

Sproat Lake Parks and Trails

Commission Report February 2025

Cougar Smith Park

The park remains a popular destination for area residents who visit the park to take advantage of the courts, the playground area and the bike skills park. We continue to make improvements to the park and are always open to new ideas.

What was done last year.

The bathrooms were upgraded with new vanities, shatter proof mirrors, garbage containers, lighting and a fresh coat of paint.

Additional child seats were added to swing sets in the playground area.

The cracks in the surface of the tennis/pickle ball courts were addressed early in the season. The courts are well used, the nets are in good condition and were stored away in the fall and will be going back up as soon as weather permits.

The bike skills park is still being used by local and city residents, a new maintenance contract will be renegotiated for the coming season.

Plans for the coming year:

The surface of the courts and the gazebo are in need of fresh coat of paint. The courts and the gazebo are power washed every year but are now due for new paint.

The water fountain attached to the washrooms dispenses water that is filtered and subject to UV light treatment but the upgrade to chlorination might be required.

An inspection of the septic system this spring to ascertain that it's functioning in accordance with current regulations.

Dickson Park

The Dickson tends to be busy from May Long weekend to a few weeks after Labour day particularly when the weather gets warm. Parking can be a problem at times however the RCMP has not seen any increase in calls for service.

Portable bathrooms usually go in before May long and stay in until mid September.

Footprint Security was again contracted to make daily patrols to the park during the summer season.

For the coming year we are planning on cleaning up the area around the dock access which has old chunks of concrete and metal which could be a source of injury. The walkways to the beach are in good repair. Danger trees are dealt with as they arise.

Trails

All trails alongside Faber and Lakeshore road are maintained by Sproat Lake Forestry Ltd.

The trails are well used and pedestrian traffic is busy all year long no matter what the weather.

The ACRD along with members of the Parks Commission, the Ministry of highways, and McGill engineering have surveyed the remaining section that would connect Faber Road Trail to Cougar Smith park.

Great Central Lake

Portable washroom was also located near the boat launch at the beginning of the season,