Phase Two: Inventory

Parks, Natural Areas, Trails & Playing Fields

BC Recreation & Parks Association
Community Recreation Facilities Assessment Study

June 2006
About the BCRPA
The British Columbia Recreation and Parks Association is a not for profit organization dedicated to building and sustaining active healthy lifestyles and communities in BC. Established in 1958, the Association is a central resource agency for members and stakeholders of the parks, recreation, physical activity and culture industry, providing leadership, training and support to help meet national, provincial and local priorities. Through a diverse network of partners and extensive programs and services, BCRPA actively advocates accessibility and inclusiveness to recreation and physical activity and strives to help integrate sport and recreation opportunities.

Our Vision
The recreation, parks and culture sector is an essential partner for building healthy individuals and communities, as well as fostering economic and environmental sustainability.

Our Mission
BCRPA is committed to leading the parks, recreation and culture sector in building and sustaining healthy active communities, including fostering economic and environmental sustainability. We inspire and support community leaders and practitioners through advocacy, communication, education, resources and other services.
Acknowledgements

BCRPA would like to thank the members of the Steering Committee who volunteered their time and expertise to the development of this document. The Steering Committee members were:

- Suzanne Allard Strutt, CEO, British Columbia Recreation & Parks Association
- Corrine Ambor, Park Planner, District of West Vancouver
- Catherine Berris, Principal, Catherine Berris Associates Inc.
- Nancy Burton, Hughes Condon Marler : Architects
- Darryl Condon, Principal, Hughes Condon Marler : Architects
- Erik Lees, Principal, Lees + Associates Consulting Ltd.
- Sharon Meredith, Operations Manager, British Columbia Recreation & Parks Association
- Anne Titcomb, Volunteer
- Lori Zehr, Ministry of Health Services

The BCRPA would like to also acknowledge Hughes Condon Marler : Architects for their services and expertise in the creation of this Phase 2 - Parks and Natural Areas Comparative Study of the Community Recreation Facilities Assessment Study.

The compilation of this data required the cooperation of a large number of participants across the municipal parks and recreation sector in British Columbia. BCRPA is thankful for the time and efforts provided by all participants.
Contents

Section 1
Executive Summary 1
  1.1 Background ................................................ 1
  1.2 Key Findings ............................................. 1

Section 2
Background 2
  2.1 Terms of Reference ......................................... 2
  2.2 Project Objectives .......................................... 2
  2.3 Benefits of Recreation ........................................ 3
  2.4 Current Context .............................................. 4
  2.5 Study Scope .................................................. 4
  2.6 Study Process ................................................ 5

Section 3
Parks and Natural Areas 6

Section 4
Key Findings 7
  4.1 Study Participants ............................................ 7
  4.2 Facility Type Summary ........................................ 8
  4.3 Facility Size Summary ........................................ 9
  4.4 Maintenance Budgets ......................................... 9
  4.5 User Satisfaction ............................................ 10
  4.6 Facility Usage ................................................ 10
  4.7 Accessibility ................................................. 10
  4.8 Parks Specific Data .......................................... 11
  4.9 Off Road Trails Specific Data .............................. 11
  4.10 Playing Fields Specific Data .............................. 12

Appendices

BCRPA    Phase 2 - Inventory    Community Recreation Facilities Assessment Study
Section 5

Summary

5.1 Next Steps .................................................. 14

Appendices .................................................. 15
Section 1

Executive Summary

This section of the report provides a summary of the key aspects of phase two of the facility inventory study process and database.

1.1 Background

The scope of the study was to produce an inventory, in the form of a database, of four types of outdoor community recreation infrastructure owned and/or operated by local municipalities in British Columbia. This work is the second phase of a multi-phase project intended to provide accurate information on the state of community recreation facility infrastructure throughout the province.

Project Objectives:

1. To provide assistance to communities throughout British Columbia in evaluating the status of their recreation infrastructure
2. To provide guidance and information to these communities related to the upgrading, maintenance or replacement of existing recreation infrastructure
3. To ensure that British Columbians have access to the facilities they need in order to live healthy, active lifestyles.

