

***Disclaimer: These minutes were prepared as a reasonable summary of the essential content of this meeting, not as a transcription.***



**Minutes of the Parks, Recreation, and Culture Advisory Committee Meeting**

**February 29, 2024, 3:00 PM**

**Meadows Room**

**12007 Harris Road, Pitt Meadows, BC V3Y 2B5**

**Voting Members:**

L. Bissett  
H. Campbell  
M. Carpenter  
S. Sweet  
S. Williams

**Regrets:**

D. Chamberlain, Director, Parks, Recreation & Culture  
R. Harmston  
L. Woolley

**Staff:**

A. Messner, Manager of Parks [Chair]  
C. McDowell, Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture  
O. Huppe, Parks Operations, Supervisor  
M. Baski, Project Manager, Agriculture and Environment, Planning

**Recording Clerk**

V. Reid, Committee Clerk II

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A. Messner, Manager of Parks, acknowledged that the meeting was held on the traditional territory of the ᑭᓴᓴᑦ (Katzie) First Nation.

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 PM

**2. LATE ITEMS**

None.

### **3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

There was general consent amongst the Committee to approve the February 29, 2024 Parks, Recreation and Culture Advisory Committee agenda.

### **4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

There was general consent amongst the Committee to approve the minutes from the following meetings as circulated:

4.1 April 20, 2023 Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee Minutes

4.2 October 19, 2023 Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee Minutes

### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **5.1 Urban Forestry Plan**

M. Baski, Project Manager, Agriculture and Environment, provided a presentation on the Urban Forestry Plan.

The Committee participated in a roundtable discussion, including the following main themes:

- The City of Pitt Meadows does not currently have a forestry plan; with the consideration of community engagement, the process of creating a strategic implementation plan is underway;
- Several local public events have been held to provide education to the public about trees; as well as informational boards posted in City parks to bring awareness to the public;
- The current tree canopy cover in the City of Pitt Meadows is considered inadequate;
- The plan has four main goals:
  1. Protect the existing urban forest from further decline;
  2. Improve the management of the existing urban forest in parks and on publicly-owned lands;
  3. Grow the urban forest canopy cover;
  4. Partner with the community to foster stewardship and ownership of the urban forest plan;
- City of Pitt Meadows does not currently have a tree bylaw;

- The goal of the strategy is for the City of Pitt Meadows to have a 30% tree canopy, which equates to 11,500 trees; currently the City has a canopy of 17% on residential land and public parks combined;
- The Committee asked M. Baski to return to a future PRC meeting and give an update.

## **5.2 2024 Committee Recruitment Campaign & Membership Expiration**

V. Reid, Committee Clerk II, provided details of the 2024 Committee recruitment campaign and information about re-application for members with an April 1, 2024 term expiration.

### **Summary for PRC:**

- Voting Members in Good Standing with Terms Expiring March 31, 2024:
  - Lindsey Bissett (resident with experiential knowledge of inclusiveness)
  - Richard Harmston (MAL)
  - Sean Sweet (MAL)
- Voting Members in Good Standing with Terms Expiring March 31, 2025:
  - Hudson Campbell (youth/young adult)
  - Miranda Carpenter (MAL)
  - Shauna Williams (MAL)
  - Laurie Wooley (MAL)
- Terms of Reference for the PRC state:
  - Up to eight (8) voting members, with 2 or 3 year staggered terms, including:
  - One (1) member with experiential knowledge of inclusiveness and accessibility;
  - One (1) youth or young adult;
  - One (1) representative from Katzie First Nation (“KFN”), nominated by KFN’s Chief Administrative Officer; and
  - Up to five (5) members from the general public, who have an interest in parks, landscape architecture/parks planning, arts, culture and/or recreation, or whose organization provides services in Pitt Meadows and holds interest in one or more of these stated areas.
- It was shared that the PRC received ten (10) applications within two of the three sub-categories, with no applications received from a representative of the Katzie First Nation;
- D. Chamberlain, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture, is currently reviewing applications. Successful applicants will be notified and begin their term effective April 1, 2024.

### 5.3 2024 Business Plan

A. Messner, Manager of Parks, and C. McDowell, Manager of Recreation & Culture, provided information on the 2024 Business Plan for Parks, Recreation and Culture.

