

**CCRD Governance & Service Delivery Study  
Fact Sheets  
September 2016**

# PARKS AND RECREATION

## ➤ What services are provided?

The Central Coast Regional District's (CCRD) provides regional parks and trails, community recreation facilities and recreational programs. The CCRD has established 3 regional district services:

- The Bella Coola Parks and Recreation service (includes 3 regional parks and recreation programming);
- The Centennial Swimming Pool service; and,
- The Denny Island recreation service.

### **Bella Coola Parks and Recreation**

The CCRD has 3 regional parks:

- Nusatsum Regional Park, which features a picnic area and playground in Area C;
- Snootli Creek Regional Park, which features a picnic area, beaver pond and the Big Cedars trail in Area D, located adjacent to Walker Island Regional Park and,
- Walker Island Regional Park, located next to Snootli Creek Regional Park, features two playing fields (softball and soccer), a playground, concession and picnic shelter. The park is adjacent to the Bella Coola rodeo grounds, although that particular facility is operated by the Bella Coola Valley Ridge Riders Horse Club.

The CCRD also provides and maintains an outdoor rink and warming hut during winter at Snootli Creek in Area D, just west of the Snootli Creek bridge crossing on Highway 20. The rink is leased for 30 years, expiring in 2041. Sir Alexander Mackenzie Secondary school in Hagensborg is also used for CCRD recreation programs through a joint use agreement with the School District.



**Figure 1 – Centennial Pool in Hagensborg**

Programming provided through the CCRD service includes activities such as volleyball, slow pitch, youth soccer, judo, tennis, fitness programs and community events.

### **Centennial Pool**

The CCRD operates the Centennial swimming pool, an outdoor pool built in 1967 in Hagensborg (Area D), and has a lease on the facility to 2058. The pool is open between the months of June through August and offers a variety of swimming lessons, lifesaving programs, private rentals, school classes, aquafit, swim club and public and lap swims.

### **Denny Island Recreation**

In Area A, the CCRD's Denny Island Recreation Commission coordinates community recreation programs, including fitness programs, youth development, workshops and special events. Many of the events are held at the Denny Island Community Hall – a facility owned and operated by the Denny Island Community Development Association (DICDC).

## **Other Recreation Service Providers**

Although not provided by the CCRD, provincial parks in the area include: Tweedsmuir South in Area C, Sir Alexander MacKenzie monument in Area A (limited to day access only by air or boat) and the BC Hydro Clayton Falls Recreation Site in Area E. Extensive back country and wilderness trails are located throughout the region, including many in provincial recreation sites and forest service areas. The region's rivers, lakes and coastlines are also well-used for water-based recreation activities.

The Nuxalk Nation offers recreation opportunities for both Nuxalk and non-Nuxalk youth and adults in the Bella Coola Valley. Most activities are offered out of the Nuxalk Hall, with the most popular activity being basketball.

Parks and recreation services in Ocean Falls are provided by the Ocean Falls Improvement District, and numerous private recreational opportunities exist throughout the region.

### **➤ Who delivers the service?**

The CCRD's Manager of Public Works is responsible for maintenance at all regional parks and trails, as well as the outdoor ice rink. The Centennial Swimming Pool Commission is responsible for operations and regular maintenance at that facility, while the CCRD oversees facility management and longer-term maintenance. The CCRD's delivery of parks and recreation services also relies heavily upon the support of community volunteers.

CCRD recreation programs are coordinated and delivered as follows:

- The Centennial Pool Commission and Pool Manager are responsible for recreational programming at that facility. In addition to the Pool Manager, the facility employs about 10 staff on a part-time seasonal basis.
- Recreation programming in the Bella Coola Valley was formerly the responsibility of the Bella Coola Valley Parks and Recreation Commission. The Commission is not currently active; however, the former Chairperson continues to work with CCRD staff on a volunteer basis to coordinate local recreation programs with the assistance of other

community volunteers. Programs offered at Sir Alexander Mackenzie Secondary School (SAMSS) are delivered through a joint use agreement with the School District.

- The Denny Island Recreation Commission is responsible for delivering recreation programs on Denny Island. The Commission does not employ any staff, nor does it operate a facility.

### **➤ Who makes decisions?**

#### **Bella Coola Recreation**

As with all services, the full Board makes decisions regarding financial matters and bylaws establishing services. Operational and administrative decisions for the Bella Coola recreation service are also made by the entire Board. Programming and operational decisions regarding the service were formerly made by the Bella Coola Parks and Recreation Commission. Instead the Board receives advice and assistance from the former Commission Chairperson, as well as the CCRD Manager of Public Works.

