



TRI-CITY NEWS PHOTO

Port Coquitlam's bike skills park is now in use, with the official opening on October 13.

New bike skills park popular

Bike riders of all ages and skill levels are already making good use of Port Coquitlam's new bike skills park, which will have its official opening on October 13.

Located on Shaughnessy Street north of Prairie Avenue, the bike park includes technical features marked for beginner, intermediate and advanced riders, including:

- a start mound with progressive drops and sloped log rides;
- a beginner area with entry-level obstacles including log ride, ramped log crossing, step bridge, ladder decks at grade, rock box and teeter totter;
- an intermediate square complex with obstacles including skinnies, teeter totter, ramps, dirt jumps and log rides; and
- a wall ride and skate zone with quarter pipes and spine.

"We're getting beginners to advanced riders – lots of kids and parents going to watch,

which was the intent," said Glenn Mitzel, Area Recreation Manager. "It's another thing for kids to do in this community and get active."

About 60 volunteers attended two community work days this summer to help shape the park's technical features. The events give park users a sense of ownership, Mitzel said, and the plan is to hold four community work days each year to maintain the park.

The Parks and Recreation Department has also been dedicating some staff time on weekends to help users get to know the park.

Official Opening on October 13

This free family event runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The fun starts with Norco Performance Bikes' technical performance riders, who will be on site throughout the event. Other activities include a ribbon cutting and speeches at 11 a.m., a barbecue, displays and a draw for a Norco performance bicycle.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Citizen participation makes a difference

In Port Coquitlam, our mission is to work with our citizens to create a healthy, vibrant and caring community. Consequently, we don't just pay lip service to the notion of public consultation and involvement. The citizens of Port Coquitlam contribute in a very real way to how this community grows, to what services it offers, and even to that intangible small-town feeling we all enjoy here.

How do they do it? In many ways: by attending open houses and public meetings, by sitting on committees, by taking an interest in Council matters, by participating in surveys, and by volunteering.

The City welcomes citizen involvement of all kinds, as it helps us set our priorities and keeps us accountable to the people we are working for. We understand that everyone's opinion matters, as we're all trying to do what's best for our community.

In the coming weeks, there will be plenty of opportunities for you to participate in your City, including the following sessions that are covered in more depth in this edition of



the City of Port Coquitlam *Update*:

- RCMP public consultation session on October 3;
- Coast Meridian Overpass project public open house on October 10;
- Zoning Bylaw Update open houses on October 15 and October 29; and
- former City Works Yard redevelopment proposal open house and public meeting on October 17.

Our new bike skills park, featured on this page, is another great example of public involvement. Dozens of volunteers attended two community work sessions this summer – in one case, braving miserable weather – to create a top-notch recreational attraction that is already getting plenty of use by bikers of all skill levels. It's a shining example of what we can achieve when the City and our citizens work together.

If you already regularly participate in City activities, I thank you and hope to see more of you. If the idea of citizen involvement is new to you, I urge you to join in and discover the rewards of helping your hometown grow and prosper.

Mayor Scott Young

Fire Prevention Week 2007: Practice your Escape Plan!

As part of Fire Prevention Week October 7-13, Port Coquitlan Fire & Emergency Services is asking all local households to create and practice their escape plan.

Tips for creating a fire escape plan:

- Draw a floor plan or map of your home. Show all doors and windows.
- Mark two ways out of each room.
- Mark the location of all smoke alarms. They should be in each sleeping room, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home.
- Pick a place outside where everyone can meet.
- **Remember, it's important that the entire family practice the plan at least twice a year!**



For more information about Fire Prevention Week or fire safety, visit www.portcoquitlam.ca or call 604.927.5466.

Capital Works projects keep our City moving

Each year, the City completes a number of road projects aimed at improving access for Port Coquitlam citizens.

Projects for 2007 include a road rehabilitation program that reconstructs approximately 20,000 square metres of local, collector and arterial roads, including pavement resurfacing, drainage improvements, and repair and upgrading of the sanitary sewer and water supply systems where needed.

