

# DEPARTMENT FACT SHEET

# Parks, Recreation and Heritage

We live in a world that is constantly changing so it comes as no surprise that the Parks, Recreation and Heritage Department and the services and programs we offer, have undergone significant changes in the last two decades. Many of these, including the new facilities at Echo Park, Bob Dailey Stadium, Vancouver Island Regional Library, Harbour Quay, Canal Beach Park and the Alberni Valley Multiplex have been extremely positive additions for us and more importantly for the residents of the Alberni Valley.

The Alberni Valley Museum is now part of the Parks, Recreation and Heritage Department. Financial and operational management of the McLean Mill National Historic Site and the remainder of the Heritage Network is done independently by the Industrial Heritage Society; City Staff provide support services and act as an advisory role only.

New parks, facilities and related programs have enriched the quality of life for residents and continue to instill a greater sense of community pride.

## SERVICE STATS



16,300

# of people who attended free community events in 2013.

Equivalent to



roughly **3 out of 5**

Alberni Valley

residents,

attended one of these events.

5,133

program registrations in 2013



Equivalent to roughly 1 out of 5 residents participated

80,000

visits

to drop-in sessions at the Aquatic Centre

Enough people to fill Rogers Arena 4 times!



2,186

hours of swim instruction delivered in 2013

6 hours everyday of the year!



- 3,000 boulevard trees
- 270 hectares of park space (including ravines) (13% of City land base)
- 39 parks
- 2 tennis courts
- 20 ball fields
- 6 soccer fields
- 12 playgrounds
- 3 water parks
- 12km developed non-paved trails
- 6.5 km paved trails

Maintained by 7 Parks Yard staff

20

Ice Rink floods performed daily at the AV Multiplex



Equivalent to **7.5 acres of ice**

maintained by Multiplex daily

July 15 - April 15

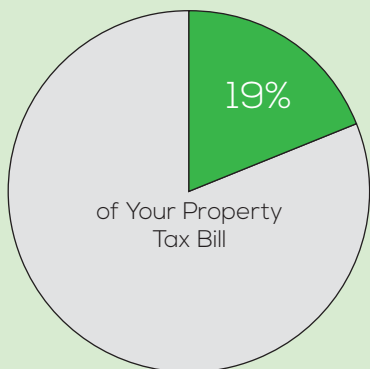
ice: 9 months per year

36,000

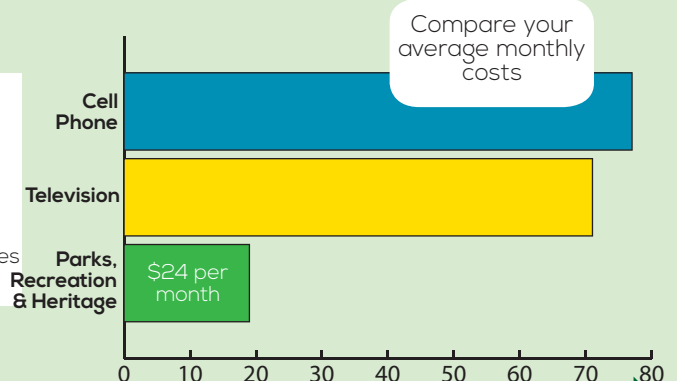
Seats filled during 2013 AV Bulldogs season



## BY THE NUMBERS



Budget Expenditure	\$5,900,000
- Service Fee & Other Revenue	\$1,675,000
= Net Operating Requirement from Property Taxes	\$4,225,000



## Partnerships

Many of the programs, events and projects undertaken by the Parks, Recreation and Heritage Department would not have been possible without support from a variety of sponsors and partners, which on an annual basis is in excess of \$100,000!

Special events including First Night, Family Day, Easter Bunny Express, Walk With Your Doc, Our Town, Movie Night, Halloween Swim, Winter Wonderland and the annual Heritage Fair are presented with financial assistance from community organizations and service clubs and volunteers. Did you know?:

- The Kiwanis Club has volunteered at Our Town for 26 years.
- It takes 30 volunteers & staff 10 hours to set up Winter Wonderland.
- The Sunshine Club has 1,200 members and over 300 active volunteers.
- The Industrial Heritage Society has 150 members with 50 extremely active volunteers.
- This is year 12 for the Heritage Fair and an average of 500 local students participate.
- Summer programs provide life-long learning for 30 Youth Leadership volunteers.