The Committee participated in a roundtable discussion, including the following main themes:

- Water Well at the Pitt Meadows Athletic Park [‘PMAP’]:
  - City of Pitt Meadows is working with an engineer to explore options for an irrigation water source at PMAP; a test well is to be dug to explore if there would be enough water underground to supply and sustain watering at this location independent from Metro Vancouver water supply;
  - It could take up to 8 years to get a water permit.
- Rose Grabenhorst Garden:
  - Phase 1 is complete:
    - The renovations to the Caretakers home are complete;
    - The creation of a parking lot is complete;
    - Four (4) of five (5) water retention ponds have been built;
    - The Heritage barn has been refurbished.
  - Phase 2 will include:
    - The last pond;
    - A place of remembrance to be designed and built;
    - Cedar-sided washroom building;
    - Picnic style covered shelter for teaching/eating/gathering;
    - Soft opening anticipated around Mothers Day 2025.
- Bonson Park Disc Golf Course:
  - Recent success of the ‘Pop Up Disc Golf’ event has inspired a desire from the community for access to a location for this newly popular sport;
  - Park improvements for disc golf at Bonson Park are underway and a design team is working with the City to ensure a natural aesthetic;
- Recreation:
  - Reviews continue on program continuity and facility booking accommodation for South Bonson Community Centre [‘SBCC’], to

- ensure the transition of the PMAG into the SBCC and existing bookings, rentals and programs aren't interrupted;
  - Osprey Village street light banners are scheduled to be installed in advance of the March 12<sup>th</sup> PMAG opening;
  - Staff are working on a Trail Map to encourage awareness of the trails available in Pitt Meadows; this map will be available online and in print form and utilize QR codes from the newly installed trail signs;
- Parkside Trail Improvements:
  - Upgrade to the small section of gravel pathway on the Parkside Trail; paving will take place so that the trail is entirely paved and aligns with the Golden Ears Business Park Multi-use Path expansion. The improvements also include expansion of stairs that connect up to Pitt Meadows Secondary School.

#### **5.4 Pitt Meadows Athletic Park Sport Box and Double-Turf Field**

A. Messner, Manager of Parks, provided information on the Pitt Meadows Athletic Park ['PMAP'] sport box and double-turf field.

The Committee participated in a roundtable discussion, including the following main themes:

- The expansion plan focuses on PMAP while no further plans to Harris Road Park, beyond the removal of baseball diamond #1;
- Concept designs include a double-sized turf field, seating and a covered sports box;
- Additional parking spaces also included.

#### **5.5 Aquatics Feasibility Study**

C. McDowell, Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, provided information on the Aquatics Feasibility Study.

The Committee participated in a roundtable discussion, including the following main themes:

- The Committee reviewed the presentation to Council on the Aquatic Feasibility Study;
  - A motion was passed by Mayor and Council to discontinue research for an indoor pool in Pitt Meadows;

- Revised budget concerns included an increase in costs per single family household would result in an increase of \$630 for an outdoor pool and \$1200 for an indoor pool.

## **5.6 Public Art Update**

C. McDowell, Manager of Recreation & Culture, provided an update on public art.

The Committee participated in a roundtable discussion, including the following main themes:

- Actively relocating the Pitt Meadows Art Gallery (PMAG) to the lower floor of the South Bonson Community Centre. PMAG opening is March 12, 2024 with a Rain Pierre exhibit;
  - PMAG will be open Tuesdays to Sundays, with weekly closures on Mondays and all statutory holidays.
  - Art Gallery shop will be available onsite as of March 12;
  - Link to current PMAG exhibitions and details for the opening: <https://www.pittmeadows.ca/arts-culture-heritage/pitt-meadows-art-gallery>
- Indigenous Arts Programs are being prepared to be offered for community members, such as a recent weaving workshop and drum making. Programs will be featured in the departmental program guide;
- There will be a mural by a local Katzie First Nation Artist installed on the exterior of the SBCC, which aligns with the PRC Master Plan to identify opportunities to integrate public art into the community;
  - Mural is intended to be installed on the windows on the SBCC before the March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 opening;

## **5.7 Sponsorship of City Assets and Facility Naming Policies**

This item was DEFERRED to a future dated PRC meeting pending the finalized policies.

