

# Coquitlam *in bloom*





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We acknowledge with gratitude and respect that the name Coquitlam was derived from the hə́nqəmiḥə́m word kʷikʷə́lə́m (*kwee-kwuh-tlum*) meaning “Red Fish Up the River”. The City is honoured to be located on the kʷikʷə́lə́m (*Kwikwetlem*) traditional and ancestral lands, including those parts that were historically shared with the sḱə́ciyaʔ təməxʷ (*Katzie*), and other Coast Salish Peoples.

## Incorporating Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

At the City of Coquitlam, equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) are top priorities. To support our commitment to EDI, we’ve used simple, easy to understand and gender neutral language, and inclusive photos. We’ve also considered colour contrast in the design. As we move forward in our efforts to support universal accessibility, we will continue to refine how we present information both internally and to the community we serve.

## CiB Participation History

*Population Category: Over 50,000*

**2022 National:** 5 Blooms Gold

*Special Mention: Hoy Creek Hatchery and Inaugural Green Cities Award*

**2022 Provincial**

*Special Mention: Coquitlam Tree Spree*

**2021 National**

Outstanding Achievement Award  
—Community Involvement

*Special Mention: Community Involvement*

**2021 Provincial**

Love Your Neighbourhood Showcase Winner  
—Park Spark Garden Volunteers

*Special Mention: Community Champions*

**2020 National**

Outstanding Achievement Award  
—Youth Involvement and Environmental Action

*Special Mention: Youth Involvement and Environmental Action*

**2019 International:** 5 Blooms

**2018 Class of Champions:** 5 Blooms—89%

*Special Mention: Town Centre Park and Pollinator Friendly Community*

**2017 International:** 5 Blooms—88.7%

*Special Mention: Tree Risk Management on Burke Mountain*

**2016 National:** 5 Blooms—88.93%

*Special Mention: Mackin House Museum and Mackin Park*

**2015 Provincial:** 5 Blooms—88.68%

*Special Mention: Heritage Conservation*

**2001 National:** 4 Blooms

**1999 National:** 4 Blooms



# Mayor's Message



## It is a pleasure to once again welcome you to Coquitlam. Find out what our progressive, exciting community has to offer.

Coquitlam is honoured by our past successes in Communities in Bloom and proud to be competing this year in the Circle of Excellence category against other former winners. However, for our city, participating in Communities in Bloom is as much about the journey as it is about the destination.

Our homegrown Coquitlam in Bloom program engages the entire community in putting our best foot forward for each year's Communities in Bloom competition, and by doing so, we create enriching experiences for our residents, build community pride and make enhancements that benefit everyone.

Through this year's program, we are recognizing fantastic frontages and beautiful balconies with a new contest, encouraging residents, organizations and businesses to plant beautiful floral displays.

We will also be providing numerous opportunities for residents to learn, volunteer and experience our natural spaces.

Our work year-round also aligns with the values of Communities in Bloom. As you see on the pages that follow, we work throughout the year to keep Coquitlam tidy and attractive, protect the environment, preserve our heritage, enhance our tree canopy and create appealing landscaping, plantings and floral displays.

Woven through all of our work is a focus on creative approaches, excellence in service delivery, environmental sustainability, and a commitment to ensuring Coquitlam is an inclusive and equitable community for all.

**We hope you enjoy exploring our vibrant, welcoming community.**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Richard Stewart'.

Mayor Richard Stewart



Look for this icon throughout the book to find out about our new initiatives for 2022/23



## Coquitlam at a Glance

An active and vibrant community, Coquitlam is attracting new residents and businesses that appreciate its quality of life, central location in Metro Vancouver, and countless opportunities for recreational, cultural and outdoor pursuits. We're the sixth-largest city in B.C.—home to more than 150,000 people.

<b>159,000+</b>	Population
<b>2.17%</b>	Annual population growth
<b>46%</b>	Residents born outside Canada ( <i>Top three countries: China, South Korea and Iran</i> )
<b>41</b>	Average age
<b>\$113,800</b>	Average household income
<b>7,100+</b>	Business licences issued
<b>130 km<sup>2</sup></b>	City area
<b>134 km</b>	City trails
<b>665</b>	Multi-modal pathways
<b>113</b>	Active parks and open space areas
<b>109 km</b>	Cycling routes
<b>207</b>	City-supported festivals and events
<b>55,945</b>	Total number of dwelling units
<b>924</b>	Housing starts
<b>446</b>	Total residential building permits issued in 2018, including demolition permits
<b>\$1,044,700</b>	MLS average selling price (including apartments)

Source: City of Coquitlam 2022 Annual Report

## Vision

Coquitlam: Sustaining a high quality of life for current and future generations, where people choose to live, learn, work and play.

## Coquitlam in Bloom Community Committee

**Bob Cunningham**  
Dogwood Garden Club

**Cydney Smythies**  
Community Sports

**Connor Scott**  
Youth Representative

**Kyle Uno**  
Hoy Scott Watershed Society

**Tiana Wong**  
Youth Representative

**Lisa Landry**  
Austin Heights Business Improvement Association

**April Yoon**  
Youth Representative

**Valentine Mer**  
Société francophone de Maillardville

**Gabor Huszar**  
TORCA

**Kelly Koome**  
Urban Forestry/  
Business Representative

## Coquitlam in Bloom Community Partners

1st Como Lake Guides  
1st Coquitlam Cubs  
1st Ranch Park Scouts  
10th Coquitlam Beaver and Cub Scouts  
12th Coquitlam Cubs  
13th Eagle Mountain Guides  
AIG Canada  
Associated Labels and Packaging  
Austin Heights Business Improvement Association  
Bank of Montreal  
BC Hydro  
BCIT  
Blue Mountain Park Animal Hospital  
Blue Mountain Produce  
Brett Ryan Studios  
Buddhist Compassion Relief Tzu Chi Foundation of Canada  
Burke Mountain Naturalists  
Canadian International Student Society  
Canadian Tire  
Childgarden Preschool  
CIBC  
Connect Hearing  
Continuing Education LINC Program  
Coquitlam Christ Church of China  
Coquitlam Farmer's Market  
Coquitlam Heritage Society  
Coquitlam Search and Rescue  
Coquitlam Public Library  
Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable  
Coquitlam Sunrise Rotary Club  
Coquitlam Scouts  
DAVIDs TEA  
DLC/Innovative Mortgage Solutions  
Dogwood Garden Club  
Dogwood Pavilion Woodworking Club  
Douglas College Daycare

Douglas College Institute of Urban Ecology  
Dr. Lorene Balmaceda Lederer Inc. —Dentaserv  
Dogtopia  
Drake Excavating  
Elite Education  
Elitech Computer  
Envision Financial  
Excel Martial Arts  
Expedia Cruise Ship Centers  
Fabulous For Less  
Fetch! Dog Daycare and Grooming  
Fin Donnelly, MP Constituency Office  
FortisBC  
Francophone Scouts of Maillardville Beaver Groups  
Fraser Pacific Rose Society  
Friends of DeBoville Slough  
Friends of Mundy Park  
Friends of Walton Forest  
Garden Works Coquitlam  
Genesis Kitchens and Design  
GianCarlo Italian Deli Ltd.  
Girl Guides and Scouts Vancouver  
Glen Pine Singers  
Gloria Acupuncture Clinic  
Hard Rock Casino Vancouver  
Heliwood Media  
Home Depot  
Hoy-Scott Watershed Society  
HSBC  
Hyde Creek Watershed Society  
ICBC  
IKEA Canada  
IK Telecommunications  
Immigrant Services Society of BC  
Inquiry Hub  
Jay Shaw Photography

J.D. Flooring  
Kinsight  
K'ik'w'əłəm First Nation  
Lafarge North America  
LINC  
Lougheed Area Girl Guides  
Lower Mainland Green Team  
Maillardville Residents Association  
Maple Creek Watershed Streamkeepers  
Mary Ann Meegan Insurance Ltd.  
Me-N-Ed's Pizza Parlors  
Metro Vancouver (Regional District)  
Metro Van Geocaching  
Minuteman Press  
Mosaiculture Internationales de Montréal  
Northbridge Financial  
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish  
Panda Bear Preschool and Daycare  
Place Des Arts  
Place Maillardville  
Plant Something BC  
RBC  
RCMP—Coquitlam Detachment  
Real Canadian Superstore  
Ridgemont Foods  
Ridgeway Community Police Office  
Ridgeway Fabricare Cleaners  
Riverview Horticultural Centre Society  
Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory  
Rosemarie's Treasures  
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 263  
Safeway #63/ Sobeys  
School District #43  
Scott's Miracle-Gro Company  
Selina Robinson, MLA Constituency Office  
Simusique VOX Group

Simon Fraser University Interface Design IAT Program  
Société Francophone de Maillardville  
Soul Bites  
SPARC Radio Museum  
Starbucks Coffee  
SUCCESS  
Suggestive Secrets  
Sumbal Supermarket and Halal Meat  
Sylvie Bond, Chartered Professional Accountant  
TD Canada Trust  
TD Friends of the Environment Foundation  
Team Leo RE/MAX  
TELUS  
The Golden Boot Café  
The Lower Mainland Green Team  
T.I. Corp  
Tire Stewardship BC  
TORCA  
Tree Canada  
Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce  
TriCity India Heritage Arts and Cultural Society  
TriCity Iranian Cultural Society Seniors Club  
Tri-City News  
U-Haul  
Urban Forestry  
W. Bruce and Associates Ltd.  
Wellness Workshop Headquarters  
Wildwood Creative  
YMCA Child Care Resource and Referral Program  
YMCA of Greater Vancouver  
Yuen's Institute of Tae Kwon Do  
Xylem Inc.



# Community Appearance



Coquitlam has several innovative programs to maintain cleanliness throughout the community and instill a sense of pride and ownership with our residents, businesses and institutions who are encouraged to participate in cleanups. When visiting any City facility, walking our parks and trails, or visiting our business sector and residential neighbourhoods, people notice that Coquitlam is a clean community. Our anti-litter bylaws, City litter and anti-graffiti services, and community programs such as Adopt-a-Street and Adopt-a-Trail promote tidiness.

## Managing Our Litter—Special Programs

### SUCCESS Clean-up

Park Spark teamed up with S.U.C.C.E.S.S.—an intercultural multi-service agency that supports people at all stages of their Canadian journey—to tidy up around Town Centre Park and Lafarge Lake. Over 20 people donated their time and effort to help clean up this popular Coquitlam recreation spot for both residents and visitors. The volunteers concentrated on removing debris from the lakefront and near the recycling depot (two high-traffic areas) and successfully removed over 10 bags of garbage.

### Fishing Line Receptacles

In 2021, the City worked with the Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC (GoFish BC) to install four fishing line bins in July at two local fishing spots: Como Lake in Como Lake Park and Lafarge Lake in Town Centre Park. The program gives anglers with a convenient way to discard their fishing lines—which are unsightly, do not biodegrade and can entangle birds and wildlife—along with used hooks and lead.





Austin BIA Cigarette Butt Recycling Receptacle



Apple Retail Coquitlam River Clean-up

## Supporting Local Organizations While Keeping Cigarette Butts Off the Streets

Coquitlam and local groups work with TerraCycle, a free national Cigarette Waste Recycling Program, to keep cigarette butts off the streets. Through the program, cigarette butt receptacles are placed at strategic locations in the City, providing smokers with an easy and safe way to discard of their butts. Sites include Austin Heights, Pinetree Way in City Centre and the Como Lake Village commercial area.

The collected materials get a second life through recycling. The waste collected through TerraCycle's Cigarette Waste Recycling Program is recycled into a variety of industrial products, such as plastic lumber, and any remaining tobacco and paper is recycled as compost.

Collectors also earn points for cigarette butts sent to TerraCycle to redeem as a cash donation to any non-profit organization of their choice. The most recent addition to the program in Coquitlam is the Austin Heights Business Improvement Association (Austin Heights BIA), which has partnered with Community Ventures Society, an organization that supports people with developmental disabilities and their families. Through the arrangement, the society empties the receptacles and in turn receives funds towards programming when they send the packages to TerraCycle.





### Adopt-a-Catch Basin Program

Since 2021, residents and businesses have been helping protect streams and their neighbourhood through the City's Adopt-a-Catch-Basin Program. Coquitlam has 16,000 catch basins, which help remove excess water from the streets and prevent flooding, while leading directly to watercourses. Volunteers check their adopted catch basin regularly; keep it clear of leaves, debris and snow; and report their activities, damage, signs of chemical dumping or other issues to the City. To date, 600 catch basins have been adopted.

### Town Centre Park Hosts Program

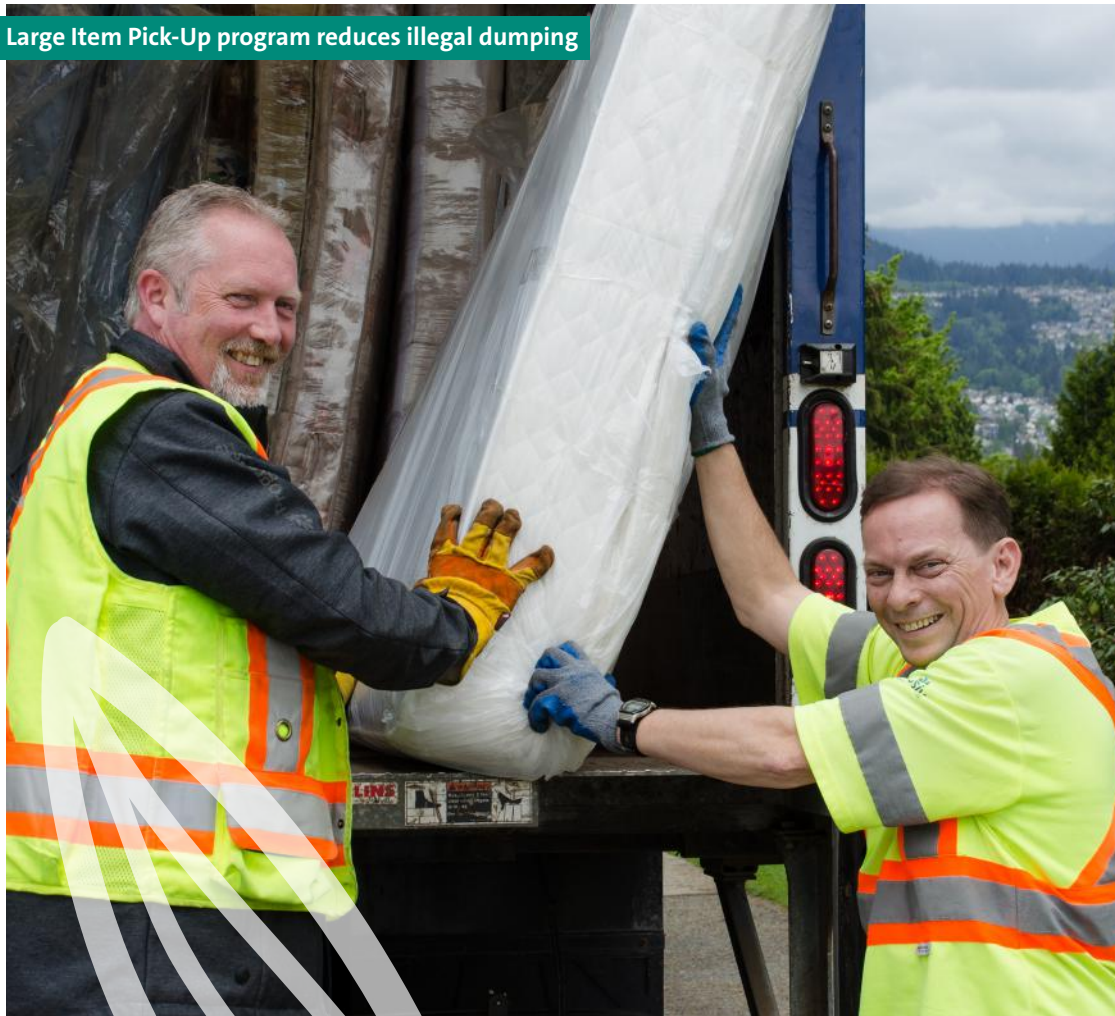


### Town Centre Park Hosts

The **Park Spark Town Centre Park Hosts** play an active role in keeping Town Centre Park safe, accessible and clean. **Park Hosts** act as ambassadors to the park, providing users with information about park amenities, as well as promoting regular park cleanups and helping visitors find the nearest trash receptacles. Park Hosting enhances the park experience for users and motivates others to help keep the park clean.



Large Item Pick-Up program reduces illegal dumping



### Youth-led Recycling Station Returns

Gleneagle Secondary's True North E-Waste is a youth-led program that collects unwanted electronics for the Electronic Recycling Association. The team has pop-up booths planned again for 2023 in the community that are extremely popular with attendees.

## Managing Our Waste—Special Programs

The City's **Seasonal Yard Trimmings Collection** program allows residents to set out extra yard trimmings for four to six weeks in the spring and fall that do not fit into their regular Green Cart. The program increases the volume of yard trimmings taken by the City to be composted and helps residents keep lawns and gardens looking tidy. The City collects approximately 15,000 tonnes of yard trimmings and food waste each year.

The City also offers a **Large item Pick-Up** program and collects up to four large items per year from properties receiving the curbside collection service. The free service helps to prevent illegal dumping and ensures large recyclable items, such as mattresses, are kept out of the landfill. In 2017, the City collected 10,376 large items through this program.





Waste sorting stations at civic facilities encourage recycling



Coquitlam Sunrise Rotary Club joins Pitch-In Week

## Managing Our Waste

### Recycling and Green Waste at Civic Facilities

Enhanced **Recycling and Green Waste** sorting stations have been installed at select civic facilities in Coquitlam, including more than 1,000 Organics, Mixed Container, Refundables, Paper and Garbage containers in strategic locations throughout the public and employee areas of the City's civic buildings. All desk-side garbage cans have been removed from staff offices and cubicles to encourage use of the recycling stations and to streamline waste collection. In order to prevent wildlife access to outdoor waste receptacles, the City has also installed secure enclosures for waste storage. More than 70% of waste generated in City buildings is now recycled.

### Pitch-In-Week

More than 780 students, teachers and community club members participated in **Pitch-In-Week** to clean up litter from schoolyards, park trails, parking lots and various neighbourhoods.

## Good Neighbour Construction

Although redevelopment in an existing neighbourhood can bring many benefits to the community, construction sites can also be disruptive and lead to neighbourhood disputes. The City of Coquitlam is addressing this proactively through its **Good Neighbour Construction** program.

Developers and builders are provided with resources during the application and permitting process that encourage them to be aware and respectful of their neighbours, and that includes information on development and construction best practices. Some of the recommended measures include on-site waste receptacles, sediment and erosion controls, and equipment storage that does not encroach on neighbouring properties or public amenities. Construction workers are also encouraged to behave as they would if they were working in their own neighbourhood. The result is tidier construction sites and reduced construction impact in developing areas.







Anti-graffiti wraps beautify kiosks and celebrate history



Businesses in Coquitlam take pride in their clean surroundings



Parks litter control staff provide anti-littering education sessions to school-age children

## Regulating Tidiness

### Cleaning Litter and Removing Graffiti

Coquitlam prides itself on its cleanliness. City staff clean litter and graffiti from all parks, roadways, streetscapes and public building grounds, and a contractor manages the garbage bins at bus stops. Three full-time staff patrol the City for litter along set routes.

Several bylaws support tidiness and prevent littering and damaging of public places. The City has an active Adopt-A-Street program with 240 active volunteers who have adopted 65% (288 km) of the City's streets. Other related City programs encourage residents and groups to adopt and clean local parks, trails and dog parks (see next page).

Coquitlam has a zero-tolerance policy toward graffiti, with a target of removing any tagging within 48 hours. In 2021, two full-time staff removed graffiti from 1,271 street lights, 122 traffic cabinets and 7,113 square feet of bridges, sidewalks, barriers, City signage and retaining walls. Utility boxes and other fixtures are wrapped with artwork that has anti-graffiti coatings.

Graffiti is monitored and tracked to help establish patterns and identify frequent taggers. The RCMP works with youth caught tagging and diverts them into community service roles.





Local geocachers on the hunt near Douglas College



Riverview Forest Cleanup

## Community Members Keep Coquitlam Clean

### Adopting Public Spaces

Coquitlam provides residents with various opportunities to help keep their community clean, tidy and safe, including volunteer programs for adopting a park or trail, a street, a dog park or a catch basin.

Through these programs, volunteers regularly clean up litter in their designated area with training and equipment provided by the City, while also reporting problems, hazards or vandalism they see along the way. Volunteers may sign up individually or as a family, business, school or group.

Through Adopt-a-Street, volunteers adopt a municipal road with a minimum length of about one kilometre, while through Adopt-a-Trail, volunteers will adopt specific trails around the community.

To date, more than 60 kilometres of trails have been adopted, and volunteers contribute 2,000 hours each year.

Park and trail cleanups are also organized through Park Spark, a park public engagement program. Volunteers collect litter and debris from parks with instruction and supplies provided by the City. In 2022, 250 active groups and individual volunteers contributed over 3,500 hours to help keep Coquitlam parks and trails litter-free.

### Geocaching Community's "Cache In, Trash Out" Cleanup

Local geocachers teamed up to clean up Town Centre Park. In addition to picking up the litter, the geocachers stocked up the geocaches in the area with fun surprises.

### Riverview Forest Cleanup: Francophone Scouts of Maillardville Beaver Groups

The Beaver group cleaned up the trails around Riverview Forest, picking up over five bags of litter from this unique urban forest. They are planning to spread the message to others to keep Coquitlam trails litter-free.

### Schools Adopt Coquitlam Trails

Multiple schools have adopted Coquitlam trails and remove litter throughout the school year, including the Pinetree Secondary Immigrant Group, Gleneagle Secondary Green Team and Take Action Club and Port Moody Green Team. The students raise awareness of the impacts of littering while acquiring volunteer hours needed for graduation.





### **Xylem Inc. Hoy/Scott Creek Watershed Cleanup**

Employees from Xylem Inc. cleaned up the trails around Hoy Creek and Scott Creek. The group picked up over seven bags of garbage and removed some interesting items, including computer parts and a fan! Their actions help ensure these salmon-bearing streams are kept free from litter and motivate others to help keep the trails clean.



### **Business Association Invests in Cleanliness while Supporting Adults with Barriers to Employment**

The Austin Heights Business Improvement Association (BIA) collaborates with the Community Ventures Society, a not-for-profit organization that creates opportunities for children and adults with developmental disabilities, to help keep the Austin Heights area litter-free. Adults with developmental disabilities meet three times per week, and the three teams of two adults with a supervisor have taken huge ownership and pride in the work that they do for the community. The Austin Heights BIA also started an anti-graffiti program in 2008 as a one-day event to paint over 20 years of graffiti and pick up litter in the back lanes. The area was free of graffiti for 18 months and, this year, there have been very few tags.



# Environmental Action



At the Salmon Leave Home event, smolts are released into Hoy Creek, where they continue their journey to the Coquitlam River and beyond



Water quality monitoring on Coquitlam River

The City of Coquitlam delivers high-quality services based on social, environmental and economically sustainable service models. Coquitlam's unique environmental programs have been nationally recognized.

## Coquitlam River

### Continuous and Enhanced Monitoring

The City is active in efforts to protect the Coquitlam River, including the introduction of real-time water-quality monitoring to alert of spills. The City and river are named for the Coast Salish word *kʷikwə́ləm*, or “red fish up the river,” referring to the sockeye salmon that were an important food source for the *kʷikwə́ləm* (Kwikwetlem) First Nation.

