



## **NEWS RELEASE**

June 12, 2018

## Parks, Trails and Open Spaces - Comments Welcome!

Following up on the recent event hosted by the City and Vancouver Island University at Foster Park and as the next component of resident engagement in the Parks, Trails and Open Spaces Master Plan, birdhouses as comment boxes will be located in public spaces over the next five weeks. Beginning Friday, June 15, the fifteen boxes built and painted by VIU students will be rotated throughout the City's parks and trails network to collect comments from a total of 63 locations.

If you find yourself in one of Parksville's many parks or on a trail and notice one of the birdhouses/comment boxes, please take a few minutes to share your opinions which will help to guide a long-term plan to improve the parks and trails network in Parksville.

We sincerely hope residents will provide feedback about the specific park or trail they are using. The Parksville Community Park, Parksville Wetlands, the Englishman River Estuary and Rathtrevor Beach Provincial Park will not be included in the rotations for the comment boxes. A list of locations of the birdhouses is available from the homepage of the City's website.

Working with Master of Community Planning Program students from Vancouver Island University, the City of Parksville is updating the Parks, Trails and Open Spaces Park Master Plan. This master plan project involves extensive analysis and asset inventory of all City park spaces, detailed GIS mapping, a qualitative assessment of park spaces, an evaluation of parks and trails connectivity and a needs/gap analysis. The results of the information gathered as part of public engagement will be presented to the community and will be used to provide data and information to enhance City spaces. A draft plan will be presented to Council in early 2019.

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