



## STAFF REPORT

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**DATE:** September 29, 2021 **FILE:** 0540-04 EASC

**TO:** Chair and Directors  
Electoral Areas Services Committee

**FROM:** David Leitch  
Chief Administrative Officer

**RE:** **REQUEST FOR A COMMEMORATIVE GIFT INSTALLATION (FERGUSON)**

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### PURPOSE

To consider a request to install a commemorative gift in Hank's Beach Forest Conservation Park in Electoral Area B.

### POLICY ANALYSIS

The *Local Government Act (LGA)* grants authority to the Regional District to acquire, hold, manage and dispose of land, improvements, personal property or other property, and any interest or right in or with respect to that property.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A request has been received from Andrew Ferguson to install a bench within Hank's Beach Forest Conservation Park to commemorate the life of long-time Cortes Island resident Reo McCoy, made on behalf of his surviving family and friends. Hank's Beach is an undeveloped park with a conservation covenant held and monitored by The Land Conservancy of BC (TLC). This would be the first bench installed in this Park, and, in accordance with the conservation covenant, is subject to approval by TLC.

The Regional District does not currently have a policy to provide guidance on the receipt and installation of commemorative gifts, which may refer to the dedication of park benches, picnic tables, planted trees or other native plants, contributions toward a specific park enhancement project, or other custom donation. In the absence of a regional or Area-specific policy, requests for installation of a commemorative gift or marker shall be presented to the Electoral Area Services Committee for consideration on a case-by-case basis and the following options are available for the Committee's consideration:

Option 1 – THAT the Committee recommend that the Board approve the request as submitted.

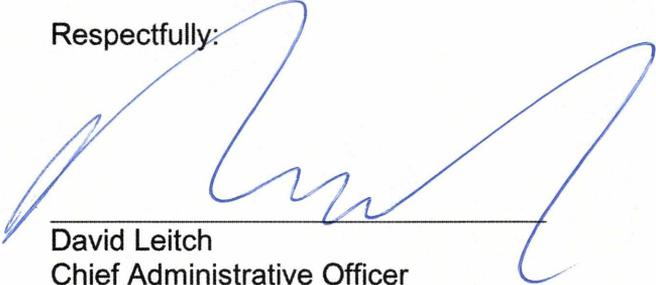
Option 2 – THAT the Committee recommend that the Board approve the request with terms and conditions.

Option 3 – THAT the Committee recommend that the Board deny the request.

### RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report from the Chief Administrative Officer be received.

Respectfully:

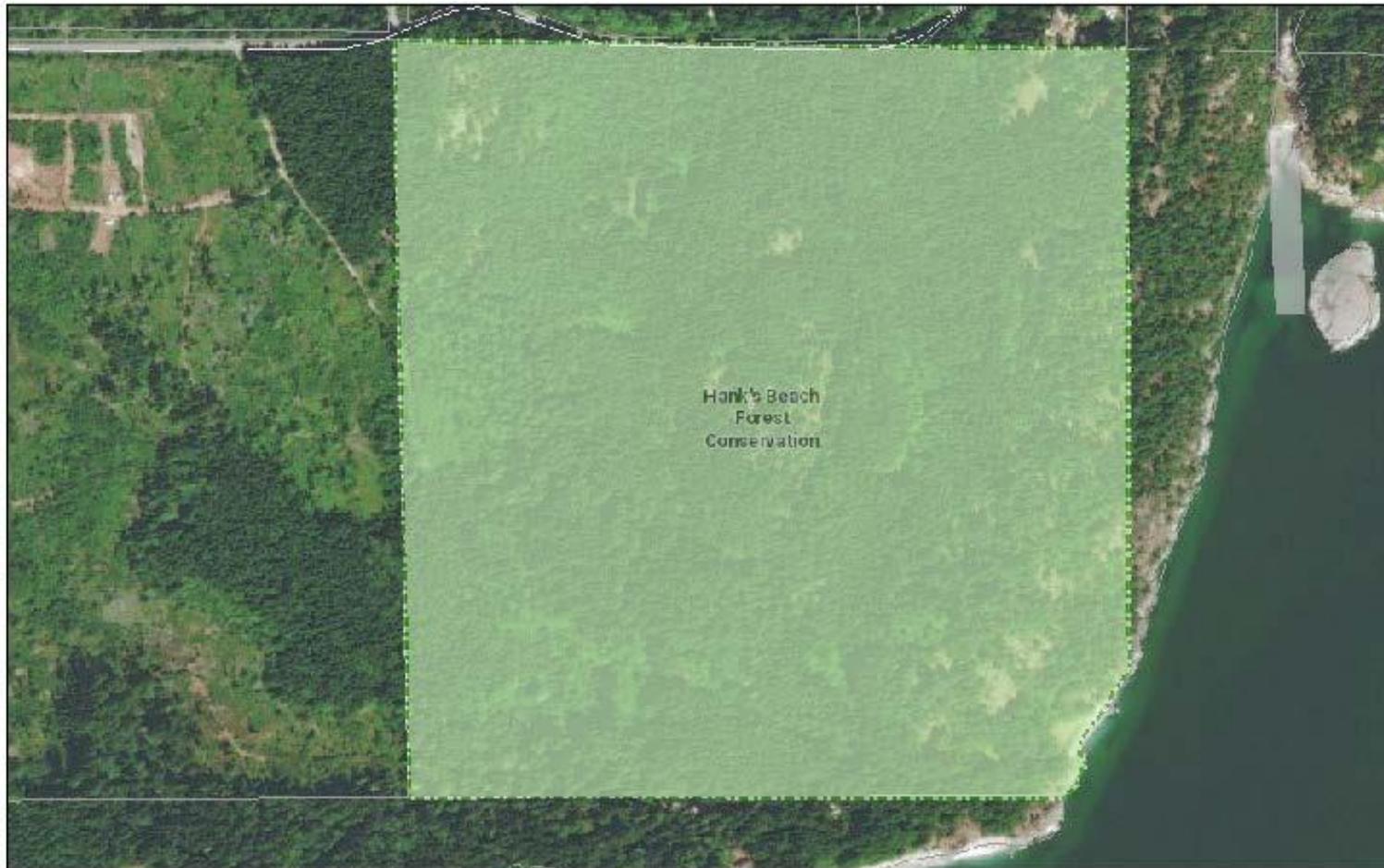
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Leitch', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

