conducted if you wish – pretty well anything.

We also want to express our thanks for all that you do make our community such a fine and safe place to be.

Yours truly,

Sechelt Groves Society

R. B. D'Arcy (computer signature)

Bob D'Arcy

President

Email: secheltgroves@eastlink.ca Please visit for more detail: secheltgroves.com

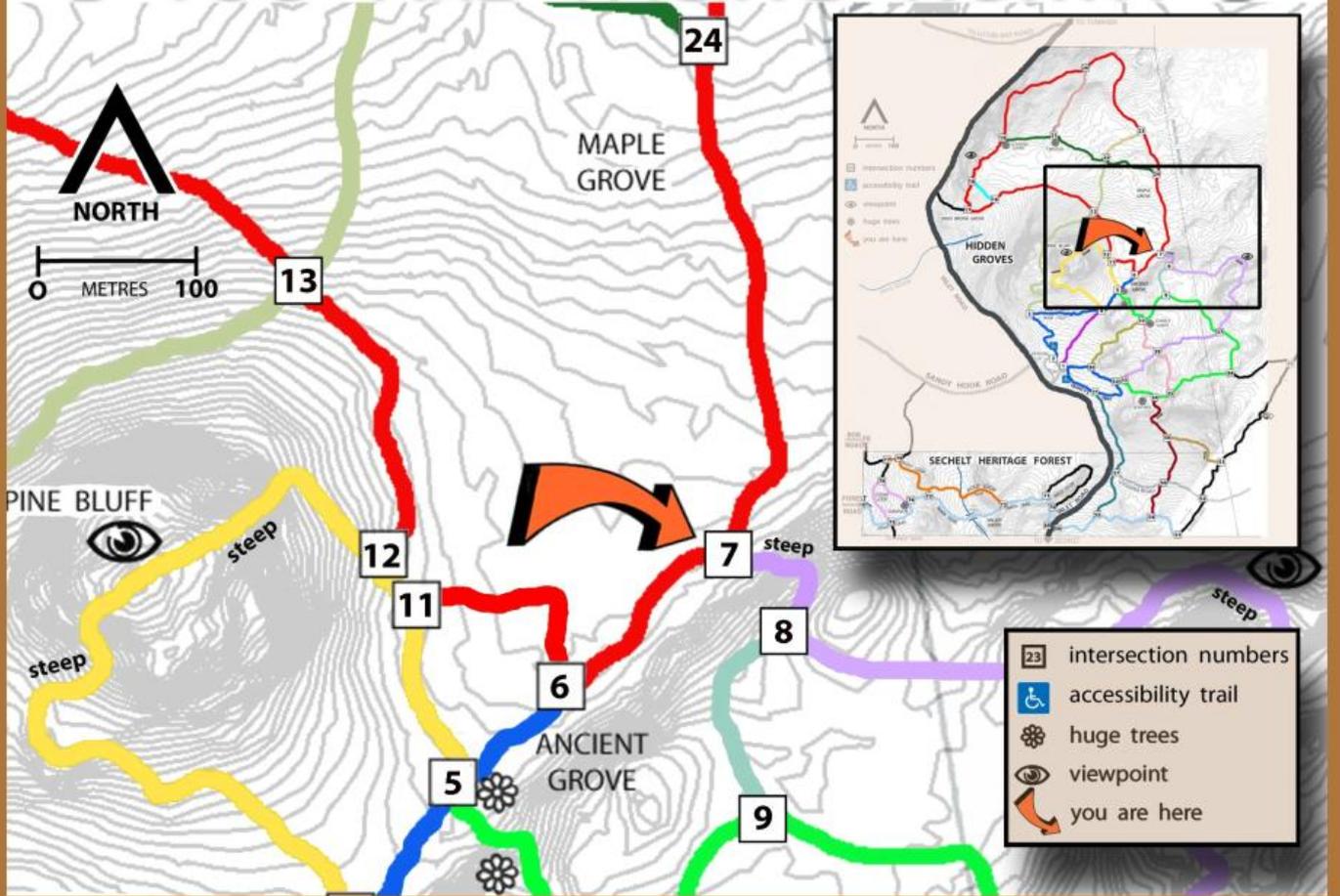
Phone: 604-885-5766

BIG PS. The new signs are currently being made by Vital Signs and we hope to have them installed within the next 2 to 3 weeks so this notice is a bit pre-mature. We just wanted things to get in place in a timely way so have jumped the gun a bit.

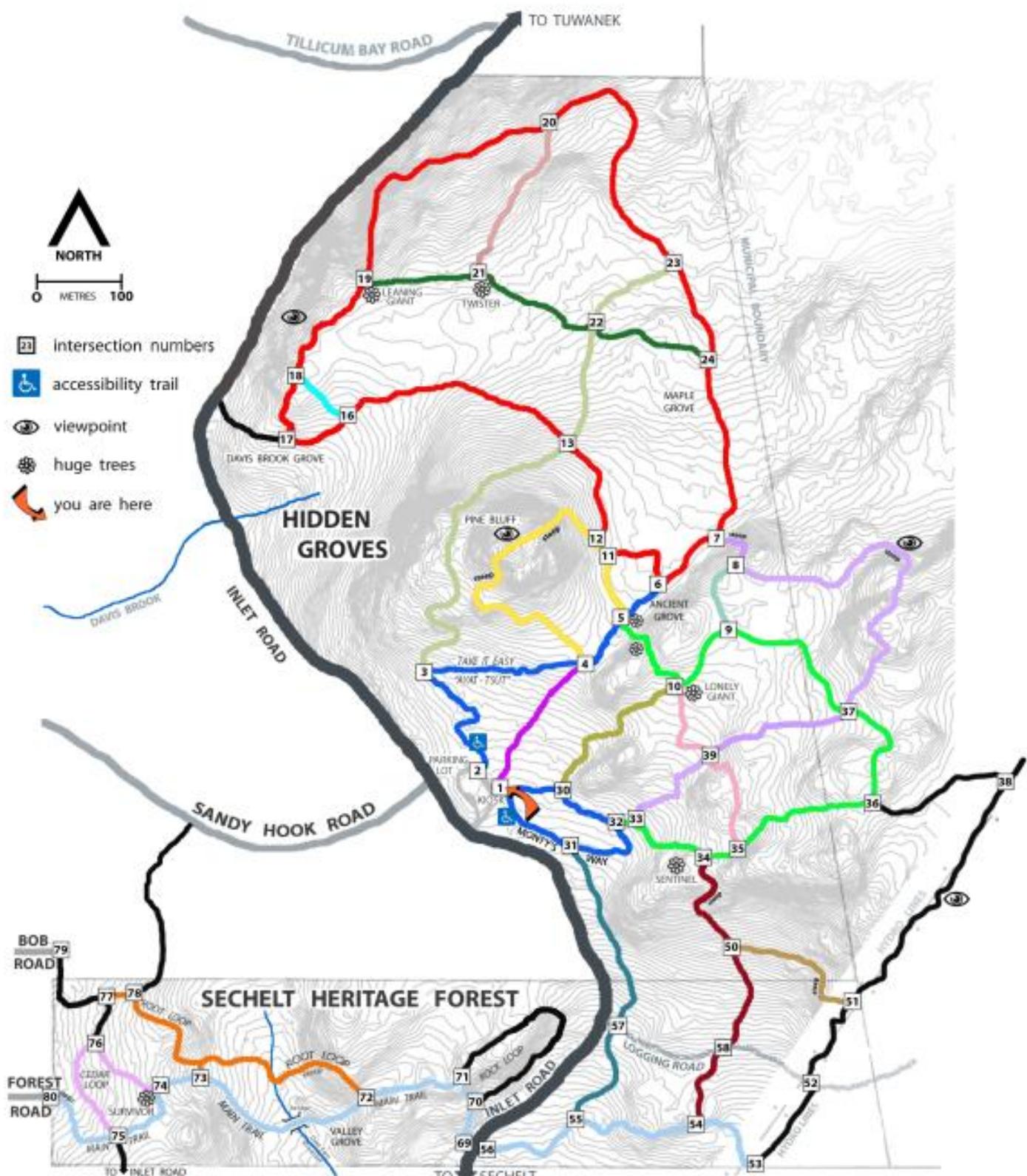
Attachments: Sample Post Marker

Latest Groves Map

↑ YOU ARE FACING NORTH ↑



Tell the Operator You are at 7000 Sechelt Inlet Road—Map Post 7



-  intersection numbers
-  accessibility trail
-  viewpoint
-  huge trees
-  you are here

 Tell Operator You are at 7000 Sechelt Inlet Road—And the Intersection Post Number Nearest

July 6. 2014

Subject: Sechelt Groves - CAUTION
Attachments: 1407Map ONLY.compressed.pdf

Sechelt Groves Society

(Sent blind to all current and past members plus some special folks)

Not too serious but worth a word. For the next 2 weeks or so be aware of some changes in the Groves.

For about 2 weeks the Trailbuilders will be changing all the post signs in the Hidden Grove and some in the Heritage Forest to new metal ones that are following a new map and scheme. Some post numbers are changed and some trail colours are changed – all to properly document the new final trails just completed. The big kiosk map is being up dated too.

For this short period the Kiosk map may not exactly reflect what is in the Groves. The hand out maps will be changed to show the new map so they too may be a bit ahead of time. (See attached copy of UPDATED map)

We don't think there is any danger of you getting lost due to the changeover but this way you know what is going on and that there is no need to point out apparent errors to us until it is all done.

Watch for a full newsletter in a few weeks to bring you up to date on everything.

Your Sechelt Groves Society

(See lots of stuff and keep up to date at our website – secheltgroves.com)

(If you wish to be removed from our membership or email list please advise by replying to this email with the word REMOVE in the subject line - we hope you don't do it!)

Robert D'Arcy

From: Sechelt Groves Society <secheltgroves@eastlink.ca>
Sent: July-20-14 12:58 PM
To:
Subject: Sechelt Groves News #19

Sechelt Groves Society
(Sent blind to all current and past members plus some special folks)

July 20, 2014

Dear

It has been nearly 2 months since our last newsletter but what a 2 months. Just a partial list of things:

- All the currently planned trails for the Groves have been built including several new loops and the big trail to the west – all to give you variety in your regular walks. There are now over 15 kilometers of trails for you.
- All the laminated signs in the Groves have now been replaced with metal ones and these show the new colour coding for some trails and new map post numbers.
- The main signs in the kiosk have been renewed to reflect up to date information.
- As indicated in May we can now confirm our new street and postal address as - 7000 Sechelt Inlet Road. Police, Fire and Ambulance along with 911 are all aware of the new listing so that any calls for help in the Groves can quickly be responded to. The new hand out maps and brochures include instructions.
- The rhododendrons are doing just fine even if you don't know where they are (secret so none were taken). Next spring they will be obvious with flowers.

As this letter is written we have 74 paid up members including six Life members and many Gold Sponsors and Friends. Is your membership up to date – go online to renew or join. Donate too!

Our super-duper volunteer Trailbuilders still have much more planned for the Groves so keep your eyes open as you visit. Just a few things: installation of a bike rack; installation of interpretative signage for educating; major upgrading of some trails and in particular some of the older ones in the Heritage Forest. We are still working on that Section 56 protection.

That's it until next time. Enjoy the Groves.

Your Sechelt Groves Society
(See lots of stuff and keep up to date at our website – secheltgroves.com)

(If you wish to be removed from our membership or email list please advise by replying to this email with the word REMOVE in the subject line - we hope you don't do it!)

Hidden Grove

7000 Sechelt Inlet Road

NEWS

↳ HIDDEN GROVE

Milestone for Sechelt Groves Society

This past week the Sechelt Groves Society, the custodians of both the Sechelt Heritage Forest and the Hidden Grove, looked back over the progress of the months of 2014 and were able to say, "Well done."