This year's list included work on:

- Shaughnessy Street between Pitt River Road and Welcher Avenue;
- Oxford Street from Galer Avenue north past the Port Coquitlam Cemetery;
- Birkshire Place, from Liverpool Street east to end;
- 4000-block Liverpool Street (Greenmount Avenue north);
- Humber Crescent from Eastern Drive to Lamprey Drive (fronts Mary Hill Elementary School and Robert Hope Park);
- Claudia Place from Eastern Drive north to end;
- upgraded north-south gravel lane east of the 3700-block Cedar Drive; and
- upgraded Argue Street from Pitt River Road east to end.

Other locations where the City made improvements include:

- trunk sanitary sewer upgrade on Kelly Avenue from Mary Hill Road to Reeve Street;
- trunk watermain upgrade on Saskatchewan Avenue at Ricard Place;
- completion of fibre-optic network between City Hall and the Operations Centre;

- stormwater settlement pond at Colodin Place;
- watermain upgrade and asphalt pedestrian path on Lincoln Avenue between Coast Meridian Road and Wellington Street;
- watermain upgrade on Laurier Avenue from Devon Road east 900 metres;
- upgrade of water supply pressure-reducing station on Confederation Drive;
- ditch enclosure and gravel pedestrian path on Greenmount Avenue between Coast Meridian Road and Wellington Street;
- raising of the Pitt River dike and the Coquitlam River dike;
- completed floodplain modeling for emergency response planning, and established new allowable building elevations in low-lying neighbourhoods;
- upgraded traffic signals at Kingsway and Wilson avenues;
- installed enhanced pedestrian crosswalks at Wilson Avenue and Donald Street, and at Citadel and Confederation drives;
- improved driveway access to Hyde Creek Salmon Hatchery; and
- completed construction of Dominion Avenue from Ottawa Street east to the Pitt River dike.

New Waste Disposal Rules Coming in January

Cities in Metro Vancouver will be subject to new waste disposal rules on January 1, 2008, including a ban on throwing recyclable or returnable items into the garbage. Part of the regional Zero Waste Challenge, the rules aim to encourage more recycling and reduce waste going to landfills. For details, visit www.gvrd.bc.ca/zerowaste.



Some 20,000 square metres of roads are being upgraded this year in Port Coquitlam.

Four opportunities for input into City functions, projects

RCMP PUBLIC CONSULTATION

October 3, 6-9 p.m.

Port Coquitlam City Hall - Council Chambers
2580 Shaughnessy Street

This session will give residents the chance to get informed and get involved in the key public safety issues in their community.

Superintendent Pete Lepine and a team of representatives from Coquitlam RCMP are hosting a series of Town Hall meetings to update the community on local policing initiatives related to issues such as:

- Youth
- Crime reduction strategies
- Traffic safety

Come find out what your local police are doing to help make Port Coquitlam a healthy, vibrant and safe community in which to live, work and play.

Each meeting will include a presentation by Coquitlam RCMP, followed by a question and answer period. Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information, please contact Coquitlam RCMP at 604-945-1550.

COAST MERIDIAN OVERPASS PROJECT OPEN HOUSE

October 10, 6-8 p.m.

Terry Fox Secondary School - foyer
1260 Riverwood Gate

The public is invited to attend an Open House for the Coast Meridian Overpass project on Wednesday, October 10, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the foyer at Terry Fox Secondary School (1260 Riverwood Gate).

The proposed four-lane overpass will triple the north-south transportation capacity in Port Coquitlam by providing a third crossing of the Canadian Pacific Railway yard. The project is currently in the tender stage and bids are scheduled for submission on October 18, 2007.

Following a comprehensive technical and financial review, Port Coquitlam City Council will review the qualifying bids and funding sources for the Design-Build contract in early November. The construction of the Coast Meridian Overpass project is scheduled to begin in early 2008.

