

38th ANNUAL PROVINCIAL PARKS AND GROUNDS SPRING TRAINING

February 25 – 26, 2015

The Anvil Centre, New Westminster, BC

NEW VENUE!

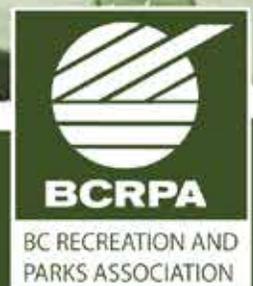
The Anvil Centre
777 Columbia Street,
New Westminster, BC

FULL EVENT INFO &
REGISTRATION
ONLINE!

[www.bcrpa.bc.ca/
springtraining](http://www.bcrpa.bc.ca/springtraining)

Wednesday, February 25 · **Maintenance Day**
Thursday, February 26 · **Horticulture Day**
Pre-Event Playground Safety Course · February 24

301-470 Granville Street
Vancouver, BC V6C 1V5
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SESSION STREAMS

- All
- Community Design
- Facilities
- Organic Gardening
- Turf
- Urban Forestry
- Wildlife Management

Pre-Event Session

TUESDAY

February 24, 2015

8:30am — 4pm

Queens Park Centennial Lodge, New Westminster, BC

BCRPA Playground Safety Awareness Course |

Tim Richards | *Facilities*

A hands-on overview on playground safety and current issues being faced today. This is an accessible and informative program for those who need an introductory course on safety awareness and CSA standards, including grounds maintenance, landscape architects and all individuals interested and involved in injury prevention in playspaces.

Maintenance Day

WEDNESDAY

February 25, 2015

Roger

Friesen

Opening Keynote

8:15 – 9:15 am

Beyond Push, Pull and Drag | *All*

Performance psychology has long been the domain of elite performers specifically in sport. However, this information is not just the domain of elite athletes. Anyone who wants to enjoy what they do and is looking for a new edge in terms of turning the mundane into the exceptional needs the same information that an Olympic athlete uses to keep things fresh and to manage stress and pressure well. In his presentation, Roger will share lessons learned from Olympians in a way that will be relevant to all Parks Maintenance personnel.

Roger Friesen is a faculty member of the Department of Kinesiology at the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV). Roger began his teaching career at the University of Manitoba in 1992 and moved to the University of the Fraser Valley in 1995. Since moving to the UFV, Roger has been responsible for developing and teaching the sport psychology stream of courses. Roger has been working as a mental training consultant for the past 20 years with many national level and Olympic teams and athletes, preparing them for seven Olympic Games, Commonwealth and Pan Am Games as well as many World Championships.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS A

9:30 – 10:30 am

A1: The Revised Canadian Playground Standard — What's New in the 2014 CSA Z-614 | Tim Richards |

Facilities

The Canadian Playground Standard is revised approximately every 5 years. This session will review and highlight changes in the April 2014 edition and provide refresher material on Playground Inspection and Safety.

A2: Redevelopment of Centennial Beach Facilities — Respecting the Site and Park Neighbours |

Adam Vasilevich and Marcel LaBreche | *Facilities*

Centennial Beach is a popular swimming and beach activity area in Boundary Bay Regional Park that received over a million visits in 2013. Centennial Beach has been redeveloped to meet the needs of a growing regional population and to address local resident concerns. This project has taken an innovative approach, applying creative design solutions and implementing a number of sustainable concepts and technologies to integrate new and enhanced facilities within a sensitive park habitat. The redevelopment used a low impact, low energy approach to provide comfortable and safe facilities that are accessible for all ages and abilities.

A3: Wildlife in the City — The Management of Species and Their Habitats in Urban Centres | Mike Mackintosh

and Robyn Worcester | *Wildlife Management*

With human population growth, habitat loss or change is increasing rapidly in our urban centres. There are fewer patches of undeveloped land. Remnant woodlands and empty lots disappear as municipalities and cities seek to densify. Yet, there are many wildlife species that continue to live in close relationship with us including raccoons, coyotes, gulls, crows, skunks and introduced squirrels. There are also many other wild species (bald eagles, great blue herons, songbirds, cooper hawks, barred owls, etc.) that display remarkable ability to coexist with humans in modified landscapes. Municipal governments do not have statutory responsibility for wildlife but it is everyone's responsibility to work for environmental quality and for all government levels to work cooperatively to provide balance and stewardship. This can be achieved in part through the development of integrated municipal management plans to ensure environmental protection and to maintain biological diversity.

Maintenance Day

WEDNESDAY

February 25, 2015
continued...