The volunteer trail builders, who work on the trails every week, have finished most of the planned projects for the Groves. Several new long trails have been built with a major loop in the north and another one out into a new area granted to the Groves by the Sunshine Coast Community Forest.

Some short trails provide new loops that add more variety to the walks already available. At the same time, these new loops preserve the forest's quiet and solitude even when others are visiting the Groves.

New colour-coded trail markers have

been installed and old ones refurbished.

All the intersection sign posts (over 65 of them) in the Hidden Grove have been updated with some colour changes to reflect the added trails. All the laminated signs are now replaced with metal ones.

The main guide signs in the kiosk have been redone to reflect the new trails and update the history and the list of donors.

Three patches of rare Elphinstone rhododendrons have been planted to assist in the saving and proliferation of this special species. Watch for flowers next spring.

The Groves now have an official street address: 7000 Sechelt Inlet Road. This will greatly assist in the event that anyone must call 9-1-1 for emergency help. Guidance for calling 9-1-1 is on all the new hand-out maps and brochures.

See MORE page 18

More improvements on the way

From page 17

And more is planned!

Interpretative educational signage is to be installed, and a committee is currently working with the Sunshine Coast Community Forest, which has agreed to sponsor the signs. As the years have passed, the trail builders have become more skilled, and the newer trails reflect that increased expertise. Now it is time to upgrade the old trails,

particularly in the Heritage Forest.

The clearing of non-native plants — principally near the entrances — will be undertaken along with some replanting of native species.

It is worthy of special comment that the Groves so far have had few instances of litter or vandalism and very few problems with misbehaving dogs. We're also pleased that cycling folks have respected the Groves as out-of-bounds. Thank you all.

The Society would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of the sponsors (listed at the kiosk and on the website) and donors (some from as far away as the U.K. and Korea), our wonderful membership and especially the dedicated volunteer trail builders. Without these people, this wonderful treasure in Sechelt would not exist. See more about the Groves at secheltgroves.com.

— Submitted

www.coastreporter.net

Cities consider laying to rest ‘In Memoriam’ park benches 19

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Coquitlam just the latest to consider halting the tributes, saying they create a ‘cemetery-like environment’

The memorial park bench — used for decades to pay loving tribute to late family and friends — is facing a backlash in parts of Metro Vancouver.



Park benches throughout Metro Vancouver, like this one in Harbour Green Park, have been used for decades to memorialize lost family and friends.

Coquitlam Mayor Richard Stewart said he personally doesn't find the memorial benches offensive and expects that his council will likely pass a motion in the fall to allow the practice to continue, while offering other alternatives such as more celebratory messages to those who don't want a "death marker."

"We owe it to our residents to be very careful interpreting this," Stewart said, adding he has only heard from two people who are opposed to the inmemoriam benches. "There are various ways to celebrate someone's life. Folks just get used to the idea of 'let's take out a bench.' I don't want to prohibit anything, I just want people to make their decisions based on all options."

The proposed changes in Coquitlam are part of an overhaul of the city's donations and gift policy, which was created in 1997 and is out of line in terms of the costs of keeping them up. The staff report noted Coquitlam charges about \$ 1,600 for a donation bench, but it costs about \$ 2,200 to buy and install one, plus \$ 400 in maintenance over a 10- year period.

Across the region, the costs for benches vary, with Port Coquitlam charging \$ 1,200, Richmond \$ 1,500, Port Moody \$ 2,000, Surrey \$ 2,400 and Vancouver \$ 4,000. Most cities maintain the donated amenities for 10 years, at which time the donor has the option to renew the bench or tree or have the plaque returned. Loved ones can also donate benches in loving memory in Metro Vancouver's regional parks for 15 years.

Stewart noted there is a need to have a 10- year limit on the donated benches, noting that space is running out in many parks across the region.

The city has about 160 donated benches and picnic tables in city parks, with just under half of them located in the Town Centre and Como Lake parks, while there has been a moratorium on donation benches at Como Lake Park and around Lafarge Lake since the late 1990s.

Other parks across the region are also full, including Richmond's West Dyke Trail from Terra Nova to Garry Point Park the Middle Arm Trail from No. 2 Road West to the end of River Road. West Vancouver has a waiting list for all of its parks, while its waterfront parks are no longer available. In Surrey, Blackie Spit Park, Crescent Beach or Holland Park are among those that are not up for grabs.

Coquitlam is debating a staff suggestion to rub out "In Memoriam" musings and lifetime dates on its donated park benches after some residents complained that "memorial amenities in public parks create a cemetery-like environment" and limit their enjoyment.

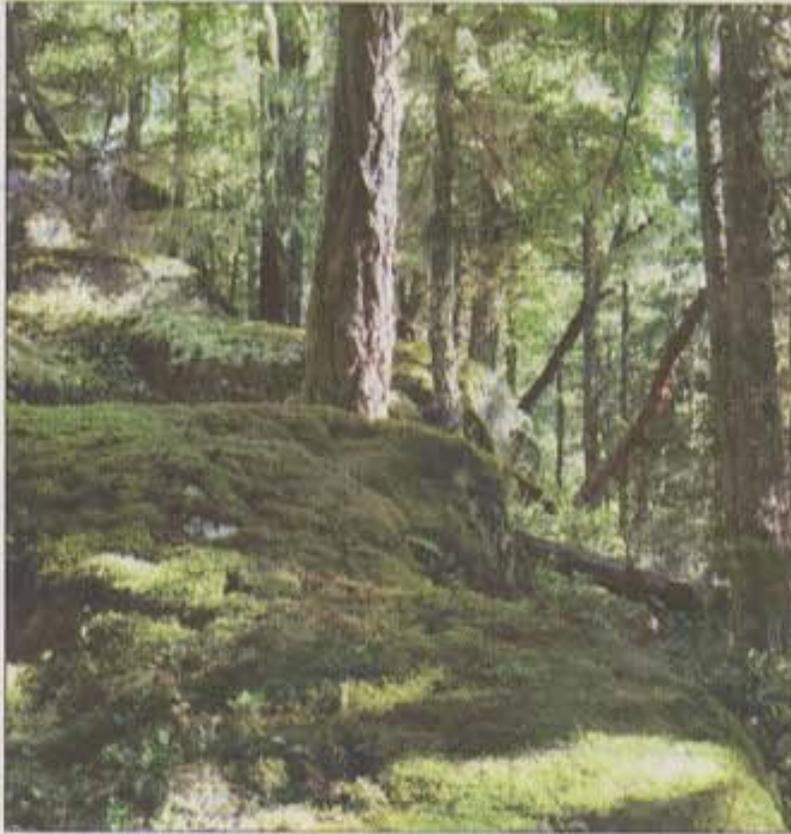
If approved, the city would follow others such as Surrey and West Vancouver, which already prohibit turning donated trees or benches into shrines.

"We're trying to change the wording so they don't read like a cemetery," said Stacey Rosa, park partnering assistant in Surrey. "We want people, when they're sitting on a bench, to have a nice uplifting experience and not a depressing one."

The District of West Vancouver website suggests that "persons desiring a memorial may consider a variety of options available at Capilano View Cemetery."

An acceptable tribute for a bench in West Vancouver, for example, would include the loved one's name and a message such as: "Sharing your love of mountains and sea. Your family and friends." Surrey trots out this gem from a city donor: "Husband, dad, grandpa, friend. The best man we have ever known. May we always share your view." Municipalities have long used donated trees, picnic tables or benches to memorialize loved ones, many with personal inscriptions along with birth and death dates. Bike racks are also becoming increasingly popular, especially in Vancouver, which, along with cities like Richmond and Burnaby, still allow in- memoriam message plaques on its park amenities.

Hidden Grove has surprises in a big way.



In a cathedral of rainforest giants and mossy granite outcroppings, Hidden Grove has accessible hiking and trail walks suitable for people with mobility aids and strollers. Along with these well-groomed, packed gravel trails, there's also advanced hiking opportunities. Just a ten minute drive up Sechelt Inlet, you may discover a unique combination of ancient trees, maple wetland and rocky promontories. There's easy access and parking at the entrance to trails, which are well marked with colour-coded orientation and mini-maps.

With views of Vancouver Island and Sechelt Inlet, most trails are a minimal chal-

Trail walks suitable for people with mobility aids and strollers.

lenge. There's also a legal off-leash area for well behaved dogs. There are two accessibility trails for wheelchairs, those using walkers, moms with strollers or anyone who needs it a bit easier. They are marked in blue on the maps. How about Geocaching? The Local Weekly news rep met a couple from Take in the rules and feature on their Info: secheltgroves.com/see.html

Apryl Veld



Sechelt Groves Society

7000 Sechelt Inlet Road, Sechelt, B.C., V0N 3A4

Email: secheltgroves@eastlink.ca

Website: <http://secheltgroves.com>

Phone: 604-885-5766

Date: November 27, 2014

To:

Teressa McMillan, Recreation Technician, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Sea to Sky and South Sunshine Coast Districts

Alistair McCrone, Recreation Officer, Sea to Sky District, Southern Sunshine Coast

Dave Lasser, RPF, Operations Manager, Sunshine Coast Community Forest

Mr. John Mercer, SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, District of Sechelt

Re: The Groves in Sechelt near Sandy Hook Community

Hello All,

First off, while this letter is written by me in my capacity as president for the Sechelt Groves Society (SGS) it has not been vetted or formally approved by the Board of the SGS. As such please consider it as an attempt at communication but not necessarily a formal position of the SGS.

Secondly, a thanks for the efforts of all in securing what appears to be a Section 56 status for the Groves (defined as the combination of what has been known as the Sechelt Heritage Forest and the Hidden Grove). It is indeed good news and I will communicate it to the membership at large in one of our newsletters soon.

Now to the real point of this letter and I apologize for its length and any errors. If you wish to skip to the 'problems and conclusions' on Page 4 please feel free but also please return to review the course taken to get to the end.

The status of the Groves consisting of what was called the Sechelt Heritage Forest since about 1993 and including the Hidden Grove since about 2000 is a totally confusing and I think, a kind of mess. Whether anything can be done or not and what that should be is what I wish to cover here.

We have at least three (3) organizations with some having "sub-sections" all taking administrative steps and, I am sure, with the very best of intentions. Often they are in conflict or pursue goals separately for their own reasons when in the long run it appears that all have a common goal – **to have a preserved, natural recreation area maintained and securely protected for today and for future generations of residents and visitors**. No other purpose for all the administrative confusion seems to be in play. It will be difficult to convey the confusion and conflicts but here goes.

A history.

In the early 1990's community efforts succeeded in uniting several logging interests to agree to the preservation of Sechelt Endowment Lands **within the District of Sechelt** that in 1993 became known as the Sechelt Heritage Forest. (SHF)

Note:

- a) The logging companies have no input in this area now

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- b) It was originally created as a “recreation reserve” under Section 104.2 of the Forestry Act. In 1998 a certificate was issued for the Sechelt Coast Heritage Interpretive Forest Site, Project 16660-6206 granting full protection of the area.
- c) The status has evolved over the years but consistently protected until it seems that what is now known as “Section 56” was applied.
- d) While Section 56 implies that the Ministry of Forest is always in control there was **never** any appearance of it in practice. The administration and maintenance ‘appears’ to be the exclusive responsibility of the District of Sechelt and for practical purposes is looked after by the Parks Department under Public Works
- e) In 1999 the District designated the SHF and adjoining lands as “Parks and Open Space” under Bylaw 290.
- f) Initially the development and maintenance was in turn relegated to the Sandy Hook Community Association and as it evolved, to a special committee of that Association. This was under a special agreement that included supervision by the Parks Department and provision of insurance.
- g) The Association discharged its duties with dedication and skill so that the SHF became a show piece for the District and certainly for what a group of volunteers could do for over 20 years!

