




# Squamish Parks and Recreation Master Plan Draft SurveyMonkey

## 2 Public Feedback

### 1. Is the document clear to read? Is it an engaging, useful document?





		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		63.6%	21
Somewhat		21.2%	7
No		15.2%	5
Don't know		0.0%	0

Please provide comments regarding your opinion 10

answered question 33

skipped question 2

### 2. Has the Master Plan captured the overall community vision for its recreation hubs?




		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		38.7%	12
<b>Somewhat</b>		<b>41.9%</b>	<b>13</b>
No		12.9%	4
Don't know		6.5%	2

Please explain why or why not 15

answered question 31

skipped question 4

### 3. Has the Master Plan missed anything that you expected it to cover?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		44.4%	12
No		48.1%	13
Don't know		7.4%	2




Specific Feedback: 14

answered question	27
skipped question	8

#### 4. Please tell us what you think of the recommendations in the following categories:

	Do not support	Not very supportive	Neutral	Somewhat support	Strongly support	Rating Count
1. Creation of volunteer Advisory Groups for Programming, Facility Users, and Outdoor Recreation:	3.3% (1)	10.0% (3)	13.3% (4)	<b>40.0% (12)</b>	33.3% (10)	30
2. The Community Recreation Hubs (Brennan Park, Youth Centre, Seniors Centre, Adventure Centre):	6.7% (2)	10.0% (3)	6.7% (2)	36.7% (11)	<b>40.0% (12)</b>	30
3. Improved events hosting facilities at Brennan Park (primarily at the Logger Sports Grounds):	6.7% (2)	6.7% (2)	16.7% (5)	33.3% (10)	<b>36.7% (11)</b>	30
4. Improvements to Brennan Park Recreation Centre (fitness centre, plan for new ice arena + dryfloor, expanded programming facilities, etc.):	16.7% (5)	6.7% (2)	10.0% (3)	20.0% (6)	<b>46.7% (14)</b>	30
5. Changes to the Seniors Centre (longer hours, expansion of programs, expanded marketing)	9.7% (3)	12.9% (4)	25.8% (8)	22.6% (7)	<b>29.0% (9)</b>	31
6. Suggestions for waterfront facilities and access improvements	6.7% (2)	13.3% (4)	20.0% (6)	<b>30.0% (9)</b>	<b>30.0% (9)</b>	30
7. Other (please enter details in comment box)	18.2% (2)	0.0% (0)	18.2% (2)	18.2% (2)	<b>45.5% (5)</b>	11
Other recommendations not listed above						20
<b>answered question</b>						<b>31</b>
<b>skipped question</b>						<b>4</b>

## 5. Does anything require clarification?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		55.2%	16
No		27.6%	8
Don't know		17.2%	5

If yes, please tell us what is unclear: 16

answered question 29

skipped question 6

## 6. Please tell us your suggestions for improvements to the recommendations.

	Response Count
	15
answered question	15
skipped question	20

## 7. Overall, to what extent do you support Draft 2 of the Master Plan?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly support		25.0%	7
<b>Somewhat support</b>		<b>46.4%</b>	<b>13</b>
Neutral		14.3%	4
Not very supportive		7.1%	2
Do not support		7.1%	2

Please provide comments regarding your opinion

13

**answered question**

**28**

**skipped question**

**7**

## 8. Do you have any additional suggestions or comments in relation to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan?

**Response  
Count**

15

**answered question**

**15**

**skipped question**

**20**

**Page 2, Q1. Is the document clear to read? Is it an engaging, useful document?**

1	Almost too much info/detail.	Jan 28, 2013 10:00 AM
2	Not as defined.	Jan 28, 2013 9:57 AM
3	Wording is very professional. Engaging? No. Useful? Yes. The summary is brief. The recommendations are very content worthy.	Jan 28, 2013 9:48 AM
4	Current direction and consent regarding art/culture is unacceptable as per previous information given at presentations and meetings and in handouts of new re-structure.	Jan 28, 2013 9:35 AM
5	Almost too much info/detail	Jan 16, 2013 8:30 AM
6	I wouldn't have used the word engaging but it was clear and a useful document.	Jan 14, 2013 9:05 PM
7	As engaging as a 67 page document can be! There was some repetition that perhaps wasn't necessary but I can see what it was included each time and it did drive the point home.	Jan 14, 2013 7:13 PM
8	Too wordy. Should start with short, clear basic points then elaborate later if necessary. Vision, mission statements, and draft principles should be shortened by at least 1/2. Get real, no one reads this long winded stuff.	Jan 10, 2013 3:56 PM
9	Very thorough, a clearer 'highlights' or what's new since October's meeting would have been helpful, but a skim read concluded many items had been added (e.g. rinks)	Jan 9, 2013 9:17 PM
10	I found the document to be less concise than it could have been. It seemed more like someone's masters project than an engaging document (I have a degree in Rec Admin and found the document to be full of jargon that is not too engaging for the public).	Dec 28, 2012 9:18 PM



**Page 2, Q2. Has the Master Plan captured the overall community vision for its recreation hubs?**

1	Maximize youth involvement.	Jan 28, 2013 10:00 AM
2	Not as defined.	Jan 28, 2013 9:57 AM
3	I believe a specific survey for community vision is needed from its recreation hubs. The question being in the top two questions is very generalized. Not specific enough for me, as a reader, community volunteer, tax payer, community participant. The Adventure centre, I believe is not a recreation hub. Its a tourist centre. Through this report it has also not been consistantly mentioned as a hub, as it shouldn't.	Jan 28, 2013 9:48 AM
4	For seniors centre.	Jan 28, 2013 9:38 AM
5	maximize youth involvement	Jan 16, 2013 8:30 AM
6	It has excluded any mention of the Equestrian Community in Table 11.1	Jan 15, 2013 12:10 AM
7	Have concerns with Advisory Panels. From past experience these advisory panels can be highjacked by certain groups driving their own special interests or agendas.	Jan 14, 2013 9:22 PM
8	Although the plan has captured major recreation hubs I have concerns on the focus of "outdoor recreation capital". Squamish has excellent access to outdoor recreation. The problem is allot of that outdoor recreation happens outside district lands. I do believe Squamish should enhance this theme, but we should be careful as to how many resources (\$\$) are spent on the subject as money spent in the district may have little impact in enhancing many of the outdoor activities.	Jan 14, 2013 9:05 PM
9	It is hard to say as I don't believe that the overall community vision is necessary a cohesive one. Different user groups have their specific desires.	Jan 14, 2013 7:13 PM
10	I do NOT support the recommendations for the Ministry of Forests site -- "using the site to support the vision for Brennan Park." A serious concern. Bizarre recommendations for the site persist in the Draft 2 report.	Jan 13, 2013 7:18 PM
11	The arts, culture and heritage section need to be revisited.	Jan 11, 2013 8:37 PM
12	Visions needs to be tied to facts and dollars	Jan 10, 2013 3:56 PM
13	Multiple age groups, multiple geographic areas throughout community with decent access, indoor/outdoor	Jan 9, 2013 9:17 PM
14	we really do need a proper track, or to support Don ROss in improving theirs. Ours in not sufficient for competitivite levels.	Jan 4, 2013 11:53 PM
15	I know that many of the comments that I have made (Survey Monkey) were not directly addressed - elite level fitness facility (for all our natioanal team and Olympic level athletes) - rather than the proposed entry level fitness facility. Also a PPP for a public indoor rock climbing gym -this may have been in there, but I read the document at work and did not find this information easily if it is in there.	Dec 28, 2012 9:18 PM





**Page 3, Q3. Has the Master Plan missed anything that you expected it to cover?**

1	Marine use.	Jan 28, 2013 10:00 AM
2	Input from public/groups.	Jan 28, 2013 9:58 AM
3	The cost of this ongoing master plan. Considering it is just recommendations.	Jan 28, 2013 9:49 AM
4	Suggestions regarding camping near the spit ring alarm bells. This is a wild life management area. All decisions must take the environment into account first.	Jan 28, 2013 9:40 AM
5	marine use	Jan 16, 2013 8:31 AM
6	Mountain Biking and a plan to manage the trails outside the DOS should be covered in greater detail. These are used significantly by residents, and therefore does fall within the realm of the DOS to consider how to integrate that resource into the plan.	Jan 15, 2013 6:17 PM
7	The need for a large covered arena for the equestrian community which could be shared with other recreational user groups	Jan 15, 2013 12:14 AM
8	Legacy Sports Park proposal (south of Rod & Gun Club facility should be addressed.	Jan 13, 2013 7:18 PM
9	Needs to include more arts, culture and heritage.	Jan 11, 2013 8:39 PM
10	Financing! How much will each change or improvement to the recreation program or facility cost ? How much will our taxes go up if this improvement is implemented ?	Jan 10, 2013 3:59 PM
11	Feedback given so far by individuals, organizations and associations	Jan 7, 2013 5:16 PM
12	Water: At the District they promote choosing tap water "Take back the tap". They have a placard in the office marketing Squamish water. I would like to see this adapted into all of the planning that ties in with environment, parks and trails. Water fountains/bottle fill stations should be available at trail heads, downtown in several spots, beachfront, marinas, bike/skate parks.	Jan 2, 2013 1:06 PM
13	Please see my previous comment... about PPP rock climbing gym and elite level fitness facility (Similar to what Whistler has).	Dec 28, 2012 9:21 PM
14	Advisory Board Membership i.e. making suggestions as to who could potentially sit on Advisory Boards such as local health authority representatives sitting on the Programming Advisory Board	Dec 28, 2012 5:04 PM



**Page 3, Q4. Please tell us what you think of the recommendations in the following categories:**

1	Waterfront on Mamquam Blind Channel??	Jan 28, 2013 10:00 AM
2	Transportation.	Jan 28, 2013 9:58 AM
3	Affordable, accessable, National Sports (Winter-hockey/Summer-lacrosse) inclusion into our community. Start with the basics.	Jan 28, 2013 9:49 AM
4	Privatization of naming rights should not lose the heritage and history of current names. e.g. Brennan Park.	Jan 28, 2013 9:42 AM
5	Fitness center would compete with those already in town and is very expensive.	Jan 28, 2013 9:40 AM
6	waterfront on mamquam blind channel?	Jan 16, 2013 8:31 AM
7	I am keenly interested in the financial anaysis that suggests a fitness centre can break even in 5 years.	Jan 15, 2013 10:08 PM
8	Support for the Equestrian club in the Brennan Park area, support for constructing a horses-only bridle path, support for the construction of a covered arena at the current location	Jan 15, 2013 12:14 AM
9	I am uncertain about the partnership between the DOS and SD #48 as I don't beleive the current one has been particularly successful in that 1 team has full and complete control of the so called"community field" at HSS	Jan 14, 2013 7:16 PM
10	Regarding volunteer advisory groups, I do not think the Squamish Arts Council need be replaced -- as umbrella group and advisory group. I am sure that the SAC Board is very conscious of needing to be seen to represent the full breadth and diversity of the Arts, Culture and Heritage community. As stated elsewhere, I am utterly opposed to the Draft Plan's proposals for the Ministry of Forests/ Ministry of Transportation building. The proposal to focus new facilities for windsurfing on the Lower Mamquam Blind Channel at "Nexen Beach" must be referred to the Estuary Management Committee. This is a commercial transportation waterway, which will become increasingly busy with expansion of industrial traffic from Site B, as well as recreational boat traffic. More consultation with Industry, SEMC and Harbour Authority is needed!!	Jan 13, 2013 7:18 PM
11	Inclusion of current feedback for arts, culture and heritage	Jan 11, 2013 8:39 PM
12	A safe transportation system to recreation areas in our valley. Eg: Bus transportation to Whistler, Callaghan Valley and to the Red Meadows Parking Lot. Greyhound does not provide this service.	Jan 10, 2013 3:59 PM
13	It would have been better if item #4 were separated...for instance one might support a new ice arena, but not support the fitness centre. I don't support a new fitness centre....you will be putting a lot of present fitness centres out of business - and a few are already "mom" friendly i.e. ramps for strollers and a nursery for kids. I thought in this community we were supposed to be welcoming businesses, not turning them away.	Jan 10, 2013 3:44 PM
14	Impsiible to answer properly 4 and 5 when all changes are lumped into one question.	Jan 10, 2013 11:43 AM
15	Adventure Centre improvements will hopefully include extended hours! Can't	Jan 9, 2013 9:20 PM

**Page 3, Q4. Please tell us what you think of the recommendations in the following categories:**

believe we are the 'outdoor recreation capital' and we call it an Adventure Centre yet on a Friday in winter when it's bumper to bumper with outdoor recreation enthusiasts headed to Whistler, likely in need of a pee break at the half way mark, the place is locked up. How 'bout branding the seemingly genero and unappealing cafe which is actually a great destination coffee stop and staying open so we can showcase Squamish to a target audience that's at our front door?!