For many years, the Coquitlam River was on the Outdoor Recreation Council of B.C.'s Top 10 List of

Endangered Rivers. When it was removed from the list in 2013, the City's comprehensive water-quality monitoring program was recognized, along with the work of the *kʷikwə́ləm* and the Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable, a multi-stakeholder group promoting the river's long-term sustainability. The City is a core Roundtable member and funding partner.

Coquitlam recently became a leader in the Lower Mainland installing innovative technology that monitors water quality in real time in Partington Creek, Stoney Creek and Hoy Creek (part of the

watershed), providing early notice of spills.

The City is also testing out the technology's potential near development sites.

The new technology builds on monitoring enhancements in recent years that increased frequency and accuracy of turbidity and temperature data collection. Monitoring sites are located throughout the watershed. The City has also amended its bylaws to require the technology in large developments in the Stoney Creek watershed.





### kʷikwə́łəm First Nation Leads Historic Release of Sockeye Smolts to the Coquitlam River

In April 2017, kʷikwə́łəm First Nation elders, councillors and members joined with the cities of Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam, BC Hydro, Metro Vancouver, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Province and the stewardship community to release 5,000 sockeye smolts to the Coquitlam River. The release was the culmination of a two-year partnership by the kʷikwə́łəm Salmon Restoration Program to rebuild the stock of Coquitlam Kokanee after small numbers of returning adult fish were discovered annually in a trap at the base of the Coquitlam Dam. The stock had long been thought eliminated, when the dam was reconstructed and enlarged in 1913. It is anticipated the smolts will return as adults in the fall of 2019. The 2017 release of the sockeye smolts was the largest Coquitlam sockeye release in more than 100 years.

### Environmental Protection for Watercourses Prior to Development Approvals

City Environmental Guidelines include the requirement for a **Watercourse Protection Development Permit** when development is planned near watercourses in designated permit areas. Originally a requirement that applied to Greenfield development areas, the permit requirement has extended to older neighbourhoods experiencing re-development as new neighbourhood plans are adopted. Now developments within 30 or 50 metres of the top of the bank of a watercourse, depending on the permit area, are required to assess fish habitat values, complete top of bank surveys, and report biophysical and hydrological characteristics prior to the issuance of a Development Permit. These requirements ensure that environmentally sensitive areas and features are identified, protected, restored, replaced or enhanced as appropriate.





Lafarge Lake was once the site of a gravel plant

## Future Reclamations of Brownfield Sites

**1751 Brigantine Drive** Originally a landfill, this site had been remediated and turned into an industrial site. It is currently in the development review process with an application that could further remediate the site to include options to reduce the heat island effect through vegetation of the roof or a white roof for solar reflection.

**Eaglequest Golf** This course is built on top of an old landfill. For years, the methane emitted by the buried garbage was used at a now-closed mill. Now Metro Vancouver has updated the equipment to neutralize the methane component of the gas.

**Fraser Mills Site** This former industrial site along the Fraser River was bought by a developer and in 2008, a neighbourhood plan was adopted for the area. Called the Waterfront Village Centre Neighbourhood Plan, this plan envisions the site as a neighbourhood where people can live, work, shop and play in a mixed-use, riverfront village setting. The area is designated as a local centre in the City's Official Community Plan, similar to other local centres such as Austin Heights and Maillardville.

**Lafarge Lake and Town Centre Park** Thirty years ago, Town Centre Park was the site of a gravel plant and pit. Today's picturesque Lafarge Lake is, in fact, a man-made excavated lake donated to the City by the Lafarge Company in the mid-1970s. To help the City realize its vision of hosting the 1991 Summer Games, the Province gave the surrounding land to the City and it was developed into a state-of-the-art sport and recreation facility. Town Centre Park officially opened in May 1989, and the BC Summer Games, held two years later, were a huge success.

The area's rebirth from rocks to one of Coquitlam's destination parks is aptly captured in a public work of art outside the Lafarge Lake-Douglas SkyTrain station. Look for the large concrete frog rising out of the sidewalk, titled **TransLake**, by Trent Hutton of Bowen Island. Similar to a tadpole's metamorphosis into a frog, this work celebrates the quarry's transformation into Lafarge Lake. In November 2017, the 42-hectare Town Centre Park, was named the 2017 greatest public space by the Canadian Institute of Planners.





## Reducing Human-Wildlife Conflicts

### Garbage Compliance Audits

The City has conducted garbage compliance audits since 2017 as part of a broad public outreach campaign to reduce human-bear conflicts.

City staff check that residents set their carts at the curb after 5:30 a.m. on collection day, as required by City bylaw. Warning stickers are attached to any carts left out overnight, often prompting residents to contact the City and talk with staff about bylaw compliance. The data gained from the audits prompted the City to change its collection schedule to complete pickup in the morning in bear-prone areas.

The ongoing education and enforcement has brought positive results, with enforcement actions (combined tickets and warnings) dropping from over 5,000 in 2017 to under 1,000 in 2022. The City will conduct follow-up audits as necessary. Other outreach efforts have included booths at public events, presentations for groups and schools, Bear Smart videos and seminars, and a Huckleberry bear mascot.

Coquitlam continues to maintain its Bear Smart status.

### Bear Smart Video Series

Tapping into the popularity of YouTube, the City has produced a series of educational Bear Smart videos, some featuring the Huckleberry bear mascot.

### Coquitlam Formally Recognized as Bear Smart Community

In 2017, the Ministry of Environment formally recognized the City as a Bear Smart Community, making Coquitlam the first municipality in Metro Vancouver—and only one of nine to earn this status province-wide.

Coquitlam has put significant effort into educating the public, and has also increased its enforcement efforts to help ensure both public safety and animal welfare are maintained. This includes establishing a new wildlife-resistant solid waste management system, and developing and enforcing Bear Smart bylaws.

The Bear Smart designation is the culmination of more than 10 years of education and informing residents of bear smart practices.

### Youth In Bloom—School District 43 Green Team

At Maillard Middle School, students are actively involved with the Green Team.

Such environmental initiatives include:

- Invasive weed pull at Como Creek in partnership with the City
- Awareness science project regarding mason bees with support from VanCity
- Building of nesting boxes with support from Colony Farms
- Planting of native plants at the school
- Organization of an Earth Day contest with a focus on innovative projects that protect the Earth







## Climate Action Snapshot\*

Coquitlam's measures toward climate action include initiatives within the community and corporately.



### Corporate and Community Targets (2021)

**45%** GHG reduction  
by 2030 of 2007 levels

**100%** GHG reduction  
(carbon neutral) by 2050

#### CORPORATE



#### 30+ initiatives

to engage staff in sustainability actions through Carbon Cutters program

#### The City's vehicle fleet includes:



**9** electric or hybrid vehicles



**4** compact energy efficient fire trucks



**3** electric zambonis



**\$800K**

annual energy savings



**40**

solar powered parking pay stations



**60%**

streetlights converted to LED



**\$1.6 million**

earned in grants and rebates since 2007; used to advance climate action



**30%**

less emissions with automated waste collection and compressed natural gas trucks (vs. diesel)

#### COMMUNITY

#### Climate Adaptation:

- **8** priority CASP initiatives implemented in 2021
- **50** climate adaptation actions identified in the CASP (2020)
- **7** local climate risk events assessed through CASP development



#### Climate Plans

- Climate Adaptation Strategic Plan (CASP) (2020)
- Community Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy (2012)

**\$120K**

residential energy rebates in partnership with BC Hydro



**5,000** people reached with energy education programs



\* Statistics are current as of January 2021

## Climate Action

Climate action is one of five themes in Coquitlam's Environmental Sustainability Plan (ESP), adopted in 2022 to link the various City environment-related goals, objectives, plans and policies, and combine them with new goals, strategies and actions. (For more about the plan and other themes, see page 21.)

Through the ESP, new greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets were adopted that follow Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) recommendations, which also closely align with those at the federal, provincial and regional levels. The new corporate and community targets are to reduce GHG emissions by 45% by 2030 and be carbon neutral by 2050 (by 2007 levels).

The ESP also incorporates the Climate Adaptation Strategic Plan adopted in late 2020, which sets out actions to address the impacts of climate on civic services, infrastructure and residents. The plan augments more than a decade of City climate advocacy that has included signing the Climate Action Charter in 2007 and calling for the world's governments to lower greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, in addition to actions such as energy efficiency upgrades at civic facilities, employee awareness, City-wide LED street lighting, an "Ecofleet" of electric, hybrid and fuel-efficient compact vehicles, promotion of energy conservation in the community and an electrical vehicle charging network. The City achieved carbon neutral status in 2015.

The City is currently developing a Climate Action Plan to identify how the City can meet its ESP targets. Using a low carbon resilience lens, the plan will identify opportunities to prepare for or reduce current and future climate impacts while reducing GHG emissions.





Car share vehicles available in City Centre



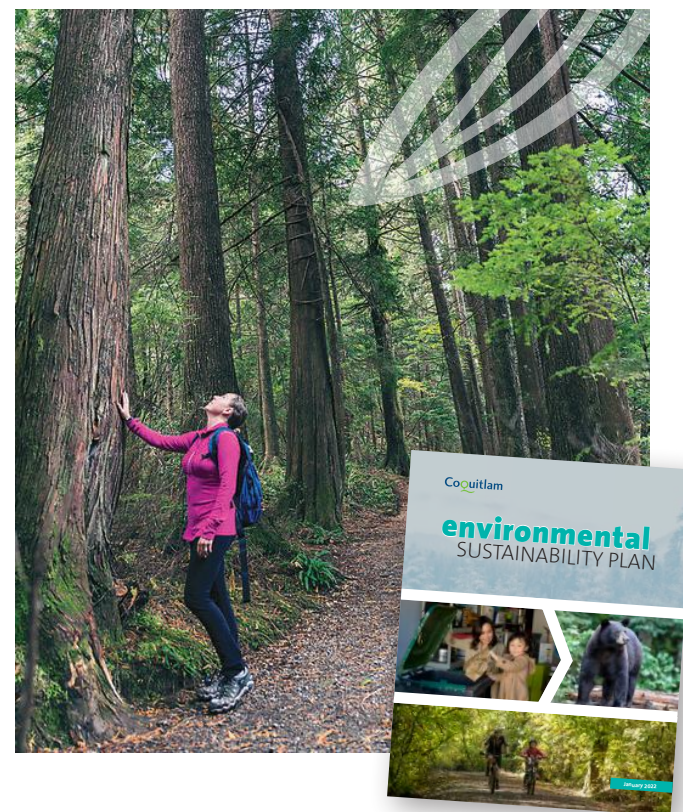
Energy conservation program in partnership with the City and Evergreen Cultural Centre

## Climate Action

As noted on the previous page, the City set new ambitious climate action targets in 2021 to reduce to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 45% by 2030. The City's efforts include the following:

- **Transportation:** Recognizing transportation is the biggest source of community GHG emissions, the City is making it easier to walk, roll or cycle to SkyTrain stations, bus routes and neighbourhood centres. The City crafts neighbourhood plans to enable sustainable transportation choices, and promotes electric vehicle use with bylaws and public battery charging infrastructure. Its Strategic Transportation Plan has set a target for 30 per cent of all trips to be by active transportation or transit by 2031—up from 20 per cent today. Coquitlam currently has 25 on-street bike lanes, 28 km of shared bikeways, 32 km of multi-use pathways, and two free bike maintenance stations.
- **LED Street Lights:** Coquitlam completed its five-year City-wide conversion of street lights to LED in 2022, encompassing about 10,000 lights. LED lights are brighter, use 57% less energy, last four to five times longer, resulting in less waste. They also cost about half as much to retain. The City expect to save \$38 million over the 20-year lifespan.
- **Cutting Carbon:** The City's Carbon Cutters team has been educating and engaging staff on energy use and greenhouse gases for more than a decade (see page 30 for more information). This work contributes to \$800,000 in annual energy savings the City achieves through carbon-cutting, along with initiatives such as shifting the City fleet to electric or energy efficient models and 40 solar-powered parking pay stations. The City has earned \$1.6 million in grants and rebates since 2007 for climate action.
- **Project Greenlight** 🌱: Coquitlam is leveraging the benefits of cleantech—technology that benefits the environment—through Project Greenlight, a local procurement platform that teams up public or private enterprises with technology companies to accelerate innovative projects and service-delivery. Since joining in May 2022, the City has issued three open calls for projects to support goals in its Environmental Sustainability Plan related to climate action, built or green infrastructure, and water management. Dozens of exciting proposals were received, and the City is now narrowing down candidates after the conclusion of the latest open call May 31, 2023. See [coquitlam.ca/ProjectGreenlight](https://coquitlam.ca/ProjectGreenlight) for more.





## Environmental Sustainability Plan

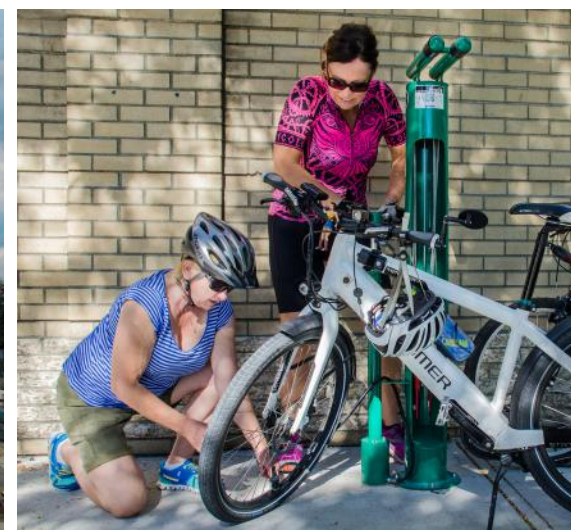
Adopted in January 2022, the Environmental Sustainability Plan (ESP) is Coquitlam's new forward-looking plan to guide future decisions that support long-term environmental resiliency and the sustainability of the community. Designed to align with and complement overarching City plans such as Coquitlam's Strategic Plan and Citywide Official Community Plan, the ESP provides a strategic and sustainable pathway for the City to achieve the vision of a community that "sustains a high quality of life for current and future generations, where people choose to live, learn, work and play."

The ESP links existing and future environmental actions together in a single plan with clear goals and targets coupled with specific actions for implementation, focused around five themes: climate action; the built environment; natural areas, wildlife and habitat; water management and waste management.

The plan includes 135 actions, a mix of new, enhanced and ongoing work divided into short-term, medium-term, and long-term timeframes. Accountability is built into the ESP through a suite of key performance indicators that are reported on each year and may be adjusted over time as new information emerges.

Implementation of the ESP in 2022 focused on short-term and ongoing actions as well as a "Top 10" priority action list. This included developing a new Climate Action Plan and Electric Mobility Strategy, implementing an enhanced Water Conservation Strategy and developing outreach on stormwater management. Priorities in 2023 include developing a city-wide Urban Forest Management Strategy, and strategic public engagement to encourage community action on climate change.





## Sustainable Transportation Options

### Evergreen Extension: *A Sustainability Success Story*

The **Evergreen Extension** is an 11-kilometre extension to the existing SkyTrain system in Metro Vancouver. It provides a fast, frequent and convenient high-speed transit service connecting Coquitlam City Centre to the surrounding suburbs and downtown Vancouver. The Evergreen Extension service opened in late 2016 and has been a sustainability success story in terms of encouraging people to leave the cars at home and take transit. Coquitlam has also been encouraging residents to explore their own city by train. The four SkyTrain stations include Burquitlam, Coquitlam Central, Lincoln and Lafarge Lake-Douglas.

**Bike Lockers** Bike lockers at the Lafarge Lake-Douglas and Coquitlam Central stations also offer convenient and secure bike storage for those who prefer cycling to complete their commute. Additionally, TransLink-owned secure bike parkades are available at Burquitlam Station and Lafarge Lake-Douglas Station.

### Parking Options Encourage SkyTrain Commute

The City introduced parking options for Evergreen Extension commuters, which includes hundreds of Park and Ride parking spots throughout Coquitlam's City Centre.

The City also implemented parking regulations—including timed parking restrictions and paid parking—to ensure visitors and customers can still access parking for residential areas, local businesses and civic centres. Wherever possible, commuters are encouraged to use other transit options to connect to the SkyTrain.

In addition, Coquitlam recently introduced guidelines for secure long- and short-term bicycle parking for all future medium and high density developments—another step to support active transportation to SkyTrain stations and beyond.

### Bike Maintenance Stations

The City installed public bike maintenance stations at Poirier Sport and Leisure Complex, City Centre Aquatic Complex and the new Bettie Allard YMCA in Burquitlam as part of its ongoing efforts to encourage cycling and be a bike-friendly community. These stations are also available for staff use.

The green stations feature an air pump, adjustable arms for elevating bikes and tools needed for basic bike repairs and maintenance, including Phillips and flat-head screwdrivers, tire levers and an array of wrenches.







Summit Middle School Walk to School Project

## Sustainable Transportation Options

### Micromobility Support 🌸

Coquitlam supports micromobility—light transportation modes such bikes and scooters, both human-powered and electric—in a variety of ways as part of its effort to promote low/no-carbon transportation.

The City joined a provincial e-scooter pilot in early 2023, including rules and safe scooter-use guidelines for riders of electric kick scooters over age 16. Coquitlam is also seeking an e-bike/e-scooter sharing provider, with anticipated launch by summer 2023.

Micromobility users can find safe routes with the free CoquitlamConnect app, which provides regional routes filtered by skill level and type, such as off-street, on-street or major street (see [coquitlam.ca/CoquitlamConnect](https://coquitlam.ca/CoquitlamConnect)). Hundreds of kilometres of regional routes can also be found in the printed and online Tri-Cities Cycling Map.

Safety tips for micromobility users and people walking and rolling are posted at [coquitlam.ca/ Sharing-our-Streets](https://coquitlam.ca/Sharing-our-Streets). The City also supports HUB Cycling's Learn2Ride program, which delivers interactive cycling courses at Coquitlam schools for all Grade 3 – 6 students, including basic road rules, safe cycling concepts and bike handling skills.

### Car Sharing Program

The first car share vehicle was introduced to the City in 2015 and since that time, the number has grown to 19 car share vehicles at 17 different locations in the City Centre, Lougheed, Burquitlam and Austin Heights, all operated by Modo. Car share vehicles within Coquitlam are part of the two-way model requiring users to return the vehicles to their original pick up stations. There are 10 in the City Centre, two in Lougheed and one in Burquitlam.

### Sustainable Modes of Travel

Ongoing programs improve pedestrian safety to encourage walking include improving pedestrian facilities around elementary schools, providing continuous walking and cycling routes that link major city destinations, and constructing curb letdowns, curb extensions and retrofits of existing sidewalks to improve the walking environment.

### Middle School Walk-Bike Ability Program

The City, in partnership with TransLink's TravelSmart, has delivered a Walk-Bike Ability program at all eight middle schools in Coquitlam. Under this program, the City and TravelSmart engage with students, parents, School District 43, ICBC and several other organizations to help identify potential infrastructure improvements that would encourage walking, cycling and use of public transit, as well as provide information to students, teachers, administrators and parents about the different options for getting to and from school.





### Compact, Energy-Efficient Fire Trucks

2016 marked the arrival of four new energy-efficient fire engines. The custom-designed Pierce pumpers have resulted in safer and more effective firefighting while reducing emissions and cutting maintenance, fuel, water and foam costs. Highlights include: energy-efficient LED lighting, rechargeable cordless portable lights and 24-volt scene lighting that can operate for long periods without the need to idle the engines. The pumpers are also equipped with efficient compressed-air foam systems that use less water, resulting in less damage to property and reduced impact to the environment from hazardous water runoff.



City staff use electric vehicle to travel to other work sites

### Vehicle Fleet Innovation

Coquitlam supports electric vehicle (EV) use with a growing network of public EV charging stations. Between 2015 and 2020, the City added a total of 25 charging stalls throughout the community. EV charging infrastructure has been required in new multi-family developments since 2018.

The City is also expanding its Ecofleet of electric, hybrid and fuel-efficient vehicles, which currently includes:

- 3 fully electric Ford Focus cars
- 3 fully electric small utility dump trucks
- 3 fully electric Zamboni ice resurfacers
- 4 Ford Escape plug-in hybrids
- 4 Ford Cmax P plug-in hybrids
- 2 Ford Maverick hybrids
- 4 compact energy efficient fire trucks
- 4 fully electric Nissan Leaf cars (*coming in 2023*)
- 2 fully electric transit vans (*coming in 2023*)

Coquitlam is developing a green fleet strategy to help promote more vehicle purchases with greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction in mind. For several years, the City has focused on right-sizing its fleet and purchasing smaller, more fuel efficient vehicles where possible. It also actively seeks ways to reduce the GHG output of its current fleet by utilizing GPS technology to reduce idle times and increase vehicle utilization.

The City has also reduced GHG emissions by 30 per cent for its waste collection trucks through the use of automated waste collection systems and compressed natural gas vehicles (rather than diesel). Auxiliary cab heaters and energy-efficient LED emergency lighting have also reduced the need for truck operators to idle vehicles to keep cab warm or for lighting.





### A Change for the Better

Coquitlam diverted more than 21,000 tonnes of recyclable material from the landfill through green waste and recycling programs in 2022, resulting in a 71% diversion rate. We've been consistently at a 68–71% diversion rate every year since 2016. This rate surpasses the current regional residential target of 65%. Household garbage disposal has dropped from 0.44 tonnes per household per in 2014 to 0.35 tph/y in 2022. We've been maintaining the same 0.35 tph/y since 2017

## Managing Our Waste

**Composting** The City hosts a compost giveaway event each spring and offers discounted subsidized backyard composters to residents year-round. More than 500 composters were sold to residents from 2014 to 2022. The City's Inspiration Garden also delivers composting education to the community through programs and displays. These outreach activities encourage composting while highlighting the importance of diverting organic materials from the waste stream and benefits of using compost in the garden.

**Zero Waste Challenge** Coquitlam adheres to the Zero Waste Challenge, a program developed by Metro Vancouver that focuses on minimizing waste generation and maximizing the reuse and recycling of materials.

### Parks Waste Management Review 🌸

This review—which included a comprehensive waste-stream audit and research of industry best practices—led to changes in park infrastructure and service methodology, staffing, public education and the separation of dog waste, including 17 dog waste receptacles.

**Waste and Wildlife** We regularly communicate with residents about how to safely store their garbage and food waste and to remove wildlife attractants from their property.

**Christmas Tree Disposal** The City and local businesses team up with community organizations (Friends of Mundy Park, Coquitlam Scouts, Coquitlam Kinsmen Club) to provide tree-chipping for the community.

**Waste Wizard Recycling/Disposal Tool** Residents search this online recycling database to properly recycle or dispose of items. In 2022, over 100,000 items were searched.



### Upcycled Textiles City Contest

City departments were invited to submit a photo of clothing, accessories, decorations, toys, etc. that they had created or refashioned using old textiles for a chance to win \$100 towards a lunch or coffee/snacks of their choice! A textiles donation bin was located at City Hall and Austin Works Yard for staff to browse through the clothing for material for their upcycling projects! Why textiles?

The life of a pair of jeans, from production to disposal, costs:

- 33.4 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e of greenhouse gases, equivalent to driving 111-km (or from Coquitlam to Harrison Hot Springs)
- 3,781 L of water—three days of water for a household
- Other environmental, social, and economic costs

Textiles are the fifth largest contributor to many countries' carbon footprints. On top of that, 95% of clothes thrown away by the average person can be reused or recycled.





## Water Conservation

Residents have taken personal responsibility to conserve the use of water through the purchase of the following water-wise tools from the City.