Looking at a recent email it is posed by Forestry: “So let’s ask this question now since we are talking about it - Is some logging ok? Or none at all?” Note that at no time was the issue of logging within this areas even suggested and I can assure all that it never would be. This is not a place where you log up to some trail setback. It is place to preserve in its whole. No question.

It all seemed to work pretty simply. Our volunteers maintained and improved the trail system with regular work parties. A few new trails were built and Section 57 approvals were obtained easily by our Project Coordinator, Michael Davidson, going directly to the responsible Provincial person at the time. The District was always kept appraised and rarely even commented – a relationship of mutual trust. Presumably this could have gone on forever!

In 2002 an entirely separate and different process began with respect to what would become known as the *Hidden Grove*. It began to introduce new elements into the arrangements that have resulted in the confusion that this letter is trying to address.

Note:

- a) The area was designated on the correct maps (versus some incorrect ones at Forestry that had to be corrected) as Cut Block 650 or as portion of DL3006 in the District of Sechelt as the District was defined in 1986.
- b) The area was/is part of the Provincial Forest within the District.
- c) The Community Association was made aware of possible logging in the area by a large commercial logging firm and moved to stop it:
 - i) The area had originally been protected as a buffer protection from wind damage to the Sandy Hook community and there had been no approach to suggest this was in any way no longer needed.
 - ii) Exploring, the Association members found that there were special values within the area to preserve including: old growth trees of many varieties; a marsh land that in part provided water to a salmon spawning stream (recently restored by the Association in cooperation with Fisheries); a spectacular viewpoint with vistas all the way to Vancouver Island and overlooking the entire Village of Sechelt; a complete cross section of Coast flora including some endangered species. Moreover within the District with easy access and proximity to the Porpoise Bay Provincial Park it had the potential to be a very desirable natural recreation area for residents and tourists alike.

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iii) The Association (now functioning as a committee of the Association known as the Hidden Grove Steering Committee) approached the District to more or less repeat the process that had been used for the SHF. In 2002 the District formally asked the Association to prepare a formal concept plan that could be presented by the District to the Province. The report was completed and accepted by the District that August.

iv) In 2003 provincial government inertia seemed to govern and then to everyone's surprise formal application was made by Interfor and Canfor to log the area.

v) Through 2003 the Association with District support continued the battle. The Sechelt Indian Band formally lent its support and late in the year the forestry companies acknowledged defeat.

vi) In 2004 government inertia continued notwithstanding formal applications by the local MLA.

vii) Then a new wrinkle! The District in the interest of creating local jobs and District revenue applied for and received from the Forestry the go ahead for a Community Forest. Forestry designating the tenure areas. To the surprise of all the Hidden Grove (Block 650) was included.

Later research revealed that the inclusion of Block 650 was really an error as the maps at Forestry were still wrong and did not show Block 650 as within the District. It had taken repeated applications and letters starting in 1993 to get the maps corrected even when local Forestry officials joined in the cry for correction. Nevertheless the tenure was allotted seemingly cast in stone based upon the old incorrect maps!

viii) The new community Forest operating as Sechelt Community Projects Inc. (SCPI) had its plate full getting organized and working within the Forest Stewardship Plan. They initially had little time to consider any special status for the Hidden Grove. The Association continued its lobbying efforts at all levels.

ix) At the Community Forest (now operating as the Sunshine Coast Community Forest (SCCF) public meeting of September 21st, 2006 SCCF agreed to a 5 year moratorium on all logging in the Hidden Grove. Five years was the length of the SCCF tenure at that time. The Hidden Grove would be a preserved recreational areas within the community forest meeting the requirements for such in the community forest mandate.

x) In February, 2007 the Board of the Community Forest unanimously moved to support the Hidden Grove and the goals of the Association with the Grove as a preserved recreational area.

xi) In March 2007, The District: "requests that staff discuss with the Bureau of Land Management the designation of a UREP Reserve on portions of the west half of DL 3006 and the designation of a recreation reserve on the subject lands with the Ministry of Tourism, Sports and Culture." This never seems to come about.

xii) The Association working in full cooperation with SCCF are able to get Section 57 trail approvals and proceed with development although restricted from completing many projects proposed due to rules and lack of funds.

xiii) In 2009 SCCF receives a 25 year tenure and extends the protection for the Hidden Grove accordingly. Work continues including the SCCF generously putting in the first parking lot area.

xiv) March, 2011 the Sechelt Groves Society is formed moving the project away from the direct purview of the Association. This is done so that charitable status might be obtained to raise funds for major projects including a kiosk, improved guiding signage and wheel chair accessible trails. Also it planned for the future of assuming responsibility when the Hidden Grove sought and obtained Section 56 status.

xv) At the same time, the care of the SHF was transferred by the District to the new SGS including the ongoing insurance provisions and Parks department supervision and support. The two areas – the Heritage Forest and the Hidden Grove were now operating as

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one with the one notable difference. The SHF had Section 56 protection whereas the Hidden Grove had only its time constrained protection from the SCCF tenure.

xvi) From 2011 to sometime in 2014 everything continues without any real hiccups. Substantial funds are raised and new trails and projects proceed all with proper support and approvals from the SCCF and the District and Forestry where needed for Section 57 approvals and such.

xvii) The SCCF agreed to do the work to apply for Section 56 for the Hidden Grove. The Section 56 application takes time and changes at Forestry seem to delay matters. Nevertheless ALL feedback from the Province is positive and it is just a matter of waiting.

- At one point the Province came back through the SCCF and suggested the combining of the two areas – the SHF and the Hidden Grove into one. This was received as acceptable subject to proper identification. A new combined name was needed and it was agreed and passed on to the Province that it should be “Sechelt Heritage Hidden Groves”. This maintained the history and character of the two preserves while at the same time combining them.

It is now very important to understand how relatively simple the functioning of the Groves had become. The SGS maintained both recreation preserved areas as an agent of the District:

- The SGS made Section 57 applications as needed supported by the SCCF and the District if required. The Provincial authorities were hands off but for this and readily approved quickly.
- The SCCF assisted where they could including agreeing to the extension of the protected areas to other Cut Blocks and paying for or doing some improvements to the Groves.
- The District assisted with the insurance and assistance in other important areas when called upon such as expansion of the parking and paving of the entrance.

And so, finally, we come to the ‘why’ of this letter!

We are now very concerned about the detail of information now required, the apparent process that is emerging for work in the Groves, the expressed weakness of the protection afforded, the increased number of bodies stepping in with information or requests – even the name apparently now applicable and more. At the same time we are grateful that we may now seem to have Section 56 in some form.

Not any particular order since we have no idea what order is right or with whom:

1. We have NO official confirmation of the Section 56 status.
 - a. Who would it go to?
 - b. How do we get a copy?
 - c. What form would it take – a legal document setting out the area in GPS or something with a map clearly stating what is Section 56?
 - d. Most concerning, one Forestry communication recently uses the phrase, “as far as we know, was signed off this past spring by the Deputy Minister,” As far as we know?

With hard volunteer work and the infusion of over \$60,000 in funds or in kind over 20 years on the Sechelt Heritage Forest and over 14 years on the Hidden Grove should we not get some sort of formal thing?

2. Some document we viewed (now lost in confusion) referred to a new combination forest area as all being the Sechelt Heritage Forest. Yes, we wanted the two areas combined into one and this combining was also a request of someone at Forestry through the SCCF - BUT we were very specific that we wished the new name of the combined forest to be : ‘Sechelt Heritage Hidden Groves’. This is important.

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- a. Both forests have long standing traditional name recognition used by:
 - i. The local community and the residents within.
 - ii. The District
 - iii. The Sechelt and Sunshine Coast tourist industry.
 - iv. Literally hundreds of touring websites with guides responding to searches.

We fear loss of this identity with the shortened name that ignored our submission after we were asked for one. What can be done now?

- 3. From here on who do we deal with if we want to make changes to the Groves
 - a. New trails
 - b. Install a bench
 - c. Put in a new kiosk
 - d. Take down trees or plant native species as we remove invasive ones.
 - e. Change signage

As it rests now we may be submitting something to all of the parties and waiting some kind of approval or something –

- i. Some section of the Provincial Forestry – if this is the case does it preclude the others? Is there one entity to go to? Naming one person is rarely satisfactory since people move about we have found. We need a department and title or something.
- ii. The Community Forest – Since Section 56 is hopefully eliminating any logging in the Groves then the tenure and approval of the Community Forest seems to be now redundant and unnecessary. Is this true? Above all we do not want to insult or alienate the Community Forest as they have been our champions of late and we, selfishly may need them again somewhere.
- iii. The District of Sechelt – We understood they held the Section 56 authority for the Sechelt Heritage Forest. Do they now hold it for the combined Groves? If so do we go to them and no one else? Does the work of Section 57 and other formal applications fall upon District staff now?

- 1. The very history of the status of the area we are referring to shows that it was born as some sort of mistake. The maps were wrong so the area ended up initially mapped by the Province as not in the new District in 1986. And so it ended up as part of the Provincial Forest with all those controls and processes. This even included the more recent allocation of tenure for the Community Forest.

- a. Is there no way to fix this?

- i. Should the area be out of the Provincial Forest and part of the District land base?

- 1. If this happened would our protection be more or less? Would our idea result in the eventual loss of the area to some aggressive developer due to an aggressive District Council?
- 2. Are there other protections that can go in place? Is it possible for the District to pass a permanent status on anything so that future Councils do not rescind it and allow a housing development?

- ii. A Provincial Park? But this too would have disadvantages. Back to the Province and new

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expense for them in a tight budget. Possible issues with the First Nations as our supportive relationship with them included that they might harvest some native special plants and the Park status might move to end this. If these issues were solved it might provide an ideal and permanent solution. Dreaming?

- iii. To confuse more we are told in an email from Forestry, "Any zoning bylaws under the Muni would be superseded by Provincial laws anyway". So why bother with the District at all in anything? A silly question but unavoidable in the confusing mess.
4. Notwithstanding the forgoing Item 3 what protection do we really have? A recent email from Forestry said, "We are confident the area is as 'protected' as it needs to be." (Underlining is mine) We have no real idea what this means. The same email alludes to the ability to log the area maybe with provisos that the trails and old trees be protected. Can all the rest be chopped down destroying the ambience of the whole area? Is it at the whim of some Forestry employee who in 10 years from now was maybe trained or instructed in an entirely negative way? Who knows?
5. Emails speak of a "some kind of management plan". With the rare possibility of some new or improved trails or feature the Groves are finished to live forever as they are. There will be maintenance, of course, and at this point that is the SGS job. But we get back to ALL the issues raised in this letter. How do we do it and to whom do we respond?
6. Section 56 indicates that some sort of insurance is provided for the workers and/or any organization they are part of.
 - a. If this is true some saving for the District might be gained if the current insurers were advised of the reduced exposure insuring the SGS.
 - b. However, nowhere is there any clarity of what the terms of the insurance coverage are. The devil can be in the details of the policy wording and it would be very foolish to just take a coverage without knowing the exclusions and insuring agreements in some detail.
At this point we cannot want the District to avail itself of this program.

Have I come to the end? Have I confused more than helped? I am unsure of anything but then that is the whole point of this letter.

I will really appreciate a full response in detail with some solutions or something.

In closing, notwithstanding this long letter, I am not critical at all of the efforts and want to thank all for their time and work.

R. B. D'Arcy (computer signature)

Bob D'Arcy
President.