#### **Centennial Swimming Pool**

The CCRD created a Centennial Swimming Pool Commission that is delegated authority to operate the pool, including programming. The Commission is made up of 7 voting volunteer members who serve 1-year terms. All questions before the commissions are decided by a majority vote. The commission also provides advice to the Board of Directors on matters related to the pool.

#### **Denny Island Recreation**

The CCRD created a Denny Island Recreation Commission to administer and operate the recreation service. The CCRD Board appoints the Commission which is made up of 5 voting members, who serve 2-year terms. One Commission member is appointed by the CCRD Board as the regional representative, and the remainder are appointed from interested volunteers from the community. The Commission has delegated authority to organize leisure activities and recreation programs on behalf of the community, but requires authorization from either the CCRD's Chief Financial Officer or Chief Administrative Officer for expenditures over \$500, which is the case with all spending authorities.

➤ **What is spent by the CCRD on the services?**

The total cost of regional parks and trails, community facilities and recreational programming can be broken down into:

- 2016 budgeted cost for Bella Coola Parks and Recreation service (includes the 3 regional parks and recreation programming);
- 2016 capital costs of the Walker Island concession construction and servicing;
- 2016 budgeted cost of the Centennial swimming pool, including facility maintenance; and,
- 2016 budgeted cost of the Denny Island recreation service.

The amounts in Figure 2 represent the total cost of these services, including transfers to asset replacement and landfill closure reserves. The amount shown is therefore not the portion that residents pay for through user fees or taxes. Furthermore, while the amounts are shown for the completion of the Walker Island concession, this one-time item was not funded entirely through the recreation service, but rather through the Community Works Fund (gas tax). That fund, and how it is spent, is explained and referenced in further detail in the *Administration Fact Sheet*.

| Service Component                           | Cost <sup>1</sup> |
|---|-------------------|
| Bella Coola Recreation Service <sup>2</sup> | \$62,632          |
| Walker Island Concession <sup>3</sup>       | \$53,800          |
| Centennial Swimming Pool                    | \$117,624         |
| Denny Island Recreation Service             | \$17,762          |
| <b>Total</b>                                | <b>\$251,818</b>  |

1 Costs are from 2016-2020 Financial Plan  
2 Includes 3 regional parks  
3 The Walker Island concession was funded through the Community Works Fund (gas tax). This fund is explained in greater detail in the *Administration Fact Sheet*.

In addition to the service costs, the CCRD also established asset replacement reserve accounts for the recreation services in 2014; these are shown in

Figure 3, together with the accumulated surplus for each service, which is often used to fund future years' expenditures without the need to raise taxes.

The CCRD is in the process of obtaining engineering reports and cost estimates for replacement or refurbishment of the Centennial Pool. The project is expected to cost well in excess of the funding currently available in reserves or surplus.

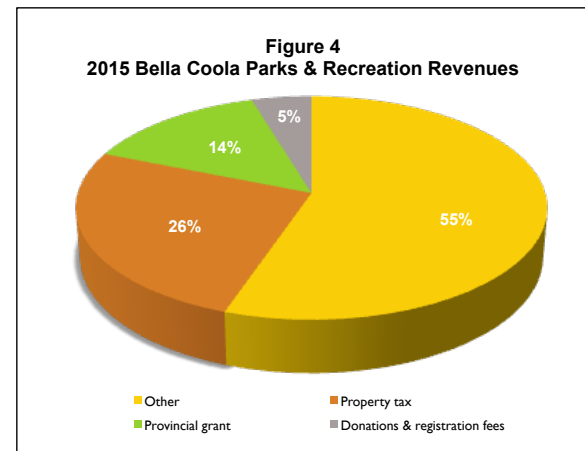
| Fund                                      | Total <sup>1</sup> |
|---|--------------------|
| Asset Replacement Fund - Bella Coola Rec. | \$1,402            |
| Accumulated surplus - Bella Coola Rec.    | \$18,736           |
| Asset Replacement Fund - Centennial Pool  | \$5,724            |
| Accumulated surplus - Centennial Pool     | \$33,341           |
| Asset Replacement Fund - Denny Isl. Rec.  | \$445              |
| Accumulated surplus - Denny Island Rec.   | \$17,145           |

