

Senseless Damage in Parksville Community Park Continues

Prior to the Easter weekend, on Wednesday, March 27, staff opened the new washroom building in the Parksville Community Park, a “soft opening” to run through cleaning and maintenance procedures with our facilities staff as well as our process for opening and closing with Footprints Security. The Kin Hut washroom was also opened to the public on March 27, normally closed during the winter.

To minimize possible vandalism to these washrooms, we chose an early closing time of 7 pm; however, in what appears to be two separate incidents, there was significant damage to the new washroom building prior to the 7 pm closing on Sunday. The interior of the men’s washroom was extensively damaged while the building was open Sunday afternoon. The soap dispensers were torn from the wall and soap dumped over the space and the urinal privacy separator and the door to the accessible stall were completely ripped off the wall. Later in the day, the exterior of the building and the door of the male washroom were tagged with markers.

We are extremely disappointed senseless destruction in the Parksville Community Park continues. We estimate the damage this time to be at minimum, \$6,000 in addition to staff time for cleanup. The City was truly looking forward to being able to announce the opening of the new washroom building; however, the male washroom is now closed indefinitely. As we do with all incidents in the Parksville Community Park, we report the vandalism to the RCMP Oceanside Detachment.

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For more information:

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*The City of Parksville is located on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish Nations,
home to the Snaw-Naw-As First Nation and the Qualicum First Nation.*