The October 10 Open House will provide information on improvements to the preliminary design based on feedback received at or after the May 31 Open House. These include modifications to landscaping treatments, design and location of the acoustic walls and a preliminary design of the preferred linear park option.

All interested residents, homeowners and business owners are invited to attend the Open House and provide feedback to the City.

For more information about the project, please visit www.portcoquitlam.ca/cmo or contact Dave Currie, Manager of Transportation at 604-927-5205.

CITY WORKS SITE OPEN HOUSE AND PUBLIC MEETING

October 17, 5:30-9 p.m.

The Outlet, Art Workroom, #2100-2253 Leigh Square

At this session, interested residents and stakeholders can comment on development proposals for the City Works Site at 2170 Kelly Avenue and 2380-90 Mary Hill Road. In July, the City selected four well-known development firms to submit detailed proposals for the purchase and development of 4.3 acres of downtown property owned by the City. The City envisions a sustainable, mixed-use development, including high-rise and townhouse residential units with a range of housing types, sizes and prices, as well as retail, community amenity and daycare space.

The development proposals were to be submitted to the City by September 28, 2007. The October 17 public consultation session will include an open house format (5:30-9 p.m.) and formal public presentations from each developer (7-8:30 p.m.). The public will be given an opportunity to ask questions of the developers and provide feedback on the proposals.

This fall, the City will release another land sale opportunity at 2560 Pitt River Road, a two-acre site near the downtown zoned for townhouse development. A Request for Proposals is expected to be released in mid-October and will be available for download at www.portcoquitlam.ca/landsales.

ZONING BYLAW UPDATE PUBLIC CONSULTATION

October 15, 2-8:30 p.m.: entire bylaw

October 29, 2-8:30 p.m.: small-lot zone

The Outlet, 2253 Leigh Square (access also from 2248 McAllister Avenue)

The Planning Division has begun to update the City's Zoning Bylaw to implement policy directives of our new Official Community Plan and address a variety of technical issues. The Zoning Bylaw sets out accepted uses and development densities for the various types of properties in the City, including residential, commercial, industrial and institutional.

Because the existing bylaw has not been updated for many years and is frequently being amended, it is now out of date, hard to use and in need of a thorough overhaul. The new bylaw will be user-friendly, clear and consistent, current, flexible and manageable. It will reflect the City today and help the community achieve its vision for the future. The new bylaw:

- uses a new format with tables and defined terms;
- adds new zones: a small-lot zone regulating 33-foot lots and a Parks and Recreation zone;
- consolidates zones: Neighbourhood, Community and Town Centre Commercial zones in a new Community Commercial Zone; and Business Park and Advanced Technology zones in an updated Light Industrial zone (M3); and
- incorporates Comprehensive Development zones.

The October 15 session will focus on the overall Zoning Bylaw Update process and specific changes, while the October 29 session will focus on the new small-lot zone. Both include presentations at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m., followed by a question/answer period.

There will be further opportunities for public input, including a public hearing, when Council considers the new Zoning Bylaw in 2008.

Upgrades made to parks facilities

Users of Hyde Creek Recreation Centre's pool facilities are probably noticing some of the new upgrades following the biannual maintenance closure from August 17 to September 15.

The closure was necessary for maintenance and upgrades that could not take place when the pool and amenities contained water or were in use.

While some other municipalities conduct maintenance closures annually, Port Coquitlam has opted for a biannual schedule to reduce the impact on the community. In addition, this year Centennial and Robert Hope Pools were kept open into September to provide residents with recreation alternatives during the closure.

During the closure, crews:

- drained and painted the leisure pools and hot tub;
- replaced water lines over steam room and sauna, and replaced the steam room ceiling;
- completely rebuilt the sauna;
- added all new showers and tiling in the men's and women's pool change rooms;
- replaced the tiles in the lap pool and rerouted the pool bottom;
- replaced the valves and main pumps in the pit (sump pump);

- replaced the filter sand in the leisure pool filters and hot tub filter;
- repaired all overhead lighting over both the lap pool and leisure pool;
- replaced wharf ropes; and
- installed a new Hydeaway youth centre sign.