CC (blind): the Board of the SGS

Robert D'Arcy

From: Sechelt Groves Society <secheltgroves@eastlink.ca>
Sent: December-11-14 12:57 PM
To: rdarcy@dccnet.com
Subject: Sechelt Groves News #20 Good News

Hello Robert D'Arcy

It is that season again and we want to take this opportunity to wish you and yours the very best for a Merry Christmas and lots of good things for the New Year.

It has been a long time since our last newsletter but we have been holding off thinking that some special good news might come in any day. It took longer than we thought but here it is:
THE COMBINED SECHELT HERITAGE FOREST AND HIDDEN GROVE NOW HAVE FULL SECTION 56 PROTECTION FROM THE PROVINCE OF BC.

For official purposes (maps and stuff) the new combined recreation area will be called *Sechelt Heritage Forest Recreation Site* but we can still go on calling the two areas by whatever ever names we choose and no doubt will continue with the Sechelt Heritage Forest (SHF) and Hidden Grove (HG). After all that is how we have grown up to know them.

The whole protection thing is too complicated to document in a newsletter but in the next while we will develop a full summary and put it on the website. The delay is that we are in further negotiations and discussion with the person with the final say in how we can do things – the Recreation Officer, Recreation Sites and Trails Branch, Sea to Sky District – Alistair McCrone. It is all good news so far and it may mean additional practical help and some financial assistance too. We are in the early stages but will report more when we can.

Now to the real work! The Trailbuilders continue to do their wonderful thing. They have concentrated the last few months on maintenance and upgrading. Some of the trails built years ago were built to a standard that is not as high as the Trailbuilders like now. They have learned new and better ways to route trails and to finish them. As I write this the entrance to the SHF from Sechelt Inlet Road is being redone to be easier and better all around. You can always see what the Trailbuilders are doing week by week by just going to <http://secheltgroves.com/current.html> (or by visiting, of course). Every week the work plans are laid out and the whole year is there to open as a PDF file too.

We still have a list of projects ahead including – to name just a few: installing a bike rack, finishing off work with the Community Forest for interpretive signage – a good winter project, and more restoration of native plants.

As part of any newsletter you know this was coming<grin> the 2015 memberships will soon be coming up. There is nothing wrong with getting this out of the way now. Maybe the Christmas spirit will encourage you to add a donation too – just maybe. Click any of the Join Now or Donate Now buttons on the website.

See you on the trails and have a great 2015.

That's it for now. Please do not hesitate to email us with questions or comments.

Your Sechelt Groves Society

(See lots of stuff and keep up to date at our website – secheltgroves.com)

Map of: **REC6206 Site**

Project Name: **SECHELT HERITAGE FOREST**



Recreation Sites
and Trails BC

Exhibit 'A'

Date: 2013-04-17



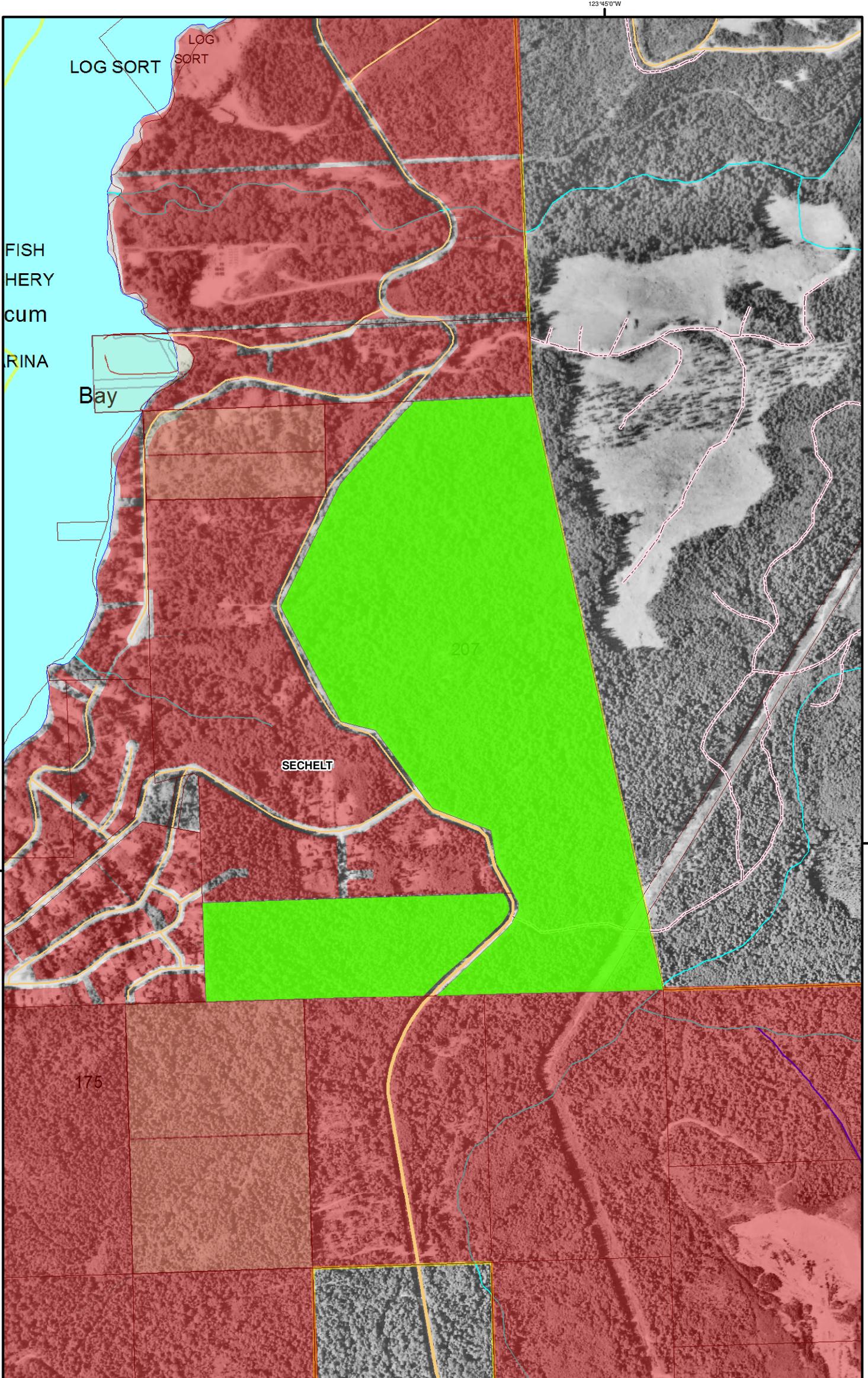
Forest Region: **Coast** BCGS Map-sheet: **92g**
Forest District: **DSC** TSA
U.T.M. **445200 east** **5485922 north**

Province of British Columbia

Shown As:

Zone **10** NAD **83**

Drawn by: www.sitesandtrailsbc.ca
Ha **76.12**
Scale: **1:10,000**



123°45'0\"/>

49°31'30\"/>

49°31'30\"/>

123°45'0\"/>

ORDER TO VARY RECREATION SITES

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to Section 56(1) of the Forest and Range Practices Act the following Recreation Sites are hereby varied:

Recreation Region: Coast

Recreation District: Sunshine Coast

Name of Recreation Site:	Description of Variance:	Recreation Project File:	As shown on Exhibit A:
Kinsol Trestle Trail	Renaming. New project name: Kinsol Trestle Trail. Former name: Koksilah River.	16660-20/REC0282	August 24, 2006
Sechelt Heritage Forest	Amend boundary to include Hidden Grove Community Trails; change name to Sechelt Heritage Forest.	16660-20/REC6206	April 17, 2013



Gary Townsend, Assistant Deputy Minister
Integrated Resources Operations Division
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

July 31, 2014
Date



File: 16660-25/RECC6206
Sechelt Heritage Forest

Date: Dec 1 2014

Bob D'Arcy, President
Sechelt Groves Society
7000 Sechelt Inlet Road
Sechelt BC
V0N 3A4

By Email: secheltgroves@eastlink.ca

Dear: Bob D'Arcy,

Thanks very much for your letter; it provides a great deal of history regarding the *Sechelt Heritage Forest (a.k.a Sechelt Heritage Hidden Groves) Recreation Site* and is very enlightening. I would like to respond to your concerns raised in your letter dated November 27 2014. However, I would also like to suggest that we need to meet in person with appropriate representatives of the Sechelt Community Forest and the District of Sechelt to Sechelt to reach a full understanding of the status and management of the Sechelt Heritage Forest Recreation Site.

Firstly I want to make it clear that the *Sechelt Heritage Forest Recreation Site* has been officially established under Section 56 of the Forest and Range Practices Act. I have attached the signed order for your records. The order was signed July 31st 2014. I have also attached the Schedule A legal map for your reference and a google earth layer showing all the recreation sites and reserves in the district. What remains to be done is to develop Objectives and a Management Plan for this Recreation Site. I will be looking to all stakeholders to help me develop these documents. Once written these will provide future decision makers with direction in order that their decisions will reflect the purpose for the establishment of the recreation site. A section 56 establishment is the highest level of recreational management that can exist over an area of crown land without the creation of a Provincial Park or Protected Area. I am confident that with properly written objectives and a management plan we can preserve the Recreation Site from development.

The legal name of the Recreation Site is the *Sechelt Heritage Forest Recreation Site*. I understand the concern that this name may cause some confusion; it is possible to amend the legal order to rename the site the *Sechelt Heritage Hidden Groves Recreation Site*. However, this can be a lengthy process and may not be necessary in an operational sense. We can use the name *Sechelt Heritage Hidden Groves Recreation Site* on signage in the area without any problems.

**Ministry of Forests, Lands
and Natural Resource
Operations**

Recreation Sites and Trails Branch
Sea to Sky District

Mailing Address:
42000 Loggers Lane Ste. 101
Squamish, BC V8B
Tel: (604) 898-2125
Fax (604) 898-2191

We will need to use the legal name in some situations but we do not need to on the signs, maps, etc. that are within the Recreation Site. We can discuss the details of how to manage this issue at a later time but I see it as an easily solved problem. I am willing to submit a request for an amendment to the name if we believe it is needed.

Now that the Sechelt Heritage Forest Recreation Site is legally established under Section 56 the District Recreation Officer is the only person who can authorize changes/additions to the Recreation Site. I recognize that there is a need in this situation to be sure that the Sechelt Groves Society(SGS), District of Sechelt(DoS), and Sechelt Community Forest(SCF) are consulted when making decisions as they have been intimately involved in the creation, development and management of the.

While the site does fall within the tenure of the SCF they were consulted and raised no objections to its establishment under Section 56 FRPA. This means that they have accepted that any logging within the recreation site needs to be authorized by the Recreation Officer. Given the value to the community that this area has it is my intention that the objectives and management plan for the area will be written to eliminate logging activities in the area.

With respect to the historical error which resulted in the area remaining crown land instead of district property I am not sure how to proceed to correct this apparent error. I am also not sure that this is the correct way to proceed. We can explore this option and decide together if it is wise to proceed. At present the legal status of the site is established under an order in council and if any changes are made to its legal status they need to be done under another order in council. This request would have to be made by the recreation officer and would only happen if this change was aligned with the written objectives and management plan for the site. If the area was transferred to the District of Sechelt the status of the land could be changed at the discretion of the District Council. I believe that the Recreation Site designation provides a more robust management framework which provides greater certainty for future protection.

The DoS has signed a partnership agreement with us for the operation of the recreation site. This allows the DoS to more easily maintain and operate the site on our behalf while management decisions rest with the Recreation Officer. Our partnership agreement holders are normally provided with 40,000.00 dollars of death and dismemberment insurance and 2,000,000.00 dollars of 3rd person liability insurance for their work. The DoS is a municipality and as such their employees and volunteers are already covered by the Municipal Insurance Act and our insurance is not required.

