

2017 Regional Parks Workshop

*Indigenous
Voices in
Parks*



Collaborate



Connect



Conserve



Lead



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Naturally Yours 
REGIONAL DISTRICT
OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN
REGIONAL PARKS


YEARS 1967-2017
REGIONAL DISTRICT
OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN

*Welcome to the 2017
Regional Parks Workshop*

Agenda - Day 1

Thursday, September 21, 2017 | Four Points by Sheraton

7:30am – 8:00am	Registration
8:00am – 8:30am	Breakfast Buffet
8:30am - 9:00am	Welcome and Traditional First Nations Dance
9:00am – 10:30am	Session #1 – Theme: Collaborate
10:30am – 10:45am	Break
10:45am – 12:15pm	Session #2 – Theme: Connect
12:15pm – 1:00pm	Lunch Buffet
1:00pm – 2:30pm	Session #3 – Theme: Conserve
2:30pm – 2:50pm	Break / Free time
2:50pm – 3:30pm	Shuttle to Black Mountain
3:30pm – 5:30pm	Black Mountain /sntsk'il'ntən Regional Park Acquisition Announcement
5:30pm – 6:00pm	Shuttle to Sunset Ranch Club House
6:15pm – 6:45pm	Catered Dinner
6:45pm – 7:30pm	Session #4 – Theme: Indigenous Voices in Parks
8:00pm – 8:20pm	Shuttle bus back to Four Points Sheraton

Agenda - Day 2

Friday, September 22, 2017

Four Points by Sheraton | Mill Creek Regional Park

8:00am – 8:30am Breakfast Buffet

8:30am - 10:00am **Session #5 – Theme: Lead**

10:00am – 10:30am Break

10:30am – 12:45pm **Field Tour** – Mill Creek Regional Park

1:00pm – 2:00pm Lunch Buffet

2:00pm – 3:30pm **Session #6 – Theme: Collaborate**



Mill Creek Regional Park
BEFORE 2017 flood



Mill Creek Regional Park
AFTER 2017 flood

Session 1: Collaborate

Nature-based Schools and Learning Opportunities in Parks: The Importance of Increasing Children's Outdoor Play.



Educating and developing the next generation of environmental stewards and recreation leaders by connecting to nature through learning and play. The role of regional districts and their collaborative partners is creating a model for the delivery of early childhood and nature based learning through parks, recreation and programming.

Guest Speakers

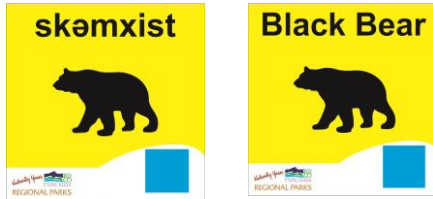
Caroline Noga
Executive Director
The Clubhouse Child Care Center

Audrey Hystad, MSc
Clubhouse Farm Manager
The Clubhouse Child Care Center

Dr. Beverlie Dietze
Director of Learning and Teaching
Okanagan College

Session 2: Connect

Incorporating Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Indigenous Culture into the Park Environment.



Western conventions have created a cultural blindness to indigenous methods of knowledge documentation through storytelling. The importance of looking at linking the traditional with the western using a combination of syilx story and western literary conventions is explored in a regional parks setting. Westbank First Nation and RDCO Parks Services are working jointly to support indigenous cultural knowledge in regional parks. The ultimate goal is to promote indigenous participation in the delivery of ecological and cultural knowledge educational programs to both Indigenous and non-Indigenous groups. Understanding that traditional practices are not a thing of the past but are ongoing in today's social context is as important part of developing and promoting this cultural awareness.

Guest Speakers

Jordan Coble

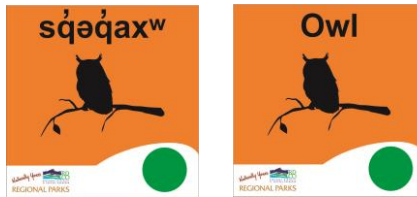
Cultural and Operations Administrator
Westbank First Nation

Krystal Lezard

Curatorial and Heritage Researcher
Westbank First Nation

Session 3: Conserve

Pathway to Canada Target 1 - Local Government Parks and Other Effective Conservation Measures.



Canada's Target 1 goal is "By 2020, at least 17% of terrestrial areas and inland water, and 10% of coastal and marine areas, are conserved through networks of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures."

What role does regional and municipal parks play as potential OECM contributors to Canada's protected areas network, International Union of Conservation for Nature (IUCN) protected areas and Canada's CARTS biodiversity portfolio?

Guest Speaker

Dr. Laura Coristine , PhD
2016-2018 Liber Ero Fellow

Session 4: Indigenous Voices in Parks

The Emergence of Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas in British Columbia.



