

**Meeting Minutes**

**Elk/Beaver Lake Recreational Use Advisory Committee**

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Thursday, June 19, 2025

2 PM

Regional Parks Headquarters  
490 Atkins Avenue  
Victoria BC V9B 2Z8

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**Present:** Nicole Cann, Regional Parks (Chair); Kyle Wiens, Transport Canada, Adam Parfitt, Victoria Rowing Society; Constable Karen Robinson, Saanich Police; Mick Collins Golden Rods and Reels, Melanie Parrott, Swimming, Jamie Disbrow, Member of the Public; Pierre Malo, Motorized Recreational Use; Stuart Walsh, Regional Parks; Rachael Ince, Regional Parks; Jeanette Mollin, Regional Parks (Recorder)

**Regrets:** Pat George, Haig Brown Fly Fishers; Peter Fargey, Member of the Public;

The meeting was called to order at 2pm

**1. Territorial Acknowledgement**

Chair Cann provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

**2. Welcome and Introduction**

A round table of introductions took place for the benefit of the new members.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

**MOVED by** P Malo, **SECONDED by** A Parfitt

That the agenda for the June 19, 2025 Elk/Beaver Lake Recreational Use Advisory Committee be approved.

**CARRIED**

**4. Approval of Minutes – November 21, 2024**

**MOVED by** A Parfitt, **SECONDED by** J Disbrow

That the minutes of the Elk/Beaver Lake Recreational Use Advisory Committee of November 21, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**5. Brookleigh Boat Launch Parking Signage**

The parking at the boat launch is still an on-going problem. Park visitors who want to launch their boats and have trailers cannot park there as other users who don't have boats are filling up the lot. The signage needs to be bigger and contain clear language around usage. The current signs are not big enough but clearly say that the parking is for boat and trailer parking only. The members discussed creating something that would catch the visitor's attention, something bigger and bolder or possibly adding signage to the entrance that includes parking information.

Stuart mentioned that he has reached out to the Creative Services group about updating the signage and they are to come back with some ideas. The ideas will have to go to the management team for a decision.

## **6. Blue-green Algae/Weed Harvester Update**

There is still an advisory at the lake. Staff do visual observations and if they see a change in the water then the CRD Environmental Protection group is notified who then works with VIHA. Staff mentioned that there has to be a two-week clear period before the water gets tested again. The oxygenator is working as expected and the results are positive. The blue-green algae is not unique to this lake alone there is an uptake in other lakes as well.

The weed harvester was launched mid-May and will continue to be on the lake on a weekly basis, one or twice a week and then ramp up from there depending on the weed growth. The weed harvested is up for replacement with a Request for Proposal being prepared before the end of 2025 with hopes of having a new machine for 2026.

## **7. Over 10hp Motors Used outside the 10hp Zone**

Pierre pointed out that there are still a couple of buoys missing and it is a safety hazard. Looking for direction on who is responsible for replacing the buoys sooner than later. He has witnessed boats with over 10hp motors being used outside the 10hp zone. Lake users are confused, and it is becoming a safety concern. How can the rowers use a 20hp boat outside the area and Adam responded that there is an exception for a safety boat when rowers are training for a race.

The Saanich Police patrol boat will be deployed on the weekends. Constable Robinson mentioned that there is not a lot of funding for the patrol boat so they go out when they can and more if there are complaints. She pointed out that when people know they are being watched, they start abiding by the rules.

## **8. Buoys Update**

Chair Cann indicated that she is getting up to date around the issues of the buoys and will connect with legal in the next two weeks.

## **9. New Business**

None

## **10. Adjournment**

**MOVED** by A Parfitt, **SECONDED** by P Malo

That the June 19, 2025 Elk/Beaver Lake Recreational Use Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned at 3:15pm.

**CARRIED**