



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Council Gives Three Reads to Park's Bylaw

ABBOTSFORD, January 25, 2016 – Abbotsford City Council gave three readings to an updated Park's Bylaw this evening, the first step in officially bringing the bylaw into alignment with the Supreme Court of British Columbia's October 2015 ruling.

As the Community Charter requires that at least one-day pass between Council's third reading of a bylaw and the adoption of that bylaw, Abbotsford City Council will hold a Special Regular Council Meeting on Monday, February 1, 2016 with the intention of adopting the updated bylaw, which will officially bring it into force.

The key changes to Abbotsford's Park's Bylaw include:

- A. Clarification of the definition of "Park" to confirm that lands defined as "Highways" under the Community Charter and/or in the City's Street and Traffic Bylaw are not included within the definition;
- B. Abbotsford has 157 Parks; camping will only be completely prohibited in three Parks that are currently defined/designated as "City-Wide Parks," all three of which are destination Parks that have year-round, high community use:
 1. Mill Lake Park
 2. Civic Precinct
 3. Abbotsford Exhibition Park
- C. Clarification that camping is not permitted under the following conditions in any Park:
 - In playgrounds, splash pads, pools, horticulture display areas or ornamental gardens;
 - In skateboard bowls, tennis courts and other sports pads, washroom facilities, picnic shelters or gazebos;
 - On sports fields, dugouts, stadiums, stages, bleachers, pathways, bridges, docks, and wharfs;
 - In areas of a park that have otherwise been issued a permit pursuant to this bylaw; and
 - At recreation facilities, cemeteries or golf courses.

A copy of the full report and draft bylaw as presented to Council on January 25, 2016 can be found here: <https://abbotsford.civicweb.net/document/47619/PRC%20005-2016,%20Parks%20Bylaw.pdf>

-30-

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