1 Reserve and surplus totals are as at the end of 2015.

➤ **How are the costs recovered?**

**Bella Coola Parks & Recreation**

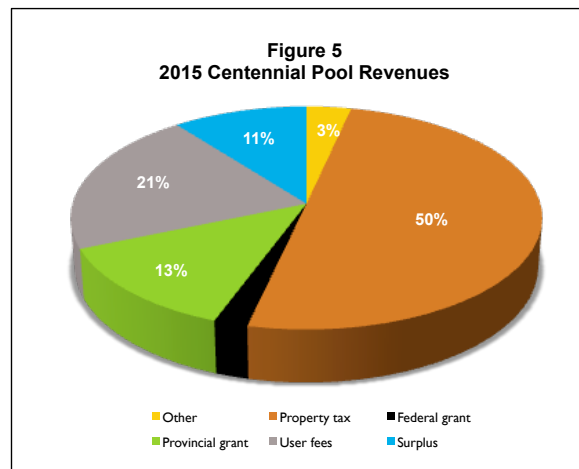
In 2016, the costs of the Bella Coola Community Parks and Recreation service (\$62,632) are to be recovered from properties in Electoral Areas C, D and E through a combination of property taxes based on converted assessment for land and improvements, as well as fees and charges, grants and donations, and prior year's surplus. In 2015 the service received a \$30,000 grant from Northern Development Initiative Trust for the concession at



Walker Island Regional Park (shown as “other” revenue in Figure 4). In addition, \$53,800 from the Community Works Fund was allocated to complete the Walker Island concession. The budgeted cost of the Bella Coola Parks and Recreation service is expected to drop in future years to approximately \$28,500 annually, once surpluses are depleted.

### Centennial Pool

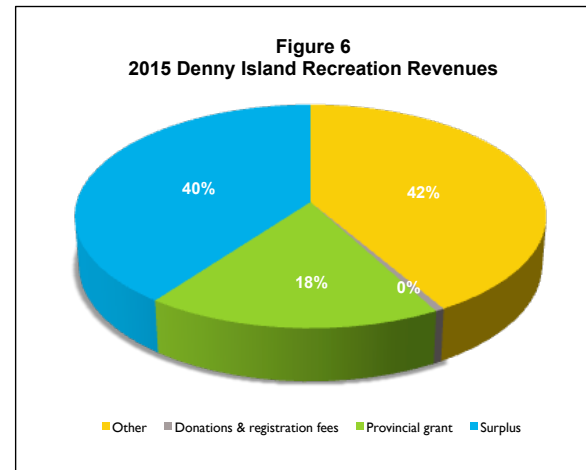
In 2016, the costs of the Centennial Pool (\$117,624) will be recovered through a combination of property taxes based on converted assessment for land and improvements applied to properties in electoral areas C, D and E (45%), fees and charges (14%), grants and donations, counter sales and prior year’s surplus (27%). Figure 5 shows the percentage of the revenue sources for 2015. There are not currently any agreements in place between the CCRD and the Nuxalk Nation regarding the pool or any other recreational facilities in the Bella Coola Valley (either owned by the CCRD or Nuxalk).



### Denny Island Recreation

In 2016, the costs of the Denny Island recreation service (\$17,762) will be recovered through a combination of property taxes based on converted assessment for land and improvements applied to properties in Electoral Area A (23%); grants and donations (9%); and, prior surpluses (68%). In 2015, the cost of the service was \$9,221 and property taxes weren’t used to pay for the service (see Figure 6) due in part to the use of previous years’ surplus. The newly appointed commission plans to host some health and wellness workshops in 2016 which will require the use of some property taxes. The budgeted cost of the Denny

Island recreation service is expected to drop to approximately \$7,500 in 2017 and \$5,750 for each of the three years thereafter, depending on the availability of surpluses to fund operations.



### ➤ What is the cost to the typical resident?

The net cost of CCRD parks, trails and recreational services depends on where within the region a property is located. All residences throughout Areas C, D and E assessed at \$150,000 paid approximately \$21 in taxes in 2016 for the Bella Coola community parks and recreation service, along with \$62 in taxes for the Centennial Pool. Residences in Area A assessed at \$150,000 paid \$7 for the Denny Island recreation service. Area B does not pay into any CCRD parks, trails or recreational services. User fees also apply in relation to specific recreational programs.

| Service                        | Tax Req. <sup>2</sup> | Res. Rate | Total |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-------|
| Bella Coola P & R <sup>3</sup> | \$17,772              | 0.1382    | \$21  |
| Centennial Pool <sup>3</sup>   | \$53,000              | 0.4121    | \$62  |
| Denny Island Rec. <sup>4</sup> | \$4,000               | 0.0442    | \$7   |

<sup>1</sup> Impact is calculated on a home assessed at \$150,000  
<sup>2</sup> Tax requisition amount excludes 5.25% Surveyor of Taxes fee  
<sup>3</sup> Within Electoral Areas C, D and E  
<sup>4</sup> Within Electoral Area A