



Press Release

CITY PLANS TO OPEN FIRST DOG OFF-LEASH AREA THIS FALL

Port Coquitlam, BC – JULY 28, 2009 ... In response to longtime public demand, the City of Port Coquitlam is developing its first dog off-leash area in Shaughnessy Park. The off-leash area is set to open this fall in the 3300-block of Shaughnessy Street, across from Chester Place.

“The City has had numerous requests for an dog off-leash area over the years, so this will meet a longtime need,” said Ron Myers, Manager of Parks Planning & Design. “We also expect it to diminish off-leash conflicts in our other parks, which means everyone in the community will benefit.”

A dog off-leash area was identified as a significant need when the City collected public input for the 2007 Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan. The plan recommends the development of two dog off-leash areas. The need was further reinforced in a customer survey conducted last fall by the Parks and Recreation Department.

The planned off-leash area will be more than half a hectare (more than an acre) in size and include:

- a parking lot
- a double-gated entry area
- an enclosed area with a 45-metre-long trail circuit
- a 292-metre-long unfenced forested trail circuit
- benches
- garbage receptacle for litter and dog waste
- possibly a water fountain for both dogs and their owners

To assist in developing the off-leash area, the City is now soliciting public input into details such as:

- fence height
- materials and surfaces
- park management options
- amenities

Interested residents can visit www.portcoquitlam.ca/dogpark to learn more about this project, fill out an online survey or join in an online discussion forum.

Questions or comments can also be directed to Ron Myers, Manager of Parks Planning & Design, at 604-927-7920 or myersr@portcoquitlam.ca.

- 30 -

MEDIA CONTACT:

Ron Myers
Manager of Parks Planning & Design
City of Port Coquitlam
tel.: 604-927-7920
e-mail: myersr@portcoquitlam.ca

www.portcoquitlam.ca