1.2 Key Findings

In total, 185 surveys were distributed and an 88% response rate was achieved. From this data, a total of 414 facilities were identified and incorporated into the inventory. Following is a summary of each outdoor recreation infrastructure type:

Table 1.2a

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Type</th>
<th>Total Area (hectares)</th>
<th>Total Length (km)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parks</td>
<td>64,576</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Areas</td>
<td>111,968</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-Road Trails</td>
<td></td>
<td>9,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>176,544</td>
<td>9,096</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As well, the inventory contains information pertaining to a wide variety of playing fields. Further information, and greater detail, is contained in Section 4 of this report.
Section 2

Background

This section of the report provides background on the principles established by the project steering committee, a commentary on the benefits of recreation facilities, a discussion of the study process and methodology as well as the context of this report.

2.1 Terms of Reference

During the winter of 2004, The British Columbia Recreation and Parks Association (BCRPA) commissioned the production of an inventory, in the form of a database, of four types of outdoor community recreation infrastructure owned and/or operated by local municipalities. This work is phase two of a multi-phase project intended to provide accurate information on the state of community recreation infrastructure throughout the province.

2.2 Project Objectives

The project objectives were as follows:

- To provide assistance to communities throughout British Columbia in evaluating the lifecycle stage of their parks and recreation infrastructure
- To provide guidance and information to these communities related to the upgrading, maintenance or replacement of existing infrastructure
- To ensure that British Columbians have access to the facilities they need in order to live healthy, active lifestyles.
2.3 Benefits of Recreation

Underlying the importance of this inventory is a firm belief in the wide ranging societal benefits provided by community recreation facilities and the corresponding need for stable and sustainable provision of these services. According to the Canadian Parks / Recreation Association, a brief summary of the benefits of recreation\(^1\) is as follows:

- Recreation and active living are essential to personal health – a key determinant of health status.
- Recreation is a key to balanced human development – helping Canadians reach for their potential.
- Recreation and parks are essential to quality of life.
- Recreation reduces self-destructive and anti-social behavior.
- Recreation and Parks build strong families and healthy communities.
- Pay now or pay more later! Recreation reduces health care, social service, and police/justice costs.
- Recreation and parks are significant economic generators in your community.
- Parks, open spaces and natural areas are essential to ecological survival.

Accepting these key benefits, the importance of ensuring the long term sustainability of a healthy stock of community recreation facilities becomes clear.

\(^1\) The Benefits Catalogue - Canadian Parks/Recreation Association, 1997
2.4 Current Context

Factors affecting the construction of new facilities as well as upgrading of existing facilities are many and widespread. However, a few key industry trends are important to note. The following issues all have contributed to the current condition of British Columbia’s stock of recreation facilities as well as to the challenges faced by the industry:

- Recreation programming has shifted from structured to non-structured (i.e. user dictated). With this has come a greater emphasis on outdoor recreation.
- High usage places a significant environmental burden on outdoor infrastructure.
- The number and quality of sport playing fields is a significant community issue.
- The lack of consistent and widespread funding mechanisms for community recreation infrastructure.

2.5 Study Scope

This work summarized by this report provided an inventory of the following types of community recreation facilities:

- Parks
- Natural Areas
- Off-Road Trails
- Playing Fields
2.6 Study Process

The process utilized to compile the facility inventory involved a detailed two stage survey. The first stage of this process was the creation and distribution of a test survey. The test survey was distributed to a cross section of communities with the intent of testing the effectiveness of the questions and the resultant data. Based upon input received during the test survey process, a final survey was produced. It was during this phase that the inventory database was developed and tested.

The second stage survey involved distributing the final survey to all municipalities and Regional Districts in British Columbia. Data from the completed surveys was then added into the inventory database (compiled in MS Access format).

The survey methodology relied upon self-reporting by organization and accordingly the data was not verified. In situations where organizations did not have or maintain the information requested, the corresponding section of the database was left blank.

Test Survey Participants:
- City of Abbotsford
- City of Prince George
- City of Fernie
- City of Colwood
- City of Terrace
- District of Chetwynd
- District of Tumbler Ridge
- District of West Vancouver
- Town of Creston
- Resort Municipality of Whistler
- Village of Kaslo
Section 3

Parks and Natural Areas

The assumptions governing the inventory for Parks and Natural Areas differ from that utilized in other phases of the study. It was determined that specific facility based information, as was gathered during phase one, would not be practical nor relevant for future analysis. Instead, it was decided to compile data on each organization’s system of outdoor recreation infrastructure. For this reason, the data contained in the inventory is somewhat different from that for phase one. Furthermore, it was decided that questions on maintenance budgets were relevant for the challenges facing this sector of the recreation industry.
Section 4

Key Findings

The results of the survey have been consolidated into a facility inventory database. Using this data, a variety of analyses are possible. This section of the report highlights some of the key findings of the survey.