16	create a proper running track and add signage on corridor trail to show distances	Jan 4, 2013 11:55 PM
17	Neighborhood park in the Smoke Bluffs. It is already a natural park. You already mentioned the importance of having not-built park environments. It makes more sense to create a neighborhood park closer to Plateau based on the population of families and the new development area. Build something close to where families live. The smoke bluff area is enclosed by trees and granite rock. Already with just a few areas to sit, it has created alot of night hang outs for teens. Creating noise and worse...garbage.	Jan 2, 2013 1:06 PM
18	PPP for a public indoor climbing center - this would act as a community hub for 7 months of the year or more.	Dec 28, 2012 9:21 PM
19	Brennan Park Section or Programming: Use the commercial kitchen at Brennan Park to its full capacity such as hosting community kitchens. This is currently space that is not well used. Under Section 10 Trails, speak to the importance of supporting and maintaining a commuter trail that runs through the Outdoor Recreation Capital of Canada. The commuter trail is still incomplete with many safety hazards such as parked cars.	Dec 28, 2012 5:04 PM
20	The pool facilities seem outdated when compared to surrounding pools. The space is large but a slide or something creative would be a wonderful addition.	Dec 21, 2012 9:00 PM



**Page 4, Q5. Does anything require clarification?**

1	Equestrian and water front.	Jan 28, 2013 10:01 AM
2	All areas redefined.	Jan 28, 2013 9:59 AM
3	How do we (tax payers) pay for all your recommendations?	Jan 28, 2013 9:50 AM
4	Why do we need a 1500 seat arena? We need a second sheet of ice/annex, not a "Whistler style" architecturally award winning expensive building.	Jan 28, 2013 9:43 AM
5	*As Indicated	Jan 28, 2013 9:35 AM
6	equestrian and waterfront	Jan 16, 2013 8:31 AM
7	At the 3rd public open house, I believe Eric Lees stated in his presentation that he did not recommend a new sheet of ice for Squamish and that given the population size we could not afford it. I recall him making a comparison to Sechelt and how they are now struggling to fund their ice. What changed in the consultants analysis to change the recommendation in the current draft other than additional ice users feedback.	Jan 15, 2013 10:08 PM
8	I would like to understand the business plan behind the fitness centre. With competing gyms in town, I can not see how this will generate positive cash flow. I would like clarification on the economic loss related to the "plug" in the blind channel. It is a significant investment of dredge. Is it really worth it? Is it serving only a small percentage of residents who own large boats? Will Mother Nature not keep filling it in? I do agree with promoting small/self propelled watercraft launching.	Jan 15, 2013 6:22 PM
9	Information for arts, culture and heritage.	Jan 11, 2013 8:42 PM
10	Make the document short, readable and workable, and not this long winded affair that no one wants to read. The recreation changes to the community of Squamish should be attached to a yearly timeline.	Jan 10, 2013 4:06 PM
11	Show us a viable business plan for the new gym. Since there is a slight possibility that 25% of the people in the community could be using it during the day (based on demographics of 4 person families - with dads working during the day and kids at school - also the demographic should allow for working moms, seniors, and the unfit who wouldn't use a gym) show us the numbers i.e. expenses to run it, salaries, projected profits. We already have a gym - it's called the great outdoors with trails and it's free!	Jan 10, 2013 3:57 PM
12	Why do we need to waste \$1.5 million plus of taxpayer's money on a public funded fitness centre when we have several private ones already? This is lunacy. It cannot possibly become self-sustaining. A taxpayer money pit if ever I saw one.	Jan 10, 2013 3:52 PM
13	It is inferred that input from the community was taken into consideration. But it was not regarding three specific items: Renaming the Seniors Centre. Fitness facility at Brennan Park	Jan 10, 2013 11:44 AM
14	It is not clear what is suggested for the future of the seniors centre.	Jan 9, 2013 9:27 PM
15	I found the draft a bit dry and wordy and jargon based.	Dec 28, 2012 9:22 PM

**Page 4, Q5. Does anything require clarification?**

16	School District/community partnership should be more specific and use stronger wording. There should be recommendations around easier and more AFFORDABLE access to school gymnasiums, fields, theatre, kitchens, etc. Create community schools that can be easily used on weekends and week nights.	Dec 28, 2012 5:04 PM
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**Page 4, Q6. Please tell us your suggestions for improvements to the recommendations.**

1	Input given from groups/public.	Jan 28, 2013 9:59 AM
2	The recommendations are very enlightening and have potential. Improvements are well needed, we need to be consistent with prioritized recreation demands.	Jan 28, 2013 9:50 AM
3	Would like to see more input as regards the equestrian community	Jan 15, 2013 12:15 AM
4	I do have concerns around the fitness facility being planned. In talking with a lot of adults around Squamish the impression I am getting is they expect this fitness facility to be subsidized and be much cheaper than other gyms. This is not fair for local businesses that run these facilities and I don't think subsidizing adult gym time is the best use of recreational dollars. If the gym is run to break even I no longer have concerns with it. Please let the public know the estimated cost of membership and drop in fees. Let them know if this is subsidized costs or not. I think public interest may change once they see the cost of use. You don't want to build this facility and have it flop.	Jan 14, 2013 9:27 PM
5	I still have major concerns on the Ice Rink. The plan clearly states it is 5 to 10 years beyond its life. The plan puts fixing this at short-medium term. I believe this needs to be moved to short term only. A decision needs to be made quickly on whether it is better to overhaul the present rink or build a new one. Next step would be to act on that plan. Waiting any longer could result in a catastrophic failure of the rink leaving no arena programs (minor hockey, figure skating, public skates, etc). This would be a disastrous situation which would leave Squamish with a failed year for arena programs (or maybe two failed years due timing and ability to react). Public outcry would be huge.	Jan 14, 2013 9:17 PM
6	I found it interesting that the recommendations weren't prioritized.	Jan 14, 2013 7:16 PM
7	Improvements would include consultation with arts groups and the Squamish Arts Council.	Jan 11, 2013 8:42 PM
8	See previous responses.	Jan 10, 2013 4:06 PM
9	Build an outdoor waterpark for the kids in summer.	Jan 10, 2013 3:57 PM
10	Cut your predicted dollar spending down to about 1/4 of what your current plans will really cost. (Nowhere are there even approximations of what all the changes will cost.) Then, when the predicted costs double as the plan development goes ahead the taxpayers might possibly be able to handle the tax increases to pay for it.	Jan 10, 2013 3:52 PM
11	Provide a detailed business plan for the Fitness Centre for Brennan Park that supports the need for this facility. Otherwise you risk creating another Adventure centre fiasco.	Jan 10, 2013 11:44 AM
12	The draft Plan re: senior centre assurances of continuing dedication to seniors needs does not jibe with the winter rec centre program.	Jan 9, 2013 9:27 PM
13	consider a track, and improved running signage I very much agree with the following: Youth Subcommittee – It is important to have youth represented within the overall Program Advisory group, but there should also be a subcommittee to specifically address Youth recreation programming needs in the community. as	Jan 4, 2013 11:59 PM

**Page 4, Q6. Please tell us your suggestions for improvements to the recommendations.**

well as: Design and outfit the fitness centre to provide entry level fitness, preventative health/wellness programming and physical rehab. Consult with potential clientele regarding equipment preferences (e.g., free weights, strength machines, cardio) and plan the fitness centre layout accordingly. I disagree with creating a park-use permit system. It is already hard for commercial operators,(other than mountain bike shuttle businesses) particularly those benefiting from public outdoor recreation amenities (guides, fitness trainers, tour operators, or other private businesses operating in public parks and trails), to generate funds for Outdoor Recreation infrastructure maintenance (signage, trails upkeep, etc.). I'd rather see them become a part of the volunteer engagement strategy.

- |    |   |                      |
|----|---|----------------------|
| 14 | For the swimming pool: In order to create a healthier environment, mimic what West Van did to reduce chlorine use in the pool. The only reason I never swim in Brennan Park is the chlorine levels in the pool are not maintained well. I can smell it. I wait until summer and head to the lakes. With the rate of cancer in our society, we should look for options that provide a healthy activity with less toxins bombarding our immune systems.   | Jan 2, 2013 1:12 PM  |
| 15 | Advisory Groups must have council representation, support and commitment in order to succeed. Numerous advisory groups have failed in the past due to a lack of the above. The Gathering and Celebrating Advisory Group seems unweildy with so many diverse events and celebrations. Perhaps a short term committee to develop policy around local events and subsequent short term committees to deal with issues as they come up. It is important that all Advisory Groups be focussed and practical in their intent or interest and participation quickly dwindles. Youth and Senior sub committees should be expanded to include more than just recreation issues. It is important to offer central camping but do a better job of attracting campers. Have an accessible campsite that makes REVENUE for the district. Single climbing walls are usually underused. If Squamish is going to offer an indoor climbing facility which is a great idea, then do it properly and have it a revenue making venture. Create a proper indoor climbing gym that will be well used. Enhancing the visibility of Brennan Park to Highway 99 should not involve the cutting down of any trees for environmental reasons. We do not have to lay Squamish bare to the highway. Those trees serve as an important sound and safety barrier. They are aesthetically pleasing and home to many critters. | Dec 28, 2012 5:04 PM |



**Page 5, Q7. Overall, to what extent do you support Draft 2 of the Master Plan?**

1	Glad this was made available to the public.	Jan 28, 2013 9:57 AM
2	See above.	Jan 28, 2013 9:44 AM
3	Too much focus on bringing music concerts to our community. Feel that the equestrian recreational area is to be sacrificed in order for concert promoters to profit. Tragic that the consultant feels the need to cater to music events that would take place perhaps 3 weeks of the year and wants to take away our youth's equestrian activities that are enjoyed year round.	Jan 15, 2013 12:30 AM
4	I have major concerns on the arean life. The arean priority needs to move higher. Given failure at any time is possible it should almost be the next priority project for parks and recreation. I know it is expensive and will draw significant amount of dollars but putting it off could lead to disastorous results. Imagine the heart break for so many families if the rink was shut down due to failure and couldn't finish the season or possibly even start the next season.	Jan 14, 2013 9:30 PM
5	I believe the ice rink priority needs to move higher. This is the reason I have not marked strongly support.	Jan 14, 2013 9:19 PM
6	I strongly support some sections of it and am neutral or unsupportive of other sections resulting in my rating.	Jan 14, 2013 7:19 PM
7	I would give the report "strong support" but for the fact that its recommendations concerning (a) new uses for Ministry of Forests site/building, (b) assumption of Lower Blind Channel/ Nexen Beach as appropriate for windsurfing facility development, and (c) lack of recognition of the Squamish Arts Council as THE legitimate, established, obvious "advisory group" on arts, culture and heritage facilities and programming matters.	Jan 13, 2013 7:24 PM
8	Except for arts and culture section needs redo.	Jan 11, 2013 8:44 PM
9	Tim Hoskins is set on spending a lot of taxpayer dollars on recreation. We, the taxpayer cannot afford this.	Jan 10, 2013 4:07 PM
10	Way too expensive a plan for Squamish. We do NOT have a West Vancouver budget.	Jan 10, 2013 3:58 PM
11	Support some sections but strongly disagree with others.	Jan 10, 2013 11:45 AM
12	Recent activity on the part of rec. management leads me to doupt the integrity of the whole process.	Jan 9, 2013 9:29 PM
13	I am excited that you are taking the time to create this plan... I just hope that it is acted upon and quite quickly... as these changes are past due in my opinion.	Dec 28, 2012 9:23 PM



**Page 5, Q8. Do you have any additional suggestions or comments in relation to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan?**

1	As indicated.	Jan 28, 2013 9:59 AM
2	Lacrosse box - outdoor/indoor box availability. Hockey - outdoor/indoor availability. This should be available all year round to cross train and train future athletes and market as our two national sports, just like the government already has accepted. In regards to recreation programming. Did you know it takes up to 2 months to even suggest/or bring a program to fruition at Brennan Park? Being a supporter of our national sports come winter and summer, I found that none of these two sports were made available to the community through our public facility at an affordable price or marketed. This should be a priority for national identity. Don't get my opinion wrong. We are sitting on a gold mine here as far as outdoor recreation. We need to capitalize on this and market appropriately. As an outdoor recreation professional this needs improvement. Do we have an outdoor recreation building, we need to establish this and run with it as a hub. The closest building that exists is the adventure centre. Also, in regard to the lacrosse box being in partnership with Squamish Nation in your recommendations. I attended those meetings to support a box lacrosse and feel that it is needed to be on district land near BPRC due to location, access of public use. Your recommendations suggests it go on reserve land. But did you know there used to be one, but it was burned down and not replaced? Similar to the one that already existed behind BPRC but has been replaced by an outdoor gym that barely gets used.	Jan 28, 2013 9:57 AM
3	We are a community of doers and want amenities that work. I feel there should be more money spent to provide a broader range of services. Not alot of money on aesthetically pleasing buildings that are limited in the services that they provide.	Jan 28, 2013 9:44 AM
4	The environment comes first. Wild-life corridors, etc.	Jan 28, 2013 9:40 AM
5	A recreation Master Plan should cater to the recreational needs and wants of our community. Priority should not be given to concert promoters if it means sacrificing any of our community's recreational areas	Jan 15, 2013 12:30 AM
6	John Hunter park in Valleycliffe is a disgrace to the name of a fine man who did a lot for our community and for it to be included in any type of inventory as "park land" is ridiculous.	Jan 14, 2013 7:19 PM
7	as a property owner in the finch drive area i am directly affected by the changes to the brennan park area. two things that greatly concern me relate to the svea riding facilities and the concerts we have. #1. i am glad to see that you are revising your ideas for the svea riding club. when we bought our property on finch drive, one of the things that was/is important to me is the location of the riding club and the many beautiful trails to ride on. the club has put alot of work into their location, and it is a much needed facility that goes with this neighborhood. now, svea wants a long term commitment so they can upgrade the facilities again and are looking to putting in an indoor arena, so, we can have a year round riding facility, which would be an amazing thing to have. there is still alot of space around the present area--the woods between the arenas and the highway. the woods between the rcmp office and the path behind the baseball fields could be incorporated for additional space. i believe that an indoor arena would be beneficial to the community by expanding the potential for	Jan 14, 2013 1:09 PM

**Page 5, Q8. Do you have any additional suggestions or comments in relation to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan?**

equine activities such as therapeutic riding. also, i believe that svea would be open to allowing the facility to be used for non-equine events. i have heard that the municipality wants to relocate the svea club to the squamish valley. it makes me feel like there is an underlying plan to push the horses out of this neighborhood. first you start paving the paths; which is a deadly nightmare to ride on, by the way. then, move the riding arena far away from where the actual horses are. it doesn't make sense to me. please let svea keep their space and continue to improve the facilities that they have put so much into over the years. #2. it seems like there is a plan to increase the number of loud concerts held in the loggers sports grounds and baseball fields. (another reason given why the horse area isn't suitable anymore) since we live right here, i think we should have an opinion on the amount of superloud activities that happen. the live at squamish concert is so loud, i can just sit in my front yard and it's like being right there. while that may be okay once a year, expanding it to several times a year is something i am not sure is a great idea. also, the increased traffic is a nightmare. this past year, we had to keep guard on our properties because concert goers felt they could park anywhere they like. they tried to park on our land. they parked on the street outside our yards. they drank, smoked and littered. they partied outside our windows at all hours. again, once a year is okay. but, several times a year?? this doesn't benefit our neighborhood at all and it causes a bunch of headaches. i moved into a horsey neighborhood to enjoy my hobby of horseback riding. if it is diminished by taking away my riding facilities and limiting my use of the trails, and turning it into concert central, then my home is changed drastically from what i bought into. and, that's certainly not a fair or reasonable thing to do to this little equine community. this neighborhood has been here for many, many years. i know alot of people come down here specifically to see the horses. they bring their children to pet the horses. people love horses. instead of seeing the equine group as a problem to deal with, they should be seen as a treasure to value and nurture. there's a saying-- "there's nothing better for the inside of a man, than the outside of a horse". i think horses add alot to this community and i hope we are allowed to thrive in our established neighborhood. thank you.