**Rain Barrels** More than 1,000 rain barrels have been sold from the City since 2017. Rain barrels are 50% made of recycled materials and harvest rain water, conserving water while providing water for gardens and plants.

**Electronic Water Timer** Since 2017 approximately 125 households have purchased electronic water timers, which are programmable to a seven-day watering calendar and work with low-pressure drip and soaker hoses.

**Efficient Irrigation Systems** The City uses a computer-controlled irrigation system for approximately 75% of its parks inventory and adjusts the amount of irrigation applied on a daily basis based on weather conditions. Irrigation is done overnight to minimize evaporation.

**Public Education** City staff hosted at least 25 events and completed door-to-door outreach to more than 500 properties since 2017. Coquitlam also provides annual funding to the theatre group DreamRider, which performs a Water Conservation Education Program to five elementary schools, reaching an average of 1,000 students and teachers each year.

### Using Non-Potable Water at City Facilities

The Poirier Sport and Leisure Complex has installed water efficient fixtures such as low flow faucets, waterless urinals and 60 second timers. Water is also collected from drains throughout Spirit Square for use in irrigation systems.

## Bylaws

The City has a number of bylaws that support environmental initiatives, from protecting local watercourses to conserving water and promoting clean air. Highlights of these bylaws and their intended purpose are as follows:

- **Drinking Water Conservation Bylaw 4838**—promoting water conservation, including reduced consumption by residents and businesses
- **Conservation Bylaw 2454**—regulating moving or removing large amounts of soil
- **Tree Management Bylaw 4091**—protecting trees and regulating cutting and replacement
- **Wildlife and Vector Control Bylaw 4284**—prohibiting activities or environments that attract vectors and wildlife
- **Solid Waste Management Bylaw 4679**—ensuring garbage and other wildlife attractants are secured
- **Stream and Drainage System Protection Bylaw 4403**—regulating discharge into streams and drainage system from development
- **Pesticide Use Control Bylaw 4254**—preventing many pesticides on public and private land
- **Noxious Weed Bylaw 4181**—preventing the spread of Giant Hogweed
- **Litter and Desecration Prohibition Bylaw 4762**—preventing litter, graffiti and dumping in public spaces
- **Zoning Amendment Bylaw 4905**—requiring new multi-family developments to install electric vehicle charging infrastructure
- **Anti-Idling Bylaw 5003**—reducing unnecessary idling





Green Street constructed by Wesbild on Watkins Ave. supports rainwater management targets



Developers follow sustainable building approaches



Storm drain protection during development

## Making a Difference through Sustainable Development Initiatives

### Encouraging Developers to Build Better

Through the **Building Better program**, the City showcases projects that use sustainable building approaches and are built with nature in mind. This is our way of recognizing the builders, developers and businesses in Coquitlam that share our commitment to better building practices—from installing pervious pavement and rain gardens to incorporating water quality ponds and green roofs and walls.

Building Better helps reduce greenhouse gases, use less energy, improve water quality and reduce erosion in creeks and rivers, reduce the heat island effect, provide healthy aquatic habitat and protect watershed health.

### Erosion and Sediment Control

The City has taken a proactive approach to all development in Coquitlam through a comprehensive **Erosion and Sediment Control Management Strategy** and supporting bylaws. Starting from the demolition permit/building permit application stage, applicants are informed and educated on what the City expects from construction crews working in Coquitlam. Pre-development meetings are held with all parties involved explaining the environmental protection requirements under the Stream and Drainage System Protection Bylaw. For large developments in the Stoney Creek watershed, these meetings include discussion of the new bylaw requirement for real-time monitoring of site runoff using high-tech in-stream equipment. This equipment is proving to be a valuable tool in ensuring local creeks are protected from any negative impacts from construction.

### Integrated Watershed Management Plans

Coquitlam has developed **Integrated Watershed Management Plans (IWMP)** for all of its urban watersheds in order to preserve watershed health while facilitating growth and development. An IWMP investigates the quality and quantity of stormwater runoff, flood protection, environmental protection of aquatic resources, wildlife and their habitats, land use, greenways and recreation.

### City-Wide Rainwater Management Requirements

Coquitlam treats stormwater as a resource and manages rainwater to keep our watersheds healthy. Our **Rainwater Management Strategy** helps to maintain base flows in streams, prevent erosion, improve water quality and protect fish habitat. Source controls such as topsoil, infiltration facilities, bioswales, pervious paving and raingardens reduce the quantity and improve the quality of urban runoff at or near its source. The practical, performance-based rainwater management requirements apply to all subdivision and building permit applications in watersheds with an IWMP.





Galloway Rain Garden



Catch basin markers



New cycling routes

## Other Environmental Initiatives

The City has implemented the following initiatives:

- **Go by Bike Week:** Coquitlam supports this annual cycling promotion week with celebration stations hosted by HUB Cycling, supplying free snacks, bike maintenance and prizes.
- **Catch Basins:** Catch basins safely collect rainwater runoff and prevent road and property flooding. Some catch basins are marked with a yellow fish as a reminder that all catch basins, marked or unmarked, are connected to creeks, streams and other environmentally sensitive water bodies.
- **Cycling:** The City promotes cycling through more than 117 kilometres of bike routes (ranging from bike lanes to multi-use paths and greenways), an interactive regional bike map on the CoquitlamConnect app, two public bike repair stations, and by working with developers to implement support facilities in new developments such as bike racks, storage rooms, change rooms and showers.
- **Commuter Challenge:** Coquitlam staff have participated in week-long challenges to commute to work by foot, cycle, carpool or transit and log their trips for a chance to win prizes.
- **Non-potable Source of Water:** The Vancouver Golf Club, recognized as one of the finest golf clubs in the Pacific Northwest, is located in the heart of a Coquitlam residential area. The Club's 18-hole championship course is situated in a woodland park setting of over 176 acres. In 1996, the Club installed a new irrigation system with the development of a three million-gallon reservoir, making it independent of City water.
- **Phytotechnology Practices:** The City uses plants and engineered soil for cleaning road runoff from Lougheed Highway. Plants in bio-swales in parking lots clean polluted surface runoff and rain gardens at several locations help clean polluted road runoff. Some water quality ponds also have plants to help remove contaminants.

## Festival du Bois—Green Future

The Festival du Bois is green! The festival's Green Future initiative promotes sustainable options without impacting attendees' experience. Festival du Bois encourages attendees to help reach this goal through four major goals:

- **Transportation:** A shuttle bus is provided and alternative modes of transportation are promoted to get to and from the festival, including walking, biking, transit and carpooling.
- **Public Education:** An onsite green zone raises awareness of eco-friendly decision-making.
- **Waste Reduction:** The event provides free water dispensing stations and encourages attendees to bring a reusable bottle or borrow reusable cups. Non-reusable water bottles were not sold on-site.
- **Waste Management:** Recycling, composting and garbage containers are provided, with volunteers on hand to help. Unsold food is redistributed.





## Other Environmental Initiatives

- **Landscaping near Sensitive Bear Habitat**—Public education programs inform residents of the importance of avoiding landscaping with plants that attract bears and offer recommended alternatives.
- **Reducing Geese Populations**—An education campaign reminding people that they should not feed the geese—combined with relocating geese when they are flightless in June—aims to reduce the number of geese in Como Lake Park to ensure the area is healthy for all waterfowl, the lake, park users and other animals.
- **Shielding for Night Sky Issues**—The City only uses “flat glass” fixtures or full cut-off post-top lights for any new lighting. To reduce “spill” lighting, the City also installs house-side shields and shrouds on lights.



Street Pay Stations are solar powered and cell connected

## Solar Power Programs

Coquitlam is increasingly turning to solar power when feasible for a variety of City functions and operations, including:

- Remote advance warning sign system, such as one eastbound on Como Lake prior to Baker Drive;
- Rectangular rapid flashing beacons at crosswalks;
- Speed reader signs that are fixed or on trailers to move to other sites;
- Forty of the City's 44 on-street parking pay stations, which use solar power for all machine operations, credit card processing, ticket printing, cell phone and backlit displays;
- Changeable portable public message signs on trailers; and
- Aquaterr irrigation controllers, which operate on either replacement or solar-charged batteries, used to adjust the timing, duration and locations of watering through the irrigation system in areas with no access to electrical power.

The use of solar will continued to be explored as the City expands its use of renewable energy sources through the Environmental Sustainability Plan. This will include the use of solar-thermal heating for outdoor pools with its Spani Pool renewal project, as well as pilot solar-powered mobile device charging stations in parks.





National Sweater Day



Playground surface at new Como Lake Park diverted 1,000 tires from landfill



## Other Environmental Initiatives

### Coquitlam Carbon Cutters

Coquitlam Carbon Cutters is an employee-led, cross-department green team formed in 2010 through a partnership with BC Hydro and Fortis BC. The team supports operational and behavioural changes to achieve energy reductions. It has implemented more than 30 campaigns and initiatives over the years, engaging staff in energy conservation behaviours such as sustainable commuting and work practices.

### Recycling and Other Disposal Options

Coquitlam is home to an expansive new regional United Boulevard Recycling and Waste Centre, which opened in spring 2022. The new facility is offering Coquitlam residents a convenient new centre with enhanced recycling and waste drop-off options, in addition to the City's curbside recycling programs and Town Centre Depot.

Coquitlam residents are avid recyclers:

- 71% of household waste is diverted from the landfill, compared to 64% regionally.
- 0.37 tonnes of garbage is generated per household each year—36% lower than the regional rate.
- 9,600 items were collected through the Large Item Pick-up Program up to 2021.
- 180+ tonnes of household recyclables are collected at Town Centre Recycling Depot.
- 350,000+ Waste Wizard searches for item disposal were made from 2015 to 2021.
- 300+ toilets have been replaced as part of the Toilet Rebate Program.

### City-wide Garage Sale 🌸

After a break during the pandemic, Coquitlam's popular City-Wide Garage Sale returned in fall 2022, encouraging residents to sell or giveaway household items in good condition while contributing to environmental sustainability and community waste-reduction efforts. This event will be held every spring and fall.





Friends of DeBoville Slough Knotweed Removal Work Party



Maple Creek Watershed Streamkeepers

## A Community that Participates

Coquitlam residents are active participants in environmental events and activities including Salmon Come Home, International Migratory Bird Day, Como Lake Fishing Derby and storm-drain marking events.

**School District 43** School district officials have implemented a range of waste reduction and water conservation initiatives to promote sustainable behaviour change and significantly reduce energy consumption.

**Maple Creek Middle School** The dedicated efforts of the school's Green Team are enhancing students' awareness of the importance of sustainability. Students recycle, bring litterless lunches and are rewarded for choosing reusable water bottles and more.

**Burke Mountain Naturalists** The Burke Mountain Naturalists published a trail guide called Discover Nature in the Tri-Cities and guided public hikes with the objective of inspiring community passion for nature.

**Tri-City Greendrinks** This diverse group, sponsored by the Tri-City Green Council, brings together like-minded people and guest speakers to spark conversation. Mingling and making new connections is a must, and meetings discuss sustainable or environmental issues.

**Stewardship Groups** Many stewardship groups are active in Coquitlam, including:

- Burke Mountain Naturalists
- Friends of DeBoville Slough
- Friends of Mundy Park
- Friends of Walton Forest
- Hoy-Scott Watershed Society Hatchery
- Hyde Creek Watershed Society
- Maple Creek Watershed Streamkeepers
- North Fraser Salmon Assistance Program
- Riverview Horticultural Centre Society
- Stoney Creek Environmental Committee
- Tri-Cities Off Road Cycling Association (TORCA)

## Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Committee to City Council

This group advises Council on environmental issues, offers a local perspective on the environment, identifies opportunities for environmental protection and enhancement, and identifies ways to promote environmental awareness and stewardship.

## Celebrating Coquitlam's Environmental Volunteers

The City holds Environmental Achievement Awards and Environmental Volunteer Celebrations on alternating years to recognize community volunteers and stewardship groups involved in environmental sustainability initiatives that work to promote, preserve and enhance Coquitlam's natural environment. The biannual awards are handed out in seven categories: individuals (children, teens and adults), teacher/educators, youth and adult groups and lifetime achievement.





## Businesses that Participate

Coquitlam businesses promote and engage in environmental initiatives as part of practicing good business in the community.

### Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce

The Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce created a new award category titled “Environmental Steward of the Year”. This award will be given to a Tri-Cities business that has demonstrated exceptional contributions, commitment, and actions that make a positive impact on the local environmental landscape.

Criteria include:

- Demonstrates an in-depth understanding and an outstanding, cooperative effort to environmental sustainability.
- Is a role model for business in environmental sustainability best practices (recycling, composting, energy/water conservation, gardening, etc.).
- Demonstrates sustainable business practices in its own operations (aside from the product or service for sale).
- Helps to build environmental awareness and promote environmental stewardship within the Tri-Cities environmental landscape.
- Has milestones and/or measureable accomplishments that demonstrate effective sustainable operations.

### Ethical Waste Services—Coquitlam location at 224 Cayer St.

The company is continuously looking to make a positive difference to the environment and with people. It donates 50% of its profits to a youth outreach program.

They donate time, services and repurposed items to Habitat For Humanity, SHARE, Beas Closet, School District 43, Tri-City Transition House and Friends of the Syrian Refugees (and anyone else in need).

In addition, Ethical Waste has done the following:

- Created a \$2000 bursary at Douglas College for the Youth Worker Program;
- Recycled 3000 tonnes (6,600,000 lbs) of drywall last year keeping it out of the landfill;
- Started Back Pack Buddies to feed kids on the weekend; and
- Launched a pilot program sorting 4.5 tonnes of waste and recycling the materials including 750 large cans of food that they opened and composted 2.2 tonnes of food waste. Of the 4.5 tonnes, only 50 lbs went to the landfill.

### VanCity Savings Credit Union —Tri-Cities Branches

VanCity holds environmental sustainability as a core value. This value is practiced within its branches and the community as a whole. This past spring, VanCity provided a significant grant to the Coquitlam River Watershed Society for implementing a water conservation outreach program that focuses on the environment flow benefits to connect water extraction and reduced water consumption. VanCity has strived to achieve LEED certification in a number of its branches. VanCity is held accountable to meet various environmental targets through an annual audit conducted by KPMG which is included in VanCity’s annual report.





## Going Green at Coquitlam Centre 🌱

Coquitlam Centre, the Tri-City region's largest indoor shopping centre, has implemented a variety of measures and programs over the past 15 years to reduce its environmental impact.

A few examples of these green initiatives are:

- Comprehensive retailer recycling and organics programs, including specialized recycling of soft plastic, lightbulbs, electronics, Styrofoam and other items;
- Food and waste sorting stations at the food court;
- Hand dryers in all public restrooms to avoid the need for paper towels;
- A heat-recovery unit in the common area for reduced energy consumption;
- Online internal communications to reduce paper use;
- A conscious effort to ensure promotional item giveaways are eco-friendly;

- Upgrading to recycled plastic for Coquitlam Centre gift cards;
- Installing electric vehicle charging stations; and
- Installing beehives on the roof to support pollinators.

Coquitlam Centre has also worked with consultants to identify ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and has started taking actions including lighting retrofits and mechanical equipment updates.

Through these and other programs, in 2022 Coquitlam Centre saved 7.5 million litres of water, 5,423 trees and 1,364 cubic metres of landfill space. In all, the mall diverted 51.23 per cent of waste from the landfill in 2022.

## Soul Bite Food Redistribution 🌱

Soul Bite Food is a social enterprise that creates award-winning frozen vegan comfort food while combating food waste and hunger and helping the environment. In addition to operating its frozen food business, Soul Bite collects viable unsold food, day-old goods and items near their best-before date from grocery stores for free, and redistributes them through a partnership with the Immigrant Link Centre Society. Each year Soul Bite collects and re-distributes over 900 tonnes of food to people in need while keeping usable food out of the landfill and preventing about 1,600 tonnes of carbon monoxide emissions.





Burke Mountain Naturalists





Watershed Tour



Coquitlam Dam

## Coquitlam Dam

Coquitlam Lake has existed since the last glacier left the region over 10,000 years ago. Today, it is the source of some of the world's cleanest drinking water. The first dam was constructed at the outlet of Coquitlam Lake in 1892, followed by further expansion to accommodate increased demand. However, fish passage facilities were not incorporated into the designs.

As a result of construction during the last century, fish access to large areas of salmon spawning and rearing habitat above the dam was cut off and the Coquitlam sockeye salmon run was extirpated. Reduced water flows severely impacted salmon spawning and rearing habitat below the dam, contributing to a severe decline in salmon production in the river system.

It's hoped that through implementation of the Coquitlam-Buntzen Water Use Plan, increased water flow management regimes initiated by BC Hydro in 2010, in combination with the completion of new spawning and rearing habitats and continuing hatchery and stewardship operations involving the

Coquitlam Watershed Roundtable and *kʷikwə́łəm* First Nation, will improve conditions and increase salmon production in the river system downstream from the dam. Efforts are continuing toward re-establishing runs of sockeye and other salmon species in the area above the Coquitlam Dam by establishing continuity between the two watersheds, either by a trap and truck procedure, or preferably by fish ladder.

The City of Coquitlam has been working with Metro Vancouver on a major water utility infrastructure project at the Coquitlam watershed to ensure the region will continue to have high-quality drinking water. The existing Coquitlam water treatment facilities have been upgraded and an ultraviolet (UV) light disinfection facility has been added in order to comply with new requirements under Health Canada's Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality. This facility has been treating Coquitlam source water since early 2014.





The Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable promotes long-term sustainability

## Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable

The Coquitlam River watershed is part of the traditional territory of the *kʷikʷəłəm* First Nation, and it has been their home since time immemorial. A healthy future for the watershed is of the utmost importance to the *kʷikʷəłəm*, as it is for the hundreds of thousands of Metro Vancouver residents who rely on drinking water from this source.

The City of Coquitlam is an active partner in the Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable, which was founded in 2011 following a four-year community engagement process.

It also involves regional, federal and First Nation partners, stewards and members of the community to implement strategies that promote the health and long-term sustainability of the Coquitlam River Watershed while addressing pressures from storm water, development, invasive species and water extraction on watershed health.

The committee meets on a regular basis to facilitate implementation of projects identified in the 2015 Lower Coquitlam River Watershed Management Plan.

## Green Label Printing Company Shows Corporate Environmental Innovation

Associated Labels and Packaging has demonstrated a strong commitment to the environment through green label printing, as well as its creation of North America's first 100% Backyard Compostable Stand-Up Pouch. Measures such as replacing a 40-yard trash container with an internal recycling program, diverts over 300,000 pounds of waste annually from the landfill, and reduces waste pickups by 50%.

### Other Green Initiatives

Other green initiatives include replacing white printed shipping boxes with brown corrugated boxes, installing high-efficiency hand dryers, banning Styrofoam cups on-site and completing an energy audit with BC Hydro. The company has also adopted a trail for the past four years.

### 1% for the Planet

Associated Labels and Packaging joined 1% for the Planet, pledging to donate 1% of annual sales of their Non-GMO, Backyard Compostable Stand-Up Pouches to support nonprofit organizations focused on the environment and in the hopes of inspiring other companies to do the same.





Pinetree Secondary School Recycling Club

## Participation from Educational Institutions

### School District 43—Our Green Future

School District officials have developed a plan for the Green Future of all schools. This plan will ensure understanding and involvement of all students and employees of the environmental initiatives leading to sustainable behavior change.

### Pinetree Secondary School Recycling Club

The club is hosted by a dedicated group of students who want to make an impact on the environment through recycling. Through a video they have created for the **BC Green Games**, the group hopes to discuss the importance of recycling.

### Roy Stibbs Elementary School

Coquitlam's Roy Stibbs School was selected as the "Greenest School" in B.C. and won \$1,000 from the **Green Schools, Green Futures Award Program** (sponsored by Tree Canada and FedEx Express Canada) for its efforts to promote an ecological schoolyard, reduce waste, conserve energy, be a caring school and promote eco-education.



### City Partners with Post-Secondary Institutions On Environmental Projects

The City of Coquitlam has formed partnerships with post-secondary institutions, including Simon Fraser University and BC Institute of Technology (BCIT), for program delivery. Coquitlam staff contribute environmental information and mentorship to post-secondary students enrolled in environmental, forestry and engineering programs at BCIT and gain fresh insights that assist municipal land use planning and environmental assessment studies.

The City provides site access for students to carry out field skills training in surveying, fish habitat and development sites assessment as part of their curriculum. The City is acknowledged for balancing a necessary growth in development with environmental requirements that respect the need for biodiversity of species, habitat and ecological functions. Joint municipal-educational partnerships have led to graduates becoming successful candidates for environmental-based employment with the City.





Historic Smolt Release

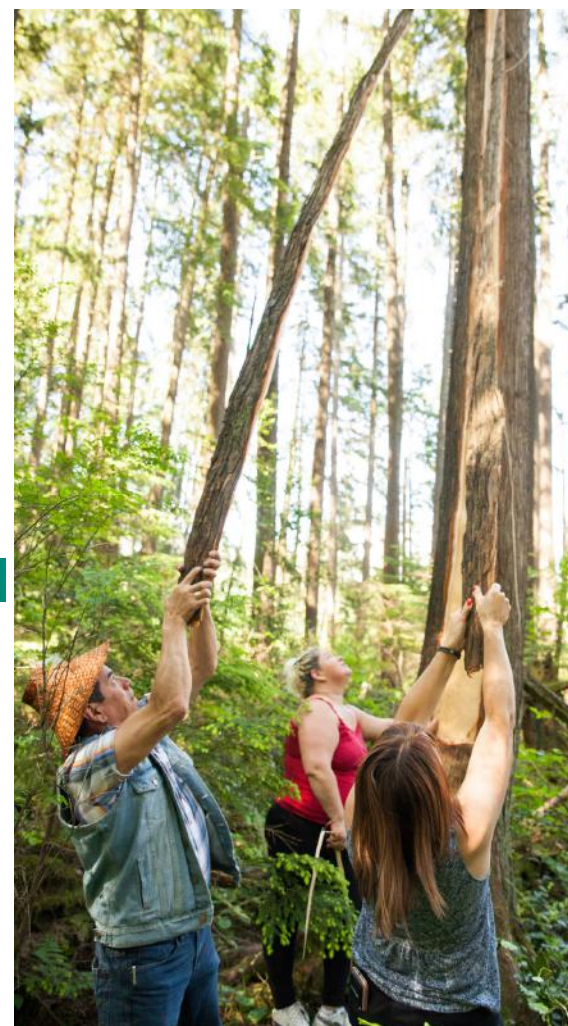
## kʷikwə́łəm First Nation

kʷikwə́łəm First Nation is involved in a number of environmental stewardship and fisheries restoration projects. The Nation works with a number of partners and has been involved with various projects.

**Wilson Farm Project** This negotiated highway construction mitigation project funded by the provincial Gateway Transportation Project has deepened and expanded existing channels for juvenile fish, replaced old tidal pumps with newer and fish-friendly pumps, and added cool groundwater to allow fish to better survive. Located on the Wilson Farm portion of Colony Farm Regional Park, the project has built a vital habitat for juvenile salmon and restored tidal function to a part of a river traditionally ranked high in the Outdoor Recreation Council's Endangered Rivers List.

**Sheep Paddocks** kʷikwə́łəm First Nation has been involved in a habitat restoration project for small animals in an area of Colony Farm Regional Park known as Sheep Paddocks. Members of the kʷikwə́łəm First Nation are still involved in habitat conservation and environmental monitoring as an ongoing part of this project.

**Sturgeon Telemetry Project** Undertaken in partnership with Watershed Watch Salmon Society, LGL Consulting Ltd. and the Fraser River Sturgeon Conservation Society, it involved tagging and telemetry to study the movement of sturgeon and their key habitat. This study indicated the importance of protecting Eulachon as a key food source for the Fraser River Sturgeon.