4.1 Study Participants

In total, 185 surveys were distributed and an 88% response rate was achieved. In cases where the surveys were returned incomplete, the survey participant was contacted by telephone in order to obtain the missing information. A list of survey participants is contained in the Appendix.

The following table provides a summary of the types of organizations surveyed as well as the response rate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Organization</th>
<th>Surveys Issued</th>
<th>Surveys Complete</th>
<th>% Completed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Municipality</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional District</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Detailed data was gathered for outdoor recreation infrastructure where the surveyed organizations own, operate or provide services to their communities through the use of some form of long term agreement.
4.2 Facility Type Summary

The following table summarizes the total number of outdoor recreation infrastructure of each of the four facility types included in the survey.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Type</th>
<th>Total Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parks</td>
<td>4,458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Areas</td>
<td>12,951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off Road Trails</td>
<td>3,874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playing Fields</td>
<td>1,767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>23,050</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These totals include all infrastructure that is either municipally owned, operated as well as that which is not municipally owned but where services are provided on the basis of a long term operating agreement.

The following summarizes the total number of each facility type.

Figure 4.2b

```
Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Types

Playing Fields  | 2000
Off Road Trails | 4000
Natural Areas   | 10000
Parks           | 12000
```

Number of Each Type

---

Section 4
4.3 Facility Size Summary

The following table summarizes the approximate total magnitude of each of the four outdoor recreation infrastructure types included in the survey.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Type</th>
<th>Total Area (hectares)</th>
<th>Total Length (km)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parks</td>
<td>64,576</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Areas</td>
<td>111,968</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off Road Trails</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>9,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playing Fields</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>176,544</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,096</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.4 Maintenance Budgets

Survey participants were asked to identify their yearly maintenance budgets for parks, natural areas, trails and playing fields. Of the 162 respondents, 113 provided data on this. The total value of the reported maintenance budgets was over $109,500,000.

Of the 143 respondents who answered the question, 50 indicated that they had adequate funding to maintain their outdoor recreation infrastructure while 93 felt that they did not have adequate funding. Survey participants were then asked to provide greater detail on a series of budget items and in particular to comment on whether or not they have particular budgets for the following items.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Items</th>
<th>Have Annual Budget</th>
<th>Do not have Annual Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parks Acquisition</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks Development</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Renewal of Facilities</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Respondents were then asked to comment on whether or not these budget items have increased or decreased over the past five years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Items</th>
<th>Increased</th>
<th>Decreased</th>
<th>Stayed the Same</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parks Acquisition</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks Development</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Renewal of Facilities</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.5 User Satisfaction

Survey participants were asked to identify if their organization has conducted a user satisfaction survey in the past five years. Of the 145 organizations that responded to this question, 48 indicated that they had conducted a user satisfaction survey, while 97 did not.

4.6 Facility Usage

Survey participants were asked to identify if their organization has collected data on usage of their outdoor recreation infrastructure. Of the 142 organizations that responded to this question, 26 indicated that they had collected usage data, while 116 did not.

4.7 Accessibility

In many cases, outdoor recreation infrastructure presents challenges for people with physical mobility, visual impairment and hearing impairment disabilities. Survey participants were asked to subjectively rate their infrastructure in terms of access for users. The results of this are summarized in the following tables.

Table 4.7a – Accessibility for Users

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Type</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Very Good</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parks</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Areas</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off Road Trails</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playing Fields</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>225</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Percentage</strong></td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Although not the result of detailed facility analysis, this data indicates that there are a significant amount of outdoor recreation infrastructure that does not adequately provide access for community members that are physically challenged.
4.8 Parks Specific Data

Several specific questions pertaining solely to Parks were asked in the Survey. These findings are summarized below.

**Number of Playgrounds that meet current CSA Standards**

In many cases, existing playgrounds do not meet current CSA Standards. Survey participants were asked to provide an estimate of the percentage of their playgrounds that meet current standards. The results of this data are summarized below.