8	With respect to the Draft Plan's recommendations for the Ministry of Forests site uses and Nexen Beach/ Lower Blind Channel windsurfing facility development... we cannot put Recreation at the centre of everything. The Ministry of Forests, Industry, and Marine Commercial Transportation are important to our community and regional economy, and their roles are not going to diminish from where they are today.	Jan 13, 2013 7:24 PM
9	Suggest that Arts and culture section needs redo.	Jan 11, 2013 8:44 PM
10	Changes to our recreation should be made very, very, slowly based on community facts and available financing and not staff opinions. Employees should be hired on the basis that they show enjoyment of their jobs, not just put in union hours or time until retirement.	Jan 10, 2013 4:07 PM
11	Get somebody in charge who knows how to spend taxpayer monies frugally, like it was his or her own money. We don't need a Donald Trump type of spender calling the shots.	Jan 10, 2013 3:58 PM
12	If your holding public meetings and record the opinions expressed make sure	Jan 10, 2013 11:45 AM



**Page 5, Q8. Do you have any additional suggestions or comments in relation to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan?**

these opinons find themselves into your report. Example: Fitness facility at Brennan Park

- |    |   |                      |
|----|---|----------------------|
| 13 | Let's get on it!  | Jan 9, 2013 9:20 PM  |
| 14 | proper running track please! km distance markers on the corridor trail please. create partnerships for swimming with groups such as the titans triathlon club when considering montly passes for pool etc.  | Jan 5, 2013 12:04 AM |
| 15 | You had commented that we don't have enough ball fields and lacrosse fields in relation to other communities. Maybe we don't need them. I think this needs to be explored more before it is implemented. What types of activities and fields do people want to have? Spending the money on building a better Brennan Facility makes HUGE sense. We have many rainy, cold damp days being on the ocean. It would be great to include a short term locker area for people who are exploring Squamish and camping but need to lock up valuables; steam rooms for the many soggy days we experience; dry and wet saunas; maybe even a big water slide for the kids; bigger kiddie pool; indoor climbing center. I think spending the money here before many of the other options around creating other "fields" makes good sense as you capture a bigger part of the demographics versus the few that will play lacrosse or use the ball park. Squamish is unique and and better indoor facility would complement the outdoor life. Thanks. | Jan 2, 2013 1:20 PM  |

**DRAFT 2 PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN**

**SUMMARY OF PUBLIC REVIEW COMMENTS SENT DIRECTLY TO DISTRICT OF  
SQUAMISH STAFF**

December/ January 2013

## COMMENTS RELATED TO SVEA LOCATION AT BRENNAN PARK

59 RESPONSES + 1 RESPONSE FROM SVEA CLUB IN AN OFFICIAL LETTER

Tue 15/01/2013 5:17 PM

I would like to emphasize that the horse community enriches the Squamish community as a whole. It adds to the diversity of this town. Having access to equestrian facilities in town is an excellent asset for Squamish. The current facilities are used by many happy horses and riders. Please keep the SVEA land where it is.

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Tue 15/01/2013 3:55 PM

I am a local horse behavior consultant and riding instructor, and I moved to Squamish specifically to pursue my career with horses. I have been a member of the SVEA since 1999 when I lived in Whistler but kept my horse in Squamish. When my husband and I made the move to Squamish in 2003 I was able to establish my business, Good Horsemanship, and service the needs of the local horse community.

The SVEA club land is in the ideal location currently, and a potential move to the gun club area could pose numerous problems. Two quick examples are: an increased danger to equestrians who must ride the extra distance alongside a busy road to access the arena; visiting horses (for our many annual shows and clinics) may not have time to adequately habituate to the sound of gunfire at close proximity, and their startle reactions (as prey animals) may pose a danger to both their riders and themselves. The SVEA members and volunteers have spent countless hours, and much hard earned cash to build and maintain their current facilities. The current site is appreciated not only by our local horse riders, but by the public who do not own horses, but pass by and enjoy watching horses and riders in local shows and lessons.

The benefits that horse ownership and riding are many, and I have previously listed them in other correspondences. Please consider keeping the SVEA where it is. It is a valuable part of what makes Squamish great, and I hope we continue to be an active and visible part of the community.

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Tue 15/01/2013 3:35 PM

As a huge advocate for this community I DO NOT support the recommendation to relocate SVEA from its current location.

As a huge advocate for soccer in this community I also DO NOT support the recommendation to relocate SVEA from its current location.

I am absolutely confused as to how this recommendation has even come to the table, there appears to be no indication as to why it needs to be relocated or what will be constructed in its place, or when this would in fact occur.

The current recommendations do not seem to lead in a clear path, or timeline and I am deeply disappointed with this draft.

I would love to have some clarification on:

1. Why would anybody put horses near or beside a rod & gun club
2. What would be put on the current SVEA location and how did you come to that conclusion?

Tue 15/01/2013 2:24 PM

I am writing to request that SVEA be allowed to keep the existing riding ring location. That it also be given access to the forested land that exists between the club and highway to build a covered arena and horses only path. This, in my opinion, is the best use of this land, and allows for access to all sport and recreational opportunities, without giving preference to some, and ignoring others.

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14 January, 2013 9:45:36 AM

Hi there. I am a parent of an enthusiastic equestrian and we use the Finch/Loggers Lane ring regularly. The Loggers lane area is an existing hub for equestrians due to the access to the riding and showing ring. This area has the largest concentration of properties that can support horses and barns in Squamish. Having a diversity of activities within municipal land makes the community interesting and demonstrates how much there is to offer in Squamish. Whenever there are horses in the SVEA riding ring, bike riders and walkers on the adjacent trail stop to view the horses and riders. In my experience, the interaction is always positive and passers-by often say how great it is that riding opportunities exist in Squamish because in many other communities, equestrian activities are not available. A strong horse community is an example of what makes Squamish unique. The SVEA have worked hard to create a good base for equestrian activities and it makes no sense to relocate this vibrant community!

Rather than spend time and energy on relocation, we would like to see the existing facilities expand with the addition of a covered ring and secure bridle path. We hope that the riding club obtains the support of the District of Squamish to accomplish these goals.

Equestrian activities have such a positive impact on children, youth and adults. Caring for horses is a physically and emotionally healthy activity and our family has benefited from the access that our daughter has had to the horse community, which includes the lands that have been utilized by SVEA for many years.

Please consider the needs of this community and make decisions based on what is working so that SVEA can focus their efforts on growth and development of an activity that truly defines Squamish as the "Outdoor Recreation Capital of Canada". Thank you.

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January 14, 2013 4:58 PM

My daughter's favorite sport is horseback riding and her lessons with Trinity Equestrian utilizing the SVEA location. We need more facilities not less – things like a covered arena so that children can ride year round and a horses-only trail. The forested land that exists between the SVEA club and the highway is perfect land for the covered arena and a horses-only bridle path.

I would like to see these endeavors fully supported by our district government and community.

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Tue 15/01/2013 2:28 PM

We are writing in regards to keeping the SVEA location where it is at. We would really like to see Squamish have a covered riding area for our daughters (and others) riding year round enjoyment and safety! We really don't want to see our daughters sport of choice be taken away from her because it (

the location) is to be replaced with other recreational options which we already have plenty of in Squamish.

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Tue 15/01/2013 1:33 PM

As a past member of the SVEA and an avid equestrian, I saw the struggles put forth by the SVEA to develop the land they are currently using. In a community where equestrian facilities are limited, and comraderie within the community is ever important this land is invaluable.

Equestrianism is a selling point for many new residents as the sport is incredibly costly and increased interest is heading up the Sea to Sky highway. Potential residents looking for more affordable ways to remain active in the equestrian field.

As the Outdoor Recreation Capital of Canada it is important for the District of Squamish to respect all types of recreation and help build community diversity and vibrancy.

Please - leave the SVEA land where it is.

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Tue 15/01/2013 1:26 PM

With the movie theater gone young people are having a more and more difficult time to find things to do. The SVEA lands in town encourage easy access for Squamish youth. They are able get to this central location from school easily. Please support this initiative.

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Tue 15/01/2013 12:45 PM

I am writing this letter in support of having the opportunity to ride horses in Squamish. My children have enjoyed many hours of learning and I would like them to continue. Our riding rink is important and so is a trail that is not paved.

Please keep our out door options diverse!

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Tue 15/01/2013 10:29 AM

My daughter started riding with the SVEA about 3 years ago and we have found an extra curricular activity that she loves! Please release the land back to the SVEA and do NOT ask them to move closer to the gun range. Guns + horses = unsafe riding! Especially where children are. I ask that you come out, get on a 1000lb horse and I fire off a gun shot within the range and see how safe you feel...! You don't understand the danger you are asking us to put our children in!

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Tue 15/01/2013 9:18 AM

SVEA NEEDS TO STAY AT ITS CURRANT LOCATION

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Tue 15/01/2013 9:16 AM

From the community standpoint it just makes sense to offer a well rounded offering of sporting facilities that is centrally located for ease of access to the vast majority of the population. This allows students to access the facility after school hours with ease and allows them the choice of sport they wish to pursue. A covered arena allows the participants a safe location to ride year round. The same can be said for "horses only" trails, offering a safe place for the riders and their mounts. Please consider these points of view as you review the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and desire of the horse riding community.

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Tue 15/01/2013 9:13 AM

The SVEA riding area is very important to our family and community. It is so rare to have such wonderful trails and riding ring so close to city centre and easily accessible for after school riding lessons. We desperately need a covered arena to take advantage of our mild winters and enjoy our sport and our horses all year long. I hope you will consider keeping the SVEA riding arena in its current locations for future generations to enjoy.

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Tue 15/01/2013 7:25 AM

My children need to be able to ride in an under covered arena, so horse riding and training is available to them year round instead of just the summer months.

I would be heartbroken to see my child's passion of horses torn from them so that more ball/soccer fields are put in, when those already exist.

The SVEA riding grounds needs to stay where it is.

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Tue 15/01/2013 6:15 AM

Keep the SVEA Location where it is!!

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Tue 15/01/2013 2:22 AM

Please keep the SVEA Location where it is  
PLEASE, PLEASE.

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Mon 14/01/2013 11:02 PM

I have been a resident of Squamish for 12 years and I would like to share a bit of my story with you. My 10 year old daughter engages in many of the activities in Squamish, this includes soccer, skating, swimming, dance but she has found her passion in the Equestrian community here in Squamish. She has been riding for 3 years now, she eats, sleeps and dreams of horses. When I first got introduced to the horse community here in town I had no idea what a strong group was here but low and behold once

exposed to it I found a very committed and hard working and passionate group. All the girls and boys and adults who are involved in the horse community here in Squamish share the same passion, and they are exactly that, passionate! Passionate about this sport, activity, the animals, the camaraderie, the barn, all that involves horses. My daughter suffers from 'short Achilles tendons' and spent much time at BC Children's Hospital trying to correct her disability. We tried Botox injections into her calves to lengthen the Achilles, she was casted at 4 yrs. old, and then wore AFO's for months if not years but nothing made much of an improvement, until...you guessed it, she started riding horses. It naturally stretches her Achilles out with no drama and pain. We started at Children's Hospital when she was three years old but didn't start riding horses until she was 7, since she started the horse back riding she no longer complains of pain at night, she has more mobility and it is no longer an issue. The riding has been therapeutic for her condition.

I am single parent and I feel very fortunate that the area the Equestrian community is in is so close to our home and schools. My daughter and her horse club friends are able to ride their bikes in the summer, meet up and be at the barn all day. Not only in the summer months but if those girls can be at the barns and the Land every single day, they are there (although for winter months we really need to be able to build an indoor arena so they can ride in the winter months). It is easy access for me to pop by and it is a safe area. If it were somewhere where the girls needed to get a drive to get there, well it just would become so much more difficult for not only the girls but for the parents who are getting them to and from. It not only teaches them about horses themselves but it allows them to gain independence and responsibility in a safe and healthy way. I work with children here in Squamish and it is no secret that there is not much for kids/tweens/teens to do, so for her to be having a place that is safe, fun and close by, well that completes her life right now and gives me peace of mind. It keeps her out of trouble, and she is genuinely able to indulge in a healthy passion. The older girls mentor the younger ones, if you could see the impact it is having on these girls lives and their development it would be clear to those who any doubt that what we have going here in our Pony Club is changing lives and moulding healthy individuals.