David Leitch  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Prepared by:** *M. Starkey, Manager, Planning and Parks*

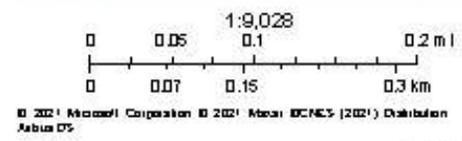
Attachment: Ferguson Commemorative Gift Request

**Hank's Beach Forest Conservation Park for Ferguson request**



7/7/2021, 11:36:34 AM

- |                    |                |               |                 |                   |
|--------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Electoral Area     | Protected Area | Regional Park | Campbell River  | Strathcona RD     |
| Regional Districts | Restricted Use | Greenway      | Comox Valley RD | Crown Lands (SRD) |
| Public Road        |                |               |                 |                   |



**From:** [Aniko Nelson](#)  
**To:** [Meredith Starkey](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Bench Donation  
**Date:** July 2, 2021 10:33:25 AM

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Hi Meredith,

This request should be added to your report for consideration at EASC.

Thank you!

A.

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**From:** Andrew Ferguson <[fergusonai@gmail.com](mailto:fergusonai@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** June 29, 2021 6:52 PM  
**To:** Noba Anderson <[nanderson@srd.ca](mailto:nanderson@srd.ca)>; Noba Anderson <[director@cortesisland.com](mailto:director@cortesisland.com)>  
**Cc:** Aniko Nelson <[ANelson@srd.ca](mailto:ANelson@srd.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: Bench Donation

**NOTICE:** This email is from an external source.

This sounds good. I'm happy to propose sites, handle costs, materials, etc. Whenever you want to chat works for me, with a day or two's notice. Thanks!

-A

On Tue, 29 Jun 2021 at 17:01, Noba Anderson <[nanderson@srd.ca](mailto:nanderson@srd.ca)> wrote:

Andrew – at the last SRD meeting staff brought forward a suggestion to create a standard policy for benches in parks. It failed... so we are back to a one-on-one situation. We did erect one in memory of someone in the Whaletown Commons recently... A member of the family did it all and consulted on placement. I am certainly in support in principle of a bench in Rio's name at Hank's, I am copying Aniko here, head of community services at the SRD and asking that she, or her designate, arrange a chat with you and I (PLEASE also copy my email [director@cortesisland.com](mailto:director@cortesisland.com)),  
Thanks, Noba

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**From:** Andrew Ferguson <[fergusonai@gmail.com](mailto:fergusonai@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** May 28, 2021 8:59 AM  
**To:** Noba Anderson <[nanderson@srd.ca](mailto:nanderson@srd.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: Bench Donation

**NOTICE:** This email is from an external source.

Hey Noba.

Any traction on this?

I can't really let it go - Harley and I think it would be very nice, but it's super important to Sarah. Kid kind of has had a rough enough ride - if I can set this up for her, I have to try.

On Fri, 7 May 2021 at 13:27, Noba Anderson <[nanderson@srd.ca](mailto:nanderson@srd.ca)> wrote:

Mike is now gone... lots of staff turnover. I do remember some response from staff about not loving the idea.... I'll reach out to staff next week and feel it out and get back to you.

Thanks, Noba

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**From:** Andrew Ferguson <[fergusonai@gmail.com](mailto:fergusonai@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** April 27, 2021 1:54 PM

**To:** Noba Anderson <[nanderson@srd.ca](mailto:nanderson@srd.ca)>

**Subject:** Bench Donation

Hey Noba,

I didn't hear back about Re's bench at Hanks, but it has been a Covid-y time. Never did get ahold of Mike McGragor.

I eventually contacted the SRD and they suggested I bring it up for something called the EASC to review at their next reading.

Thought I should check with you before, though, as well, you know politics and I'd rather not tread on any toes.

-Andrew