Still in progress is the replacement of the 35-year-old gym floor. That project is set to be completed by mid-October.

Gates Park Tennis Courts

Renovations completed in August consisted of: surfacing, fencing, nets, posts and benches to the six tennis courts and practice areas.

An additional picnic area was added in the north-west corner of this facility.

Playground Upgrades

As part of the Parks and Recreation Department's long-term capital replacement program, two new playgrounds were installed.

The Robert Hope playground is designed for children ages 2-5, while the Gates Park playground is for children ages 6-12.



Upgrades during the recent maintenance closure at Hyde Creek Recreation Centre included new paint in the hot tub.

It's fall: time to clean those catch basins

The combination of falling leaves and falling rain can lead to clogged catch basins – which can create flooding.

Property owners in Port Coquitlam can help prevent flooding by regularly cleaning leaves and other debris from their catch basin grates.

Did you know that many of the City's catch basins are connected to drainage systems that discharge into environmentally sensitive fish-bearing streams?

That's a good reason to keep oil, paint and other contaminants away from catch basins.

Please report any damaged catch basins to the Operations Division by calling 604-927-5488 or 604-927-5480.



Leaves can clog catch basins and cause flooding.

Free emergency preparedness courses offered to Port Coquitlam residents

Families should be prepared to sustain themselves without aid for 72 hours in an emergency situation, including power failures, storms, floods or earthquakes.

To ensure its citizens are prepared, the City of Port Coquitlam's Emergency Preparedness Program offers free courses throughout the year.

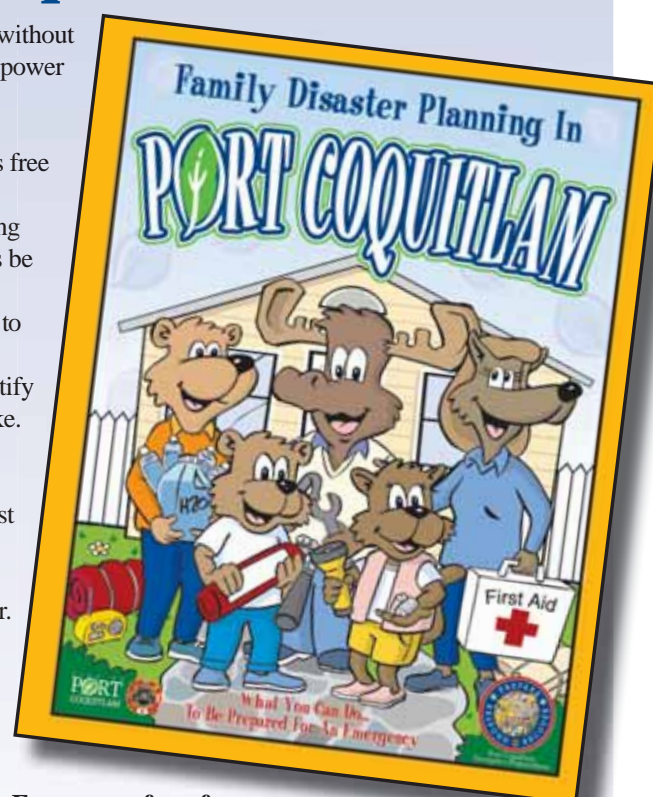
The next set of courses is in November. If registering for more than one, it is recommended that the courses be taken in the following order:

- November 20: Personal Family Preparedness – how to help yourself and others after a disaster.
- November 22: Rapid Damage Assessment – identify if your house is safe to occupy after an earthquake.
- November 27: Basic Fire Suppression – includes hands-on fire extinguisher training.
- November 28: First Aid Awareness – learn the first steps in how to assist until professionals arrive.
- November 29: Basic Light Urban Search and Rescue – helping someone trapped after a disaster.