Table 4.8a – Playgrounds that meet CSA Standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of Playgrounds that Comply</th>
<th>Number of Organizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 to 25%</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 to 50%</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51 to 75%</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76 to 100%</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the data, it is possible to calculate and approximate average for all of the playgrounds identified in the inventory. Based upon this calculation, for the 132 reporting organizations, approximately 72% of all playgrounds meet current CSA standards.

4.9 Off Road Trails Specific Data

Several specific questions pertaining to Off Road Trails were asked in the Survey. These finding are summarized below.

**Off Road Trail Surface**

Survey participants were asked to provide data on the various types of trails surfaces. The results of this data are compiled and summarized below.

Table 4.9a – Summary of Off Road Trail Surfaces

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surface</th>
<th>Total Length (km)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paved</td>
<td>415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gravel</td>
<td>1,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Chips</td>
<td>383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Soil</td>
<td>1,566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3,728</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
User Specific Trails
Survey participants were asked to identify the length of user specific trails in their inventory. The results of this data are compiled and summarized below.

Table 4.9b – User Specific Trails

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use</th>
<th>Total Length (km)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Multi-use</td>
<td>2,212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking / Hiking</td>
<td>492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycle</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-Leash Dogs</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horse</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,069</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that in both of the above tables, the total length is much less than the combined total identified previously. This is due to many respondents not providing detail on the types and surfaces in their inventories. However, the above tables do provide an indication of the relative proportion of trail types.

4.10 Playing Fields Specific Data
Several specific questions pertaining to Playing Fields were asked in the Survey. These findings are summarized below.

Types of Playing Fields
Survey participants were asked to summarize the types of playing fields in their inventory. The total number of each type of playing field identified in the inventory is summarized below.

Table 4.10a – Summary of Playing Field Types

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surface</th>
<th>Total Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseball Diamonds</td>
<td>693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball Diamonds</td>
<td>1,127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer Pitches</td>
<td>1,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football / Rugby</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Hockey</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Running Track</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacrosse Box</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ultimate</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawn Bowling</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bocce Ball</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cricket</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,578</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Baseball and Softball Diamonds
Of the 1,820 Baseball and Softball Diamonds identified in the inventory 433 are adult regulation sized and 167 of the total number are lit.

The following table summarizes the number of each type of playing surface.

Table 4.10b – Summary of Baseball and Softball Field Surfaces

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surface</th>
<th>Total Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grass</td>
<td>1,138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artificial Turf</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gravel</td>
<td>239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,470</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sport Fields
Of the 1,385 Sport Fields identified in the inventory 469 are adult regulation sized and 202 of the total number are lit.

The following table summarizes the number of each type of playing surface.

Table 4.10c – Summary of Sport Field Surfaces

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surface</th>
<th>Total Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grass</td>
<td>837</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artificial Turf</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gravel</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,048</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Running Tracks
Of the 85 Running Tracks identified in the inventory 23 are lit.

The following table summarizes the number of each type of surface.

Table 4.10d – Summary of Running Track Surfaces

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surface</th>
<th>Total Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Synthetic</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gravel</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asphalt</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Summary

This study process has resulted in the compilation of a detailed and comprehensive database summarizing outdoor municipal recreation infrastructure in the Province of British Columbia. The information contained in the inventory provides the following key benefits:

- Basis for further analysis of recreation facility infrastructure condition across the Province.
- Through future updates, the ability to track trends in facility construction and condition.
- Ability to study and compare major facility amenities.
- Ability to study regional disparities in the provision of municipal recreation facility infrastructure.
- Provides a framework for the comparison with other facility types, both indoor and outdoor.

5.1 Next Steps

As noted previously, the facility inventory is the second phase of a multi-phase project. The next stage, phase three, is adding four additional indoor facility types to the inventory. Subsequent stages should provide additional analysis on the data and in particular, provide comparisons between facilities types surveyed in all three completed phases of the study.

In order to protect the relevance of the data, the BCRPA will develop a database maintenance strategy which will address issues such as additions, revisions, updates and access.
## Appendices

### Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Executive Summary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Background</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Parks and Natural Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Key Findings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Summary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Appendices
Appendix 1

Survey

Following is a copy of the survey utilized in this study.