## First Nations Fisheries Legacy Fund

kʷikwə́łəm First Nation is one of six Lower Fraser First Nations (including Katzie, Kwantlen, Musqueam, Tsawwassen and Tslil-Waututh) involved in a collaborative venture to mitigate the impacts of highway developments on fisheries in the region.



# Heritage Conservation



Fraser Mills townsite, circa 1910s

Photo credit: City of Coquitlam Archives



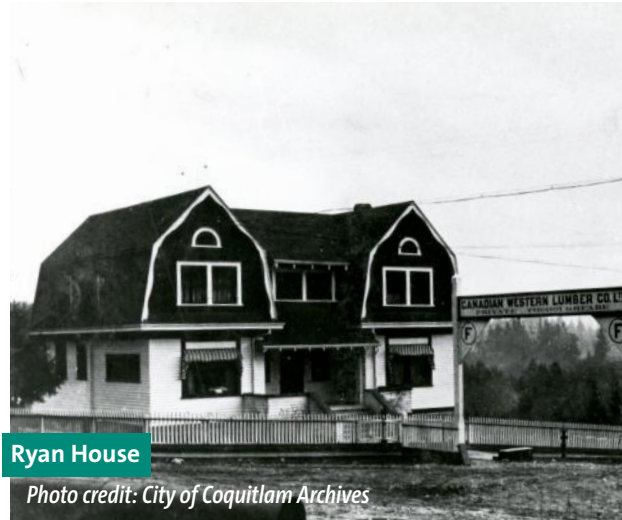
Coquitlam's rich heritage is evident in buildings, streetscapes, neighbourhoods, landscapes and other places throughout the city, as well as in the cultural practices of its diverse population. The earliest residents were the Coast Salish—in particular, the *k'wikwəłəm* people. European settlement began in the 1860s, leading to the incorporation of the District of Coquitlam in 1891. Fraser Mills, a state-of-the-art lumber mill, soon opened along the Fraser River and by 1908, a small town had grown around it. The timber trade attracted immigrants, each bringing their own culture and traditions, such as the Chinese-Canadian market gardens, restaurants and shops, the Sikh community's gurdwara at Fraser Mills, and the Francophone community in Maillardville. Chinese, Japanese and South Asian (primarily Sikhs from Punjab) people worked at the mill and area farms. Immigration has continued, establishing Coquitlam as a culturally diverse community.





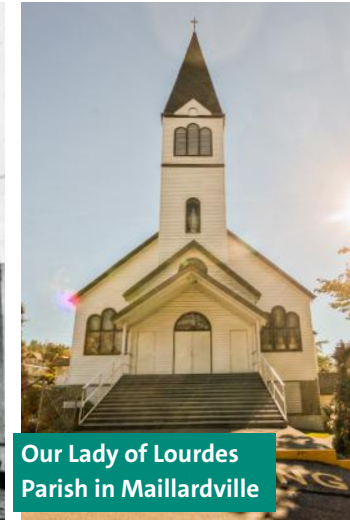
**Fraser Mills Train Station, circa 1909**

*Photo credit: City of Coquitlam Archives*



**Ryan House**

*Photo credit: City of Coquitlam Archives*



**Our Lady of Lourdes  
Parish in Maillardville**

## Built Heritage and Heritage Revitalization Agreements

The City of Coquitlam has been committed to preserving heritage properties in the city and a number of properties have been preserved through Heritage Revitalization Agreements (HRA). An HRA is authorized by City Council, through bylaw, and enables continuing protection of a heritage resource. It is intended to address a unique situation and sets out conditions that apply to a specific property and is mutually beneficial to both the owner and the City. The terms of the agreement supersede local government zoning regulations and the City may vary land use, density, setbacks and other regulations through the HRA Bylaw. In exchange, the owner agrees to restore, preserve and protect the building and/or property. To date, the following properties have already been preserved or identified for preservation through this process.

2008	• 311 Laval Square (Bédard House)	2017	• 907 Walls Avenue (Alsbury-Munday House)
2011	• 307 Begin Street (Paré Residence)	2018	• 207 Allard Street (Boileau House)
2012	• 1313 Cartier Avenue (Maison Velay) • 218 Begin Street (Sabourin House)	2019	• 686 Gauthier (Derceni Residence)
2014	• 801 Roderick Avenue (Rocheleau Cottage)	2020	• 433 Marmont (Philp Residence) • 213 Laval St. (Hammond/Lambert House) • 1302 Laval Sq. (Arthur and Rosa Dicaire House) • 1304 Laval Sq. (Croteau/Paré House) • 1309 Laval Sq. (Napoleon and Josephine Croteau House) • 1308 Cartier Ave. (Rodolphe and Lorette Boileau House)
2015	• 364 Blue Mountain Street (Irwin House) • 320 and 326 Casey Street (Hutchinson House, formerly 700 Rochester Avenue) • 1107 Cartier Avenue (Maison Leblanc)		
2016	• 1154 Rochester Avenue (Edward Davies House) • 804 Gauthier Avenue (Prost House) • 1207 Cartier Avenue (Bouthot Family Residence)		





Photo credit: City of Coquitlam Archives

### 311 Laval Square

This home was built in 1913 by the Bédard family, who arrived in 1910. It is valued for its association to French-Canadian migration from eastern Canada.



Photo credit: City of Coquitlam Archives

### 307 Begin St.

Built circa 1910 for the family of Vitalien Paré, it is one of the earliest and most significant surviving Maillardville houses.







### **218 Begin St.**

Built circa 1911 by Pierre Sabourin for himself, his sister and widowed mother, this Edwardian Foursquare house was constructed using free lumber provided by Fraser Mills.



### **801 Roderick St.**

Built circa 1929 by the Rocheleau family for son Arthur, its design took the craftsman style that was popular during that time and widely featured in period catalogues of prefabricated homes from companies such as Sears and Eaton's.



### **320 Casey St. (Hutchinson House, formerly at 700 Rochester Ave.)**

The Hutchinson House is valued for its historic association with Coquitlam's early settlement patterns. Of note is the fact that it is an intact example of a house from the City's second subdivision period. The building is also an historic and aesthetic example of a vernacular farmhouse in the Craftsman design tradition and was built using wood products from the local sawmill.

Built by James Hutchinson in 1921 and used as his family home for 25 years, the house is further valued for its continuous use as a long-term, single-family dwelling. There were members of the Hutchinson family living on Rochester Avenue as recently as 2010.

### **Coquitlam Heritage Symposium**

Coquitlam Heritage hosted a one-day symposium that brought together internationally acclaimed expert speakers and community leaders who discussed and developed ways to enrich the City of Coquitlam through the sharing of heritage. This event was the first of its type held in Coquitlam and workshop speakers included the City of Coquitlam Archivist and a representative from the Royal BC Museum. The symposium was highly praised by all participants and is expected to help create momentum for further heritage development in Coquitlam.

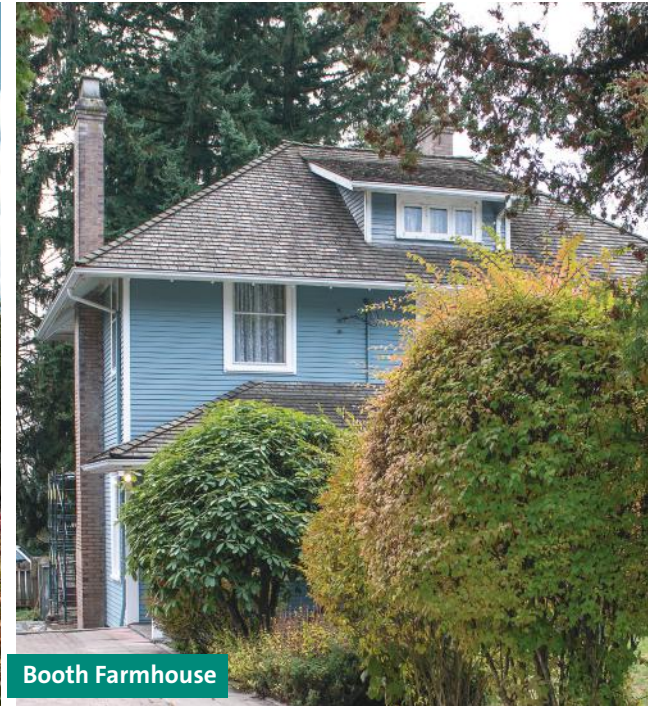


**Hutchinson House, relocated to 320 Casey St.**





Mackin House



Booth Farmhouse

## Preserving Coquitlam's Heritage

Maintaining and caring for Coquitlam's heritage enhances the community's distinct identity and pride, provides a sense of continuity between the past, present and future, and demonstrates a commitment to the general principle of sustainability. The City is dedicated to retaining and enhancing Coquitlam's distinct and valued heritage for future generations.

**Archives** Since the City of Coquitlam Archives was founded in 2013, the holdings have expanded dramatically to nearly two hundred linear meters of textual records and photographic materials. The Archives provides an online search portal and has responded to over three hundred reference requests from City staff, heritage consultants, academics, business owners, journalists, genealogists, artists, writers, students, and members of the general public. The Archives engages with the community through an outreach campaign that includes exhibits, public presentations, community projects and events, and social media initiatives like Throwback Thursday (#tbt) and HistoryPin.

**Booth Farmhouse** An historic property in Maillardville will be preserved thanks to the City of Coquitlam's recent acquisition of the land. The 1901 home was originally owned by Ralph Booth, a pioneer of the Maillardville community. Purchasing the Booth Farmhouse will ensure the heritage elements of the land are preserved.

**Corporate Sponsorship of Heritage Programs** Coquitlam Heritage has built fruitful relationships with many local companies and organizations, enabling it to offer various programming and activities to all members of the community. Donations include everything from pumpkins for the Heritage Halloween celebration to baking supplies for a Mother's Day event. Thanks to supporters Home Depot, Starbucks Coffee, Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory, Real Canadian Superstore and Minuteman Press.

**Heritage Bylaws** The City has a number of bylaws pertaining to Heritage Revitalization Agreement Authorization and Heritage Designations.





Our Lady of Lourdes Church



Paré House



Our Lady of Lourdes Church

Photos: City of Coquitlam Archives

**Heritage Inventory** Buildings, properties and sites that have potential heritage significance are placed on the heritage inventory. Properties on the heritage inventory are deemed to be worthy of further investigation and can occasionally become candidates for special incentives (e.g. Heritage Revitalization Agreements) that help secure the long term protection of the resource.

**Community Heritage Register** Resources with high heritage value are added by City Council to the Community Heritage Register. The Register is used to help increase public awareness of the city's heritage and promote value of local heritage resources, which may result in more of these buildings being retained and rehabilitated by property owners.

#### **Heritage Management Strategy (in progress)** 🌸

The Heritage Management Strategy will build on the City's 35-plus years of heritage planning. Based on a values-based approach to heritage conservation, it will offer a broad expression of Coquitlam's heritage that reflects what's important to the community and includes buildings, culture, natural heritage and more.

**Place des Arts Ryan House** Place des Arts began as a non-profit society in 1972 in Ryan House, a turn-of-the-century residence built by the Fraser Mills lumber mill. In 1996, this community arts centre and music school, which offers a variety of programming, expanded to 18,000 square feet.





Tree tours and heritage walks on səmiqʷəʔelə Lands

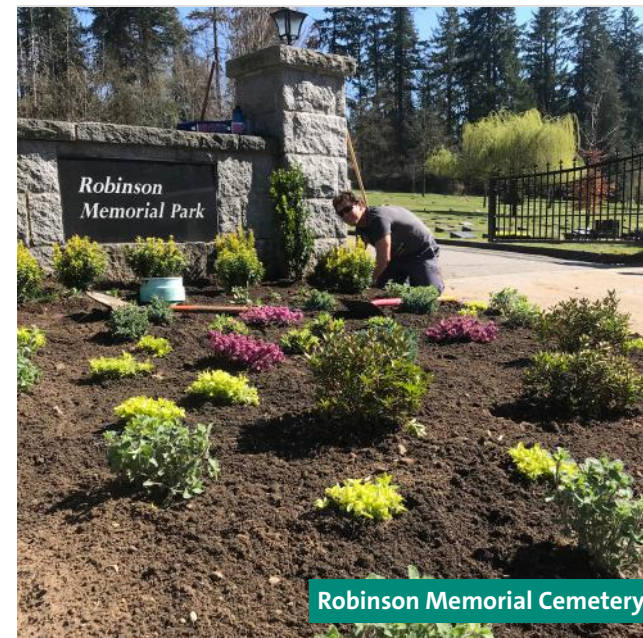


SPARC Radio Museum

**Robinson Memorial Cemetery** The cemetery caretaker offers guided walks and acts as a historian for the park. Some highlights of the cemetery are its first burials in 1937, a large area of unmarked graves where many patients from Essondale (now səmiqʷəʔelə Hospital) were buried during the Depression, and the grave of Emery Barnes (one of the first black politicians elected in British Columbia). The City also offers resources for a self-guided tour that highlights the many historical landmarks within the cemetery.

🌸 A recent expansion has provided a wider variety of burial options, including new sustainable green burials, based on recommendations in the Cemetery Services Plan.

**SPARC Radio Museum** Society for the Preservation of Antique Radio Canada (SPARC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving radio and electronic communications artifacts and history, with an emphasis on a Canadian perspective. Run by members and volunteers, the society maintains a museum accessible to the public, restores and repairs old radios, and broadcasts audio programs.



Robinson Memorial Cemetery





The kwikwə́łəm have lived on their territory since time remembered



First Nation Canoe at Lafarge Lake

## First Nations Heritage

### kwikwə́łəm First Nation

The kwikwə́łəm First Nation is the band government of the kwikwə́łəm, a Sto:lo people living in Coquitlam. They traditionally speak the dialect of Halq'eméylem, one of the Salishan family of languages. The name kwikwə́łəm means “red fish up the river,” in reference to the salmon that have historically travelled up the Coquitlam River.

The nation is made up of two reserves, a small 2.6-hectare site at the mouth of the Coquitlam River where it drains into the Fraser River, and a much larger 82-hectare site approximately 2 km north. About one-third of all kwikwə́łəm members live on the reserves, while the rest reside throughout Western Canada and the United States.

kwikwə́łəm elders' stories explain that they have always been here. Archaeology confirms continuous occupation of the traditional territory for at least 9,000 years, since the last ice age. First Nations people were the only human inhabitants in the Lower Coquitlam River Watershed and areas beyond until post contact times when European settlers came to live here as well. The first European to pass through the Lower Coquitlam River Watershed was Simon Fraser. In 1808, Fraser and his group travelled down the Fraser River past the mouth of the Coquitlam River. Post contact settlement in Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam began in the mid-1800s.





The 54-foot Kwikwaka'wakw canoe

### Youth in Bloom: kwikwaka'wakw First Nation Canoe Project

It has been more than 100 years since cedar logs have been at the Coquitlam Indian Reservation #1 and 100 years since the kwikwaka'wakw First Nation have had a canoe. The 54-foot racing or war canoe was carved on kwikwaka'wakw's Colony Farm land in 2009 and was led by Sto:lo artist Mark Point. The project served their new educational programs in partnership with School District 43.

The kwikwaka'wakw First Nation worked with Metro Vancouver to remove deadfall cedar trees from the Coquitlam River Watershed, the kwikwaka'wakw traditional territories.

While working with the kwikwaka'wakw people, Metro Vancouver identified a need to record their history and to strengthen the work that they had already completed with Land Use Studies and strategic plans. The Project Office staff assisted the kwikwaka'wakw First Nation in applying for a grant from BC Museums through BC150 Program to record the history of Chief Winnefred Joe, a direct descendant of Chief kwikwaka'wakw William. Cultural Capitals of Canada funds were used to create video documentation of the creation of the canoe.



Deadfall cedar trees were used for the canoe

### Other Initiatives

The Project Office worked closely with the kwikwaka'wakw First Nation staff on several other projects. A meeting took place with the First Nation representatives and City staff on the kwikwaka'wakw Bike Project. Staff were also consulting with kwikwaka'wakw First Nation on the Spirit Square project and other Provincial initiatives such as the Gateway project.





Many of səmiqʷəʔelə's trees are more than a century old



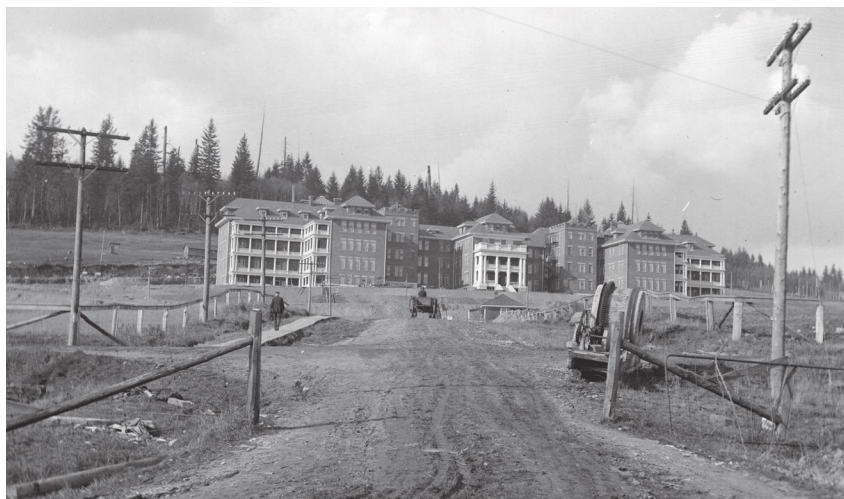
## Natural Heritage

In 2021, the 244-acre site once known as the Riverview Lands was renamed to səmiqʷəʔelə. For almost 100 years the lands were home to Riverview Hospital, for B.C. residents who have mental illness. The lands today still are home to mental health programs, and are valued by the community not only as a health care facility, but as a renowned heritage site, treasured botanical garden, arboretum and sanctuary. The property is co-managed by kʷikʷəłəm First Nation and BC Housing, who have recently begun a comprehensive planning process to determine the site's future. Themes of reconciliation, mental health care, ecological stewardship and housing will guide the development of a plan for the site.

## səmiqʷəʔelə Lands Advisory Committee to Council

This Committee, made up of community members and City council representatives, monitors the Community Vision and comprehensive plan for the future uses of the səmiqʷəʔelə Lands.





## səmiqʷəʔelə and Heritage Trees

səmiqʷəʔelə is valued by the City of Coquitlam and the community as a site of mental health care, heritage site, treasured botanical garden, arboretum and sanctuary. The tree collection is made up of over 1,800 open-grown specimen trees that were planted in the early 1900s as a working arboretum. The arboretum was established by British Columbia's first Provincial Botanist, John Davidson. He was charged with cultivating a representative sample of plants from all parts of the province. He established a nursery for the specimens along with a significant arboretum and western Canada's first botanical gardens. Davidson collected over 600 species for the site, which was tended by patients from Essondale Hospital (later Riverview) who contributed thousands of labour hours to the upkeep of the arboretum and gardens. When the University of British Columbia opened in 1916, John Davidson moved the garden collections to the new campus but the trees remained, growing into the magnificent specimens they are today. Volunteers from the Riverview Horticultural Centre Society conduct free public walking tours weekly during summer months to raise awareness of this spectacular collection's unique value. They also host Treefest every fall to invite the community to səmiqʷəʔelə learn about the site's history and the arboretum.



## səmiqʷəʔelə Comprehensive Community Planning Process

A renewed planning effort is now underway to determine the future of səmiqʷəʔelə. Since concluding a visioning program in 2015 for the site, the Province has partnered with kʷikwəʔəm First Nation in launching a comprehensive planning process for the site that will ultimately result in a development plan.

The comprehensive community planning process will be guided by five planning principles that emerged from the Province's visioning process:

Partner with kʷikwəʔəm First Nation through a reconciliation-based approach

1. Create an integrated community of mental health excellence
2. Engage with the site's pre- and post-colonial history
3. Protect and enhance the site's ecology
4. Create opportunities for affordable, safe and functional housing

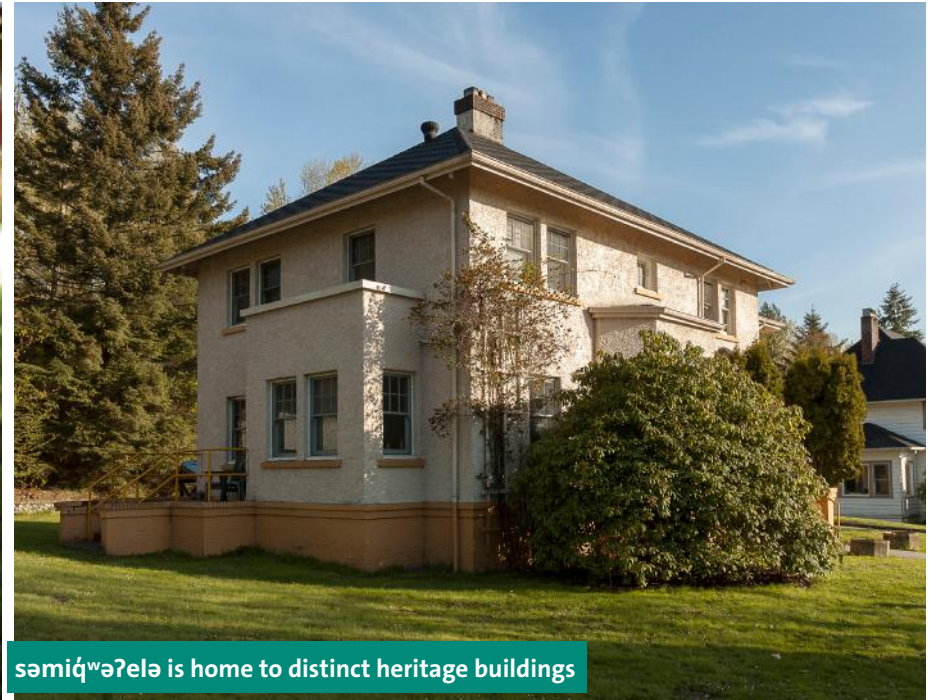




səmiqʷəʔelə Arboretum

### Colony Farm Sheep Paddock Wetland Habitat Restoration Project

The goal of this restoration project was to address specific fish and wildlife presence or abundance-limiting factors. This was achieved by successfully reaching the project's stated objectives of constructing and rehabilitating species-specific habitat lost or impacted by the construction and operation of the Coquitlam River Dam, and to rehabilitate the habitat for "best use" and increase biodiversity to improve watershed function. Key partners included BC Hydro, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, City of Coquitlam and the Kʷikʷəʔləm First Nation.



səmiqʷəʔelə is home to distinct heritage buildings

### səmiqʷəʔelə Heritage Buildings

The collection of heritage buildings on səmiqʷəʔelə (which are associated with the former Riverview Hospital site) represents a rich architectural legacy ranging from large 1913 Victorian buildings to unique 1920s cottages. Five buildings with very high heritage status are clustered in a campus like setting, amidst the distinctive treed landscape. Twenty-three other heritage buildings are scattered throughout the site.