A presentation on the emergence of Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas in British Columbia, and the increasing prominence of these models nationally and internationally. Using specific examples, interconnections with good practices at the UN Convention on Biological Diversity and IUCN levels will be highlighted.

Overarching themes will include the honouring of work done to date and moving forward innovations for the future of reconciliation.

Guest Speaker

Eli Enns

Tla-o-qui-aht Tribal Parks
Research Associate, Polis Project on Ecological Governance
Center for Global Studies
University of Victoria

Session 5: Lead

The Next 50 Years – Building Resiliency in Metro Vancouver’s Regional Parks.



Canadians are living in increasingly urban, dense and multicultural cities. Shifts in demographics, transportation, time and financial resources are changing how Canadians experience nature. Nature parks in urban regions provide primary, and often the only, nature access for many people. Metro Vancouver’s Regional Park system protects important ecosystems and connects people to nature in one of Canada’s fastest growing and most diverse regions – the system will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2017. This presentation looks ahead to the next 50 years exploring emerging trends, challenges and strategic initiatives underway to ensure the regional park system is resilient for generations to come.

Guest Speakers

Jeffrey Fitzpatrick

Division Manager – Regional Parks West Area
Metro Vancouver Regional District

Jamie Vala

Division Manager – Regional Parks Central Area
Metro Vancouver Regional District

Field Tour

Mill Creek Regional Park – Flood Recovery and Asset Management.



Mill Creek Regional Park is a 15.3 hectare park in the Ellison area of Kelowna. The quiet trail system in the park provides a shaded walk along the creek leading to a beautiful waterfall. In the spring of 2017, water flows reached record-breaking levels as the snowpack melted resulting in temporary closures to several regional parks including Mill Creek Regional Park.

This guided tour into Mill Creek Regional Park, which remains closed to the public, will include discussions about future park plans and the cost of asset replacement following flood recovery.

Guest Speakers

Brad Ackerman

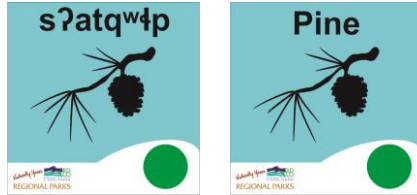
Manager – Parks & Resource Operations
Regional District of Central Okanagan

Wayne Darlington

Manager – Park Planning/Capital Projects/Visitor Services
Regional District of Central Okanagan

Session 6: Collaborate

Parks & Forest Fires- Fire Prevention Strategies, Visitor Safety and Parks Closures.



During high to extreme fire hazard risk, closure of regional, municipal and Provincial parks are necessary at times and collaboration among jurisdictions is required. The public perception and opinions about park closures can be very polarize. Learn about the criteria used to assess and determine whether and when parks should be closed and how to effectively communicate this to the public. Is a coordinated regional or Provincial wide policy required to deal with park closures and forest fires?

Guest Speakers

John Cathro

RPF, Cathro Consulting

Mark Weston

Parks and Protected Areas Section Head, Okanagan, BC Parks

Travis Whiting

Fire Chief, Kelowna Fire Department

Speaker Bios

Caroline Noga has worked in childcare in Alberta and British Columbia since 1983, witnessing firsthand changes in patterns of play and behavior over three decades. She is a consultant, community organization board member and Executive Director of the Clubhouse Child Care Center. Caroline was a driving force behind the Clubhouse Farm: outdoor nature playspace, which brings daycare, preschool and school age groups outside to play and learn.

Dr. Beverlie Dietze is the Director of Teaching and Learning with Okanagan College and an internationally recognized expert on outdoor education. She is an experienced post-secondary professional who has spent three decades in the sector in a variety of roles that include faculty member, department head, director and campus dean. Dr. Dietze holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Higher Education from the University of Toronto, a Master's of Adult Education from St. Francis Xavier University and a Bachelor of Education from the University of New Brunswick.

Audrey Hystad has worked with toddler to teen programs for over a decade in Sweden and Canada. She holds an interdisciplinary Master of Science in Sustainable Enterprise from Stockholm University, The Beijer Institute, and Stockholm Environment Institute. She now works with The Clubhouse Farm in Kelowna, BC.

Jordan Coble was born and raised in the heart of the Okanagan and is dedicated to working for his community and people through the creation of awareness and appreciation through collaboration with the greater community. Jordan strives to ensure the voice of the Okanagan/Syilx people is heard, acknowledged and understood as extremely valuable to all walks of life in relation to past, present and future generations.

After achieving his Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of British Columbia-Okanagan, Jordan Coble began his career as the Curatorial and Heritage Researcher for the recently opened Westbank First Nation Sncəwips Heritage Museum. Jordan has since earned the position of Operations and Cultural Administrator and continues to support the growth of the Museum and community. Jordan is proud Westbank First Nation and Syilx Nation member and is striving to become a storyteller through his work as an artist in various media including writing, film and digital media.

