



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN
PRESS RELEASE
April 18, 2011

Osoyoos Lake Regional Park Revitalization

We have the opportunity to give new life to Osoyoos Lake Regional Park by returning the parcel to a place to enjoy beautiful Osoyoos Lake both now and in generations to come. "This is a wonderful opportunity to revitalize the park to improve the quality of life for residents and visitors to the Okanagan," said Mark Pendergraft, Director Electoral Area A.

Phase One of the project will focus on a plant management strategy that will see landscape improvements by removing invasive plants and trees and replacing with native plant species to create a natural, self-sustaining environment. Residents will also enjoy additional parking spaces with a gravel parking surface contained within the park to alleviate the pressure on 45th Street, Lakeshore Drive. Additional improvements include two new picnic tables and trash receptacles.

Considerable investment through a Trees for Tomorrow Grant has provided the opportunity to create a landscape plan where non-native plants such as Russian Olive, Pacific Willow, Chinese Elm, and Arbutus Willows Trees will be removed during the month of April and May. Replacement native species such as Black Cottonwood, Water Birch, Paper Birch, Trembling Aspen, Red Osier Dogwood, Bebb's Willow, Cat Tail, Round Stem Bull Rush Equisetum will be planted.

To ensure the safety of the swimming public the Regional District has submitted a License of Occupation Foreshore application to the Province of British Columbia. When the License is received bouys will be placed in Osoyoos Lake to guide boat traffic.

Osoyoos Lake Regional Park is located on the East side of Osoyoos Lake at 16th Avenue and 45th Street. The land was granted to the Regional District by Order in Council on April 23, 1981 from the Province of British Columbia for the purpose of a public park.

The Landscape Concept Plan and Phased Parking Plan are available on the Regional District website.

D. Ashton
RDOS Board Chair

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