The horse community is growing, and we need to be in a safe, dry location. We would love to have horses-only trails. We would like to request that our club be given access to the forested land that exists between our club and the highway in order to build our covered arena and for a bridal path. We don't want our children's outdoor sport of choice to be sacrificed for more baseball fields or soccer fields that already exist. Don't get me wrong we don't want to be the only sport in Squamish we just want to exist along side all of the other fantastic things that make Squamish the community it is. We have tons of baseball fields (which I am sorry to say I feel is a big beer drinking league for adults for the most part) and there is plenty of space for soccer. I would hope that when Squamish looks at the big picture they don't forget the little clubs and teams that have real people and children attached to them, and that they make room for those of us that really need to stay where we are. We have invested so much volunteer time and effort in our club not to mentioned money, and we only ask that we are allowed to grow and flourish where we are.

Thank you for listening, both my daughter and I really do appreciate it!

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Mon 14/01/2013 9:56 PM

Good evening. I have previously written a letter to the Mayor and councillors to express my and my wife's strong support for leaving the SVEA facilities where they are and approving the upgrading of the facility including the construction of a weather proof roof. I do not intend to repeat all that I have

previously said, but I feel strongly that Squamish has a real opportunity to build on the strengths of the existing facility and its membership so that the SVEA facility is a draw for Squamish from a much broader base than is now practical. Let the SVEA show you what it can do for Squamish and its citizens by allowing it to do what has been proposed by its' executive.

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Mon 14/01/2013 9:24 PM

The current location is a very SAFE location for my daughter and others to ride and compete on their horses.

Please do not move the SVEA, and if possible please allow them to lease additional land towards the highway so we can plan for the future.

We would like to build a covered arena so that we can enjoy our sport year round.

This coverage area could be used by others, as all that would be required would be to bring in plywood to protect the footing.

There is a great demand for horses in Squamish and it is growing.

My daughter does not use the baseball fields or soccer fields, she loves riding horses. We own our own horse and she spends almost everyday caring for and riding her horse.

She competed in the Summer Games (representing Squamish / Vancouver zone) 2012 and won a Silver Metal in Dressage.

She also competed at the Provincial level (representing BC) in Quebec after qualifying all year round in BC (September 2012) . She was the top rider in BC in her level of Dressage.

It was a wonderful opportunity for her to compete in Quebec. She will have this memory forever.

We use the SVEA land daily when the ground is not frozen. It does not matter if it is raining or not. It takes time and patience to get yourself and horse ready to compete.

Please do not take this sport and love for horses away from her.

Personally. I am, and have been active in most sports in Squamish, Soccer, Baseball, Hockey, Mountain & Road Biking. I firmly believe that expanding of opportunity is great... But not taking away what ANY group already has.

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Mon 14/01/2013 6:40 PM

Our club land is the only place for many of us to ride and train safely and effectively, as we do not have riding arenas of our own and cannot afford to purchase monthly rentals. Also our arena is the only arena big enough to ride a competition sized jump course, without it we would arrive at competitions highly under trained and unprepared. Most of the stabling for horses is in the loggers lane area, therefore our location allows riders to train as often as possible within a walking distance to our stabling, which is essential as most of us do NOT own trailers or are too young to drive. I feel that our club and the loggers area could really benefit to a large covered arena. The weather in Squamish makes riding year round difficult and often unsafe. A covered arena would help not only our equestrian athletes but also our



mounts, as horses need to be exercised and stimulated often to keep them healthy, both physically and mentally. Our goals with the club arenas are to host many shows and clinics and bring in equestrian athletes from all over the sea to sky corridor, if the SVEA was able to expand on the land between our club land and the highway, it would allow us to be a more competitive show grounds as we would be able to offer more day stalling and grow our club.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Thank you.

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Mon 14/01/2013 6:22 PM

Please leave the SVEA location in its current spot. Equestrian is a sport too, and deserves to be where it is. We have been there for 60 years! We have built a horse community around this location! Squamish has baseball, soccer, etc. locations for their sports, so why can't we? We live here and pay taxes. If we had permission, we could build a horse-only trail! If we had the area between our club and the road, we could build a safe covered arena for the horses. We don't want our outdoor sport of choice to be destroyed for more baseball or soccer fields, which Squamish already has. Please let us keep our SVEA club where it is!!

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Mon 14/01/2013 6:13 PM

Please keep SVEA location where it is. We live and work in Squamish and we need a safe covered arena for our kids to ride.

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Mon 14/01/2013 5:58 PM

This land is very important to many people, we are one of the oldest clubs in Squamish & we wish to continue in our present location. It would be a wonderful thing if I could ride in a covered area on the SVEA land year round. This would be safer & dryer for all members. We would all like to ride all year, but with our weather & more paved trails & roads we cannot do so, as horses with shoes & icy paved roads are a safety risk. A "horse only" trail in our area would allow for exercise & conditioning in a safe environment.

please do not sacrifice all our sporting lands to more ball fields.

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Mon 14/01/2013 4:58 PM

My daughter's favorite sport is horseback riding and her lessons with Trinity Equestrian utilizing the SVEA location. We need more facilities not less – things like a covered arena so that children can ride year round and a horses-only trail. The forested land that exists between the SVEA club and the highway is perfect land for the covered arena and a horses-only bridle path.

I would like to see these endeavors fully supported by our district government and community.

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Mon 14/01/2013 4:37 PM

I hope this reaches you in time, as I would just like to add my thoughts as to why the SVEA riding location should stay where it is currently located.

The SVEA has spent many years raising money and putting blood, sweat and tears into improving the facilities at the current location to the point where it has become an equestrian centre that the Association can be proud of and which can be used for multiple disciplines and events. It is not correct if all of this is taken away from the Association. In Squamish some sports appear to be pandered to with regard to the facilities that are provided by the Council, for example soccer and baseball. To my knowledge the equestrian community has been dealt the opposite hand, where the Council has not provided any facilities apart from leasing the land to the SVEA. The establishment and maintenance of the facilities are all self funded by the SVEA.

The current riding arenas are located in a very good area:

- easy access by horse, foot, bike and vehicle (including horse trailer)
- Brennan Park facilities (including toilets) close by
- no scary surroundings (industry, traffic, planes, etc.),

but of course the facilities could be improved further with extra trails, a covered arena, covered spectator seating.

Thank you for taking time to read this. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or comments.

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Mon 14/01/2013 4:25 PM

As it relates to the Parks & Recreation Master Plan - the SVEA's current location is advantageous to a wide range of existing and up and coming riders. We are very fortunate to have riding opportunities right within our community. As Squamish likes to boast being the Outdoor Recreation Capital of Canada - we should ensure that we strive to live up to that moniker. Similarly, just as we value diversity within our country, and communities - we should value diversity among the outdoor pursuits we offer (with fair & balanced support).

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Mon 14/01/2013 4:24 PM

PLEASE KEEP SVEA LOCATION WHERE IT IS.

Sincerely a concerned parent of a child for a love for horses!

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Mon 14/01/2013 3:57 PM

We have been watching, listening and educating ourselves on the important matter noted in our subject line. As a "newer" family to Squamish we feel we have somewhat of a unique perspective on this debate. One of the compelling reasons for our move to Squamish was the availability of affordable and accessible equestrian training for our girls aged 11 and (soon to be) 13.

The SVEA plays an important role in the development of young individuals. Our girls have learned much more than how to ride a horse. Proper horsemanship involves discipline, commitment, sensitivity, teamwork and good old fashioned, physical effort. As we look around our community, one thing we recognize is that the SVEA provides a positive place of learning and growing for our soon to be teenage girls. It is our hope, and certainly our commitment to our children, that they will continue with their riding endeavours through high school.

We have noticed the positive effect "hanging out at the barn" has had on our kids and their peers. The association also provides an alternative to those of our youth who are not team sport inclined but may still wish to be involved in a community and possibly even compete.

We feel a covered, safe and central location is integral to the ongoing success of the SVEA. In terms of participation, we feel that with the correct facilities and riding trails (preferably horse only) the club will grow and flourish and continue to offer the families of Squamish a healthy, alternative, outdoor activity.

We hope the district will work with the SVEA to help this important facet of our community further develop. Squamish is changing: the demographics of our town have radically altered and we have become a hub of young families. The "urban barn" that is still unique to Squamish is as valid and valuable as a turf soccer field or a new baseball diamond. A community that fosters diversity can benefit from this economically while supporting the development of its youth.

We would suggest to you that the SVEA is really in its infancy in terms of its development and growth. We hope you will give this valuable resource the opportunity to grow and serve our community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter,

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Mon 14/01/2013 3:37 PM  
PLEASE KEEP SVEA LOCATION WHERE IT IS. THANK YOU

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Mon 14/01/2013 3:11 PM  
My daughter and son both ride at the SVEA rings in good weather. We would really like the rings to stay where they are. We would also make use of a covered ring in behind the two existing rings.

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Mon 14/01/2013 2:57 PM  
The SVEA club members have spent a great deal of time and money (all hard earned by the club's own fund raising efforts) on their present site - it should not be moved.

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Mon 14/01/2013 2:55 PM

Please keep the SVEA location where it is

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Mon 14/01/2013 2:09 PM

My understanding of the Brennan park land was that it was left to the community to be used for community recreation only. A year ago I met with district staff members at the riding club site to discuss the area behind the current riding club rings and was told that there were likely huge roadblocks to development because of Department of Fisheries and Oceans concerns on the impact to the environment.

Having read the latest proposal by Lees and Associates mapping our recreational future I have noticed a couple of potential negative aspects in the plan.

1. That the Brennan Park area would be utilized a great deal for the outdoor concert type venues like the Live at Squamish events for the past two years, which was also echoed in his preamble to the public hearing of his first draft. I would be very curious to know if the profits of Live at Squamish ended up in local hands or was it funnelled straight to Vancouver? Also it would be helpful to know if the majority of the participants at the concerts were Squamish residents? If the majority of the participants were other than Squamish residents and profits from these events are only benefitting Vancouver businesses, I would have to argue the intent for the Brennan Park land usage is in conflict with the consultant's proposal.
2. By adding all of the new proposed playing fields to the area have any environmental studies been undertaken? Has DFO and the Ministry of the Environment been consulted and what was the result of those discussions?

As a member of the equestrian community in Squamish I am relieved at the temporary reprieve to remove us and all of our expensive development and improvements of the lease land we now enjoy in the Brennan Park site. However, I have noted that Lees and Associates have some concerns about our occupancy. I would like it to be known that myself and Toni Kerekes are available to continue the debate about how to meet the needs of Squamish residents and how the people of Squamish can best be served by the plan for that property. I still feel that they are missing some vital information about how to bring together user groups to co-exist at the site and find ways for mutual benefit.

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Mon 14/01/2013 1:21 PM

I'm sending you an e-mail as a request and response the parks and recreation master plan draft 2. Please keep our SVEA riding club where it currently is. It is the best possible location as it allows easy access all of the barns in the surrounding area. It is also the perfect location for parents to take their kids for riding lessons while they drop their other kid at the soccer fields next door! Please allow us access to the forested area behind our club so we can build an indoor arena. We NEED the ability to ride year round so youth and adults can continue to train year round and be successful on a competitive level. We also need a horse only path, since the paving of the trail that follows the road in front of the club we are more immobile than ever in the winter. The icy trail is very dangerous for hand walking horses and riding them. I have already experienced the fall of one horse on the ice and it is extremely unnerving. We want to be considered within the scope of your long term plan, as we are one of the most important recreational hubs in Squamish, and definitely one of the most passionate and persistent. Our

persistence will not stop because without horse riding in my life, in Squamish, I simply would not be a complete person anymore.

Mon 14/01/2013 1:20 PM

Please keep the SVEA where it is. It's such a valuable asset to our children, and community.

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Mon 14/01/2013 1:02 PM

Please keep the location of the SVEA where it is. It's safe and that's key, being beside a gun club that is extremely noisy is not ok, horse spook and they are heavy and powerful animals that can easily injure our young children.....think about it

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Mon 14/01/2013 12:38 PM

please keep svea location where it is  
thank you!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

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Mon 14/01/2013 12:16 PM

Please keep the SVEA Location where it is

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Mon 14/01/2013 11:42 AM

Through this e-mail we as a family want to express our strong support for inclusion of the current location of the Squamish Valley Equestrian Association (SVEA) land, located behind the Loggers Sports ground, in the District of Squamish's new Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Currently, the SVEA is leasing this land from the District for a three-year period and we are strongly in favor of the SVEA to be given a long-term lease and in addition to that the permission to build an indoor riding arena so that all equestrians in Squamish - amongst whom many children - can pursue their sport year-round.

We, as a family, got involved in the equestrian sport again 2 years ago, through Trinity Equestrian (Jinny Antilla and Toni Kerekes), the only place in Squamish that offers riding lessons on school horses. That led to the purchase of 2 of our own horses, presently boarded on Finch Drive. The riding facilities offered by the District through the SVEA are of immense value to us, not only because they allow us to be involved in a sport we love close to home but also because they serve as "SVEA headquarters" and offer us the opportunity to volunteer through this membership driven organization and give back to the community.

Over the last two years - because of the central facilities offered by the District through the SVEA - we have noticed a substantial increase of young families getting involved in the equestrian sport, encompassing all disciplines like English, Western, trail riding etc. One thing that all these families have in common is the love for horses, the outdoors and love for being active as a family regardless of ones age, in their own community. On my last count alone, I already counted 70 horses and 150 people involved in equestrian sport in the area directly surrounding the Brennan Park area!

Squamish now is the only community offering a public riding ring through the SVEA in the Sea-to-Sky corridor. This geographically wide appeal is illustrated through numerous people from Horseshoe Bay to Pemberton attending its events, directly benefiting Squamish economically as well. Just think of the economic benefit a well planned indoor equestrian centre (which can also be used for other indoor activities like concerts, trade fairs etc.) can bring to Squamish!

Last but not least, over the last 2 years I have noticed a decrease in the number of trails accessible for horses (the paving of the path along Loggers Lane was NOT a good idea - not just for horseback riders) and hope the final plan will include a number of horse dedicated trails in the area as well.