All courses are offered from 7 to 9 p.m. at Port Coquitlam Fire & Emergency Services' No. 1 Hall, located at 1725 Broadway Street.

Residents are also encouraged to participate in the Neighbourhood Preparedness Program, which teaches neighbourhoods how to plan and train to respond as a team in a disaster.

To register, volunteer or find out more, phone 604.927.5466 or visit www.portcoquitlam.ca.



For a copy of our free Family Disaster Planning Guide, please call 604.927.5466 or drop by No. 1 Hall, 1725 Broadway St.

Citizens sought for council committees

Do you want to help make a lasting difference in your community?

Port Coquitlam City Council is now accepting applications from local residents interested in serving their community as a citizen advisor to a Council committee or as a volunteer member of a task force or advisory committee.

Current volunteer opportunities include:

- Board of Variance member;
- Canada Day Task Force member;
- Citizen Advisor to the Environmental Protection Committee;
- Citizen Advisor to the Health & Social Issues Committee;
- Citizen Advisor to the Parks & Recreation Committee;
- Joint Family Court & Restorative Youth Justice Committee member;
- May Day Task Force member; and
- Youth Advisory Committee member.

Volunteer applications must be submitted to the Mayor's Office by Friday, October 26.

The 2007 appointments will be announced at a council meeting in November.

Applications and more information – including eligibility requirements and terms of reference – are available at www.portcoquitlam.ca, from City Hall (2580 Shaughnessy Street) or by calling 604-927-5410.

Kids: do you love your City?

Children in Grades 1-8 are invited to take part in the 2007 I Love My City - Port Coquitlam essay contest. In the essays, contestants explain what they love about Port Coquitlam.

The contest deadline is October 19, 2007. Winners will be announced at a council meeting later this year and prizes will be handed out.

Essay forms and more information are available at www.portcoquitlam.ca.



Discover Port Coquitlam... welcome to your City!

If you have recently moved into the area, we welcome you to visit and experience one of our many facilities and pick up your New Resident Packet.

This informative pouch will walk you through our many parks and trails, invite you to our recreation facilities, and encourage you to take part in and discover your new home.

Please pick up your pouch at any of the following locations:

- City Hall, 2580 Shaughnessy St., 604-927-5411
- Hyde Creek Recreation Complex (Pool), 1379 Laurier Ave. 604-927-7946

- Port Coquitlam Recreation Centre (Arena), 2150 Wilson Ave. 604-927-7970
- Terry Fox Library, 2470 Mary Hill Rd. 604-927-7999

Enter to Win at the City Info Booth

The public has two great opportunities to win a performance bicycle. Visitors to the City Info Tent



at the Rivers & Trails Festival held in Peace Park on September 30 and at the Harvest Festival in the Leigh Square Community Arts Village on October 6 can enter to win a silver 18-speed Injector bike from Norco Performance Bikes for riders 9 to 12 years old.

The bike will be presented at the opening of our new Bike Skills Park on Oct. 13 (see the article on the cover of *Update*).

At the Info Booth, City staff can also give you your New Resident Packet and help you find any information you need about the City of Port Coquitlam's services and amenities.

Port Coquitlam GETS WALKING!

Lace up your sneakers and join this free all-ages walking program. Get fit, meet new friends and explore your community!

Features of the outdoor walking program:

- Free, drop-in sessions;
- Led by volunteer walk leaders;
- Walks are 30-60 minutes long and leave from downtown and the Hyde Creek Recreation Centre; and
- Various dates and times available.

The walk routes are determined by the walk leaders. In addition to regular walks, there are special family walks (about 30 minutes long and at a slower pace - everyone welcome), and youth walks (for ages 12-17, led by youth volunteers).

For the walk schedule or for more information, please visit www.portcoquitlam.ca or call 604-927-7915.



