



## 4.3 PARKS, RECREATION & OPENSACE

Parks, recreation and open space contribute significantly to community character and quality of life. Pitt Meadows has exceptional outdoor recreational opportunities including a system of dikes which is available for walking, cycling and equestrian use. There are boating opportunities on the Alouette, Fraser and Pitt Rivers. Several indoor recreational facilities are also located in Pitt Meadows, including a recreation centre and ice skating rinks.

Joint agreements with Maple Ridge and the School District allow the provision of a comprehensive range of community recreation facilities and programs to Pitt Meadows residents.

### 4.3.1 Planning for Growth and Diversity

The City is committed to ensuring that its parks, recreational opportunities and facilities meet the needs of a growing and changing population.

#### *Policies*

- a) The 2001 *Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan* should be updated as it relates to parks, recreation facilities and programs in Pitt Meadows;
- b) The recreational needs of the community will be met through a combination of approaches, including providing parks for both active and passive uses, public sports facilities, open spaces, trails and bike paths, protected natural areas and the provision of recreational programs;
- c) Programs and services directed at age specific groups, including youth and seniors, are encouraged that will develop social, physical and intellectual health and well-being.



#### 4.3.2 Accessibility

The facilities and other amenities provided by the City must take into consideration the ability of all members of the community to access and enjoy them.

##### *Policies*

- a) The City requires that public access be provided along key waterfront lands in order to achieve a linked multi-use trail system between major parks, greenbelts, dikes and other recreational features throughout Pitt Meadows.
- b) All new or upgraded facilities in the community shall be designed to encourage active participation and accessible recreation programming for a diverse population.

#### 4.3.3 Recreational Trails and Waterways

The dike top trails along the river systems of Pitt Meadows are a highly valued feature of the community. The following policies are intended to protect these uses and promote increased access.

##### *Policies*

- a) The City will continue to maintain and enhance its multi-use trail network to provide connections and access to waterfront areas, parks and open space, regional greenways and residential neighbourhoods;
- b) The completion of the Metro Vancouver Pitt River Regional Greenway, including the development of an operating agreement of its management, is a priority for Pitt Meadows as part of the development of its park and trail system;
- c) The City supports the acquisition and development of river access park areas to provide parking, viewpoints and picnic use.



FALL SCENE

#### 4.3.4 Parks and Open Space

The City's extensive areas of parks and other open space are an integral part of the visual character of Pitt Meadows and important contributors to the quality of life for residents. They are also a major attraction for visitors to the community.



*Policies*

- a) A 5% cash in lieu of parkland dedication payment is required for all subdivisions within the requirements of the *Local Government Act*.
- b) The City will continue to work with the School District to provide joint school and neighbourhood park sites.

**4.3.5 Cultural and Recreational Facilities**

The City recognizes that additional facilities are required as the community grows. These facilities may be provided over time in a number of ways, including development by the City, public-private sector partnerships, partnerships with other public agencies, and development by the private sector.

These facilities should be located where the benefits to the community, including ease of access, are maximized while also recognizing that different types of facilities have different location needs. It is anticipated that most new facilities will be located within the urban area.

*Policies*

- a) The City supports the development of an aquatic centre if sufficient capital and operating funding can be secured.
- b) The City supports the establishment of cultural, recreation and other community facilities and public uses in the Civic Centre, the Town Centre and the Sawyer's Landing Waterfront Village.