I would like to sign a second partnership agreement with the SGS for the operation and maintenance of the recreation site. This would allow your group to operate with the freedom the DoS has. This would also provide your organizations' volunteer's with the \$40,000.00 D and D insurance and the \$2,000,000.00 3rd person liability insurance.

I hope that this letter provides some clarification and answers some of your questions. I think that we should meet soon to discuss the remaining issues and questions. Of particular importance is that we develop clear objectives and a suitable management plan in the near future.

I am looking forward to making working with the SGS to manage this site in a way that reflects the history of the site and the value it holds for the community.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alistair McCrone".

Alistair McCrone, Recreation Officer
Recreation Sites and Trails Branch
Sea to Sky District

CC:



Recreation Sites
and Trails BC

Administrative Use Only:

Agreement # PA(CY)DR#-XX	
District	
ORCs file#	
Expiration Date	

RECREATION SITES AND TRAILS BC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT, dated for reference this 15th day of January, 2015, is

BETWEEN:

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,
represented by the Minister responsible for the *Forest and Range Practices Act*
at the following address:

Recreation Sites and Trails Branch
101-4200 Loggers Lane
Squamish BC.
V8B 0H3
Alistair.mccrone@gov.bc.ca

the "Province"

AND:

Sechelt Groves Society

7000 SehcIt Inlet Road
Sechelt, BC
V0N 3A4
secheltgroves@eastlink.ca

the "Agreement Holder"

both of whom are sometimes referred to as "the Parties" and each of whom is a "Party" to this Agreement.

Whereas the Province owns the land subject to this Agreement and wishes to have the land managed and maintained for the purpose of recreational and/or conservation activities;

And Whereas the Province wishes to encourage groups and individuals having an interest in undertaking the management and maintenance required to provide conditions which are conducive to enhancing public recreational and/or conservation activities in the Agreement Area;

And Whereas the Agreement Holder confirms that it has the skills necessary to ensure the requirements of this Agreement can be performed in the Agreement Area in a diligent and timely manner and fully adopts the related recreation and/or conservation objectives set for the Agreement Area by the Province and contained within this Agreement and confirms that those objectives are consistent with those of the Agreement Holder;

Therefore, in consideration of the mutual exchange of benefits resulting from this Agreement, the Province and the Agreement Holder agree as follows:

ARTICLE I - SERVICES AGREEMENT

- 1.01 The Province engages the Agreement Holder to provide management and maintenance services as set out in Schedule B to this Agreement (the "Services") in the Agreement Area. The Agreement Holder will provide all Services without financial remuneration from the Province. **{Conflict with any indemnification or grants from the Province See 1.09. Should be amended to read, "Notwithstanding 1.09, etc.}**
- 1.02 The Agreement Holder will perform the Services to the best of its ability in workman like manner using qualified personnel and will provide all labour and related coordination and supervision and subject to 1.09, all tools, equipment, materials and supplies required to do the work in accordance with the requirements of this Agreement and the operational requirements laid out in the Schedules, as listed in Article 12.01.
- 1.03 The Agreement Area is the land outlined on the map in bold black line and/or described in Schedule A and all structures and other addresses/specified locations listed in Schedule A, except land and structures that are excluded in notations made on the maps and Schedule A.
- 1.04 The Province authorizes the Agreement Holder to enter the Agreement Area for the purposes of this Agreement but nothing in this Agreement grants to the Agreement Holder the exclusive use and occupancy of the Agreement Area. Existing conditions and land uses of Province lands within or in the vicinity of the Agreement Area are subject to change including the status of roads, visual landscape conditions and the location and status of existing and new resource tenures.

- 1.05 Nothing in the Agreement constitutes the Agreement Holder as the agent, joint venturer, or partner {‘Partnership Agreement” is erroneous agreement title at top} of the Province or conveys any authority or power for the Agreement Holder to bind the Province in any way.
- 1.06 Nothing in the Agreement inhibits the Province from conducting its mandate on the Agreement Area, including the right to reserve for its own purpose and to grant dispositions of the land within the Agreement Area, or any part of it. The Agreement Holder may be afforded an opportunity to comment on management issues.
- 1.07 The obligations of the Agreement Holder under this Agreement are subject to other rights of use and occupation granted by the Province, and the Agreement Holder must not interfere with the exercise of those rights by any other person.
- 1.08 The Agreement Holder shall not, assign, transfer or subcontract its obligations under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the Province. This does not limit the Agreement Holder’s right to perform services under this Agreement using their employees or registered volunteers or notwithstanding 3.02 (e), outside commercial firms, contractors or individuals.
- 1.09 The Province is under no obligation to provide management assistance, support services, patrols, or conduct inspections during the term of this Agreement. At its sole discretion, the Province may contribute certain raw materials, supplies, access to tools, or reimburse the Agreement Holder for incidental expenses but is under no obligation to do so at any time under this Agreement.
- 1.10 Nothing in this Agreement constitutes a grant of any right to use the Agreement Area for any purpose other than as set out in the Schedules.

ARTICLE II—DURATION AND MODIFICATION

- 2.01 The duration of this Agreement is for a term of 10 years commencing on March 1, 2015 and ending on March 1, 2025 inclusive.
- 2.02 The Agreement may not be modified except by a subsequent agreement in writing between the Parties.
- 2.03 Nothing in this Agreement will be considered to have been waived by the Province unless such a waiver is in writing.
- 2.04 Either Party may cancel this Agreement by giving 60 days prior written notice to the other Party. Upon receiving cancellation notice, the party receiving the cancellation notice will have the opportunity to be heard by the party serving the cancellation notice and the Parties will use their best efforts to conclude the opportunity to be heard within the 60 day period.
- 2.05 Subject to 2.03, not later than 6 months prior to the expiry date of the Agreement, the Province will make a written offer to the Agreement Holder setting out the conditions upon which the Province may renew this Agreement.

- 2.06 The Agreement Holder shall have a period of 3 months from receipt of the renewal offer to accept in writing, the renewal offer on the terms and conditions contained in such offer, provided the Agreement Holder is in compliance with the terms and conditions of this agreement at that time.
- 2.07 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, the Province, in its sole discretion, may elect to not make a renewal offer to the Agreement Holder.

ARTICLE III—REPRESENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT HOLDER

- 3.01 The Agreement Holder warrants and represents to the Province that:
- (a) it has the legal capacity to enter into the Agreement and to carry out its obligations under this Agreement, all of which have been duly and validly authorized by all necessary corporate proceedings, if required;
 - (b) to the best of its knowledge, it is not in breach of any statute, regulation or by-law applicable to it or its operations;
 - (c) it will not be in breach of any legal restriction by entering into this Agreement and performing the services required under it; and
 - (d) to the best of its knowledge, it holds all permits, licences, consents and authorities issued by any federal, provincial, regional or municipal government or an agency of any of them, that are necessary in connection with the Services.
- 3.02 The Agreement Holder acknowledges and agrees that:
- (a) it has inspected the Agreement Area, including Provincial improvements;
 - (b) access to the Agreement Area is not guaranteed by the Province; and
 - (c) it will comply with all applicable municipal, provincial and federal legislation and regulations. Nothing in this Agreement, and no inspection performed by the Province in relation to this Agreement, constitutes an inspection for the purposes of any such enactment.
 - (d) it is solely responsible for any applicable employee labour costs including statutory contributions.
 - (e) when the Agreement Holder hires a worker, or contracts with an employer, the Agreement Holder shall observe and enforce all safety measures required by the Workers Compensation Act of British Columbia, attendant regulations, and all applicable statutes.
 - (f) in the event that the Province creates a multiple employer workplace as defined in the Workers Compensation Act Section 118 (1) through contracting employers for its purposes in the Agreement Holder's area, the Province shall be Prime Contractor (or designate a Prime Contractor) for that workplace. The Province shall inform the Agreement Holder in writing of the project scope and duration during

which time Province (or designate) shall be Prime Contractor for the workplace.

The Agreement Holder accepts the role of Prime Contractor if it employs workers and/or engages contractors creating a multiple employer workplace under the Workers Compensation Act, and must fulfil the obligations required of a prime contractor under the Worker's Compensation Act, Section 118 and the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation.

The Agreement holder may relinquish its role as Prime Contractor provided that it be done in writing as per the Workers Compensation Act Section 118 (1)(a) and copy is forwarded to the Province.

ARTICLE IV—INDEMNITY AND WAIVER

4.01 The Agreement Holder will indemnify and save harmless the Province, its servants, employees and agents against all losses, claims, damages, actions, costs and expenses that the Province, its servants, employees and agents may sustain, incur, suffer or be put to arising:

- (a) directly from the performance of the Services during the Term of this Agreement by the Agreement Holder, its employees, members, volunteers, and subcontractors,
- (b) from breach of the obligations of this Agreement by the Agreement Holder, or
- (c) the wilful misconduct, gross negligence or the bad faith actions of the Agreement Holder, its employees, members, volunteers and subcontractors,

except to the extent that any such loss or claim is caused or contributed to by the negligence of the Province **or its agents or contractors**.

4.02 The Province hereby releases and waives its rights of recourse against the Agreement Holder for all loss, claims, damages, actions, costs and expenses that the Province may sustain, incur, suffer or be put to at any time arising:

- (a) from the completed performance of the Services; or
- (b) damage to the property in the Agreement Area owned by the Province directly caused by the Agreement Holder, its employees, members, volunteers and subcontractors in the performance of the Services

unless any such loss, claim, damage, action, costs or expenses are caused or contributed to by the gross negligence, bad faith actions or wilful misconduct of the Agreement Holder, its employees, members, volunteers and subcontractors, or if the Agreement Holder was in breach of its obligations under this Agreement, including breach of section 4.03, or was caused by any activity by the Agreement Holder outside the scope of this Agreement.

- 4.03 The Agreement Holder will exercise due diligence and all reasonable care to prevent damage to, or loss of any property in the Agreement Area. On the occurrence of damage or loss to property, the Agreement Holder will immediately take appropriate action to mitigate or prevent further damage or loss and immediately notify the Province so the Province can provide direction as to remedial measures to be undertaken. The Agreement Holder will comply with any directions given by the Province under this paragraph 4.03 in a timely manner.

ARTICLE V—INSURANCE

- 5.01 The Agreement Holder and the Province will comply with the insurance requirements set out in Schedule C.

ARTICLE VI—RECORDS MANAGEMENT & INSPECTION

- 6.01 The Agreement Holder is responsible for the safety of its registered volunteers at all times. The Agreement Holder must keep records of its registered volunteers and volunteer activities as set out in Schedule B, including proof of certification and training required to perform activities where applicable. Records must be kept for 7 years following the termination of this Agreement.
- 6.02 The Province may conduct inspections or audits during the term of this Agreement pertaining to the Agreement Holder's performance or obligations under this Agreement. The Province will advise the Agreement Holder in writing or verbally followed up in writing of any conditions requiring correction to meet the terms and conditions of this Agreement, and include a reasonable time period to comply.
- 6.03 The Agreement Holder will comply with requirements of the Province under this section in a timely manner.