The Halloween Howl on October 27 is one of several fun family events happening this fall in Port Coquitlam.

Events aplenty this fall

Hardly a month goes by in Port Coquitlam without some sort of community activity or festival. Once again this fall, a number of free or low-cost public events will be hosted by the City and local community organizations.

These events are a good way to learn more about your City, meet your neighbours and feel some PoCo Pride.

Please mark your calendar with these dates:

- **Harvest Festival** – October 6, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Leigh Square Community Arts Village in downtown Port Coquitlam: Hosted by the Business Improvement Association and features entertainment, food, arts and crafts, amusement rides for the children, clowns, dog agility and more. Free.
- **Halloween Howl** – October 27, 1 to 8 p.m. at Hyde Creek Recreation Centre. All-day fun and activities for children and adults. Tickets are \$5 (kids under age three are free) and available at Hyde Creek. Information: 604-927-7946.
- **Hyde Creek Salmon Festival** – November 18, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Hyde Creek Recreation Centre (1379 Laurier Ave.) and Hyde Creek Education Centre (3636 Coast Meridian Rd.): This free event, hosted by the City and Hyde Creek Watershed Society, celebrates the salmon as they return to their spawning grounds. Enjoy activities for all ages, including nature walks, educational displays, hatchery information, site tours, children's activities and a first-hand look at the salmon in Hyde Creek.
- **Christmas in Leigh Square** – December 1, 4 p.m. at Leigh Square (next to City Hall off Shaughnessy Street): Hosted by the City, this fun free family event includes music, hot chocolate and treats, kids crafts and the annual lighting of City Hall.

Try our many online City services

Did you know that many City services and sources of information are available online?

The City's website, www.portcoquitlam.ca, is a comprehensive guide to City services, news, programs and activities. It also links residents to a number of time-saving online programs, including:

- PoCoMAP – our interactive mapping tool;
- Electronic Home Owner Grants – apply to claim your grant online;
- Community Calendar – listings and

information about important City events, meetings and public input sessions;

- Online Payments – Renew your dog or business licence over the internet; and
- Service Requests, Complaints and Compliments – use our online form or find the contact details for the department.

And don't forget to visit www.experienceit.ca, where you can register for or learn about Parks and Recreation programs.

CITY CONTACTS

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY CONTACT	604-543-6700	FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES	604-927-5466
BUILDING PERMITS & INSPECTIONS	604-927-5444	<i>Emergency Calls Only</i>	9-1-1
24-Hour Request Line	604-927-5445	GARBAGE/RECYCLING COLLECTION	604-927-5488
BUSINESS LICENCES	604-927-5238	HYDE CREEK RECREATION CENTRE	604-927-7946
BYLAW ENFORCEMENT	604-927-5440	LEIGH SQUARE COMMUNITY ARTS VILLAGE	604-927-8400
CEMETERY	604-927-5251	MAYOR & COUNCILLORS	604-927-5410
COMMUNITY POLICE STATIONS		OPERATIONS (Drainage/flood control; roads & lanes; sanitary, sewer; sidewalks, street lighting & traffic; signal outages, traffic inquiries, water system)	604-927-5488
3312 Coast Meridian	604-927-5451	<i>Emergency – After Hours</i>	604-543-6700
2581 Mary Hill Road	604-927-2383	POLICE (RCMP)	604-945-1550
DOG LICENCES	604-927-5425	<i>Emergency Calls Only</i>	9-1-1
EMPLOYMENT INQUIRIES	604-927-5479	PORT COQUITLAM RECREATION COMPLEX	604-927-7970
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR	604-927-5466	PROPERTY TAXES & UTILITY PAYMENTS	604-927-5425
FACILITY BOOKINGS	604-927-7903	VECTOR CONTROL (Pest Control)	604-927-5447
FIELD CLOSURES	604-927-5455	WILSON CENTRE (Seniors Centre)	604-927-7970