## Looking Forward

Each of the 2014 capital initiatives would not be possible without funding from sources other than tax revenue. Did you know that 10% of all annual Parks, Recreation and Heritage revenues, approximately \$150,000 per year, are deposited in our Parks, Recreation and Heritage Capital Reserve for use on major projects.

### Energy efficiency - gas tax, carbon tax & reserves

- Lighting & HVAC upgrades at the Alberni Valley Multiplex and Glenwood Centre. Cost: \$600,000 - Payback approximately 5 years.
- Electric Zamboni - Replace the 1992 Zamboni ice resurfer to reduce indoor emissions and save \$3,000 in fuel costs.

### Trail Development - gas tax funding & grants

- \$100,000 for initial trail development in upper Rogers Creek ravine. The goal is to match these funds with a grant and proceed with trails and bridges as funding allows.

### Outdoor Sports Facilities and Parks - PR&H Capital Reserves & grants/donations

- Bob Dailey Fitness Circuit - To be a free outdoor, all-weather exercise fitness area.
- Gyro Recreation Park Tennis Courts - Repair and re-surface the 1992 tennis courts.
- Gyro Playground - Replace the 1980's play structure and install rubber surfacing.

## FOCUS

### Our Mission

The mission of the City of Port Alberni Parks, Recreation and Heritage Department is to enrich the quality of life of residents and visitors through:

- developing and maintaining efficiently operated parks and facilities
- ensuring full and equitable access to all
- promoting an appreciation of the environment and our natural beauty
- facilitating partnerships
- providing leadership and personal development opportunities, and
- promoting positive community values

### CITY OF PORT ALBERNI STRATEGIC PLAN



## MORE INFO

Parks, Recreation and Heritage

Phone: 250-723-2181

Info Line: 250-723-INFO

You can also connect via our

Website: [www.portalberni.ca](http://www.portalberni.ca)

Facebook: City of Port Alberni

Local Government Twitter: @cityportalberni

## Facility/Program Highlights



### Playing Together

#### Celebrate Family Day Weekend

by taking part in some FREE swimming, skating or rollerblading fun!



**FREE Family Swim**  
Sunday February 10  
2 - 4 pm

**FREE Family Skate**  
Monday, February 11  
11 am - 1 pm

\*Admission limited to 300 swimmers. Free admission and skate rentals at the Multiplex. Sponsored by the Kiwanis Club.

#### FREE Family Rollerblading

Monday, February 11  
1 - 3 pm

Free admission and skate rentals for families of all ages at Glenwood Centre.

\*All children must be accompanied by a parent/caregiver.

## Easter Bunny Express

Saturday, March 30  
9:30 - 11:30 am

OR

1:00 - 3:00 pm  
at Glenwood Centre

\$3.75 per child - Adults Free



## West Coast Winter Wonderland

December 9 - 26, 2013



Bring your family out to the Multiplex and enjoy a "Traditional West Coast Christmas" event, join us for our fun family public skating days or inquire about some of the special opportunities for your family, friends, staff or church group.

We would like to thank the following sponsors who make our Winter Wonderland possible:

December 9	9:00 - 9:30 pm	Sea-Tech Union
December 10	8:30 - 9:30 pm	Alberni Valley Holdings
December 11	9:00 - 9:30 pm	RS/Mex Realty
December 12	2:00 - 4:00 pm	Salmon
December 13	2:00 - 4:00 pm	Port Alberni Toy Run
December 14	9:00 - 10:00 pm	CVRF Local 118
December 15	9:00 - 10:00 pm	Bonanza Entertainment
December 16	9:00 - 9:30 pm	Pharos And Sons
December 17	8:30 - 9:30 pm	De Waple Handing
December 18	8:00 - 9:00 pm	Port Alberni Kiwanis Club
December 19	2:00 - 4:00 pm	Melcom and Higgins Ltd.
December 20	9:00 - 9:30 pm	Home Hardware
December 21	2:00 - 2:30 pm	Beaver Creek Home Centre
December 22	9:30 - 10:30 pm	IBC - Royal Bank