ARTICLE VII—DISPOSITION OF IMPROVEMENTS

- 7.01 All structures other than the Agreement Holder's structures listed in Schedule E, subject to paragraph 7.03, be and remain vested in the Province absolutely.
- 7.02 On the termination of this Agreement, the Agreement Holder may within one year of the date of such termination, remove any or all of the Agreement Holder's structures and must do so if required in writing by the Province, and leave the Agreement Area in a safe and clean condition to the satisfaction of the Province, and the Agreement Holder is authorized to enter and cross Crown land in order to have reasonable access to the Agreement Area for the sole purpose of such removal.
- 7.03 All structures not removed by the Agreement Holder pursuant to paragraph 7.02 within one year of termination of the Agreement, become the property of the Province and the Agreement Holder releases the Province from any claims of ownership with respect to the property.
- 7.04 Subject to the operational requirements set out in the Schedules, the Agreement Holder acknowledges that all improvements on Provincial land are for general public usage and not for the exclusive use of the Agreement Holder.

ARTICLE VIII—MISCELLANEOUS TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 8.01 Any notice or document required to be given under this Agreement shall be conclusively deemed to be validly given or delivered to and received by the Parties:
- (a) if hand delivered, including by bonded courier, to a Party at the address specified in this Agreement, as amended from time to time, on the date of that personal delivery; or
 - (b) if mailed, on the third business day after the mailing of the same by prepaid post to the addresses specified in this Agreement, as amended from time to time; or
 - (c) if sent by facsimile transmission, when transmitted, only if transmitted to the facsimile machine numbers specified in this Agreement, as amended from time to time. The onus of proving transmission and valid delivery lies with the transmitting Party, by copy of a facsimile transmission confirmation to the appropriate fax number.
 - (d) if sent by email as of the time of verified reception to an email address specified in this Agreement, as amended from time to time. The onus of proving reception lies with the mailing Party, by copy of an email confirmation to the appropriate email address.
- 8.02 The documents to be submitted by the Agreement Holder to the Province are set out in *Schedule E, Annual Reporting* attached to this Agreement, become the property of the Province, and as such, may be subject to the disclosure provisions of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.
- 8.03 If this Agreement is with a Band (or First Nation), the Agreement Holder is advised that nothing in this Agreement addresses aboriginal rights or aboriginal title, limits the positions that the parties may take in treaty negotiations or litigation pertaining to aboriginal rights or title, nor affects the legal relationship between the Government of British Columbia and the Agreement Holder other than with respect to the matters that are the subject of this Agreement.

ARTICLE IX—FEES

- 9.01 If the Agreement Holder is entitled to collect User Fees on its own behalf under this Agreement, the Agreement Holder will comply with the User Fee Schedule attached as Schedule D to this Agreement.
- 9.02 Upon reasonable notice and at reasonable times, the Province may inspect and take copies of and cause an audit to be undertaken of the books and records of the Agreement Holder as they pertain to total fee revenue collected under this Agreement.
- 9.03 All books and records referred to in 9.02 are to be retained by the Agreement Holder for a period of 7 years from the end of the calendar year to which they pertain.

ARTICLE X—INTERPRETATION

- 10.01 In this Agreement, unless the Agreement otherwise requires, the singular includes the plural and the masculine includes the feminine, corporation and body politic.
- 10.02 The captions and headings contained in the Agreement are for convenience only and are not to be construed as defining or in any way limiting the scope or intent of the provisions of the Agreement.
- 10.03 In this Agreement, a reference to an enactment of the Province of British Columbia or of Canada includes a reference to any subsequent enactment of like effect, and unless the Agreement otherwise requires, all statutes referred to in this Agreement are enactments of the Province of British Columbia.
- 10.04 If any part of this Agreement is found to be illegal or unenforceable, that part will be considered separate and the remaining parts will be enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.
- 10.05 Those parts which survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement are Articles I (1.05 only), IV, VII and IX (9.02 and 9.03 only).

ARTICLE XI—DESIGNATED CONTACT

- 11.01 Each Party will nominate a primary contact as set out in the Schedules for communicating all matters dealing with this Agreement.

ARTICLE XII—SCHEDULES

- 12.01 The Schedules to this Agreement form part of this Agreement. In the event of a conflict between the main body of this Agreement and a Schedule, the main body of this Agreement shall prevail. This Agreement includes the following Schedules:

Schedule	Title
A	Agreement Area
B	Services & Special Provisions
C	Insurance
D	
E	
F	Operational Standards - 2 separate Recreation Trail and Recreation Site –both F
G	Province and Agreement Holder Structures None Received
H	
Appendices	

This Agreement may be executed by the Parties on separate copies of the Agreement which becomes complete and binding upon the latter of the two executions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Parties have duly executed this Agreement as of the day and year last written below.

Signed and Delivered on behalf of the Province by a duly authorized representative of the Province.

Robert D'Arcy	President
_____	_____
Duly authorized representative name	Title

_____	_____
Signature	Date

Signed and Delivered on behalf of the Agreement Holder by a duly authorized representative of the Agreement Holder.

_____	_____
Duly authorized representative name	Title

_____	_____
Signature	Date

Blank separation page



Recreation Sites
and Trails BC

Schedule A Agreement Area

Attachment to the Agreement with _____ for Partnership Agreement No. _____ .

Recreation Project No.(s) included in this Agreement:

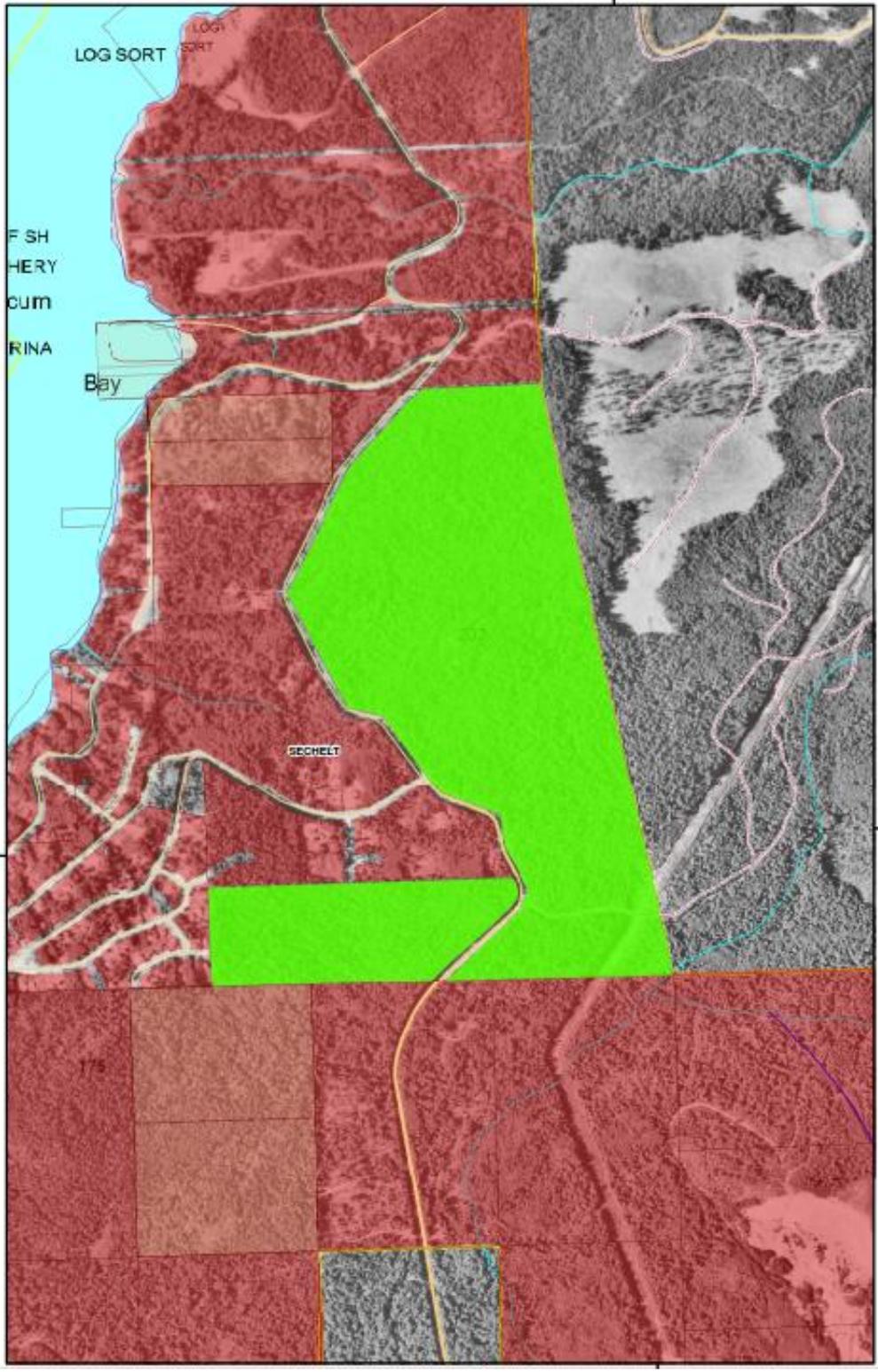
Agreement Area Description:

The Agreement Area is described below and outlined on maps included in the Schedule.

Alistair to fill in legal description and confirm it includes ALL of the 'old Sechelt Heritage Forest' and ALL of the current 'Hidden Grove'.

[See Next page]

Map of: REC6206 Site Project Name: SECHELT HERITAGE FOREST				Exhibit 'A' Date: 2013-04-17	
Forest Region: Coast BCOS Map-sheet: 92g Forest District: DSC TSA U.T.M. 443200 east 5485922 north		Province of British Columbia Shown As: 		Zone: NAD 10 83	Drawn by: www.sitesandtrailsbc.ca Ha: 76.12 Scale: 1:10,000





Schedule B Services & Special Provisions

Attachment to the Agreement with _____ for Partnership Agreement No. _____.

1. Purpose & Operating Season

This Agreement is issued to the Agreement Holder for:

- a) the maintenance of the 'described areas' including:
- i.* Satisfactory trail conditions
 - ii.* Appropriate signage
 - iii.* Parking and entrance area
 - iv.* Overall safety
 - v.* Approved new developments

The Operating Season for this Agreement is year round

2. Agreement Holder Designated Representative

The Agreement Holder designates the following representative to be responsible for liaising between the Province and the Agreement Holder:

Name: Robert D'Arcy
Address: #17 – 5630 Trail Avenue, Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A4
Telephone: 604-885-5766
Email: rdracy@dccnet.com

3. Province Designated Representative(s):

The Province designates the following representative to be responsible for liaising between the Province and the Agreement Holder:

Name:
Title:
Address:
Telephone:
Email:

4. Services

In accordance with this Agreement, and as more specifically set out in schedules attached to this Agreement, the Agreement Holder will perform the Services set out below in the Agreement Area. The Agreement Holder must obtain the written approval of the

Province (which approval will not be unreasonably withheld) for any modifications to the Services or to the current approved Annual Operating Plan.

Ecological restoration, research and conservation projects

- Use hand tools to remove invasive plants and conduct restoration projects.
- Use hand tools to plant trees and shrubs in approved locations.
- Use of power tools for approved construction related to research/monitoring (e.g. install fencing, build observation platform);
- Collect and remove garbage by hand.

Trail & Facility Work

- Install approved signage and trail markers.
- Use hand tools to maintain and restore trails, facilities and/or campgrounds (e.g. rake, shovel, hammer, etc.).
- Use power tools to construct or maintain trails and facilities;
- Use machinery to construct, maintain or restore trails, and facilities.

Public Services/Outreach

- Deliver educational workshops and seminars, which may include guided walks or interpretive tours.
- Public outreach including providing general information to visitors.
- Host non-competitive public events in parks and recreation facilities.
- Record photographs and/or videos
- Observe and take photographs to report back to staff on trail, facility, general conditions.