### Protection of Natural Heritage

The Coquitlam River and its tributaries are essential for local First Nations. This key piece of Coquitlam's heritage has been preserved through the protection of watercourses and their adjacent forests as parkland. Significant runs of four pacific salmon species are still seen each year in the Coquitlam River system.





səmiqʷəʔelə East Lawn building completed in 1929

### Future of səmiqʷəʔelə

The City recognizes the importance of the səmiqʷəʔelə Arboretum, within the 244-acre səmiqʷəʔelə Hospital grounds, as an outstanding natural asset to the community as well as a heritage feature of national significance. As the owners of the land, the Province of B.C. is in the process of planning for future redevelopment plans of the səmiqʷəʔelə Hospital site. The protection and long-term planning for the Arboretum will be a key priority for the City. In the interim, the Riverview Horticultural Centre Society continues to raise awareness of the value of the site and the tree collection within the community through monthly guided tree walks. In addition, the Riverview Horticultural Centre Society partners with the City each year to host the annual Treefest celebration to further raise awareness and advocate for the conservation of the Arboretum.

### Definition of Heritage Tree

A Heritage Tree is a tree of biological, cultural, ecological or historical interest because of its age, size and/or condition. Heritage trees are a key component of the natural and cultural landscape and are the oldest living objects in a community.



səmiqʷəʔelə Arboretum contains over 1,800 trees





## Heritage Programming

### Celebrating Coquitlam's History

Did you know that Coquitlam was home to Canada's first purpose-built road-racing track? Or that Hollywood celebrities Clark Gable and John Wayne used to fish the Coquitlam River? The City of Coquitlam Archivist shared these interesting historical facts with the public in 2016, when Coquitlam residents celebrated the City's 125th birthday. This included a series of year-long events and festivities plus the creation of a special Coquitlam 125 website that featured dozens of submitted stories and videos collected by residents both young and old.



### The Suitcase Project:

#### *A Journey in Mental Health Past, Present and Future*

Coquitlam supports The Suitcase Project—an interpretive display of the personal contents of three vintage suitcases that were part of the larger Riverview Artifacts Collection. This initial project evolved into a weeklong event to create awareness, improve understanding, and promote community conversations on mental health. A selection of artifacts was displayed throughout the week, including historical photos, medical equipment and an original psychiatrist's couch.

### Tourism Office

The City's Tourism Office promotes heritage through the Heritage and History section of the website, [visitcoquitlam.ca](http://visitcoquitlam.ca) and in the annual publication of Coquitlam's Travel and Experience Guide.





## Community Members Celebrate Coquitlam Heritage

### FraserFEST

kʷikwə́łəm First Nation hosted FraserFEST Coquitlam in collaboration with the Rivershed Society of BC in August 2016. For this event, the Sustainable Living Leadership Program arrived at kʷikwə́łəm by 34-foot voyageur canoe. This event included a dinner and an educational tour of the Colony Farm Community Gardens.

### Blue Mountain Cenotaph

The cenotaph, unveiled on October 21, 1972, was provided by the Coquitlam Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion in memory of the men and women of the Armed Forces who served their country.

### Colony Farm

Colony Farm (managed by Metro Vancouver) originally supplied food for psychiatric and penal institutions in the province; it later evolved as a showcase for agriculture. Today, walkers, cyclists and birdwatchers share the park with community gardeners.

### Coquitlam Heritage

The Society offers a diverse range of heritage programs throughout the year to preserve, honour and promote the history of Coquitlam. They also operate Mackin House Museum.

### Heritage Events in Coquitlam

- Christmas at Mackin House
- Coquitlam Heritage Society Open House
- Coquitlam Multicultural Fair
- Heritage Halloween
- Historical Book Club
- Father's Day Historical Extravaganza
- Festival du Bois
- Mother's Day Heritage Tea
- Saint Jean-Baptiste Day
- Welcome to Coquitlam Open House

### Place des Arts: Artists in Residence

Coquitlam supports this program, which includes a series of free workshops for local school children, allowing them to engage with, and learn from, professional artists working in a variety of disciplines.







Festival du Bois



Riverview Horticultural Society Tree Tour

**Riverview Horticultural Centre Society** Founded in 1992, the Society preserves and protects the lands and trees of the Riverview Hospital site as a community-oriented centre for horticultural, educational and therapeutic activities. The Society's activities have included guided tours, speaking engagements and displays at special events.

**Place des Arts: Summer Teen Theatre Troupe**

The Troupe, featuring six talented local teen actors, performed *Radio Coquitlam: A Summertime Vaudeville* for free to the public at local parks and during the Coquitlam 125 Anniversary Kaleidoscope Arts Festival.

**Société Francophone de Maillardville** This non-profit society provides services and activities to the French-speaking region of Maillardville, Coquitlam and throughout the Lower Mainland, which is home to about 13,000 francophones. The society also produces and hosts Festival du Bois, the largest francophone festival west of the Rockies, celebrating French Canadian history, art and culture.

**All Nations Fest** Calling it a "sacred ground", First Nations leaders launched the first All Nations Festival in Coquitlam on the traditional and ancestral lands of the *kʷikʷəłəm* First Nation territory. The three-day festival featured talks at Douglas College about Coast Salish identity with art, language and land, plus entertainment and a salmon barbecue at Town Centre Park.



Pioneer Spirit in Maillardville





## Mackin House Museum

Mackin House was built in 1909 and was the home of the manager of the rapidly growing Fraser River Sawmill Co. Ltd. This landmark in Coquitlam's historic Maillardville community is operated by the Coquitlam Heritage Society as a museum that is open to the public. The following activities/programs are offered at Mackin House Museum for the community to participate in and learn more about Coquitlam's history.

### Heritage Tour

Explore the home and learn how families lived at the turn of the century. This one-hour interactive tour features tales of how people lived, worked and played over 100 years ago in the Fraser Mills community. It's available year-round and offered in English or French .

### Spring Break: Quilting Bee

Learn to sew quilt squares on a 1920s sewing machine and by hand. Our Heirlooms and Treasures exhibit celebrates skills that are passed down through our cultural heritage. Sewing is a relaxing and useful craft that is used across cultures. Help us to sew squares that will create Mackin House's Heirloom quilt, and make a small quilt collage to take home with you.

### Feasts of Coquitlam

Feasts of Coquitlam is a cooking series with the goal of promoting Coquitlam's rich culture in cuisine. Local cooks and instructors lead a workshop on how to prepare a meal passed down through their family or culture, while they share stories and traditions connected to the dishes being prepared.







### Making History Come Alive at the Archives

In 2019, the City of Coquitlam Archives moved to a new location at 1171 Pinetree Way, adjacent to the Coquitlam Public Library's City Centre branch. The location has improved access to Coquitlam's documentary heritage and public visibility, with photos of Coquitlam history in the windows to add visual interest for those who walk or travel along Pinetree Way. Inside, space is provided for staff work areas, a public reading room, processing space, display and a large storage vault.

### Providing Access to Riverview Artifacts

Coquitlam is working to increase public access to its Riverview Hospital collection of more than 2,500 artifacts, including medical equipment, furnishings, monogrammed china and linens, personal belongings, photos and documents. The City recently produced a visual history book and artifacts collection catalogue, and is developing a digital searchable database and collections loan program.



### City Archives Online Exhibits

Launched in 2017, this series of online exhibits highlights records in the Archives' collection to share the many fascinating stories that make up Coquitlam's history. Exhibits include:

#### Community Records 🌸

This online exhibit highlights the donations of photographs, letters, maps and other records from families, individuals, organizations and businesses. These community records help paint a complete picture of Coquitlam's history and its people, and are collected, catalogued and stored with the same attention to detail as civic bylaws, meeting minutes and other government documents.



#### District of Fraser Mills Fonds 🌸

This web exhibit discusses insights from records (fonds) of the District of Fraser Mills, a former sawmill site and independent municipality. Amid records of the District's day-to-day work was evidence of a multicultural community, with people of Francophone and European heritage—the focus of much of the area's recorded history—as well as Japanese, South Asian and other backgrounds.



**Rising Water: The Great Flood of 1948:** This exhibit discusses the flood's impact on the region and highlights the community spirit that arose through photographs from Fraser Mills and Colony Farm and first-hand accounts.

**Accession to Access: The Art of Archival**

**Processing:** Using the example of the Arts Connect Tri Cities Arts Council fonds, this exhibit demystifies archival processing and highlights the labour involved.

**Built Heritage: Coquitlam's Heritage Homes:** This exhibit focuses on Coquitlam's built heritage, highlighting archival records that can help uncover the history of houses.

**An Ode to a Nurse in Training:** School Life for a Student Psychiatric Nurse: Through photographs and documents, this exhibit explores how student psychiatric nurses balanced their schooling at the Provincial Mental Hospital, Essondale with social diversions and everyday life.

**Fixing a Moment in Time:** This exhibit explores the magic of photograph conservation and highlights the conservation of three panoramic photographs.

**An Emerging Profession:** Psychiatric Nursing at Essondale, 1913–1973: This exhibit shines a spotlight on the School of Psychiatric Nursing at the Provincial Mental Hospital, Essondale using photographs, documents, and ephemera from the Riverview Hospital Historical Society.

**Coquitlam Centre:** 40 Years in the Community: To mark the 40th anniversary of Coquitlam Centre, this exhibit explores the history of the mall through photos and newspaper records.



**Plywood—Online City Exhibit**

**Start Your Engines! Westwood Racing Circuit,**

**1959–1990:** For more than 30 years, revving engines and cheering fans could be heard high up on the mountain at Westwood Racing Circuit. This exhibit explores the racetrack's history through photographs and other records.

**Legen-dairy Holstein Herd of Colony Farm:** The Holstein Herd at Colony Farm was once considered the finest herd of black and white cattle in the world. This exhibit explores its history, production and role in developing mental health services in the province.

**Archives on the Move:** This exhibit describes the history of the Archives, their growth over the years and the construction of a new space to accommodate the growing collection and interest.

**Bird's Eye View:** Coquitlam From Above: This exhibit showcases the history of aerial photography and the unexpected evolution of its technology.

**May Day—The Celebration of Spring:** Based on the Archives' collection of photographs and records, this exhibit explores the history of May Day and its observance in Coquitlam.



**Holstein Herd of Colony Farm—Online City Exhibit**

**Scrapbooks—Fragile Time Capsules:** Scrapbooks provide unique insights into the periods they depict. This exhibit showcases some 20th Century scrapbooks and how they are preserved.

**Plywood—The Material of Unlimited Uses:**

Through photo, advertisements and other records, this exhibit explores the 100-plus year history of plywood and Canada's first producer: Canadian Western Lumber Company Limited in Fraser Mills.

**Coquitlam's Changing Boundaries:** On July 25, 1891, the first Letters Patent were signed to create the Corporation of the District of Coquitlam. Since then, subsequent Letters Patent have redefined Coquitlam's boundaries and the administration. This exhibit explores these changes.

**“Don't Forget Your Dadie”: A Coquitlam Family &**

**The First World War:** This online exhibit shares the story of First World War soldier Alexander Windram, a Coquitlam husband and father, through postcards, letters and other records.



## Coquitlam Remembers

The following events led up to Coquitlam's Remembrance Day Ceremony held at Blue Mountain Park on Nov. 11, providing meaningful community projects for the public to honour those who served our country.

### Armed Forces Insignia Plant Bed at Blue Mountain Park

In 2017, local volunteers and the City of Coquitlam landscape team planted a new raised garden bed at the corner of King Albert Avenue and Veteran's Way, a replica of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) insignia badge. It honoured all elements of the CAF, including the Royal Canadian Navy, Canadian Army and the Royal Canadian Air Force. Local school groups and the public were invited to paint rocks in poppy red, which were used to help colour the maple leaves that surround the badge.

### Poppy Painting Lawn Art and Yellow Ribbon Project

In its ninth year, Coquitlam residents painted large poppies on the grass along Veterans Way, forming a beautiful display leading to the cenotaph and a touching tribute for the Legion's Remembrance Day ceremony. Members of the public wrote messages of remembrance to hang from yellow ribbons on trees; the messages were collected and sent to the local Royal Canadian Legion on behalf of Coquitlam.

### Poppy Mural

For its fifth year, the new addition was the painting of poppy banners that were hung on the metal fence of the outdoor tennis courts at Blue Mountain Park. The banners created a beautiful Remembrance Day mural.



Armed Forces Insignia plant bed at Blue Mountain Park



Yellow Ribbon Project







# Tree Management



Coquitlam recognizes the many environmental, social and economic benefits of the urban forest. Our community is home to 7.7 square kilometres of forested park, more than 9,600 street trees, and more than 6,500 park trees. These City-owned trees—along with private property trees, the trees on səmiq̓wəʔelə (Riverview Lands) and those in Metro Vancouver regional parks and Pinecone Burke Provincial Park—make up Coquitlam’s urban forest. When last assessed, the City’s overall canopy cover was an enviable 40%, comprised of a mosaic of forests and well-treed neighbourhoods.

## Coquitlam Tree Spree

Coquitlam Tree Spree is a tree-planting initiative and public-education program with the overall purpose of recognizing and promoting the value of the City’s tree canopy. Whether on public or private land, Coquitlam’s trees offer many benefits for our health, well-being and the environment.

In 2022, the Tree Spree’s inaugural year, volunteers, staff and residents planted over 10,000 trees—double the City’s typical tree-planting target—in both public spaces and private properties throughout the community.

The initiative includes public education, tree giveaways to residents and businesses, and tree-planting sessions incorporated into community events and activities.

The City proactively manages parks, natural areas and street trees and conducts public education and tree planting initiatives as part of its commitment to developing the inherent benefits trees bring to the community.





Hillcrest students work on the trails at Mundy Park



## Community Efforts Benefit Our Urban Forest

### Burke Mountain Naturalists Tackle Invasive Species

In addition to the City's efforts to manage invasive plants (see page 65), stewardship groups like the Burke Mountain Naturalists (BMN) are lending a hand. Since 2021, BMN volunteers have dedicated numerous hours removing invasive blackberry and yellow flag iris from natural areas in Como Lake Park. When the invasive plants are removed, they are replaced with native species that increase biodiversity in the park and enhance wildlife habitat. The park is home to a variety of different bird species because of the diversity of its ecosystems.

### Tree Canopy Tours

As part of the Coquitlam Tree Spree project, the City's Park Spark and Urban Forestry staff have been delivering informative tree tours throughout Coquitlam's urban forests to the community. Offered rain or shine, the free walks provide Coquitlam residents with an opportunity to explore the City's tree canopy, learn fun facts about the different trees that exist in the community, and learn about the many benefits the City's trees have to offer to residents' health, well-being and the environment.

### Earth Day Planting in Como Lake Park 🌸

On Earth Day 2023, about 30 volunteers planted more than 300 native trees and shrubs in Como Lake Park in an area previously inhabited by invasive Himalayan Blackberry. Park staff will water and maintain the newly planted area until it is well established as a refuge for local flora and fauna.

### New Coquitlam Broombusters Chapter 🌸

Launched in 2022, the Coquitlam chapter of BroomBusters organizes regular events to remove invasive Scottish Broom from areas around Coquitlam during the spring, when it is in bloom and most vulnerable.





## Community Efforts Benefit Our Urban Forest

### Record-Setting Weed-Pull in Mundy Park

The Park Spark program and the Urban Forestry Section teamed up to hold the City's largest-ever weed-pull event in October 2015 that would ultimately achieve a world record for the most number of people participating in a weed-pull. This innovative event eradicated the City's largest dedicated urban forest of English ivy in only 24 hours, making Mundy Park the only urban forest in Metro Vancouver that is free of English ivy. The 848 people who participated in the event included local residents, environmental groups, school groups, English as a second language groups, churches and City staff.

### Block Party Tree Spree Partnership

Coquitlam partnered its new Tree Spree tree-planting initiative in 2022 with the City's popular annual Block Party program, which encourages neighbours to gather, build new friendships and create a sense of community. The program was seen as an excellent opportunity for the City to provide education and engagement on the Tree Spree program.

Registered Coquitlam block parties were invited to sign up for a visit from Tree Spree ambassadors, who brought one or two free ornamental trees and demonstrated how to plant and care for them. As part of Tree Spree's inaugural year, the City exceeded its commitment and planted over 10,000 trees in 2022. Over 250 free trees were provided to residents hosting block parties.

### Mundy Forest Bird Nest Boxes

We worked with the Charles Best Secondary School wood-working class to build 25 bird nest boxes. The students then installed the boxes in Mundy Forest under the guidance of a Parks Resource Technician from the Urban Forestry Section. This project was an action item stemming from the Mundy Park Forest Management Plan. These boxes provide additional nest sites for chickadees, winter wrens, nuthatches and tree swallows. Volunteers continue to monitor and maintain the bird nest boxes.





### Barn Owl Boxes in Mundy Park

Two new Barn Owl boxes have been installed east of Mundy Park, in the utilities right-of-way, to provide nesting habitat for this at-risk species. As we aim to protect the integrity of natural habitat for at-risk species in Mundy Park, we ask that park visitors view the boxes from a safe distance of the multi-use path.

### Bat Box Program

The City of Coquitlam is continuing to expand its bat conservation program by working towards becoming a BC Bat Friendly Community. This involves protecting and creating habitat, providing information about bats and promoting learning. Community involvement and education from the Burke Mountain Naturalists resulted in a group of Girl Guides helping to create and build four bat boxes that were installed by city staff in Mundy Park. The bat boxes will continue to be monitored for bat-use and education. Collaboration amongst community groups helped make this possible thanks to the South Coast Bat Conservation Society, Girl Guides Troop and the Burke Mountain Naturalists.



Bat Box Partnership with Burke Mountain Naturalists

### Tapestry Weed Pulls

Volunteer involvement and partnership are crucial in the control of invasive plant species in the City of Coquitlam's parks and natural areas. Through dedication and hard work, the Tapestry Mundy Park Church group has significantly reduced the Ivy in Mundy Park and Riverview Forest Natural Area with an annual Service Sunday weed pull. Enthusiastic volunteers are the back bone of our Invasive Plant Management Initiative. Education and awareness builds a culture of understanding the environmental concerns that threaten our natural areas.



Sensory Path

### Forest Bathing

Forest bathing is a cornerstone of preventive health care and healing in modern Japanese medicine. Through the Coquitlam in Bloom program, traditional Forest Bathing becomes Green Bathing. Coquitlam residents are encouraged to visit green spaces for health; connecting with nature through all five senses by finding a relaxing activity such as slow walking, yoga, meditation, tai chi or nature observation. We have added pop-up sensory paths, hammocks, giant zen gardens and interpretive signage to help “bathe” and have more than 121 km of trails and over 109 active parks and open spaces.





Mundy Park



Lost Lake at Mundy Park

## Managing Our Forests: An Integrated, Sustainable Plan

One of Coquitlam's 2023 Business Plan 🌸  
Priorities is to create a City-wide **Urban Forest Management Strategy** which will guide the City's approach to forest management now and into the future. The strategy's recommendations will help ensure a healthy and resilient urban forest over the long-term, as well as build community stewardship and knowledge about our urban forest and the benefits it provides.

### **Mundy Park Forest Management**

Coquitlam's premier forested park, **Mundy Park**, is the largest City-owned park in Coquitlam, and was dedicated through public referendum as an Urban Forest Park in 1993. Mundy Park's 400 acres of un-fragmented second-growth forest, two lakes and streams are home to native plant communities and wildlife species, and thousands of people regularly use the park's 16-kilometre trail network.

In 2014 the City developed a **Mundy Park Forest Management Plan (FMP)** to ensure that the full range of public benefits will be sustained and celebrated by current and future generations. The FMP contains a comprehensive list of actions prioritized over a 10-year period, including developing a volunteer park host and interpretive program, reintroducing rare and endangered native plants, and installing bird boxes.

### **Burke Mountain Tree Risk Management** 🌸

As part of the final phase of this project, the City planted 1,300 trees in northeast Coquitlam and to date, over 95% of those planted trees are surviving and thriving. The City continues to monitor new forest edges for tree risk, including invasive plant removal and supplemental tree planting.

Burke Mountain is a forested hillside area in Coquitlam's northeast sector.

Although it has seen considerable development in recent years, Burke Mountain remains heavily treed, with extensive parkland and creek corridor areas.

Following windstorms and drought conditions in 2015, City Council authorized staff to conduct a tree risk assessment in 2016 to identify potential tree hazards in City-owned Streamside Protection and Enhancement Areas. The assessments identified a number of recommendations, including hazard tree removal, debris management, and replacement tree planting that will help restore these natural corridors over time. As part of the final phase of this project, the City planted 1,300 trees in northeast Coquitlam and to date, over 95% of those planted trees are surviving and thriving. The City continues to monitor new forest edges for tree risk, including invasive plant removal and supplemental tree planting.





Coquitlam offers 120 km of off-road trails



Tree watering bags irrigate juvenile trees

## Bylaws Protect the Urban Forest

- The Urban Forestry Section also manages the cutting and replacement of private property trees through the application of the **City's Tree Management Bylaw** and **Zoning Bylaw**.
- In 2010, the City developed the **Noxious Weed Bylaw**, which regulates the presence of noxious weeds on private property to prevent their spread. This program is managed each year through public education and enforcement.
- **Master Trail Plan 2013 (MTP)**— This plan is a comprehensive, flexible guide for providing a city-wide, off-road network of trails connecting people, places and public amenities to other municipalities and the regional trail system. The MTP outlines the existing and long-term plan for Coquitlam's extensive 115-kilometre parks trail network that provides a range of experiences—from wilderness hikes in Ridge Park to heavily used, multi-use paved circuits like those in Town Centre Park.

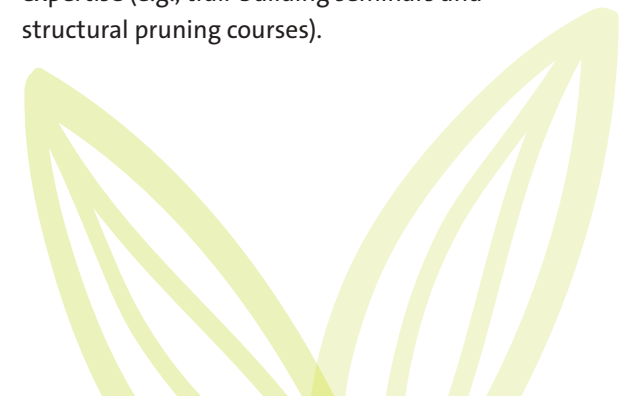
## Applying Best Practices to Maintain Our Trees

The City's comprehensive tree care program for the inventory of managed street and ornamental park trees includes structural pruning cycles, irrigation and integrated pest management. Irrigation of the nearly 3,000 juvenile street and park trees in the system was revolutionized in 2015 with the introduction of watering bags. The slow release of water from these 60-litre watering bags has helped to dramatically improve the health and establishment of young trees compared with the historic practice using subsurface probes. These have been especially helpful in recent years when severe drought and other extreme weather conditions tied to climate change affect the region.

## Professionally Certified Staff

The Urban Forestry Section has nine International Society of Arboriculture certified arborists as well as trade-certified climbing arborists.

Several staff have post-secondary training in resource management and there are two registered Professional Foresters and one Registered Forest Technologist on staff. Staff training is offered each year, with training focusing on safety issues (e.g., aerial rescue training for field arborists) and other opportunities to increase knowledge and expertise (e.g., trail-building seminars and structural pruning courses).







Coquitlam's Urban Forestry teams include climbing arborists



## Managing Our Forests: An Integrated, Sustainable Plan

### Comprehensive Inventory Helps Manage Trees

The City has a complete and well-maintained GIS inventory of forested park areas, managed street trees, and ornamental park and civic building trees. This allows Coquitlam to identify areas that need improvement. For example, trees in Westwood Plateau were showing higher signs of failure and stress than typical. In 2013, we assessed the 1,341 street trees in the area and worked with a landscape architecture firm to develop solutions, including incremental transformation to a more diverse collection of trees and a suite of boulevard soil renovations to create healthier growing conditions, which reduced the level of pest infestations.