## **6. ROUNDTABLE**

The Committee participated in a roundtable discussion however, there were no formal motions or recommendations put forward.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

The next **Parks, Recreation & Culture Advisory Committee** meeting is scheduled for **April 18th, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.**

**Certified as correct:**

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Vanessa Reid, Committee Clerk II

# Intro to the Urban Forest Strategy

PRCAC Update

February 29, 2024



## Intent of the Urban Forest Strategy (UFS):

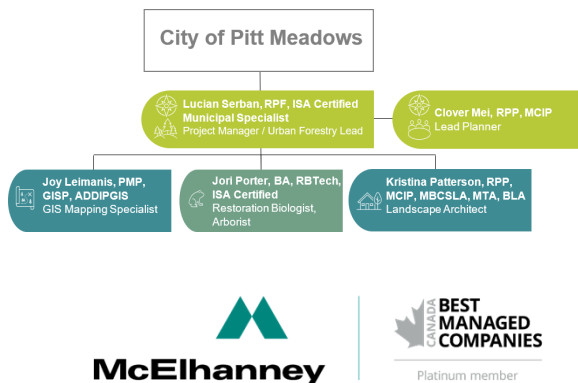
- SWOT analysis
- Comparative Review with other municipalities
- Inventory of existing canopy cover
- Community's priorities and goals
- Short, medium, and long-term actions





## Project Team:

ATTACHMENT 1



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## Public Engagement Events:

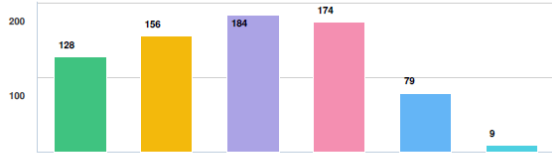
ATTACHMENT 1



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# Online Survey and Mapping:

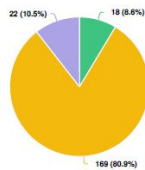
Q1 What do you value most about Pitt Meadows' Urban Forest? Select all that apply.



Question options

- Recreation and social activities
- Mental and physical well-being
- Environmental benefits like habitat, pollinator support, biodiversity
- Climate change benefits like temperature control, air quality improvements, stormwater run-off, carbon storage
- Financial benefits like increasing property value and reducing costs of heating/cooling
- Other (please specify)

Q7 Do you feel that the current tree canopy cover in Pitt Meadows is:



Question options

- Unsure
- Inadequate
- Adequate

IN01	Would love to see slower traffic and more access options (pathway/cycling infrastructure/bus stops) so that ALL citizens can access & support farmers & farmland safety.
IN02	This stretch of Midlyn needs a lot more tree coverage. The west end of Midlyn is nice and shaded but once you approach Shoppers there is no shade until you cross Harris. This is hard for families walking with young kids and pets who rely on the shade for safety and comfort.
IN03	More tree coverage to shade the footpath through the park would be great for families heading to the pool / water park / playground.

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## ATTACHMENT 1 Urban Forest Strategy Survey Responses - Urban

- Improvement Needed (IN)
- Valued Place (VP)



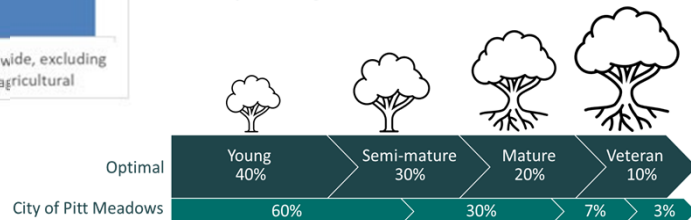
# Preliminary Findings:

## ATTACHMENT 1

Percent Tree Canopy Cover: City-wide and Urban Containment Boundary (UCB)-wide

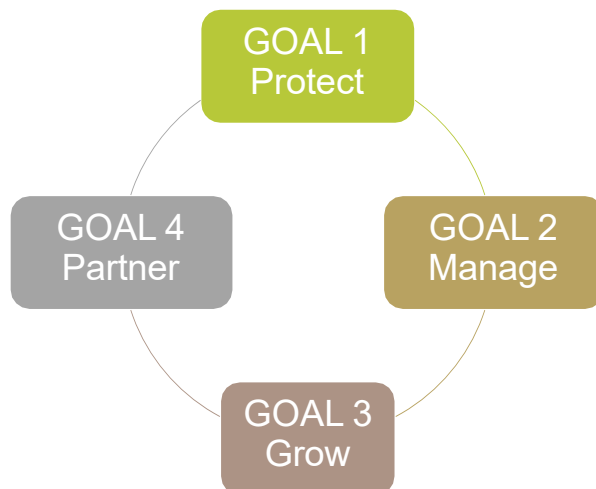


Diversity of Tree Age Classes



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## Goals and Actions:



1. Protect the existing urban forest from further decline.
2. Improve the management of the existing urban forest in parks and on publicly-owned lands.
3. Grow the urban forest canopy cover.
4. Partner with the community to foster stewardship and ownership over the shared urban forest.