5. Record Keeping

The Agreement Holder will keep accurate records of all of its personnel (employees and volunteers) including name, address, date of birth, qualifications, the dates the person started and stopped performing work for the Agreement Holder and, as a condition of insurance, keep records of the specific dates that each individual performed Services under this Agreement. **This must be reviewed. We do not keep records of attendance at each workparty or event and would find it near impossible to do so accurately.**

A formalized volunteer agreement is recommended between the Agreement Holder and any individual volunteers that are not employees or members of the Agreement Holder organization. The agreement should set out the roles and responsibilities of each party, describe the approved activities, and record the training, certification or training requirements of the individual.

Does anyone have a proper copy of such an agreement we can use as needed?

If a volunteer is already insured to operate motorized equipment used to carry out the Services (e.g. ICBC for vehicles), volunteers must disclose insurance coverage before project commences. [Show someone else on hand their pink slip enough?]

Any of the records required to be kept under this section may be audited by the Province per section 6.02 of the Partnership Agreement or by an insurer providing insurance arranged by the Province under this Agreement.

6. Certification, Training and Qualifications

The minimum licensing, certification, training and qualifications for individuals performing related activities are as follows. The Agreement Holder must obtain or witness proof of compliance before permitting an individual to perform related Services:

1. Power Tools and other machinery: (e.g. skill saw, brush cutters, lawn mowers) must show competency with power tools that will be used to perform the Services. Operators must have sufficient training and expertise in operation of equipment being used.
2. Chain Saws: Operator must show proof of BC Forest Safety Council's Basic Chainsaw Operator Training course or equivalent qualification.
3. Tree Falling: Must be certified at the appropriate faller level by BC Forest Safety Council and must adhere to the Province's Hand Falling Activities Guidelines http://gww.nro.gov.bc.ca/home/safety/directives_procedures/guideline_for_hand_falling.pdf

7. Accidents and Incidents

The Agreement Holder will report to the Province any serious accident or safety concerns reported to the Agreement Holder or involving an employee or volunteer to the Agreement Holder or which the Agreement Holder discovers involving or regarding trails and structures within the Agreement Area.



Schedule C Insurance

Attachment to the Agreement with _____ for Partnership Agreement No. _____.

Unless the Agreement Holder is a local government, a government corporation, a board of education, a public post secondary institution, or similar public sector entity:

1. On behalf of the Agreement Holder, the Province will purchase and maintain General Liability insurance in the amount of \$2,000,000 inclusive per occurrence against claims by third parties for bodily injury and property damage arising out of the performance of the Services set out in this Agreement. The Province will obligate the insurer's managing broker to provide the Agreement Holder with a Certificate of Insurance and a **copy of the policy wording**.
 2. On behalf of the Agreement Holder, the Province will purchase and maintain on behalf of the registered volunteers to the Agreement Holder Accidental Death and Dismemberment insurance with a principal sum of \$40,000 covering injury to registered volunteers under the age of 85 while performing the Services set out in this Agreement. **The Province will provide information about this policy to the Agreement Holder.**
 3. As a condition of the insurance provided by the Province, the Agreement Holder must provide annual underwriting information to the Province in the format and at time(s) required by the insurers.
 4. The Province will take reasonable steps to ensure the coverage specified in sections (a) and (b) is continuous for the duration of this Agreement. The Province will not be responsible for providing coverage in the event the insurance is cancelled or reduced by the insurers. **BUT must give some notice so we are not left high and dry! Maybe the words "reasonable steps" is to cover this but it is sure weak.**
 5. The Province does not represent or warrant that the insurance purchased by the Province covers any and all losses. The Agreement Holder is responsible for ascertaining the nature and extent of coverage as well as the terms and conditions of the policies. No term or condition of this Agreement amends, extends or alters the coverage afforded by the insurance policies.
- A. The Agreement Holder will provide, maintain, and pay for any additional insurance which the Agreement Holder is required by law to carry or which the Agreement Holder considers necessary to cover risks not otherwise covered by insurance specified in this Schedule. The Agreement Holder waives all rights of recourse against the Province and releases the Province from all liability for any losses or damage to any property owned by the Agreement Holder including the Agreement Holder's structures, improvements

and equipment in the Agreement Area regardless of whether the Agreement Holder purchased property insurance.



Schedule F

Operational Standards

Recreation Site

Partnership Agreement No. [REDACTED]

1. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1.1 Recreation Sites and Trails BC roles and responsibilities

Recreation Sites and Trails BC will provide:

- a) To the agreement holder, magnetic decals, if available, for recreation site operator vehicle identification.
- b) To the agreement holder, apparel (i.e. shirts, hats, etc) to identify the recreation site operator to the public, if available.
- c) To the agreement holder, photo identification, if available.
- d) To the agreement holder, a copy of the Forest Recreation Regulations.
- e) To the agreement holder, a copy of the book *A Field Guide to Noxious and Other Selected Weeds of British Columbia*, if available.
- f) To the agreement holder, ministry approved brochures and posters (i.e. *Welcome to Your Recreation Site, Please Do Not Dump Garbage in the Toilet*, etc.) to be posted at kiosks and pit toilets within the recreation site(s), if available.
- g) To the nearest Fire Centre, the name(s) and contact information of recreation site operators at recreation sites.
- h) To the Recreation Sites and Trails BC website (<http://www.sitesandtrailsbc.ca>), information regarding the site's description and driving directions to the recreation site(s). **Needs major corrections – shows Gibsons – speaks of parking lot that is at Hidden Gove and Hidden Grove is just now part of the scene and so on.****
- i) Authorizations under Section 16 of the Forest Recreation Regulations for any of the following: for a competitive sporting event, for a gathering of 15 or more persons or for use as a place of temporary residence. **How do we stop these?**
- j) Authorizations under Section 13 of the Forest Recreation Regulations for camping at a recreation site for a period exceeding 14 consecutive days. **How do we stop these?**
- k) A 3 blade entrance sign on a post, identifying the recreation site(s). Advise on location and style**
- l) Replacement infrastructure (i.e. tables, fire rings, pit toilets, kiosks, fencing, signs and sign posts, etc.), if available. Will you pay for our replacments rather than some government generic signs?**
- m) Wildlife danger tree assessments, as determined by the recreation officer.
- n) Paint in accordance with Ministry standards, if available.
- o) Toilet pumping, if required and as determined by the recreation officer. If we put a potta-potti in will you pay for pump outs as needed?**

1.2 Agreement Holder's roles and responsibilities

The Agreement Holder will:

- a) Acknowledge and agree with the province that nothing in *Recreation Sites and Trails BC Partnership Agreement* will be deemed to grant to the Agreement Holder the exclusive use and possession of a Recreation site(s).
- b) Not represent or speak on behalf of the province.
- c) Present a clean and well-groomed appearance, and be attired in a manner appropriate for carrying out the obligations as stated in the agreement and this document.
- d) Be courteous and tactful when dealing with the public.
- e) Carry out all work in a manner that will create the least disruption and inconvenience to the public.
- f) Possess a general knowledge of the site(s) and structures.
- g) Return all apparel (i.e. shirts, hats, etc) provided by the province within five (5) days following the end of the agreement term.
- h) Repair or eliminate known hazards when possible. If a natural hazard becomes known to the Agreement Holder during routine maintenance visits, such as river/creek crossings, slides/washouts and **hazard trees, the recreation officer must be advised**. In addition, the Agreement Holder must make a reasonable effort to ensure users do not enter the recreation site, if, in the Agreement Holders opinion, the site is unsafe due to existing or potential hazards. **Must settle workable process for this**
- i) Report to the recreation officer, the presence of knapweed and other noxious weeds within the recreation site(s). **Are we clued in to do this?**
- j) Not burn debris, such as boxes, bags, containers, etc. unless authorized to do so by the recreation officer.
- k) Comply with the Wildfire Act, as required.

MAINTENANCE These appear to be all misnumbered and should be either 2.1, etc. or 3.1 etc. assuming the the fee section was 2.1, etc.

1.1 Recreation Site Activation

Prior to commencement of routine service, the recreation site(s) and associated structures should be inspected, preferably by the Recreation Officer and the Agreement Holder together, to identify off-season use and/or damage, and any necessary maintenance, remedial action and/or repairs that are required.

1.2 Structure Renovations and/or Replacements

- a) Structure renovations and/or replacements should be planned except where **[deleted phrase]** emergency action is required. The guiding principle for conducting renovation and/or replacement work is to have all structures operational and useable during the routine service period, and to schedule and conduct required work in a manner least disturbing or disruptive to site users.

- b) Any painting and staining **[deleted phrase]** that is required should be completed on an as required basis when wood is exposed due to vandalism, wear or other damage. Prepare all surfaces by scraping old paint and using a wire brush to create a fresh bonding surface for new paint.

1.3 Campsite and Day Use Area Maintenance All N/A

- a) Keep campsite structures in a safe and fully operational condition. **N/A**
- b) Maintain campsites and surrounding area in a clean and tidy condition free from litter, garbage, broken glass, and foreign material. Dispose of all litter and refuse at a regional dump site or transfer station. **N/A**
- c) Remove all non-standard structures from the campsites and maintain all new structures installed by the province. **N/A**
- d) Pick up all litter throughout the developed portion of the site including the roads and trail.
- e) Where applicable, retain the campsite shape and definition by removing weeds, encroaching vegetation, and overhanging limbs to a minimum of 0.5 metre surrounding the campsite and driveway shoulders. **N/A**
- f) Rake the campsite and driveway shoulders removing wood chips, needles, sticks/branches and other debris. Particular attention should be given to heavily used areas, but not limited to, around fire rings, around and beneath tables, and in tenting spots. **N/A**
- g) Maintain areas surrounding structures free of weeds, encroaching vegetation, overhanging limbs, dirt, litter, garbage and debris. Level all gravel surfaces to present an overall clean and neat appearance. Cut brush, grass, etc. around tables (1.5 metre swath) and along paths when 20 centimetres high or otherwise interfering with the use of structures. **N/A**
- h) **If qualified**, fall, buck and pile any hazard trees on the site for firewood.
- i) Not use pails or other containers contaminated with disinfectants or sanitizers to obtain water from streams or lakes.

1.4 Table Maintenance All N/A

- a) Maintain tables and the immediate area in a clean condition, free from all cobwebs, dirt, grass/brush, litter, garbage and debris.
- b) Relocate tables to their original locations, and level them as necessary.
- c) Ensure tables are safe by securing loose planks, removing all splinters, nails and other hazardous protrusions, and making sure tables are level and not prone to rocking or tipping when used.
- d) Repair damaged tables to standard.
- e) Wash all table tops and seat planks.
- f) Paint/stain tabletops and seat planks as necessary to keep the surfaces clean and neat in appearance. All wood exposed due to vandalism, wear or other damage shall be scraped and stained or painted.

Note: the Recreation Officer must approve Paint or stain colours.

1.5 Pit Toilet Maintenance **All N/A**

- a) Keep pit toilet buildings and fixtures in a safe and fully functional condition. Approved posters and signs are to be stapled securely inside the toilet. Replace as needed.
- b) Maintain pit toilets and fixtures in a clean and sanitary condition free from dust, dirt, stains, mold, cobwebs, graffiti, litter, garbage, excess water, unpleasant odours, and all foreign material.
- c) Thoroughly clean and sanitize the seat, stem, floors and walls with a mixture of cleaner and water. Do not pour water used for toilet sanitizing/disinfecting into the pit.
- d) Provide toilet paper and deodorant blocks in the holders as required.
- e) Provide septic enzyme – following the instructions on the product (lime products are not to be used) – as required.
- f) Maintain the area surrounding the pit toilet free from all litter, garbage, debris, weeds, encroaching vegetation and overhanging limbs. Remove all debris from the roof surface.
- g) Maintain the minimal acceptable space between faecal matter and the floor level (50 centimetres). Notify the recreation officer if this is surpassed, so that toilet pumping can be scheduled.
- h) Annually, when required, stain the outside walls of the toilet and inside walls in the existing colour scheme. Paint the floors.
- i) Protect the toilet seat and stem from marring and splatters while the interior of the structure is painted. Remove posters and signs before painting and re-secure after the paint is completely dry.