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Mon 14/01/2013 12:04 PM

I would like that the club be given access to the forested land that exists between the SVEA club and the highway in order to build a covered arena and a horses-only bridle path.

I don't want my outdoor sport of choice to be sacrificed over other sports.

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Mon 14/01/2013 12:01 PM

I am a concerned citizen. I live in Squamish because of its proximity to all the recreational activities that I love. One of those activities is horseback riding. My child is able to participate in local events because of the close proximity of the riding stables to the SVEA arena, which is in jeopardy of being moved. I strongly believe that riding is just as much a part of Squamish recreation as any other sport, and I support the SVEA in their proposal to keep and build a covered arena on the property. This proposal would benefit the community by offering a covered structure which could be used/rented for community events in the area.

Moving the location any further from the stables where my young daughter takes lessons (finch and Robin rd), might prevent her from accessing these facilities.

Please hear the proposals which the SVEA brings to your table.

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Mon 14/01/2013 11:45 AM

Please keep the SVEA Location where it is. We have enough soccer fields and baseball fields. My whole family plays baseball or softball so i know we have more than enough fields. The SVEA location is really important to us, many train themselves and their horses there so they can get stronger and be able to compete in shows. That is also the place where many little kids get their first experience on a horse, and find passion riding and bonding with horses. Also if you take away the SVEA location, many of the horse owners will leave which would leave so many people heartbroken. I know i would be crushed because before i got into horses and riding I was in a dark place. I had depression but i didn't know it at the time. When i was close to my breaking point i got offered a job at a barn from an amazing woman named Toni. I absolutly love animals (especially horses) so i said yes. The horses made me feel happiness which i hadn't felt in a long time. The horses and riding helped me through so many problems and helped me

become a different person. Also a very generous and completely awesome woman named Jinny got a horse named Harley and allowed me to lease him, now Harley is my everything and i am no longer the person i was before, horses have changed my life for the better. Please dont take away the SVEA location and crush so many peoples dreams and goals, and prevent future kids of squamish from having the chance to discover the wonders of being with horses.

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Mon 14/01/2013 11:18 AM

My family and I have been members of SVEA for almost 30 years. Please don't take away what little our club has. Our club has put in countless hours of volunteered time and fundraised money into what little we have at our facility. To look at the smiles on our young equestrian's faces as they enter the equestrian riding facility that we have created makes all the hard work worth while and worth holding on to.

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Mon 14/01/2013 11:13 AM

Hello, just wanted to add my voice regarding the moving of the Riding club land on Loggers lane. I am pleased that we have been given a reprieve and the the land will remain ours to use at this time. I believe that there is adequate space to provide for our future needs of an indoor riding ring at this site.

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Mon 14/01/2013 11:08 AM

This location is important to our family because our children have participated in horse camps throughout their summers. We have watched the local girls compete in horse competitions and we absolutely love seeing the horses and their riders trot by the BMX race every Monday and Thursday nights at the BMX track. There are not many places in the big city these days, where you can be racing a BMX bike and stop to go and pet a beautiful horse.

There are some items we would like to see in Squamish at the current riding stables:

- a covered arena so that you or your child can ride year round in a safe, dry location
- a horses-only trail
- club be given access to the forested land that exists between our club and the highway in order to build our covered arena and/or a horses-only bridle path.

We do not want children's outdoor sport of choice to be sacrificed for more baseball fields or soccer fields which already exist. We feel the community has access to these other sports facilities.

The current location is ideal and making small improvements to the riding area would be an asset to this community.

Mon 14/01/2013 10:53 AM

This location is important to our family because our children have participated in horse camps throughout their summers. We have watched the local girls compete in horse competitions and we absolutely love seeing the horses and their riders trot by the BMX race every Monday and Thursday nights at the BMX track. There are not many places in the big city these days, where you can be racing a BMX bike and stop to go and pet a beautiful horse.

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We do not want children's outdoor sport of choice to be sacrificed for more baseball fields or soccer fields which already exist. We feel the community has access to these other sports facilities.

The current location is ideal and making small improvements to the riding area would be an asset to this community.

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Mon 14/01/2013 10:34 AM

I would like to add my voice and support to keeping the SVEA riding ring /club at its current location. I would further, like to see the services expanded and local access to horses expanded. Building a covered arena would be extremely beneficial to the myriad horse riders who would use the facility.

The location is ideal as it is in a high profile area of the community. Toni Kerekes has been instrumental in helping to make horse-riding an affordable option for kids, making it no longer the exclusive purvey of the wealthy. Many new kids have joined the club following exposure eg going on a bike ride and riding past the arena during competition.

Learning equestrian skills, including caring for the horses helps develop the child's confidence and self-esteem. In light of this, most communities in Sweden actually have funded equestrian Centres accessible to their residents.

I believe that the current location adds to the diversity of our community and has significant benefits to the community. As the 'Recreation capital of Canada', I certainly think it supports this mandate.

Should you have any further questions, or require any further Opinion, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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Mon 14/01/2013 10:20 AM

I would like to ask that the municipality keep the bridle path and horseback riding ring for our community. Please do not sacrifice it for more soccer or ball fields. We need this space for riding and it would be greatly improved if we had a covered riding ring.

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Mon 14/01/2013 10:11 AM

My daughter has been riding for two years. I know she will be riding for many years to come. It has been important in developing her confidence. This has positively impacted her ability in other sports, school and at home.

She, and our entire family, strongly encourage you to consider the importance of the riding community to the youth in Squamish. The group of girls that my daughter rides with is supportive like no other group I have experienced. There is a cooperation between girls, across a range of ages, that carries beyond the riding ring.

Ideally, we would like a covered arena so that my child can ride year round in a safe, dry location. Continued access to the current SVEA land is essential and access to the forested land adjacent to the SVEA ring to build a covered arena and/or a horses-only bridle path would be beneficial.

My daughter participates in a variety of sports in Squamish, including soccer, but I do not want to see riding sacrificed for more fields. I am frequently asked where she rides from residents of Squamish looking for riding opportunities. There is interest in riding and we need to promote this sport in Squamish, not push it to the sidelines.

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Mon 14/01/2013 10:10 AM

Please keep the SVEA horse club where it is! It is so important to our club, our horses and our children.

Thank you for your consideration.

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Mon 14/01/2013 9:51 AM

I am an equestrian. My two daughters are equestrians. We are members of SVEA and we demand that the SVEA land is kept where it is currently located. This club has worked hard to provide the growing numbers of riders in our community with a facility and a riding ring where we can hold clinics, training sessions and shows. The current location is ideal from a parent's point of view since many families have different children in several different sports and the Brennan Park area is a hub for many of these sports. The central location is vital to providing all children the ability to perform their sports and the opportunity for parents to minimize driving times and thus ensuring that no child has to sacrifice their interest due to conflicting schedules. This location also enables children from different areas of our community to easily reach the facility from their many different schools and homes by bike or bus.

What we need in this community is a covered riding arena. Equestrian is a year-round sport as opposed to other sports (such as soccer and baseball) performed in the Brennan Park area. A covered riding ring

would facilitate our situation and would enable our club to grow, since we would be able to offer lessons later at night and in all weather conditions. It would also enable us to host shows and clinics on a year-round basis.

Horse-designated only trails leading to the land would ensure that our children and adult members would be able to reach the land in a safer manner. The paving of the trail along Logger's Lane has left us with no other choice but to ride along side road instead. Unfortunately this road is quite heavily trafficked and many drivers do not have the decency to slow down, endangering both horses and riders in the process.

I grew up riding horses and to my delight, my two daughters, ages 9 and 4, have inherited my passion for horses. My oldest daughter has been riding for five years and my youngest has been at the barn since birth. Horses are a huge part of our lives - it is more than a sport, it is a life-style. We cannot park our equipment in the garage in the off season. We cannot take a day off because 'we don't feel like it today'. Equestrian is more than a sport. It takes determination and commitment. It is hard physical work combined with an emotional investment. It builds confidence, stamina, muscles and compassion. Yes, it is primarily a female sport and all the more important for the District to show that it cares about all its members, not only the more male-dominated sports.

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Mon 14/01/2013 9:46 AM

Hi there. I am a parent of an enthusiastic equestrian and we use the Finch/Loggers Lane ring regularly. The Loggers lane area is an existing hub for equestrians due to the access to the riding and showing ring. This area has the largest concentration of properties that can support horses and barns in Squamish. Having a diversity of activities within municipal land makes the community interesting and demonstrates how much there is to offer in Squamish. Whenever there are horses in the SVEA riding ring, bike riders and walkers on the adjacent trail stop to view the horses and riders. In my experience, the interaction is always positive and passers-by often say how great it is that riding opportunities exist in Squamish because in many other communities, equestrian activities are not available. A strong horse community is an example of what makes Squamish unique. The SVEA have worked hard to create a good base for equestrian activities and it makes no sense to relocate this vibrant community!

Rather than spend time and energy on relocation, we would like to see the existing facilities expand with the addition of a covered ring and secure bridle path. We hope that the riding club obtains the support of the District of Squamish to accomplish these goals.

Equestrian activities have such a positive impact on children, youth and adults. Caring for horses is a physically and emotionally healthy activity and our family has benefited from the access that our daughter has had to the horse community, which includes the lands that have been utilized by SVEA for many years.

Please consider the needs of this community and make decisions based on what is working so that SVEA can focus their efforts on growth and development of an activity that truly defines Squamish as the "Outdoor Recreation Capital of Canada". Thank you.

Mon 14/01/2013 9:31 AM

Please keep the SVEA location where it is

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Mon 14/01/2013 9:17 AM

PLEASE KEEP THE SVEA LOCATION WHERE IT IS

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Mon 14/01/2013 9:01 AM

Good Morning, Please save the Squamish Valley Equestrian Association where it is as I think it is important to save the sport of HORSES in this town. Thank you

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Mon 14/01/2013 8:47 AM

Please keep the SVEA Location where it is!

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Mon 14/01/2013 8:32 AM

I have been a resident of this community for over 25 years and the main reason I choose to make Squamish my home was because I could ride and keep horses here. I intend to continue this sport/activity into my eighties, it is a lifelong passion and one I know of that many seniors partake, unlike mtn biking that most people tend to put away in their mid to late 50's or so. We need the club's "Land" to stay right where it is! We need an indoor arena there or at least be allowed to put an indoor arena there. Of the people I know here in Squamish (who ride) are of the same mind as myself, that is; we all intend to ride for the rest of our lives, it is our passion! So, when you receive other emails, especially from the younger population, please keep in mind horses are a life-long passion to us, I don't know if you can say that about soccer. (certainly you've heard the term horse crazy? That's us, we're crazy about horses!) We could use an exclusive-use bridle path as well. Our club would be happy to maintain it, but it needs to be for horses, no motorized vehicles or bikes. The trail that is already there was ideal, however the metal mesh needs to be removed for safety purposes. We need also need a trail running from the "Land" to the hwy. I will help build it (that is, volunteer my time/labour) I am sure you can count on others who share our passion. I trust you will act on behalf of all members of the community, not just a chosen few who have plenty of ball fields all over the community and several soccer fields in this vicinity. We have worked many, many years to improve this land for our use. It would be a dreadful shame if now, after we've achieved so much, to be told we need to relocate to another place.

Again, I implore you, Please keep the SVEA Location where it is!

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Mon 14/01/2013 8:26 AM

My child outdoor sport of choice is going to be sacrificed for more baseball fields or soccer fields which already exist.

My child does not play baseball two months out of the year. She does not play soccer a few months of the year.

My child is a member of  
SVEA Local Club  
Horse Council BC  
BCHJA  
Equine Canada members

We own a horse named WIND WAUK HER

We are very commint to the Equine Sport which is a 12 month a year sport, every day commitment.

This sport has been very good for my daughter. She is kept busy and out of trouble 12 months a year.

My daughter has been in the sport for 10 years now. Please do not take this SPORT away from her.

We are working very hard as a CLUB to apply for Grants so we may build our covered arena and / or a horse only bridle path.

The SVEA land is located in a very safe location. We would love to be given access to the forested land that exists between our club and hte highway in order to build our covered arena.

This covered arena could be used as a multi purpose facitily for the community as well. I have seen this at Spruce Meadows in Calary, out in Chilliwack. All that needs to be done to protect the footing is a plywood temp floor. We are willing as a Club to help with help from the District staff, this would be a wonderful addition to our community.

WE WANT TO STAY HERE please help us keep our vision going.

Thank you.

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Mon 14/01/2013 7:20 AM

We really need to keep the SVEA land where it is , It is easy access for my daughter to ride her horse to the land to practice for her competitions.

This year my daughter used this location to prepare for

SUMMER GAMES - received a Silver metal

BC Heritage Show - THE club put on qualifier shows so she was able to compete and as a result was the NUMBER ONE rider in DRESSAGE in BC She then competed in QUEBEC at the provincial level on a LEASED horse – was the TOP rider on Leased horse and # 8 in the Provencal Level.

A couple of years ago she was the TOP EVENTER rider in her division.

She won an OPEN Derby class at MREC and was # 4 in the JUMPER across BC in her height division.

This keeps my daughter busy all year round every day. This sport is not only a few months a years but every day she has to go to the barn. It is a great sport to keep kids busy in a healthy environments.

As a parent I have live in Squamish my whole live and had always had horses. This has keep me healthy all my live. PLEASE HELP US TOWARDS GETTING AN INDOOR AREA BESIDE THE RINGS THAT WE ALREADY HAVE WORKED SO HARD TO GET.