Krystal Lezard (spaxwawlm- northern lights) is of the syilx people. For thirteen years she has been dedicated to her community and nation inspiring others to become motivated in learning about who they are. Her primary purpose is to be helpful to her nation, assist in preserving the beauty of our knowledge and homeland. She has a tremendous amount of respect for the people doing good work in their community.

Dr. Laura Coristine is a Liber Ero Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of British Columbia Okanagan Department of Biology. Her research focuses on ways to mitigate climate change impacts using local variation in rates of climate change and extremes of weather. Currently, she is Principal Investigator on an international collaboration looking at ways to promote resilience and ecological sustainability for indigenous communities facing elevated climate change risk. She is actively involved in efforts to inform Canada's Convention on Biodiversity 2020 commitment to increase terrestrial and freshwater protected areas so that Canada can integrate issues of climate change with conservation policy and strategic planning.

Eli Enns is an internationally recognized expert in bio-cultural heritage conservation. He is a community developer and Canadian political scientist focused in Constitutional Law, Geopolitics and Ecological Governance. Eli has experience in First Nations program administration, capital project management, fundraising, green & culturally appropriate housing, the deployment of renewable energy solutions in remote communities and small scale liquid/solid waste management systems; all in the context of fostering alternative pathways to economic certainty in the era of reconciliation. Co-founder of the Ha'uukmin Tribal Park in the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Reserve on Vancouver Island, Eli is Co-Chair for The Indigenous Circle of Experts for The Pathway to Canada Target 1 (Aichi Target 11), a Research Associate at The Polis Project on Ecological Governance at the University of Victoria and serves as the Regional Coordinator North America for the Indigenous Peoples and Community Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCA) Consortium.

Jeffrey Fitzpatrick is a landscape architect and professional planner with practice, research and teaching experience in North America and abroad. He holds a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture from the University of Guelph and a Masters of Landscape Architecture from Pennsylvania State University. Jeff's experience in the planning, design and construction of public space spans the neighborhood to inter-regional scale. Jeff works as a manager with Metro Vancouver Regional Parks.

Jamie Vala is a registered landscape architect with experience in both the private and public sectors as a planner, landscape architect, and biologist. Her focus is protecting and enhancing the ecological integrity of parks and open space in the near urban setting while providing opportunities for people to connect with nature close to home. Jamie currently works as a manager with Metro Vancouver Regional Parks and holds a Bachelor of Science and Masters of Landscape Architecture.

Brad Ackerman is the Manager of Parks & Resource Operations for Parks Services division of the Regional District of Central Okanagan.

Wayne Darlington is the Manager of Planning, Capital Projects and Visitor Services for the Parks Services division of the Regional District of Central Okanagan.

John Cathro is a registered professional forester and began his career in forestry as a tree planter in 1985. In 1992, after volunteering on reforestation projects in Africa and India, he earned his MSc in Forestry and its Relation to Land Use from Oxford University in the United Kingdom. He also holds a Masters in Conflict Analysis and Management from Royal Roads University in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. John has worked professionally in the resource sector in British Columbia, Canada since 1994. His work has taken him around the world as a consultant, mediator and advisor to many groups including communities, private companies, indigenous groups, governments, and environmental organizations.

Mark Weston started with BC Parks in 2000 as a backcountry ranger in Monashee Provincial Park. He has spent the past 17 years with BC Parks in the Okanagan as a senior ranger, Area Supervisor and most recently, Parks and Protected Areas Section Head in 2015. BC Parks dual mandate for both conservation and recreation has resulted in a very diverse operational background. This work has included involvement in interface fuel reduction, prescribed burning and ecosystem restoration projects.

Travis Whiting started with Kelowna Fire Department in May 2015 as the Deputy Chief, Communications and Emergency Management. In June of this year, he was promoted to Fire Chief for the City of Kelowna. Prior to joining Kelowna Fire, he spent 8 years working with the Capital Regional District as Senior Manager, Protective Services. He is originally from Williams Lake, where he started his firefighting career as a Paid On Call Fire Fighter. His hometown is also where he began his work in Emergency Management with the Cariboo Regional District.

Parks Services

Regional District of Central Okanagan's Park Services division maintains and operates over 2,200 hectares of parkland. A combination of 30 Regional Parks, 11 Central Okanagan West Parks, 9 Central Okanagan East Parks, and four recreation facilities provide opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to connect with their community, be active, and experience the natural environment. Parks Services plans for existing park and facility development, future parkland acquisitions, and the protection and conservation of ecologically sensitive areas.

Contact Us

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