BRITISH COLUMBIA PARKS AND NATURAL AREAS COMPARATIVE STUDY
September 2005

INTRODUCTION

The results of this study will be added to the previously collected data on pools, ice arenas and curling rinks. The database may be expanded in the future to include other indoor as well as outdoor facilities.

The survey is set up with the following five sections:
Part One    General Questions
Part Two    Parks Questions
Part Three   Natural Areas Questions
Part Four    Off Road Trails Questions
Part Five    Playing Fields Questions

Completed questionnaires should be faxed to 604-732-6695
PART 1 – GENERAL QUESTIONS

1.1 Name of Organization: ________________________________

1.2 Organization website: ______________________________________

1.3 Name and position of person filling out survey: ________________________________

1.4 Telephone Number: ( ____ ) ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

1.5 Type of Organization: (Please circle one)
   1) Municipality
   2) Regional District
   3) Other (please specify) ______________________________________

1.6 What is the approximate population served by your parks and outdoor facilities? ________________________________

1.7 What is the average annual population increase/decrease over the last 5 years? ________________________________

1.8 What is the area of your municipality? (in hectares) ________________________________

1.9 Please indicate the type and number of each park and outdoor facility type that your organization provides: (i.e. owns, operates or provides through a long term operating agreement):
   1) City or District wide, Community or Neighbourhood Parks
   2) Natural Areas
   3) Trails (off road)
   4) Playing Fields

1.10 What is your yearly maintenance budget for parks, natural areas, trails and playing fields? ________________________________

1.11 Do you have an annual budget for the following? If so, indicate whether it has generally increased, decreased or stayed the same over the past five years? (Please indicate with a check mark)
   Type: Yes No Increased Decreased Stayed the Same
   1) Parks Acquisition
   2) Parks Development
   3) Capital Renewal of Facilities
   4) Maintenance

1.12 Do you feel you have enough funding to adequately maintain your parks? (Please circle one) Yes / No

1.13 Has your organization done a satisfaction survey in the past 5 years? (Please circle one) Yes / No

1.14 In your new developments have you been making improvements for people with disabilities? (Please circle one) Yes / No

1.15 Have you applied for grants? (Please circle one) Yes / No.

1.16 Were you successful obtaining any grants? (Please circle one) Yes / No

END OF PART 1 OF 5
PART 2 – PARKS  (1 page)

Please complete Part 2 providing data on your entire system of parks. If the park includes natural areas, off road trails or playing fields, please include information for those outdoor facilities on the separate Part 3, 4 or 5 forms in addition to Parks information on this Part 2 form.

2.1 Number of Parks:

2.2 Total combined area (in hectares) of Parks: 

2.3 Do you collect data regarding usage in terms of visits? (Please circle one) Yes / No
   If yes, in what form do you collect it?

2.4 Please identify the quantity of amenities that are provided in conjunction with your parks system.

   Number of each type in your system

   1) Play Areas
   2) Picnic Areas
   3) Washrooms
   4) Community Gardens
   5) Water Park
   6) Youth Park (skateboard, stunt, etc.)
   7) Concession Stands
   8) Changerooms
   9) Tennis Courts
   10) Basketball/Hard Court
   11) Swimming Area (beach)
   12) Off Leash Areas
   13) Other

2.5 What approximate percentage of your playgrounds meet CSA Standards? ____ %

2.6 How would you rank your existing developed parks in terms of overall accessibility for people with disabilities (including such limitations as physical mobility, visual impairment, and hearing impairment) (Please circle one)

   1) Poor
   2) Good
   3) Very good

END OF PART 2 OF 5
PART 3 – Natural Areas (1 page)

Please complete part 3 providing data on your entire system of natural areas. If the natural areas includes parks, off road trails or playing fields, please include information for those outdoor facilities on the separate Part 2, 4 or 5 forms in addition to Natural Areas information on this Part 3 form.

Using the following definition as a guide: Natural Areas often contain trails, but do not include active play and sports areas. They may also include cemeteries, dykes, etc.

3.1 Number of Natural Areas: __________________________

3.2 Total combined area (in hectares) of Natural Areas: ________________

3.3 Do you collect data regarding usage in terms of visits? (Please circle one) Yes / No
If yes, in what form do you collect it?