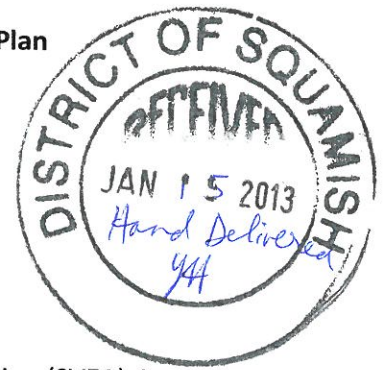
Thank you

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**SVEA – Response to the Draft 2 Parks & Recreation Master Plan**

Jan 15, 2013

Attention: E. Naisby, DOS Council members



I write in my capacity as a board member of the Squamish Valley Equestrian Association (SVEA), in response to the Parks and Recreations Master Plan, Draft 2, which was released in December (the "Draft Report 2").

In Draft Report 2, the consultants recommend that efforts continue to be made to relocate the SVEA club land (the "Land") to a location outside the Brennan Park complex. Our members oppose this recommendation and seek, instead, to remain long term in this location.

The SVEA continue to emphasize that the Land is an ideal location for the SVEA and its various activities. The Land is tucked in behind the Logger Sports Grounds. Most of the SVEA members keep their horses at properties located near the Land and can access it by a relatively short and easy ride. This location offers them good access via the trail from Finch Road or the ball field parking lot. It also offers a quiet location for the horses and riders away from traffic. There is ample and easy parking for horse trailers and spectators' vehicles.

Existing bleachers adjacent to the riding rings allow spectators of SVEA events and activities a safe location from which they can observe the riders and their beautiful horses and ponies.

The Land in its current location is adjacent to a popular walking and riding trail connecting the Adventure Centre with the soccer fields and Brennan Park Recreation Centre. People who ride their bikes or walk on that trail often stop and watch the horses on the Land. The proximity of our club land to this trail enhances their walking or riding experiences.

The SVEA Land in its current location is a unique jewel set amid the soccer and baseball fields, and nicely compliments them as part of an all-purpose recreational area.

The suggestion in the Draft Report 2 that the Land represents "*a subpar location for equestrian events, as well as constraints on the potential to expand and improve the SVEA Facilities*" is not correct. An easy comparison can be made to the Southlands Riding Club just off South West Marine Drive in Vancouver. The Southlands club is situated between the Point Grey Golf Club on Blenheim Street and the McCleery Golf course on McDonald Street. The Southlands Club has existed and thrived in that location since 1943. It has greatly enhanced the neighbourhood in which it is situated. The Southlands club has approximately 350 members. The SVEA has 150 members, representing a far higher proportion of Squamish than the Southlands club represents of Vancouver. The point is that an equestrian club can



support local riders, host appropriately sized competitions, while at the same time co-existing very well with other recreational users in a developed community.

The Draft Report 2 further comments that, *“the current location could result in conflicts between adjacent uses in the long term”*. One of the recommendations in the Draft Report 2 is that more ball fields be developed to complete the clover-leaf pattern at Hendrickson Field. Such an expansion would not infringe upon the current location of the Land. The SVEA Land is immediately to the north of such a ball field expansion. The report also recommends that a second turf field be developed. Assuming this is to be constructed beside the current turf field, on the remaining gravel field, this again would not infringe on the current location of the Land. The SVEA land would be immediately to the south of such a turf soccer field.

As for potential for future growth of the equestrian facilities on the Land (such as a possible covered riding ring and a bridle path), there is ample room for this, in an easterly direction from the current location of the Land, towards the highway where nothing currently exists or, as far as I am aware, is planned.

The Draft report makes mention of the need to support clubs who use volunteers to build their infrastructure:

*“We believe volunteering is the cornerstone for community-driven recreation and will strive to provide opportunities for citizens to participate and lead.”*

*“Our recommendations are intended to formally recognize the value and benefit that volunteerism delivers to the community, how volunteerism enables the community to strengthen their service delivery and provide direction on how the Recreation and Parks departments can collaborate with volunteer organizations to leverage and grow this resource.”*

In this regard, the SVEA, a non-profit club, knows the value of its members. Thousands of volunteer hours have already gone into building the currently existing infrastructure and putting on horse shows and related events. To date, the SVEA has never asked the District of Squamish for funding assistance for any of its activities or improvements to the Land. If the SVEA is granted long-term use of this area, it can begin to raise funds and apply for grants to build a covered riding ring. With increased membership, the SVEA has access to more volunteers with various skills who could help to build and maintain this facility.

Should the SVEA be successful in constructing a covered riding ring, it would be open to sharing it with other users. What is lacking in the Brennan Park recreational complex is a large covered area. It would be a marvelous asset for the community to have a large rain-protected area. This would be an ideal staging area for many events like the Test of Metal, the Triathlon, the Stormy Race, and others.

I conclude by asking that the District of Squamish consider granting the SVEA a long-term lease in the location of the SVEA Land. Our club and its equestrian activities fulfill the mandate of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan by offering a sport that is enjoyed by athletes of all ages, able and differently-abled athletes, recreational and competitive athletes alike. They also fulfill the “eight key benefits of parks and recreation” as outlined in the Draft Report 2:

- *Are essential to personal health;*
- *Are key to balanced human development;*
- *Are essential to quality of life in a place;*
- *Can reduce self-destructive and anti-social behaviour;*
- *Help build strong families and healthy communities;*
- *Help reduce health care, social service, and police/justice costs;*
- *Are significant economic generators, and*
- *Are essential to well-being and our environmental and psychological survival.*

*Well-managed and comprehensive parks and recreation services also provide local economic benefits, providing employment opportunities, helping to retain existing residents in the area, and attracting new residents and visitors.*

And lastly, that the mission of the SVEA can be summed up by the Mission statement that exists in the Draft Report 2:

**MISSION**

*We support and promote active lifestyles by building programs, partnerships and places for all that inspire skill development, creativity, leadership and fun.*



Sincerely,  
Toni E. Kerekes  
SVEA Land Committee



## COMMENTS RELATED TO BALL DIAMONDS

Tue 15/01/2013 7:35 AM

First, let me say that I appreciate our chat recently. It certainly allowed a feeling, that the facilitators of the Parks and Recreation master plan are open and interested in getting a clear picture of the needs of each group affected and that is what we all need from our District of Squamish staff.

I met with the executive of Howe Sound minor ball on January 9 2013 specifically to discuss the plan and how it might affect Minor ball in the future. Obviously a concern is the wording on p.16 regarding the phased plan to eliminate cross over of soccer and baseball at Brennan Park. While it does not indicate immediate change for either group, the bullet point in the plan that refers to establishing a partnership with local schools to use the school fields does raise some concerns with our group.

- 1) At this time, the school fields in our community are generally not as suitable for teaching baseball to children and youth. In many cases there are small rocks and unevenness that affect the trajectory of a small, fast moving baseball. The action is somewhat different from that of a slo-pitch ball and very different than a soccer ball due to the diameter and hardness. To develop skills, with children it is important that the action of the ball be consistent and true. Brennan park fields have been in most cases ideal for this.
- 2) Brennan Park is on our local transit route so public transportation is an option for families. Car pooling has always been a part of the ball season as well. Sharing rides with friends or neighbors is simple because all of the games take place at the same place. The added convenience of bathroom facilities, first aid and communication hub of the Brennan park rec centre is also important to our group.
- 3) The proximity of the Brennan park fields to the Slo-pitch Fields at Loggers Lane and Finch Drive has proven to have a benefit for us. This is that while slo-pitch enrollment climbs, minor ball enrollment has fallen. Slo-pitch is an adult organization and the fact that the kids are playing only a short bike ride from where the majority of slo-pitch games are happening, it allows for less conflict and a simpler transitions for families that may be involved in both.
- 4) Our season is short and can be affected by the weather. Our current field usage allows some flexibility to make up rained out games. If a game is rained out, it will be easier to re-schedule a games when a family may be at the same field area on another night for another child's game. We believe that having games played in different areas of the community will complicate this.
- 5) In recent years our enrollment has fallen slightly but recently we feel that there has been somewhat of a resurgence of support. We have new members of our executive and board of directors that are committed to increasing awareness of Minor Ball and trying to grow the skills of our young players, We believe that this will drive enrollment up. As a purely volunteer organization, a change at this time in what has been a historical and typical arrangement for minor ball will make this even more difficult.

As a sports organisation we are in favor of the PRMP and will work with the District, moving forward but we hope to have some reassurance that while we see new all weather soccer fields develop and expansion of the slo-pitch fields seems imminent ,Howe sound Minor baseball will get all the consideration due to our organization. We hope that the organizations that are growing at this time can have the facilities they need to grow. We hope to be looking for more space and facilities in the future as well, but at this time we have the same needs as we have had up until now far as a base to work from.

Finally, at our recent executive meeting we have decided that this year, we will keep track more specifically than in other seasons, our actual usage for practices and games and rain out re-scheduling. I am considering creating a new volunteer position to do this. In speaking with Yasmine Jodrey I can see that there is a plan to create a better schedule and look for room in the bookings each day for other users I hope that the records we keep in the up coming season can help with that in future. Howe Sound Minor Ball is run by a small group of volunteers. We are all interested in being a working part of the PRMP but we want to be clear that changes to our field use at this time will be detrimental to our effectiveness as a volunteer group and detrimental to the enjoyment of the season by the families enrolled. I hope that we can work closely together in the future. Thank you for your work on our recreation needs in Squamish.

Colin McCarthy  
President,  
Howe Sound Minor Ball Association

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Friday, December 21, 2012 6:20 PM

I volunteer as the registrar for Howe Sound Minor Ball and I was hoping you could clarify the bit about the fields at Brennan Park. If I'm reading the new plan correctly, it appears that soccer is expected to eventually become a year round sport, and this is not surprising since we all know the Lower Mainland is the only place in the country where soccer is played only during the fall/winter. It sounds, though, as if the plan is to somehow combine the fields so soccer and baseball could be played at the same time at Brennan Park, and this is something we are concerned about. How would it work, logistically, with balls being blasted over fences and into other sports fields? I have not read the entire second plan, but if I remember correctly, in the first draft, there was a possibility that the District might enter into talks with the School Board about upgrading school fields so those could be utilized as well. Would that be for soccer or baseball or both?

If you are able to clarify how these proposed changes might affect Howe Sound Minor Ball, both in the near and distant future, we would be very grateful.

Thanks so much.

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## COMMENTS RELATED TO FITNESS CENTRE

2013-01-15 P&R MP,

**Please consider this a response to the P&R MP Parks and Recreation Master Plan process.**

(a) Regarding the proposed BP Fitness Gym/Centre in this survey, question 4.4 in Survey Monkey at the bottom, it is clearly wrong to throw all Brennan Park items (fitness centre, new ice arena + dryfloor, expanded programming facilities, ETC.) into one item, to ask levels of support.

Some respondents might support ice, and have no need at all for the fitness centre. These are all VERY high cost items, and should be separated.

(b) Some items can exist ONLY on a taxpayer-supported basis like ice surfaces or playing fields, while others like fitness centres not only CAN exist at a private level, but indeed ALREADY exist in abundance.

(c) No capital and operating costs are mentioned close enough to the survey, so many respondents who did not painstakingly make their way through the 50 page print report, or the much larger online report, would have no idea of the incredible capital cost and very significant operating cost for the proposed fitness centre.

(d) And of course, MANY respondents in these non-scientific surveys - this one and those earlier - are just wishing anyway, without any proper determination of actual paying support in the future. A classic example of this would be past support for a fast commuter ferry from Squamish to Vancouver. If any gullible entrepreneur had ever taken non-scientific survey support seriously and sunk the required hundreds of thousands or millions into such a project, he/she would have been delighted with the crowd on the dock on the first day, only to be driven into bankruptcy by empty docks and no passengers immediately following.

DOS won't necessarily be driven into bankruptcy by a \$1.5 Million fitness centre which will not pay for itself, but we certainly don't need the unnecessary taxpayer cost at this time where there are so many other parks, recreation and general infrastructure needs that should take priority.

(e) I fail to see a business plan for the proposed fitness centre anywhere, but it's certainly clear that the \$50,000 operating cost is an incredible lowball\*, because it would take far, far more than that to cover the costs of one or two union paid workers to supervise for two shifts, 7 days a week - the hours that several existing fitness gyms/centres are open.

\*(pages 19-20, 25, table II.I \$1.5 Million capital cost; \$50,000 operations)

A more proper cost for the five or more full-time union salaries and benefits will likely exceed all money coming in from all possible subscribers and drop-ins, meaning that not only will the projected \$1.5 Million capital cost never be paid off, but that there will also be ongoing staffing costs in excess of income.

And if staffing "solutions" continue to include sharing pool guard supervision with the adjacent fitness centre (one "model" cited), it needs to be pointed out, beyond the human cost of a drowning or near-drowning, that the financial implications for the district would be enormous.

(f) A related issue with income with the proposed fitness centre is that on the one hand, it is being claimed that it will more than pay for itself (despite the heavy costs of union staffing over long hours); but on the other hand that it will offer a bargain to those presently not using existing facilities - seniors, mothers, etc. Well, you can't have this both ways: Fees will either cost as much or more, in which case the proposed municipal facility will not draw clients; OR it will cost less, in which case the proposed municipal facility will lose money.

(g) I am again attaching a spreadsheet outlining the clear OVER-supply of existing fitness gyms/centres in Squamish, of which the outside consultants still seem unaware. Please consider this attachment a submission as well.

<2012 Fitness Gyms in Squamish 2.xls> attached

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Sun 20/01/2013 5:04 PM

Please review Mr. Herbert Vesely's letter submitted to the Squamish Chief newspaper. I am in total agreement with his points raised regarding the senior centre and proposed fitness facility. Please advise the date of the Committee of the Whole meeting where this will be brought forward for consideration.