CONCURRENT SESSIONS B

10:45 – 11:45 am

B1: Synthetic Turf Replacement | Tab Buckner | Turf

This presentation will focus on the McLeod Athletic Park: Synthetic Turf Replacement Project in 2013 and Aldergrove Athletic Park: All Weather Gravel Field Conversion to Synthetic Turf in 2012. Participants will learn project planning, project management, how to identify unforeseen issues and develop project timelines. The session will highlight how to repurpose all weather gravel field with limited use to synthetic turf.

B2: Cloverdale Youth Park | Jay Meneely & Patrick Klassen |

Facilities

Cloverdale Youth Park is Surrey's newest skateboard and BMX facility that features an action sports plaza and bowl, a basketball/ ball hockey court and an outdoor social space. This session will highlight the parks planning and design process that was undertaken for the development of this facility. Speakers will review the challenges of incorporating ideas from stakeholders and community members, while developing a detailed design and construction administration process.

B3: Managing Rabbits and Other Urban Wildlife |

Ian Wilson | Wildlife Management

The City of Kelowna experienced a growing feral rabbit problem in the 2000's. These were European rabbits which had originated as pets but were released by the public and started to reproduce and spread throughout several areas of the City. As a result of many complaints and concerns, the City initiated a control program in 2008. Kelowna is the only area that has successfully eliminated a large rabbit population in an entire city through a combination of lethal and non-lethal efforts. There were many challenges and learning experiences along the way which will be discussed. This session will also identify the most recent wildlife challenges in Kelowna, such as urban deer and rats.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS C

1 – 2 pm

C1: Hot Topics in Turf | Ralph Nevill, Todd Gross and

Len Walters | Turf

This is a facilitated session covering the major hot issues in turf. The BCRPA will contact you in advance for your input on topics relating to this session.

C2: Terra Nova Adventure Play Environment |

Mike Redpath and Kevin Connery | Facilities

The Terra Nova Adventure Play Environment (TNAPE) is a play experience unique to the Lower Mainland. It represents a major departure from other contemporary playgrounds in that most of the play features are custom designed and manufactured using BC-sourced Yellow Cedar and sustainable design practices, rather than conventional 'off the shelf' metal and plastic products. This presentation will explore the planning, design and maintenance aspects of TNAPE, as well as the emergence of 'nature play' as an alternative approach to playground design and its implications on park management.

C3: The BC Spartina Working Group — An Update on the Integrated Eradication Approach | Dan Buffet |

Spartina is an invasive aquatic grass on the Pacific Coast of Canada that modifies natural tidal mudflats, disrupts the ecology and increases the risk of flooding along the shoreline. Over the last 30 years, Spartina species have invaded the intertidal wetlands of southwestern BC in park areas under the jurisdiction of the province and local governments located in the Vancouver Lower Mainland and east coast of Vancouver Island. A comprehensive response to control the Spartina infestation has been challenging due to numerous challenges including the lack of a single agency mandated to respond to Spartina infestations, lack of funding and capacity, unavailable herbicide control options, and general opposition to herbicide use in the marine environment. Now with renewed support and a better integrated pest management approach, we are on the way to eradicating non-native Spartina on the Pacific Coast by 2018.

Closing Plenary

2:15 – 3:30 pm

Panel — The Challenge of Homeless People in Parks |

Ian Wilson, Brad Ackerman, Christene Walsh and Ben Parkin | All

This panel will bring forward different perspectives on homelessness in parks: mental health, legal perspective, cost-analysis and enforcement, municipal laws and park operations. The session is an open dialogue that will challenge listeners to refocus their attention on all dimensions of homelessness in parks throughout the province of BC.

Ian Wilson is the Parks Services Manager for the City of Kelowna.

Brad Ackerman is the Manager of Park Services and Resource Operations for the Regional District of Central Okanagan.

Christene Walsh is the Social Development Coordinator for the Regional District of Central Okanagan.

Ben Parkin is the Assistant Director, General Litigation for the City of Vancouver.

Horticulture Day

THURSDAY

February 26, 2015

Opening Plenary

8:15 – 9:15 am

Pollinators — Why Are They Declining and What Can Parks Do To Support Them? | Elizabeth Elle, PhD | *All*

You've probably seen it in the news: bees are in trouble, and farmers are worried about our food supply. Much of the press is on the managed honey bee, an important component of agricultural systems, but many of the earth's 20,000 other species of bee (450 in BC!) are experiencing population declines. Why? In this session, you'll learn the latest science about bee declines, what loss of pollinators might mean for both crops and wild areas and about the great diversity of pollinators in BC. You'll also learn the traits of flowers that are good (or less good) for pollinators and plant species to use in restoration efforts if pollinator support is part of your mandate.

