

Meeting Minutes

Elk/Beaver Lake Recreational Use Advisory Committee

Wednesday, November 26, 2025

2 PM

**Regional Parks Headquarters
490 Atkins Avenue
Victoria BC V9B 2Z8**

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, Jamie Disbrow, Member of the Public; Rachael Ince, Regional Parks; Jeanette Mollin, Regional Parks (Recorder)

Regrets: Pat George, Haig Brown Fly Fishers; Peter Fargey, Member of the Public; Melanie Parrott, Swimming; Pierre Malo, Motorized Recreational Use; Stuart Walsh, Regional Parks; Scott Silvestri, Ministry of Environment

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

That the agenda for the November 26, 2025 Elk/Beaver Lake Recreational Use Advisory Committee be approved.

CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes – June 19, 2025

MOVED by K.Wiens, **SECONDED** by M. Collins

That the minutes of the Elk/Beaver Lake Recreational Use Advisory Committee of June 19, 2025 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

5. Review of 2026 Proposed Events and Restrictions on Elk Lake

The 2026 Proposed Events and Restrictions Schedule on Elk Lake was discussed and agreed upon with Committee members.

6. Buoys

Chair Cann brought forward P. Malo's email as follows:

- The new parking signs at Elk Lake are nice and definitely easier for people to read, great job.
- The buoys have been moved to mostly where they should be. Historical maps show a bit larger area near the rowing club but for now a nice improvement.

- I have had many complaints from boaters that there are many unmarked buoys, red/orange and white, all over the lake. Reminder that any unmarked buoys are illegal and should not be removed by the rowing club. There should be no buoys present anywhere on the lake unless approved. There are many more all over now compared to when the National Team was using the lake.

Chair Cann provided a response from S. Walsh's email as follows:

- Confirmation that the official buoys are in the correct location and that Regional Parks have up to date coordinates for future replacement.
- A complete inventory of all buoys still needs to be conducted. Some buoys mark hazards and need to be formalized and will look at removing others.

A. Parfitt mentioned that there are ones that were approved previously under the Navigation Protection Program and there are approximately 20 information buoys on the lake.

J. Disbrow wanted to know if any dead fall that is in the lake gets removed due to being a hazard. Chair Cann was able to provide a response and indicated that she would follow up with S. Walsh and get back to the members.

ACTION: Chair Cann to follow up with staff regarding dead fall removal in the lake.

ACTION: S. Walsh to work with the rowing club to identify the location of the hazard marking buoys.

7. Public Reporting on Blue-Green Algae Blooms

M. Collins inquired about the public reporting process regarding blue-green algae blooms and the need to have a peer review on reporting. He mentioned that the data should be shared with the public. Chair Cann mentioned that the process of reporting blue-green algae blooms rests with another department and she encouraged members to reach out to the Environmental Protection team with questions. A. Parfitt suggested that a decision-making flow chart on how blue-green algae blooms are reported would be helpful.

8. New Business

a) Weed Harvester

J. Disbrow wanted to know what the CRD was looking when purchasing a new weed harvester. Chair Cann was unable to provide an answer and will defer it to S. Walsh.

ACTION: S. Walsh to provide the members with the criteria when purchasing a new weed harvester

9. Adjournment

MOVED by A. Parfitt, **SECONDED by** K. Robinson

That the November 26, 2025 Elk/Beaver Lake Recreational Use Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned at 3:30pm.

CARRIED