*The long-awaited Draft 2 of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Report is pointing us in a direction that supposedly will guide our municipality for years to come.*

*The report undoubtedly covers many good points but two areas of particular interest to me, give me cause for concern:*

- 1. That by renaming the Seniors Centre and changing the membership structure or fees, we will increase participation;*
- 2. That adding a fitness facility to the Brennan Park Centre is a priority.*

*Regarding the Seniors Centre issue, reading the report's conclusion, one is left to assume that this recommendation is supported either by research or by a broad support of potential users who made their opinion known at the various public meetings or through surveys.*

*But in fact this is not so. As was kindly shared with me by City Hall, these specific recommendations are based on opinions by either staff and/or the consultant.*

*The proposal for a fitness facility concerns me greatly as a taxpayer. The report tells us that the provision of a fitness facility is a high priority but does not support that conclusion with a sound business plan. Without it, should we accept that making a \$1.5 million investment is justified in these difficult financial times in which we find ourselves? The \$50,000 annual operating cost also needs to be supported, for it hardly appears to pay for the wages and benefits of one additional staff member. A proper business plan would lay all this out so the community could make an informed decision. Surely a bank would not lend*

*for such a venture if it were private and unsupported by sound financial planning. Our District should ask for nothing less. But we are told that we are pushing ahead with this and that the design is already in the early stages.*

*We are fortunate to have private fitness facilities in our community whose owners work hard to make a go of it. So how can competing with them by building a publicly funded facility send the desired message that Squamish is open for business?*

*The fact that the district is still struggling with an Adventure Centre unable to pay its own way gives me no confidence that the proposed fitness facility will be anything more than a further drain on our already strained financial resources.*

*It is noteworthy that there are many objections to the fitness centre proposal recorded in the 243-page appendix to the report, voiced by respondents to surveys or attendees at public meetings which are not reflected in the report's final conclusion.*

*Squamish home and business owners are taxed to the max and cannot afford any more ventures into uncharted territory.*

*Herbert Vesely, P.Eng.*

*Member, Seniors Centre Advisory Board*

*SQUAMISH*

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Sat 12/01/2013 9:49 AM

A note about the Public Feedback form:

I believe the comment form should have been differently arranged under question 4 point 4. It lumps the Fitness Centre with other much needed improvements to Brennan Park. Clearly the Fitness Centre should have been separated out in order to gauge properly the level of public support.

The author of the form should have known from the Appendix to the report that there were many instances recorded at public meetings and through surveys of objections to the Fitness Centre. So why not break it out and find out one more last time what people really think about this one topic?

One is left to believe, probably unfairly, that this was purposely done this way so that at a later date it could be said that there was broad public support for a Fitness Centre.

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## COMMENTS RELATED TO ARTS

Wed 23/01/2013 9:52 AM

Thank you for encouraging my input on the PRMP Draft. I have participated in the first 2 community PRMP workshops as well as met with consultant Cathy Matheson and have taken the time to read the Draft 2 and the Appendix, and I would like to offer or reinforce a few comments and suggestions around Arts & Culture:

There seems to be an absence of public comments in the appendix regarding calibre or quality ~ this is a concern if the hope is to also parlay our arts & culture offerings into a tourism opportunity.

A priority item should be establishing an arms length Arts Advisory Board or Committee, which would provide advice to Council on significant culture related issues, including developing a dynamic vision and long term strategic plan.

Artists are by nature independent and generally not "joiners" and there is a significant number of accomplished, innovative creatives in our community who are not represented by the established local clubs or organizations, by choice. In order to capture a diversity of high calibre talent and a wide demographic of arts practise and thinking, the Arts Advisory committee members should include representatives/members of established groups as well as independent artists/creatives.

Suggestion, that PRMP should not specify facility uses and programs before the Arts Advisory has developed a long term vision, which is endorsed by the public and DOS Council. The long term strategic plan should help to guide pragmatic decisions and choices regarding new and existing facility uses, program development and funding.

Related to long term goals and future needs, I suggest advocating for increased arts programs in School District 48. Ideally, all our local children should receive a rich arts education, as opposed to a minority who may be enrolled in outside programming. Our local schools are an important resource in terms of cultivating the next generation of creatives, with strategic approaches we are more likely to increase the demand for future arts programming and opportunities.

Squamish Oceanfront Arts & Culture Centre and festival size park were enthusiastically discussed and supported at the 2 community workshops that I attended, but does not seem to be reflected in the Draft 2. Squamish Oceanfront is likely our most significant site for iconic public facilities; and there has always been strong community desire to maintain "ownership" or "connectivity" with our oceanfront. The calibre of the oceanfront site also ensures a superior tourism marketing opportunity, particularly if it were in conjunction with world class arts and cultural activity.

Suggestion, to ensure a broad inclusive view regarding all arts & culture discussions or recommendations, by considering the full range of arts & culture activity ranging from cultural landscape to spoken word ~ its not just about visual arts' painting & pottery. Support for visual art seemed to largely dominate in the list of Draft 2 Recommendations; whereas the majority of actual feedback comments seemed to reference/support primarily music and dance, which coincidentally seemed lacking in the final list of recommendations. Raising awareness around the full breadth of arts & culture is warranted. Related to that discussion is the topic of DOS subsidies that seem to promote income generation of particular groups or individuals. There were a number of comments related to economic development in the appendix ~ I would recommend that subsidies to for-profit

individuals/business need to be carefully considered and defined, and relative to other for-profit individuals/businesses in the community.

Lastly, in the past, Squamish Arts Council Board composition has always been diverse and inclusive, and always with at least one or two lawyers with arts & culture interests included. The current new SAC board composition is dominated by "Visuals" Directors which is contrary to SAC bylaws, and appears to turn SAC into a defacto "Visual" group ~ perhaps that explains the imbalance of Visual arts recommendations in the draft? In any case there were five recent resignations from the SAC board due to the unprofessional behaviour of a number of the new directors who currently remain on the board. Under these circumstances I would encourage closer attention to the numerous recommendations in the Draft 2 that propose the current SAC to assume a lead role on behalf of the community.

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## COMMENTS RELATED TO ENVIRONMENT

Tue 15/01/2013 3:04 PM

Elaine, on behalf of the Squamish River Watershed Society I would like to provide the following comments on the Draft P&R Master Plan.

- There are numerous references to the formation of various advisory groups or committees throughout the document (i.e. page ii "Program Advisory", "Facility User Advisory", "Outdoor Recreation Advisory", etc). In the past the District had a Parks and Recreation Commission that pretty much oversaw most of the items that are mentioned in this document and acted as the liaison between the public and Mayor and Council. Rather than overextending staff time, Council time, and volunteer support time, why not recommend the reinstatement of the Parks and Recreation Commission? The Commission can then establish sub-groups as necessary for tackling specific topics but it streamlines the communication chain.
- Under the section 6.1 Events Coordination the idea of a dedicated staff person overseeing what so many of us in the community are involved in on a regular basis sounds ludicrous. The SRWS alone oversees at least three if not more annual events (Earth Day, Rivers Day, Return of the Salmon Festival) and requires minimal staff time or effort for any of these events. This is something that all staff in each department should have included in their day to day responsibilities so that each special event organization has the relative department to work with. As well, no two events require the same set of requirements and needs. However, having support from the DOS to streamline processes such as requesting formal declarations from the Mayor (i.e. June 8<sup>th</sup> as official Squamish Oceans Day), arranging security and transportation, and rental of DOS sites and equipment would definitely be an asset.
- Under Section 7 Arts, Culture, and Heritage, reference is once again made to form yet another Committee of Council. Through the existing Arts Council and Performing Arts Association much of the necessary infrastructure already exists and rather than taking up staff and volunteer time to make a redundant structure the Arts, Culture and Heritage can, again, be covered off in a single Parks and Recreation Commission body. I doubt the existing non-profit and volunteer run



Councils and Society's care to be governed by the DOS but I am certain they would welcome the opportunity to collaborate with the Municipality where needed.

- In Section 8.2.4 Outdoor Sports Amenities reference is made to using the School District #48 facilities. In the past this was not supported by the School District. Perhaps it now is in which case I have no comment. However, if the SD48 continues to not support DOS usage of their facilities and lands then I suggest the fourth bullet "Create joint use agreements with the SD..." be removed and no further effort made on this account.
- I commend the authors on Section 8.2.5 Dogs in Parks and think this is worth pursuing. I would also very much like to see pursued limiting dogs to ball playing fields in which the defecation from dogs is often mingled with children and players who are on the ground. This cannot be sanitary. It may not resonate well for the general public but I think it is worth pursuing areas in which dogs are not permitted or welcome.
- In Section 8.2.6 Waterfront Parks and Access one of the recommendations is to develop a Marine Strategy. Please be aware that several documents already exist to this effect including the Squamish Estuary Management Plan, the Skwelwil'em Squamish Wildlife Management Area Plan, Squamish Oceanfront Peninsular Sub-Area Plan, and a Green Shores Case Study Overview of Key Ecological Factors and Green Shores Development in the Squamish Estuary, in particular the Squamish Oceanfront Development Lands.
- In the section The Training Dyke & The Spit there is no acknowledgement of the fact the District currently owns the Spit and Training Dyke and responsible for the management and maintenance of these lands – as such, I do not see why any further designation on the lands are required as it is an access road, not park land.
- It is my understanding that through the SEMC and directly through the Windsports Society and the DOS an agreement already exists on waterfront access. Through the SEMC there are already discussions and a structure in place (the Squamish Estuary Environmental Review process) for addressing estuary management concerns.
- Any discussion concerning the Windsurfing Spit should also include the eventual decommissioning of these lands as a viable location for future windsports. The suggestions provided in this section are ones that have been discussed at the SEMC table and numerous other tables and the amenities that are suggested in the draft plan are likely not realistic or worth pursuing.
- The same applies to camping. Technically, as mentioned above, the DOS owns the Training Dyke and Spit and can do whatever they please on these lands but the WMA is very clear in not supporting camping and overnight use.
- As for developing "formal written agreements, including management plans..." these already exist or are being completed including the Skwelwil'em WMA (Ministry of Environment), Site "A" Management Plan (Squamish Nation)
- I cannot see any reason why yet another incentive or initiative for what should be done on the Oceanfront Lands is being recommended in the section Oceanfront Development. The use of



this site has been discussed through several community based initiatives, DOS initiated questionnaires, Smart Growth on the Ground charrettes, and so forth. It would be a disappointing use of tax dollars to spend yet again more money on these lands until the actual land owner of the site is established seeing as the lands are currently on the open market and are for sale.

- Under section 9 Environment, it is my understanding that Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping (TEM) has been completed for the municipality. As well, groups such as the SRWS have been working directly with DOS staff for over 15 years mapping watercourses and wetlands that are currently reflected on the DOS GIS mapping and in the OCP. This should be continued into the future. As well, areas of Natural and Scientific Importance (ANSI's) should also be established and identified as well as identifying environmentally sensitive or significant lands. In 1995 much of this work was done in the Land for Nature initiative "Important Natural Areas and Streams of Squamish" (I have a copy of this document if it the District cannot put their hands on their copy)
- In Section 9.1 it may warrant changing the title to include: Skwelwil'em Squamish Estuary Wildlife Management Area, Site "A", & the Estuary. Site "A" is managed by Squamish Nation who are developing their own management strategy to complement the WMA.
- I will leave the rest of Section 9.1 for further discussions with the SEMC who can better address these recommendations.
- In Section 10 Trails mention is made, yet again, to establish yet another Steering Committee. The DOS has in the past hired a Trails Coordinator. This position should cover off the necessary communications strategies and coordination that is required for this section without having to create another level of governance and bureaucracy.
- The only final comment that we have is to summarize yet again a streamline process when working with the municipality. It is far more strategic to have fewer committees and processes for the public to have to deal with and a system by which any member of the public is given the exact same direction and input when they first approach the municipal front desk staff.

I hope that these comments are of use to your process.  
Thank you. On behalf of the SRWS,

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## COMMENTS RELATED TO FORESTRY CENTRE

Mon 24/12/2012 9:51 AM

I want to clarify the following with respect to the references made in the draft regarding the "Forest Museum" Please note that it is to be a FOREST CENTRE; that will encompass the past, present and future of forestry . I have attached a an organization chart that describes the Ses to Sky Forestry Society and the Ses to Forestry Centre.

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## COMMENTS RELATED TO RECREATION CLUBS

Tue 15/01/2013 6:36 PM

The "Draft 2" version of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan document has been carefully reviewed by the Howe Sound Curling Club. On behalf of the Club, I wish to offer some brief final observations on the Plan.

First, we are very pleased with the attention given in the latest Draft Plan to the private, not-for-profit organizations providing recreational facilities and programs – such as our Golf Club/ Curling Club/ Squash Club facilities, operating on land leased from the District, on Mamquam Road.

The introductory sections of the Draft Plan chart our place and role in the picture of recreational facilities and programs adequately. (On pages iii and 1.)

We have noted the recommendation under 3.1.3. COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION: "Engage in ongoing discussion and develop relationships with recreation clubs and organizations that offer additional programs and services beyond District capabilities...";

and the recommendation under 3.2.2. MARKETING:

"Promote and market clubs, associations and partners providing recreation opportunities outside of the District facilities and parks..."

The following can illustrate the importance of ongoing dialogue and cooperation on facilities use, planning and marketing:

(1) This weekend, January 18-20, the Senior Women's Regional Curling Playdown, with 44 women in 11 teams competing to go on to the provincial championship, is being hosted at our Squamish curling rink facility. This regional tournament will account for numerous overnight accommodation bookings and meals being purchased in our community.

(2) During summer months this year the Curling Club has rented its rink to Squamish and Whistler roller derby clubs for their training use. This off-season rental revenue is critical to our club. The District's Draft Plan recommends replacing the present ice arena (under 4.2 BRENNAN PARK RECREATION CENTRE), and further suggests: "When the new arena is functional, phase out and re-purpose the old arena for dry-floor uses such as roller derby, indoor lacrosse, concerts, etc." We would not wish to be competing with the District in marketing the usage of our respective facilities!

We trust that the final Master Plan will appropriately highlight the need for ongoing discussion, partnerships and collaboration with private, not-for-profit groups such as ours.

Thank you!