### Procurement Policy Promotes Healthy Trees

Coquitlam's Procurement Policy ensures that the City receives exceptional value when purchasing plant material, including trees. Sustainability value is an important criterion, which assesses how well the contractor or supplier has integrated sustainability into their operations. All purchased trees are individually selected and/or evaluated by certified arborists to ensure high standards of quality control.

### Promoting Species Diversity

Under Coquitlam's **Sustainable Urban Forest Management Plan**, no one species of tree should constitute more than 10% of the inventory. To meet this target, we removed two species of tree from our list of acceptable street trees as the two species currently represent nearly 20% of our tree inventory.

In terms of the species diversity on private property, the City's **Tree Resource Guide to the Tree Management Bylaw** helps residents and developers properly manage their trees in accordance with City standards through tree replacement, tree planting, replacement tree species, tree pruning, arborist reports, clearing and risk management, and steep slopes site assessment.





Invasive plant removal with Telus



The Bad Seed Program is a social marketing and education campaign to change people's behaviour and reduce the likelihood of invasive plants



## Managing Invasive Plants

Coquitlam has an **Invasive Plant Management Strategy** to manage invasive plants in publicly-owned parks and natural areas and on private lands with the goal of preventing, reducing or mitigating the effects of invasive plants on conservation, aesthetic and recreation values.

The strategy is built on six principles:


1. Use an integrated approach to managing invasive plants.
2. Save your best first.
3. Maximize benefits to park and natural area values.
4. Emphasize leadership and partnerships.
5. Increase awareness and knowledge through education and outreach.
6. Use monitoring and adaptive management.

## Urban Forestry Partners with Green Teams Of Canada

For a number of years, the City's Urban Forestry Team has partnered with Green Teams of Canada to remove invasive species and to plant non-invasive species. Green Teams partner with local parks, nature groups, land conservancies and non-profit farms to remove invasive species, do beach cleanups and plant vegetables. The key is putting the volunteer experience at the centre of everything. Green Teams help to restore green space by instilling an environmental ethic, which will hopefully lead to responsible environmental behavior. Events in 2023 include:

 **April 4** Remove invasive plants at Como Lake Park

 **May 3 and June 11** Remove invasive plants at Hoy Creek with Gleneagle Secondary School

 **May 27** Remove invasive plants at Miller Park—Telus

 **June 10** Remove invasive plants at Deboville Slough





### Youth in Bloom: Fresh Roots Partnership with School District 43

Fresh Roots has headed to Coquitlam. Working in partnership with the Coquitlam School District's Aboriginal Education Department, Fresh Roots is helping re-indigenize the food system at Suwa'lkh School. On a seven-acre forest, youth are learning how to steward land as it has been done since time immemorial. Youth remove invasive species, learn to propagate native plants, foods and medicines, and then plant them in the forest to re-indigenize the forest. Youth are learning how to grow their own food and to bring those foods into the cafeteria program that provides lunch every day.

## Community Members Care for Trees

### Working with Residents to Promote Tree Health

The City's **Tree Management Bylaw** aims to sustain canopy cover on private property. Residents who remove trees on their private property must replace them from a diverse tree list that includes native and non-native species that are hardy and relatively disease resistant. In streamside setback areas, the Tree Management Bylaw only allows for removal of hazardous trees and all trees removed in these areas must be replaced with a mixture of native shrubs and trees indigenous to the area.

The City uses its **Tree Resource Guide** as an accompaniment to the Tree Management Bylaw. The Guide includes sections on proper tree planting and pruning, as well as recommendations for hardy tree species that include several native species. The City also provides residents with a list of contractors and professionals who are properly certified and can provide accurate advice and services related to tree maintenance and pest management.

Tree planting programs with community volunteers on private and public property include the **Adopt-A-Tree Program** (where the City provides trees to be planted on single-family residential lots) and the City's **Growing Community Roots Program** (where residents in established neighbourhoods request boulevard trees that are provided by the City and planted and watered by residents for the first three summers). This program is made possible by external grants.





## kʷikwəłəm First Nation — Cedar Bark Harvesting

In partnership with the City in 2019,, the kʷikwəłəm First Nation reinvigorated the traditional practice of harvesting cedar bark within their traditional territory. Harvesting typically happens in the spring when the bark can be easily stripped. The process involves stripping one thin section of bark from a tree. Mundy Park was chosen as Coquitlam's premier forested park. By pursuing this meaningful opportunity, the kʷikwəłəm First Nation was able to raise visibility in Coquitlam regarding kʷikwəłəm culture.

Coquitlam's **How to Plant and Care for Your Tree** pamphlet covers planting techniques, watering, mulching, weeding, pruning and pest management.

Invasive weed pulls and habitat restoration plantings are carried out each year as part of the City's **Invasive Plant Management Strategy**. Since 2008, volunteers have participated in restoring over 65,100 square metres of land (equivalent to the size of 38 hockey rinks) by removing invasive plants and planting 29,225 shrubs and 8,113 trees. These projects were made possible with community participation and financial support from groups such as Tree Canada, BC Hydro, IKEA Canada, U-Haul and TD Friends of the Environment Foundation.

We achieved this success thanks to our local community partners:

- Buddhist Compassion Relief Tzu Chi Foundation of Canada,
- Friends of DeBoville Slough,
- Girl Guides and Scouts,
- Hoy-Scott Watershed Society,
- Lower Mainland Green Team, and
- Metro Van Geocachers

We also received support from a number of local businesses and corporate sponsors such as the Hard Rock Casino Vancouver, BCIT and TELUS.

## First Nations Historical Connection to Cedar Trees

The Western red cedar is a dominant tree in many of the forests and parks in Coquitlam. The cedar was extraordinarily useful tree to the First Nations people and played key roles in their culture. The cedars provided First Nations with shelter, clothing, medicine, tools and transportation.

The trees provided for these people, from birth to death, from cradle to coffins. The wood can be easily split and is rot resistant. The wood is also an excellent source of fuel especially for drying fish because it burns with little smoke.



# Landscape



Best Float in 2017 Teddy Bear Parade, CiB Pollinator Theme



Pollinator Hotel build with Meadowbrook Elementary

The City's Landscape Services has been working toward developing and implementing a horticultural brand identity for Coquitlam and increasing service standards for both gardens and lawn areas. This is evident from our vibrant parks and public gardens to enhanced streetscapes, unique public art installations and destination sports fields.

## Protect Our Pollinators!

Coquitlam is raising awareness this year about the importance of planting gardens designed to attract and sustain pollinators—such as bees and hummingbirds. Members of the community were encouraged to take part in planting events and learn about how they can plant their own pollinator garden.

### 2018 Pollinator Friendly Community of the Year Award

The City received special recognition at the 2018 Communities in Bloom National and International Awards and Symposium. The award given was named the Pollinator Friendly Community of the Year for working to support the health and diversity of pollinators through various public education initiatives.

### City Pollinator Gardens

Gardeners planted pollinator plants throughout City gardens with signage to educate the public.

### Pollinator FAQs

Fun pollinator facts were also added to signage, containing information about the volunteer groups, the City's Bad Seed campaign, and interesting facts about each park.

### Youth Engagement

Youth Week at the Inspiration Garden and Glen Park included taking part in a pollinator planting.

### Park Blitz

Coquitlam's Park Spark team raised awareness by hosting Pollinator Parties at a number of Coquitlam parks.

### Community Events

The theme made for a fun bee hive float at the Teddy Bear Grande Parade, with seed package giveaways and on Canada Day we raised awareness with an interactive display booth.

### Pollinator Hotels

Large pollinator hotels are installed in local parks and cared for by community members providing homes for all types of pollinators.





Pinetree Way

### Pinetree Way Enhancement Project

After nearly two years of construction, the Pinetree Way Enhancement project is complete. This project redesigned the stretch of Pinetree Way between Lougheed Highway and Town Centre Boulevard, bringing improvements to traffic flow and safety while creating an appealing, functional streetscape designed to encourage people to walk, cycle, use transit and gather in the City Centre.

Key improvements included installing two LED light columns marking the entry into the core of the city, adding street and pedestrian lighting to enhance safety for cyclists and pedestrians along the multi-use pathway, and feature lighting to highlight architectural additions, provide colour and to assist with wayfinding.

In addition, street markers were added at key intersections, seating added to plaza areas, and landscaping added to sections of City Hall, Burlington Drive, Glen Drive and The Pines. Upgraded landscaping also included 150 new street trees and hundreds of shrubs in an effort to “green” Pinetree Way. Bioswale was added for roadway/multi-use pathway stormwater detention and treatment, and to serve as a buffer between the multi-use pathway and roadway.

Multi-modal enhancements included traffic safety and operational improvements. A new multi-use path follows the Evergreen Line guideway, providing weather protection. Distinct crosswalks use colour and texture, and bus stops are attractive and open.



Coquitlam Munch public produce gardens

### Coquitlam Munch

The Coquitlam Munch is a community-based nutrition and beautification initiative located throughout the Austin Heights commercial district, run through a partnership between the Austin Heights BIA and the Grow Local Society. Now in its seventh year of growing, it includes 40 container gardens filled with edible herbs, flowers and vegetables. The program is managed by an on-site gardener, along with a team of volunteers and local businesses. Adjacent businesses keep the planters watered and weeded, and the public is invited to tour the planters from June to October to taste the crops and learn about small-scale sustainable gardening.

### Coquitlam Farmer's Market

Locally produce, prepared foods and artisan crafts are offered each summer at the Coquitlam farmers market, which kicked off its 26th year in May 2023. Returning features include the Power of Produce (POP), which teaches children ages 5 to 12 about growing and cooking food. Through POP, kids learn about fruits and vegetables, local food systems and healthy food preparation through fun activities all season long. Everything at the farmers market is made, baked, grown or raised in B.C.





Lafarge Lake at Town Centre Park

## Town Centre Park Community Plaza

Once the location of a gravel pit, Town Centre Park has evolved over time to become a first-rate public park with a variety of amenities. The Town Centre Park Community Plaza is the park's most recent amenity addition and officially opened to the public on July 1, 2016.

The Town Centre Park Community Plaza accommodates events of various sizes, with a seating capacity of up to 1,300. This outdoor venue is a focal point for large community events such as Coquitlam Celebrates Canada Day and Kaleidoscope Arts Festival, as well as a variety of community festivals and events throughout the year.

The plaza design provides a flexible, year-round public space, with seating and layout that take advantage of existing park slopes and features, and provide barrier-free access to the stage area and seating.





Colony Farm



Widgeon Marsh Regional Park Reserve

## Metro Vancouver

In 2017, Metro Vancouver celebrated 50 years of hikes, dog walks and morning runs among centuries-old trees. Regional parks inspire environmental stewardship, making us ambassadors with every bike ride or counted fish. Coquitlam is home to three regional parks.

**Colony Farm:** Open fields, hedgerows and wetlands provide habitat for more than 200 bird species as well as other animal species. Trails for both walkers and cyclists showcase great views of river, fields and mountains. You'll find picnic tables and washrooms near the community gardens.

**Minnekhada:** Forest, marsh and rocky outcrops make this regional park a gem to explore any time of year. The network of quiet trails are great places to hike and watch for wildlife. It is also home to Minnekhada Lodge, a 1930s country estate with spectacular views of the Pitt River.

**Widgeon Marsh:** Widgeon Marsh Regional Park Reserve sits on the largest freshwater marsh in southwest B.C. It also has spectacular waterfront views.

Metro Vancouver is developing a regional park management plan that aims to give people opportunities to connect with nature in Widgeon Marsh, while protecting the site's sensitive wetlands and ecosystems. A park plan will determine how public use and facilities can be accommodated.

Located along the Pitt River in northeast Coquitlam, Widgeon Marsh Regional Park Reserve protects over 620 hectares of wetlands and woodlands.

**First Nations Relations:** Metro Vancouver's Aboriginal Relations program supports staff and Metro Vancouver Board involvement on policies and projects related to aboriginal relations and treaty negotiations.

This includes:

- Responding to specific issues arising from direct relations with First Nations with respect to Metro Vancouver's corporate interests (e.g. plans, programs, processes, policies, services, lands, facilities and infrastructure);
- Developing policies and projects in support of Metro Vancouver's First Nations Strategy (e.g. Board liaisons to First Nations) and emerging corporate interests;
- Maintaining pertinent information on First Nations communities;
- Supporting the Board's involvement in the B.C. treaty negotiations process and the province's New Relationship agreements;
- Responding to related issues raised by Metro Vancouver staff, the provincial and federal governments, and other organizations and agencies.





Mundy Park



Sheffield Park

## Newly Developed Park Space and Renovated Parks

### Park Blitz

There are a number of older parks in Southwest Coquitlam that require refreshing and/or updating to continue supporting families in their surrounding neighbourhoods. The Park Blitz began in 2017, focusing on 12 neighbourhood parks in the Burquitlam, Lougheed and Central Coquitlam neighbourhoods.

The following parks have been completed:

- |                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Good Neighbour Park | 7. Cape Horn Park  |
| 2. Crestwood Park      | 8. Poirier Tot Lot |
| 3. Dawes Hill Park     | 9. Oakdale Park    |
| 4. Shiloh Park         | 10. Guilby Park    |
| 5. Mariner Park        | 11. Nestor Park    |
| 6. Meadowbrook Park    |                    |

### New Park on Burke Mountain: Sheffield Park

The 0.8 hectare (two-acre) Sheffield Park brought new amenities to Burke Mountain in 2022, including a water play area, drinking fountain, fitness path, dedicated children's and youth areas, accessible pathway and free public Wi-Fi.

### Mundy Park Playground

As part of the City's ongoing program to refresh aging park amenities, the Mundy Park playground was recently upgraded with features for both younger and older children, and children of all abilities. Features include dozens of age-appropriate toys and structures in two age zones, a raised adventure circuit with towers and elevated bridges, accessibility elements to support use by differently-abled children features and wheelchair-friendly surfacing, rubber and engineered wood chip safety surfacing, and new landscaping, benches and asphalt pathways.

### Pioneer Park — New Park and Community Garden on Burke Mountain

Located at 3000/3001 Highland Drive in the Upper Hyde Creek neighbourhood, the 4.4 acre future park site was previously referred to as Wesbild's D9 Parcel and locally known as the "Ranch Property." Construction of the community garden, full-sized sports court, sand-based sports field, gathering space with children's climbing elements, and passive lawn areas were completed spring 2018. The park concept was developed by the City based on public feedback and the review of amenities in other parks and schools in the neighbourhood.







Rochester Park

### Rochester Park

Rochester Park opened to the public Sept. 12, 2017. This newly renovated park includes an innovative playground based on an outdoor nature play theme, as well as a zip line, climbing wall, tunnel slides, skate area, accessible saucer swings, and a sand play area. Play structures offer a variety of options designed for children of all ages, interests and abilities.

This revitalization provides enhanced parks and recreation opportunities including new child and youth play areas, an enhanced trail system connecting key areas of the park, a new washroom and picnic shelter, parking facilities and significant stream rehabilitation in the ravine.

### Town Centre Park

The jewel of Coquitlam's park system, the 42-hectare (103-acre) Town Centre Park is a regional destination for recreation, sport, festivals and concerts.

In 2018, Council endorsed a master plan and implementation strategy to guide the development of the award-winning park over 20 years. More than \$5 million in improvements are already completed, including:

- An upgraded festival hub, including seating, a concession building and washrooms;
- A larger festival lawn for events, picnicking and informal use;
- New universal public washrooms at the south end of the park; and
- The first phase of extensive upgrades around the Lafarge Lake loop trail, including improved lakefront access and a lush, colourful Garden Walk.

Work continues on improvements along the lake trail, ultimately encompassing about one quarter of the park's area.



Town Centre Park Playground

The project will bring lighting and trail improvements, gathering spaces, enhanced plantings, wayfinding and other amenities.

### Hartley Field and Mountain View Park — Newly Renovated

The newly replaced natural grass field at Hartley Field in Mountain View Park opened to the public Oct. 13, 2017. Consistent with the 2013 – 2023 Sports Field Strategy, the redeveloped field is a sand-based, irrigated natural grass field which is able to accommodate multiple field sports such as soccer, baseball and football. The work on this field coincides with the Mountain View Park improvements. Upgrades to Mountain View Park includes paving of the gravel parking lot and installation of a new, fully accessible washroom building. Additional enhancements to Mountain View Park cater to a range of ages and recreation experiences and include picnic facilities, play elements, including a child and youth-oriented playground, and areas for activities that will appeal to adults, including outdoor exercise equipment.





**Traditional aboriginal garden at Douglas College**



**Suwa'ikh High School Medicine Wheel Garden**

## Community Gardens

### Traditional Aboriginal Garden at Douglas College

Douglas College's Institute of Urban Ecology and Aboriginal Student Services teamed up with FortisBC to plant a traditional aboriginal garden at the Sustainability Outreach and Learning Garden on Coquitlam campus. This initiative was organized to educate students and the public about the plants used in aboriginal ceremonies and First Nations food medicine.

### Harbour View Elementary School Outdoor Classroom and Garden

Staff at Harbour View Elementary School have been working on an outdoor classroom and garden for over 20 years. When they started, a tiny seed from a child's apple was planted in a small garden and nobody knew if it would grow. Today this seed has sprouted into a tree that faithfully grows apples every fall.

At Harbour View, playing in dirt, watching plants grow and experiencing seasonal changes are part of the school curriculum. The school is also participating in the Spuds in Tubs program of Agriculture in the Classroom Canada. Soon, students and teachers will bake 500 potatoes they grew as a snack for the whole school.

### Suwa'ikh High School Medicine Wheel Garden

An ambitious horticultural project, composed of traditional plants, berries and vegetables, has been under construction at the Suwa'ikh High School located in Coquitlam's Maillardville area. This Medicine Wheel Garden is important because it teaches aboriginal students about their heritage, bringing the students closer to the land and providing a sense of ownership. Formed in the shape of a circle, the garden has an eastern gateway marked by the colour yellow in the form of marigolds.

The other three directions are also marked with flowers of varying colours: white pansies for north, red pansies for south, and black pansies for west. The colours represent all the nations of the world. In the summer, kids from the Red Wolf Camp will water and look after the garden.

### Youth in Bloom: Fresh Roots Summer Program in Partnership with School District 43

This summer, School District 43 Grade 10 and 11 students can join a six week summer leadership program that encourages students to cultivate and look after a yard farm for course credit and a bit of pocket money. In partnership with Fresh Roots, the program will take place at Suwa'ikh High School that now houses an indigenous education program with a focus on hands on learning. Students will learn to grow, cook and sell food at local farmer's markets while also learning about how the food system works.





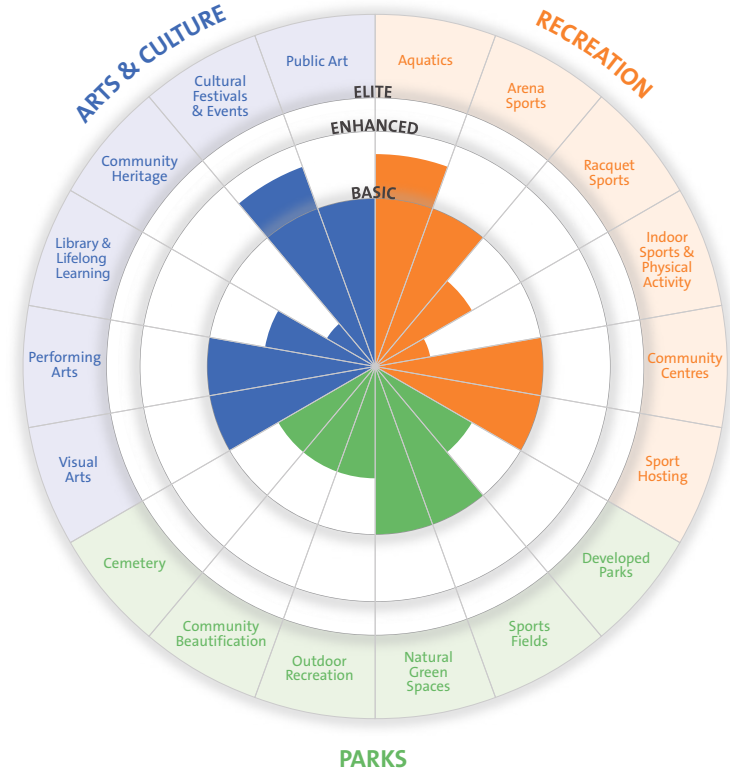
## Integrated Management Plan

The **Citywide Official Community Plan** is a comprehensive plan that guides the overall future of the City and provides a broad and integrated framework for managing future change. Each area in Coquitlam has a neighbourhood plan that includes a section on Parks and the Environment, including landscape design guidelines. A number of projects are currently underway to reflect the commitment to meet the current and future needs of the City's growing community.

The current **Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan** includes neighbourhood guidelines and a description of the parks planning process. It also outlines the landscape development review and operation of outdoor sites. The City encourages input into the park planning process through open houses, community advisory or project committees, feedback surveys and social media channels. Implemented in 2016, our **Landscape Services Review** assessed existing service standards and identified the service gaps that need to be filled to meet community expectations.

The goal is to develop and implement a horticultural brand identity for Coquitlam and increase the service standard for both gardens and lawn areas.

Coquitlam's Pesticide Use Control Bylaw applies to both civic and residential properties. The City of Coquitlam Parks Division applies an **Integrated Pest Management** approach, which incorporates monitoring and practices to control pests through mowing, irrigation, fertilization, cultivation, mulching, mechanical control and sanitation.



The PRC Master Plan Service Wheel assesses 18 service areas



Lafarge Lake at Town Centre Park



**Lawn Bowling Green** Coquitlam operates one of the few remaining municipally-maintained natural grass lawn bowling greens in the province. This is a popular amenity with a thriving community club.

**Sports Field Strategy 2013 – 2023** Coquitlam maintains 75 sports fields (42 playing fields and 33 ball diamonds) to support 28 community field sport organizations. The sports clubs provide skill development, active participation and coaching development. Also through the Coquitlam Field Sports Association, the clubs advise the City on policies, planning and development of sports field infrastructure. The 2013 strategy identified priority projects and Council committed funding of over \$10 million to complete this 10-year program, including a new super-sized, multi-purpose artificial turf field that opened in 2014.

## Maintaining Coquitlam's Landscapes

The City's Landscape Section team uses a classification system that drives the maintenance practice of each park site, including the gardens, hubs such as Town Centre Park, streetscapes and activity lawns. The Landscape team uses a centralized irrigation system that pulls data from Coquitlam weather stations to modify irrigation based on weather variables, including rainfall, wind and temperature.

City-owned landscapes are maintained to different standards, as outlined below:

- **Class A Display** First class: Always well groomed, impeccably clean, and with interesting and unusual plant material and showy, well-kept seasonal displays.
- **Class B Groomed** Neat and orderly, plants are manicured and in good health, largely free of weeds and debris. Seasonal plantings are showy throughout the season.
- **Class C Open Space and Play** Tidy appearance suitable for play and traffic; tolerance and plant selection for effects of such use.
- **Class D Transition/Natural Habitat** is preserved for low-intensity use, and plant material is selected for durability and ease of maintenance.





Coquitlam's Park Gift Program has added new and fun elements to our parks



Return of the Sockeye at Spirit Square

## Skilled Staff Maintain Coquitlam's Landscapes

The Landscape Section team has seven Trades 2 Gardeners who have their Red Seal designation and are experienced in horticultural education. Seasonal staff are certified in horticulture and landscape maintenance. The Parks Planning Section, which is also involved in landscaping, has one registered planner, five registered landscape architects, and two GIS mapping staff. Staff attend professional conferences and horticultural shows as well as in in-house task-related training.