Elizabeth Elle is Professor and Chair of the Department of Biological Sciences at Simon Fraser University. A member of national and international collaborations, her research focuses on the impact of human activities on pollinator biodiversity, and how we can preserve pollination services to wildflowers and crops in the face of pollinator losses.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS D

9:30 – 10:30 am

D1: Seattle's Urban Forestry Plan's Green Seattle Partnership | Mark Mead | *Urban Forestry*

This talk provides a description of a proven model, the Urban Forest Sustainability Model, for protecting and restoring urban forests by simultaneously addressing three essential elements: developing and retaining community partnership, creating technologies and best management practices that inform restoration efforts and the development of sustainable long term financial and management infrastructure. This sustainability model contains elements that are ubiquitous to urban forestry as well as parks maintenance and parks programs.

D2: Bewicke Park Habitat and Wagg Creek Park Storm Water Enhancement Projects | Angela Negenman, Gale Trinkl, Jessica Oakes and Wayne Turner | *Community Design*

Bewicke Park Habitat Enhancement

Situated at the mouth of Mosquito Creek on Burrard Inlet, Bewicke Park was at one time, the only public access to the waterfront for the entire City of North Vancouver. Today, in light of the City's commitment to ecological restoration of

its waterfront, Bewicke Park is undergoing construction to rehabilitate the shorefront with a series of habitat benches, as well as upgrades to the adjoining parkland area. In addition, the mouth of the Mosquito Creek will be restored and a complex naturalized channel reconstructed. The proposed habitat improvements are expected to increase the primary productivity and complexity of the nearshore habitat, which will directly benefit juvenile salmonids and many other aquatic species. Rooted in a creative partnership, this project will highlight the benefits of the collaboration of multiple interested parties with the common goal of a healthy ecosystem.

Wagg Creek Park Storm Water Enhancement Project

Located only two blocks from the City of North Vancouver's main commercial corridor, Wagg Creek Park provides a green oasis with its pond and creek flowing through a remnant of coastal western hemlock forest. As such, it provides valuable habitat for wildlife and opportunities for park users. In 2009, a storm water enhancement project was undertaken in order to improve sediment detention in the pond and thus improve water quality for fish living downstream. This project highlights how functional engineering requirements have been integrated with habitat and park programming enhancement to create a unique experience for people visiting the park.

D3: Dig in! Community Supported Urban Agriculture |

Lisa Dreves | *Organic Gardening*

Langley Environmental Partners Society (LEPS) has been coordinating community gardens in the Township of Langley for several years. Their experiences with developing, launching and maintaining these gardens include engaging community champions, kick starting municipal staff to chase down plot fees and getting dirty pulling weeds that have gone to seed.

Learn from experiences and challenges of Langley and other communities and be inspired by success stories to work towards more community supported urban agriculture.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS E

10:45 – 11:45am

E1: Growing Mediums for Landscape and Nurseries |

Bruce Peel | *Urban Forestry*

In this session, delegates will learn about the qualities of a good growing medium and how to create one to fit your requirements.

E2: Community Showcase: Westminster Pier Park — A Catalyst for Regeneration! | Claude LeDoux |

Community Design

Come take a walk and learn about New Westminster's Urban Waterfront Park which has been a catalyst for regeneration of its Historic Downtown. Participants will take a short walk to the Park to learn about the upcoming development changes in New Westminster's downtown and how the brown field site became a beautiful park.

Horticulture Day
THURSDAY
February 26, 2015
continued...

CONCURRENT SESSIONS E

E3: Bee Friendly Spaces in an Urban Environment |

Ric Erikson | *Organic Gardening*

As the survival of pollinators in agricultural areas continues to become more difficult, urban environments are of ever-increasing importance in the conservation and survival of our native bees. Learn about the status of our bee and pollinator populations and what can be done to help preserve them in our communities. Municipal parks, streets and urban landscaping can play a critical role in the development of bee friendly communities.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS F

1 – 2 pm

F1: Designing Small Space Gardens | Judith Blake Reeve |

Community Design

"If you can design a small space garden really well, you can probably design landscape projects of any size." This presentation will show how the principles of designing small space gardens can be employed to create meaningful and publicly pleasing "found spaces" within the urban, suburban and rural landscapes.

F2: Living Architecture — Green Roofs, Living Walls and Green Facades | Ron Schwenger |

Community Design

An innovative presentation on green roofs, living walls and green facades — what they are and the benefits in park and urban environments. Participants will learn how to create a better understanding of green roofs, living walls and green facades in general, while focusing on how living architecture can be utilized in parks and recreation settings. There will also be an open discussion on biophillic design and how this approach can work in a parks and recreation setting.

F3: Municipal Staff Training for Organic Land Care |

Michael Hermary, Trisha McCarthy and Catherine Dale |

Organic Gardening

This is a joint presentation by the District of North Vancouver (DNV) and the Society for Organic Urban Land Care (SOUL). The presentation will describe the process of implementing a leading edge solution for staff training and accreditation to meet municipal environmental objectives. Trisha McCarthy from the DNV will tell her story about the challenge and requisite innovation in addressing relevant staff training

and qualification, followed by a panel discussion with participants from SOUL, DNV and Gaia College who will provide more information and answer questions about how other municipalities can develop and implement staff, contractor and public training. The panel will also address how the SOUL Organic Land Care Standard can be used to encourage the widespread adoption of healthy organic land care practices.