Hilary Fisher  
President  
Howe Sound Curling Club

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## COMMENTS RELATED TO SPORTS LEGACY PARK

Wed 26/12/2012 10:43 AM

I have had a look through the Draft 2 document on the website and have not seen any reference to the Squamish Legacy Sports Park and the activities that will occur at that site. This was referenced in the previous draft but not in the current draft. This facility will be a fairly significant piece of recreation/sport infrastructure and will provide service for a number of recreational activities within the recreational core (Brennan Park area) and I believe it should be included in the master plan.

John Heilig  
Manager, Nordic Sport  
**Whistler Olympic Park**

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Mon 31/12/2012 6:07 PM

Thank you for sending out links to the 2nd draft of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan, and for encouraging further feedback and input.

A few thoughts:

- I am impressed by the scope of your report, and your inclusionary process; also by the breadth of coverage from youth to seniors, and inclusion of indoor as well as outdoor activities. I also applaud your decision to include such seeming tag-ons as event planning and arts & culture. Recreation in Squamish includes so many activities and so many groups, both organized and unorganized - a challenge to find and include them all !

- I would like to suggest that outdoor recreation could be further expanded in your report by including more references to the widespread participation of residents of Squamish and the corridor in the unprogrammed activities of hiking, climbing, and skiing. In particular, there are 3 types of skiing that Squamish residents participate in, in great numbers: alpine (downhill), backcountry, and nordic (cross country). Amenities include a combination of private operations, provincial parkland, and crown land existing within Squamish boundaries or very close by.

- You mentioned "winter sports" only once that I noticed, and I believe this range of activities deserves more focus.

- Our Callaghan Winter Sports Club is very close to acquiring land for the Squamish Legacy Sports Park (SLSP) a planned multi-use park designed around Nordic sport in particular. This park was mentioned in Draft 1, but is notably absent from Draft 2. The SLSP needs to be included. I respectfully suggest several possible sections of your report to consider this addition, though I obviously respect your decision on best section:

- 3.22 Marketing, under Recommendations, in your final bullet along with: "ie: curling, Squamish golf course, rod & gun club, etc."
- Parkland and Amenity Supply
- 5.1 Sport Health & Wellness
- "Recreation Hubs"
- 3.1.3 Community Partnerships and Collaborations final bullet under recommendations along with the listed clubs.

I have attached a copy of our current Executive Summary of the SLSP for your information. For your information, we are going into our first Public Information Meeting in the District rezoning and OCP amendment process, on Thursday January 10, starting at 6:30 pm, at the Sandman Inn Hotel. Would be delighted if you could attend!

If you have further questions on our proposal or its current status, I would be happy to talk further with you, as per contact information below.

Thank you again for your good work, Elaine, and for the opportunity for input.

I look forward to chatting further as this project proceeds!

Sincerely,

Rick Smith

Callaghan Winter Sports Club

Squamish Legacy Sports Park proponent

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**Callaghan  
Winter Sports Club**

Box 2245 Squamish BC V8B 1A0  
www.callaghanwintersportsclub.ca

**Squamish Legacy Sports Park  
Executive Summary**

Ver: December 12, 2012

**THE VISION:**

The **Squamish Legacy Sports Park (SLSP)** is a multi sport park, centered around Nordic sport, offering year-round accessibility to residents of Squamish and the Sea to Sky Corridor. It will increase opportunities for recreation for all abilities and ages, and will provide opportunities for Nordic sport development.

The Callaghan Winter Sports Club (CWSC) will lead the process of securing access to the land, fundraising to cover costs, and overseeing construction.

Once built, interested user groups will have the opportunity of using the facilities for events, camps, and recreational activities.

**THE GOALS:**

- Provide year-round recreation and sport opportunities for a large segment of the Squamish population, youth and adults, including full accessibility
- Provide unique opportunities for local youth
- Support Squamish's brand: "Outdoor Recreational Capital of Canada"
- Provide a tangible legacy in recognition of the contribution that Squamish made to the 2010 Winter Olympic Games
- Generate new local business opportunities

**THE SITE:**

- Squamish is central in the Sea to Sky Corridor
- Proposed site is central to the community and the recreational core of Squamish (near Brennan Park)
- Access to Corridor Trail
- Adjacent to the Squamish Valley Rod and Gun Club (biathlon)
- Appropriate slope profile for construction of year-round ski jumps

**BOLD TRACKS, NEW ADVENTURES**

## **PROPOSED FACILITIES:**

- Biathlon Range – 50 meters, incorporated into existing Rod & Gun Club range
- Ski Jump Park – 10 meter, 20 meter, 40 meter year round jumps
- Accessible Roller Sport Loop – up to 2 km, paved, lighted
- Running Loop – up to 5km, soft surface, lighted, parallel to Roller Loop
- Bike Park – mountain bike skills park
- Climbing Area – crags identified on site
- Covered Pavilion and meeting area
- Vita Parcours (Fitness Trail)
- Disc golf
- Potential for Sarah Burke Memorial Freestyle Skiing Development Centre

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

Based on Calgary's Canada Olympic Park model, the SLSP facilities will provide opportunities for multi sport camps including biathlon, ski jumping, biking, running, climbing.

Programs draw from Sea to Sky and Vancouver youth populations, increasing sport tourism opportunities year-round. Programs will be enhanced by proximity to the facilities of Brennan Park. Year-round event hosting will be enabled by an all-season facility located right in Squamish – events such as summer jumping, roller biathlon, bike biathlon, running biathlon, and roller ski races.

The potential to add to the destination sport tourism market, creating economic stimulus to the community, especially local restaurants, hotels, retail stores, etc. is clear

## **WHY SQUAMISH . . . NOW:**

- Nordic sports have been embraced by Sea to Sky residents, enhanced by the creation of Whistler Olympic Park (WOP) in the Callaghan Valley. The Callaghan Winter Sports Club (CWSC), through creation of the SLSP, intends to build on this interest, creating an even stronger recreational and sport development opportunity for the youth and families of our Corridor.
- Introduction to Nordic sport can be accomplished simply, cost effectively, year-round, within the community, without driving to a distant facility
- Introductory camp programs can be initiated in Squamish for athletes and those new to the sport – providing opportunities for youth in the corridor, while also generating revenue for our community.
- Drawing Nordic sport directly into the community of Squamish creates economic stimulus to leverage larger events to our community – events such as the Sea to Sky Nordic Festival (National Championships in Cross Country Skiing, Biathlon, and Ski Jump/Nordic Combined) currently scheduled for our region in March of 2013; being the home of Nordic sport in our region gives us exposure and support to direct many of the expenditures of such events to our community.

Please excuse any errors or omitted gyms in this casual survey: the intention is simply to show that Squamish is already VERY well served with existing gyms, and that there is no need for a new \$1.5M fitness gym at Brennan Park, at taxpayer cost.					
Name	clients	Owner/Manager	Phone	Email	Notes
<b>Major Gyms</b>					
Club Flex		Don Smith	892-FLEX	ClubFlex@shaw.ca	large inventory of weight machines, open every day, 16 hours most days, 38255 Cleveland Avenue
Dream Fitness			815-4211		Women's gym, 1115 Industrial Way near Queensway
Squamish Athletic Club			892-8273		
Curves		Kathy Edwardson	815-4696	122422@Curvesmail.com	Women's gym. Hydraulic strength machines. Open 6 days a week, 38222 Eaglewind Boulevard
Body Storm		Kimberley Cummings	848-4644	kimberley@bodystorm.ca	40437 Tantalus Road in Spectacle, GH
Garibaldi Fitness		Heidi Stokes	898-4401		14-40437 Tantalus Road
Challenge by Choice			567-1117		104-1121 Commercial Place
CrossFit		Jessie	892-1177	info@crossfitsquamish.ca	Indoor/Outdoor physical training, 38922 Mid Way
<b>Yoga &amp; Pilates</b>					
Progressive Pilates		Sylvia Gertsch	815-1650	info@Pilates-Squamish.com	http://pilates-squamish.com
The Yoga Studio			892-9476		Sea to Sky Hotel 37776 2nd Ave
Shala Yoga			567-6000		3-40383 Tantalus Way
Bodyvine Yoga			848-5793		105 Alpen Lofts, Tantalus Way
Bikram Yoga			898-9600		201-1121 Commercial Place
<b>Climbing</b>					
Squamish Rock Guides			892-7816		38027 Guilford Drive
Climb On			892-2243		38054 Second Avenue
Escape Route			892-3228		40222 Glenalder Place
<b>Other Specialties</b>					
WTF Tae Kwando		Scot Strachan, Michelle Park	892-3710	scotstrachan@hotmail.com	TaeKwonDo, zumba, yoga, all fitness martial arts 38025 Cleveland Ave
30 Minute Hite			898-9600		Kickboxing. Discovery Way

Existing SQ Fitness Gyms Stop \$1.5M DOS BP Gym Boondoggle

Ti Chi					Squamish Wellness organises Meetings/Classes
Zumba					Totem Hall, Curves, Senior's Centre, Bodyvine
<b>Biking</b>					?
<b>Hiking</b>					
Tantalus Hiking					?
Over the Hill Hikers					?
<b>Dance Studios</b>					
Howe Sound Dance Academy			898-1422		6-41340 Government Road & 37879 2nd Ave
St. John's					?



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**Health Protection**

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15 January 2013

**Tim Hoskin**

Director of Recreation Services  
**District of Squamish**  
37955 2 Avenue, Squamish, BC  
V8B 0A3

Dear Mr. Hoskin

**Re: District of Squamish - Draft 2 of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan**

Thank you for referring the draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan to our attention for comment. Our comments below are based on our mandate to regulate and administer legislated requirements and associated guidelines pursuant to the Public Health Act, Drinking Water Protection Act, Tobacco Control Act and their Regulations including the Pool Regulation, Public Place Sanitary Facilities Regulation, Sewerage Disposal Regulation and Food Premises Regulation. Some of our comments and recommendations are not based on our legislated requirements; however, support public health and safety related best practice standards, guidelines and procedure and healthy community land use planning principals.

Sanitary facilities

Existing or proposed camping, public gathering, high use recreation sites, and special event areas should be equipped with sanitary facilities (permanent or temporary) which are sized and designed according to their use, and as per relevant Building Code and Public Health legislation and guidelines. Locations currently serviced by permanent pit privies should be upgraded with sanitary facilities connected to community water and sewerage systems including flush toilets and hand wash basins. Although temporary porta potties are acceptable for temporary special event purposes; they are not an approved method of permanent sewerage disposal. Sanitary facilities at proposed future campground sites must be serviced by approved and permitted water and sewerage disposal systems (preferably the District of Squamish community systems).

Where campgrounds, celebration and sporting event sites are not serviced by any sanitary facilities, consideration should be given to their installation or the provision of service connections for temporary mobile shower facilities, temporary or mobile hand wash stations, and mobile food service establishments. Community water line extensions require a Construction Permit.

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## ***Health Protection***

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### Drinking Water

We support the installation of drinking water fountains and bottle filling stations at special event, parks, and high use outdoor recreation areas provided the water supply is potable and the dispensers are maintained in a sanitary manner. For the purposes of supporting temporary special events, we recommend these areas be equipped with standpipe connections (in accordance with plumbing code requirements) to accommodate connection of temporary water bottle filling stations or mobile water dispensing units and mobile and temporary food service establishments. Live at Squamish is serviced by a temporary water supply system which is approved and permitted each event; however; the installation of permanent infrastructure to service this site and event is strongly recommended from a convenience and operational logistics aspect and to minimize the risk of contamination. A Construction Permit is required for these works.

### Second Hand Tobacco Smoke Exposure

Please ensure smoking signage is posted at all Parks and Recreation sites in according with the Provincial requirements and the District of Squamish Smoking Regulation By-law. The District of Squamish may wish to consider further restricting smoking near and in parks as has been done in the City of Vancouver, the Resort Municipality of Whistler and the Village of Pemberton. (both 25m).

### Public Transportation

Public transportation in the Sea to Sky corridor does not support the transport of large numbers people travelling between communities and to and from the Metro areas for special events. We recommend the District of Squamish develop a transportation strategy in conjunction with other local governments and the regional district that supports special event activities throughout the sea to sky corridor. Public transportation reduces vehicle accidents, adverse air quality impacts and improves pedestrian safety. The Sea to Sky clean air society management plan actions support the promotion of opportunities to resident and visitor access to public and other transportation alternatives.

### Food Premises

Temporary mobile and permanent food premises must comply with the construction and operational requirements of the BC Food Premises Regulations. At the very least they should be rendered pest proof, equipped with potable running water, contain sanitary hand washing equipment, adequate electrical power to support temporary or permanent food processing and storage equipment, and construction surfaces should be smooth and non absorbent for the purposes of sanitation. The temporary food premises buildings at the Logger's Sports grounds could be improved accordingly and in accordance with the BC Food Premises Regulation. Advance plan approval from our office is required for renovations or new construction.

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***Health Protection***

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Ideally, Farmers/Food Market sites are equipped with permanent infrastructure connections to support sanitary equipment for both food vendors and public for instance hand and produce washing stations (I am unsure if these activities are covered by the plan).

Playgrounds and Pools and other Recreational facilities

Playground construction and design is recommended to meet those standards of the CSA. An injury prevent suggestion from our Licencing Officer is to label play ground equipment with suitable user age.

Spray Parks require a Construction Permit in advance pursuant to the Pool Regulation.

Please ensure new recreational facilities do not overtax existing infrastructure and are equipped with adequate sanitary facilities.

Bathing beaches and outdoor recreational water bodies

We support the development of recreational water access facilities and recommend the District of Squamish monitoring bathing beach and recreational water bacteriological quality as per the Canadian Recreational Water Quality Guidelines as is done in other jurisdictions such as Metro Vancouver. .Our office can participate with sampling containers, lab requisitions and services but not sample collection.

You are welcome to contact me if you have any questions or wish to discuss this letter.

Sincerely,

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