Our **Green Development Guide** and **Green Development practices** provide solutions to environmental challenges and include case studies for:

- Building (including renewable energy),
- Infrastructure (stormwater management and district energy),
- Natural infrastructure (open space networks, naturescaping),
- Sustainable transportation (street design, transit-oriented development), and
- Sustainable neighbourhoods (design principles, rating systems).

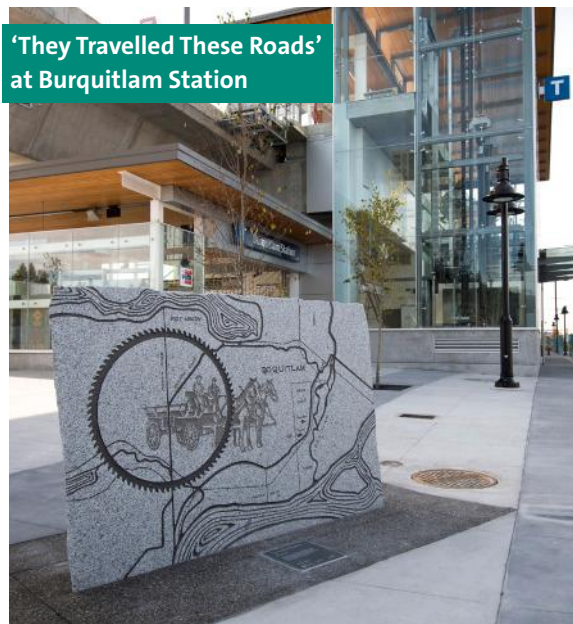
Coquitlam has a city-wide **Design Vision** of the city as a series of compact, complete communities

in concert with nature; each neighbourhood has its own **Design Guidelines** with urban design principles key to making places that thrive both socially and economically, and are desirable to live in and attractive to visit.

**Park Gift Program** Our expanded gift program provides the opportunity for individuals, groups and businesses to make donations to the parks system for the enjoyment of others. Benches and trees remain popular choices, but there is also interest in more unusual items like concrete ping pong and foosball tables.

**Landscaping Near Sensitive Bear Habitat** Public education material and brochures are provided with recommendations for landscape plants that are not attractive to bears.





**'They Travelled These Roads' at Burquitlam Station**



**'Monohedral Tessellation' at Lafarge Lake-Douglas Station**



**'Between and Beyond' at Burquitlam Station**



**'Unity Tree' at Coquitlam Central Station**

## Public Art

### Evergreen Extension Public Art Collection

Nature, cultural diversity, transportation and local history are among the themes explored by public art installed at Coquitlam's Burquitlam, Coquitlam Central, Lincoln and Lafarge Lake-Douglas stations.

Seven B.C. artists were selected to create 11 works of art through a public art selection process that attracted 57 submissions from around the world. The public art was funded with \$300,000 from the Province of British Columbia and \$50,000 from Coquitlam's casino-funded Community Capital Fund.

**Burquitlam Station: They Travelled These Roads**, by Mia Weinberg, is a granite piece that incorporates the circle of a saw blade, resembling Fraser Mills, engraved with images depicting the

area's transportation history—from wagon roads of the 1800s to today's rapid transit. Also at this station, **Between and Beyond**, by Brent Bukowski, uses recycled materials to represent a community that has been transformed, and celebrates sustainable transportation that promotes foot and bicycle traffic over the automobile.

**Coquitlam Central: Unity Tree**, by Paul Reimer, is hand-forged using recycled SkyTrain tracks. Inspired by the Western Red Cedars, the trunk and branches represent cultural diversity growing and living together in a community.

**Lincoln: Branching Out**, by Bruce Walther and YarOn Stern, is made up of five artworks inspired by the tree symbol used by landscape architects in their drawings.

Also look for **Pillow Station**, by artists Paul Slipper and Mary Ann Liu, which is a collection of granite pillows with designs that celebrate Coquitlam's multicultural community.

**Lafarge Lake-Douglas: TransLake**, by Trent Hutton, features a giant frog surfacing from the concrete, aptly capturing the transformation of Lafarge Lake from a quarry to a naturally beautiful area. Also at this station is **Monohedral Tessellation**, by artists Dean Cloutier and Jarami Reid, featuring a large mosaic using engraved B.C. pine beetle wood with images representing local landmarks, people and community traditions. Photographs were provided by the City of Coquitlam Archives.





## Celebrating First Nations Heritage and Culture at Evergreen SkyTrain Station

The kwikwəłəm First Nation performed a traditional ceremony during the opening of the Coquitlam Central SkyTrain station on Dec. 2, 2016. This was in recognition of the Evergreen funding partners' and local municipalities' commitments to celebrating and acknowledging First Nations heritage and culture.

First Nations artwork have been placed on display at the station for thousands of riders to enjoy each day.

The cultural pieces include a traditional river canoe displayed from the station concourse ceiling, an etched glass panel and a welcome panel at the south escalators. The cultural pieces have been designed with an educational component to give visitors the opportunity to learn about the kwikwəłəm people.



Bird boxes created by residents inspired Migration Public Art

## Public Art Contributions in the Community

Our public and community art contributes to Coquitlam's identity as a diverse community with a vibrant cultural scene. We created a **Public Art Policy and Program Plan** in 2011. Some examples of public art include:

- **A Hommage aux Pionniers, Our Lady of Lourdes** tells the story of Maillardville and was commissioned for the 75th anniversary of this important Coquitlam neighbourhood.
- **Bee Sculpture, Inspiration Garden** is a living sculpture constructed of a steel frame with fabric and filled with plant material to encourage growth. It blooms from June to early October and then hibernates for winter.
- **Boarder Benches, Town Centre Park** was originally part of the "Concrete Poetry" exhibit at Evergreen Cultural Centre. Benches incorporate views of famous skate spots throughout the world.
- **Coquitlam Columbian Centennial Totem, Dogwood Pavilion** is a 16-metre totem pole and was one of a series of four commissioned in 1967 during Canada's Centennial year.
- **Coquitlam Synthesis, City Hall** is 31 panels that complete a 14-foot mural created by 11 high-school students.
- **Migration, Coquitlam City Centre Library** is a mixed-media piece that reflects Canadian immigrants' stories and celebrates the city's diversity.





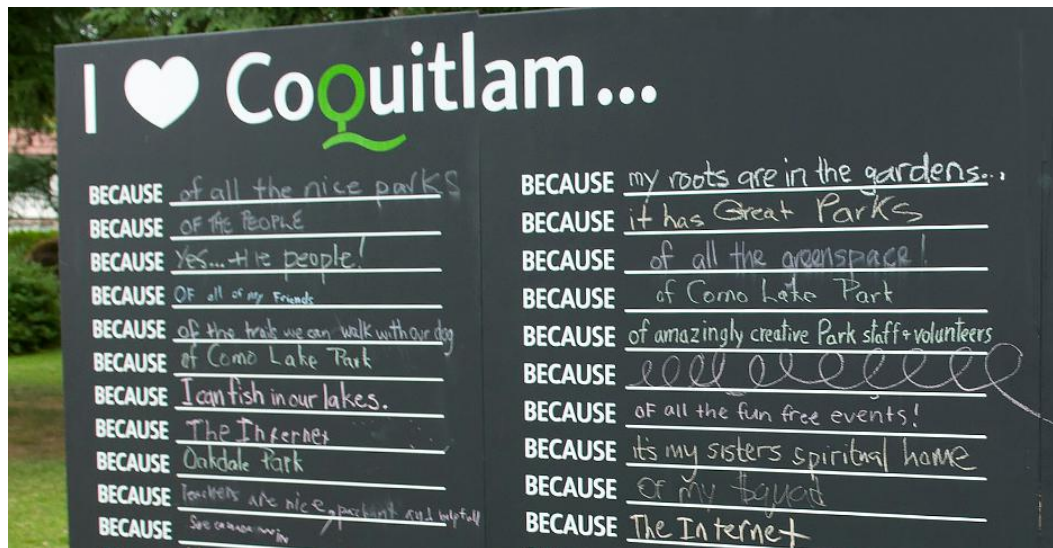
Return of the Sockeye, Spirit Square



The Salmon Project

- **Our Salmon, Our Children, One Earth** was created for the City to celebrate the millennium. This yellow cedar and glass piece in the foyer of City Hall tells the story of the importance of the salmon to the First Nations people.
- **Pioneer Spirit, Maillardville** embodies the spirit of the early pioneers and provides a wayfinding presence in the heart of Maillardville.
- **Return of the Sockeye** anchors Coquitlam Spirit Square, and tells the story of the small red salmon that were genetically unique to and prevalent in the Coquitlam River at the turn of the 20th century.
- **A Salish Welcome Pole** was unveiled by Roy Stibbs Elementary. designed and created by Tsleil-waututh Zachary George Skokaylem. The artist, grandson of the late Chief Dan George, created the pole with hope it would radiate love, respect and positive energy . A welcome figure is a spiritual ancestor of the land representing an expression of warm greetings and acceptance for those who come in peace and friendship. An owl depicts the wisdom, guidance and leadership reflected by those who teach future generations, and a school of salmon swims below as a symbol of collaboration, learning and determination.
- **The Salmon Project** was initiated by the City in honour of Coquitlam's 125th anniversary in 2016. Twelve artists were selected to paint or adorn a composite salmon sculpture with a design reflective of Coquitlam's past, present or future. The sculptures, created by award-winning Squamish Nation artist Jody Broomfield, are over six feet high and six feet wide and have been placed in high-traffic locations around Coquitlam. Unveiled in July 2016 at the Kaleidoscope Arts Festival, the selected artists brought diverse cultural backgrounds, experiences and inspiration to the project, resulting in a wide variety of creative and colourful designs reflecting many aspects of our community.
- **Spirit Bear (Stól:lô Spath)** depicts the spirits of the animals and symbols that speak of growing up beside the mighty Fraser River.





## Opportunities for All in Coquitlam's Parks

Coquitlam's parks are one of its defining features, highly valued by its citizens and a key element of the physical, visual, environmental and social framework of the City. Developed parks are purpose built with flexible and multi-purpose spaces and typically provide playgrounds, trails/pathways and recreational amenities such as skate parks, sport courts, etc. The City's 100+ developed parks total more than 2,000 acres with more parks slated for development within the next 10 years.

- Five Destination Parks including **Mundy Park** and **Town Centre Park** that provide an array of destination amenities.
- Coquitlam's **31 community parks** range from two to more than 12 hectares and offer a variety of active park facilities from fields and tennis courts to outdoor pools with passive areas.
- There are approximately **36 neighbourhood parks**, ranging greatly in size, to serve the local needs for children's active recreation and adult passive green space. Standard provisions for neighbourhood parks over 0.4 hectares (approximately 1 acre) include children's play structures, a hard surface play area, passive sitting areas and trails.
- **Special use parks** include community gardens, Robinson Memorial Park Cemetery, Macquabeak Park, Pacific Reach Linear Park/Don Roberts Park, Spirit Square and Carré Heritage Square. A number of new parks are in various stages of planning and development.

## City Initiatives Help Businesses and Residents Develop Green Practices

The general quality of the residential and business landscape across Coquitlam is very high, with many examples of well-designed and maintained properties.

- Businesses and institutions benefit from the City's **Green Development Guide**, which provides an overview of energy efficiency, use of green materials, naturalization, xeriscaping, alternate groundcovers and urban agriculture.
- Developers adhere to the City's **Development Permit Guidelines** regarding building design, active frontages, site design, public realm, landscape elements, environmental sustainability and parking, loading and servicing.
- For a number of years, the **Dogwood Garden Club** has sponsored a garden contest to recognize the efforts of homeowners whose front yards provide neighbourhood beautification and display community pride.





Outdoor Youth Sport Committee



Free Sports Equipment Library

## Coquitlam in Bloom Spotlight on Sport

In 2018, Coquitlam in Bloom initiatives shined a spotlight on community sport—and all the people who help make it happen; volunteers, players, coaches or club executives; the City of Coquitlam paid tribute to the important roles these members play within the sporting community. Coquitlam in Bloom Spotlight on Sport events and initiatives include:

### Speaker Series

The Spotlight on Sport Speaker Series, aimed at volunteers, club executives, coaches and players, discusses community sport trends and issues.

### Becoming A Sport Host

Our Sport Hosts enhance the sport experience by providing guests and athletes an available and friendly presence at sport fields and facilities.

### Free Sports Equipment Libraries

Similar to the City's free little libraries, free sport equipment libraries will be installed at select neighbourhood parks throughout Coquitlam. Residents will have the opportunity to borrow free sports equipment such as soccer balls, footballs, basketballs, frisbees and baseballs.

### Drop-In Sports

New for 2023, drop-in sports opportunities will provide unstructured, fun play options for local residents.

### Sports Fairs

Held in the peak of summer, these fairs provide local sport organizations an opportunity to connect, promote their activities to the public and engage with residents of all ages.

### Fun Nights at the Stadium

The Youth Strategy Key findings highlighted the numbers of youth who are interested in continuing to play field sports of all kinds but drop out of the competitive community programs for a variety of reasons. It identified a gap in opportunities for youth and young adults at a recreational level that is fun, casual and low barrier. Sports Services will be hosting regular weekend evening Fun Nights at the Stadium through and summer of 2019 on a drop-in basis featuring music, food and pick-up games. Learn to play and skills development sessions will be offered to encourage participation by youth who may not have been involved in organized sport but want to participate at a recreational level.

### Outdoor Youth Sport Committee

The Outdoor Youth Sport Committee will support the Park Spark Team with inspiring, developing, and implementing youth outdoor sport opportunities. The benefits for our youth volunteers are gaining a sense of ownership and connection with the community through the playing of outdoor sports.

### Volunteer Workshops

Workshops were hosted to help organizations learn how to recruit, recognize and keep volunteers.

### Try it Sports—Cricket and Soccer

Try-it sport sessions were held in partnership with local sports clubs. The cricket session included cricket batting cages, games, snacks and refreshments. Instruction was provided by the coaches of Windies Cricket Club. The soccer try-it sessions were open to children 8 – 12 years old. Some basic instruction and games were provided by the coaches of Coquitlam Metro-Ford Soccer Club.





## Pop-up Youth Park

The youth findings suggested temporary outdoor spaces to provide an affordable activity where youth can gather, be physically active, casually play and express their creativity. CIB will install a trial Pop-up Youth Park close to the lacrosse box in Mundy Park in the spring of 2019. Youth will be engaged in planning and running the site with support from Park Spark staff. A committee of youth recruited from the area high schools will help set priorities, act as volunteer organizers and several of the leaders will be offered summer employment to support the program.

A modified shipping container will act as the activity hub to support a wide range of activities. A temporary sand volleyball court and mobile bike track will supplement the adjacent sports fields to provide fun and recreational level play opportunities. The addition of basketball hoops to the sports box and a new sports equipment lending library will add ball hockey, Pickleball, lacrosse and basketball to the potential activities. The adjacent forest provides options for nature interpretation, photography, yoga and forest bathing to the mix. Music, portable furniture and artistic activities such as fence weaving, mural painting, willow weaving and a Zen garden will potentially support social engagement and creativity.

## Coquitlam in Bloom: Youth in Bloom

The Coquitlam in Bloom focuses on engaging community youth in a number of ways.

### Youth Week May 1 – 7

#### *Outdoor Youth Park Pop-up/Amazing Race*

The Park Spark crew hosted their version of the Amazing Race challenge in Mundy Park. Youth were encouraged to race against the clock and put their skills to the test. After the race, youth were able to relax and enjoy the new outdoor youth lounge, which featured giant Jenga, balloon volleyball, music, snacks and more.

#### *Game Day at the Stadium*

Youth were invited to the Percy Perry Stadium at Town Centre Park for an exciting Saturday afternoon of games, eats and tunes. An inflatable obstacle course, giant bubble-ball soccer and more sport try-it activities engaged youth in recreational and fun-focused active play.

#### *What's the Buzz at Princeton Park?*

In 2023 a planting party was hosted at Princeton Park, inviting volunteers and residents to plant six trees and 200 perennials as part of the tree spree initiative. City staff were onsite highlighting the importance of Coquitlam's tree canopy and local pollinators.

#### *Garden Mocktail Bar*

The gardeners at the Inspiration Garden, Coquitlam's teaching and display garden, hosted a garden mixologist session. Youth were able to mix and match various edible plants and herbs to make delicious mocktails. Youth also built and took home their own herb planters to be able to recreate the mocktail creations at home.





Coquitlam Centre



Westwood Plateau Golf Club



Pasta Polo Restaurant



Vancouver Golf Club



Associated Labels and Packaging



## Business in Bloom

A wide range of businesses—from big-box shopping centres to an industrial lot and small businesses—have demonstrated high standards in landscaping and floral display.

**Associated Labels and Packaging** Has extensive landscaping and beehives along the creek adjacent to its site on the Fraser River.

**Vancouver Golf Club** The front nine, with its traditional size greens and mountain vistas, plays to a variety of elevation changes, while the back nine offers a flatter layout with each fairway tree lined with dense first and second-growth forest.

**Westwood Plateau Golf Club** This picturesque course is set high above Coquitlam on Eagle Mountain, offering great golf in a spectacular mountain setting. Course designer Michael Hurdzan incorporated large Douglas Firs, massive granite rock faces and rugged ravines into this par 72, 6,770-yard course.

**Pasta Polo Restaurant** The restaurant owner grows produce in a greenhouse behind the restaurant and serves the harvest in the restaurant dishes.

**Coquitlam Centre** The outside of the mall has well-manicured shrubs, trees and potted flowers.

## Associated Labels and Packaging —Bees Have Room to Grow

Associated Labels and Packaging has gone through a steep learning curve since April 2016, when it installed its new beehives. Through all the growing pains, the company successfully harvested 40 pounds of honey. Now the project is open to staff, local companies and students who wish to learn about these amazing pollinators. Fellow businesses are encouraged to come and take a look, especially those that would like a heads up on how to install their own beehives at work.





Laughter yoga at the Inspiration Garden



CSRP Meals for Seniors

## Volunteers Contribute to a Healthier Community

Coquitlam residents are active in many volunteer initiatives. Volunteer coaches and managers deliver community sports, service clubs raise funds for community projects like new playgrounds and amenities, and individuals take part in a variety of ongoing or special projects.

**55+ BC Games in Coquitlam** More than 1,200 volunteers helped usher 3,200 athletes and their families, coaches and fans for one of the largest community celebrations the sport has seen in many years.

**Park Spark** The City's park public engagement program, Park Spark provides fun and meaningful activities and boosts civic pride while enhancing the City's parks. Opportunities to get involved include events and pop-ups with games and educational activities, as well as a variety of one-time or ongoing volunteer options. These include drop-in volunteering at activations throughout the year, group park projects for businesses,

schools or groups, the Adopt-a-Park program, park and trail cleanups, work parties to add new park amenities, the YOUth Urban Garden Volunteer program at the Inspiration Garden, and a Garden Volunteer program whose members help maintain and beautify parks throughout the community. More than 1,000 people of all ages routinely join in the various Park Spark activities.

### **Arbour Swing, Sundial and Mason Bee Boxes**

Students from Charles Best Secondary built and installed these new amenities in Mundy Park.

**Community Events and Festivals** The City supports more than 200 events and festivals every year, including Festival du Bois, Canada Day, Teddy Bear Picnic and Parade, Daisy Day, ScotFest BC – BC Highland Games and World Music Festival, St. Jean-Baptiste Day, Coquitlam Multicultural Fair, Coquitlam Crunch Challenge, Kaleidoscope Arts Festival, BC Dumpling Festival and Fire Festival.

**Community Gardens** Coquitlam has many well-used community gardens, including Burke Mountain Pioneer Park, Burquitlam, Scott Creek, Westbild, Douglas College David Lam Campus, Alderson Elementary, Maillard Middle School and Burke Mountain Pioneer Park.

### **Community Support and Recovery Plan (CSRP)**

Coquitlam's pandemic relief program was recognized in 2021 when the City received an Outstanding Achievement Award for Community Involvement from the national Communities in Bloom program. A highlight of the City's award submission was the CSRP, launched in 2020 to provide immediate and long-term support to residents, businesses, not-for-profit organizations and other groups. The program invested more than \$3.3 million in financial and social support to residents while also helping organizations and businesses continue to operate and provide services during the pandemic and beyond. The program's final supports are rolling out in 2022.





**Mackin Winter Lights Display**



**Centennial Secondary School welding students designed, fabricated and lit an element for the 2022 Lights at Lafarge display**



## Park Spark Experiences

### Lights at Lafarge Winter Lights Display

Held over two months, this free annual event attracts 100,000 viewers from across Metro Vancouver to Town Centre Park, where holiday displays with thousands of lights are set up around Lafarge Lake. Themed zones were set up on two separate 1.2 km walking loops, encouraging residents to continue to get outdoors and stay active during the winter months. Park Hosts handed out information such as scavenger hunt cards, and assisted in crafts and activities. Coquitlam's Park Spark team hosted a range of experiences, including pop-up activities like workshops to handcraft light features with pop bottles. Special theme nights were hosted by community groups, businesses and corporate partners.

### Light Brigade Volunteers 🌸

The Light Brigade is a volunteer program that offers opportunities for the community to get involved and participate in the Lights at Lafarge display. In 2022, over 1,200 Light Brigade volunteers helped to fabricate, install, remove and store the holiday lights. To accommodate the increase in public participation each night, volunteer Park Hosts were posted on site to welcome the public and respond to any questions.

### Mackin Winter Lights

In 2021, the City installed seasonal lighting at Mackin Park, including tree wraps and lit elements to the northern plaza. Following enthusiastic public response, the program will be continued and expanded the coming winter.





**Austin Heights Pop-up Park**

### Flag Painting by Immigrant Services Society

Families from the Immigrant Services Society of BC donated their time to paint Coquitlam in Bloom flags. The flags are used in Coquitlam parks to add a pop of colour and enhance the park experience for visitors. The volunteer group included a family who had just arrived in Canada a few days before!

### Free Little Libraries

Residents design, build and maintain the book supply in Free Little Libraries structures located in 20 locations around the community, including a number of Coquitlam parks.

### Family Day at Mundy Park

Coquitlam's Park Spark Team and the Urban Forestry Team hosted an array of free activities at treasured green space, Mundy Park to help create a memorable and meaningful experience on Family Day. Members of the public were invited



**Free Little Library**

to connect with their local park by participating in activities such as planting pollinator friendly flowers, a playground scavenger hunt, fishing for invasive species, and playing with 'park play' toys, all while enjoying complimentary popcorn and hot chocolate.

### Community Garden

The City was awarded a \$15,000 grant from the Scotts Miracle-Gro Showcase Garden to build a new community garden in Eagle Ridge Park. Located between Scott Creek Middle and Eagle Ridge Elementary schools, the garden provides a space for school curricular programs and acts as a secondary campus for Inspiration Garden composting, food gardening and interpretive programs.

### Coquitlam in Bloom Events

Families were invited to add summer colour to three City parks by planting summer flowers, planting an eco-sculpture, painting banners, and doing chalk art, yarn bombing and more.



### Roadside Gardens

Community volunteers planted new gardens in locations across the city, including next to the site of Coquitlam's original City Hall on Brunette Ave.

### Pop-up Parks

The City of Coquitlam repurposes portions of road right-of-ways or vacant lots to create unique, pedestrian-oriented seasonal parks. These pop-up parks provide public open space for physical and social connections within neighbourhoods, while stimulating adjacent businesses. The parks are supported by Coquitlam's Community Support and Recovery Program and offer features such as seating, flower planters, gardens, games and shade. The City Centre location includes sand and lawn areas for active play and social gathering, while the Austin Heights and Burquitlam locations offer landscaping and colourful seating to be used by passersby and patrons of surrounding businesses.