3.4 How would you rank your existing natural areas in terms of accessibility for people with disabilities (including such limitations as physical mobility, visual impairment, and hearing impairment) (Please circle one)

   1) Poor
   2) Good
   3) Very good

END OF PART 3 OF 5
PART 4 – OFF ROAD TRAILS (1 page)

Please complete part 4 providing data on your entire system of off road trails. If the trails include parks, natural areas or playing fields, please include information for those outdoor facilities on the separate Part 2, 3 or 5 forms in addition to Trails information on this Part 4 form.

4.1 What is your total combined length (in km) of off road trails? ________________________________________

4.2 Please indicate the combined length (in km) of each type of off road trail surface:

1) Paved
2) Gravel
3) Wood Chips
4) Native Soil
5) Other (please specify)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length (km)</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

4.3 Please indicate the number of your off road trails that are user specific:

1) Multi-use
2) Walking / Hiking
3) Bicycle
4) Off Leash Dogs
5) Horse
6) Other (please specify)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Trails:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.4 Do you collect data regarding usage in terms of visits? (Please circle one) Yes / No

If yes, in what form do you collect it?

4.5 Please identify the quantity of other amenities that are provided in conjunction with your off road trail system.

1) Washrooms
2) Parking
3) Picnic Areas
4) Viewing Facility/Rest Area
5) Interpretive Signs
6) Directional Signs
7) Other

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of each type in your system</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

4.6 How would you rank your trail system in terms of accessibility for people with disabilities (including such limitations as physical mobility, visual impairment, and hearing impairment). (Please circle one)

1) Poor
2) Good
3) Very good

Comments: ____________________________________________

END OF PART 4 OF 5
PART 5 – PLAYING FIELDS (2 pages)

Please complete part 5 providing data on your entire system of playing fields. Please include facilities located on school board property in this data. If the playing fields are associated with a park, natural areas or off road trail, please include information for those outdoor facilities on the separate Part 2, 3 or 4 forms in addition to Playing Fields information on this Part 5 form.

5.1 Please indicate the number of each type of playing field: 
If an outdoor facility is used for more than one sport please indicate for each sport that uses the field.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of each type in your system</th>
<th>Please indicate with a check mark if you charge booking fees for any of these fields</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Baseball Diamonds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Softball Diamonds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) Soccer pitches</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4) Football / Rugby</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5) Field Hockey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6) Running Track</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7) Lacrosse Box</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8) Ultimate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9) Lawn Bowling</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10) Bocce Ball</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11) Cricket</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12) Other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.2 Provide the following detailed information on Baseball and Softball Diamonds:

5.2.1 How many are lit? 

5.2.2 Are any Adult Regulation size? Yes / No (Please circle one) If Yes, how many? 

5.2.3 Please indicate how many of the ball diamonds are on each of the different playing surfaces
1) Grass
2) Artificial Turf
3) Gravel
4) Other (please specify)

5.3 Provide the following detailed information on Sport Fields:

5.3.1 How many are lit? 

5.3.2 Are any Adult Regulation size? Yes No (Please circle one) If Yes, how many? 

5.3.3 Please indicate how many of the soccer pitches are on each of the different playing surfaces
1) Grass
2) Artificial Turf
3) Gravel
4) Other (please specify)

5.4 Provide the following detailed information on Running Tracks:

5.4.1 How many are lit? 

5.4.2 Please indicate how many of the Track Facilities are on each of the different playing surfaces
1) Synthetic
2) Gravel
3) Asphalt
4) Other (please specify)

5.5 In what form do you collect data regarding usage?
5.6 How would you rank your playing field system in terms of accessibility for people with disabilities (including such limitations as physical mobility, visual impairment, and hearing impairment). *(Please circle one)*

1) Poor
2) Good
3) Very good

END OF PART 5 OF 5
Appendix 2

Survey Participants

Following is a list of survey participants.