David Tracey Closing Keynote

2:15 – 3:15pm

Groundtruthing | All

The climate crisis is as big as the world, but knowing that fact may add to our sense of helplessness. What can anyone do? One solution is to start with the individual, on the personal scale at which we interact with our surroundings. Groundtruthing offers a way to reconnect with nature even in the cities where we live. It begins by discovering, understanding and caring for a place, a site that matters whether it's a wildlife habitat, private garden or forgotten corner of a public park.

David Tracey is a writer, designer and community ecologist. He is the author of "The Earth Manifesto," "Guerrilla Gardening" and the novel "The Miracle Tree." He is also the Executive Director of Tree City which is working with the City of Vancouver to grow the urban forest through the TreeKeepers program.

Delegate Fees

Pre-Event Session

February 24, 2015, 8:30am — 4pm

BCRPA Playground Safety Awareness Course

Queens Park Centennial Lodge

1st Street & 3rd Avenue, New Westminster, BC

\$175, lunch & refreshments included

(Member rates & Early Bird rates do not apply)

Parks & Grounds Spring Training 2015

February 25 — 26, 2015

The Anvil Centre

777 Columbia Street, New Westminster, BC

Early Bird Rates Until December 17, 2014 (First Early Bird)

| | Maintenance Day (Feb 25) | Horticulture Day (Feb 26) | Both Days |
|------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Member* | \$140 | \$140 | \$220 |
| Non-Member | \$189 | \$189 | \$297 |
| Student | \$95 | \$95 | \$130 |

Early Bird Rates After December 17, 2014 (Second Early Bird)

| | Maintenance Day (Feb 25) | Horticulture Day (Feb 26) | Both Days |
|------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Member* | \$161 | \$161 | \$253 |
| Non-Member | \$217 | \$217 | \$342 |
| Student | \$109 | \$109 | \$150 |

Regular Rates After January 23, 2015

| | Maintenance Day (Feb 25) | Horticulture Day (Feb 26) | Both Days |
|------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Member* | \$168 | \$168 | \$264 |
| Non-Member | \$227 | \$227 | \$356 |
| Student | \$114 | \$114 | \$156 |

Register Online at: www.bcrpa.bc.ca/springtraining

ISA and Pesticide Applicator Credits may be available for some sessions. Check the website for more details at: www.bcrpa.bc.ca/springtraining

Policy on recording presentations and event photography is in effect. [Read the policy here: www.bcrpa.bc.ca/documents/Policy_Photos_Recording.pdf](http://www.bcrpa.bc.ca/documents/Policy_Photos_Recording.pdf)

At-A-Glance

TUESDAY February 24

8:30 am – 4 pm BCRPA Playground Safety Awareness Course

WEDNESDAY February 25

7:15 – 8 am Registration Check-In & Refreshments

8 – 8:15 am Opening Remarks

8:15 – 9:15 am Opening Keynote: *Beyond Push, Pull and Drag*

9:15 – 9:30 am Transition Break & Tradeshow

9:30 – 10:30 am Concurrent Sessions A

10:30 – 10:45 am Nutrition Break & Tradeshow

10:45 – 11:45 am Concurrent Sessions B

11:45 am – 1 pm Buffet Lunch & Tradeshow

1 – 2 pm Concurrent Sessions C

2 – 2:15 pm Nutrition Break & Tradeshow

2:15 – 3:30 pm Closing Plenary Session: *Panel — The Challenge of Homeless People in Parks*

3:30 – 3:35 pm Closing Remarks & Prize Draw

THURSDAY February 26

7:15 – 8 am Registration Check-In & Refreshments

8 – 8:15 am Opening Remarks

8:15 – 9:15 am Opening Plenary: *Pollinators — Why Are They Declining and What Can Parks Do To Support Them?*

9:15 – 9:30 am Transition Break & Tradeshow

9:30 – 10:30 am Concurrent Sessions D

10:30 – 10:45 am Nutrition Break & Tradeshow

10:45 – 11:45 am Concurrent Sessions E

11:45 am – 1 pm Buffet Lunch & Tradeshow

1 – 2 pm Concurrent Sessions F

2 – 2:15 pm Nutrition Break & Tradeshow

2:15 – 3:15 pm Closing Keynote: *Groundtruthing*

3:15 – 3:30 pm Closing Remarks & Prize Draw

Cover Photo: *Burnside Gorge Community Centre, Victoria, BC — Recipient of the 2009 BCRPA Provincial Award for Facility Excellence*