# Plant and Floral Displays



Coquitlam Rose



The City of Coquitlam prides itself on its diverse floral displays created by businesses, residents and community groups. In particular, the Dogwood Garden Club and the Fraser Pacific Rose Society have demonstrated exemplary garden skills and flower displays.

## Beauty by the numbers

- **75,000** spring flower bulbs
- **65,000** spring/summer annuals
- **1000s** of flowering shrubs and perennials
- **100+** planted display beds
- **40** colorful self-watering planters
- **30** hanging baskets
- **3** planted eco-sculptures
- **1** Floral featured Green Wall

## Coquitlam Rose

Coquitlam created its own rose variety in 2016 to recognize the City's 125th birthday. Hardy and disease-resistant, the salmon-coloured Coquitlam Rose was developed in collaboration with the Fraser Pacific Rose Society, which maintains the Centennial Rose Garden. The rose can be spotted in the Centennial garden, the City's Inspiration Garden and other parks and public gardens around the community.

## Canada 150 Celebrations

### Canada 150 Floral Displays

Red and white floral displays added festive celebration throughout spring and summer in parks and public building grounds across the city, including an extensive O Canada planting overlooking Lafarge Lake and multiple maple leaf beds of varying sizes in Town Centre Park.

Park planting events were held at a number of parks and lawn signs distributed to residents to display community pride as they partake in the Canada 150 garden project.





**Bloom of the Week post on social media**



**Pollinator fun fact signage**



## Chief of the Undersea World Installation

Coquitlam represented B.C. during the MosaïCanada 150 exposition in Gatineau, Que. This national exposition featured a living sculpture using plant material within a frame, which is modelled after the famous Bill Reid killer whale statue, 'Chief of the Undersea World', currently on display at the Vancouver Aquarium.

Due to popular demand, it was held over for an additional year, delaying the sculpture's delivery to Coquitlam until the fall of 2018.

The site chosen is located in the open lawn area in Town Centre Park north of the Evergreen Cultural Centre parking lot with Lafarge Lake in the background. The sculpture was planted up with silver santolina and installed in late May 2019.

## 150 Celebration Garden Awarded to Coquitlam

The Coquitlam Park Spark Team partnered with the 13th Eagle Mountain Guides and 10th Coquitlam Beaver and Cub Scouts to plant 1,000 tulip bulbs in celebration of Canada's 150th birthday. Coquitlam's 150th Celebration Garden featured 500 White Hakuun tulips and 500 Red Impression tulips, donated by Vesey's bulbs of PEI. The community joined the Guides and Beavers and Cub Scouts for the planting event at Blue Mountain Park. Led by the Canadian Garden Council, the 150th Celebration Garden Program is part of Canada's Garden Route celebrating Canada's 150th anniversary.

## Bloom of the Week 🌸

Through this fun program, volunteers, youth and city gardeners highlight seasonal blooms planted in civic floral displays on social media, sharing fun facts and information while also encouraging members of the community to share photos of what's blooming in their own gardens.

## 150 Coquitlam Gardens

In celebration of Canada's 150th birthday, the City invited residents and businesses to submit photographs of their gardens, landscaping or flowers to be included in the 150 Coquitlam Gardens photo gallery, at [coquitlam.ca/cib](http://coquitlam.ca/cib).

The library of 150 photos display community and civic pride expressed through gardens, showing how much our community values its growing environment. To participate, residents snap a shot of their garden or planter looking its best and email the photo to the City for upload into the gallery.

## Protect Our Pollinators

City gardens all carry the pollinator theme, with educational signage, fun pollinator facts on signage and public education campaigns and events that all raise awareness of this year's theme.



## Coquitlam 125

### Floral Display Stories

In keeping with the theme of the Coquitlam 125 anniversary celebrations—Stories Told, Stories to be Created—the City gardeners recreated three garden stories for their 2016 floral displays. Signage placed in the flower beds shares the stories and recognizes the gardeners who contributed them:

#### *Salmon in the River*

- The name Coquitlam comes from the Coast Salish word “kʷikʷəłəm,” which means “red fish up the river” and acknowledges the importance of salmon to our culture and the Coquitlam, Fraser and Pitt rivers that surround our community. The palette of colour in the garden brings to mind the salmon in our local creeks and rivers.

#### *Cultural Mosaic*

- The Cultural Mosaic garden tells the story of the blend of languages, and cultural and ethnic groups that make Coquitlam such a diverse and exciting city. Although all are unique, they blend together in harmony.

#### *Celebration*

- The beautiful explosion of colour and fragrance reflects the excitement and pride that we celebrate in our community. The bright colour palette and flower forms evoke fireworks and excitement.

#### Lawn Alternatives

Lawn alternatives such as sedums, creeping thyme and pratia are planted in several locations throughout Coquitlam, that have been heavily damaged by the chafer beetle. These plantings are more drought tolerant than grass, less susceptible to chafer beetle damage and very beneficial for our bees.



Mackin Parterre

### City Landscapers Paint the City

The City's landscaping team understands that gardens and floral displays can tie a neighbourhood together. In **Maillardville**, the heart of the Brunette Avenue corridor includes well-tended parterre gardens with a tapestry of perennials and seasonal colour and bulbs. Salmon eco-sculptures and beds planted with the help of the community are a highlight. The corridor is thoughtfully planted to feel like a linear garden from the Maillardville clock tower to Place des Arts and Mackin House, incorporating streetscape containers and flower towers.



The **City Centre** has complex beds with perennial and shrub backbones complemented with colourful perennial, annual and seasonal bulb displays. Plantings are transitioning towards a sophisticated urban palette that offers picturesque interest year-round. Plantings are found at City Hall, City Centre Aquatic Complex, Spirit Square, and area medians. The City installs and maintains hanging baskets along Burlington Avenue, and infrastructure is in place to expand the basket program.





### The Inspiration Garden

The Inspiration Garden in Town Centre Park is dedicated to growing, supporting and connecting local gardeners. Featuring a variety of plants and flowers, the garden hosts programs and demonstrations focusing on respecting the environment and sharing techniques, such as saving water and composting. Other features include a living wall of plants and flowers (Green Wall), a butterfly garden and pollinator promotion.

**Town Centre Park** is the most frequently visited site in the city. Floral displays are at the entry points along Trevor Wingrove Way, the Evergreen Cultural Centre and focused at the Inspiration Garden. The garden's bee eco-sculpture, is planted annually by the community and is highly anticipated every year. Two mixed shrub, perennial and annual beds along Lafarge Lake were planted by the community in the summer of 2014, at the start of a woodland walk along the lakeshore.

**Perennials** are the primary flower display and annuals are planted in high visual areas. We use native plant materials and grass on medians and where there is limited access to water.

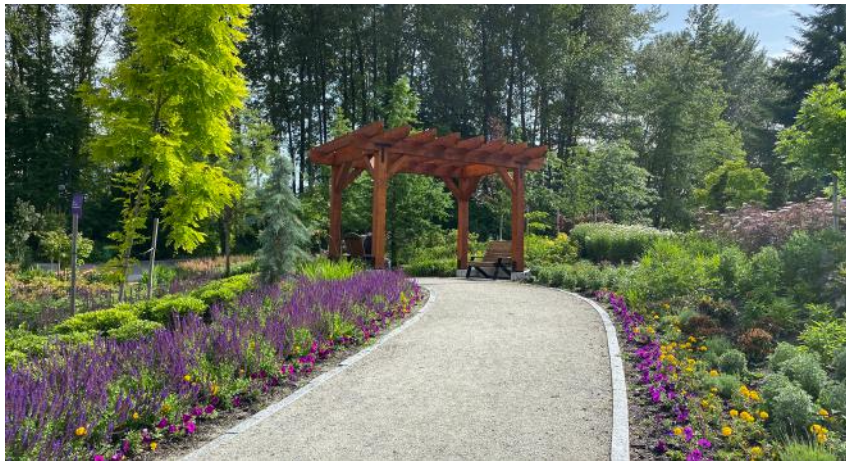
**Bedding** is intensively managed by experienced and certified trades gardeners with regard to layout planning, watering and integrated pest management to achieve a showy and attractive appearance and minimize the impact on infrastructure and resources. Plants and locations are selected to show each to its best advantage in interesting and attractive compositions. Floral displays are planted, maintained and fertilized as appropriate to plant type and growing conditions. Irrigation is regularly monitored and adjusted for plant health and is controlled by a centralized irrigation system that monitors environmental factors to ensure the correct amount of water is delivered. Floral beds are inspected daily or every other day, with trimming and deadheading

performed weekly to encourage long-lasting and colourful displays. Some sites incorporate container displays, hanging baskets, flower towers, eco-sculptures and a green wall for year-round interest.

**Showy perennial and flowering shrub displays** along Coquitlam's busy streets welcome motorists and pedestrians as they move from place to place. These are a point of pride for staff and the community.

Spring bulbs are "recycled," with some finding homes in city landscapes as **naturalized plantings** and spent bulbs offered to the Garden Club to beautify the community. Divisible perennial plants are also provided to the Garden Club for its plant sale.





## Notable Floral Displays

### Town Centre Garden Walk 🌸

Since 2022, visitors to Town Centre Park's Lafarge Lake loop trail have enjoyed the new Garden Walk, part of significant improvements rolling out through the Town Centre Park Master Plan. Spanning the east side of the lake, the entire walk is planted with colourful flowering perennials, annuals and bulbs. For year-round interest, winter annuals and trees maintain a colourful display so visitors always have something eye-catching to view.



### Poirier Grounds

Beautiful floral displays can be found throughout the Poirier Grounds, home to numerous civic facilities including a sports complex, library, community centre, seniors centre and more. Connecting all of these amenities are colourful garden beds, planters, hanging baskets, an eco-sculpture and the beautifully manicured Centennial Rose Garden. These stunning displays are maintained with the support of Dogwood Garden Club and Fraser Pacific Rose Society volunteers.



## 2023 Proud to Grow Here 🌸

As part of Coquitlam in Bloom 2023, Coquitlam is launching a contest to recognize all types of properties—residential, organization and businesses—that have created appealing frontages, front yards and balconies. Participants are encouraged to submit a photos showcasing why they are Proud to Grow Here for a chance be recognized through social media, receive a Proud to Grow Here sign or decal to display on their lawn, garden or business front and a chance to win.

### Spotlight on Sport

#### Victoria Park

A line of sports balls was created from bright annuals to highlight the 2018 Spotlight on Sport theme for Coquitlam in Bloom. A bright basketball, tennis ball, baseball and soccer ball were created by City gardeners from a colourful array of annual plants.

#### Glen Park

A wheelchair athlete in motion was planted on a small bank in Glen Park to remind park visitors that sport is for all abilities. Spotlight on Sport was one of the 2018 themes from Coquitlam in Bloom and City gardeners had created a distinct multicolored annual planting.

#### Town Centre Park

One the Coquitlam's most iconic floral displays is on the eastern bank of Lafarge Lake: the City's name spelled out in plants, viewable from almost anywhere in the park. The letters are edged within the turf and maintained by City staff. Bulbs are planted every fall to provide a bright welcome to spring, followed by colourful annuals each summer. For 2023, volunteers planted 2,500 purple Petunias as part of the Communities in Bloom plant purple campaign.



Centennial Rose Garden

S.U.C.C.E.S.S. volunteers planting purple







Lights at Lafarge Winter Lights Display



## Notable Floral Displays

Floral displays maintained by the City include:

- *Chief of the Undersea World* themed eco-sculpture at Town Centre Park
- Inspiration Garden's Living Wall of plants and flowers
- Hanging baskets at Burlington Avenue, City Centre Aquatic Complex, Dogwood Pavilion seniors centre, and Poirier Community Centre
- Mackin Park display garden

## Winter Lights Displays

- Lights at Lafarge Winter Lights Display, featuring two lit walking loops: a 1.2-kilometre loop of Lafarge Lake and 1 km loop of Town Centre Park
- Mackin Park winter lights, introduced in 2021
- Street trees in the business district in Maillardville and City Centre
- Public spaces close to City Hall, City Hall, Spirit Square and Buchanan Square

## Associated Labels and Packaging

This company converted on-site flower beds to organic soil gardens that annually produce organic and pesticide-free vegetables, fruits and herbs for the entire company to enjoy. They also collect food waste in their lunchroom for an on-site hot compost. The gardens at this label-printing facility won a Canada-wide contest in the Starting Over category for the David Suzuki Digs My Garden contest and received an award for Top Pesticide-Free Garden.

## Businesses Invest in Flowers and Gardens

The **Austin Heights Business Improvement Association** has been very involved in planting flowers and floral displays. Individual businesses have beautified their property through flower arrangements, planters, garden walkways, green roofs, and interesting landscaping.

## Blooms in the Room

Every Easter, Wim Vander Zalm, owner of Art Knapp's sorts through pansies to be delivered by volunteers to seniors in care facilities in Coquitlam, Port Moody and Maple Ridge. The "Blooms Into Rooms" project started 24 years ago with one care facility and has since expanded to deliver more than 900 colourful spring plants donated by Art Knapp's, as well as homemade greeting cards. Teams of volunteers from various Catholic church parishes in the Tri-Cities and Maple Ridge deliver flowering plants and handmade Easter cards to residents of nine seniors' care facilities.





### Youth in Bloom: Youth Urban Garden Team

Youth are able to test out their green thumb, share knowledge, learn new skills, have fun and give back to their community in a fun and meaningful way through participation in Park Spark's YOUth Urban Garden Team at the Inspiration Garden at Town Centre Park. Members are invited to actively engage in sustainable solutions that will contribute to the health and well-being of the community while also helping to enhance local parks. The youth learn the value of volunteering and community involvement, while connecting with adult leaders and their peers.



## Coquitlam Residents Contribute to Community Beauty

- **Armed Forces Insignia Plant Bed at Blue Mountain Park**
- **Community planting at Town Centre Park** 🌸
- **Coquitlam in Bloom Events** Families were invited to add summer colour to three parks across the city by planting summer flowers, planting an eco-sculpture, painting banners and participating in chalk art, yarn bombing, and more.
- **Park Spark and Coquitlam in Bloom Activities**
- **Veterans Memorial Garden Planting at Blue Mountain Park**
- **Volunteer Roadside Garden Planting**
- **The Dogwood Garden Club** The Club promotes gardening in the community and hosts an annual fundraiser to support demonstration workshops, school programs, horticulture scholarships, guest speakers, field trips and the community patio garden. The Dogwood Garden Club also encourages its residents to achieve excellence with their planting and care of their flower beds. They host Show Benches that are held in June and September.







Adopt-a-Pollinator Hotel, Proudly Maintained by Pamela Zevit

## BC Communities in Bloom Conference and Awards

Coquitlam had hosted the 2019 provincial Communities in Bloom (CIB) Conference and Awards Sept. 20 – 21. This two day event included educational sessions, site tours and a formal awards banquet for volunteers involved in CIB entries from communities across the province.

This was an opportunity for staff training and the engagement of local youth in both attending and presenting educational sessions and as a leadership development tool, run by the City's Park Spark staff team.



## Fraser Pacific Rose Society

The renowned Centennial Rose Garden on Poirier Street has been carefully and lovingly maintained by the non-profit Fraser Pacific Rose Society for more than 25 years. This spectacular Canadian hybridized garden is one of the last formal rose display gardens of its kind in Western Canada. Rose enthusiasts travel from across the country and around the world to visit 800-plus roses in the garden and participate in the annual rose show put on by the society. Ongoing learning opportunities in this hands-on, teaching garden encourage new rose growers.





## Inspiration Garden

Located in Town Centre Park, the Inspiration Garden is a dedicated hub for growing, supporting and connecting gardeners in Coquitlam. This well-loved community amenity has evolved from a compost demonstration garden in 2007 to a space where residents can have fun, get involved and learn new gardening skills through a variety of programming and activities including workshops, tours and volunteering.

Residents are always welcome to drop by at any time to enjoy the garden's amenities, meet their neighbours and join in activities.

Free public workshops offered April through October encourage people to get their hands dirty in the best possible way. They're offered at various times throughout the week to ensure they're accessible for everyone.

School tours are also offered year-round on a range of topics.

The garden boasts over 120 active volunteers, ranging from experienced to new gardeners. With no commitment required, people can show up, have fun and get involved. The Youth Urban Garden Team, with 60-plus members, provides teens an opportunity to learn about gardening, gain volunteer experience, have fun and connect with their peers.

The garden offers a variety of unique horticultural displays, including pollinator gardens, herbs, fruit trees, ornamental climbers and more.

One of the standouts is the Green Wall – a living wall of flowers and plants maintained by volunteers and an on-site City gardener. Volunteers plant and maintain over 1,200 plugs while learning about green walls, which help purify the air and promote biodiversity.

## Park Spark Garden Volunteers

The Park Spark Garden Volunteer program encourages green thumbs of all ages and abilities to share knowledge, learn new skills and make a difference while helping keep the gardens throughout Coquitlam looking their best. Each year, over 120 Garden Volunteers work alongside Park Spark staff and an on-site City gardener at the Inspiration Garden on a variety of gardening activities and projects to deliver educational programming, informative signage and an electronic newsletter identifying "Blooms of the week", pollinator fun facts, gardening tips/tricks and upcoming activities.

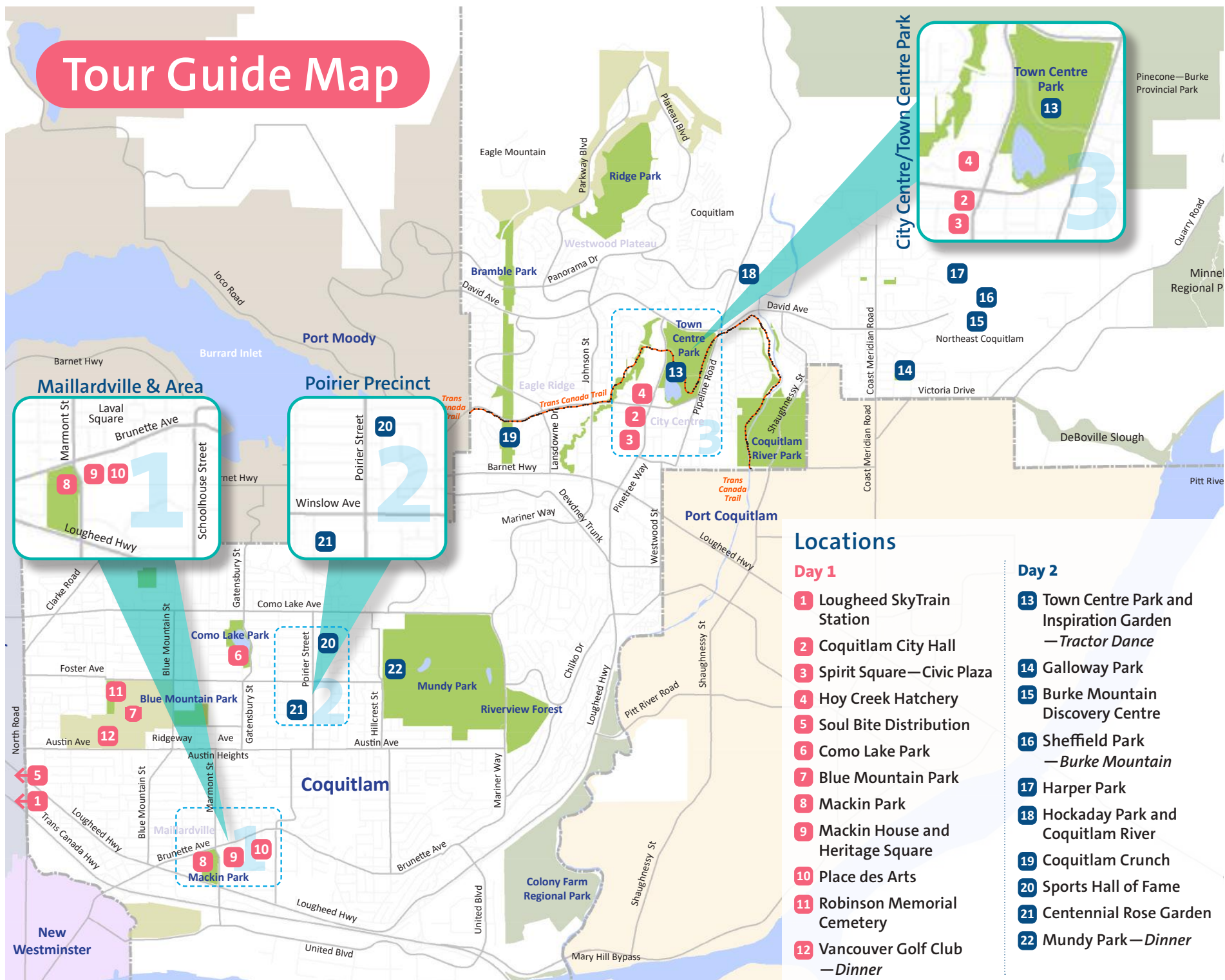


# Judges Tour Guide

			Evaluation Grid						
			Community Involvement	Tidiness	Environmental Action	Heritage Conservation	Urban Forestry	Landscape	Floral Displays
Day 1	1	Lougheed SkyTrain Station		🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸
	2	Coquitlam City Hall	🌸	🌸				🌸	🌸
	3	Spirit Square—Civic Plaza	🌸	🌸	🌸			🌸	🌸
	4	Hoy Creek Hatchery	🌸		🌸		🌸	🌸	
	5	Soul Bite Distribution	🌸		🌸				
	6	Como Lake Park	🌸	🌸	🌸		🌸	🌸	🌸
	7	Blue Mountain Park	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸
	8	Mackin Park	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸
	9	Mackin House and Heritage Square	🌸	🌸		🌸		🌸	🌸
	10	Place des Arts	🌸			🌸		🌸	🌸
	11	Robinson Memorial Cemetery	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸
	12	Vancouver Golf Club   <i>Dinner</i>	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸
Day 2	13	Town Centre Park and Inspiration Garden   <i>Tractor Dance</i>	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸
	14	Galloway Park	🌸	🌸	🌸		🌸	🌸	🌸
	15	Burke Mountain Discovery Centre	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	
	16	Sheffield Park   Burke Mountain	🌸	🌸			🌸	🌸	🌸
	17	Harper Park	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	
	18	Hockaday Park and Coquitlam River	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	
	19	Coquitlam Crunch   Scott Creek Community Garden	🌸	🌸	🌸			🌸	
	20	Sports Hall of Fame	🌸			🌸			
	21	Centennial Rose Garden	🌸	🌸		🌸		🌸	🌸
	22	Mundy Park   <i>Dinner Under the Stars</i>	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸	🌸



# Tour Guide Map



## Locations

### Day 1

- 1 Lougheed SkyTrain Station
- 2 Coquitlam City Hall
- 3 Spirit Square—Civic Plaza
- 4 Hoy Creek Hatchery
- 5 Soul Bite Distribution
- 6 Como Lake Park
- 7 Blue Mountain Park
- 8 Mackin Park
- 9 Mackin House and Heritage Square
- 10 Place des Arts
- 11 Robinson Memorial Cemetery
- 12 Vancouver Golf Club—Dinner

### Day 2

- 13 Town Centre Park and Inspiration Garden—*Tractor Dance*
- 14 Galloway Park
- 15 Burke Mountain Discovery Centre
- 16 Sheffield Park—*Burke Mountain*
- 17 Harper Park
- 18 Hockaday Park and Coquitlam River
- 19 Coquitlam Crunch
- 20 Sports Hall of Fame
- 21 Centennial Rose Garden
- 22 Mundy Park—*Dinner*



# Coquitlam

City of Coquitlam

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