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District
Bowen Island Municipality
Burnaby Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
Campbell River Parks & Recreation
Canal Flats Rec Commission
Capital Regional District Parks
Cariboo Regional District
Central Coast Regional District
City of Abbotsford
City of Chilliwack
City of Coquitlam
City of Courtenay
City of Cranbrook
City of Dawson Creek
City of Duncan
City of Fort St. John
City of Greenwood
City of Kamloops
City of Kelowna
City of Kimberley
City of Langford
City of Langley
City of Merritt
City of Nanaimo
City of North Vancouver
City of Parksville
City of Penticton
City of Port Alberni Parks & Recreation
City of Port Coquitlam
City of Port Moody
City of Prince George
City of Prince Rupert
City of Quesnel
City of Revelstoke
City of Richmond
City of Rossland
City of Surrey
City of Terrace
City of Victoria
City of Whiterock
City of Williams Lake
Columbia Shuswap Regional District
Corporation of the District of Saanich
Corporation of the Township of Esquimalt
Corporation of the Village of McBride
Cowichan Valley Regional District
Cumberland Recreation Society
District of 100 Mile House
District of Chetwynd
District of Fort St. James
District of Highlands
District of Hope
District of Houston
District of Hudson’s Hope
District of Invermere
District of Kent
District of Kitimat
District of Lake Country
District of Lantzville
District of Lillooet
District of Logan Lake
District of Mackenzie
District of Maple Ridge
District of Mission
District of New Hazelton
District of North Cowichan
District of North Vancouver - Parks
District of Peachland
District of Pitt Meadows
District of Port Edward
District of Port Hardy
District of Sechelt
District of Sicamous
District of Sooke
District of Sparwood
District of Stewart
District of Taylor
District of Tofino
District of Tumbler Ridge
District of Ucluelet - Recreation Dept.
District of Vanderhoof
District of Wells
District of West Vancouver
Fraser Valley Regional District
GVRD Parks Dept
Islands Trust
Kitimat-Stikine Regional District
Kootenay Boundary Regional District
Nelson and District Community Complex
New Westminster Parks & Recreation
Northern Rockies Regional District
Oliver Parks and Recreation Society
Peace River Regional District
Powell River Regional District
Recreation Oak Bay
Regional District Mount Waddington
Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
Regional District of Central Kootenay
Regional District of Central Okanagan
Regional District of East Kootenay
Regional District of Nanaimo
Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Resort Municipality of Whistler
Sechelt Indian Government District
Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District
Slocan Valley South Regional Parks & Recreation Comm.
Squamish Lilooet Regional District
Summerland Parks and Recreation
Sunshine Coast Regional District
The Corporation of Delta
The Corporation of the District of Central Saanich
The Corporation of the District of Powell River
The Corporation of the Village of Lytton
The Corporation of the Village of Pemberton
The District of North Saanich
Thompson Nicola Regional District
Town of Comox
Town of Fort Nelson
Town of Gibsons
Town of Golden
Town of Ladysmith
Town of Lake Cowichan
Town of Osoyoos
Town of Port McNeill
Town of Princeton - Recreation Dept.
Town of Sidney
Town of View Royal
Township of Langley
Township of Spallumcheen
Vancouver Park Board
Village of Alert Bay
Village of Anmore
Village of Ashcroft
Village of Belcarra
Village of Burns Lake
Village of Cache Creek
Village of Chase
Village of Clinton
Village of Fruitvale
Village of Gold River
Village of Granisle
Village of Hazelton
Village of Kaslo
Village of Keremeos
Village of Lions Bay
Village of Lumby
Village of Masset
Village of Midway
Village of Montrose
Village of Nakusp
Village of New Denver
Village of Port Alice
Village of Port Clements
Village of Pouce Coupe
Village of Radium Hot Springs
Village of Salmo
Village of Sayward
Village of Silverton
Village of Tahsis
Village of Telkwa
Village of Warfield Recreation
Village of Zeballos
This page has been provided so that participating organizations can provide data revision information or other general comments on the facility inventory. Please fax comments to the BCRPA at (604) 629-2651.

PART 1 – ORGANIZATION

Name of Organization: 

Organization website: 

Name of person responding: 

Telephone Number: 

Date: 

PART 2 – OUTDOOR RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE COMMENTS

Name of facility: 

Address of facility: 

Comments: 

________________________________________ 

________________________________________ 

________________________________________ 

PART 3 – GENERAL COMMENTS

Comments: 

________________________________________ 

________________________________________ 

________________________________________
A Time for Renewal

Just as healthy living and environmental consideration require a new focus and on-going commitment, recreation infrastructure urgently needs on-going investment. With sustainable maintenance and funding for renewal, recreation facilities are one of the most cost-effective prescriptions for good health and engaged citizens.

For More Information

Access the complete Facilities Assessment Study at:

www.bcrpa.bc.ca

101-4664 Lougheed Highway
Burnaby, BC  V5C 5T5
604.629.0965