## DRAFT Actions:

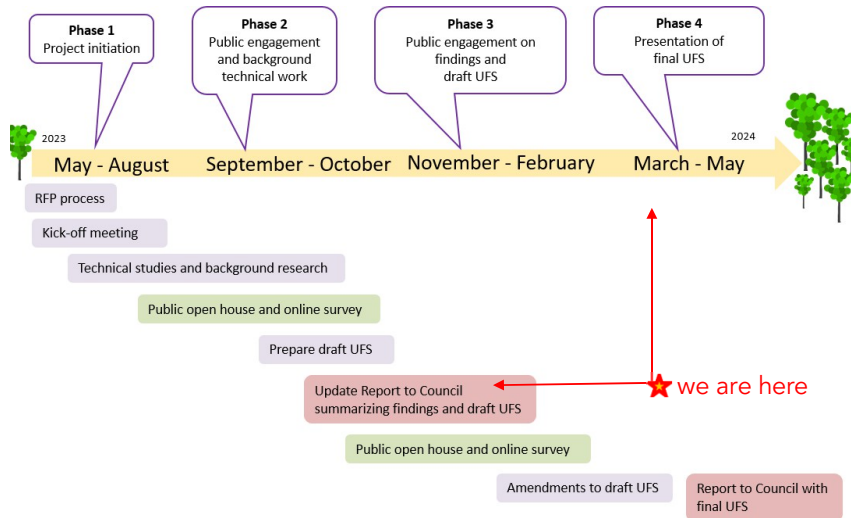


Table 4. Schedule of key action items

Short-term actions (1 to 5 years)	
Protect - Action 1.1	Develop and adopt a Tree Protection Bylaw.
Protect - Action 1.2	Review and update plan for mitigation or removal and replacement for known problem locations where street trees are damaging infrastructure or lifting sidewalks.
Manage - Action 2.1	Review and update the Subdivision and Development Servicing Bylaw.
Manage - Action 2.2	Review and update the Parks Maintenance Policy.
Manage - Action 2.4	Update the street tree inventory to better manage assets and include new public planting locations.
Grow - Action 3.1	Increase tree canopy cover with a focus on public parks and public spaces.
Partner - Action 4.1	Educate the community on the importance of the urban forest and how they can help to protect it.
Medium to long-term actions (6 to 10 years)	
Manage - Action 2.7	Re-assess the Urban Forest Strategy after 5 years for an update on the current status of the forest canopy coverage and review prioritization of action items.
Protect - Action 1.3	Review Tree Preservation Policy on Municipally Owned Lands.
Manage - Action 2.3	Review and update the Boulevard Maintenance Bylaw for maintenance of trees on public property.
Manage - Action 2.5	Review and update the Zoning Bylaw.
Manage - Action 2.6	Consider conducting a natural asset valuation of the urban forest when making land use decisions.
Grow - Action 3.2	Increase tree canopy cover with a focus on private properties.
Partner - Action 4.2	Partner with post-secondary school institutions for planting, surveying, and/or monitoring projects.
Partner - Action 4.3	Partner with non-profit organizations and the q̓ic̓ay̓ Katzie First Nation to increase planting in riparian areas on public lands through restoration events.
Partner - Action 4.4	Partner with agricultural and rural communities to increase tree canopy cover on areas outside of the UCB.

# Timeline:

ATTACHMENT 1



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# Review of Draft UFS:

ATTACHMENT 1

Internal affected parties include:

- PRC Advisory Committee
- Agricultural Advisory Committee
- Active Transportation Committee
- Advisory Design Panel
- Economic Development Advisory Committee
- Community Organizations
- Council
- Staff

External affected parties include:

- Agricultural Land Commission
- Urban Development Institute
- Metro Vancouver
- Ministry of Environment
- q̓í'cəy' (Katzie) First Nation
- Local arborist contractors
- Alouette River Management Society
- Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership
- Maple Ridge Climate Hub
- Pitt Meadows Garden Club
- Lower Mainland Green Team
- BC Hydro

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## Next Steps:

ATTACHMENT 1

- Refer out draft UFS to groups as noted, and the general public, with a follow-up survey and Open House event
- Amendments and Final UFS

Thank You!