1.6 Sign/Poster Maintenance

- a) Ensure signs are in good repair and maintained in a firm vertical position with the sign message oriented to provide maximum viewing exposure.
- b) Replace or repair all missing or damaged signs.
- c) Maintain signs in a clean condition free from dirt and foreign matter that could restrict a site user's ability to read them.
- d) Maintain the immediate area around signs free from garbage, grass, weeds and brush.
- e) Notify the Recreation officer if signs are in poor condition or need replacing, install and/or stain signs as required. **We have our own signs made so is this to be reimbursed or just for the record or?**
- f) When required, apply one coat of paint/stain to signs, boards and posts (– letters *white*, sign boards and posts *provincial brown*).

1.7 Trail Maintenance (within a site)

- a) Ensure all trails, walkways, boardwalks, paths, steps, stairs and handrails are safe and in a fully functional condition.

- b) Maintain trails, walkways, path steps and stairs and adjacent areas in a clean condition free from litter, garbage, rocks, limbs, windfall trees, encroaching vegetation, and other foreign material that may pose a hazard or restrict access.
- c) Ensure culverts, bridges and ditches are clear to ensure proper drainage.

3. VISITOR SERVICES STANDARDS

- a) at the site.

4.1 Public Safety Standards

If any of the following situations arise at the site during the operating season, the Agreement Holder must take the following action:

- a) **The site becomes unsafe/hazardous**—the Agreement Holder must immediately notify the recreation officer or if unavailable the local Forest District office of any condition that makes the site unsafe or hazardous for use, including a high fire hazard or a nuisance animal.
- b) **Site users acting in an unsafe manner**—the Agreement Holder must inform site users acting in an unsafe manner to cease that activity. If the users will not comply and the situation is of a serious nature, the Agreement Holder should call the local RCMP or contact the local Forest District office for assistance.
- c) **Serious Injuries/Fatalities**—the Agreement Holder must immediately report a serious injury or death at the site to the local RCMP and to the Recreation Officer.

4.2 Working With the Public

The Agreement Holder must manage the site to ensure the safety and supervision of site users and their property. The Agreement Holder must undertake the following actions when managing users:

- a) **Public Relations**—effective public relations on behalf of the Agreement Holder depends upon physical appearance, attitude and the ability to deal with people in a fair and consistent manner. The Agreement Holder and their staff must be able to communicate effectively and control their verbal and physical responses in any situation. This is called the “public relations approach.” It does not change from situation to situation, and it is the key to success in dealing with people. There are three components to this approach:
 - i. **The mental awareness and thought process**—the Agreement Holder must:
 - Be calm, cool and collected internally.
 - Program his/her approach to the specific situation.
 - ii. **The physical image (body language)**—the Agreement Holder must:
 - Develop and present a friendly posture.
 - Prevent circumstances from changing his/her countenance.
 - Develop and use the power of a smile in the face of adversity.
 - iii. **The verbal-response (communication)**—the Agreement Holder must:

- Listen to both sides of the story.
 - Control voice tone, volume, and inflections to show interest and concern without emotion.
 - Refrain from swearing or using obscene or insulting language.
- b) **Assessing the Risk**—the Agreement Holder must observe and analyze each potential conflict situation to ensure it is safe to make contact with the site user. The Agreement Holder must also be prepared mentally, physically and communicatively to handle the situation. The safety of the Agreement Holder is paramount, and they should not put themselves at risk in situations of conflict.
- c) **Education**—the Agreement Holder must attempt to inform and educate site users of the site rules and regulations.
- The Agreement Holder is required to inform and educate site users regarding the following:
- i. A person shall not create or cause a deliberate or unnecessary disturbance.
 - ii. “Quiet hours” at the site are between 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. No loud noise is acceptable during these times.
 - iii. Any other authorized rules and signs posted by the province. **What about our rules – no bikes – no motorized vehicles (power wheelchair exception) and more**
- d) **Duration of stay at a recreation site** — the Agreement Holder must advise any site user who has exceeded camping for more than 14 consecutive days as allowed for by the Forest Recreation Regulation. **N/A**
- e) **Encouraging Compliance**—in every possible instance, site users should be advised of the compliance required and given an opportunity to correct their behaviour (e.g. keep noise down, buy a camping permit, etc.).
- f) **Complaints and Disturbances**—the Agreement Holder will record and report to the Recreation Officer any complaints by site users about disturbances or other undesirable or illegal activities in the area.
- g) **Violation/Order to Vacant**—the Agreement Holder must advise site users who are contravening the act or regulations that they are in violation, and may be subject to enforcement action or ordered to vacate if they do not cease. Only if it is safe to do so, an Agreement Holder may ask a person that is causing a violation at a site to leave. Only a Designated Official (Recreation Officer, Environmental Official or Natural Resource Officer) or the RCMP can order a person to vacate a site under the authority of the Forest Recreation Regulations.
- h) **Access Control**—the Agreement Holder may regulate vehicular and pedestrian traffic to prevent congestion and camping and parking problems from developing. Gates or control devices are to be opened and closed as required. The Agreement Holder must remain at the site and be available to the public while the control devices are closed and the site is occupied with users. The needs of an emergency situation must be considered whenever a control device is closed. Only campers may remain in the site after 11:00 p.m.

- i) **Provincial Property**—the Agreement Holder will check the structures and all equipment at the site for theft, damage or vandalism, and report any occurrence immediately to the recreation officer.
- j) **Notebooks**—the Agreement Holder should retain a notebook. In it, keep notes of important incidents, including such things as:
- The nature of the incident.
 - What happened?
 - Who was involved?
 - Where did it occur?
 - How did it occur?
 - Weather conditions (if related to a storm event).
 - When did it occur?
 - Date.
 - Time.
 - Names and descriptions of the people involved.
 - Contact info (if available).
 - Vehicle license plate identification.
 - How did the campsite operator handle the incident or situation?
 - Was anyone contacted to assist?
 - For instance: RCMP, Recreation Officer, Compliance and Enforcement, Conservation Officers, Wildfire Protection Branch, etc.



Schedule F

Operational Standards

Recreation Trail

Attachment to the Agreement with _____ for Partnership Agreement No. _____.

1. TRAIL MAINTENANCE

1.1 Maintenance Priorities

- Safety considerations should *always* be the first priority. Unsafe conditions should be corrected or normal use restricted.
- Environmental and trail damage should be corrected and actions taken to prevent further damage.
- User convenience should be considered.
- Continuous maintenance and repair to the trails and infrastructure to protect provincial investments.

1.2. ~~Preseason~~— **ANNUAL** Trail Maintenance

Maintenance and repair of trail and it's ancillary facilities **should be scheduled at least once a calendar year** when it's least disruptive to trail users. Only use ministry approved paint/stain colours. On a priority basis the following should occur:

- **Trail signs**
 - check all km markers, signs and cairns to ensure they are in place, visible and in good repair
 - additional signs should be installed as needed
 - conduct minor repairs and paint/stain all trail signs and posts as required.
- **Kiosks**
 - inspect kiosk structure to ensure it's secure and solidly installed
 - conduct minor repairs and maintenance
 - remove cobwebs/dirt
 - replace damaged signage
 - remove all unauthorized signage
 - paint/stain as needed.
- **Trail tread**
 - drain/harden mud holes and boggy areas
 - complete washout and/or slump repair **What is this?**
 - grub rocks, roots, stumps as necessary

- undertake surface repair as required; remove loose rocks, replenish surface material
- repair **turnpike** sections; close unwanted trails/shortcuts and restore vegetation. **What is a turnpike section?**
- **Deadfall**
 - cut out windfall/deadfall on the trail
 - remove wood a minimum of 0.5 metre from the tread centre dispose downhill when possible.
- **Brush/Vegetation**
 - remove all juvenile trees and woody brush for 0.5 metre on either side of tread centre within 3 centimetres of ground level
 - scatter the cut material out of sight of the trail
 - remove vegetation for viewpoint maintenance
 - inspect for hazard trees and report to Recreation Officer when known.
- **Erosion control**
 - clean-out and repair: existing water bars, culverts and ditches as necessary
 - drain water away from the trail to prevent erosion.
- **Route marking**
 - mark obscure routes with flagging or delineating tags as required.
- **Litter cleanup**
 - remove litter and garbage at the trailhead, along the trail and parking area(s), dispose of in an approved landfill site.
- **Limbing**
 - remove tree limbs to allow 2.5 metres of overhead clearance and 1.0 to 1.5 metre trail width
 - scatter cut limbs a minimum of 1 metre from the trail edge, out of sight where possible
 - cuts limbs clean to avoid scarring main trunk of the tree.
- **Parking area(s)**
 - remove all encroaching vegetation and overhanging limbs
 - brush back shrubs that conceal trailhead signs and kiosks
 - undertake surface repair as required; remove loose rocks, replenish surface material.
- **Informational and Interpretive Signs**
 - check signs to ensure they are in place, visible, in good repair and up-to-date as required

- remove all unauthorized signs.
- **Trail Infrastructure**
 - Ensure all bridges, boardwalks, paths, steps, stairs and handrails are safe and in a fully functional condition
 - repair or replace material as required, including cribbing, retaining walls and barriers.

1.3 Routine Trail Maintenance:

Trail and ancillary facilities should be inspected and monitored throughout the operational season for possible repairs and maintenance.

2. TRAIL HAZARDS

Repair or eliminate known trail hazards when possible. If a natural hazard becomes known to the Agreement Holder during routine maintenance visits, such as river/creek crossings, slides/washouts and hazard trees, the local district office must be advised. In addition, the Agreement Holder must make a reasonable effort to ensure users do not enter the trail head, if, in the Agreement Holder's opinion, the trail is unsafe due to existing or potential hazards.

When submitting for payment please include a copy of the work plan.

Work Order payments are subject to the following

- Funds are intended for incidental expenses and costs associated with partnership or volunteer service agreement and must not exceed \$5,000. **Can submit more than one in a year for approval?**
- Work order must not be used in place of equipment hire agreement or contracted services.
- The monies are to be spent only on the project specified in the work plan
- Funds will be provided upon the ministry receiving the recipient's signed work order
- Eligible volunteer expenses include:
 - Infrastructure repair / replacement
 - Materials, Misc. Supplies
 - Cleaning and TP supplies
 - Vehicle maintenance and insurance
 - Hand tools
 - Equipment maintenance, repair and fuel
 - Training tuition/certification
 - Out of pocket travel expenses (not to exceed Group 1 rates, see meal/per diem's)

Group 1 Travel Allowances

Meal/Per Diem Allowances (effective November 18, 2012)

Full Day	Breakfast only	Dinner only	B&L only	L&D only	B&D only
\$48.00	\$11.75	\$13.50	\$25.25	\$36.25	\$34.50

Private Vehicle Allowance (Effective April 1, 2013)

1. Where a private vehicle is used, reimbursement shall be **\$0.52** per km
2. The distance allowance does not apply when using leased, rental or government vehicles.
3. Actual transportation toll charges may also be claimed

Accommodation Charges

1. Reimbursement of accommodation expenses will be in accordance with Treasury Board Orders and Directives
2. Where private lodging is used in lieu of commercial accommodation, reimbursement of **\$30** maximum per day may be claimed.

Work Plan
expenses:)

(provide brief description of works and list of incidental

Assume that what has been filled in on the Work order above would suffice for most of SecheltHeritage Forest work. This space would only be needed for some special project or item.