

Dog Park Project – Community Correspondence emailed/mail between November 16-25, 2020

Suggestions for small off-leash dog parks in downtown core area (For increased accessibility and lower cost).

- Old skateboard park behind the Harold Simpson Centre
- Greenspace in front of the museum
- Memorial Park
 - In front of hillside between children's playground and horseshoe pitch
 - Along Wharton St, in front of horseshoe pitch, near Victoria Road

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Regarding dogs and the proposed Powell Beach Park leash free dog run

1. Birds

Several times each Spring we walk to the park to catch glimpses of the owls and the progression of their nest, the hatching , and care and feeding of their young. As far as I know, the only identified nesting space in Trout Creek for these rara avis.

Neither the tree nor the owls would survive here if this area became a dog run. I remember a painting displayed at the first BC Festival of the Arts, conveniently held in Penticton. One painting offended me terribly. A work showing a deforested hillside with a logger at the ready to fell the one remaining tree. And that is when I looked at the title of the painting. "That's the BC Spirit". To fell a nesting tree or disturb the birds in the nests in Powell Beach Park begs the question *Is that the Summerland Spirit?*

2.Excrement

My understanding of a dog "run" is a place that allows many animals within a confined space. What happens to all the dog poop? I know from experience that many folks do not pick up their own dog's poop in the main part of the park or beach now, and I see no reason that would change. Which leads me to:

3 Smell

My husband and I moved to Trout Creek in 2002. Next to our house was an old house which we later discovered was a Cattery, with over 100 cats. At first we thought the odor would be temporary (perhaps someone was using manure) so we just moved inside. It was only later we discovered the smell was emanating from the excrement in the garbage cans that volunteers had put out. My guess is that 100 small cats would likely poop a lot less than hundreds of dogs that proponents are suggesting would use the dog run. People use the park for peace and quiet, tennis, walking, playing, learning from nature, training for various sports, using playground equipment, family picnics, hot dog roasts, softball games, yoga in the park. And much more. Fresh, odorless air is expected and needed. None come for the smell and noise of barking dogs.

Yesterday as I did my laps at the park I saw the usual huge piles of poop. Much too big for geese. Perhaps that is from one of the many dogs that are turned loose by a dog walker in the park almost daily? How many others would do the same if they are already at the park?

May Street , Nixon Avenue and Powell Beach Road border Powell **B**each Park. The homes there are closer to the possible dog park than we were to the cattery.

I urge you to leave Powell Beach Park (given to the **people** of Summerland by the Powell family) alone. It is the only park in Trout Creek.

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I really would like to be acknowledged that Powell Beach Park has mitigation concerns. I support baseball/softball in the field but NO outfield fencing. I like a multi use park and want to preserve our limited green space in TC.

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